



NSBC Newsletter



2021 November Vol 4 Issue 11

Editor: Kevin Davies



KATE CREEDON

9 News visits East Lindfield

The Willis Grand Opening: 3rd Nov



North Shore Bridge Club has secured an exciting new face-to-face venue! To read more, turn to pages 2-4. Photos to the right:



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Rookie Challenge Hand 1 (Bid and Play)

North	Nil Vul, Dealer: South
♠ 642	
♥ JT4	
♦ AJ8652	
♣ 9	
South (D)	
♠ JT93	
♥ AK	
♦ K74	
♣ AK65	

Free bidding with no EW interference. Can you get to 3NT?

Assuming you do, West leads the ♥5. How do you plan to make 3NT?

Open Challenge Hand 2 (Bid and Play)

North	All Vul, Dealer South
♠ K64	
♥ 72	
♦ 974	
♣ AK742	
South (D)	
♠ A8753	
♥ A64	
♦ AJ65	
♣ 8	

Free bidding with no EW interference. Can you get to 4♠.

Assuming you do, west leads the ♥Q. How do you plan to make your 4♠ contract?

Open Challenge Hand 3 (Bid and Play)

North (D)	All Nil Vul, Dealer North
♠ KT985	
♥ A6	
♦ J654	
♣ JT	
South	
♠ AQ732	
♥ KQ43	
♦ Q73	
♣ Q	

Free bidding with no EW interference. Can you get to 4♠?

Assuming you do, west leads the ♥J. How do you plan to make your 4♠ contract?

Open Challenge Hand 4 (Bid and Play)

North	All Vul, Dealer South
♠ JT65	
♥ T4	
♦ 65	
♣ AT974	
South (D)	
♠ AKQ9	
♥ J6	
♦ AKJ972	
♣ 5	

All Vul, Dealer South
west will overcall 1♥, and East pre-empt with 3♥.

Assuming you bid to a 4♠ contract. West will cash the ♥AK and then shift to the ♣K

How do you plan to make your 4♠ contract?



NSBC Face-to-Face Club Manager

Mobile 0478 626 393
manager@bridgeclub.com.au
Liam Milne

This last month has been a very busy one with a lot of things moving very quickly. From the end of September when we received the abrupt news that brought an end to our efforts to move to Thomas St Chatswood, it was a mere four weeks before we relocated to The Willis.

Introducing "The Willis"

The Willis Recreation and Sports Centre at 325A Eastern Valley Way is located on the corner of North Willoughby, Middle Cove and Castle Cove. It is a tennis club and mixed sports centre that is approximately 1km from our previous home of Club Willoughby.

NSBC previously operated out of The Willis under John McIlraith up until 2015. We moved out for a variety of reasons, chiefly the merger with Gordon Bridge Club and the availability of East Lindfield as a venue.

Why the move now?

It was clear that North Ryde RSL was not a popular venue with our members and hence we needed a different, hopefully long-term, solution. We had heard that The Willis had come under new management who had a good reputation in our community. When we approached them with a proposal, it became clear that we were a good fit for each other.

Some of you may have played there with us many years ago - it is now better than ever. Under new management that are proactive in their approach to giving NSBC a home, we are being well taken care of and seen as an important partner at the venue. We are excited about this new venue and the opportunity it represents, and we can tell that you are too with the opening launch booking out very quickly. As this issue goes to print, we are running our launch function and first session at The Willis (Wednesday 3 November).

Some of the great things you can look forward to enjoying at The Willis are:

- ✓ Central North Shore location close to the old Club Willoughby.
- ✓ Spacious and luxurious playing room with capacity for up to 30 tables.
- ✓ Plenty of on-site parking with bridge sessions at alternate times to tennis.
- ✓ Ongoing upgrading / renovating of the centre including new toilets, renovated playing room, more parking etc.
- ✓ Newly renovated Café and Bar coming soon so we can enjoy a cup of tea or a few drinks.
- ✓ Big windows, natural light and sound insulation from outside noise.
- ✓ Peaceful leafy surroundings.

We are initially running four sessions per week at The Willis starting Wednesday 3 November.

See our schedule at The Willis (WS) below:

♣ F2F Weekly Schedule Overview

Standard Daily "NSBC F2F @ Willis Sports & Recreation Centre"					
Note: Covid Regulations - All F2F Venue have QR Code Registration at club entry					
Day	Ven	Session	Play Start	Session size	Director / Notes
Mon	WS	Rookie	1:30 PM	16 Tables	Sue Crompton
Tues	WS	Open	12:45 PM	16 Tables	TBA
Wed	WS	Open	12:45 PM	16 Tables	Jamie Thompson
Thur	WS	Open	12:45 PM	16 Tables	TBA
Fri					
Sat					
Sun					
Standard Daily "NSBC F2F @ East Lindfield" (Face-to-Face) Sessions					
Note: Covid Regulations - All F2F Venue have QR Code Registration at					
Day	Ven	Session	Play Start	Session size	Director / Notes
Mon	EL	Open	1:00 PM	18 Tables	David Hagley
		Supervised			TBA
Tues	EL	Supervised			TBA
		Open	1:00 PM	18 Tables	David Hagley
Wed	EL				TBA
Thur	EL	Rookie	10:00 AM	18 Tables	Sue Crompton
		Open	1:00 PM	18 Tables	
Fri	EL				TBA
Sat	EL				TBA
Sun	EL				Special Events

The Willis (Anonymous)

For many years the North Shore Bridge Club (NSBC) operated with Club Willoughby as their main premises and with East Lindfield as a second site. In 1894 a visiting warlock played against John Mottram in a game of rubber bridge and when John dropped the warlock's singleton king offside to make a doubled grand slam, he placed a curse on the Club Willoughby premises. Since that fateful day members of NSBC have searched high and low for a new location in which to play bridge. The warlock's curse ran deep, and the task proved hard to complete, often being handed down from father to son and mother to daughter.

In the year 2020, the final strand of sinew holding the Clock Tower Roof of the Grand Card Room at Club Willoughby finally gave way and the last cards fell solemnly on to the damp carpet. It was finally over.

Fortunately, brave Sir Leo and King David had found another location. Deep in the Shire of Chatswood stood a grand Palace with ample room for bridge players, why the space was so abundant that the lords and ladies considered playing with six people per table.

The trip from Willoughby Vale to Chatswood was a long and arduous one, led by a young knight known only as Liam who came from a faraway land called "The Place That Seems to Send Us All Their Bridge Players". It was too far to make the trip in a single journey and so young Liam, ably assisted by Lady Margaret and her trusty steed Josh, set up a base camp at the holy shrine of North Ryde RSL.

Some claim that it was in fact a mythical wizard known as Mike (also from The Place That Seems to Send Us All Their Bridge Players) who started the journey to North Ryde and that he was following a map drawn by Sir Leo (who seemed to have gone in completely the wrong direction) but it is too long ago now to be sure. What is beyond doubt, however, is that when the music finally stopped and young Liam jumped into the nearest seat, he had most definitely won this game of musical chairs and was sitting entirely alone in a large dungeon in North Ryde RSL.

The warlocks curse had not been washed away along with the walls of Club Willoughby, it was following NSBC and its band of grumpy followers wherever they went.

But what of King David of NSBC? The warlock had vanquished him to rule the Kingdom of Orange instead and his loyal followers back in Sydendorm were gathering around the town crier Kevin "Hear Ye!" Davies to listen to his pronouncements. The words of wisdom and comfort raised the spirits of the lost souls of NSBC, and they determined to march onwards to Chatswood Shire and claim their entitlement.

The warlock had one final curse left, and he used it wisely. With his dying breath he whispered something that could hardly be made out, "... curse.. on visitors.. ignoring... danger." And with that he passed away. Gibberish like that is hard to understand and even harder to remember so it was shortened to COVID.

Yes, with his callous last words, the warlock had made bridge illegal and turned NSBC into an outlawed organisation.

With their game more endangered than a rubber bridge game in Double Bay and their King sent to the snow, it looked like the end for NSBC.

Young Liam staggered out of the ashes of North Ryde RSL, helped by Margaret, Josh, and Sir Leo. The sky was full and dark as Sir Leo helped Liam to get clear of the debris. "Don't worry Liam, we still have our dreams. We still have... Chatswood."

Just then King David appeared through the clouds as an apparition (well, he wasn't allowed to travel due to COVID). "Er... I was meaning to talk to you about that."

What now? The NSBC faithful search for answers and direction. Who better to lead them out of the wilderness than the very person who had got them lost in the first place. They turned to Sir Leo.

"In my youth I heard of a fine land. A land so pure that only those who seek perfection can enter through the gates of its grand car park."

"Where is it Sir Leo? Where should we go?" the crowd asked as one.

"I dare not say its name. Even a whisper, spoken too harshly, could bring it crumbling down."

"Not Club Willoughby again?"

"No, no. This is a place built of bricks and iron. Encased in gold and lit by shimmering diamonds. Forged in the fires of Mount Olympus and envied by the gods of all religions. And it's got a coffee shop."

"Sir Leo! What do you call this place?"

Sir Leo paused and looked meaningfully into the distance. "I call it... The Willis."

A lady at the back said "Oh, that's nice. I liked it when we used to play there."

The people around her bade her shush, "You'll ruin the story."



Update from the President

Mobile 0418 427 458
David Fryda

Dear Members,

I have just researched (thanks Google!) quotes about bad things happening for a reason and I've decided, rather than sharing any one in particular, to say thank you so much to the team for helping us bounce back from the disappointment of last month.

Margaret Owen, Liam Milne, Leo Goorevich and Mark Guthrie were determined not to be deterred by our rejection by the Chatswood property owners and we all owe them a huge vote of thanks for moving so quickly to secure our return to The Willis.

It is now up to all of us to give this venue a try and hopefully it will prove to be immensely popular with you all. As per the announcement last week, we will start off with a handful of sessions and as both the covid restrictions ease and the popularity of the venue is proven we will look to increase the number of sessions.

With the property matter now progressing, your committee is turning its attention to a broad range of other topics with the intention of setting the strategy for the club as we progress to a new normal playing bridge post-pandemic.

The committee will be meeting in late November to discuss this in detail and we would welcome your views on strategic matters that you would like to share. Please feel free to reach out to me, any of the committee members, Liam or Gary.

Finally, I would like to recognise the support of the Club's major sponsor, Two Men and a Truck again. They very generously moved us from North Ryde RSL to The Willis. As you can imagine, this was not a "small" move and we are so grateful to them. Please, if you need some removalists, I would ask you to give them an opportunity to give you a quote.

Stay safe and happy bridging!
David

Our Club Session Results

These are updated regularly on our website.

[Pianola](#)

[RB results](#)

[October Monthly Full Winners List](#)

[November Monthly Partial Winners List](#)

Editors Comments

This Newsletter (start of month) will include more on **Open Bridge player articles**, whilst the *Mid-Month Update articles will focus more on our newer bridge players.*



NSBC Online Operations Manager

Mobile 0413 884805
garybarwick@outlook.com
Gary Barwick

♠ **Reduced Table Numbers** Since we escaped the lockdown and isolation blues, East Lindfield reopened for F2F bridge, and the online Spring Nationals have all combined to reduce our clubs online table numbers slightly. Please visit our [RealBridge Sessions](#) page on the NSBC website to see the current RB session times.

Major Competitions on Thursday Nights

The 5 week [True Mixed Teams](#) is now underway, and no new entries are allowed.

The next Thursday Night event will be the [VCC Mini-Swiss Pairs](#) on Dec 2nd.

VCC Mini-Swiss Pairs

A single session Swiss Pairs event

RealBridge in 2021

1 Thursday Night Session 7:00pm 2nd Dec

- Swiss Pairs event (5 x 5 Board - Imp scoring rounds) to decide the winners and prizes on the night.
- Outright Prizes: 1st = \$100, 2nd = \$50
- Note: This event clashes with the VCC Online (RB) event

Director: **Ronnie Ng**
 Convenor: **Gary Barwick** M: 0413 884 805

RED Points We welcome all players who are financial members of the ABF to play in this event. Yellow Systems are not permitted

The Online VCC (Swiss Pairs) starts that day

Victor Champion Cup 2021

To be held online using the Real Bridge

2nd – 5th December 2021

Chief Tournament Director: Laurie Kelso

This will be followed with the shortened [Club XMAS Teams](#), the final 2021 event on Thursday nights calendar.

12th Club XMAS Teams Championship

2x Thursday Night Sessions: 7:00pm
9th, 16th December

Now on RealBridge in 2021

Must Enter for both sessions (Substitutes are allowed) in the club Website by 10pm Wednesday 8th Dec. Late entries may be allowed by Convenor at his discretion.

Club Honour Board **Prize Pool for the event: \$600**

Convenor, queries & partnership advice:
 Director : **Ronnie Ng**
 Convenor: **Gary Barwick** 0413 884 805

We welcome all players who are financial members of the ABF to play in this event. Yellow Complex Systems are not permitted

Previous 11th 2021 XMAS Team's Champions:
Warren Dobes & Yumin Li, Axel Johannsson & Peter Jeffery, Wayne Zhu (Sub)

Red Point Event

Information about all Thursday night events can be found on our new [Thursday Night Events](#) web page on the website.

RealBridge Weekly Schedule Overview

Covid Daily "NSBC Online" Expanded RealBridge Sessions				
Day	Session	Play Start	Session Size	Director
Mon	Open	10.00 AM	15 Tables	Sue Crompton
	Restricted	10.00 AM	5 Tables	Sue Crompton
	Open	1.30 PM	25 Tables	Malcolm Martin
	Rookie	2:00 PM	25 Tables	Alan Pike
	Supervised	7:00 PM	5 Tables	Jenny Barnes
	Open (Mini Duplicate)	7:30 PM	6 Tables	Sue Crompton
Tue	Open	10.00 AM	17 Tables	Sue Crompton
	Restricted	10:00 AM	5 Tables	Sue Crompton
	Supervised	10:30 AM	6 Tables	Kay Moyes
	Open	1.30 PM	25 Tables	Sue Crompton
	Rookie	2:00 PM	20 Tables	Kim Neale
	Rookie	7:00 PM	10 Tables	Kim Neale
Wed	Open	10.00 AM	18 Tables	Ronnie Ng
	Open	1.30 PM	25 Tables	Ronnie Ng
	Rookie	2:00 PM	28 Tables	Ronnie Ng
	Open	7:00 PM	15 Tables	Craig Mietzke
Thur	Open	10.00 AM	15 Tables	Brian Soutter
	Rookie	10:30 AM	7 Tables	Brian Soutter
	Open	1.30 PM	20 Tables	Angie Boulton
	Restricted	1:30 PM	15 Tables	Angie Boulton
	Supervised	2:00 PM	6 Tables	Allan Pike
	Open Competition Night	7:00 PM	30 Tables	Ronnie Ng
Fri	Open	10.00 AM	15 Tables	Brian Soutter
	Rookie	10:30 AM	7 Tables	Brian Soutter
	Open	1.30 PM	22 Tables	Sue Crompton
	Restricted	1:30 PM	12 Tables	Sue Crompton
Sat	Supervised	10:30 AM	6 Tables	Jenny Barnes
	Open	1:30 PM	40 Tables	Brian Soutter
Sun	Restricted	1:30 PM	16 Tables	Brian Soutter
	Open	1:30 PM	16 Tables	Brian Soutter
	Rookie	2:00 PM	8 Tables	Brian Soutter

Major Daytime Competitions

Information about all daytime competition events can be found on our new [Daytime and Congress Events](#) page on the website.


Currently no special daytime events are scheduled in November.

Require an Online Partner?

If you are looking for someone to play with on normal RealBridge sessions, please login to the session about **30 minutes** before start and type into the chat window "**Director I would like a partner today, please**" and wait in the lobby. The director will do their best to find you a partner. There is rarely a time we cannot accommodate those looking for a game.


Visitors and Guests are Welcome


Visitors and guests are very welcome, members can pay for a guest via their PP system **just let the director know at the start of the session, that you will accept charge on your PP account for your guest.** Guests and visitors can also pay directly online see **Visitor Payments** below.

 **General and Technical Help** Please contact Gary Barwick on 0413 884 805 if you have technical issues or would like to know more about RealBridge and how it works. If it is your first time playing on RealBridge or you are trying to fix an existing issue, please call Gary earlier in the day and **not 5 minutes before the session starts** as I have more time to help you then 😊.

Technical Help – Browsers iPad/Wi-Fi users

iPad users please use the **Safari browser** for the time being. PC/Mac users please use **Google Chrome** or **Microsoft Edge** as these are still the best performing of the browsers.

 **WIFI signal strength** is the biggest issue I deal with. Please make sure you are not too far away from your WIFI modem when playing on RealBridge. While you might have a great Internet connection, however it can be compromised by weak WIFI signal within your home. If you do suffer from freezes or dropouts move closer to the modem first.

 **MacBook Support** On the 1st of October one of the key root certificates that manages security on the Internet expired. The result of this certificate expiry meant that iMacs and MacBook's, that are about 6 years or more old, would receive security warnings when visiting the NSBC website, informing you that the site was possibly unsafe (**it is totally safe**). Even if you ignored these warnings you would still not be able to access RealBridge sessions, it would stop at a grey screen.

Apple being Apple, don't support computers or devices they make that are about five or so years old and therefore could not be bothered providing you with a new security certificate. In the short term there was not an easy fix to this but now there is another security certificate that can be downloaded and installed that will hopefully delay this problem for a few more years. I have tested it on my MacBook Pro from 2009 and it works fine. It is a little technical but not terribly difficult. If you have one of these affected Macs and would like some help making it go again feel free to contact me and I will step you through it.

Northshore Wins Inter-Club Pairs

2021 Metro North Online Pairs	Interclub	Club	>750	>300	>100	<100	Total Pts
1	North Shore	NSBC	10.1	5	11	0	26.1
2	NSBC @ Lindfield	EL	8.5	4	3	8.5	24.0
3	Peninsula & Trumps	PBC/T	2.3	6	14	1.5	23.8

[Link to full Inter-Club Results](#)

The 2021 Metro North Interclub Pairs produced an exciting finish on Sunday. The competition was run in four categories with the placegetters scoring points for their club in each category. For the purposes of this event, Peninsula and Trumps combined to form a single club. **NSBC finished first**, with East Lindfield second - just ahead by a whisker from Peninsula/Trumps.


Club Administration


New NSBC Memberships


Please contact Margaret Owen on 0410 657 048 for membership enquiries. NSBC is currently offering a promotional membership rate:

- You can join NSBC as a full member for a discounted rate of \$15 which will give you membership from now until 31 December 2021.

Do you have friends who are playing as non-members? Encourage them to sign up - this is a great-value offer. NSBC membership allows you to create and manage your own PP credit account, thus enabling easy "play & pay" in all our sessions. Membership also entitles you to lower table fees in each session you play.

 **Online PP credit Top-ups** You can pay for topping up your credit PP Account via our [Online Payments](#) page. (Please make sure you are always in credit; this saves Margaret a lot of work).

 **Offline PP credit Top-ups.** Please contact Margaret Owen on 0410 657 048 for topping up your PP (Prepayments) credit by phone.

 **Visitor Payments** They can pay for one off events on our [Online Payments](#) page (the \$ sign on our homepage). Or over the phone with Margaret.

Snapshot Oct Memberships Statistics

NSBC Membership Numbers	Home Club	Assoc Members	Total
2-xxx RealBridge Online Totals	0	59	59
2-074 (East Lindfield) F2F Totals	377	27	404
2-120 (Willis) F2F Totals	1127	278	1405
Grand Total Sep	1504	364	1868

Snapshot October Table Statistics

October was another super month with NSBC hosting **1782 Tables**, mostly on the RealBridge platform, but EL is slowly reopening.

2021	Total Tables	Comment	RB Tables	EL Tables	Willis Tables
Nov		Willis Opens, F2F Restrictions Eased			
Oct	1782	2 Oct Congresses, 92% RB, 62% Open, Lock down ends, Sydney Spring Nationals, EL Slowly reopens, NR Closed	1667	115	NR-Closed
Sep	1977	100% RB, 59% Open, Covid F2F Lock down again, huge beginner numbers in Lessons	1977	0	0
Aug	2418	100% RB, 63% Open, Covid F2F Lock down again, 2 big Congresses held by NSBC	2418	0	0
July	1942	100% RB, 65% Open, Covid F2F Lock down again	1942	0	0



**NSBC
Tournament
Chairman**
Mobile 0437 274 343
John McIlrath

The residual 2021 Tournament Program

Adjustments added include:

- A single session VCC Pairs has been added.
- The **Club Xmas Teams** has been reduced to 2 sessions in December

CC	Sess	Date	When	Ven	2021 CC Events List
21	1/5	28-Oct	Thursday Night	RB	Club Real Mixed Teams (Qual)
	2/5	4-Nov	Thursday Night		
	3/5	11-Nov	Thursday Night		
	4/5	18-Nov	Thursday Night		
	5/5	25-Nov	Thursday Night		
	1x	2-Dec	Thursday Night	RB	VCC Mini Swiss Pairs
	1/2	9-Dec	Thursday Night	RB	Club XMAS Teams
	2/2	16-Dec	Thursday Night		

2021 August MP Promotions

The delayed August Master point promotions have been updated on the website page.

Link to [Full August MP Promotions List](#)

Club Results

2021 August MP Promotions

Link to [Full August MP Promotions List](#)

1st Spring Nats - Matchpoint Pairs (14 Oct)		%
1	Witold Chylewski & John Scotford	58%
2	Kevin Davies & Leo Goorevich	57%
3	Kuldip Bedii & Janeen Soloman	56%

[Link to full results](#)



2nd Spring Nats - Matchpoint Pairs (21 Oct)		%
1	Thomas & Prue Siemsglue	60%
2=	Witold Chylewski & John Scotford	55%
2=	James Wallis & Bill Nash	55%

[Link to full results](#)



Links to other Newsletters

ABF	ABF NEWSLETTER AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION INC. Editor: editor@abf.com.au Approved for Print: 2021-10-15
NSWBA	eCongress News
Spring Nationals Bulletins	



How to Play Worse Bridge

By Mark Guthrie

Our newsletter is full of articles on how to improve your bridge. This isn't one of them. If I knew how to play bridge properly myself then maybe I could write one, but then we'd have to find a bad bridge player to take over from me, and every bridge player I have ever met thinks they are just one good session away from being World Champion, so that might not be too easy to do. Instead, this article is about ways to have fun. But (you are thinking) how can I use the words **Bridge** and **Fun** in the same sentence? Well, I didn't (Oops, I just did).

Bridge has something called Conventions, which the Americans have been trying to ban for decades but are alive and well here. A convention is a bid that doesn't mean exactly what it appears to mean. You are probably thinking, "Well, I don't play conventions. Our system is simple Standard American, with multi-2s, short club, inverted minors, Stayman, Transfers, Bergen, Roman Key Card, Cappelletti, Jacoby 2NT, splinters, Michaels and Unusual NT. Just like everybody else. Our system is so simple we don't even alert anything."

Even if you don't play some of that stuff, I bet you would open 1♣ on this hand:

♠AKQ9 ♥AKQJ ♦T9 ♣432

If you explained the basics of bridge to a human (i.e. not a bridge player) and asked them which suit they would like as trumps I doubt 1 in 100 would pick clubs. See, even the things you don't think are conventions, really are.

So having established that you already play conventions let's see if we can get you to play some new ones. Or as you may well end up thinking, having established that coffee is a drug, roll up your sleeve and let's see if we can find a good vein.

1 No Trump

I'm going to start by going for something sacred. Who says 1NT has to be 15-17 or 15-18 points? Experts. What do they know about having fun, look at them, what a miserable bunch. Experts play a

system called "*Expert Standard*" which the rest of us can't find out about, but is revealed to them when they make a contract on a squeeze and don't say "I was sure I was going off but East threw away a winning diamond, what an idiot!"

So let's mess about with your 1NT opening for a bit. Why don't you try playing 10-12 instead? I recommend only playing it when you aren't vulnerable, but if you are just trying it out then play it all the time to start with. I played it vulnerable all the way up to -1100 but you can keep going if you like.

What happens now is three things. First, you need to think a little bit more, it's not really more, it's just differently. If your partner opens 1NT 15-17 and you have a 10 count with no major, you will usually bid 3NT. If your partner could only have 10 points for their opening then you need 15 for 3NT. Same hands, just the other way around. You can play everything else exactly the same, you just need to count.

Secondly, you confuse the opponents. In fact, you confuse them even more than if you shouted "Snap!" and put your Ace of Clubs on their Ace of Hearts as you gathered up all of the cards. The biggest way you will confuse them is by passing with a 12 count when your partner has opened 1NT. Try it and see how often they decide to bid on nothing and end up 3 off at the two-level vulnerable.

But I have saved the biggest piece of good news for last. You get to bid much more often. It's no surprise that 10-point hands are more frequent than 15-point hands.

Is it a good idea? Probably not, or the experts would play it. Is it easy to play and fun? Absolutely.

If you do play this, then remember that a 1NT rebid by opener will now show 13-17 points and a 2NT rebid shows 18-19 (or split it up however you like, it is your system!).

If you want to have even more fun, try playing an escape system if the opponents double you (how rude!). SW1NE is a good option, it's by Bob Sebesfi, a fountain of cool conventions and regular at our club.

And for extra, extra fun, do a little upgrading and open this hand 1NT. Wait until you discuss the hands in the bar afterwards and tell everyone how the bidding went at your table!

♠86 ♥94 ♦QJT ♣KQJT98

TWERB

What about when the opponents open 2♣ strong. Do you put your cards on the table and tell everyone you'll be back in a bit and just pass for me when it is my turn? Do you sigh and say something about always sitting the wrong way? I never understand why people say that, if they were sitting the wrong way then they would be facing away from the table and they wouldn't know what was going on.

What about bidding something? Yes, you stand to be short on points, but you will often have some shape. I'm sure if you have seven diamonds to the AK you probably already know to bid over 2♣, but wouldn't it be nice to bid more often. What if you could say to your partner and the table "I have a long suit or maybe even two suits, but I'm not telling you what they are yet."

Welcome to TWERB (Two-Way Exclusion Relay Bids). Even the name is more fun than Cappelletti. Here is how it works. Bidding a suit shows the next suit up or BOTH other suits. Bidding NT shows two non-touching suits (the pointy ones or the round ones, although they all actually have pointy bits so you can sound like an expert and call them the **Odd** suits.).

For example, over the opponents 2♣ opening, 2H shows either long Spades OR Clubs and Diamonds. The only thing you won't have is Hearts (hence the exclusion part of TWERB). Now, while the opponents are spitting coffee everywhere and picking up their cards off the floor, your partner just bids 2♠, pass or correct. For even more fun, if the bidding comes around to you and you have both minors, just put on your poker face and pass. Your opponents will miss 6♠ but you'll have to help the director search for the mythical Psyche Register that they are supposed to write you up in. Well worth it.

Brown Sticker

Q: What is brown and sticky?

A: A Stick

No, a convention without an anchor suit, a.k.a. a **brown sticker convention**. The fun police have had a serious go at getting rid of these, but you can still play them in clubs in Australia, which is funny because they are considered too difficult for experts

so the Americans have succeeded in getting them banned from a lot of world level events.

If you don't have an anchor then your boat could float away but in bridge we just mean that your bid doesn't promise a known suit. If you play them, then you need to pre-alert the opponents for no apparent reason before you start to play and you have to put a little brown sticker on your convention card which is nice.

My favourite "BS" conventions are RCOs and Comic NT. Rank Colour Odd (RCO) opening bids show the three combinations of two suited hands. For example, you can play that 2♦ shows Rank (majors or minors), 2♥ shows Colour (red or black) and 2♠ shows the odd suits (don't call them pointy and round, you'll sound silly). Now partner just bids pass or correct or can make a forcing bid with NT.

Comic NT is an overcall of 1NT that shows either a real NT overcall (15-18) or a 'comic' overcall which is a weak 2 in an unknown suit other than the one the enemy just bid before you.

So, how is TWERB not a BS convention? Well, the Queensbury Rules say that if the opponents use a convention, then it is gloves off, you can do anything. And the best thing... If the opponents open 2♣ strong and artificial and you have long diamonds, then not only does your partner not have to alert your 3♣ bid; they actually aren't allowed to.

So have fun, with these and many other conventions that you can find on the Internet or in the paper bin of any bridge club.

But I forgot, you don't play conventions, and definitely not Brown Sticker conventions.

Just remind me, when you open 2♦ as a multi-2, which one is your anchor suit again?



Pat Harrington

Eight sometimes, Nine sometimes?

From Pat's Play and Learn Bulletin series, on the ACBL bridge feed website.

[Link to article](#)

Plan your play in 3NT with the hands shown below. You are playing in a **team game** that is scored by IMPs. The opening lead is the **♥5**.

North	Standard Bidding			
♠ 642	You	North	East	South
♥ JT4				1♣
♦ AJ8652	Pass	1♦	Pass	2NT
♣ 9	Pass	3NT	All Pass	
South (D)	Bidding Notes			
♠ JT93	1♣	2+C Opening hand		
♥ AK	1♦	4+♦ 6+ Hcp		
♦ K74	2NT	18-19 Balanced		
♣ AK65	3NT	Gamble long ♦ will run		

South's rebid shows a balanced hand too strong for a 1NT opening and not strong enough to open 2NT. Using 15–17 1NT openers, the 2NT rebid shows 18–19 high-card points. Notice that South skipped over the spades. I usually advocate showing your major on the one level but make an exception with opener's 2NT rebid.

With a game-going hand, responder still has room to show a four-card major. The only time a major suit will be missed is when responder is very weak and passes opener's highly invitational 2NT rebid. With that weak a hand, however, responder will frequently bid a four-card major the first time. North carries on to game, hoping that the long diamond suit will be a source of tricks in 3NT.

When planning your play in notrump, count winners. You have two hearts, two diamonds and two clubs in top tricks. Three more tricks must be developed. The diamond suit offers the chance to build the needed tricks. The question is how to play the suit. The **♦Q** is missing. Should you bang down the ace and king, playing for the queen to drop — or should you finesse?

The bridge maxim "eight ever, nine never" may come to mind. You have nine diamonds between your hand and dummy, so the saying suggests playing for the **♦Q** to drop. (With eight or fewer cards in the suit, the saying advises the finesse.)

Bridge maxims are often good advice, but they don't replace logical thinking. What if the **♦Q** doesn't fall under the ace or king? You can lead a third diamond to drive it out, but you will find yourself looking at those diamond tricks you worked so hard to develop sitting in dummy with no way to reach them. **Entries are very important** when developing a long suit. Once you recognize that, you might opt to take the finesse to assure your contract as long as both opponents follow to the first trick.

The full deal:

North		
♠ 642		
♥ JT4		
♦ AJ8652		
♣ 9		
West	North	East
♠ Q8		♠ AK75
♥ Q8653		♥ 972
♦ QT3		♦ 9
♣ T83		♣ QJ742
South (D)		
♠ JT93		
♥ AK		
♦ K74		
♣ AK65		
3NT/S lead ♥5		
Vil Nil Dealer:S		

Cashing the **♦K** and finessing the **♦J** ensures your contract, but on this occasion, you end up making an overtrick.

Recall that the form of scoring is IMPs.

Overtricks are nice at any form of scoring, but at IMPs the reward is very small. One undoubted overtrick will translate into a gain of 1 IMP at best. While some team matches are won by a single IMP, many more are lost when one team makes a game that went down at the other table.

It's not so simple when you are playing in a pairs game. In that setting, even 10 extra points can mean several match points — the difference between an average score and a top. But is it worth it when you could go down?

My advice is that when you (the newcomer or intermediate) play in a pairs game, look for safe overtricks but don't risk your contract for them. When you get better and play in a field of experts, you might occasionally risk your contract to go for an overtrick.

Our Newer Player Team



[Link to Monthly Full Winners List](#)

Supervised Sessions (on RealBridge):

- Mondays at 7pm
- Tuesdays at 10:30am
- Thursdays at 2pm
- Saturdays at 10:30am

Rookie Sessions (on RealBridge):

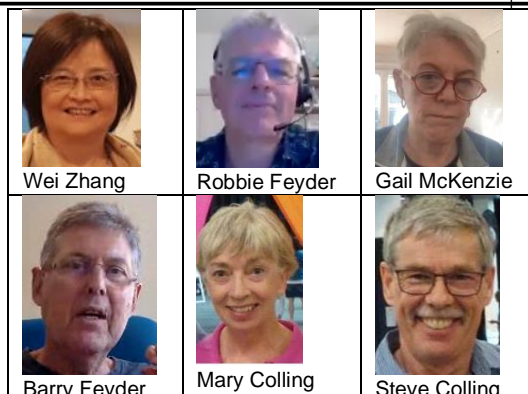
- Mondays at 2pm
- Tuesdays at 10:00am, 2pm and 7pm
- Wednesdays at 10:00am and 2pm
- Thursdays at 10:30am
- Fridays at 10:30am
- Saturdays at 10:30am
- Sundays at 10:30am and 2pm

New playing sessions are being added all the time, so for the latest, check the website or follow the [link to the weekly RB schedule page](#):

Restricted Congress Scene Members Restricted Congress results

[Link to full Spring Nationals Results](#)

Spring Nats - Bridgegear Intermediate Teams (Qual 16T)			WDL	VP
1	Hui LI - P JIANG - Wei ZHANG - Sherlock SHAO		7-1-0	127
2	Robbie Feyder, Gail McKenzie, Martin Brown, Barry Feyder		5-0-3	99
3	P Karol, J Crockford, Mary Colling, Steve Colling		5-0-3	93



Spring Nats - Ted Chadwick Restricted MP Swiss Pairs (12T)			WDL	VP
1	Patrick JIANG - Hui LI		7-2-1	141
2	Tim LEGGE - Alexander JONES		7-2-1	141
3	Allan HARDIE - Colin JASPER		6-1-3	125
4	Nerida GILLIES - Sandy CARTER		6-2-2	118
5	Mary COLLING - Steve COLLING		6-1-3	117
6	Jake ANDREW - Craig TABERNER		6-1-3	116
7	Richard CROSS - Tony REARDON		5-0-5	109

Spring Nats - "Two Men and a Truck" Novice Imp Swiss Pairs			WDL	VP
1	Janice OLEVSON - Felix SHTEYMAN		5-0-1	85.8
2	Sherlock SHAO - Hui LI		4-0-2	78.54
3	Simon MOORE - Tony FRANKLIN		4-1-1	77.76
4	Tony WHITE - Mary POYNTEN		4-1-1	75.77
5	Jay NOVAK - Richard CARTER		3-2-1	73.9





Online Teams of 3

Wednesday 27 October 2021
RealBridge, 10am start

NSWBA Restricted Online Teams of 3 (18T)			WDL	VP
1	Elli URBACH - Peta DRAKE - Jay NOVAK - Joanne MORGAN		5-0-1	78.1
2	John SCUDDER - Felix SHTEYMAN - Sharon THOMPSON - Fiona RUSSELL		4-0-2	72.69
3	Martin JOHNSON - Robyn GRACE - Jeny ECONOMY - Niki GEORGALIS		4-0-2	72.45
4	Pauline GUMBY - Keith O'MALLEY - Ross YATES - Mike MORRISSEY		4-0-2	70.14
5	Susan HUMPHRIES - Mary POYNTEN - Tony WHITE - Jake ANDREW		4-0-2	69.21


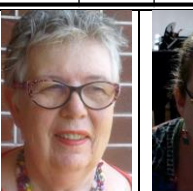

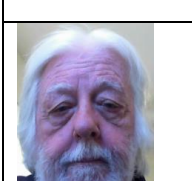



[Link to Teams of Three Results](#)

2021 Metro North Interclub Online Pairs

B5i red points!

[Link to full Inter-Club Results](#)

Interclub Online >100 MP Pairs 14T		Club	%	Pts
1	Walter Cellich & John Adcock	NSBC	57%	7
2	Sandy Carter & Nerida Giles	PBC/T	56%	6
3	Susan Jensen & Annegrete Kolding	PBC/T	56%	5
4	Kathryn Brien & Mary Carter	NSBC	54%	4
5	John Bartrop & Owen Aubrey	EL	54%	3
6	Mike Gibb & Di Agostino	PBC/T	52%	2
7	Megan Cornelius & Timothy Bestelink	PBC/T	50%	1
Interclub Online <100 MP Pairs 9T		Club	%	Pts
1	Tony Reardon & Richard Cross	EL	57%	4
2	Brian Osbourne & Meera Kudva	EL	52%	3
3=	Jo Ampherlaw & Ian Newton	EL	51%	1.5
3=	Leofric Kingsford-Smith & Simon Hunt	PBC/T	51%	1.5
5	Barry Feyder & Tony Smuts	NSBC	51%	

			
Walter Cellich	John Adcock	Kathryn Brien	Mary Cater
			
Tony Reardon	Richard Cross	Brian Osbourne	Meera Kudva

Australian Restricted Butler Pairs Championships

The 2021 **Australian Restricted Butler Pairs Championships** will be held online on the RealBridge platform on 13-16 November. The Restricted Butler will award Gold Points. "Restricted player" is defined as <300mp at 1 Jan, 2021.

Enter now on My ABF via
www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/91

Victor Champion Cup 2021

To be held online using the Real Bridge



2nd – 5th December 2021

The Victor Muntz Restricted Swiss Pairs

- Eligibility: Each player must possess fewer than 300 masterpoints as of 31/12/2020



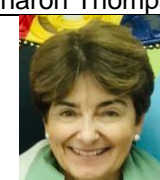
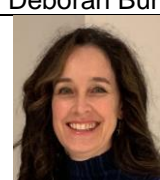
October Monthly Rookie Winners:

[October Monthly Full Winners List](#)

Rookie (<100 MPs):

Pos	Winner October Rookie (<100 MP < Bronze Regional)	No Sess	Master Pts
1=	Richard Cross	8	3.21
1=	Tony Reardon	8	3.21
3	Sharon Thompson	10	2.45
4	Deborah Burt	9	2.13
5	Jane Loveday	6	1.95
6	Jo Ampherlaw	12	1.81
7	Anne Lancaster	11	1.69
8	Ann Aaron	7	1.54
9	Debbie Irwin	8	1.52
10	Lorna Davies	6	1.50

Note): Process is to count Masterpoint accumulation awards in Open sessions during the month.

	
Richard Cross	Tony Reardon
	
Sharon Thompson	Deborah Burt
	
Jane Loveday	Jo Ampherlaw

Teachers Corner



Jessica



Anita



Liz

In 2021, our teachers are **Liz Wilkinson, Jessica Brake, and Anita Curtis.**

Build on the Basics – with Jessica Brake



Join "live" on Zoom – **Wed & Thurs 10am**
OR watch in your own time!

You will be sent:

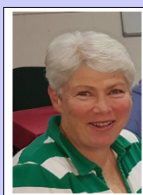
- 1) Recording of the lesson
- 2) Lesson notes
- 3) Quiz (Most weeks)

DATE	TOPIC
November 3-4	Takeout Doubles I
November 10-11	Takeout Doubles II
November 17-18	Hand Analysis (Revision)
November 24-25	Dumping Losers

For information or to sign up email jessicabrakebridge@gmail.com

Anita – Develop Your Skills

NSBC ONLINE Develop Your Skills 2nd Semester 2021 Program
ONLINE WEDNESDAYS at 2pm with Anita Curtis



Develop Your Skills (DYS) is aimed at players who have completed the Build on the Basics course or who have been playing for at least one year. Bidding, declarer play & defence are all targeted, as well as hand analysis to consolidate skills learnt. These lessons will be held **on-line**. You can watch the **video** or participate in the zoom session

Date	Lesson Topic
Wed Oct 13	I don't know how to play this suit (suit combinations – declarer play)
Wed Oct 20	Where is this auction going? (Advancer's options)
Wed Oct 27	Get out of the way! (Unblocking in defence)
Wed Nov 3	DYS Hand analysis 2 – practise what you have learnt
Wed Nov 10	Cross-ruffing (declarer play)
Wed Nov 17	Life after transfers (bidding a new suit after a transfer; minor suit transfers)
Wed Nov 24	I love your transfer (bidding using Super-accepts)
Wed Dec 1	NO LESSON

Visitors \$20; Members \$17

For more information or to register,
email Anita: ac210927@bigpond.net.au



Rakesh Kumar, one of our newer remote RB associate members (Home Club - Southern Highlands) has published his second Bridge book.

[Link to Paul Lavings Book Review](#)

October Monthly Restricted Winners:

[October Monthly Full Winners List](#)

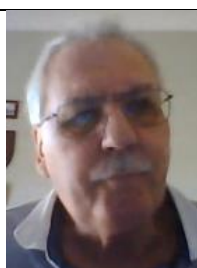
Restricted (<300 MPs)

Note): Process is to count Masterpoint accumulation awards in Open sessions during the month.

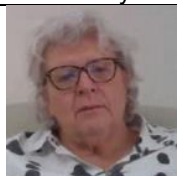
Pos	October Winners Restricted <300 MP <National	No. Sess	Master Pts
1	Felix Shteyman	17	4.12
2	Brian Osborne	17	3.24
3	Fiona Russell	10	2.91
4	Sue Morgan	8	2.6
5	Margaret Regan	7	2.16
6	Sharon Thompson	12	2.01
7	Jo Ampherlaw	11	1.99
8	Mary Blumgart	9	1.97
9	Owen Aubrey	10	1.81
10	Richard Cross	7	1.77



Felix Shteyman



Brian Osbourne



Fiona Russell



Sue Morgan



Margaret Regan



Sharon Thompson

Club Session Results: Open – October Monthly Winners

October Monthly Full Winners List

September Open Winners

Pos	October Open Monthly Winners	No. Sess	Master Pts
1	Judy Osie	20	7.87
2	Lorna Ichilcik	17	7.84
3	Mischa Solar	19	7.74
4	Alicia Mercer	14	5.86
5	John Mottram	29	5.58
6	Elli Urbach	12	5.55
7	Kevin Davies	12	5.34
8	Vera Rowland	28	5.20
9	Tom KISS	19	5.12
10	Helene Pitt	7	4.95

Note): Process is to count Masterpoint accumulation awards in Open sessions during the month.



2022 Online Summer Festival of Bridge

The Summer Festival of Bridge will be held online in 2022. It will commence Thursday the 13th of January and finish on Sunday the 22nd of January.

1. **Mixed Pairs** – Imp Swiss 2 days from 13th
2. **Seniors Teams** – Swiss 2 days 13th → 4T SF+GF
3. **Open Swiss Pairs** – 2 days Sat/Sun 15/16
4. **<750 Swiss Pairs** – 2 days Sat/Sun 15/16
5. **SW Pacific Teams** – 2 days Tue/Wed 18/19 → 16T (NOT) R16 Thurs R8 Fri → SF/GF weekend
6. **Women's Teams** – Thu/Fri 20th → 4T SF/GF
7. **Open MP Swiss Pairs** – Sat/Sun 22/23
8. **<750 MP Swiss Pairs** – Sat/Sun 22/23

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	Ian Maclaren	0418 680 879 imhmaclaren@bigpond.com
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EL Venue	East Lindfield	02 9415 8344
WS Venue	Willis	0478 626 393
CW/NR Venues	Closed	0478 626 393



Defence in Detail

Accurate Defence is the hardest part of our game. A series of articles written for the GC Newsletter by our Manager.

Liam Milne

Sometimes every option looks bad. But some options might be better than others. Sitting West with no one vulnerable, you pick up these cards:

♠ 2 ♥ KT852 ♦ A63 ♣ KJ93

You and your partner have an aggressive auction to push the opponents into slam:

North Deals	♠ 9
None Vul	♥ 9
	♦ KJ98542
	♣ 7654
♠ 2	
♥ KT852	
♦ A63	
♣ KJ93	

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	2♣ ¹
2♥	Pass	5♥ ²	5♠
Pass	6♦ ³	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Strong
2. Pre-emptive
3. Hard to judge.

Against 6♠, you decide to lead the ♥5 from your partnership's suit. Dummy follows with the ♥9, partner covers with the ♥J and declarer wins the ♥A.

T2, Declarer puts the ♦Q on the table. As you win the ♦A, partner follows with the ♦7. Playing reverse count, your partner's card is consistent with both singleton ♦7 and doubleton ♦T7.

You are now faced with an awkward choice of plays. How do you reward partner's aggressive bidding to beat this contract?

A heart seems unlikely to be right. Given that partner holds at least five hearts for his athletic leap to the five level, a heart will either be a ruff in dummy or a ruff and discard. Declarer will then be in the dummy to cash a diamond if partner holds the ♦T.

A spade will stop any such ruff, but might pick up partner's trump holding.

A diamond will work just fine if partner's ♦7 was singleton. If not, declarer will get a discard plus a dummy entry to take a possible trump finesse.

A club will be excellent if partner turns up with the ace, passive if partner has the queen, and will cost a trick if partner has nothing in the suit.

It seems to come down to whether we think declarer or partner has the singleton diamond. Declarer might have passed 6♦ with ♦QT, but partner might not have found this 5♥ bid without some sort of shape.

Declarer's bidding strongly suggests most of the high cards, including solid spades and the ♣A. If declarer has the last diamond, the only play to beat him will be to give partner his ruff before declarer draws trumps and claims. The downsides of the diamond play are limited: given declarer's likely solid trump suit, either the ♠9 or a heart ruff are likely to get declarer over to dummy to cash a diamond if he needs a trick there. Visions of a trump finesse are likely a mirage.

The full deal:

North Deals	♠ 9
None Vul	♥ 9
	♦ KJ98542
	♣ 7654
♠ 2	
♥ KT852	
♦ A63	
♣ KJ93	
	♠ 7654
	♥ QJ763
	♦ 7
	♣ T82
	♠ AKQJT83
	♥ A4
	♦ QT
	♣ AQ

At the table, West switched to trumps after winning the ♦A hoping that declarer had a singleton diamond. Declarer quickly collected the rest. Full marks to declarer for putting maximum pressure on the defence; drawing trumps first would have made it easier for West to duck the ♦A on the first round.

When this hand was played at a weekend congress, 7 tables played in 6♠ of which 4 made it. 3 tables found 6♦, making each time (only beatable on a club lead from East). The remaining 19 tables played in game. Amazingly, two tables went down in 4♠! Indeed, if you returned a diamond at trick three, partner ruffs and plays a trump holding declarer to nine tricks.

Point to remember: when everything looks bad, weigh up the possible cost of each play. Some plays might work out less badly when they are wrong compared to other possibilities which will immediately destroy your chances.



Brent Manley

This Challenge hand was adapted from a Brent Manley article "[Take your best shot-3](#)". Sourced from the ACBL Bridge feed website

Open Challenge Hand 2 -Solution

North	Standard Bidding			
	West	North	East	South (D)
♠ K64				1♠
♥ 72				
♦ 974	PASS	1NT	PASS	2♦
♣ AK742	PASS	3♣	PASS	4♣
	ALL PASS			
South (D)	Bidding Notes			
♠ A8753	1♠	5+♠, Opening Hand		
♥ A64	1NT	2/1 Forcing 5-12 HCP		
♦ AJ65	2♦	Min Better ♦		
♣ 8	3♣	Invite 3♣, 9-11 Bal		
	4♣	To play		

The Bidding

After the North's 1NT (one-round force), his jump rebid of 3♣ showed a limit raise with three-card support. You bid on to game and West starts with the ♥Q. How do you like your chances in 4♣?

Preliminary Analysis

Winners: 2♠+1♥+1♦+2♣= 6. Lots of work

Losers: None but deep ♠, ♥, ♦

Strategies to make 10 tricks

- Ruff 3rd Heart on Table with short trumps
- Set up the Clubs for an extra trick
- Set up the diamonds for an extra trick

After West's heart lead at trick one, you paused to consider how you might make ten tricks. Clearly, you needed trumps to be 3-2. If North held the ♦T instead of the 7 or 4, declarer would have relied on diamonds to make an extra trick. However, the actual suit offered only about one chance in four of being played for two tricks and one loser. You therefore turned your attention to setting up a long club for your 10th trick, a better three-in-five proposition.

Your Solution

- T1 West starts with the ♥Q which you duck (♥2, ♥3 (encouraging signal), ♥4)
- T2 West continues ♥J which you win in Hand ♥A
- T3 You start on your club set-up strategy, ♣8, ♣5, ♣A, ♣3
- T4 You ruff a club back to hand ♣2, ♣6, ♣3, ♣9
- T5 Next you cash the high trump ♣A
- T6 Then the high ♠K, all following.
- T7 You then followed by cashing the ♠K, discarding a low diamond from hand.
- T8 You are pleased to see that the clubs were 4-3, so you ruffed a second club in hand. West choosing not to over-ruff
- T8 A heart ruff returned you to dummy,
- T9 Where you called for the established ♣7, and discarded a second diamond from hand.

All the defenders made was a trump, a heart and a diamond.

Making 4♣. The full deal:

		North		
		♠ K64		
		♥ 72		
		♦ 974		
		♣ AK742		
West			East	
♠ QJ9			♠ T2	
♥ QJT			♥ K9853	
♦ KT32			♦ Q8	
♣ J95			♣ QT63	
		South (D)		
		♠ A8753		
		♥ A64		
		♦ AJ65		
		♣ 8		
4♣/S Lead ♥Q			Vul All Dir: South	

Club Sponsors:

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Retail stockbroking and wealth management

Two Men and a Truck



Removalists for the Eastern Seaboard



This article was based on a Kantar 'Take all your chances' series article in the ACBL "Bridge Feed" website.
[Link to article](#)

Eddie Kantar

Open Challenge Hand 3- Solution

North (D)	Standard Bidding			
♠ KT985	West	North (D)	East	South
♥ A6		PASS	PASS	1♠
♦ J654	PASS	2♠ ⁽¹⁾	PASS	4♠
♣ JT	All Pass			
	Bidding Notes			
South	1♠	5+S, opening hand		
♠ AQ732	2♠ ⁽¹⁾	Dury to see of South is light		
♥ KQ43	4♠	To play		
♦ Q73				
♣ Q				

(1) Your partner's 2♠ was the Drury convention, showing a good raise in spades so you bid 4♠. West starts the defence with the lead of the ♥J. Do you see a way to 10 tricks on this deal?

Preliminary Analysis

Winners 5♠+3♥ = 8 tricks

Losers: 1♣+2♦, deep ♦

Strategies for 10 tricks:

- Ruff ♥ loser 1 extra
- Find ♦AK and make a ♦ - almost impossible!
- End play in clubs, to get opponents to open Diamond suit or ruff sluff discard!

Your Solution

- T1 West starts the defence with the lead of the ♥J, you (Declarer) win with dummy's ♥A
- T23 You then drew all outstanding trumps with the ♠AK
- T4 You then cashed the ♥KQ, pitching a club ♣T from table.
- T6 You then ruffed the losing ♥4 in dummy ♠8.
- T7 You exited with the remaining club ♣J, which was won by East with ♠A, you dropping the ♣Q from hand, voiding both hands of clubs. East relied on his partner to give him accurate count in the suit. After West signalled an odd number of clubs,

East decided to believe that the ♣Q was a singleton.

- T8 So, East shifted and cashed the ♦A, partner encouraging.
- T9 East continued another diamond ♦2. West took the second diamond with his ♦K
- T10 West exited with the ♦9. You claimed the balance, making 10 tricks: five trumps, three hearts, a heart ruff and a diamond.


If East had exited with a club at trick eight instead of a diamond, declarer would have thrown a diamond from hand (short diamonds) and ruffed in dummy. As a result, he would have lost only two diamonds and a club, also making his contract.

Note that there would have been no happy ending for declarer if West had led a club at trick one as no end play is then possible.

The full deal:

		North (D)		
		♠ KT985		
West		♥ A6	East	
♠ J		♦ J654	♠ 64	
♥ JT97		♣ JT	♥ 852	
♦ K92			♦ AT8	
♣ K9852			♣ A7643	
		South		
4♠/S		♠ AQ732	Vul EW	
Lead ♥J		♥ KQ43	Dir: N	
		♦ Q73		
		♣ Q		

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Brent Manley

This Challenge hand was adapted from a Brent Manley article "[Slow Down and Think](#)". Sourced from the ACBL Bridge feed website

Open Challenge Hand 4 Solution

North	Standard Bidding			
♠ JT65	West	North (D)	East	South
♥ T4				1♦
♦ 65	1♥	X	3♥	4♠
♣ AT974	ALL PASS			
	Bidding Notes			
South (D)	1♦	4+♦, Opening Hand		
♠ AKQ9	1♥	5+♥ Vul overcall		
♥ J6	X	Neg X, shows C/S Few Values		
♦ AKJ972	3♥	Pre-emptive raise		
♣ 5	4♠	To play		

The Bidding

The auction was the same at both tables in a teams match. The play at both tables began in the same way:

T1-2 West cashed the ♥AK

T3 West then shifted to the ♣K, taken by the ♣A on table.

Preliminary Analysis

Winners: 4♠+2♦+1♣

Top Losers: ♥AK cashed, deep diamonds

Your Solution

- T4 You continued with a ♦5 to the ♦A in hand,
T5 You then led the ♠9 to dummy's ♠T – both EW following suit
T6 You then played another diamond toward your hand, which seems to be recommended practice on deals of this type. But East, discarded C3 and South won with the DK.
T7 You then ruffed a diamond D2 with the ♠J
T8 You then returned to hand with a trump ♠5 to ruff a second diamond in dummy. East again discarded a heart and now you as declarer could only make two remaining trumps for a one-trick set.

When your team-mates came back to the table, the result on this board was a **12 Imp loss**. They were playing against an expert declarer, and they claimed there was nothing they could have done to defeat the contract.

- T4 At the other table, the expert declarer also led a diamond to the ♦A.
T5 However, instead of playing a trump, declarer tried to cash the ♦K. East ruffed in with the ♠2.
T6 East then played another club. The expert Declarer ruffed this with the ♠9
T7 Then ruffed a diamond in dummy with the ♠T.
T8 Next, declarer returned to his hand via a low trump to the ♠Q
T9 Then he ruffed another diamond with the ♠J, thereby establishing two long diamond tricks in hand.
T10+ Now declarer drew the remaining defensive trumps with the ♠AK and claimed the rest of the tricks.

He made four trumps, three diamonds, two diamond ruffs and the ♣A for a total of 10 tricks. The full deal:

	North	
West	♠ JT65	East
♠ 3	♥ T4	♠ 8742
♥ AK983	♦ 65	♥ Q752
♦ QT82	♣ AT974	♦ 4
♣ KQ2	South (D)	♣ J863
	♠ AKQ9	
6♣/S	♥ J6	Vul All
Lead ♥A	♦ AKJ972	Dlr: South
	♣ 5	

Australian Open Butler Pairs Championships

The **2021 Australian Open Butler Pairs Championships** will be held online on the RealBridge platform on 13-16 November. The Open Butler will award PQPs and Gold Points.

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Grand Slam at the club

East (D)		Standard Bidding		
♠ AKQT	West	North	East (D)	South
♥ AQJT7			2♣	
♦ AQ7	2♦		2♥	
♣ A	3♥		3♠	
	4♦		4NT	
West	5♣	7♥ or 7NT		
♠ 832	Bidding Notes			
♥ K96	2♣	Game force 26HCP, 2/3 loser hand!		
♦ KT3	2♦	waiting bid		
♣ Q653	2♥	5+♥		
	3♥	3+♥ support (stronger bid than 4♥)		
	3♠	Cue Slam interest		
	4♦	Cue Diamond Control A/K		
	4NT	Keycard (♥)		
	5♣	4 or 1, partner has ♥K & ♦K		
	7♥, 7NT	Pairs - 7NT better. Imps 7♥		

You are sitting East in a match point event at the club. You pick up a monster 26Hcp and 2-3 loser hand. You open with a GF 2♣, 2♦ (waiting), and you show your hearts, and partner raises to 3♥. You cue 3♠ expressing slam interest and partner cues 4♦. You check on keycards (1 - must have ♥K), and you need to place the contract. You can count 12 top tricks, with ♠T a likely 13th.

At pairs I would try 7NT (or at least 7♥). South leads ♥5 and Dummy tracks

Preliminary analysis

Winners: 3♠+5♥+3♦+1♠=12 one short

Losers None

Strategies for the 13th Trick

- Spades break 33 or ♠J drops early – 1 extra trick
- Spades long with North, Finesse ♠J
- ♠K falls singleton (Pitch ♠T on the ♠Q)
- ♠K is held by the opponent with long spades and can be squeezed out of a trick

South starts the defence of your 7NT contract by leading the ♥5 (safe neutral lead)

- T1 South leads ♥5, You win this in hand, preserving your limited entries to dummy.
- T2/3 You cash two top Spades, getting the bad news that South has the length in spades. Now only ♠K drops and the squeeze option are left to make the contract!
- T4 You cash ♠A, but no ♠K falls. That leaves only the squeeze for your contract.
- T5-8 You cash the 4 high hearts, your full attention is on South. He discards, a spade (keeping ♠J9) a club and a diamond.
- T9-10 You cash the ♦AQ (south following)
- T11 You lead the 3rd diamond to the ♦K, and south is squeezed. He has to keep the ♠K, as you are now on Table. And discards another spade!

T12+ You cash ♠Q, Dropping the now singleton ♠J and then cash the ♠T for contract. 7NT bid and made for a top board!

Full hand

North		East (D)	
♠ 6		♠ AKQT	
♥ 8432		♥ AQJT7	
♦ 962		♦ AQ7	
♣ J9742		♣ A	
South		Vul All	
♠ J9754		Dir: E	
♥ 5			
♦ J854			
♣ KT8			

The hand was played in a 22 Table session at NSBC.

The match point board results:

[Link to full results on the board](#)

Contract	Lead	Tricks	Frequency	EW Score	NS MP	EW MP	Comment
7NT	H5	13	x3	2220	2	40	Shared TOP
7H	H5	13	x2	2210	7	35	near top
6NT	C4	13	x1	1470	10	32	Average+
6H	H5	13	x8	1460	19	23	Average
6NT	H5	12	x1	1440	28	14	Poor 12
6H	H5	12	x1	1430	30	12	tricks
3NT	H5	13	x1	720	32	10	34 HCP & no slam?
4H	H5	13	x3	710	36	6	
3NT	H5	12	x1	690	40	2	
7NT	H5	12	x1	-100	42	0	Bottom

You as an EW player

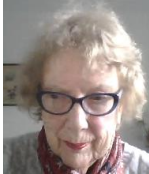
- You have to be in 7 to score well,
- a small slam to get an average,
- else a poor scores.

The squeeze end position, after you have cashed **all outstanding free winners**, with just 3 cards left in each hand, as you lead the ♦7 towards dummy's singleton ♦K

North ..does not matter
West: ♠Q, ♠8, ♦K East ♠QT, ♦7
South has ♠K, ♠J9

South must keep ♠K as you are entering dummy, which holds ♠Q (Treat Card) and is squeezed out of his Spade guard as he must discard a spade. Hence you know the ♠J will now fall!

The 3 successful 7NT Declarers were:-

		
Pam Potter	Heath Henn	Peter Bendlestein

Open Congress Scene

Congress Calendars

NSWBA – [Link to NSWBA Calendar](#)

ABF – [Link to ABF Calendar](#)

Members doing well

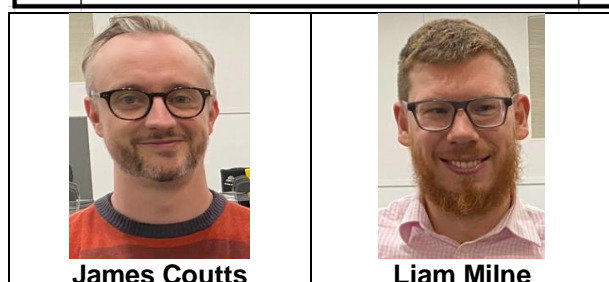
[Link to full Spring Nationals Results](#)

Spring Nats - TBIB Open Teams (Qual 52T)			WDL	VP
Q1	Tony Nunn, J Hunt, I Thomson, Paul Dalley, R Klinger, M Mullamphy	6-0-2	125	
Q2	Sophie Ashton, S Hans, A Hung, G Tislevoll, N Jacob, G Joel	6-0-2	112	
Q3	A Johannsson, Avril Zets, Liz Sylvester, Les Grewcock	7-0-1	103	
Q4	P Gue, Antony Burke, P Chan, A De Luca	6-0-2	101	
5	D Wiltshire, Liam Milne, E Moskovsky, James Coutts	6-0-2	100	
6	Mathew Vadas, A Bach, A Dalley, M Whibley	5-1-2	99	
7	J Millington, L Fisher, B Jones, J Simpson, R Simpson, B Fisher	6-0-2	99	
8	David Beauchamp, P Gosney, Tony Leibowitz, J Tutty, M Brown	5-0-3	96	



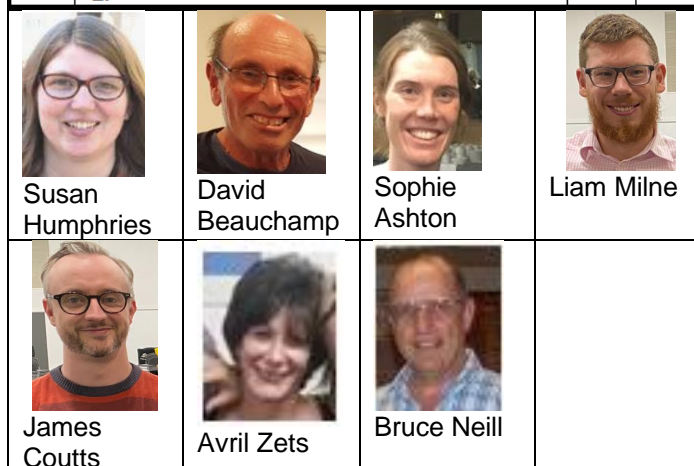
Spring Nats - TBIB Open Teams Finals			Semi	GF
SF1	Tony Nunn, J Hunt, I Thomson, Paul Dalley, R Klinger, M Mullamphy	79		
	A Johannsson, Avril Zets, Liz Sylvester, Les Grewcock	100	75	
SF2	Sophie Ashton, S Hans, A Hung, G Tislevoll, N Jacob, G Joel	176	134	
	P Gue, Antony Burke, P Chan, A De Luca	53		

Spring Nats - Dick Cummings Open MP Swiss Pairs (51T)			WDL	VP
1	James COUTTS - Liam MILNE	9-0-1	147	
2	Chris DEPASQUALE - Michael COURTNEY	7-0-3	137	
3	Daniel MAO - Ming ZHANG	6-4-0	129	
4	Lakshmi SUNDERASAN - Fraser REW	7-0-3	128	
5	Catherine ZHANG - Cevat EMUL	4-5-1	127	










Spring Nats -Butler Open Imp Swiss Pairs (92P)			WDL	VP
1	Jeremy FRASER-HOSKIN - Paul CARSON	4-1-1	85.18	
2	Geoffrey JOHNSON - Alan RACE	5-0-1	83.59	
3	Lavy LIBMAN - Tomer LIBMAN	4-2-0	82.87	
4	Marina DARLING - Hugh GROSVENOR	6-0-0	80.90	
5	Bruce NEILL - Mike HUGHES	5-1-0	79.57	

Spring Nats - Mixed Open Teams (Qual 40T)			WDL	VP
1	Susan <u>Humphries</u> , Dennis Humphries, Stephanie Jacob, Tom Jacob	7-0-1	107.72	
2	Warren Lazer, Pauline Gumby, David <u>Beauchamp</u> , Jodi Tutty	5-0-3	101.46	
3	Ilena MOSKOVSKY - Sophie <u>ASHTON</u> - David WILTSHIRE - Liam <u>MILNE</u> - James <u>COUTTS</u>	6-0-2	100.81	
4	Avril <u>ZETS</u> - Peter BUCHEN - Marilyn CHADWICK - Kim MORRISON	6-0-2	98.49	
5	Tania LLOYD - George KOZAKOS - Jan CORMACK - Hugh GROSVENOR	3-2-3	95.55	
6	Sebastian YUEN - Christy GEROMBOUX - Will JENNER-O'SHEA - Vanessa BROWN	4-2-2	94.64	
7	Robert KROCHMALIK - Viv WOOD - Sue LUSK - Bruce <u>NEILL</u> - Paul LAVINGS - Helen LAVINGS	5-1-2	94.19	
8	Liz <u>SYLVESTER</u> - Eileen LI - Peter GILL - Yumin LI	4-2-2	93.3	



Spring Nats - Peline Open Imp Swiss Pairs 25T			WDL	VP
1	Carolyn MILLER - Kevin STEFFENSEN	5-0-1	82.77	
2	Karen CREET - Louise BRASSIL	5-1-0	82.41	
3	Leon MEIER - John DAVIDSON	4-2-0	77.02	
4	Lavy LIBMAN - Tomer LIBMAN	4-1-1	76.62	
5	Tony HUTTON - Malcolm CARTER	3-1-2	74.38	
6	Patrick NEARY - Liz WILKINSON	4-0-2	74.19	

Spring Nats - NSWBA Jacarandra Teams 28T		WDL	VP
1	Susan HUMPHRIES - Liam MILNE - James COUTTS - Jessica BRAKE	5-0-1	88
2	Kim MORRISON - David WESTON - Bruce NEILL - Julian FOSTER	5-0-1	84
3	Matt MULLAMPHY - Peter BUCHEN - Terry BROWN - Ron KLINGER	5-0-1	83
4	Rakesh KUMAR - Mitch DOWLING - Jake ANDREW - Julian ABEL	5-0-1	80
5	Maurits VAN DER VLUGT - Andre KORENHOF - Tony NUNN - Paul DALLEY	4-0-2	76
6	Jane DAWSON - Jane BEEBY - Michael WILKINSON - Kate MCCALLUM	4-1-1	72

			
Susan Humphries	Liam Milne	James Coutts	Jessica Brake
			
David Weston	Bruce Neill	Terry Brown	

NSWBA Open Online Teams of 3 (10T)		WDL	VP
1	Andrew PEAKE - Jane BISCOE - Ellen BORDA - Madeleine GRAY	6-0-0	78.6
2	Bruce NEILL - Mary ATKINSON - Thomas FISCHER - Barbara TEMPLE	4-0-2	73.2
3	Patsy MCCARTNEY - Alexander COOK - Catherine CHAFFEY - Heath HENN	3-0-3	68.8

			
Andrew	Jane	Ellen	Madeleine

[Link to Teams of Three Results](#)

2021 Online Victor Champion Cup

The VCC is now joining the growing number of National events that will be held Online using the RealBridge platform (December 2nd – 5th). All 3 events in this year's program will award Gold Points









1. The Victor Muntz Restricted Swiss Pairs
2. The Wally Scott Open Swiss Pairs (with PQPs)
3. The Victor Champion Cup (with PQPs)

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Interclub Online >750MP Pairs 12T		Club	%	Pts
1=	Kevin Davies & Stephen Bock	NSBC	56%	5.5
1=	Wei Zhang & William Zhang	EL	56%	5.5
3	Yumin Li & Peter Jeffery	NSBC	54%	4
4	Mark & Julie Guthrie	EL	52%	3
5	Lyn Smith & Jocelyn Bertram	PBC/T	51%	2
6=	Alan Davies & Vivien Eldridge	PBC/T	49%	0.3
6=	Liz Fanos & Margaret Foster	NSBC	49%	0.3
6=	Lorna Ichilcik & Helene Pitt	NSBC	49%	0.3
Interclub Online >300MP Pairs 10T		Club	%	Pts
1	Barbara Gassmann & Patrick Stark	PBC/T	59%	5
2	Jane & Philip Beeby	EL	53%	4
3	Malcolm Martin & Ian MacLaren	NSBC	53%	3
4	Gillian Richmond & Penny Cockbill	NSBC	52%	2
5	Nick Edginton & Rhonda Graham	PBC/T	51%	1

[Link to full Inter-Club Results](#)

			
Kevin	Steven	Wei Zhang	William Zhang
			
Jane	Phillip	Malcolm	Ian

Tomaree Open Swiss Pairs Congress (19T)		WDL	VP
1	HUI LI / PATRICK JIANG	5-0-1	88
2	PETER GILL & JANE DAWSON	5-0-1	80
3	KAREN CREET & ANITA CURTIS	5-1-0	76
4	SALLY CLARKE & GARRY CLARKE	5-0-1	75
Tomaree Open Swiss Teams Congress (22T)		WDL	VP
1	DAVID WESTON - KIM MORRISON - JENNA GIBBONS - JULIAN FOSTER	6-0-0	99
2	PETER GILL - GEORGE FLEISCHER - MARTIN BLOOM - TONY NUNN	4-0-2	78
3	DENNIS RAYMOND - ALEC GILLESPIE - PETER LAMEKS - ERNIE NEWMAN	4-0-2	76
	SHARON MAYO - GREG MAYO - ROS ROWORTH - HEATH HENN	4-1-1	73

[Link to full Tomaree results](#)

			
Peter	Jane	Anita	Gary & Sally
			
David	George	Martin	Tony