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SABF NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The SABF held its Annual General Meeting on Saturday 24th November 2018.

The Committee:

PRESIDENT	Adel Abdelhamid
SECRETARY	Angela Norris
TREASURER	Paul Walker
Committee Members	David Parrott (SABA)
	John Smith (SABA)
	David Anderson (Reynella)
	David Gue (Adelaide BC)
	Jill Allanson (Barossa)
	Jim Coffey (Whyalla)
	John Elliott (Alexandrina)
	Jeanette Lunnie (Glenelg)
	Jinny Fuss (St Vincents)
	Sue Phillips (Bridge in the City)
	Barbara Travis (Beaumont)

Following a workshop to identify activities aimed at developing the game of bridge in SA, the focus of activities in 2019 will be to:

- * devise succession plans for key SABF positions
- * support the formation of new clubs, regardless of affiliation status
- * invest in mentoring and coaching for youth players
- * form an Ethics Committee, with an emphasis on behaviour management
- * appoint a Technology Officer to advise on best practice in bridge management applications
- * attract and train more directors
- * work with clubs to provide more support for supervised players
- * improve the SABF website

Some of these initiatives have already commenced.

CAPITATION LEVY

With the SABF now required to pay GST, the annual SABF capitation levy has been increased from \$7.00 per member to \$7.70 per member. Together with an increase in the ABF's capitation levy, players may find that their club membership increases.

TABLE FEES FOR 2019

Table fees for SABF events will be increasing to \$14 from 2019. Most of this increase can be attributed to GST.

Bear in mind, the SABF table fees have not increased for six years, so the remainder of the increase (80 cents) is negligible.

SABF APPEAL ADVISORY PANEL

The panel consists of experienced State-level Directors (or higher). One or more of the panel members will be appointed as the on-duty Appeal Advisor/s for each SABF event.

The role of the on-duty Appeal Advisor is to provide guidance, when asked, on the merits of appealing the Director's ruling.

To submit an appeal, you must deposit \$50 with the SABF Treasurer if you do not consult an Appeal Advisor, or should you ignore the Advisor's advice. This deposit will not be refunded if the appeal is proven to be frivolous or vexatious.

It is highly recommended to consult with an Appeal Advisor prior to submitting an appeal.

Members: David Lusk, Jon Hunt, Rex Whitford (when playing)

SABF ETHICS PANEL

One or more members of the Ethics Panel may be asked by the President to:

- * review a submitted complaint to advise on the merits of the complaint and whether there is a need for additional information
- * serve on a Disciplinary Panel when necessary
- * advise and assist the SABF President when dealing with complaints against Tournament Directors
- * provide advice to the SABF Management Committee to help ensure appropriate player behaviour at all SABF events

Members: Russel Harms, Phil Gallasch, Mark Jappe, David Cherry

TEACHER TRAINING

Joan Butts will be providing Teacher Training workshops at SABA on Saturday 6th April and Sunday 7th April.

SPRING NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS by Barbara Travis

In October, a selection of South Australian bridge players headed to Sydney for the Spring Nationals – Open Teams, Women’s Teams, Seniors’ Teams, Restricted and Novice Teams, and the Dick Cummings Open Pairs and similar Restricted and Novice Pairs.

Here is a hand that involved suit preference signalling:

Dir: East	♠ K 10 7 4 3		
NS Vul	♥ A		
	♦ 8 7 5 2		
	♣ Q J 9		
♠ Q		♠ J 8	
♥ 10 9 8		♥ K Q 7 4 2	
♦ K Q 10 6 4		♦ A 9 3	
♣ A 5 3 2		♣ K 10 4	
	♠ A 9 6 5 2		
	♥ J 6 5 3		
	♦ J		
	♣ 8 7 6		

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

Perhaps I should have bid 2♠ but the vulnerability, diamond length and poor spade suit quality deterred me. We can make 4♠ !!

My partner, Candice Ginsberg, led the ♦J, clearly a shortage and usually a singleton when dummy has bid the suit. Although I knew I’d win the first heart lead, I still signalled with the ♦8. In these situations, this is not an ‘attitude’ signal, but it is ‘suit preference’, telling partner where my entry is for trumping purposes.

Declarer won the diamond lead with the ♦Q and I played the ♦8, a high card, to say that my outside entry was in the higher of the other two suits – spades. I won the heart lead from dummy, and led the ♦7, continuing the message that my entry was in spades. Candice trumped the ♦7 and led a small spade, not the Ace, finding my ♠K, so that I could give her another diamond ruff.

In the same match, we missed a grand slam that I think we should have bid:

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

- (1) Drury – showing a good raise in spades. As a passed hand, I could have responded 2♥.
- (2) East would have done better to pre-empt with diamonds before our bidding conversation had started.
- (3) This was a splinter bid – for hearts, even though I had

already shown spade support.

(4) I should have responded with 5♠, showing 2 key cards and the ♥Q. This bid can also be used to show an additional trump, but is best used this way when you know there is a 10-card fit. On this hand, if I had made this bid, Candice would have known that I held 5 hearts, so would have bid 7♥. With a likely 4-4 heart fit, Candice felt that 6♥ was safer.

We got lucky, because our opposition stopped in 3NT! Our East team-mate opened 3♠, resulting in South bidding an immediate 3NT and the slam being missed. Pre-empts are meant to apply pressure to the opposition, and this one did so very successfully.

What would you do holding:

♠ A K 3
♥ K 10 3 2
♦ A Q 8
♣ A 7 3

I opened 2NT (20-21 HCP) and partner transferred to spades, then rebid 3NT. Are you going to play in 3NT or 4S? This is the sort of hand where I opt to play in 3NT with a 5-3 fit. I have no ruffing ability, and partner is most likely a reasonably balanced hand. If they have a 5-3-3-2 hand shape, then 3NT is almost always superior. This time partner held:

♠ Q 8 5 4 2
♥ 8 7
♦ K 5
♣ 10 8 6 4

Spades broke 4-1, so 3NT was the limit of the hand (the ♥A was onside).

I’ve said it before and I’m sure I’ll say it again. “Big” doubles should not be used simply because you have 16 HCP or more. They should be used for hands where you would feel that you may have missed game if your partner passes your overcall. The following hand is pertinent:

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Double	2♥ (1)
Pass (2)	4♥	Double (3)	All Pass

- (1) This 2♥ bid showed a weak raise in hearts, whereas 2♦ shows a ‘better’ raise to 2♥.
- (2) Admittedly wimpy – bid 3♠, knowing there is a fit.
- (3) East doubled to show a good hand, but had never managed to tell his partner anything about the actual hand. 4♥ X made 11 tricks for +990.

At the other table, East overcalled 2♦ and West jumped to 5♣, knowing there was an 11 card fit. This went down 1, for a 13 IMP gain.

I thought everyone excelled on my next offering:

Dlr South ♠ A 10 3
NS Vul ♥ J 8 7 4
♦ A 10 6 5 3 2
♣ void

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

♠ K 9 7
♥ 10 6
♦ K Q
♣ K Q J 8 7 3

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1♣
2♠	Double	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West's somewhat light 2♠ overcall was justified by the vulnerability. I corrected 3♣ to 3♦ showing a 6+ card suit, and Candice bid 3NT based on her good diamond support and the spade stopper. West, Nigel Rosendorff, gave some consideration to the auction and found the potentially-deadly lead – the ♥A. Unfortunately for him, declarer held the ♥10 rather than East. It is always rewarding to see a well-thought lead, regardless of its success.

Two hands earlier, we had had a similar situation, after this auction:

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

- (1) A "mini-Multi", showing 3-7 HCP and a 6 card Major
- (2) Pass or correct, liking hearts
- (3) 5-5+ minors (2NT is natural, 3NT is to play although it may have a long running suit)

Candice, on lead as South, held:

♠ 4 2
♥ A 10 9 6 4
♦ K 10 7
♣ A 8 7

She led the ♥A, because it seemed important to cash quick winners. She was correct!

♠ J 10 9 7 6 3
♥ K Q 3
♦ 6 2
♣ 4 2

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

♠ 4 2
♥ A 10 9 6 4
♦ K 10 7
♣ A 8 7

In defence, Candice ducked two rounds of clubs to ensure that East only had one entry to hand. This meant that East could only take one finesse in diamonds (with only the one entry in spades), so lost 1 spade, 1 club and 1 diamond trick, for down one.

There were a lot of 8 and 9 card suits through the 3-days of qualifying, but the next hand was the wildest hand of the tournament.

Dlr South ♠ A Q J 8 4 3
All Vul ♥ 5
♦ A 9 8 5 4 3
♣ void

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

♠ 10
♥ Q 7
♦ K Q J 6 2
♣ J 6 5 4 3

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

(1) This jump to 4-minor over the weak 2 opening bid is known as "Leaping Michaels", showing a game-forcing 5-5+ with that minor and the other Major.

(2) An underbid. If partner has a game forcing two-suiter including diamonds, and you have such good diamonds, partner must have compensating features, such as additional distribution and/or winners.

(3) I had to decide what to do quickly, so I opted to Pass, but once East bid on, I was bidding slam.

However, if we had defended, I would have led the ♠A because partner had denied support for the suit. We will get our four defensive tricks, based on the cross-ruff.

East did cash the correct Ace at trick 1, the ♥A, so we scored +1540. (The winners of the Open Teams made 7♦ X on the ♠A lead!) Our team-mates managed to play in 4♥ on a diamond lead, making all 13 tricks. Our score-up of +1540 and +710 generated at least one comment of, "I don't know that IMP score." It was worth 20 IMPs, and was our winning margin in that match.

Our team didn't qualify, but at the end of the 9 qualifying rounds the score-board did resemble at Thursday night SABF event:

5th HAFFER
6th SMOLANKO
7th MARKEY
8th TRAVIS

Each captain was the only South Australian in their team. Justin Williams, on the other hand, was NOT captain of his team - MACE (the defending champions) - and they finished 3rd, won their semi-final, but lost in the final.

Barbara Travis

EVEN FUNNIER THE SECOND TIME AROUND by Jim Coffey

AUSTRALIA-WIDE RESTRICTED PAIRS (WHYALLA)

Names have been withheld to protect the guilty! The following is an interesting hand that occurred during the Australia-Wide Restricted Pairs held at Whyalla at the end of October. However, it is particularly interesting for all the wrong reasons!

Round 1 Pair 3 v Pair 4
Board 14

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♥	2♠	3♥
		All Pass	

East-West had just had a lesson the evening before on how to handle strong openings (21+ pts), using 2♣ for a strong unbalanced hand or a 23+ HCP balanced hand. Consequently, they discovered they were now able to use the rest of their 2-bids for weak, pre-emptive style openings. I can only imagine East's delight on the fourth board of the evening, when he was finally going to be able to open his first 'Weak 2', 2♠ no less, and in an Australia-Wide Pairs Tournament to boot, and it almost paid dividends...almost.

Unfortunately, things got a little bit muddled for them on a small spade lead and declarer somehow managed to win his ♠Q! Oh well, these things can happen from time to time. I've seen similar watching a GNOT Final on BBO.

Having won the first trick with his ♠Q, South unblocked the ♦A and set about the trump suit, discovering the bad break on the first round, won in dummy. His next idea was two top diamonds, discarding the ♠5 and a small club from hand (and the ♦J dropping). There are a few things declarer can try now while still on the table, all of which result in either three club losers, or two clubs and a promoted ♥10 in West's hand. The end result was 10 tricks for North-South and a likely top board.

South took the time to explain to his disappointed opponents that West should lead the ♠A then a small one, and East can win his ♠K and cash the two top clubs before any clubs can be discarded from South's hand, taking the contract down immediately. East can then switch back to a spade for an "uppercut" of South's trump holding. South either ruffs small only to be over-trumped, or has to ruff high, promoting West's ♥10 for two down.

I have to confess, uppercuts (or trump promotions) have to be one of my favourite defensive plays. If I can get a hand where I get a good read of the layout, an uppercut usually delivers. Pound for pound, I think uppercuts and trump promotions have delivered far more absolute tops for my partner and me than we have deserved.

Round 3, Pair 6 v Pair 3
Board 14

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♥	2♠	3♦ (1)
		All Pass	

(1) Invitational hand with Hearts, Non-Forcing (says nothing about Diamonds)

Some of you might have caught on to the title for the article about now. For those who are enjoying a relaxing read before going to sleep, East-West are now defending the hand they declared in Round 1! It was established early on that Pairs 3 and 4 had played the wrong set of Boards in Round 1, much to Pair 3's disappointment. They'd had such a good round! "Check your boards before you start to play," was the only response from Director.

Pairs 6 and 3 agreed to play the boards, on the basis that they would probably need to be averaged anyway, and there wasn't much else to do for a round. What chance did Pair 6 have, given the opponents had already played 'their' hands?

Same contract, sort of similar bidding, only North is now playing this hand rather than South.

As West passed finally, ending the auction, having previously 'played, made and explained how to defeat the contract', he muttered jovially to North that he "should have doubled this one, because it's going down," quite politely and quietly, as he was mindful that he didn't want his partner to overhear the comment and spoil the hand.

East on lead and, I can only speculate, blissfully unaware that he was holding North's cards from two rounds earlier, made the safe and natural lead of the ♠A. Dummy came down and North could now see his dilemma. Four tricks straight off the top! His diamonds looked so tantalising when he bid game. ♠A, ♠K, and then a pause...

The ♠5 hit the table, dummy and West following, and North ruffing low in hand. What next?

A diamond was led to the Ace followed by the fourth club from dummy. West followed, and declarer ruffed high with the ♥K (unblocking his trumps), while East threw an encouraging spade. Declarer now tested the diamonds by playing the ♦K (saving the ♥J as a late entry, if needed) discarding the ♠5. West could only watch helplessly as he followed to the second diamond. Declarer now cashed the ♥J, finding the poor break, but the hand was over for the defenders. The ♦Q allowed the last spade to be thrown – on this hand he had to follow, but even if West had been short in diamonds, his only other option would have been to trump in, and then his trumps could be drawn. After the ♦Q held, declarer led a spade from dummy and trumped with the ♥9, losing just one more heart trick. Ten tricks again.

Ah - Bridge. "It's an even funnier game the second time around!" Pair 3 may not share my opinion on that one.

Jim Coffey

In case anyone is considering venturing a trip to Whyalla in the near, or distant, future. Whyalla still meets for a friendly game on Thursday nights at 7.00pm.

A GAME AT THE CLUB by Barbara Travis

I am not a big advocate of doubleton leads, especially doubleton honours. All too often, the lead picks up the whole suit for declarer. One time, however, when a doubleton lead appeals is when your hand is weak; it increases the chances of finding partner with useful values.

Sitting North, I held:

♠ 8 4
♥ K 6
♦ 9 7 5 4 3
♣ 8 5 4 2

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	2♣ (1)	Pass
2♣	All Pass		

(1) 2♣ was a cue raise, showing spade support, 10+ HCP.

Given the miserable nature of my hand, I decided to make a (rare) doubleton lead. Here's the whole hand:

<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ 8 4 ♥ K 6 ♦ 9 7 5 4 3 ♣ 8 5 4 2</p> <p>♠ A 10 7 6 3 ♥ 9 8 4 ♦ A K 10 ♣ J 9</p>	<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ K J 2 ♥ Q J 5 2 ♦ J 6 2 ♣ K 10 7</p>
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ Q 9 5 ♥ A 10 7 3 ♦ Q 8 ♣ A Q 6 3</p>	

The ♥K held, so I led another heart to partner's ♥A. She returned the ♥3, a suit preference for clubs, for me to trump, so now I led the ♣2 (fourth highest) through dummy. She won the ♣Q, cashed the ♣A – important, or declarer can discard their club loser on the long heart – and led the fourth heart. My ♠8 was high enough to promote her spade holding into a further (sixth) defensive trick. Declarer trumped with the ♠10, which held, but now needed the ♠Q to be doubleton.

Most people made 9 tricks in 2♣, on a different lead.

Managing one's entries takes a lot of practice and patience. Here's a good example from a recent game:

<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ A Q 10 9 4 ♥ K Q 9 4 ♦ 10 9 5 2 ♣ void</p>	<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ K 8 7 ♥ 6 5 3 ♦ K Q 7 3 ♣ J 3 2</p>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------

West played in 2♣ after South opened 1NT (15-17 HCP). North led the ♣K, ruffed.

There are a number of interesting elements to this hand, the first being to retain trump control since you have had to trump immediately. The second is counting (the HCP) on the hand; assuming North has the ♠K and ♠Q for the lead, you can actually place all the other honours with South. East and West have 20 HCP, North has 5 HCP, so South has the remaining 15 HCP.

That means that you know the ♦A is over the King and Queen, but the ♥A is onside.

In other words, you need to lead hearts towards your hand, twice.

Meantime, to keep trump control, you are best off not leading trumps, instead starting by establishing your side suits. Lead a diamond towards dummy at trick 2. South wins the ♦A and returns a club. You should probably discard a diamond on this club, to deal with the trump control issues. You can ruff the third club, because now dummy is out of clubs too – so can deal with future club leads! Cross to dummy's ♦Q (as it happens, South's ♦J drops) and lead a heart towards your hand, i.e. towards the King and Queen. If South wins, you have 10 tricks when trumps behave. If South ducks, you cross to the ♠K to lead another heart towards your hand. Again, you will make 10 tricks when all the suits break.

At the table, declarer drew three rounds of trumps, but this left her with only one trump to deal with persistent club leads, and two red Aces still in the defenders' hands. In the process of drawing trumps, she had also 'wasted' her ♠K entry to dummy – ending up losing 2 hearts, 3 clubs (having run out of trumps) and the ♦A, for down one.

The moral is: when you are threatened with loss of trump control because you have to trump early, think about establishing your side suit winners first, whilst dummy also has trumps. Dummy's trumps may leave you with additional trump control on the hand.

Remember that when you are playing a Pairs event, you need to make as many tricks as possible. You are playing in 4♣ on these hands:

♠ A K 8 2
♥ K 7 6 4
♦ 2
♣ A 10 5 4

♠ Q J 7 4 3
♥ A 8
♦ 10 8 5 3
♣ K 6

Playing in 4♣ on a diamond lead, you should think, "I have only one diamond loser." However, to keep your diamond losers to one, you need to trump three times. This means that drawing trumps is not a priority.

East won the diamond lead with the ♦A, and returned a trump to the ♠9 and dummy's ♠K, wanting to keep the small trumps for ruffing. Lead a club to the ♣K and trump a diamond. Lead a heart to your ♥A and trump the third diamond. Cash the ♥K and ♣A – cash your outside winners before embarking on a cross-ruff. Trump a heart to hand and then ruff your last diamond. Now you ruff a club to hand with a small trump, and the ♠Q and ♠J can be used at tricks 12 and 13 to draw the outstanding trumps.

12 tricks should be easy, but a few declarers made 11 tricks, with more taking only 10 tricks – i.e. drawing three rounds of trumps, so only being able to trump one diamond.

Even in part-scores this is an important part of declarer play:

♠ K 6 4 3 2
♥ J 8 3 2
♦ Q 4
♣ A 3

♠ J 9 5
♥ 10 7
♦ A K J 9 6
♣ 10 6 5

West opened 1NT (15-17 HCP) and, as South, I ended up playing in 2♠ after partner bid 2♣ to show both majors. West led the ♠K, won with dummy's Ace. I led the ♦Q, then led to the ♦J, and tried to cash the ♦A. West trumped with the ♠10, so I discarded dummy's club, as planned.

I think West should now lead the ♠A and ♠Q, given that my 2♠ bid showed more spades than hearts, but he led another club, ruffed in dummy. I led a heart, ducked to West, who continued with a third club, once again ruffed in dummy. Another heart lost to West, who exited with a heart, trumped in my hand. The ♦K forced West to trump, so his ♠Q was over-trumped with dummy's ♠K. Dummy's last heart was trumped by East, and over-ruffed with my ♠9.

Finally, at trick 12, I led the ♠J, drawing trumps in one round! I'm not sure I've achieved that feat before. Dummy took our ninth trick with the last spade.

Keep those trumps working for you. One of my teaching 'mantras' is: Have you got a job for dummy's trumps? On the last hand, my own trumps were 'dummy's trumps', i.e. the shorter trump hand.

Barbara Travis

AUSTRALIA-WIDE PAIRS (Whyalla)

Whyalla had a good showing this year in the Australia-Wide Pairs run by Brad Coles from Australian Bridge Magazine, with Maciek Zurawel & Irene Karavas taking 44th place, and Jim Coffey & Craig Foulkes grabbing both 22nd in the Open and 7th place in the Restricted Category.

It's fair to say that it was a better than average night, with a very high level of sensible scores achieved across the field, and not a single crazy 800 penalty in sight.. (Historically in Whyalla, the Australia-Wide Pairs has had a habit of bringing out some of our players' optimistic views on more than a few hands!)

Since we're on the topic of optimistic views / hands... Those of you who have had the opportunity to read the November edition of Australian Bridge might have got a chance to read that partner and I have a slight bent towards playing 'Culbertson', albeit a little modified from its original form. Given that not too many modern, and even some not so modern, players might have missed the 'Culbertson Club' system in their playing careers, I thought I'd share a board from our table on the evening.

Dealer South ♠ A J 9
EW Vul ♥ Q 10 8 2
♦ 3
♣ J 10 8 5 4

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

♠ 10
♥ J 5 4
♦ J 8 4 2
♣ K Q 9 7 3

West Foulkes	North Karavas	East Coffey	South Zurawel
			Pass
1♠	Pass	3♦ (1)	Pass
3NT (2)	Pass	4♦ (3)	Pass
4♠ (4)	Pass	4NT (5)	Pass
5♦ (6)	Pass	6♣	All Pass

- (1) Agreeing spades, showing a long suit with values, forcing – slam interest
- (2) 1st round control of both hearts and clubs
- (3) 1st round control of diamonds
- (4) No 2nd round controls outside spades
- (5) 2nd round control of both hearts and clubs / RKCB (1430)
- (6) 3 key cards

There is little to discuss about the play apart from what was written up by Brad Coles in the souvenir booklet.

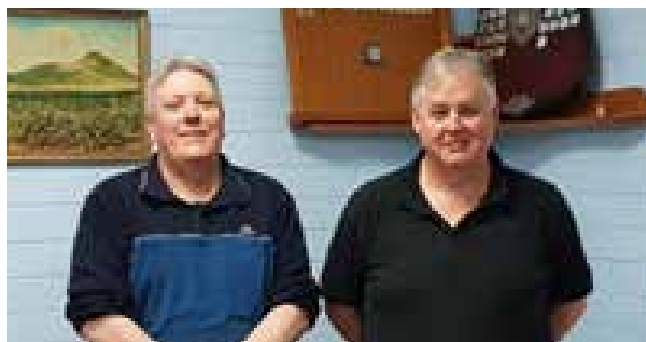
North led a small heart. Winning the ♥K in dummy, declarer led up to his K-Q of trumps with the ♠10 falling inside. North held up the Ace, planning to win and draw two rounds when another spade was led. Declarer crossed back to table with a diamond (necessarily as the ♠A-J could still be with South), and tried another spade up confirming the bad news. It didn't matter too much now what North tried after winning the Ace of trumps. If there was any consolation on this board, it was heartening for me to see that my decision to try for slam was endorsed in the souvenir booklet.

Jim Coffey

In case anyone is considering venturing a trip to Whyalla in the near, or distant, future. Whyalla still meets for a friendly game on Thursday nights at 7.00pm.



Sheila Bird and Felicity Smyth,
who won the State Seniors' Pairs Championship



Jim Coffey & Craig Foulkes, Whyalla

BUILDING A PICTURE by Jon Hunt

"If you are to amount to anything at this game, you must build up a picture of the unseen hands".

Bob Hamman, winner of 12 world championships and more than 50 US championships.

Some, perhaps, might see the Bols Bridge tip above as being a touch harsh. However, the ability to 'see' into the opponents' hands and thereby determine the best line of play in either attack or defence is a critical skill for any bridge player wishing to improve their game.

Here's an example from a local Congress earlier this year. You are sitting South.

West	North	East	South
1♣	1♠	Double	Pass
2♣	2♠	3♠*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		Pass

* asking for a spade stopper

Partner leads the ♠J and East tables this dummy:

You (South)	Dummy (East)
♠ 4	♠ 7 6 5
♥ 10 9 8 7 5 2	♥ A J 4
♦ 9 7 6 3	♦ A Q 8 5 2
♣ K 10	♣ A 9

You follow with a small card to the first trick and, after some thought, declarer also plays low with the ♠3. Partner continues with the ♠A, which drops declarer's Queen, then exits the ♠10 won by declarer's King. You discard a couple of small hearts. Declarer now runs the ♣Q, partner signals an even number of clubs, and you win your King.

Before you read on, its Decision Time! Which suit do you lead back and why?

Let's build that picture...

From the bidding and the play so far, we know that declarer started with 6 or more clubs headed by the Queen-Jack. After partner's length signal in clubs we know that the clubs must have been distributed 7-2-2-2 around the table with declarer holding Q-J-x-x-x-x. We can now confidently place ten of declarer's cards - the seven clubs and the three spades that we've seen.

West
♠ K Q 3
♥ ?
♦ ?
♣ Q J x x x x x

To develop your card reading skills, simply keep asking yourself, throughout both the bidding and then play of a hand, "What else do I know?" or "What can or should I assume?"

In this case, we know that partner gave an emphatic signal when exiting the spade at trick 3.

Knowing that any of his four remaining spades (10-9-8-2) would establish the suit, he chose the ♠10, which is a strong suit preference signal for hearts (the higher of the two remaining suits). He must be showing at least the ♥K, if not the ♥Q as well. If partner is claiming the ♥K, then West will need the ♦K for his opening bid.

So, the picture in your mind of declarer's hand is that they are likely to be either

<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>♠ K Q 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥ x</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ K x</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣ Q J x x x x x</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	West	♠ K Q 3	♥ x	♦ K x	♣ Q J x x x x x	OR	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>♠ K Q 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥ x x</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ K</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣ Q J x x x x x</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	West	♠ K Q 3	♥ x x	♦ K	♣ Q J x x x x x
West												
♠ K Q 3												
♥ x												
♦ K x												
♣ Q J x x x x x												
West												
♠ K Q 3												
♥ x x												
♦ K												
♣ Q J x x x x x												

We cannot be certain of the red suit distribution. This is the position with you on lead, and you can see that the second option gives us a chance of beating the contract.

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

The club suit is currently blocked with the now singleton Ace in Dummy, and declarer having only the one entry (♦K) back to their hand. If you return a club or a heart, declarer will unblock the ♣A, and cross to the ♦K, making 6 clubs and at least 3 outside tricks. Only a diamond will keep declarer away from those club tricks, by removing his entry now. (On the other hand, the first option poses no entry issues for declarer, so we eliminate that hand from our calculations.)

Of course, declarer didn't do very well in forming his picture of the opponents' hands. With North overcalling firstly 1♠ then 2♠, North was a near certainty to have 6 spades. If the spades are breaking 6-1 then only North can attack spades, and declarer has a second stopper. Declarer should have assumed that spade distribution, won the opening lead and immediately set up six club tricks by playing ♣A and another.

The full hand was:

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

Jon Hunt

ACES ON THE ASTRAL PLANE by David Lusk

Reprinted with the permission of Brad Coles from Australian Bridge (magazine), February 1994

THE WHO'S WHO OF THE ASTRAL PLANE

THE STAFFORDSHIRE IMP:

Tricked into returning to the Astral Plane by the well-worn ruse of causing him to say his own name (Egdirb) backwards, the Imp is a crafty bridge player who naturally enjoys playing tricks.

OLAF:

A master illusionist who is spending an extended vacation on the Astral Plane from 13th Century Norway. His spells work better here, and, of course, he can't get a game at home to practise his not inconsiderable skills as a player.

SIR RICHARD DE BOUVIER:

A Knight Templar from the Crusades, Sir Richard is permanently bewildered after finding himself on the Astral Plane, after coming to grief under his own heavily-armoured war-horse. A limited but honourable player.

MYSTRALA:

A spirit with the distracting capacity for simultaneous manifestation. A most perceptive player who is pretty handy when short of a fourth.

PAXACOTL:

An Aztec psychic, banished to the Astral Plane by his mistress when he made the mistake of offering her for human sacrifice. A clever player, but an unreliable partner.

FATHER O'LOUGHLIN:

A defrocked priest who gambled with the occult for high stakes, and lost. On the Astral Plane, he constantly endures similar experiences at the bridge table.



David Lusk and Ingrid Cooke -
State Mixed Pairs champions

A MATTER OF HONOUR

Paxacotl surveyed the worst hand ever seen in any world:

♠ 4 3 2
♥ 4 3 2
♦ 5 4 3 2
♣ 4 3 2

He stole a sideways glance at the Staffordshire Imp, who had a wisp of green steam coming from his pixie ears – a sure sign that dirty work was afoot.

The Aztec casually asked the table at large who possessed the ♣2. Immediately, the hands of Sir Richard de Bouvier, to his right, and Olaf, opposite, were raised. All three now fixed their gaze on the Imp, who attempted to look as innocent as his repulsive features would allow.

“Staffordshire Imp, undo it!” Olaf commanded.

Instantly, Paxacotl's cards swam before his eyes and took on an air of respectability:

♠ K 10
♥ Q 7 5
♦ K J 8
♣ K Q 6 3

Olaf glanced at the nauseating countenance of the Imp. “If you persist with this kind of stupidity, I shall turn you into a newt.”

“That would be nice, but I wouldn't want you to go to all that trouble on my account,” was the Imp's response.

With customary ambition, Paxacotl proceeded to put Olaf into a slender No Trump slam.

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

West	North	East	South
S. Imp	Paxacotl	Sir Richard	Olaf
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	3NT
			6NT

The Imp led the ♦10, which Olaf won perforce in hand. Next came a heart towards table, with the ♥Q taking West's ♥10. Olaf now tried the ♠K, followed by the ♠10, intending to play high from hand in the hope of capturing the doubleton or tripleton Jack.

ONE HAND, SEVERAL LESSONS

However, Sir Richard, who well understood the concept of sacrifice, had learned, " 'Tis nobler to cover an honour". Too late, reason prevailed. Also understanding the strategic value of cowardice, the knight finally contributed his lowest spade.

"I shall summon a demon if this fails to hold," declared the magician after the crusader's protracted pause. Olaf's moment of success passed quickly when the Imp discarded a diamond.

Olaf returned to hand with ♣A and cashed two spade winners, discarding a heart and a diamond from dummy. Two more clubs revealed the favourable break and this ending:

♠ --- ♥ 7 ♦ K J ♣ 6	♠ <i>Immaterial</i> ♥ ♦ ♣
♠ --- ♥ A J ♦ Q 9 ♣ ---	♠ 9 ♥ K 9 6 ♦ --- ♣ ---

Dummy's last club left the Staffordshire Imp without recourse. Discarding the ♥J would allow him to be end-played by a heart lead, whilst a diamond discard would see two diamonds cashed in dummy. In practice he dropped the ♥J and led the ♦9 after being put on lead with the ♥A. Olaf had little trouble inserting the ♦J to land the contract.

Paxacotl was full of praise, while the Imp let fly at the battered knight sitting opposite him. "How could you possibly sit and THINK when the ♠10 is played," railed the Imp. "It was a matter of honour," came the sullen reply. "Something that you could never hope to understand."

David Lusk



Therese Demarco and Lori Smith,
A Grade winners, Bridge in the City Congress

The auction has started:	<i>Partner</i>	<i>You</i>
	1♥	1♠
	2♣	?

and you hold: ♠ K 10 9 6 5
 ♥ K 2
 ♦ 10 9 8
 ♣ A Q J

You have enough points for game, but you do not want to be the person to bid 3NT because you have no diamond control/stopper. Rebidding your spades is also wrong – 2♣ shows a weak hand, non-forcing (and should show 6+ cards, given opener has already shown 9+ cards in their two suits), and 3♠ over-states your spade suit (and should show 6+ cards).

The correct rebid is 2♦, fourth suit forcing. Bidding the fourth suit should not be natural: with 10/11-12 HCP and diamonds held, you should rebid 2NT, with 13+ HCP and diamonds controlled, you should rebid 3NT. (With 6-9 HCP, you should be applying 'false preference'.)

What bidding the fourth suit says is: I have enough points for game, but I don't know what game to bid. Please help me out – tell me something I don't know about your hand.

Now the bidding cannot stop below game. The opener has several options:

- Rebid 2♠ with 3 spades, having already denied 4 spades
- Rebid 3♠ with a better hand with 3 spades
- Rebid 2♥ with 6 hearts
- Rebid 3♣ with 5 hearts and 5 clubs
- Rebid 2NT with some control of the fourth suit (ie diamonds)

On the above hand, opener rebids 2NT, showing a stopper in diamonds. Now you will raise to 3NT, with the contract being played from the "right side" – i.e. the lead is coming around to partner's hand.

After this fine bidding, we just need to make our contract, with the lead being the ♠2. What would be your plan, and why?

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

♠ 3 2
 ♥ A Q J 6 5
 ♦ K 6
 ♣ K 7 4 2

As soon as you get the lead, you have five heart tricks and four club tricks, as long as you unblock dummy's high cards in those suits). The problem is that you do not want to allow RHO to get the lead – for fear of a lead through your ♦K-x.

So, at trick 1, you have to rise with the ♠K immediately. After all, if East has the ♠A, you are likely to go down on a diamond switch! On the other hand, if West has the ♠A, you win trick 1 and cash the next nine tricks (♠A, ♣Q, ♣J, ♥K first – then over to your winners).

Sometimes you just have to pray for the best, based on the appreciation that you cannot allow a particular defender to gain the lead. If you play low at trick 1, East will gain the lead and switch to the ♦Q, through your King, and you will lose the next five diamond tricks, and also the ♠A later on, for down 3.

Barbara Travis

SABF RESULTS

STATE MIXED PAIRS

A GRADE

- 1st Ingrid Cooke – David Lusk
=2nd Corinne Blanchard – Bill Bradshaw
=2nd Barbara Travis – Howard Melbourne

B GRADE

- 1st Patricia McGaffin – Terry Healey
2nd Helen Rollond – Milton Hart
3rd Jill Knight – Mike Robertson

SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1st George Smolanko
2nd Yadi Parrott
3rd Attilio De Luca

STATE TEAMS PHASE 2

- 1st HARMS: Russel Harms, Phil Markey, David Middleton, Zolly Nagy, Jeff Travis, Justin Williams
2nd DE LUCA: Peter Chan, Attilio De Luca, David Gue, Phil Gue, David Lusk
3rd JAPPE: Marc Deaton, George Evans, Mark Jappe, John Maddison

STATE TEAMS FINALISTS

- 1st DE LUCA: Attilio De Luca, David Lusk, Peter Chan, David Gue, Phil Gue
2nd HARMS: Russel Harms, Jeff Travis, Phil Markey, Justin Williams, Zolly Nagy, David Middleton
3rd ZOLLO: John Zollo, David Anderson, Ian Hilditch, Roger Januszke
4th DOECKE: Mike Doecke, David Parrott, George Smolanko, Jarrad Dunbar, Joe Haffer, Nicolas Croft
5th JAPPE: Mark Jappe, George Evans, John Maddison, Marc Deaton

STATE TEAMS FINALS

ELIMINATION

DOECKE 94 *defeated* JAPPE 24

QUALIFYING

ZOLLO 66 *defeated* HARMS 47

SEMI FINALS

DE LUCA 77 *defeated* ZOLLO 74

DOECKE 49 *defeated* HARMS 43

PRELIMINARY FINAL

ZOLLO 71 *defeated* DOECKE 50

FINAL

ZOLLO 77 *defeated* DE LUCA 65

STATE SENIORS' PAIRS

A GRADE

- 1st Felicity Smyth - Sheila Bird
2nd Ian Hilditch - David Lusk
3rd Peter Colmer - Gordon Fallon

B GRADE

- 1st Sally Fraser - Helen Rollond
2nd David Milburn - Kathleen Tymukas
3rd Tim Angley - Gunther Klass

STATE PAIRS

UNDER LIFE MASTERS

- 1st Suzanne King - Judy Stafford
2nd Kim Brown - Peter Geelen
3rd Catherine Ellice-Flint - Robert Martin

OPEN

- 1st Mike Doecke - David Parrott
2nd Phil Gallasch - Joff Middleton
3rd Attilio De Luca - David Lusk

COMING SABF EVENTS

DAYTIME STATE TEAMS DAYTIME STATE TEAMS FINALS

Wednesdays 30/1/19, 6/2/19, 13/2/19, 27/2/19
Wednesdays 6/3/19, 13/3/19, 20/3/19, 27/3/19

OPEN TRIALS: FINAL

Thursdays 31/1/19, 7/2/19, 14/2/19, 28/2/19, Monday 4/3/19, Thursday 7/3/19,
Monday 11/3/19

PLATE, UNDER LIFE BUTLER

Thursdays 31/1/19, 7/2/19, 14/2/19, 28/2/19, 7/3/19

SABA GNOT QUALIFYING

Thursdays 14/3/19, 21/3/19, 28/3/19, 4/4/19, 11/4/19

WOMEN'S TRIALS QUALIFYING

Sunday 17th March 2019

SENIORS' TRIALS

Friday 22nd March to Sunday 24th March 2019

WOMEN'S TRIALS

Friday 12th April to Sunday 14th April 2019

ANC RESTRICTED TRIALS

Sunday 14th April 2019

CONGRESS RESULTS

BRIDGE IN THE CITY

A GRADE

- 1st Therese Demarco – Lori Smith
- 2nd Bill Bradshaw – Peter Dieperink
- 3rd Claire Geller – Judy Maloney

B GRADE

- 1st Evie Hogan – Leonie Shearing
- 2nd David Milburn – Kathleen Tymukas
- 3rd Gavin Bow – Mike Robertson

RIVERLAND CONGRESS

PAIRS

FINAL

- 1st Paul Hudson - Justin Williams
- 2nd Sue & David Lusk
- 3rd Carole & John Foreman

PLATE

- 1st Bronny & Peter Colmer
- 2nd Phil Markey - Jeff Travis
- 3rd Joanne Bakas - Tassi Georgiadis

TEAMS

- 1st TRAVIS: Jeff Travis - Phil Markey
Paul Hudson - Justin Williams
- 2nd NIXON: Ken Nixon - Margaret Taylor
Andrew Hill - David Shilling
- 3rd LUSK: Sue & David Lusk, Yadi & David Parrott

GAWLER TEAMS

- 1st WILLIAMS: Justin Williams - Nic Croft
Mike Doecke - George Evans
- 2nd PARROTT: Yadi & David Parrott
Sheila Bird - Jon Hunt
- 3rd SMITH: Lori Smith - Sue Lusk
Alison & Gordon Fallon

BRIDGE AT BEAUMONT'S 1st BIRTHDAY

A GRADE

- 1st Adel Abdelhamid - Attilio De Luca
- 2nd Linda Alexander - Dianne Marler
- 3rd Helen & Bob Fleet

B GRADE

- 1st Carolyn & Chris Mroczek
- 2nd Cecilia & Kent Makin
- 3rd Anne Henesey-Smith - Tricia Lonn

C GRADE

- 1st Margaret Atkinson - Lee Excell
- 2nd Mary Jarrett - Samantha Rowe
- 3rd Gillian McKague - Ian Flannery



Chris & Carolyn Mroczek,
winners of B Grade, Bridge at Beaumont

COMING CONGRESSES

NEW YEAR'S DAY CONGRESS	ABC	Tuesday 1st January 2019
SWISS PAIRS CONGRESS	SABA	Sunday 10th February 2019
INTERCLUB HANDICAP PAIRS	Gawler	Saturday 9th March 2019
SABA PAIRS CONGRESS	SABA	Sunday 17th March 2019
GOLDEN BUNNY TEAMS	Marion	Friday 19th April 2019



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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 Lifemaster

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

Entries open 1 January

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

NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

2019 AUSTRALIAN OPEN TEAM PLAYOFF

There were eight teams in the Open Playoff, with three containing South Australian players.

NEWMAN, with Phil Markey and Justin Williams, lost in their Quarter Final.

KOZAKOS, with George Smolanko playing, lost their Quarter Final.

REYNOLDS, containing Joe Haffer and Howard Melbourne, won their Quarter Final but lost their Semi Final.

The Australian Open Playoff winners were:

HANS: Sartaj Hans - Peter Gill
Andy Hung - Nabil Edgton

As a four-person team, they were required to augment a pair for international events. The ABF has recently ratified the augmentation of Tony Nunn and Liam Milne.

2019 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S TEAM PLAYOFF 2019 AUSTRALIAN SENIORS' TEAM PLAYOFF

These two events are being held at present (8th to 13th December) in Canberra.

The South Australian Seniors' hopefuls are George Smolanko and Phil Gue, in the SMOLANKO team.

The Women hopefuls are:

Sue Lusk (LUSK team)
Sue Emerson and Therese Demarco (GILL npc)
Sheila Bird (BIRD team)
Barbara Travis (TRAVIS team)

GRAND NATIONAL KNOCKOUT TEAMS

South Australia sends four teams to the GNOT each year:

ADELAIDE 1: Phil Markey - Russel Harms
Justin Williams - Zolly Nagy

ADELAIDE 2: Mark Jappe - John Maddison
George Evans - Marc Deaton

ADELAIDE 3: Joanne Bakas - Tassi Georgiadis
(Under Grand) Bill Bradshaw - Peter Dieperink

SA PROVINCIAL: Peter & Bronny Colmer
John Smith - Wendy Hopkins

ADELAIDE 1 qualified to the last four undefeated teams, then lost. In the Repechage, against CANBERRA 2, they also lost, thereby finishing equal 5th.

ADELAIDE 2 lost in the 2nd round of the Knockout matches, dropping into the Repechage Swiss. Two teams qualify, with ADELAIDE 2 finishing 3rd.

ADELAIDE 3 lost in the first round, finishing 29th in the Swiss Repechage.

SA PROVINCIAL lost in the first round, finishing 49th in the Swiss Repechage.

The winners of the GNOT were SYDNEY 2:

Bruce Neill - Avi Kanetkar
John Newman - Nye Griffiths
Pauline Gumby - Warren Lazer
who defeated CANBERRA 2 in the final.