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Open Challenge Hand 1 (Bid and Play)

North (D) ♠ 5 ♥ J942 ♦ AQJ653 ♣ J5	South ♠ KQJ ♥ KQ83 ♦ 742 ♣ A74
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All Vul, Dealer: South

West	North	East	South (D)
			1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Assuming you can reach the 4♥ contract, West leads ♠3

How do you plan to make your game contract?

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Open Challenge Hand 2 (Bid and Play)

North ♠ 86542 ♥ 873 ♦ A93 ♣ T5	South (D) ♠ AKQJT ♥ AKQ ♦ Q74 ♣ AQ
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Nil Vul, Dealer: South

Assuming you can bid and reach the 6♠ contract. West leads the ♠9, a lucky lead into your ♠AQ

Can you see your way to 12 tricks on this deal?

Open Challenge Hand 3 (Bid and Play)

North ♠ J962 ♥ K532 ♦ Q85 ♣ A2	South (D) ♠ AK7543 ♥ QJ ♦ A62 ♣ Q5
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All Vul, Dealer: South

West	North	East	South (D)
			1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Assuming you can reach the 4♠ contract, West leads ♥T

How do you plan to make your game contract?

Next Thursday night event:


Winter (Gender) MP Pairs Championships
RealBridge in 2022

2 Thursday Nights 16th & 30th June
7pm Start 2 nights only – Men's & Women's Pairs
Prize Pool: 2x \$200, \$100

This event incorporates the 60th running of the NSBC "Men's Pairs Championships" & the "Women's Pairs Championships".

* Results (cc) will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Browlie Cup)
The event may be a combined field dependant on entries

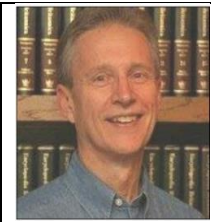
Director: **Ronnie Ng**
 Convenor: **Gary Barwick** M: 0413 884 805
 Entry Management: Enter by **MyABF**
 Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

2021 59th Men's Pairs Champions: **Bill Nash & James Wallis**
 2021 59th Women's Pairs Champions: **Judy Marks & Julianne Rocks**

\$28 / Members (\$14/Night PP) \$34 / Non Member (Bridge Credits)



♦ BM – Managing Assets



Brent Manley

This Challenge hand was adapted from a Brent Manley article “[Managing Assets](#)”. Sourced from the ACBL Bridge feed website

North (D)		Standard Bidding			
		West	North	East	South (D)
♠ 5					1NT
♥ J942					
♦ AQJ653		Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
♣ J5		Pass	4♥	All Pass	
		Bidding Notes			
South		1NT	15-17 Bal		
♠ KQJ		2♣	Stayman		
♥ KQ83		2♥	4♥		
♦ 742		4♥	to play		
♣ A74					

The bidding was the same at both tables in a team match and each declarer received the lead of a fourth highest ♠3.

- T1 West leads ♣3, Both declarers played the ♣J from dummy and both Easts covered with the ♣K. Neither declarer wanted a diamond shift at this point, so they both won the first trick with the ♠A
- T2 Both declarers then led a low trump towards dummy. West winning with the ♥A, East following low ♥5.
- T3 Both Wests exited with the ♣8 to East's ♠T.
- T4 At both tables: the ♠A cashed,
- T5 Then the ♣2 exit.

Your Solution

- T5 At your table, you ruffed the third club in the dummy ♥4
- T6-8 Then then drew trumps with the ♥JKQ.
- T9-10 You then cashed the high ♠KQ
- T11 You then led a low diamond to the ♦Q.
- T12 Alas, East discarded a spade on the ♦A and you had to concede a diamond trick for a one-trick set.

Can you improve on your line of play?

The expert declarer at the other table was more careful.

- T5 He ruffed the third round of clubs with the ♥9
- T6 Then continued with the ♥J. When East followed low, he overtook the jack with the ♥Q. East showing out!
- T7 He was then in the correct hand to take the diamond finesse, which he did, the ♦Q.
- T8 When that succeeded, He led dummy's preserved ♥4, winning with the ♥8 when East followed with the ♥7.
- T9 After drawing the last trump with his ♥K,
- T10+He then cashed his ♠KQ winners
- T12 Then led a diamond to the ♦J.
- T13 He had the ♦A for his tenth trick and the contract.

The full deal:

		North			
		♠ 5			
West		♥ J942		East	
♠ T8643		♦ AQJ653		♠ A972	
♥ A		♣ J5		♥ T765	
♦ KT8				♦ 9	
♣ Q983		South (D)		♣ KT62	
4♥/S Lead ♣3		♠ KQJ		Vul EW Dir: South	
		♥ KQ83			
		♦ 742			
		♣ A74			

♦ ML – Different Suit Combination



Adapted from a hand on the ACBL bridge feed website, "[A Different Suit Combination](#)" by bridge Author **Mike Lawrence**.

North	Standard Bidding			
♠ 86542	West	North	East	South (D)
♥ 873				2♣
♦ A93	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
♣ T5	Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣
	Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
South (D)	Pass	5♦	Pass	5NT
♠ AKQJT	Pass	6♣	All Pass	
♥ AKQ	Bidding Notes			
♦ Q74	2♣	Game Force		
♣ AQ	2♦	Waiting bid		
	2♣	5+♠		
	3♣	Support (better than 4♣)		
	4♣	Cue ♠A, requests Cues		
	4♦	Cue ♦A		
	4NT	Keycard (♠)		
	5♦	1 or 4 Keycards (♦A)		
	5NT	Any Kings		
	6♣	No		

The Bidding

You (sitting South) opened the bidding with a game force 2♣ bid, and North bid 2♦, waiting. South bids 2♣ (you might have rebid 3NT), but he felt that if there was a spade fit, there might be a slam in spades. North raised to 3♣ and South made a 4C cue bid, partner 4D cue, followed by you asking for keycards. South then asked for kings and North signed off in 6♣, which said he had no kings. So, you pass 6♣

West started the defence against 6♣ with the lead of the ♠9.

South thought for a second about whether North had enough to raise spades and then to cue-bid, but it occurred to him that it was more important to concentrate on the play rather than the bidding. Bidding discussions could wait.

Preliminary Planning

Top Winners: 5♠+3♥+1♦+2♣ = 11 Tricks
 Top Losers: None, but maybe 2 ♦ losers.
 Strategies for 12 tricks

- Lucky club lead for 2 clubs
- Draw trumps
- Strip Clubs & Hearts from each hand
- Decide on how to play diamonds for 2 tricks

One of the first things South saw was that in spite of dummy having five trumps, there was no way to get to dummy other than via the ♦A. Given the paucity of entries to dummy, South was pleased to get a friendly club lead.

T1 West ♠9, ♠5, ♠K, South winning ♠A
 T2-3 South Cashed two rounds ♠AK of trumps, West having one and East two. On the second spade, West discarded a small club ♣2.
 T4 Cash ♣Q, everybody following
 T5-7 Next South cashed the three rounds of hearts ♥AKQ to void NS in hearts. West following with only one heart.

Now you have been counting the opponents hand shape? West had two major singletons, marking him with eleven cards in the minors. East, in turn, was marked at this point with two spades, six hearts, and at least 2 clubs.

Now you have to make the decision on how to play in diamonds for the required 2 tricks!

The easiest of these plays would be to lead to the ♦A and lead back to the ♦Q. If East has the ♦K, slam will make. But does East likely have the ♦K?

Go back and review the bidding. There are some clues there that you should note.

The first clue comes after North cue-bid 4♦. Many East players make gratuitous doubles when they have the king of this suit for a lead. This double can often help West with his opening lead problems. East might have doubled 4♦ **but he did not**. Definitely a clue of some substance. Then, on the next round, South asked for Keycards and North bid 5♦. Again, East had the opportunity to double for a diamond lead. And again, East did not do that. Against many opponents these two omissions add up to a big clue that East does not hold the ♦K. This is the kind of judgment issue you

sometimes need to make in the play of the hand.

Let us assume you trust your instincts and feel that East does not have the **♦K**. Perhaps East passed with a level of boredom that suggested he had no interest in this auction at all.

Now, if you decide that West has the **♦K**, what can you do about it?

Here is a helpful question. You know East has 2♠-6♥-?-♦-2♣? shape. Which minor suit do you think he will have more of? More clubs or diamonds?

Given you have six diamonds and four clubs in the NS hands, it is more likely that East has three or four clubs and one or two diamonds. West lead the ♣9 lead, and since the ♣J has not fallen and it is more likely in the East hand. Here is where all this is leading. If you decide that West has four or more diamonds to the king, you have a couple of possible plays.

One is to lead a small diamond towards dummy. If West has the **♦KJT (xx)** he will play the **♦T** to force a trick. You would allow him to win and now he is endplayed.

If, however, if West has **♦KT** or **♦KJ**, your play will not work because East will have the **♦J** or **♦T**. West will be able to play low and now will get his two diamond tricks later. I am offering this hand and thinking to help you see the possibility of the following line.

Lead the **♦Q**. West will cover **♦K** and you will win with the **♦A**. If East follows with the dropping of the **♦T** or **♦J**, you come back to your hand via trumps, to lead a diamond towards the nine. West probably has the missing honour card, but it does not really matter. If East has it, he will win and hopefully because he is out of diamonds, he will have to give you a sluff and a ruff.

If East plays a small diamond, you lead the little diamond from dummy. If East started with the **♦Jx** or the **♦Tx** of diamonds, the defence will not be able to take their two tricks because the diamond suit will be blocked.

It is not my intent to say that the line I showed here is perfect. It is, in fact, rather odd. But given the facts from the bidding, the early play

of the cards, and the likely shapes of EW hands, it becomes reasonable. Something to think about.

Here is the entire hand.

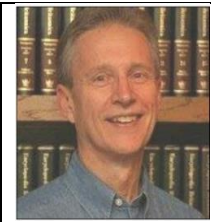
	North	
	♠ 86542	
West	♥ 873	East
♠ 3	♦ A93	♠ 97
♥ 4	♣ T5	♥ JT9652
♦ KJ852		♦ T6
♣ 987642	South (D)	♣ KJ3
	♠ AKQJT	
6♣/S	♥ AKQ	Vul Nil
Lead ♣9	♦ Q74	Dir: S
	♣ AQ	

West might have led his singleton heart instead of the club. It turns out that a heart lead would have been better, since South does not have enough entries to take a finesse in clubs & diamonds. But that aside, the following leading rule is still a good one.

RULE

If your opponents' ask for aces and then ask for kings, it is assumed that they have all the aces. So, do not lead a singleton against one of these sequences because you will not get a quick ruff. What may happen (it does not happen here on the example hand) is that when you lead a singleton, it helps declarer when he is missing a queen or jack in the suit you are leading.

♦ BM – Plan Ahead



Brent Manley

This Challenge hand was adapted from a Brent Manley article “[Plan Ahead](#)”. Sourced from the ACBL Bridge feed website

North		Standard Bidding			
♠ J962		West	North	East	South (D)
♥ K532					1♠
♦ Q85		Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
♣ A2		All Pass			
		Bidding Notes			
South (D)		1♠	5+S, Opening Hand		
♠ AK7543		3♠	Limit bid .. See Note		
♥ QJ		4♠	to play		
♦ A62					
♣ Q5		Note	Bergen 3♦, alternate ed		

After your partner’s limit raise in spades, you have an easy continuation to game.

- T1 West starts with the ♥T. You play low from dummy. East wins with the ♥A, ♥J from hand
- T2 East continues with the ♥7 to your ♥Q and West’s ♥6, ♥3 from dummy.
- T3 The contract looked easy until you cash the ♠K and West discards a club.

What is your plan for getting to 10 tricks on this deal?

Solution

After getting the bad news in the trump suit, declarer could see that he nine tricks, and the tenth trick appeared to depend on West holding the ♦K. However, declarer did not rush to explore that possibility as he saw an extra chance: from the carding in hearts, East appeared to have exactly three cards in the suit. If that were the case, declarer saw that a partial elimination might work.

- T4 So, after cashing the ♠A,
- T5 You crossed to dummy via clubs ♣5 to the ♣A
- T6 You continued by cashing the high ♥K, throwing the ♣Q from hand.
- T7 Then you ruffed dummy’s remaining club ♣2, thereby eliminating the suit.
- T8 Now, instead of playing a diamond, you exited with a small trump. East found himself on lead with the ♠Q, with only minor-suit cards remaining. If he played a club, declarer would discard a diamond from hand and ruff in dummy: he would lose only a trump, a heart and a diamond.
- T9 In practice, East exited with a diamond ♦4 and this ran to dummy’s ♦Q.

You claimed 10 tricks, conceding a diamond.

You made five trumps, two hearts, two diamonds and one club.

The full deal:

		North			
				East	
West		♠ J962		♠ QT8	
		♥ K532		♥ A74	
		♦ Q85		♦ KT4	
		♣ A2		♣ KT86	
		South (D)			
		♠ AK7543			
		♥ QJ			
		♦ A62			
		♣ Q5			

4♠/S
Lead ♥T

Vul Both
Dir: South

♦ JF – Hand Analysis



Julian Foster (many times NSW representative) analysing (bidding & play) on an interesting hand from a club session. Sourced SBC Wisdom articles.

		North (D)	Dir=N Vul=nil	
West		♠ 73	East	
♠ A4	♥ AQJ842	♥ K965	♠ QT9652	♥ 7
♦ A9765	♣ --	♦ T53	♦ KJ84	♣ A3
		♣ 9542		
		South		
		♠ KJ8		
		♥ T3		
		♦ Q		
		♣ KQJT876		

This is a Board from a club game, which has a potential grand slam in diamonds, which is pretty hard to bid (in fact no pair managed to play in diamonds at all!) But it also contains some interesting general bidding points.

Pass ?

After North passes, what should East open? Some Easts opened 2♠ (either as a weak two or as a multi with spades and a minor) and some passed. I would have done neither of those things:

A weak two is basically a pre-empt suggesting to partner that this suit is all your hand is playable in. But that's not the case here – you have a perfectly playable 2nd suit. And I think the hand is too strong for a weak two which is usually about 6-9 points. This has **10 points and good shape**.

A bid showing a weak hand with spades and a minor also isn't ideal because it typically shows only 5 spades. Partner holding 2 will assume you do not have a spade fit when in fact you do. Even though you only have 10 points, I think this hand is a clear 1♠ opening bid. If you count losers you have 2♠+1♥+2♦+1♣=6. A 6-loser hand is well worth opening (7 losers is often an average opening bid). The more you play bridge the more you learn that distribution is actually far more important than high card points. Aces and Kings in a suit may not be

worth any points if your opponent is void and can trump them!

Pass – 1♠

If East does open 1♠ then what should South do? To me the answer depends on what has already happened. Here my partner (North) has already passed. That makes it very unlikely we have anything on our way, and I just want to make life difficult for my opponents. So, I would bid 3♣ to get in the way. Most people play that as a weak jump overcall (like a pre-empt) but, even though I have 12 points, I know partner has at most 10 so we are not going anywhere. But if East had been dealer and had just opened 1♠, now I would overcall 2♣ (showing a decent overcall hand). That's because this time my partner could still have a good hand as well so we might easily make a game our way – therefore I want to leave room to explore it.

West has a hugely powerful hand with only 4 losers and once partner opens 1♠ they should be thinking that slam is certainly possible if a fit is found.

Pass 1♠ 3♣

West has a fairly easy forcing 3♥ bid and now the spotlight falls back on East.

Pass 1♠ 3♣ 3♥
Pass

Although you (West) do have a Club stopper, ♣A3 is not ideal to bid 3NT because you cannot hold the Ace up very long. I would prefer to just bid 3♠ – to show I have an extra one (I also prefer 3♠ to 4♦ because it still leaves room for partner to bid 3NT if they want to).

After Pass 1♠ 3♣ 3♥
Pass 3♠ Pass

West will now either raise to 4♠ (which is a bit conservative, and East will just pass) or will bid 4♦ (over which East probably now raises to 5♦ and West should then bid 6♦ given their extra shape and controls).

Key points to note

- Shape beats points every time. A 10 count with a 64 shape is worth a 1 level opening bid.
- There is not always a single “right” bid on every hand – it can vary depending on what has already happened in the auction.

More advanced points

Notice the difference if south only overcalls 2♣. Now there is much more room. A possible auction might go

Pass	1♠	2♣!	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♦.

- West's 4♦ bid is key here. It shows a hand interested in slam because it has **moved again over 3NT**. It is also repeating the suit they bid second, so it shows at least 5 diamonds – but they started by bidding hearts, so they also have at least 5+ hearts. That shows at least 10 of their 13 cards so is very descriptive. But they only have room to do that because they could start with 2♥.
- When they had to start with 3♥ there was not enough bidding space left to bid ♥ and then ♦ twice.
- East's 5♣ bid is a cue bid – showing a good hand for the last bid suit (diamonds) and control in clubs. Note that they should do this even though they only have 10 points. Their hand has become very powerful now they know there are 5 diamonds opposite.
- When West hears 5♣ that should be enough to bid slam – they can now picture the ♣A providing a discard for their losing ♠4 (and that's only needed if partner doesn't have the ♠K). So, they just need to avoid losing 2 tricks in ♥ and ♦ to make slam – very possible.
- In fact, I would probably be more worried about making a possible 13 tricks!
- Note that neither partner bid blackwood at any point. West's hand is not suitable for blackwood because it has a void. If partner shows 1 key card in diamonds, how do you know if it's the ♦K (critical) or the ♣A (which might be useless)?

East's hand could bid blackwood but isn't strong enough to move towards slam on its own – West has the really powerful hand here and they are the one who should take control.

♦ RK – 2021 NSBC TBIB Teams



Rakesh Kumar

A NSBC member, **Rakesh Kumar** wrote in the NSWBA eCongress News, about last year's NSBC TBIB Teams
Rakesh Kumar describes himself as an enthusiast who makes enough errors to have plenty of material for bridge columns.

Last year, the annual North Shore Bridge Club Festival was a victim of the Sydney outbreak of the delta variant of COVID-19. With commendable speed, the organisers switched the face-to-face events to a RealBridge Event

The TBIB Teams on the Sunday, which had a field of 38 teams, was won by **Peter Jeffery - Yumin Li - Bob Sebesfi - Wayne Zhu**. The TBIB Teams featured many deals with fairly wild distributions and there were challenges in the bidding, play and defence. It was clearly not a day to be a chicken. Keeping that in mind, here are a few problems for you.

Firstly, with both sides vulnerable, you hold this hand as dealer:

♠	8
♥	JT98765
♦	Q
♣	K764

What if anything will you bid?

Secondly, you hold:

♠	8
♥	8742
♦	542
♣	QJ832

This time you are not vulnerable, and the opponents are vulnerable. LHO passes and partner opens 1♥. RHO jumps to 4♠. Will you bid?

And finally, with both sides vulnerable, your sitting East, and partner passes, and RHO opens 1♥. You make a weak jump overcall of 2♠ but the opponents promptly bid on to 4♥. You lead your singleton ♦T and see the dummy:

♠	AJ5
♥	AQ74
♦	942
♣	K73
♠	K987432
♥	982
♦	T
♣	A9

Partner wins the ♥A and returns ♦3 for you to ruff. What next?

Here is the board associated with the first problem. While conventional teaching would suggest that it is most unwise to pre-empt with a topless weak suit when vulnerable, most participants in the TBIB Teams showed their disdain for such teaching. Fifteen of those seated North opened 3♥! Another 10 opened either a weak 2♥ or a multi-2♦, which was perhaps a more reasonable compromise. Dealer North, NS Vul

♠	8
♥	JT98765
♦	Q
♣	K764
♠	K
♥	4
♦	T875432
♣	AT52
♠	JT95
♥	A3
♦	AK96
♣	J98
♠	AQ76432
♥	KQ2
♦	J
♣	Q3

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	4	1	-
S	-	-	4	1	-
E	3	4	-	-	3
W	3	4	-	-	3

In any case, opening with a weak bid in hearts usually paid off. Nine of those who did so were raised to 4♥ and allowed to play there, so they made it. At 6 other tables, West played in 5♦ after a takeout double by East, but usually went

one down on the lead of ♠8. The remainder went on to 5♥, which went one down, doubled on 2 occasions.

However, at the 4 tables where North did not make a weak bid, East opened 1♦ and, over South's 1♠ overcall, was promptly raised to 5♦. Declared from the other side, this made every time, including once when doubled. Another 3 made 5♦ from the West seat on a heart lead, or when South failed to give North a ruff.

For the second problem, here is the full deal: Dealer North, NS Vul

♠	T43
♥	65
♦	KJ973
♣	AT5
♠	8
♥	8742
♦	542
♣	QJ832
♠	AKQ9765
♥	AK
♦	86
♣	74

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	-	-	4	1	-
S	-	-	4	1	-
E	3	4	-	-	3
W	3	4	-	-	3

Twenty-five of those sitting South made 4♠, 11 with an overtrick. However, 11 Wests bid on to 5♥ and 9 were allowed to play there, all but 2 of them doubled. This proved to be a cheap sacrifice. Two Norths continued to 5♠ and declarer then went down on both occasions. However, one received a heart lead, after which it is possible to establish the diamond suit for a club discard unless East finds the switch away from ♣K. The sure way to beat 5♠ is for West to lead ♣Q.

The third problem involves interpreting partner's return as suit preference for clubs and then being bold enough to put declarer to a guess. Here is the full deal:

Dealer North, NS Vul

♠ T6	♠ Q	♠ K987432
♥ 6	♥ KJT53	♥ 982
♦ A7653	♦ KQJ8	♦ T
♣ Q8654	♣ JT2	♣ A9

	♠ AJ5	
	♥ AQ74	
	♦ 942	
	♣ K73	

	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT
N	1	2	4	-	2
S	1	2	4	-	2
E	-	-	-	1	-
W	-	-	-	1	-

At 29 tables, 4♥ was made, often with an overtrick. There is only one way to beat this contract – after the diamond ruff, return ♣9! Declarer is most unlikely to rise with the king.

At the 2 tables where this defence was found, 4♥ duly went down as West won ♣Q and returned another diamond for East to ruff, after which ♣A was cashed for 5 defensive tricks!.

Editor Comment:

This year, the **NSBC Festival events** are split with 2 major Open events F2F at our **East Lindfield Venue**, and 2 events on **RealBridge**.

23-Jun	Thursday Daytime	RB	MP	Thursday Matchpoint Swiss Pairs
24-Jun	Friday Daytime	EL	IMP	"Watermark" Swiss Pairs
25-Jun	Saturday	RB	IMP	Saturday Festival Swiss Teams
26-Jun	Sunday	EL	IMP	"TBIB" Open Swiss Teams

Brochures in the next column.


NSBC Festival Match Point Swiss Pairs
RealBridge in 2022

Thursday 23rd June 10:00pm Start 2 RB Sessions – A Festival Match Pointed Swiss Pairs (MP/VP) Event

Prizes: \$200, \$100, \$80 .. More if late entry

This event incorporates the 4th running of the NSBC Festival Open Match Point Swiss Pairs Championships.

Results will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Browne Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872

Director: Mathew MacManus

Entry Management: Enter by **MyABF**

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA. The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations

2021 3rd Open Swiss Pairs Champions : **Leo Goorevich & Kevin Davies**

Player Fees (pp) \$30


"Watermark" - Swiss Pairs

Friday 24th June F2F @ East Lindfield

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Pairs (IMP) Event

Prize Pools: 2x (\$400, \$200, \$100) + Best Restr \$200

This event incorporates the 17th running of the NSBC Festival "Watermark" Open Swiss Pairs Championships.

Results will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Browne Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872

Director: Mathew MacManus

Entry Management: Enter by **MyABF**

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA. The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations

Previous 2021 16th Pairs Champions : **Marilyn Chadwick & Kim Morrison**

Player Fees (pp) \$45 (Light lunch and snacks provided)


NSBC Open Swiss Teams
RealBridge in 2022

Saturday 25th June – on Realbridge

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Teams (IMP) Event

Prize Pool: \$240, \$120, \$80 .. More dependant on entries

This event incorporates the 17th running of the NSBC Festival Open Swiss Teams Championships.

Results will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Browne Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872

Director: Mathew MacManus

Entry Management: Enter by **MyABF**

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA. The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations

Previous 2021 16th Open Teams Champions : **Peter Jeffery, Les Grewcock, Bob Sebesfi, Wayne Zhu**

Player Fees (pp) \$30


"TBIB" - Open Swiss Teams

Sunday 26th June F2F @ East Lindfield

10:00pm Start 2 Sessions – Swiss Teams (IMP) Event

Prize Pool: \$600, \$300, \$200 + Best Restr \$200

This event incorporates the 17th running of the NSBC Festival "TBIB" Open Swiss Teams Championships.

Results (cc x2) will count towards 2022 NSBC Club Champion (Browne Cup)

Convenor, queries & partnership advice: Mike Prescott M: 0435 528 872

Director: Mathew MacManus

Entry Management: Enter by **MyABF**

Pre-Payments: Visitors MyABF Credits & NSBC Members to select "Club PP System"

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA. The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4. All players are subject to the NSWBA's Disciplinary Regulations

Previous 2021 16th Teams Champions : **Peter Jeffery, Les Grewcock, Bob Sebesfi, Wayne Zhu**

Player Fees (pp) \$45 (Light lunch and snacks provided)

♦ JM – Best Possible vs Best Result



The **best possible result versus the best result possible** on bridge hands.

This is the first of a number of articles, not involving bidding systems as such, but using actual dealt hands which have a level of interest and / or amusement. There will often be some overriding theme.

The best possible result versus the best result possible

The best possible result is the one which you would like to achieve looking at all 4 hands. From time to time a hand appears whereby you can visualize the optimum contract (the best possible result), but realize that your opponents may thwart your ambitions and you will have to settle for an inferior result (the best result possible).

I played the following hand over 50 years ago. Available bidding systems were either Standard American or Acol. Opening 2's were strong, 3 level (and higher) openings were based on the rule of 2 and 3, depending on vulnerability, and there were few fancy openings like we have today.

In this hand, you and your partner are dealt:

Partner			
♠	X		
♥	X		
♦	X		
♣	AQJT9876xx		
You			
♠	Axxxx		
♥	A		
♦	Axxxxx		
♣	X		

West	Partner	East	You
	5♣	X	??

Partner opens 5♣ (showing 9 tricks), and the next hand doubles (normal meaning used to be **penalties**). Possible final contracts are 5♣x, 5♣xx, 6♣, 6♣x, but the opponents clearly have

a cheap sacrifice in Hearts, which you wish to avoid. So, the first of these (5♣x) is perhaps the **best result possible**, whereas 6♣ or 6♣x is the **best possible result**.

Being relatively inexperienced in these matters, I chose to bid 6♣. This was English county level, yet in the room, half the pairs were in 5♣x, the other half were in 6♣ undoubled, and nobody sacrificed in 6♥ (one off).

I'm sure that such a hand would be treated differently today with our more sophisticated (?) bidding methods. For instance, a Gung Ho player might psyche a bid of 5♥ with the singleton Ace, prepared to risk playing there if passed out, but hoping that partner will return to Clubs (in anger) and be doubled again for the **best possible result**.

On this subject, Terence Reece, the renowned English international and bridge author from yesteryear, wrote a book called 'Play these hands with me', which contained a series of deals where he talked the reader through his various thought processes during bidding and play.

One of these hands was hypothetical – he was the opening bidder and his hand contained all 13 Clubs. Before reading on, close your eyes and consider what you would open. Possible bids are

- 2♣ (GF),
- any natural level of Club bid,
- avant garde bids such as Pass,
- 1NT,
- or even a psyche, hoping to finish in a high level Club contract (preferably 7) whilst avoiding your opponents finding a worthwhile sacrifice.

Terence felt that starting with a bid of 7♣ would be too obvious and invite a sacrifice, whilst starting at 1♣ or 3♣ and working up to 6♣ or 7♣ ('walking the dog') might have the same effect. His final recommendation was an opening of 4♣, which left scope for a higher level 'sacrifice' without suspicion. In this way, he would be giving up on the '**best possible result**' in favour of the '**best result possible**'.