



Club Champion Trophy



Our new "John Brownie perpetual trophy" for our Club Champion has been secured.

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Club Willoughby Redevelopment

"We have some big news on the status of the project! We are very excited to announce that a Development Application **was lodged** with Willoughby City Council on Monday, 9 September 2019.

Heart of Willoughby will be a state-of-the-art redevelopment of Club Willoughby. The proposal includes a brand-new purpose-built Club, with ultra-modern amenities, resort-style seniors living, shop top housing, retail outlets, a residential aged-care facility and a brand-new park for the community to enjoy.

The application will now be assessed by Council and ultimately referred to the consent authority, the Sydney North Planning Panel."

Visit www.heartofwilloughby.com.au for more information.

Matt Vertzonis, Vice president, Club Willoughby

Still a **few years** before our replacement clubrooms at CW will be ready. **Editor**

Trumps wins Inter-club Pairs Challenge

The winner of the Inter-club Pairs challenge is **Trumps Bridge Centre** (54.5). Peninsula (50) & North Shore came third on 44.5

Club Champion Progress

The 15th Club Championship event (the **Mixed Teams** championship) was completed in late September. This leaves only 3 events to be played to determine the 2019 club champion.

- October Pairs Congress @ EL
- Club Teams (2x CC points) in November
- Finalisation of the Monthly top 7 winners in November

The club champion leader after 15/18 events is **Peter Jeffery**, but with a max of only 30 points remaining he is firming as top favorite to take out our initial 2019 CC John Brownie trophy:

Place	Player	Points
1	Peter Jeffery	58
2	Lorna Ichilcik	48
3=	Yumin Li	47
3=	Judy Osie	47

The detailed results are on our [website](#)

State Open Teams Representation

Best of luck to the Dignan team (Elaine Dignan, Ian Maclaren, Janet Rowlatt, Shirley Lau) who will be representing NSBC at the State Open Teams Metro finals in late Oct.



Profile:
Mike Prescott
Club Manager

I was born in New Zealand in the 1960s and I took up bridge at 16 years old. I was into many different sports and hardly played bridge until the late 80s, when I had a bad motorbike accident and was unable to continue playing most sports.

I got back into bridge starting at the Christchurch Bridge Club. Not long after going to the club several times a week I got hooked, and have continued ever since. I was on the Christchurch Bridge Club committee for many years and was in charge of organising all the tournaments in the South Island of New Zealand. In the early 90s Michael Ware and I won one of the best pairs events in Australia, the Blue-Ribbon Pairs in Canberra. I also played with Michael in a **New Zealand** youth team, in a world championship in Denmark.

As a New Zealander, I moved to Australia in 1999 to expand my bridge career at a professional level. I joined the Noble team and had great success with different partners over several years. The Noble team won many national events and also represented **Australia** in a Bermuda Bowl in Paris, as well as two Far East championships. I captained a NSW open team to victory in the early 2000s. I was captain of the Australian open team in the Far East where they brought home the bronze medal. I had a very successful time when I captained a senior and youth team to victory, and also won the open pairs event in a Far East Competition held in Hamilton New Zealand. Over the past 4-5 years I have played in most national and congress events with Marlene Watts, and together we have won 3 national events and many congress events. I have extensive experience of running bridge clubs, initially at the Double Bay Bridge Centre for several years, and then with Paul Marston at the Grand Slam

Bridge Centre. I very much enjoy sharing my ideas and knowledge with all players. I run three free lessons at NSBC every week to help players to improve their game, and to build up some of our smaller sessions. These are great lessons that would benefit a wide range of players.



Profile:
David Hagley
Committee Member

It was through a 30-year career in Qantas that I came across our wonderful world of bridge. Manila 1979-83, and on a rainy day, instead of visiting the Polo Club for a swim and a game of tennis, or the Manila Club for a curry (as you do as an expatriate in Manila), we would visit friends who taught us the game while having a drink or two ... or three! When we came back home after 7 years overseas. I am so pleased that I was able to talk Jill into trying duplicate at Gordon Bridge Club. We loved it immediately. The challenge of improving, the friends we made, and of course, Greg Quittner and the team. Greg asked me to complete the directors' course in 2005 and here we are - hopefully a little wiser, but, I know, much older!

GBC was then merged with NSBC in 2015 and to this day I continue to play and direct at our friendly East Lindfield venue. For those of you that haven't tasted the relaxed atmosphere at EL, why not come down and visit some time? I am also enjoying putting time, experience and effort back into the club by accepting a position in 2018 to join the club committee. Rest assured that, no matter what level you play at or for what reason, you have a great, committed team of committee members who are keen to see each and every member continuing to enjoy their bridge.

So, cheers, good health to you, your family and friends and, please, keep smiling.

Bidding & Play Challenges

Challenge 1 (East is the dealer)

West	North		East (D)
	♠	42	
	♥	J86	
	♦	AK7	
	♣	A8643	
	South		
	♠	AKQJ9865	
	♥	K5	
	♦	9	
	♣	T7	

East opens 2♥ (showing 5 hearts+5 of another suit, less than an opening hand).

How do you bid to get to your best contract?

Challenge 2 (West is the dealer)

West (D)	East
♠ T632	♠ AKQJ
♥ 932	♥ KQJ6
♦ KQ	♦ AT8
♣ AKT3	♣ J9

You have a free hand in bidding to your best contract.

Mike's lessons for Improvers

IMPROVE YOUR BRIDGE!
FREE SERIES OF LESSONS
WITH MIKE PRESCOTT

East Lindfield Friday 9.30am
 Club Willoughby Sunday 12.30pm and
 Monday 7.00pm

Different topic each week

- Suitable for all levels of players
- Each lesson covers a new topic
- Receive notes at each lesson

Stay and play: Duplicate session follows at 10:00am

Do stay on after the lesson to enjoy the facilities and play in the Open games that follow.

From the Club Library

Mike Lawrence is a well-known American bridge player, author and teacher who literally exploded onto the bridge scene. He was studying chemistry at the University of California in the 50s and during "an illicit chemistry experiment", caused an explosion which put him out of action for three weeks. During this time, Mike discovered the card room at the university and as they say the rest is history.

As a player, Mike has won three World Championships as well as numerous other competitions. He has written well over 30 books all well placed for the intermediate player. Mike's books don't teach rules to memorize; rather they teach the reader patterns of thought and logical consequences. The NSBC bridge library has 13 books written by Mike Lawrence on topics such as opening leads, passed hands, Swiss teams, balancing, false carding and general hand evaluation. Look for his books under his surname LAW.

Article supplied by Fiona Lavery

Congratulations:

The final GNOT metro qualifier was played at Club Willoughby and completed in September:

CW – final GNOT qualifier		VPs	W-D-L
1 st	John Mottram, Lorraine Schaap, Ian Lincoln, John Jongkind	80	4-1-1
2 nd	Elaine Dignan, Ian Maclaren - Kay O'Connor, Pat O'Connor, Carmel Bourke (Sub)	74	4-0-2
3 rd	Janie Russ, Julia Connor, Leo Goorevich, Alicia Mercer	72	5-0-1

Link to GNOT [Honour Board](#) & [Results](#)
 No photo taken

Mixed Teams Championship		VPs	W-D-L	CC
1	Peter Jeffery, Yumin Li, Witold Chylewski (Jun), Judy Osie	152	9-0-3	10
2	Kim Neale, Michael Cartmell, Anita Curtis, David Fryda	139	7-2-3	7
3	Helen Lowry, Les Grewcock, Julianne Rocks, Toni Sharp	134	8-0-4	5
4	Liz Sylvester, Axel Johannsson, Cevat Emul, Catherine Zhang	131	5-0-7	4
5	Linda Aubusson, Patrick Neary, Angela Boulton, Peter Boulton, Kay Moyes (Sub)	128	6-1-5	3
6	Margaret Owen, Sunny Pang, Ian Maclaren, Elaine Dignan, Malcolm Clift (Sub)	127	7-0-5	2

Link to Mixed Teams [Honour Board](#) & [Results](#)



2019 Mixed Teams Championship winners:
Yumin, Witold, Peter, Judy

GNOT Metro Final, how our NSBC teams performed	Result
Linda King, Kim Neale, Ruth Tobin, Tony Ong, Nick Fahrer, David Wurth	CW Knockout winner!
Robert Case, Margaret Pussell, Margaret Gidley-Baird, Patricia Lacey,	EL 6th swiss
Peter Liphay, Peter Marshall, Malcolm Martin, Peter Bendelstein,	EL 15th Swiss
John Mottram, Lorraine Schaap, Ian Lincoln, John Jongkind	CW 16th Swiss
Helen Lowry, Frances Lyons, Liz Quittner, Mischa Solar.	CW 21st Swiss

Link to full NSWBA [GNOT Metro](#) results

Central Coast Leagues - Teams		VPs	W-D-L
1 st	William Zhang, Yumin Li, Julian Abel, Peter Jeffery	90	4-3-0

Link to [Leagues Results](#)

Northern Suburbs – Interclub Pairs Challenge	
2019 Club	Trumps Bridge Centre
Cat A	Jocelyn Bertram & Lyn Smith
Cat B	Kerry Boytell & Eric Lippey
Cat C	Annegrete Kolding & Marieta Borthwick
Cat D	Ming Xie & Weijun Liu

Links to full [Interclub Pairs results](#) & [Honour board](#)

Link to the Interclub [Story & Club tallies](#)

Our NSBC Pairs at Inter-club at Peninsula

Liz Quittner & Julianne Rocks
Pam Ranney & Chris Willoughby
Alexis Ngan & Ed Truscott
Ian Plummer & Fiona Ballard
Hans van Weeren & John Rogers
Jen Genocchio & Jan Winn
Mary Craven & Jo Ampherlaw
Wenjie Liu & Ming Xie
Maeve Doyle & Robyn Rogers
Margaret Pussell & Robert Case
Paulina Martin & Ming Li

Hunters Hill – Swiss Teams		VPs	W-D-L
1 st	Maurits Van Der Vlugt, Susan Humphries, Liam Milne, Tony Nunn	99.65	4-2-1
2 nd	Cevat Emul, Witold Chylewski, Warren Dobes, Wayne Zhu	99.23	6-1-0

Link to full Hunters hill [results](#)

Trumps – Swiss Teams		VPs	W-D-L
1 st	Cevat Emul, Witold Chylewski, Warren Dobes, Wayne Zhu	86	5-0-1

Link to full trumps [results](#)

Toronto Teams		VPs	W-D-L
1 st	Tania Lloyd, Hugh Grosvenor, Beryl Manuel, Chris Van Wyck	88	4-0-2
2 nd	Paul Weaver, Terry Bodycote, Vicky Lisle, Ian Lisle	84	4-1-1

Link to [Toronto Results](#)

September 2019 Mthly Winners

[Link to Monthly results](#)

East Lindfield:

Mon	Open	am	Margaret Easton & Jennie Hoffmann
Mon	Open	pm	Patricia Latimer & Margaret Booth
Tue	Open	am	Richard Ulrick & Eric Daniel
Tue	Sup	pm	Gill Whitney & Mim McCutcheon
Tue	Rook	pm	Felix Shteyman & Robyn Walker
Tue	Sup	eve	Marion Blomfield & Judith Lade
Wed	Open	am	Richard Ulrick & Sallie Quarles
Thu	Open	pm	Paulina Martin & Margaret Titley
Fri	Open	am	Janet Crocker & June Straw
Sat	Open	pm	Elfy Suchet & Selwyn Suchet

Club Willoughby:

Mon	Open	am	Helen Christie & Julia Connor
Mon	Rest	am	Marsha Geikie & Gail Phillips
Mon	Sup	pm	N/Q
Mon	Rook	pm	Dara Fraser & Jane Temby
Mon	Sup	eve	N/Q
Mon	Open	eve	Malcolm Martin / Natalie Chupin
Tue	Sup	am	Peter Blackhall & Lindy Blackhall
Tue	Rook	am	Lis Knudsen & Gwen Norman
Tue	Open	pm	Alicia Mercer & Prue Siemsgluess
Tue	Open	eve	Marie Harvey & Kit Meyers
Tue	Rook	eve	Jackie Coles & Frances Leadbeter
Wed	Open	am	Hymie Osie & Liz Wilkinson
Wed	Rest	am	Glenda Sandler & Tina Osie
Wed	Sup	pm	Peter Blackhall & Lindy Blackhall
Wed	Rookie	pm	Lis Knudsen & Gwen Norman
Wed	Open	eve	Marie Harvey & Kit Meyers
Thu	Open	am	Neil Perry & John Mottram
Thu	Rook	pm	Robyne Fleming & Sue Gordon
Fri	Open	am	Kevin Wu & Jake Lin
Fri	Rest	am	Chris Gaskell & Mary Carter
Sat	Open	pm	Les Varadi & Tom Goodyer
Sun	Open	pm	Kerry Mckay & Ian Plummer

Monthly result (Masterpoints) are also tallied for the Club Championship.

Ready for Melbourne Cup Day?

Come and join us for an enjoyable day of bridge, lunch and sweeps, finishing with watching the race together on the big TV screens.



Melbourne Cup Pairs
East Lindfield Club
Red Point Event

Tuesday, 5th November at 10:00am

ENJOY BRIDGE for \$25.00

*LUNCH: Bring a plate and share lunch.
 Free champagne wine and juice provided*

Watch the race on any of the many TV screens around the club

Hat Parade (Best Hat Prize)

Enter our \$1, \$2 & \$5 sweeps

Booking Essential
 Club noticeboard, Website or call 0435 528 872
 Entries close: **Friday 1st November**



Melbourne Cup Pairs
Club Willoughby
Red Point Event

Tuesday, 5th November at 10:00am

ENJOY BRIDGE and LUNCH for \$45.00

Enjoy a delicious lunch with John Downstairs

Watch the race on any of the many TV screens around the club

Hat Parade (Best Hat Prize)

Enter our \$1, \$2 & \$5 sweeps

Booking Essential
 Club noticeboard, Website or call 0435 528 872
 Entries close: **Friday 1st November**



The Bridge Shop has partnered with the North Shore Bridge Club and we are delighted to offer all club members a 15% discount.



We welcome you to drop into our store at 182 Penshurst St, Willoughby or redeem your discount by using the code **NS15** at checkout on our web site.

EL Labour Day Matchpoint Pairs Congress on the Public Holiday Monday

This open congress event is worth **CC points** for any members in the top 7 outright positions.

Club Champion Qualifying Event

It is a Matchpoint event that will be played on **Monday 7th October** at our East Lindfield venue. The table capacity is limited to 34 teams, so book early via our website.

The winners from 2018 were:
NS: Witold Chylewski & Marek Kolodziejczyk
EW: Kim Morrison & Fraser Rew

Link to [Entry](#):



**Labour Day Congress
Matchpoint Pairs**

East Lindfield

Monday: 7th October

2 session event

**Session 1 at
10.00am**

**Lunch orders taken
Before 1st session**

Red Point Event

Entry \$35.00

Swiss Pairs on Thursday Nights

This is an IMPs Swiss Pairs event that will be played on 2 Thursday nights, starting on **3rd October** at Club Willoughby.

This is an excellent opportunity to try the SWISS Pairs format!

The event will probably entail 6 x 9-board matches.

Link to [Entry](#):



Swiss Pairs

Club Willoughby

2 Thursday Night Sessions: 7:30pm

3rd October

10th October

Red Points

\$30 Members

\$40 Non Members

Club Teams Championship

This is our premier Teams event. It is worth **double CC points** for any members in the top 7 outright positions

Club Champion Qualifying Event

This IMPs Teams event will be played on 5 Thursday nights at our Club Willoughby venue, starting on the **31st October**.

Book early via our club website.
Link to [Entry](#):

The winners from 2018 were:
[Link to NSBC Honour Board](#)

Andre Korenhof, Maurits Van Der Vlugt, Mike Hughes, Matthew Thompson, David Beauchamp, Carola Hoogervorst (Sub)





Club Teams Championships

Great prize money

Club Willoughby
Thursdays: 7:30pm
31st October
7th November
14th November
21st November
28th November




Red Point Event

\$90 Members only Event







*It's a Christmas Party at
Club Willoughby*



SAT: 7TH DECEMBER
**LUNCH AT 12:00 PM FREE FOR
MEMBERS ONLY**
 (FOLLOWED BY BRIDGE 1.00PM NORMAL
TABLE FEES
RED POINT EVENT)
 (NUMBERS LIMITED so must book early)





*It's a Christmas Party at
East Lindfield*



SAT: 7TH DECEMBER
**LUNCH AT 12:00 PM
FREE FOR MEMBERS ONLY**
 (FOLLOWED BY BRIDGE 1.00PM NORMAL
TABLE FEES
RED POINT EVENT)
 (NUMBERS LIMITED so must book early)





"Thursday Night"
Xmas Teams
Club Willoughby
3 Sessions: 7:30pm
5th December
12th December
19th December

Red Point Event
\$45 Members
\$60 Non Members



Masterpoint Promotions Sep

From East Lindfield:

NAME	HOME CLUB	Promoted to RANK in SEP
Priddle, Laurence	EL	*Regional
Mayhew, Angela	EL	*Regional
Mayhew, Peter	EL	*Regional
Harradine, Lesley	EL	Regional
Lin, Jake	EL	**Local
Wu, Kevin	EL	**Local
Shteyman, Felix	EL	*Local
Swan, Nick	EL	Local
Laforest, Elizabeth	EL	Local
Allison, Doreen	EL	Club
Bloxham, Margaret	EL	Graduate
Dunn, Robert	EL	Graduate

And from Club Willoughby:

NAME	HOME CLUB	Promoted to RANK in SEP
Pike, Allan	CW	Bronze Life
Chupin, Natalie	CW	*State
Withana, Jeetha	CW	*Regional
Burow, Peggy	CW	Regional
Strasser, Davida	CW	Regional
Fraser, Dara	CW	**Local
Chey, Tien	CW	**Local
Chisholm, Don	CW	**Local
Lewis, Chris	CW	**Local
Rowe, Stephen	CW	**Local
Bendel, John	CW	*Local
Belcher, Sandra	CW	*Local
Spear, Russell	CW	Local
Summerhayes, Russell	CW	Local
Shorter, Deanne	CW	Local
Drury, Pam	CW	Club
Lovell, Leonie	CW	Club
Thomson, Neville	CW	Club
Burge, Nicola	CW	Club
Arnheim, Julie	CW	Graduate
Warnes, Margaret	CW	Graduate
Algert, Charles	CW	Graduate
Reddy, Pamela	CW	Graduate
Dunn, Jane	CW	Graduate

Sydney Spring Nationals



16 - 24 OCTOBER 2019

**TBIB OPEN TEAMS
TWO MEN AND A TRUCK RESTRICTED TEAMS**

**DICK CUMMINGS OPEN PAIRS
TED CHADWICK RESTRICTED PAIRS
SPRING NATIONAL NOVICE PAIRS**

**LINDA STERN WOMEN'S TEAMS
BOBBY EVANS SENIORS' TEAMS**

Gold Masterpoints & Playoff Qualifying Points

Venue: Level 2, Canterbury Park Racecourse
96 King St, Ashbury

Chief Tournament Director: Matthew McManus
Tournament Organiser: Mike Prescott (0435 528 872)
<http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/spnot/2019/>
Email: sn@abf.com.au

Held under the auspices of:



The Australian Bridge Federation Incorporated
ABN: 70 053 651 666
&
The NSW Bridge Association Ltd
ABN: 61 000 438 648



Following are the 7 teams representing Sydney at the GNOT national finals in late November. A good number of NSBC members are involved.

NSWBA GNOT National Qualifier's		
Dir	Sophie Ashton, David Wiltshire, Sartaj Hans, David Beauchamp	nswba
Dir	Avi Kanetkar, Bruce Neill, Nye Griffiths, Johnno Newman , Peter Buchen, Terry Brown	nswba
Dir	Peter Jeffery, Yumin Li, Wayne Zhu, Simon (Yixiang) Zhang	NSBC
kn	Linda King, Kim Neale, Ruth Tobin, Tony Ong, Nick Fahrer, David Wurth	Q1
Kn	Paul Dalley, Julian Foster, David Weston , Frazer Rew	Q2
1st	Liz Adams, Andrew Peake, Murry Green, Richard Speiser	Swiss
2nd	Les Grewcock , Mark Kolodziejczyk, Richard Limaye, Withold Chylewski	Swiss



Duck the first trick?

By Pat O'Connor

North
♠ A9
♥ K9876
♦ 32
♣ J432
South (D)
♠ 32
♥ AQJ54
♦ AK4
♣ Q65

The bidding was:

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East	South (D)
			1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
Note that the 2♦ bid is a Transfer to hearts			

West leads the ♠K.

Now is the time to plan the play.

Analysis

Do you duck the first trick?

The Solution to Pat's Problem

The Full Deal

		North		
		♠ A9		
		♥ K9876		
		♦ 32		
		♣ J432		
West				East
♠ KQJ76				♠ T864
♥ 2				♥ T3
♦ T865				♦ QJ97
♣ KT8				♣ A97
		South (D)		
		♠ 32		
		♥ AQJ54		
		♦ AK4		
		♣ Q65		

You cannot win a trick with Jxx opposite Qxx by leading the suit yourself unless one of the opponents holds both the ace and king and you also know which one it is! However, if they lead the suit for you, you are certain to take a trick if you play carefully.

Don't put up your jack or queen unless it is the fourth card played to the trick. In the full deal shown above, if West leads the ♣8 and East wins with the ♣A and returns a club, West can take the ♣K but you will win the third round.

You need to organise the opponents to lead a club or to lead a suit in which you and dummy are both void. So, win the ♠A and draw trumps. Then eliminate diamonds by cashing the ♦AK and ruffing a diamond in dummy. At this stage dummy only has trumps, clubs and the ♠9. Now make the crucial play of leading the remaining spade from dummy, giving up your spade loser. Since you have only one spade remaining in your hand, this eliminates spades as well as diamonds from your hands. Now if they lead a spade or a diamond, you ruff in dummy and discard a club from your hand. Otherwise they have to broach the club suit. Either way you only lose two clubs and one spade in total.

Key Point: Wait for the opponents to lead a suit, when you hold Jxx opposite Qxx.

Keep learning with Anita Curtis

Build on the Basics continues to introduce new ideas, together with play analysis and techniques. The lessons are targeted at players who have completed the 6-week “**Introduction to Bridge**” and the “**Bridge Basics**” course that follows.

The lessons are at Club Willoughby on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 and repeated on Thursday mornings at 10:30. The lessons starting in October are:

Wed Oct 2 Thur Oct 3	Responder's NT bids. Bidding - when responder bids NTs
Wed Oct 9 & Thur Oct 10	Focus on Defence Defence leads against suits
Wed Oct 16 & Thur Oct 17	Let's get in the way! (with Liz) Weak Twos & responses
Wed Oct 23 & Thur Oct 24	Hand Analysis 1 Consolidate all skills
Wed Oct 30 & Thur Oct 31	They hate it when I interfere! 3 level pre-empts; responses
Wed Nov 6 & Thur Nov 7	I can't count that high! 2C Opening & 2D response

Develop Your Skills is for those players who have completed the **Build on the Basics** course or who have been playing for approximately one year. These lessons extend knowledge in bidding and playing. The course prepares players to move to Rookie level.

The lessons are held at Club Willoughby on Thursday afternoons at 2pm. The lessons starting in October are:

Thu, 3 Oct	Hand Analysis 1 All skills
Thu, 10 Oct	Signalling is Legal Defence
Thu, 17 Oct	Brilliant switches with Liz Defence

Thu, 24 Oct	Double or nothing Penalty Xs – bidding & defence
Thu, 31 Oct	You CAN bid slams in NTs Quantitative or Blackwood?
Thu, 7 Nov	Forcing or not forcing? Bidding: Invitational or forcing?

Improver - Hand analysis

These hand analysis lessons are held at Club Willoughby on the last Friday of the month at 2pm for people who have completed the DYS course.

Fri, 25 Oct	Gentle - Hand Analysis Suitable for improvers to Intermediate players who have completed DYS
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Broaden Your Game/Intermediate is a set of lessons for intermediate players with typically 3 years of Bridge experience. It follows from **Develop Your Skills**.

The lessons are held at Club Willoughby on Friday afternoons at 2pm, on the first 3 Fridays of the month. The lessons starting in October are:

Fri, 4 Oct	No Lesson
Fri, 11 Oct	No Lesson
Fri, 18 Oct	No Lesson
Fri, 25 Oct	Gentle Hand Analysis Suitable for improvers to Intermediate players who have completed DYS
Fri, 1 Nov	Eddie Kantar hand Analysis for Intermediate+ players who like a challenge

Want to keep learning?

Call Anita Curtis on 0405 449 767

or email ac210927@bigpond.net.au

From Beginners to the Open game, well done Fiona Fawcett

After years of urging from my husband and my mother I started beginner lessons with Liz Wilkinson in February 2013. My mother had played Solo and moved onto social bridge after her four children left home. My husband David Hudson is a very keen player. David learned, and played in his twenties before taking time out for his career and our family.

I really did need to learn what a 'trick' was in lesson one as I had not played cards since 'snap' and 'go fish' as a child. Luckily Liz starts those first lessons assuming no prior knowledge! I continued with Anita's transition lessons and joined the Tuesday evening supervised play in mid-2014. David was taking a break from work so was free, and patient enough to play with me usually once a week by the second half of 2014.

I think that one of the massive advantages of learning to play at a large club, like the North Shore Bridge Club, is that the cohort of learners is relatively large. When my learning buddy Jill stopped playing around the end of 2014, I was able to find new partners with the same background. Michelle Levy and I played in Friday no-fear sessions throughout 2015 and into 2016. We played North South so that we could keep the bidding slips to go over after the game. There is so much to remember as a new player, there was no way we would have remembered who bid what.

I am very grateful for all the encouragement and gentle pushing from David, Liz, Anita and others. Michelle and I stepped up to playing in the open sessions in mid-2016 thanks to some solid pushing from Anita and David. Kit Meyers has also been a keen proponent of restricted and increasingly open congresses.

In 2017 Liz Sylvester from the NSW Bridge invited me to join a group of keen women learners. We entered the open women's teams at the Spring Nationals. Three days of

intense competition way above our level. I will not forget the feeling of complete mental exhaustion at the end of each of those days. Luckily someone else drove home as while driving under the influence of a 'bridge dead brain' may not be illegal, it certainly wouldn't have been safe on that occasion at least.

I continue to enjoy playing regularly, attending Anita's hand analysis sessions and embracing the lifelong challenge of 'learning bridge'.

Ready for more challenges?

How about playing in:

- The Labour day Matchpoint Pairs Congress at East Lindfield on Monday Oct 7th has prizes for Restricted pairs.
- The Sydney ABF Spring Nationals has many Restricted and Novice events – mid October at Canterbury Racecourse.

Rookie/Supervised games:

There is a 15-minute talk before most of these sessions, come and join us!

Venue	Supervised Sessions (2hours)
CW	Monday at 2pm with Sue and Allan
CW	Monday at 7pm with Jenny
CW	Tuesday at 10am with Kim and Kay
EL	Tuesday at 2pm with Sue
EL	Tuesday at 7pm with Sue
CW	Wednesday at 2pm with Liz and Kay
Venue	Rookie Sessions (2 hours)
CW	Monday at 2pm with Sue and Allan
CW	Tuesday at 10am with Kim and Kay
CW	Tuesday at 7:30pm with John S
EL	Tuesday at 2pm with Sue and Janet
CW	Wednesday at 2pm with Liz and Kay
CW	Thursday at 2pm with Johnno

Restricted games:

Venue	Supervised Sessions (2hours)
CW	Monday at 10am with Johnno
CW	Wednesday at 10am with Tony
CW	Friday at 10am with Brian



Matthew McManus has been the Chief Director of the NSWBA since 1995. He officiates at a number of events around the country and in New Zealand in his capacity as a National Director, and is a very occasional bridge player.

They haven't got what they said they had – will the Director help us?

One of the times you hear a plaintive cry for the director is when it turns out that the opponents don't have what the auction suggested they should have. It could be that a player only has four hearts when he should have five. They may have shown 15-17 high card points and they only have 12. They may have shown 6-10 points and they have 13. Or it may be the case that they have something absolutely different to what you expected them to hold. So, how did your expectations arise?

- It may be because you read the opponents' system card.
- Or because you asked a question during the auction and were told something that turns out to be wrong.
- Or there were no alerts at all, and a player turns up with something totally unexpected.

If you get a bad score because they didn't have what you expected, will the director help?

The answer to that is, **it depends**. In general, there are three different scenarios which the director might need to consider. I will look at each of these in turn in the next three articles:

1. The explanation that you received was according to the opposition's agreements, but the player has deliberately chosen to deviate from the system.
2. The explanation which you received was according to the opposition's agreements, but the player has accidentally deviated from the system.
3. The explanation which you received was different from the systemic agreement. The Laws require that the opponents get a correct

explanation of your systemic agreements. If this has been done, then, on the face of it, there is no infraction and so there is no room for the award of an adjusted score.

So generally, in Case 1 the answer to the original question is "no". However, the Director does need to do a little more digging before leaving it at that... to be investigated further below.

CASE 1 – A DELIBERATE DEVIATION FROM THE SYSTEM

This occurs when a player consciously chooses to depart from the agreed system. The most important factor connected with this is that his partner must be just as much "in the dark" as the opponents. Typically, although not always, this occurs when a player makes what is known as a psychic call or a "psyche". The Laws define a psyche as **"a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or of suit length."**

Thus, a call that just shades the expected high cards by a couple of points would not be classified as a psyche. The psychic call is part of the game of bridge and it is not permitted to make special regulations prohibiting the use of such bids.

My experience at Congresses in NSW is that they are not that common and have never caused any real issues. I have however heard of some clubs where a particular pair or player delights in psyching, causing a fairly high level of disquiet amongst the other players. What follows is relevant for dealing with such players:

- i) The Laws permit that regulations be made which prevent the psyching of conventional bids. For instance, the ABF systems regulations outlaw the psyching of strong conventional calls, so for example, you can't psyche a strong 2♣ opening or Precision players cannot psyche 1♣.

ii) A pattern of psyching in particular circumstances builds up what is known as an implied partnership understanding. This means that it is considered to be part of the partnership's system and therefore needs to be alerted. Furthermore, once there is deemed to be an implied partnership understanding it may also mean that the agreement falls outside of the allowed systems. For example, consider a player who opens the bidding with 6 points. Thus, although in the first instance, there is no immediate issue with such an action, once a pair does it a couple of times, it would now become illegal.

iii) A player who randomises the results by the overuse of psyching is in breach of the laws. Thus, it would be possible for a club to make a regulation which, for instance, limits the number of psychic calls to a partnership to, say, two per session.

Advice to the director when a psyche/shaded call is drawn to his attention

1. Enquire of the pair as to whether this has happened before in the same or similar circumstances. If the answer is "yes", then you need to tell them that they are now considered to have an implied partnership agreement which needs to be alerted. For example, "officially" the pair plays that a 1NT opening is 16-18. However, this player has opened with 14 points on this occasion and has done it before. Therefore, the explanation which his partner must give AT ALL TIMES in the future is, **"16-18 but it may be a couple of points less"**.

If the bid which has been made falls into a category of calls which would not normally be permitted under the systems regulations in place (e.g. opening at the one level with 6 HCPs), then the director should advise the pair that if it happens again, then they will be awarded a maximum score of average minus on the board.

Note that all this is contingent on the director establishing that there has been a pattern which would constitute an ***implied partnership understanding***. Just because it has happened once is not grounds to make such proclamations.

2. Investigate the actions of the partner of the player who has psyched/shaded his call. Remember the principle that the partner must be just as much in the dark as the opponents. If the player has made any allowance for his partner not having his bid, then he is considered to have ***"fielded the psyche"***.

This is a very serious infraction and should be met with the full punishment of the law. If the director determines that a player has taken some unusual action allowing for his partner not to have his bid, then he should consider awarding an adjusted score. To do this, he makes a judgement as to what would likely have happened in the auction if the psycher's partner had taken the normal action on his hand. If this would have resulted in a worse result for the pair than what was obtained at the table, the score is adjusted accordingly.

One caution – the player is allowed to take into account the actions of the opponents when judging whether or not his partner may have the expected holding for his call. For example – with North the dealer, the auction starts off Pass-Pass-1♥. EW then bid all the way to 3NT. North holds 9 points, so it would seem that this is unlikely to make if partner has an opening hand and a double would not be unreasonable. However, the fact that EW have shown so much strength, and also that South has opened in third seat – where it is not uncommon for a player to open light – is sufficient for South to judge that perhaps partner is not at full strength. This determination would not be considered ***"fielding"***.

Advice to players to protect themselves from potential psychic/light calls...

1, Believe your partner!

The auction goes (1♦) – X – (2NT*) – ?.

You ask what 2NT means and are told that it shows 11+ points with diamond support. You are looking at 13 HCP in your hand. It doesn't compute: the opening bidder showed 11/12+, partner's double showed 11/12+, 2NT showed 11+, you have 13...that adds up to at least 45 if everyone is absolutely minimum. There are only 40 points in the deck – someone is telling a "porky". You need to bid game or at least extract the maximum penalty from them. If you fail to do so, you are **unlikely to get any joy from the director** even if it is one of them who has psyched.

If it's your partner who has been lying, well that's something for you and him to have out after the session!

The Laws define a psyche as "a deliberate and gross misstatement of honour strength and/or of suit length."



2, Consider making adjustments to your system to deal with the opponents.

Answer this question: what would a double of 1♠ mean in this sequence?

(1♥) – X – (1♠) – ? Perhaps you have an agreement that all doubles below 3♠ are for takeout. To play double here as takeout is dangerous. The sequence which starts off (1♥) – X – (1♠) is **probably the most common psychic maneuver**. There is a good chance that the 1♠ bidder doesn't have spades at all!

Instead they have a weak hand with heart support and are trying to confuse you out of bidding game or to your best spot. When partner has already shown the suit which the opponents bid, or if he has inferred that he has

that suit (e.g. by the takeout double of 1♥), then your double should be for penalties. That is, you say to your partner, "I would have bid spades if he hadn't".

Similarly, any spade bids that you make should also be natural. If you feel the need for a cue-bid, use the opponents first suit (here, hearts), the one that partner has said he doesn't have. As well as dealing with any out and out psyches, you will also be able to cope with an honest spade bid by the opponent.

For example, in the same auction, you have something like:

♠AJT64 ♥642 ♦Q5 ♣KQ8 When partner doubles, you probably think that 4♠ is the likely best contract for your side. Give partner a fairly normal takeout double like ♠K952 ♥J7 ♦A84 ♣A654 and 4♠ will be your best spot even if the spades are breaking 4-0.

There are a number of similar sequences where playing the double as penalty and bids of the opponent's suit as natural will greatly simplify your auctions. It would be advisable to have the discussion with your partner. In the next article, I will look at the case where a player has accidentally departed from the system.



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An example follows:



Opening Leads

by Phillip Alder
New York Times bridge columnist

Let's start with two lead problems. ***What should West choose to lead in each case?***

If you would prefer to know, in the first, North-South were vulnerable, and in the second, both sides were vulnerable.

West	West	North	East	South
♠ 2				1 ♠
♥ QJT9	X	Pass	Pass	Pass
♦ QJT9				
♣ KQJT				

West	West	North	East	South
♠ 2				2 ♠
♥ AKQJ	X	4 ♠	X	All Pass
♦ QJ98				
♣ JT74	2 ♠ =	Weak 2 ♠ Bid		

There is a saying that if you are in doubt, lead a trump. Absurd, of course. Just because you don't know what to lead, why should a trump be better than everything else? You might as well put your 13 cards face down on the table, move them around and ask partner to pick one!

However, there are times when you should lead a trump. Over the next few articles, let's study them.

I think trump leads work well more often than most people believe. But it is true that usually a trump lead is chosen purely as a passive option, and active defence is better more often than passive. Still, everything has its day in the sun.

The two auctions above highlight times when you should lead a trump.

First, your partner has passed over your low-level take-out double, turning it into a penalty double.

Edgar Kaplan, who is surely the strongest player never to win a world title, used to say, ***"Lead a trump and expect to watch partner draw trumps sooner rather than later."***

Here is the full deal from which this problem was drawn:

North		East	
♠ 63	♥ A8742	♠ AQJT9	♥ K5
♦ 87642	♣ 3	♦ 53	♣ 8764
South (S)			
♠ K9754	♥ 63		
♦ AK	♣ A954		

East has a reasonable pass over his partner's take-out double. He has long and strong trumps; plus, it is possible that his side cannot make a game -- as they cannot here.

The opening lead is critical. Whenever your partner converts your low-level take-out double into one for penalties by passing, **lead a trump**. Here it is vital. Without a spade lead, declarer gets two club ruffs in the dummy and can make his contract with an overtrick! With a spade lead, he gets no ruff in the dummy and goes one down.

This was the second problem:

West	West	North	East	South
♠ 2				2 ♠
♥ AKQJ	X	4 ♠	X	All Pass
♦ QJ98				
♣ JT74	2 ♠ =	Weak 2 ♠ Bid		

It looks so obvious to lead the ♥A (or ♥K, if that is your partnership preference) -- **but it is wrong!**

When the opponents sacrifice at a high level, you know that they do not have the necessary high-card power. ***They are planning on taking as many trump tricks as possible.*** To cut down their ruffing potential, **lead a trump**.

This was the full deal:

North		
	♠ 9874	
	♥ 9752	
	♦ 5	
	♣ A653	
South (S)		
	♠ AJT653	
	♥ -	
	♦ T763	
	♣ K82	
West		
♠ 2	♥ AKQJ	
♦ QJ98		
♣ JT74		
East		
♠ KQ	♥ T8643	
♦ AK42		
♣ Q9		

This deal occurred during the 1991 Spingold Knockout Teams in Las Vegas. I foolishly led the ♥A and watched declarer wrap up his contract. He ruffed, gave up a diamond, took my belated trump switch, cashed his two club winners and crossruffed home. We took only one spade, one diamond and one club.

If I had led a trump, and my partner, Ron Klinger, had won the first diamond trick and cashed his spade winner, we would have been **+200** instead of **-790**.

I thought my error had lost the match, but luckily my teammates had a good session and we moved on.

=====

Challenge 1 solution

This hand was played at East Lindfield:

April 25 EL Thu 1.00pm Anzac Day Pairs

North		
♠ 42	♥ J86	♦ AK7
♣ A8643		
South		
♠ AKQJ9865	♥ K5	♦ 9
♣ T7		
West		
♠ T7	♥ T93	♦ 863
♣ KQJ92		
East (D)		
♠ 3	♥ AQ742	♦ QJT542
♣ 5		

. East opens 2♥ (showing 5 hearts+5 of another suit, less than an opening hand. How do you bid to get to the best contract?

Suggested bidding:

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West	North	East (D)	South
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠		

Standard or 2/1 Bidding Notes	
2♥	Two-suiter, <13 HCPs, 5 hearts + 5 of another suit
4♠	Vulnerable vs non vulnerable - solid spade bid
5♣	Cue, slamish hand, spade fit, shows ♣ A, asks for a cue
5♥	Cue, 1st/2nd round control in spades
6♠	Bash 6♠, just what I wanted to hear!

The South hand is a good 4- loser hand, even though only 13 HCPs, well worth the vulnerable 4♠ bid. This is fairly typical of a vulnerable overcall.

West suspects that East has 5/5 in the red suits, so chooses not to bid 5C, and passes.

With some spade support and 3 outside controls, North is interested in a slam, so advances with 5♣ cue bid, seeking cues in outside suits and hoping to hear a heart control from partner. South shows his ♥K and North converts to a 6♠ contract.

Should North advance with a Keycard (♠) ask, then the response of 5♠ (2+Q) will leave North guessing whether or not South has a heart control, and North will quite likely pass 5♠.

The Full hand

North		
♠ 42	♥ J86	♦ AK7
♣ A8643		
South		
♠ AKQJ9865	♥ K5	♦ 9
♣ T7		
West		
♠ T7	♥ T93	♦ 863
♣ KQJ92		
East (D)		
♠ 3	♥ AQ742	♦ QJT542
♣ 5		

Actual results on this board:

Contract, Tricks & Lead			Score			Matchpoints		IMPS	
			Freq	NS	EW	NS MP	%	Diff	NS IMP
6♠	S	12 K♣	3x	1430		48	96%	680	12
5♥X	E	6 A♠	1	1100		44	88%	350	8
5♠X	S	12 3♥	1	1050		42	84%	300	7
4♠	S	12 K♣	16x	680		25	50%	-70	-2
5♠	S	11 K♣	3x	650		6	12%	-100	-3
5♦X	E	8 A♠	1	500		2	4%	-250	-6
6NT	N	11 5♣	1		100	0	0%	-850	-13
26 Tables			Max MP = 25x2 = 50 (100%)					NS Avr = 750	

NS Matchpoints:

The computer awards you 2 MPs for each pair your score betters, and 1 MP for each pair your score equals. The computer adds up your MPs and generally shows it as a percentage of the max MP score on the board.

- Good Slam, 5♥X and 5♠x
- Average Game making 12 tricks
- Poor Game making 11 tricks or less

NS IMPs:

The average score on the board is calculated and your score is compared to the average. Any difference from the average score is converted into your board score of **PLUS** or **MINUS** IMPs via the standard international conversion scale.

- Positive IMPS Slam, 5♥X and 5♠x
- Average IMPS Games making 11/12
- Poor Not playing in spades

Play of the hand in 6S / South**Best lead by West?**

Partner has 5-5 in hearts and another suit (likely diamonds)

Attack with the ♠K (my preference) or play passively with a ♥T lead.

South's planning in 6♠ (♠K lead)

Looking OK,

Winners: 8♠ + 2♦ + 1♣ + 1♥ (hopefully)=12

Losers: Need the diamond pitch for my club, need to lose a heart, and lead up to the ♥K.

Problems?

- If the opening lead is ruffed (I off)
- The ♥A is not with East (1 off)
- Must draw trumps before cashing diamonds

Strategy

Win ♣A, draw trumps, cross to AK diamonds (discarding ♣T); play a heart towards the ♥K.

Card by Card Play:

T1 W: ♠K, ♠A, ♣5, ♣7 All followed
 T2 N: ♠2, ♠3, ♠A, ♠7 Draw trumps
 T3 S: ♠K, ♠7, ♠4, ♥7 All trumps out
 T4 S: ♥9, ♥6, ♥A, ♥4 Cross to ♥A
 T5 N: ♥K, ♥2, ♣T, ♥3 pitching losing ♣T
 T6 N: ♥6, ♥A, ♥5, ♥3 Lead a heart
 Note: play ♥K if East plays low and hope!
12 Tricks roll in.

Challenge 2 solution

This hand was played at Club Willoughby:

June 03 CW Mon 10.00am Dup - Open

West (D)	East
♠ T632	♠ AKQJ
♥ 932	♥ KQJ6
♦ KQ	♦ AT8
♣ AKT3	♣ J9

West may open 1C with this hand, or Pass, so 2 solutions are given. Firstly, opening 1♣:

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	East	South
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4NT (♠)	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♠ or 6NT	Pass

Bidding explanation follows:

1♣	Very minimal opening, but common
1♥	Natural, 4 hearts, 6+ HCPs
1NT	Minimum balanced hand, 12-14 HCPs
2D	Two-way checkback, GF hand
2♥	I have 3 hearts partner
2♠	I have at least 4 spades
3♠	I have 4 spades also
4NT (♠)	Keycard in spades
5♦	4 or 1 Keycards
6♠ or 6NT	Choice of Slam contract, missing an Ace

East is in control after the 1NT limit bid and finds the spade fit using the two-way game-forcing checkback tool. With the strong hand, East then uses Keycard Blackwood to discover that there is only 1 Keycard missing, so gets to the final 6♠ or 6NT contract choice.

If West chooses to **Pass** first, then East opens with a strong 2NT bid. Now, West is in control and using Puppet Stayman & Keycard bidding tools reaches the same choice of a 6♠ or 6NT contract, missing 1 Keycard.

Standard or 2/1 Bidding			
West (D)	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4NT (♠)	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	5 ♥	Pass
6 ♠ or 6NT			
2NT	20-21 HCPs, flat, may have 5-card major		
3 ♣	Puppet Stayman		
3 ♦	No 5-card major, but 1 or 2 4-card majors		
3 ♥	I have 4 spades (strong hand is declarer)		
4 ♣	Maximum hand, good spades		
4NT (♠)	Keycard in spades, we have 32/33 HCPs		
5 ♣	3 or 0 Keycards (♠ A + ♠ K + ♦ A)		
5 ♦	Do you have the ♠ Q?		
5 ♥	Yes & ♥ K (No=5 ♠ =signoff)		
6 ♠ or 6NT	Choice of Slam contract		

System Notes: Puppet Stayman allows you to have a 5-card major in your strong 2NT opening:
3♣ = Puppet Stayman

- 3♦ No 5-card, but 1 or 2 4-card majors
- 3♥/♠ Responder bids the major **NOT** held
- Cue advance to 4 in other major
- 4♥/♠ = signoff in game
- 4♦ = both majors, please pick
- 3NT = signoff
- 3NT not interested in 4-card majors
- 3♥/♠ 5-card suit

In all these bids, the **strong NT hand** will end up declaring all the game contracts and the strong hand is hidden from the opponents.

System Notes: Two-way Check back

Sequence: 1♣-1♥-1NT (balanced, 12-14)

2♣ Asks opener to bid 2♦, then all bids are invitational

2♦ GF checkback looking for major support
2♥ = 3 card support

2♠ = GF, natural, 4 spades, but only 2♥
2NT= 2 hearts, 3 spades,
But not 2-2 in majors (balanced hand)

2♥ Signoff to play with 5+ hearts

System Notes: Keycard is used for control asking as we advance towards a slam contract. There are 5 key cards (4 x Aces + King of trumps), and responses typically are 30,41 (but some partnerships do use the reverse 41,30):

- 5♣ 3 or 0 key cards
- 5♦ 4 or 1 key cards
- 5♥ 2 No Q trumps
- 5♠ 2 + Q Trumps

The 5♣♦ bids are responded to with

- Next Non-Trump suit = Q trump ask
- 5 of Trump suit, usually pass with 1 or correct with 3
- 5NT is a King ask

The actual results on the hand were:

Contract / Tricks / Lead				EW Matchpoints				EW IMPs	
				Freq	Score	MP	%	Diff	IMP
6♠	W	11	3♦	1	-50	0	0%	-840	-13
5♠	W	12	8♣	4x	480	5	15%	-310	-7
4NT	W	12	3♦	1	490	10	29%	-300	-7
6♠	W	12	9♠	9x	980	20	59%	190	5
6NT	E	12	2♣	3x	990	32	94%	200	5
18 Tables				Max MP = 17x2 = 34				EW Avr = 790	

Matchpoint (MP) scoring:

- Almost all the field (13/18) are in a slam.
- 10 are in 6S worth 59%
- 3 are in 6NT, looking for the extra 10 points which is worth 94% (**extra 35%**)
- Not bidding slam is scoring <15%
- Going down is a disaster (0%)

IMP Scoring:

- Almost all the field will be in a slam. But at IMPS 6♠ and 6NT score the same. Must bid the safest or easiest slam.
- Non-slam bidders score **neg IMPs**
- Going down is an even bigger IMPs disaster

The Full Hand:

	North	
	♠ 985	
West (D)	♥ T5	East
♠ T632	♦ J6432	♠ AKQJ
♥ 932	♣ 854	♥ KQJ6
♦ KQ		♦ AT8
♣ AKT3	South	♣ J9
	♠ 74	
	♥ A874	
	♦ 975	
	♣ Q762	

Play of the hand in 6♠ by westBest Lead by North?

I would find the small trump ♠5 to reduce the EW trumping power.

Initial Planning in 6S by West

Losers: Must lose the ♥A

Winners: $4/5♠ + 2♥ + 3♦ + 2♣ = 11+$

12th trick is likely from:

1. If spades break 3/2, can make 5 spade tricks by ruffing a club and a diamond
2. If ♥A is in North hand, lead up 3 times
3. or if hearts break 3-3, make 4th heart
4. or ♠Q finesse

Card by Card Play of the hand in 6♠/W

T1 N: ♠5, ♠A, ♠7, ♠2, Draw Trumps
 T2 E: ♠K, ♠4, ♠3, ♠8 Draw Trumps
 T3 E: ♠Q, ♠5, ♠6, ♠8 Draw Trumps
 T4 E: ♠8, ♠7, ♠Q, ♠2 Unblock diamonds
 T5 W: ♥2, ♥5, ♥K, ♥A Lead a heart up
 T6 S: ♠9, ♠K, ♠3, ♠T S exits 9 diamond

Here **we can just claim** with the 4th heart and the 3rd club to be cross ruffed.

For completeness:

T7 W: ♥3, ♥T, ♥Q, ♥4 Cash ♥
 T8 E: ♥J, ♥7, ♥9, ♦4 Cash ♥
 T9 E: ♦A, ♣2, ♣3, ♦6 Cash ♦, Pitch ♣3
 T10 E: ♣9, ♣6, ♣A, ♣5, Cash ♣
 T11 W: ♣K, ♣8, ♣J, ♣7 Cash ♣
 T12 W: ♣T, ♣, ♠J, ♠Q Ruff ♣
 T13 E: 6♥, 8♥, ♠T, ♦J Ruff ♥

If you choose 6NT looking for a better match point score:

Play of the hand in 6NT by East:Souths best lead?

The opponents have a spade fit but are playing in NTs looking for a Matchpoint top. I would lead the ♠7 as a likely safe lead. Certainly not cash the ♥A or lead away from ♣Q

Initial Planning in 6NT by East:

Losers: Must lose the ♥A

Winners: $4♠+2♥+3♦+2♣ = 11$

12th trick is likely from:

- Hearts if ♥A is in the North hand
- or hearts break 3-3
- or ♠Q finesse
- or ♣/♥ squeeze

Card by Card Play of the Hand in 6NT

T1 S: ♠7, ♠2, ♠5, ♠A Easts wins lead
 T2 E: ♠8, ♠5, ♦Q, ♦2 Cross to ♦Q
 T3 W: ♥2, ♥5, ♥K, ♥A Lead a heart up
 T4 S: ♠9, ♦K, ♠3, ♠T S exits to ♦K
 T5 W: ♥3, ♥T, ♥Q, ♥7 **Joy! ♥T drops**
 T6 E: ♥6, ♥8, ♥9, ♦4 Small heart to ♥9

Claim 12 Tricks: $4♠+3♥+3♦+2♣ = 12$ tricks

If the ♥T was in the long South hand and it hadn't dropped, now look to combine the ♠♥ squeeze with the ♣ finesse option.

T6 E: ♥J, ♥7, ♥9, ♣4, find the 4-2 heart split
 T7 E: ♦A, ♦7, ♣3, ♦6, cash diamond winner
 T8 E: ♠K, ♠4, ♠6, ♠8, cash spade winner
 T9 E: ♠Q, ♠2, ♠T, ♦6, cash spade winner
 If South has ♣Q he will be squeezed as the last spade at trick 10 is cashed.
 If South holds ♣Qxx and ♥T they must unguard clubs, else ♥6 in the East hand would be high and you would then cash your winning ♥6. So:

T10 E ♠J, ♠6, ♠T, ♦J cash spade winner

West's last three cards are the ♣AKT
 I would cash ♣A, ♣K. Making 12 tricks if

- the squeeze on South worked
 - or ♣Qx dropped in the North hand
- But only 11 if North had ♣Qxx. But you couldn't do anything about that, but maxed out your chances.

Again 6♠ is easy, 6NT requires some luck or squeeze technique to maximise your winning chances. But it will **max your MP score!** If you succeed!

Upcoming NSBC Club Events

CW - Tournament Events (OCT-DEC)			
Thursday Championship nights @ 7:30pm			
Date		Event Details	Status
3/Oct	1/2	CW Swiss Pairs	bookings
10/Oct	2/2		Required
17/Oct		No night sessions - ABF Spring National	
24/Oct			
31/Oct	1/5	NSBC Club Teams Championship	CC event bookings Required
7/Nov	2/5		
14/Nov	3/5		
21/Nov	4/5		
28/Nov	5/5		
5/Dec	1/3	CW - XMAS TEAMS	bookings Required
12/Dec	2/3		
19/Dec	3/3		

CW Tuesday Daytime @ 1pm (OCT-DEC)			
Date		Event Details	Status
5/Nov	1/1	CW Melbourne Cup Function	bookings Required

NSWBA State events with NSBC Club representation			
27/Oct	1/1	STATE Teams (Metropolitan Final)	NSBC Reps + bookings

EL - Special Events (OCT-DEC)			
7-Oct	34T	EL Labour Day Matchpoint Pairs Congress	CC event bookings Required
5/Nov	1/1	EL Melbourne Cup Function	bookings Required
1-Dec	2	EL HUMP (Under 100MP) Congress	bookings Required

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ABF News & Coming Events

Link to [ABF calendar](#)

Canberra in Bloom Bridge Festival	October 4-7
Spring Nationals – Sydney	October 16-24
2020 Open Team Playoff – Canberra	November 9-14
Golden West Swiss Pairs – Perth	November 15-17
Grand National Open Teams (GNOT) Final – Tweed Heads	November 29 – December 2
2020 Seniors' and Women's Teams Playoffs – Canberra	December 7-12



Upcoming events in NSW

Link to [NSWBA](#) website

October, 2019	
ABF/ACT: Canberra in Bloom Bridge Festival	Oct 4 (Fri) - 7 (Mon)
Royal Bluebell Matchpoint Swiss Pairs	
Spider Orchid Novice & Restricted Matchpoint Swiss	
Golden Wattle Open Teams	
Canberra Bells Swiss Pairs	
Federation Rose Novice & Restricted Swiss Pairs	
Wollstonecraft Bridge Club - Matchpoint Pairs	Oct 6 (Sun)
NSBC @ Lindfield Labour Day - Matchpoint Pairs	Oct 7 (Mon)
Commercial Club (Albury) Bridge Club - Pairs, Swiss Pairs - Swiss Teams	Oct 11 (Fri) - Oct 13 (Sun)
Dubbo Bridge Club - Matchpoint Pairs, Swiss Teams	Oct 12 (Sat) - 13 (Sun)
Muswellbrook Bridge Club 29th Congress - Matchpoint Pairs, Swiss Teams	Oct 12 (Sat) - 13 (Sun)
Tenterfield Contract Bridge Club Annual Congress - Butler Pairs	Oct 12 (Sat) - 13 (Sun)
Pennant Hills Bridge Club - Swiss Teams	Oct 13 (Sun)
ABF/NSW: Sydney Spring Nationals	Oct 16 (Wed) - 24 (Thu)
TBIB Open Teams	Wed 16th - Fri 18th
Two Men and A Truck Restricted Teams	Wed 16th - Thurs 17th
Dick Cummings Open Pairs	Sat 19th - Sun 20th
Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs	Sat 19th - Sun 20th
Spring National Novice Pairs	Sat 19th - Sun 20th
Linda Stern Women's Teams	Mon 21st - Wed 23rd
Bobby Evans Seniors' Teams	Mon 21st - Wed 23rd
Penline Match Point Pairs	Thu 24th
Gunnedah Bridge Club - Swiss Pairs, Swiss Teams	Oct 26 (Sat) - Oct 27 (Sun)
State Open Teams Metropolitan Final - Jacaranda Team	Oct 27 (Sun)
Tomaree Bridge Club Inc - Swiss Pairs, Swiss Teams	Oct 26 (Sat) - Oct 27 (Sun)

November, 2019	
The Mudgee Bridge Club - Pairs & Teams	Nov 2 (Sat) - Nov 3 (Sun)
Tumbarumba Bridge Club - Swiss Pairs & Teams	Nov 2 (Sat) - Nov 3 (Sun)
Parramatta Bridge Club Foundation Day Teams	Nov 3 (Sun)
Taree Bridge Club Swiss Pairs	Nov 3 (Sun)
Armidale Bridge Club Teams	Nov 9 (Sat) - 10 (Sun)
Southern Highlands Bridge Club - Swiss Pairs & Teams	Nov 9 (Sat) - 10 (Sun)
NSWBA State Mixed Teams	Nov 11 (Mon) - 25 (Mon)
ABF: Golden West Swiss Pairs	Nov 15 (Fri) - 17 (Sun)
John Arkinstall State Open Teams Finals	Nov 15 (Fri) - 17 (Sun)
State Novice and Restricted Teams	Nov 16 (Sat) - 17 (Sun)
Holiday Bridge Norfolk Island Bridge Holiday	Nov 17 (Sun) - 24 (Sun)
NSWBA SOTF Swiss Pairs	Nov 17 (Sun)
State Open Pairs Championship	Nov 23 (Sat) - 24 (Sun)
NSWBA Spring Swiss Pairs	Nov 24 (Sun)
State Under 100MP Finals	Nov 25 (Mon) - Dec 1 (Sun)
GNOT Finals	Nov 29 (Fri) - Dec 2 (Mon)