

August 2020

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## ONLINE INTERSTATE YOUTH TEAMS

The ABF agreed to Leigh and Bianca Gold's (National Youth Coordinators) proposal that they organise an online equivalent to the ANC's Interstate Youth Teams. Teams from ACT, NSW, Queensland, South Australia and Victoria nominated for the event, held on BBO from late June through July. The teams played a double round robin, culminating in a final between Queensland and South Australia.

Our South Australian team comprised Bertie Morgan (17) – George Bartley (16), David Gue (22) – Tony Rosella (22) – Fletcher Davey (14) – Lincoln Davey (12), with Justin Williams as NPC (and match organiser).

The final generated a lot of action (IMPs), with each quarter's scores shown below:

	c/f	Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	TOTAL
QLD	0.64	24	45	35	6	110.64
S.A.		52	4	57	49	162

Here are a couple of hands that caught my eye.

Your RHO is dealer and opens 3♦. You hold:

♦ K Q J 7 6  
 ♥ void  
 ♦ K J 3  
 ♣ K 10 9 5 2

George Bartley chose to pass, where I suspect many would overcall 3♠. His 'inaction' paid massive dividends when the auction proceeded:

West	North	East	South
	Bertie		George
		3♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

George's diamond cards indicated that 3NT would be a wiser contract, once partner held hearts.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♠
2♣	2♥	3♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	



South Australia's victorious Youth Team:  
 (L to R) Fletcher Davey, Lincoln Davey, Bertie Morgan, George Bartley, David Gue, Tony Rosella

## UNDER GRAND MASTER GNOT

The Under Grand Master GNOT will be held at SA Bridge Assoc clubrooms on Sunday 30th August, from 9.30am.

This is a teams event, with gold master points.

(The 2020 GNOT has been cancelled, so the winners earn bragging rights only!)

BYO lunch and drinks. Cost: \$80 per team

## YOUTH TEAMS (continued)

George played the hand very well, using the opposition bidding to set up an endplay on West, known to hold the clubs. 3NT made 9 tricks, with 4♥ failing by 3 tricks. 400 + 150 was 11 IMPs to SA.

Whilst George and Bertie anchored the team through the final, David Gue played with each of the others. Tony Rosella, the newest member of the team, hasn't been playing bridge for long but showed excellent judgement on the following hand.

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

The Queensland North opened 3♣ and played there, making 12 tricks.

Tony, sitting North, considered the hand too good to open a pre-empt at favourable vulnerability. The auction:

West	North	East	South
	Tony		David
	1♣	Pass	1♥
2♦	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

After the natural lead of the ♦K, David Gue had 13 tricks when East discarded a couple of hearts on the run of the clubs. 520 – 170 was 8 IMPs.

Our SA Youth Team has finished 2nd at the last two Interstate Youth Teams, so they will enjoy their well-earned gold medal. Each of the winners has also received two other prizes – a voucher from Paul Lavings' BridgeGear for bridge books, plus the opportunity to play a two-hour bridge session on BBO with one of a number of top Australian players.

Well done to the six team members, plus also to Justin Williams who managed the team very effectively.

### ABF NATIONWIDE ONLINE PAIRS

In addition to the Sunday Nationwide Online Pairs, with Open, Restricted and Novice sections, the ABF has commenced a Friday night Pairs, starting at 7pm (SA time), on BBO.

## LATEST NEWS

July has been a very busy time for bridge in South Australia, with most bridge clubs re-opening for face-to-face bridge.

Many club players have taken to online bridge, particularly via BBO, like ducks to water. In fact, we've seen some creative new bridge challenges:

### BEAUMONT v. STAMFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Bill Bradshaw, who originally hails from Stamford in England and still has relatives playing at the Stamford Bridge Club, responded to a suggestion that Stamford BC would like to have a teams challenge against another club.

Four teams of keen bridge players formed, and a date was set for the first Beaumont-Stamford International Challenge. On Tuesday 14th July, at 7pm SA time / 10.30am UK time, play started (16 boards in 8 board halves, "English-style").

#### TEAM 1

Stamford: David Banks – Trevor Thrower, Nick Hunter – Ruby Schnalke defeated Beaumont: Di Marler – Adel Abdelhamid, Linda Alexander – Ingrid Cooke, by 28 IMPs, 16.42 to 3.58 VPs.

#### TEAM 2

Beaumont: Ann Clarke – Wendy Hooper, Robyn Hargreaves – Peter Dieperink defeated Stamford: Frank Isack – Jane Reeve, Paul Collins – Lucy Stewart by 35 IMPs, 17.24 to 2.55 VPs

#### TEAM 3

Beaumont: Joanne Bakas – Tassi Georgiadis, Bill Bradshaw – Catherine Ellice-Flint defeated Stamford: Christine Chesher – Mike Warrington, Lance Morgan – Steve Thomson by 17 IMPs, 14.39 to 5.61 VPs.

#### TEAM 4

Beaumont: Moira Smith – Sally Fraser, Kate Hartley – Susan Armitage defeated Stamford: John Hancock – Roger Leonard, Peter Bower – Mick Coogan by 25 IMPs, 15.92 to 4.08 VPs.

Beaumont won the inaugural International Challenge between our two clubs, and an annual event was born, with next year's date already organised.

Furthermore, Bill, a cricket tragic, ordered an urn online, headed outside with a deck of cards (or more) that he incinerated, and he has created our own trophy, The Beaumont – Stamford International Challenge – for The Ashes!



Creating The Ashes



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

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

3♣ (natural, GF)  
 5♥ (2 aces)  
 6♥ (2 kings)

1♠  
 4NT  
 5NT  
 7NT

Old-fashioned, natural jump shifts along with old-fashioned Blackwood worked effectively on the hand, with South knowing that his ♣Q-6 were great cards for his partner's 6+ card club suit.

On the other hand, lack of discipline cost a game swing.

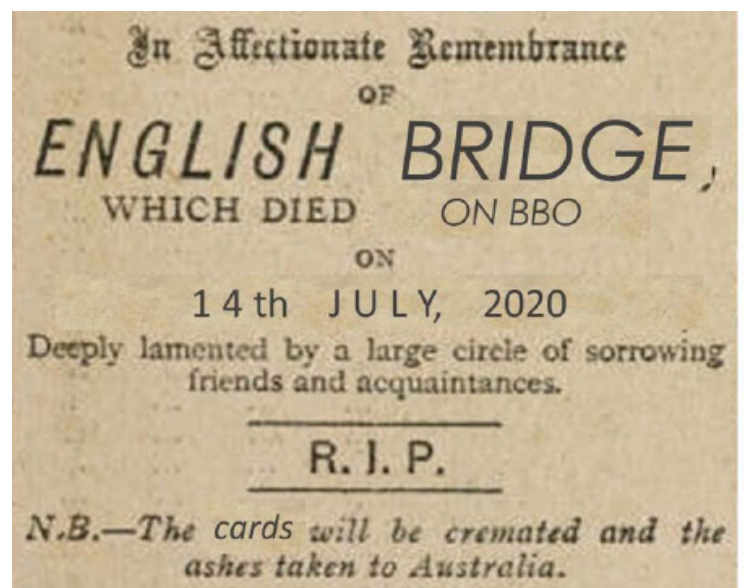
♠ K 6  
 ♥ K J 9 7 4 2  
 ♦ 4  
 ♣ A K 9 8

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

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

I suspect that South thought his 4♥ bid was 'fast arrival', given the game forcing response from North, whereas North thought it was encouraging. These agreements are really important to your partnership (I would play that 4♥ was fast arrival and Pass would be more encouraging). The other issue was that North's ♠K was no longer a good card, with the spade bid over his King; the hand would be better if West had bid spades, not East.

The spade lead resulted in instant defeat.



I can't report on a bridge event without providing some hands.

First cab off the rank – you hold:

♠ K Q J 3  
 ♥ A  
 ♦ A K Q 8 2  
 ♣ K J 8

There are two passes to you, you open 2♣ and LHO doubles (showing clubs). This is passed round to you, and you opt to pass, hoping for 8 tricks on sheer power. Did you do that? Catherine Ellice-Flint did so, and made 9 tricks with a little help from the defence. No game makes, if North can lead a trump to South's Ace and a club comes back (to defeat 4♣).

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

♠ K Q J 3  
 ♥ A  
 ♦ A K Q 8 2  
 ♣ K J 8

♠ 9 7 5 2  
 ♥ J 10 9 7 3  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ 10 6 5

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

There were a few brave actions on that hand – the second hand of the match. Bill's pass of 2♣ X did not show clubs; it just showed a super-minimum. At the other table, 3NT failed on a club lead.

Peter Bower and Mick Coogan (Stamford 4) bid this hand well, for a deserved gain:



Catherine Ellice-Flint and Bill Bradshaw having been presented with The Ashes

### FURTHER CHALLENGES

The Beaumont-Stamford Challenge was played in such good spirit, and obvious enjoyment and love for the game that, while they were playing, I decided to initiate further international teams challenges. They are not elitist, simply enjoyable competition with overseas players.

We now have acceptances from two other clubs in the UK – Berwick Bridge Club (the northern-most bridge club in England, Tuesday 18th August) and the New Melville Bridge Club in Edinburgh (Tuesday 1st September).

Berwick Bridge Club plans to organise for everyone to play the same boards, English-style (i.e. 8-board halves), with a Zoom discussion session afterwards. The New Melville Bridge Club, on the other hand, wants to play what is (in the UK) called “Australian-style” (i.e. a 16-board match).

Both clubs have been amazing with their support for the idea of international challenges, and there’s been no problem proposing a 7pm (SA) start time, 10.30am (UK)! SA Bridge (previously called SABA) also contested their own international challenge against St Albans Bridge Club in England. 8 teams, from Team 1 with international/state representatives to Team 8, comprising intermediate players, competed in two 8-board stanzas.

### AUSTRALIA’S FIRST POST-LOCKDOWN CONGRESS? BEAUMONT’S CHRISTMAS IN WINTER CONGRESS

Bridge at Beaumont held its annual Christmas in Winter Congress on Sunday 19th July (before the proposed opening of the State border, which did not eventuate). The venue, Mt Osmond Golf Club, limited numbers to 18 tables, to ensure the required 1.5m social distancing (separation of tables).

The State’s “Health Exemption Team” advised that the running of the bridge tournament met their guidelines, so that was good for bridge congresses in the State.

17 tables of diehard bridge players turned up on a cold, wet and foggy day for the 9.30am start. *[Results on the back page.]*

An interesting hand from the morning session:

Dlr West	♠ 9 8 5	♠ void
NS Vul	♥ 7 5	♥ A K 10 9 8 2
	♦ K 5 2	♦ A J 6 4 3
	♣ K 10 8 3 2	♣ A 6
♠ A Q J 10 6		
♥ 4 3		
♦ Q 10 9 8		
♣ J 5		
	♠ K 7 4 3 2	
	♥ Q J 6	
	♦ 7	
	♣ Q 9 7 4	

East-West bid to 6♦. South tried leading the ♠7 but that was all the help East needed. She won the ♠A, discarding her club loser, finessed diamonds and could then trump the hearts good, making 13 tricks.

However, how do you play 6♦ on a club lead? The hand hinges on which opponent you play to hold the ♦K. If South hold the ♦K, you can trump the heart to dummy, then use the ♠A to discard the club loser. On the other hand, with the existing layout and North holding the ♦K, you have to cash the ♥A and ♥K, then discard dummy’s losing club on the third round of hearts. Now you can ruff a club to dummy and now you can take the diamond finesse. I’m glad I didn’t have to work out which line of play to choose.

### STATE EVENTS IN SA

The SA Bridge Federation re-commenced Thursday night bridge with a Walk-In Pairs on Thursday 23rd July. The State Teams Phase 1 started from Thursday 30th July for four weeks. There are 26 teams entered, two more teams than in each of the past two years! (I guess people aren’t travelling, so can play bridge.)

### ONLINE TEAMS LEAGUES

Once it was evident that the March lockdown would last longer than initially ‘hoped’, we tried to come up with some alternatives for competition bridge, whilst awaiting some SA virtual clubs to be established. The SA (Lockdown) Online Teams League was born.

League #1, with 12 teams playing a full round robin during May, was won by BIRD: Sheila Bird – Felicity Smyth, Jon Hunt – David Gue, Mike Doecke – David Parrott.

League #2, organised by Sheila Bird and Jon Hunt, held in June, saw a slightly different format, where 12 teams played in two sections, with semi finals between 1st in one section and 2nd in the other section. That League was won, somewhat fortuitously by TRAVIS: Barbara Travis – Arjuna de Livera, Howard Melbourne – Nic Croft, George Bartley – Bertie Morgan.

League #3 was played during July and will be the last League. 8 teams played a Board-A-Match competition. BAM is not played much in Australia, and Sheila and Jon thought it would provide an interesting alternative to everyday teams matches. The final was contested by WILLIAMS and BIRD, with BIRD: Sheila Bird – Felicity Smyth, Jon Hunt – David Gue, Mike Doecke – David Parrott winning.

Barbara Travis

# SA ONLINE LEAGUE 3: BOARD-A-MATCH... BAM! by Jon Hunt

Many thanks to Sheila and Jon for their very professional organisation of Online Leagues 2 and 3.

The Reisinger Board-A-Match (B-A-M) Teams is one of the most prestigious events on the North American Bridge Calendar. Apart from this Covid-19 affected year, it is played every year in the US Fall Nationals and attracts a fantastic field of world class bridge players.

In Australia, somewhat unfortunately I feel, B-A-M is a form of the game which is rarely seen on the bridge calendar. I was keen therefore when Justin Williams suggested the B-A-M format for the last of the SABF OnLine Bridge League events.

There are three or four main methods of scoring in Duplicate Bridge: IMPs at teams or pairs, Matchpoints and Board-A-Match, and each requires different strategies for success. IMPs scoring in teams is, arguably, the most straightforward form of duplicate bridge. Here, making your contract is paramount. Overtricks are of small value; an additional (undoubled) undertrick is of little consequence if there was a reasonable chance to make your contract. Importantly, you should never - well, almost never - risk your contract for the sake of an overtrick.

Overtricks are much more important in Matchpoints. Also, your score is compared not just against one other score but against all the scores across the field. Expert Matchpoint players are always looking for opportunities where - for reasonable risk - they might produce an extra trick in defence or attack and boost their percentage against the field. But the risk must be reasonable; they try to avoid a 'bottom' at all costs.

Board-a-Match (B-A-M) scoring shifts the balance between Risk and Reward further again. In BAM, you compete with one set of opponents for a single point on each board. You either win, tie or lose the board, scoring 1 point, half a point or no points.

Pushing your opponents around in the bidding (so they might bid one more and go down) is important in all forms of the game but in IMPs or Matchpoints the risks you take need to be reasonable - lest you suffer a damaging penalty yourself or give away a doubled part-score. In IMPs you need to be especially sure before you double. You don't want your opponents making a doubled part-score for 530 or 470 in the hope of gaining an extra 50 or 100 points.

In B-A-M, any additional over or undertrick is critical. It can be the difference between your score and theirs. The difference between +130 and +100 or 430 and 420 is no less important and no less valuable than, say, scoring +800 instead of +50. A little less prestigious than the Reisinger Trophy, the third SABF OnLine League was Board-a-Match format, attracting eight teams of relative B-A-M novices. There were seven qualifying rounds of 16 boards on BBO. The WILLIAMS and BIRD teams led the qualifying most of the way, with WILLIAMS edging out BIRD by a single point.

Here are a couple of hands from the Final between WILLIAMS and BIRD.

On Board 4, Bird opened a 14-17 1NT and Smyth transferred to diamonds. Bird denied a super accept in diamonds (denying A-x-x or K-x-x) by bidding 3♦, so Smyth passed. Williams, however, was not content to pass out 3♦ and he doubled for take-out. Markey bid 3♥, and Smyth had a problem. Here is her hand and the auction so far.

Dlr West  
All Vul

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

West  
Bird  
1NT  
3♦  
Pass

North  
Markey  
Pass  
Pass  
3♥

East  
Smyth  
2NT (tfr)  
Pass  
?

South  
Williams  
Pass  
Double

Confident that 3♦ would have been an easy make, the question was what to bid now? Felicity Smyth might well have thought that 3♥ would fail but would +100 be enough against a likely 110 or 130? Doubling for +200 or +500 would be a terrific result but how could she be confident that 3♥ would be beaten with hardly a defensive trick in her hand? She was prepared to play in 4♦ but pushing her to 4♦ was exactly what her opponent was hoping to achieve!

Instead, with her extra diamond and strong honours, she ventured 3NT hoping her partner would understand the strength of her hand! She found partner with perfect cards - stoppers in all the suits, the ♦A and enough tricks outside. Bird understood the message and passed - making an easy 9 tricks in 3NT for +600 versus +130 for 10 tricks in the diamond part-score at the other table. 1 point to BIRD.

This was the full deal:

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

From Williams' perspective, and as they say in the classics, the operation was a success, but the patient died! He had got his side into the auction - possibly risking a big penalty - and managed to push his opponents to bid again, just not to what anyone might have expected.

Even so, in B-A-M, you only lose ½ point if you guess wrongly and win the other ½ point for getting it right!

Williams, South, had another opportunity on the following hand.

East, the dealer, opened 1♥ on his right.

♠ 10 4 2  
♥ A 10 9 3  
♦ J 4  
♣ J 5 4 3

West raised to 2♥ and North (partner) doubled for takeout, passed to him. At IMPs, most experienced players would bid 2♣ in response to partner's take-out double, hoping their opponents will take the push to 3♥. Passing the takeout double at IMPs carries much risk; -670 in the out column is a terrible score when it is a part-score battle, usually scoring -11 IMPs.

At B-A-M scoring, however, Williams considered the possibility of +200 against a part-score in spades as he was only a risking ½ point to gain a ½ point. Therefore, he passed Markey's takeout double and led a small spade.

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

The spade lead established a tempo by setting up a second spade trick for the defence before declarer could establish clubs, for a discard). Since declarer could not escape the further loss of a club, a diamond, and Williams' two heart tricks, 2♥ X was one off for +200.

At the other table South bid 2♣ on the same auction and made for +110. This time, it was a well-earned 1 point to the Williams team.

### RESULT

BIRD (Sheila Bird, Felicity Smyth, David Parrott, Mike Doecke, David Gue and Jon Hunt) **9.5** defeated WILLIAMS (Justin Williams, Phil Markey, Jeff Travis and Russell Harms) **6.5**.

*Jon Hunt*



Christmas in Winter Congress

## ENSURING 10 TRICKS

This hand comes from the State Teams Phase 1. I was surprised to see how many people failed in 4♣, South.

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

After East had shown diamonds, South played in 4♣. West led the ♦Q which East overtook with the ♦A, followed by the ♦K and ♦J. The ♦J was an attempt to promote trumps in West's hand, and succeeded! South ruffed with the ♣J (with West discarding a discouraging heart), then cashed three top spades.

When East showed out on the third spade, declarer knew he had a trump loser. It seems that many declarers simply relied on the heart finesse, but this is a 'poor' play (especially if East has played the diamonds in the order mentioned – that was suit preference for hearts!).

The correct line, missed by seven of ten declarers in 4♣, was to lead a heart towards dummy, cross to the ♣A to lead another heart towards dummy (ensuring that a top honour wasn't ruffed), then to cash the ♣Q and lead to the ♣K. If clubs were 3-3, you now discard your heart on the last club. If clubs were 4-2 with West, then you simply trump the last club with your ♣4, scoring 5 spade tricks, 3 club tricks and 2 heart tricks.

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

South played in 4♣ after opening the equivalent of a strong 1NT. West led the ♥K, then the ♥Q, then switched to the ♣Q (presumably showing the Jack).

Nic Croft commented on this 'textbook' hand. He drew trumps in two rounds, meaning that both hands would still have trumps. Then he trumped the small heart in dummy, preparing for the elimination play. Now he cashed his other top club before exiting with the last club, putting West on lead. West now had to either lead a diamond around to his A-Q, or give a ruff and discard.

This line avoided the need for taking the diamond finesse, instead end-playing West to lead the suit, ensuring his 10 tricks.

# BERWICK BRIDGE CLUB CHALLENGE

On Tuesday 11th August, four teams from Bridge at Beaumont undertook another 'international challenge', this time against Berwick Bridge Club. Berwick is the northern-most town in England, only about 50 miles from Edinburgh. In the 1970s it affiliated with the Scottish Bridge Union, which apparently would not be permitted these days. It felt very appropriate since Broken Hill Bridge Club is affiliated with the SA Bridge Federation, being closer to Adelaide than to Sydney.

Beaumont prevailed, winning three matches and losing one.

Team 1: Linda Alexander – Di Marler, Ingrid Cooke – Pam Morgan-King won by 10 IMPs.

Team 2: Bill Bradshaw – Catherine Ellice-Flint, Jo Bakas – Tassi Georgiadis lost by 28 IMPs (2 unfortunate slam swings).

Team 3: Kate Hartley – Susan Armitage, Moira Smith – Sally Fraser won by 29 IMPs.

Team 4: Penny Bowen – Sally Fraser, Wardie Adamson – Sully Detmold won by 23 IMPs.

Paul Gipson, who organised things from the Berwick end, arranged for all the teams to play the same boards, in two 8-board stanzas. This added to the interest and allowed some informative discussion via Zoom at the conclusion of the match. Here are a couple of the hands I found interesting although, admittedly, they were all-round challenging hands.

You are North, dealer, and pick up:

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

You open 1♣ and your partner responds 1NT. What is your rebid?

Three Norths rebid 4♥. This bid 'should' have a different meaning, since 3♥ is game forcing. What should 4♥ mean? It 'should' be a "self-splinter", showing a solid spade suit (for 4♣) and a singleton heart!

There were two auctions that I liked:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♥ (GF)	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

and

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♥ (GF)	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

All games made as it happened: 3NT, 4♥ and 4♣.

The other hand of interest to me seemed to be managed better by the Berwick weak 1NTers, rather than our Standard bidders.

♠ 5 ♥ A 9 7 5 4 ♦ A J 9 8 7 2 ♣ J  ♠ K J 8 6 4 ♥ 2 ♦ 10 4 3 ♣ 7 6 3 2	♠ Q 10 3 ♥ Q J 8 6 ♦ Q 5 ♣ K Q 5 4  ♠ A 9 7 2 ♥ K 10 3 ♦ K 6 ♣ A 10 9 8
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Typically, the Acol auction was:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦ (nat, GF)	Pass	3♥ (max)
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

On the other hand, the North hand proved trickier after this "Standard" start:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	?		

Our three variations were: North rebid 1NT, North rebid 2♦ (which should have been fourth-suit forcing, but then she passed 2♥) and one North, whose partner had rebid 1NT rather than 1♣, managed to reach 6♦, having shown her two red suits, and South thinking that their hand could hardly be better with the red Kings and black Aces.

I don't think this hand is at all easy but, if I had been North and bid 2♦ (fourth-suit forcing), then once partner showed 3-card heart support I would be bidding 4♥. You know that South has 4 spades and 4+ clubs from their bidding of two suits at the 1-level, so now the diamond shortage (maximum of 2 cards) is marked.

What would be a wise bid to discuss with partner is the jump shift in the fourth suit. Many play it to show a 5-5 hand shape, with invitational values. Since the fourth suit at the lowest level is 'fourth-suit forcing', then the jump should be the invitational 5-5 (you can put game forcing 5-5s through fourth-suit forcing), and the double jump shift is a splinter bid for spades.

This would take some partnership discussion and agreement but, in reality, each bid should have a meaning, so giving a specific meaning to such bids is logical (as long as you can remember them).

Many thanks must go to Paul Gipson for his cooperation and organisation of the matches. The Zoom debriefing provided lots of beneficial discussion.

Our next challenge is against Edinburgh, and then we play South Africa – which has proven interesting to organise – discussing SA time and SA clubs!

*Barbara Travis*

## SWING OF THE 'DAY'

*This hand from the Alt-Inv online tournaments was written up by Christina Lund Madsen (Denmark).*

I love swinging, both as a player and kibitzer. This was a lovely board for any person with my preferences.

Dlr North	♠ A 5
All Vul	♥ A K 10
	♦ K J 9 2
	♣ J 7 4 2
♠ Q 9 7 6 4 3 2	♠ 10
♥ 4	♥ J 8 7 5 3
♦ A 10	♦ 6
♣ 10 6 5	♣ A K Q 9 8 3
	♠ K J 8
	♥ Q 9 6 2
	♦ Q 8 7 5 4 3
	♣ void

There were eight teams playing in the competition, and this hand caused problems for many of the teams.

The first match, Table 1:

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♦ (♥s)	3♣ (♦s)
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

It is hard to blame either North or South for this outcome. East simply did well to stay quiet. East led the ♣K, then the ♣A, with his partner playing the ♠5 then the ♠6. Now the suit was blocked, but declarer didn't realise that. East switched to the ♠10, won in dummy. West won when declarer led a diamond, playing the ♣10. When North played the Jack, he was down 3, -300.

Table 2:

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

This was well bid, and a deserved 17 IMP swing.

The second match, Table 1:

After a very tangled auction, North-South managed to reach 5♦, doubled by West. That made 12 tricks for 950.

Table 2:

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♥	3♣ (♦s)
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the ♣Q, West playing the 5, and continued with the ♣K, West playing the 6. Once again the suit was blocked. He continued with the ♣A, in case his partner held four clubs, and now declarer was safe for 9 tricks, limited the loss to 8 IMPs.

In the third match, both tables reached 5♦, but one table was doubled, leading to another 8 IMP swing.

The final match saw a different contract at Table 1:

West	North	East	South
	1NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♣
Double	Pass	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East kept quiet throughout the auction, finding the opponents playing in her 5-card suit. She led a spade, as ordered (!), where a club would have worked better by shortening the trumps from trick 1. Declarer played very nicely, containing the damage to one down.

At Table 2:

West	North	East	South
	1NT	2♥ (♥ + m)	3♣ (♦s)
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Double	Pass
Pass	Redouble	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

Contrary to the other two tables with similar auctions, South did not leave his partner in 3NT, which had shown a super-accept for diamonds. He cue bid 4♣, and from there they reached the cold slam, gaining 16 IMPs.

*Christina Lund Madsen, Denmark*



Christmas in Winter A Grade winners:  
Heather Motteram (Barbara Travis) and Felicity Gunner

### FREE ONLINE BEGINNERS LESSONS

The ABF has organised four free online lessons for beginners, with Paul Marston as teacher, on Tuesdays from 25th August, then 1st, 8th and 15th September.

The lessons use a combination of Zoom and BridgeBase (BBO), [www.bridgebase.com](http://www.bridgebase.com). Each Thursday there will be a practice session. Following the lessons, players will be referred back to local bridge clubs for follow-up teaching.

If you have any friends interested in learning the game, have them register:

<https://www.abf.com.au/free-online-introduction-to-bridge-paul-marston/>



# YOU HAVE TO PLAY WELL TO GO DOWN

From the *Alt-Invitational VI bulletins*, written by Martin Cantor.

This was the most interesting hand of the first segment of the final between BLASS and STREET (Paul Street was the mover behind the Alt-Inv tournaments), won by Blass after a big first session.

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

Table 1

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♣
All Pass		Pass	3NT

With diamonds 3-2, you have nine top tricks. If the ♥K is onside you have 10 tricks, or only nine if diamonds are 4-1. If West leads a heart, it doesn't matter where the King is.

West did indeed lead a heart, declarer tested diamonds and claimed 10 tricks. Not much of interest there.

Now take a look at the other room:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥ (shape)
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

This was a good auction, although it led to a much more ambitious contract, and a challenging one.

A heart was led to the King and Ace, so now you have to plan the play if one minor doesn't behave. Your plan focuses on clubs. Paul Street played the ♣A and a small club, ruffed. He came back to hand with the ♥Q, pursuing his plan to ruff the clubs good. This was the position when he led the ♣5:

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

West ruffed with the ♦7 and declarer was at the crossroads. If West started with three diamonds, the winning line is to over-trump, discard the heart on the ♠A, ruff back to hand and lead another club. West can ruff that with a trump higher than dummy's but that is the only trick for the defence.

[Ed: You could also draw trumps, which would now be 2-2, giving up only one club trick.]

But if East is the one with three diamonds, the winning line is to discard dummy's heart instead of over-trumping. Then you can ruff your losing heart, discard the club loser on the ♠A, or you can draw West's second trump and ruff the clubs good, discarding the heart on the ♠A.

Decision time. What do you know about the East-West hands? From the lead, nothing – except East didn't make a pre-emptive opening bid, nor West a pre-emptive overcall. From the lead, it looked like hearts are 4-3, with West perhaps more likely to hold four.

Applying the Theory of Vacant Spaces tells you that West has 7 or 8 cards outside clubs and hearts, while East has 4 or 5. That tells you that the odds strongly favour West having 3 diamonds.

You play accordingly, over-ruffing, and go down. As Mark Horton messaged me, "You have to play it well to go down."

*Ed: I have to admit to liking line 2 much more. Discarding the heart, then ruffing the heart seems to be far more likely to succeed. You are able to discard the club loser on the ♠A, so you are just moving your losers around, rather than relying on 'guessing' who has the 3-card diamond suit.*

Martin Cantor, Germany



Christmas in Winter B Grade winners:  
Lucy Fisher (Barbara Travis) and Tina Hesketh

## MAGNIFICENT MALINOWSKI

This article, by Toine van Hoof, comes from an Alt-Inv VI online bulletin.

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

Par is 4♦ by North-South, duly bid and made twice. To beat 3NT, the defence needs to lead a spade – which is easy if West has overcalled with spades, but one South opened 3♦, West doubled and North bid 3NT, making on a club lead.

Three East-West pairs played in 3♣, a contract which has a loser in each suit – but can be held to 8 tricks if South overtakes the ♦Q lead to start hearts, getting a heart ruff.

Artur Malinowski made 10 tricks in 4♣ and, no, he was not given a ruff and sluff.

North led the ♦Q, continuing with the ♦2, ruffed in dummy. Declarer played a spade to the Jack, North winning her Ace, then exited with a trump. Most declarers would concede one off, but Malinowski saw a tiny chance.

He played the ♥4 to the King, cam to hand with the ♣A and advanced the ♥8 in this position:

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

Can North be blamed for not rising with the ♥A? When she didn't, the contract was cold. Malinowski won the ♥10 and played a club. South was end-played. Another high club would set up the suit in dummy, so South returned the ♦K. Declarer ruffed in hand and discarded the ♥5 from dummy. Then he ruffed out North's (known) ♥A and a magnificent +420.

## BLOCKED CLUBS: PLAY v DEFEND?

From the Alt-Major Inv online tournament.

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

West	North	East	South
1♠		Pass	1♦
All Pass	Double	2♥ (1)	3NT

(1) This is the same as a 2♦ bid here – a cue raise. Some players have adopted transfer raises instead.

This looks like an easy 3NT for North-South, but the club suit is blocked. South can prevail on any lead if he runs the ♣10, but not without attracting the attention of an anti-cheating committee! If clubs are 2-2, the suit is not a problem but, when they are 3-1, South's ♣6 blocks the suit (with the 5-4-3 being lower).

On a spade lead, declarer wins the Queen, tests the clubs, then takes the diamond finesse for 9 tricks. However, the auction should warn West away from the spade lead. Some Wests found the sensible lead of the ♥Q. However, if they continued with the Jack, then the ♥5 to East's Ace-King, South can discard one of the clubs from his hand, unblocking the suit. Now they can win a spade switch with the Ace, cash 5 club tricks and take the diamond finesse to secure their 9 tricks.

Two East-Wests found the killing defence against 3NT (one after a spade raise from East that denied a spade honour!).

The killing defence started with the lead of the ♥Q. However, East now overtook the ♥J – to switch to the spade through declarer's ♠A-Q. This left declarer with no chance, since he had not been provided the opportunity to unblock is inconvenient club. Declarer was left with only 4 club winners, 3 diamond winners (via the finesse) and one spade trick, for one down.

## WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES

From the FINAL of the Alt-Inv Mixed online tournament, reported in the bulletin.

Let's see how even the best players sometimes make apparently simple errors. Here is the first one:

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

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

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

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

South played in 4♣ after a Precision 1♣ opening bid. West led the ♣A, partner playing the ♣10. She then played the ♣K, partner playing the ♣9. I don't know what signalling system they had agreed, but you might think that by the time of the (mixed) final they would have it sorted. Apparently not – at trick 3 she played a heart to the Jack – King – Ace.

Declarer now ran spades, and West's unwise heart discard gave declarer an overtrick.

In the other room the auction was a simple 1♠ - 1NT - 4♠. The defence cashed the first three clubs, then East exited safely with a spade and, in due course, won her ♥K for the normal one down.  
(No entry to dummy was available for the heart finesse!)

Next case, this error by no means so egregious:

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

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

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

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

North played in 4♥ after a Precision sequence. East led the ♥Q, won by declarer who played his other top heart. With the black suit lengths in dummy (on her right), West quite reasonably discarded a diamond, but that was all declarer needed. The club went away on the top spade, and there were just three trump losers. *[Ed: I think East contributed to this outcome. Holding what appears to be three trump tricks, I would lead the ♣A at trick 1.]*

And on the last board of the final, one pair managed to bid to a slam missing two cashing aces. For some reason neither of them stopped to check!

*Ed: This gives us all hope!*

## HOW WOULD YOU PLAY?

♠ 5 4 3  
♥ J 10 3  
♦ A J 8 7  
♣ 10 7 5

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT (22-23)
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the ♠K, East playing the ♠J. West continued with the ♠Q, and East unblocked the ♠10, as you win. You are playing Teams, where overtricks are less important than finding the safest way to play the contract.

What is the best line, assuming West has 5 spades? In that case, if you lose the lead, the opposition will cash their remaining spades and you will go down.

This board was played 16 times by supposedly top teams, but I only looked at 2 matches (4 tables). In the first match, one South was a sponsor (paying his team) and the other an expert. Both played the same line: having won the ♠A, they led the ♦Q. Both Wests covered with the King and now declarer had plenty of winners – ending with 12 tricks.

In the second match, once again one South was a top player and the other a sponsor (but a man who knows his odds, since he created Betfair!). Each of them played the line I would have taken, which I thought combined your chances better than relying simply on the diamond finesse.

They cashed the ♥A and ♥K, allowing for the doubleton ♥Q. When, in fact, West held the ♥Q-9 doubleton, declarer had 4 heart tricks, so the contract was secure. They then cashed the clubs and when they were 3-3 they had an overtrick, so the diamond finesse was no longer necessary but could be taken safely.

♠ 5 4 3  
♥ J 10 3  
♦ A J 8 7  
♣ 10 7 5

♠ K Q 9 7 2  
♥ Q 9  
♦ K 9 2  
♣ 8 6 4

♠ J 10 6  
♥ 7 6 5 4  
♦ 6 5 4  
♣ J 3 2

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

The reason that I 'thought' this play was better is that you are combining both the heart suit and the diamond suit, bringing both suits into the play of the hand. If the ♥Q doesn't fall in two rounds, then you rely on the diamond suit. However, others have suggested to me that it is very difficult for West to duck the ♦Q when able to see the ♦A-J in dummy, because you may be able to promote the ♦10 into a trick if it is in partner's hand. Perhaps I overlooked the psychological factor, in favour of working the odds (as did Mr Betfair).

*Barbara Travis*

## A GAME AT THE (VIRTUAL) CLUB by Barbara Travis

I was playing with a very capable partner but she doesn't remember to count. My poor partner – I literally pounced on her after this hand, "Did you know I held the ♠K?" She replied, "Yes, you signalled that you held it." "But did you know before my signal?" I'm pretty sure our opponents thought I was being unreasonably pushy, but I wanted to make a point:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1NT	Pass	2♥
Double (*)	2♣	3♥	3♠
Pass	4♣		

This is what partner, West, could see:

<i>West</i>	<i>Dummy</i>
♠ 10 7 2	♠ Q J 9 8 6 4
♥ K Q 9 7	♥ 8 4 2
♦ 10 9 2	♦ 8
♣ A 10 8	♣ J 7 3

(\*) Partner and I had discussed what a double of 2♣ showed and also doubles of transfers. After a strong 1NT opening bid, these doubles should be lead-directing. They do usually show at least 5 cards in the suit though! If you are a passed hand, these doubles are also lead-directing. However, against a weak 1NT, a double of either 2♣ Stayman or of a transfer bid should show a good hand, the sort of hand with which you would make a "penalty" double of the 1NT opening bid (unless you are a passed hand, when it is lead-directing once more).

I led the ♥5 to the Queen and declarer's Ace. Declarer cashed the ♦A and ♦K, discarding a heart from dummy. (I thought: "Interesting – perhaps partner only has four hearts.") Now declarer ruffed a diamond to dummy, then led the ♠Q, which looked like a finesse. I won the King, and led a small heart to partner's King.

Why did I suggest that my partner should already know that I held the ♠K? Counting! North had already shown up with the ♥A, ♦A, ♦K and ♠A. That's 15 HCP. I could have led a small club to partner's Ace too, but I thought I'd see if she was counting.

If she'd held a doubleton club, which I did originally think she had, based on having a 5-card heart suit, then she could easily get a club ruff too. As it was, 4♣ just went down one trick.

You are playing in 4♣, West, after this auction:

<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>
	1♦
1♣	2♦
4♣	Pass

North leads the ♦K.

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

You win the ♦A and draw trumps. Your only decision is how to continue? If the diamonds are 2-2, you have 13 tricks, but if they are 1-3 then you should play on hearts, ensuring 11 tricks. If you play on diamonds and they break 1-3, you are restricting yourself to 10 tricks. It's pairs, so you have to make as many tricks as you can on the hand. What's correct?

Personally, I would think that the lead is indicative of a singleton, given East rebid the suit. However, your decision may well depend on your knowledge of your opponent; some people love to lead doubletons.

Working on the basis that it is a singleton lead, I would work the heart suit, ensuring 11 tricks.

My morning's lesson had included a sub-topic about responding correctly to takeout doubles, and I thought we did well when this topic appeared as a bit of a 'theme'.

Sitting West, you hold:

♠ K J 7
♥ A K 10 8 7 4
♦ 3
♣ Q J 4

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	3♦	Double	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

The hand may almost be too good for a 4♥ bid, but one of the lessons I learnt from Tim Seres, Australia's best player in my youthful years, was to ensure you got your 'plus' score once pre-empted. Pushing for tricky slams in the knowledge there are bad breaks (i.e. after a pre-empt) doesn't pay in the long term.

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

Hearts broke 3-1 offside (!), so 11 tricks was the limit of the hand. Mind you, South should probably have been a bit more active, with ♦A-x-x-x and a singleton heart. I'd have upped the auction to 5♦ and let us sort out the impact of the pre-empt then! 5♥ makes, but you may well generate a 6♥ bid now.

Two hands later I held:

♠ Q
♥ K J 10 8 7 2
♦ A Q 6 2
♣ 6 5

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			2♣
Double	Pass	4♥	All Pass

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Our hands were:

♠ J 7 4 3  
♥ 4  
♦ J 9 7 3  
♣ A Q J 9

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

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

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

♠ 7 6 4 2  
♥ 4 2  
♦ Q 7 3 2  
♣ A Q 8

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
2♦	Pass	1NT 2♥	Pass All Pass

What is noticeable about this hand? North-South are cold for 4♣ (and East-West are also making 10 tricks in 4♥, as we did). North should definitely be raising partner's weak 2♠ to the 4-level. Firstly, you have a 10-card fit. Secondly, you have a singleton, therefore some ruffing power. And finally, your clubs look excellent, sitting over the doubler.

If 4♣ doesn't make, then East-West will certainly be making their game contract, so it's a good save regardless of the outcome. Only one pair played in 4♣, making – for a top. Another pair must have bid to 4♠, with East-West bidding on to 5♥, going down one trick – for a second top to North-South. It pays to push the opponents around – when you have a known fit and distribution on your side. Even with South having a 6-3-2-2 hand shape, the worst-possible shape for a weak 2 opening bid, it paid dividends.

The third hand on this topic appeared shortly afterwards. You hold:

♠ K J 8 6 2  
♥ 3 2  
♦ A Q 2  
♣ J 8 6

West	North	East	South
Double	3♥	4♣	1♥ All Pass

Only three pairs (of 15) bid to 4♣. Admittedly, I may have bid only 3♣ if North had not tried to pre-empt us with the 3♥ raise, but his bid made me hope partner's values were better placed. However, if I'd bid 3♣, she would have raised to game anyway. Clearly, many people only bid 2♣ on my hand – not enough!

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

♠ K J 8 6 2  
♥ 3 2  
♦ A Q 2  
♣ J 8 6

South led the ♦3, so I drew trumps, then checked the diamond suit, which proved to be 5-1 (South led her singleton). Now I switched to clubs, North winning the King. The ♥A was now 'marked' with South, and I played accordingly.

This is what Barry Rigal (journalist) wrote in Bulletin 2 at the Gold Coast Congress this year:  
*"Pairs is all about protecting the plus score. Don't push to marginal games; if partner makes the overtricks when game is close, he rates to score well."* My final hand falls into this category.

South cashed the ♠K, then switched to the ♣J which was ducked to my King. While I still had plenty of entries, I decided to 'play' with the spade suit, hoping to dispose of a diamond loser, so I deferred the trumps.

I led the ♠J, covered by the Queen and ruffed. Now I led a diamond to my Ace, then led the ♠8 (equal with my 10, but it couldn't hurt to hide the 10). South played low so I threw the diamond and was pleasantly surprised when my ♠8 won the trick.

Having ensured nine tricks, it couldn't hurt to look for a tenth trick. Rather than draw trumps, I made sure I could trump the long club, in case clubs broke 4-2. I cashed the ♦K, then exited with a club. In due course, I could trump dummy's fourth club with the ♥A, making 6 hearts, 1 spade, 2 diamonds and 1 club.

South asked whether we should have bid the game and I replied, "No". Partner couldn't upgrade her hand, because she didn't know whether I held only two hearts. And I was happy being in 2♥, but my 'job' was to make sure I took as many tricks as possible. With the ♣A onside and all the spades in South, I could make 10 tricks. However, just because Deep Finesse says 10 tricks are cold, it doesn't mean you want to be in the game! The hand and outcome reinforce what Barry said (above) about pairs and close games.

Barbara Travis



## CONGRESS RESULTS

### BRIDGE AT BEAUMONT'S CHRISTMAS IN WINTER

#### A GRADE

1st Felicity Gunner - Heather Motteram  
2nd Therese Demarco - Lori Smith  
3rd Ingrid Cooke - Pam Morgan-King

#### SESSIONAL WINNERS:

Felicity Gunner - Heather Motteram, Tania & Robert Black,  
John Lokan - Martin Tucker, Therese Demarco - Lori Smith

#### B GRADE

1st Lucy Fisher - Tina Hesketh  
2nd Deborah Cramer - Peter Turnbull  
3rd Vicki Djurasevich - Carolyn Mroczek

#### SESSIONAL WINNERS:

Vicki Djurasevich - Carolyn Mroczek, Mary Jarrett -  
Samantha Rowe, Lucy Fisher - Tina Hesketh, Sally Luke -  
Briar Saint

## COMING EVENTS

### STATE EVENTS

Thursday 27th August (5 weeks)	SWISS PAIRS	SA Bridge Assoc
Sunday 30th August	UNDER GRAND GNOT	SA Bridge Assoc
Monday 31st August (5 weeks)	SA Bridge Assoc GNOT	SA Bridge Assoc
Monday 5th October (4 weeks)	STATE SINGLES	SA Bridge Assoc
Sunday 20th September	STATE MIXED PAIRS	SA Bridge Assoc
Thursday 1st October (4 weeks)	STATE TEAMS PHASE 2	SA Bridge Assoc
Sunday 1st November	STATE SENIORS' PAIRS	SA Bridge Assoc

### CONGRESS EVENTS

Sunday 4th October	GAWLER TEAMS CONGRESS ( <i>tbc</i> )	Gawler
Sunday 11th October	BRIDGE IN THE CITY CONGRESS ( <i>unlikely</i> )	Mitchell Park
Sunday 15th November	BRIDGE AT BEAUMONT'S BIRTHDAY CONGRESS	Mt Osmond Golf Club



## 2020 Under Grand Master GNOT Qualifying

Hosted by

**SABA**

**243 Young St**

**Unley**

**9:30 a.m. Sunday August 30<sup>th</sup> 2020**

**Entry is open to all SABF affiliated players under  
Grand Master ranking as at June 30<sup>th</sup> 2020.**

**Gold points will be awarded for each win.  
Contestants are asked to bring their own lunches  
and drinks**