

## **2014 Sydney ANC – Open Teams by Richard Wallis**

The ANC is usually a good event, and this year, held at the Canterbury Racetrack in Sydney, was no exception. Queensland fielded a team in each of the Open, Womens, Seniors and Youth, and all played to the best of their ability and in good spirits, and were a credit to the QLD colours.

The Youth, with a largely inexperienced line-up, struggled early, losing all of the opening 7 matches, but then they hit their straps, and won 5 in a row, including 2 blitzes, to at one stage rise to 3<sup>rd</sup>, before losing 2 of the final 3 matches to drop back to 4<sup>th</sup>. Jessica Brake, Andrew Gosney, Chris Larter, Michael Gearing, Josh Davis and Angus Gray can hold their heads up after that great come-back, and they would have all benefitted greatly from the experience.

The Seniors and Womens teams were always in the hunt, each just falling out of the race for the finals in the last or second last match. Before the final match, any of the top 4 in the Womens event could have made the final, but both WA and QLD lost, keeping the top 2 in the final, but with positions reversed.

This year Therese Tully and I played in the Open Team, along with Charlie Howard/ Kerry Wood and Neville Francis/ Kevin Steffenson, with Jim Evans as non-playing captain. We started out with a shocker on BBOL against South Australia, where our inexperience against the wild system played by our opponents made it very difficult for me to get anything right, and this was followed by a good win (by the other 4) against Tasmania, before another loss to ACT dropped us back to near the bottom of the field again.

We started to improve, but the horse had bolted, and we were never in the hunt after that, holding our own against the top teams (except ACT belted us again), but never getting into the top 4. Our only claim to fame was beating WA both times, and a small win against VIC in the last match gave us an overall positive result against them, and kept them out of the finals, allowing ACT to sneak in. In a see-sawing Final, ACT was too good in the end and beat NSW by a small margin to claim the Open Teams Championship.

<b>M 1</b>	AJT32			On the first board of the competition, on Viewgraph against SA, East overcalled 2H, which was not alerted, so I did not realize it could be made on such a weak hand (who would?).
<b>Bd 1</b>	K3			Therese bid 3H, which showed at least at least a limit raise with 3-card support, so with what seemed like the knowledge of where everything was likely to be, I bid the slam when we had the 5 Key cards, thinking I could finesse East for the missing SQ.
<b>Dlr N</b>	AK8			
<b>Vul Nil</b>	AT6			East led the CQ, and I should have been suspicious, as this placed the CK with West, and meant that East only had 8 points at most for his 2-level overcall, but the finesses still meant I could make 12 or 13 tricks!
Q986		7		The first disappointment was when East showed out on the second round of spades, which meant I was now down to only 12 tricks, and I had to get rid of my losing clubs quickly, so the marked (sic) heart finesse was now taken! 3 off and 12 Imps out.
Q8		976542		
J754		32		
K53		QJ98		
	K54			
	AJT			
	QT96			
	742			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
/	1S	2H!	3H	
/	4NT	/	5H	
/	6S	//		

<b>M 1</b>	T83			On board 3 in match 1, I missed my chance to extract some revenge for an earlier board, when I wimped out of passing Therese's take-out double of 2C, preferring to bid my 4-card suit.
<b>Bd 3</b>	2			I won the CA and pulled the H6 from the table, but West won and led a trump, East wisely refusing to play his DK.
<b>Dlr S</b>	QJ43			
<b>Vul EW</b>	JT876			Now I could ruff clubs and hearts, but East was able to discard his hearts while I ruffed clubs on the table, and then over-ruff my DQ at the end with his carefully preserved DK for 2 off.
AQ		J742		At the other table, a different line enabled North to escape for 1 off and 2 Imps away. If I had taken the diamond finesse by leading the DQ and East had covered, I could have drawn trumps and exited with the CJ, end-playing West for at least 7 tricks.
A9		QJ543		
432		K96		
Q95432		K		
	K965			
	KT876			
	AT8			
	A			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
2C	/	/	1H	While things were partially bad for me in a diamond contract, 2CX would have gone badly for West, with him losing 4 clubs and 3 diamonds, for 2 off and +500 to us.
/	2D	//	X	

<b>M 1</b> <b>Bd 4</b> <b>Dir W</b> <b>Vul All</b>	Q4 AT AKQ752 A84		On board 4 in match 1, I missed an easy trial bid that would have saved the board, instead of losing 10 Imps. Anxious to have Therese bid 3NT with a spade stop, and expecting to have 8 tricks in my hand, I forced with 2S when the 1S overcall came back to me.
52 87 643 QT9632		AKJ876 QJ2 JT9 7	Now Therese made a free-bid of 3H over the double, so I went looking for Jxx in her hand with a second cue-bid, but her pass of the double indicated she did not have it, so I lazily signed off in 4D.
	T93 K96543 8 KJ5		She would have known that my 2S and 3S bids were based on a solid diamond suit, and after her 3H bid, certainly a 5-card suit, I could have shown her my useful heart doubleton by bidding 4H, not the wishy-washy 4D bid which allowed her to pass.
<b>W</b> / / /	<b>N</b> 1D 2S 3S 4D!	<b>E</b> 1S X X //	<b>S</b> / 3H / /
			Since she did have a 6-card suit, passing 4H would have been automatic, but even with a 5-2 fit, 4H has a play, and 5D was cold anyway, so either way we would have reached a makeable game. At the other table better bidding got them to 4H and we lost 10 Imps.

<b>M 3</b> <b>Bd 16</b> <b>Dir W</b> <b>Vul EW</b>	AKT83 3 AQ6 QJ84		On board 16 in match 3 against ACT, North got lucky in the play of the hand, and we lost 14 Imps. In the bidding sequence shown, South forced to game in spades with 2NT, and then North showed firstly a heart shortage, then something like AK of trumps and an outside Ace, or 3 Aces without the SK, but South was unsure whether he had gotten it right, so signed off in 4S. North went again with a 5D cue, so South was away, and Therese led the C6.
2 86542 T875 AK9		J54 T97 K2 T7632	If I had been awake, I would have played the CA at trick 1, which can hardly cause Therese any problems, but would have given North the ruffing finesse as a losing option, but alas I was in auto mode.
	Q976 AKQJ J943 5		I won the CK and led back a diamond, and after a lot of thought, North rose with the DA, ruffed a club, and pitched 2 diamonds on top hearts, before ruffing a diamond back to hand to ruff another club. The fall of the CA allowed North to claim 12 tricks.
<b>W</b> / / / / //	<b>N</b> 1S 3H 4C 5D	<b>E</b> / / / /	<b>S</b> 2NT 3S 4S 6S
			At the other table, the contract was 1 down when the diamond finesse failed, which was a straight-forward 50% chance.

<b>M 3</b> <b>Bd 20</b> <b>Dir W</b> <b>Vul All</b>	JT5 A753 A85 J95		On board 20 in match 3 our system worked against us, and my guesswork was not good enough to match North. After my 1NT opening, which can contain a 5-card major, Therese checked to see if I had 4 hearts, then signed off in 3NT.
AK843 QJ4 Q97 KT		97 KT92 K643 A87	North is obviously not going to lead a spade, and the bidding told him that there were 4 hearts in dummy, and he therefore had to lead a minor suit, and unfortunately for me, he chose the C5!
	Q62 85 JT2 Q6432		If I had known that North had all of the entries, and only 3 clubs, it would have been a formality, but it looked like the clubs were 5-3, so therefore seemed unlikely that spades were 3-3, thus I looked elsewhere for my 9 tricks, and failed by 1 for -100.
<b>W</b> 1NT 2S	<b>N</b> / /	<b>E</b> 2C 3NT	<b>S</b> / //
			At the other table, after a 1S opening and a 2D response, West became declarer in 3NT, without hearts having been mentioned, so Charlie had no reason not to lead the H3, making 3NT easy, and we lost 12 Imps.

<b>M 5</b> <b>Bd 8</b> <b>Dir W</b> <b>Vul Nil</b>	T5 Q87 T9542 J74		On board 8 in match 5 against NSW, EW were playing a strong club with relays, and the 1NT response to the strong opening showed a diamond suit. The 2S rebid showed a good suit, so East had no problem supporting spades, having denied 3-card support already.
AKQJ63 AT9653 7 -		84 42 AKQ863 AQ8	I dutifully led a club, and South made a mistake by rising with the CA at trick 1 instead of playing low and ruffing. When the diamonds were not the hoped for 3-3, declarer was booked to go 1 off, but a defensive blunder when I got the wrong inference from Therese's discards, enabled it to make.
	972 KJ J KT96532		The way to make 12 tricks is to ruff the club lead, draw trumps, and ruff the second round of diamonds, before HA and another, end-playing South to lead into dummy.
<b>W</b> 1C! 2S 3H 6S	<b>N</b> / / / //	<b>E</b> 1NT! 3D 3S	<b>S</b> 2C / / /
			On an initial diamond lead, win in dummy and ruff a diamond immediately, before continuing as before with the heart end-play. The 4H contract at the other table was limited to 11 tricks by any defence, so we lost 11 Imps.

<b>M 5</b> <b>Bd 16</b> <b>Dir W</b> <b>Vul EW</b>	64 T83 Q6432 853		On board 16 in match 5 EW had a total of 27 HCPs, and tried for the obvious game, but the single stopper was not enough, and the NT game had no chance.
Q8532 65 AJ AKJ9		KJ K74 KT98 Q762	EW were playing a strong club and West's hand was limited to 15 HCPs, and likely only a 5-card spade suit following the double, and East quite rightly suggested a suit contract with their aceless hand, but West had one more go at 3NT with a 3H cue-bid, which East could not refuse.
	AT97 AQJ92 75 T4		Therese led the HQ, and East could not afford to duck and took a reasonable chance for 9 tricks by finessing diamonds, since a favourable diamond position would yield 9 tricks without touching spades.
<b>W</b> 1S X 3H	<b>N</b> / / /	<b>E</b> 1NT 3C 3NT	<b>S</b> 2H / //
			I won the DQ and a heart return quickly scuppered the contract, with the SA leading to 2 down and +200. At the other table Neville played 5C carefully and emerged with 11 tricks for +600 and 13 Imps.

<b>M 6</b> <b>Bd 4</b> <b>Dir W</b> <b>Vul All</b>	AQJ73 A73 92 K85		On board 4 in match 6 against VIC, North followed a now common trend by opening 1NT while holding a 5-card major. Therese and I do it as well, and I believe that they were using a 15-17 1NT opening, so as we also would do, he borrowed a point for the good 5-card suit.
T98 KJ85 8764 63		542 94 KQJ5 AJT2	No significant fit was lost, since South did not have 3-card support, but the net result was that by chance the wrong hand became declarer. Therese as East had an easy lead of the DK, and 3NT then had no chance, finishing 1 off for +100.
	K6 QT62 AT3 Q974		At the other table Charlie made a normal opening bid of 1S, and Kerry bid a forcing 1NT, and then showed 10-12 balanced by bidding 2NT, obviously raised to game by Charlie.
<b>W</b> / / //	<b>N</b> 1NT 2S	<b>E</b> / /	<b>S</b> 2C 3NT
			This time West was on lead and led the H5, which gave a free trick and the tempo to Kerry, who emerged with 10 tricks for +630 and 12 Imps to us.

<b>M 6</b>	JT2			On board 9 in match 6 both Therese and I took conservative views and luckily gained a part-score swing.
<b>Bd 9</b>	KQJ52			Many would overcall 1S on Therese's hand as East, but it is marginal at the adverse Vulnerability, and she chose to pass, in spite of the reasonable suit.
<b>Dlr N</b>	KQ2			
<b>Vul EW</b>	T7			
54		AQ986		When South bid 1NT, denying both spades and hearts, I thought that my suit was too fragile to bid 2C, so meekly passed, and was moderately surprized when 1NT was passed out.
743		T98		
AT6		98		
AKJ63		Q54		
	K73			Wary that South might have clubs, I led the CA to look at dummy and got an encouraging signal from Therese, so we were able to cash out 7 tricks for down 1 and +50.
	A6			
	J7543			
	982			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	At the other table EW did get involved, climbing all the way to 3S, which had no chance and declarer lost an extra trick for 2 off and +200, for 6 Imps to us.
//!	1H	/!	1NT	

<b>M 7</b>	AQ5			On board 4 in match 7 against WA my weak 2H opening, North's double, and Therese's 4H response were standard, but at our table North tried again with a second double.
<b>Bd 4</b>	9873			I did not find out whether this second double was still take-out, or just any good hand, but looking at South's hand a retreat to 4S seems like a good idea.
<b>Dlr W</b>	AK853			North led the DA, and must have been daunted by the sight of dummy, but instead of cutting his losses by cashing out for -790, he switched to the C2 at trick 2 and I was able to draw trumps and discard a loser on the 5 <sup>th</sup> club for +990.
<b>Vul All</b>	2			At the other table, after Charlie declined to double again, EW played quietly for 10 tricks and -620.
9		K874		A heart lead and continuation will likely lead to 2 down in 4SX, and only +500, so we could have lost 3 Imps instead of gaining 9 (or 5 on a cash-out).
KJT642		AQ		
QT		J6		
Q763		AKJ94		
	JT632			
	5			
	9742			
	T85			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
2H	X	4H	/	
/	X	//		

<b>M 7</b>	Q862			On board 19 in match 7 the 2NT response was alerted, but I did not ask. However, when the 3S came back to me and it turned out to be a weakish hand with 4 spades, I came forth with a double and Therese bid the obvious 4H.
<b>Bd 19</b>	A95			North led the D5, an likely shortage, and Therese won on the table to lead the S4, won by South with the SK to lead the DT.
<b>Dlr S</b>	53			Therese won in hand and ruffed a spade before leading a small heart from the table, ducked by South, and the HT was also ducked by North, although he had initially led a diamond looking for a ruff!
<b>Vul EW</b>	QJ54			Another heart and North is forced to duck this time or else their second trump trick disappears, and now when South leads a 3 <sup>rd</sup> diamond, North discards, and he also discarded on the DJ!
J9		4		A club to dummy and North is in trouble, and plays the CJ, but a heart from the table end-plays North who led another club for Therese to finesse, thus an unlikely 10 tricks for +620. At the other table Charlie bid to 4S, which went 2 down for -100, but still gained 11 Imps.
JT84		Q732		
AJ62		KQ84		
872		AKT3		
	AKT753			
	K6			
	T97			
	96			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
/	2NT!	/	1S	
/	/	X	3S	
4H	//			

<b>M 8</b>	J4			<p>On board 8 in match 8 against ACT, the vulnerability was irresistible to NS and they sacrificed in 5C against our freely bid 4H, and they were right!</p> <p>Therese led the H2, and we had no trouble taking 4 tricks for 2 off and +300. Declarer may have been given a guess in spades, but after I had opened with a weak two and turned up with the HK and CA, it was virtually certain that Therese would have the SA.</p> <p>This looked like a potential loss, as with the HQ well placed, even 5H would have been easy, but at the other table Neville and Kevin were never put to the test, as EW subsided in just a heart part-score making just 10 tricks for -170, so we gained 4 Imps.</p> <p>Early on we had missed a couple of games through tentative bidding, and decided to bid any game with a reasonable chance of success, hence Therese's spectacular jump to game.</p>
<b>Bd 8</b>	A54		AT6	
<b>Dlr W</b>	K6		J72	
<b>Vul Nil</b>	KJT873		AQT73 95	
Q982				
KT9863				
95				
A				
	K753			
	Q			
	J842			
	Q642			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
2H	3C	4H	5C	
/	/	X	//	

<b>M 8</b>	K2			<p>On board 14 in match 8 my 1NT response to Therese's 1S opening was almost forcing, and I intended to bid 3C, to play, unless Therese rebid 2S, or maybe even if Therese did rebid 2S.</p> <p>North came to the party over 1NT with a Michael's Cue-bid, and South bid 3D, rather than a possible 2NT.</p> <p>I led the S9, and declarer rose with the SK and inexplicably led the C6 at trick 2, allowing Therese to rise with the CA and give me a ruff with my singleton D2!</p> <p>Declarer still had a heart and two trumps to lose, so finished 1 off for +50. If he had led a trump at trick 1, he would have made 9 tricks and the score would then be -110.</p> <p>At the other table some sort of bidding misunderstanding led to East playing in 2NT, where after a diamond lead, declarer had 8 tricks for -120, so we actually lost 2 Imps.</p>
<b>Bd 14</b>	AT754			
<b>Dlr E</b>	JT754			
<b>Vul Nil</b>	6			
9			QJT63	
KQ92			63	
2			AQ9	
QT98752			AJ4	
	A8754			
	J8			
	K863			
	K3			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
1NT!	2S	1S	/	
//		/	3D	

<b>M 10</b>	K			<p>On board 1 in match 10 against NSW, I opened 1D because of the good suit and easy rebid if Therese responded 1H (then 2H) or 1S (then 2D), and Therese's double showed precisely 4 spades.</p> <p>It appears that West's 3C was not considered forcing by East, although I am not sure whether West thought it was forcing or not, but anyway it was my lead to 3C and I led the SK.</p> <p>After winning trick 1, I switched to a heart, which West won in hand and allowed the top trumps in dummy to hold the next 2 tricks. Thus there was no way now to avoid a diamond loser and we took our 3 tricks for -130.</p> <p>However, EW had missed their 4-4 spade fit, which allows 10 tricks, and although Deep Finesse suggests that 9 is the limit in hearts, Charlie made 10 tricks in 4H, so we gained 7 Imps.</p>
<b>Bd 1</b>	T653			
<b>Dlr N</b>	AQJ985			
<b>Vul Nil</b>	T6			
Q532			JT98	
QJ			AK742	
K			63	
AQ8432			KJ	
	A764			
	98			
	T742			
	975			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
3C	1D	1H	X	
	//			

<b>M 10</b>	KQ63			On board 9 in match 10 I tried to show where my values were before inviting game with 3H to allow Therese to better value her hand, and she had an easy pass. However, we were too high!
<b>Bd 9</b>	T74			
<b>Dir N</b>	Q83			
<b>Vul EW</b>	K92			West led the C6 and Therese won trick 2 with the CQ, giving West a full picture of her hand, or at least how the defence should go to achieve the required 5 tricks to defeat 3H.
A92		JT874		Therese was known to have at least 9 red cards, and therefore only 4 black cards, so if she reached dummy with the SK the CK was good for a spade discard, or she had a singleton spade all the time.
QJ5		93		Beginners are taught "second-hand low" and it becomes ingrained, so much so, that in spite of the obvious reasons why West should grab the SA while he could, he ducked, and now Therese had 9 tricks after all.
A96		K75		
T863		A75		At the other table Charlie and Kerry took all of their tricks, so we gained a modest 1 Imp for +140 versus -110.
	5			
	AK862			
	JT42			
	QJ4			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
/	/	/	1H	
/	1S	/	2D	
/	3H	//		

<b>M 10</b>	AKQ9			On board 20 in match 10 East made a normal overcall of 1NT when I opened 1H, and West bid 2S as a range probe, and subsided when East showed a minimum with a 2NT rebid.
<b>Bd 20</b>	A8742			
<b>Dir W</b>	Q			
<b>Vul All</b>	T64			Therese had no reason to lead anything other than a heart, and it looked like EW may have got it right by stopping in 2NT, as I was odds-on to have 5 tricks in my hand.
T75		J642		I won the HA at trick 1 and cashed out my top spades, and found that East had 9 tricks after all.
T3		KQJ5		
A86		K3		
K985		AQ2		
	83			
	96			
	986542			
	J73			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	At the other table Charlie and Kerry did get to 3NT, and made the same 9 tricks, so we gained 10 Imps.
/	1H	1NT	/	
2S!	/	2NT	//	

<b>M 11</b>	K9			On board 1 in match 11 against WA on BBOL, I decided to get involved because of my shapely hand and the good main suit.
<b>Bd 1</b>	J7			
<b>Dir N</b>	AK754			
<b>Vul Nil</b>	AJT6			Rather than treat it as a single suiter, I bid 2C to show both majors, and Therese's 2NT was forward-going, and asked for my longer major. Having pushed the boat out with 2C, I did not bid game, but Therese had no hesitation in raising to game.
Q743		AJT862		South's double showed clubs, very likely with a high honour, so North figured to have most of the high cards outside, especially the SK, and so it proved.
AKQ8		T532		
JT2		Q8		
Q9		2		
	5			
	964			
	963			
	K87543			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	I won the lead of the H6 in dummy and cleared the trumps, before leading the DQ to set up a discard for the 4 <sup>th</sup> heart in case the suit did not break, but 10 tricks were easy for +420.
2NT!	1NT	2C!	X	At the other table Kevin stole the hand in 3C as South, which made exactly 9 tricks for +110 and 11 Imps.
4S	/	3S	/	
	//			

<b>M 11</b>	A54			On board 11 in match 11 Therese opened with a weak 2S, and North was tempted by his poor suit and played a high price when it was I who had the rest of the points, and not his partner.
<b>Bd 11</b>	KQ652			
<b>Dlr S</b>	A9			
<b>Vul Nil</b>	954			Of course after the weak opening, my double was for penalties, and while I had no spade to lead, the DK was a good alternative.
KQJ962			-	
T			A983	The HT in Therese's hand meant I had 2 natural heart tricks, so ruffing the SA did not gain directly, although double-dummy I could have used the club entries to ruff the spades, and also allow Therese to be on lead at the end and promote my H8 into another trick.
532			KQJT6	Still, 2 spades, 2 hearts, 1 diamond and 3 clubs was 4 off for +800, although would it be enough as 6D was possible via the ruffing finesse?
QJ3			AK86	
	T873			
	J74			
	874			
	T72			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
2S	3H	X	/	At the other table EW got to 5D, but only made 11 tricks for -400, and 9 Imps to us.
			//	

<b>M 13</b>	2			On board 6 in match 13 against NT, Therese opened 1S, and I bid a forcing (almost) 1NT, hoping to be able to rebid a non-forcing 2D if Therese rebid 2C, or pass any other rebid. Her actual rebid of 4S silenced all other bidding, and South led the C2.
<b>Bd 6</b>	K98643			
<b>Dlr E</b>	8			
<b>Vul EW</b>	AT976			
3			KJT98764	North won the CA and led back the D8, won on the table by Therese to lead a trump, but there was no way to avoid 4 losers, and the net result was 1 off, for -100.
QT5			7	
KT9754			AJ3	The hand was then forgotten, but booked up as a possible loss, if the other EW stayed in a part-score.
J54			K	When we scored up we found that NS were cold for 4H, and we had gained 8 Imps after all!
	AQ5			
	AJ2			
	Q62			
	Q832			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
1NT!	/	1S	/(?)	The real mystery was why South did not overcall 1NT, whereupon North would have had an easy 4H bid, as Neville did at the other table.
		4S	//	

<b>M 13</b>	T			On board 15 in match 13 Therese had to do all of the work by herself, when I was having a catnap.
<b>Bd 15</b>	2			
<b>Dlr S</b>	AKJ542			Therese's 2D cuebid was Michaels, and I should have bid at least 3H with my good support for both of her suits, as by bidding just 2H, I could have had just any hand with preference for hearts over spades.
<b>Vul NS</b>	KQJ85			Therese did not need much more than heart preference to make 6H a good contract, so she trotted out 5D as Exclusion Blackwood.
Q97			AK86432	
KQ97			AJT43	
Q6			-	
9432			A	
	J5			
	865			
	T9873			
	T76			
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>	
2H	1D	2D!	/	I was not sure if this was EB, or just a cue-bid showing slam interest, so I jumped to slam to finally show my good support for hearts, and after a lot a thought Therese bid 7H. As she was putting her hand down, Therese was apologizing in case she was wrong, but she felt a whole lot better when I won the CA at trick won and led to the H9, quickly claiming 13 tricks.
6H	3C	5D	/	At the other table Kevin bid 3D over the cuebid, and Neville thus knew he had a good sacrifice over 6H, and the vulnerability suggested a double to EW rather than 7H, which was 3 off for -800 and 12 Imps.
	/	7H	//	

<b>M 14</b>	9843				On board 9 in match 14 against VIC, South did very well not to balance when Therese's 1S opening bid was passed around to him, as if Therese was able to bid her heart suit, we may have sailed into the heart game.
<b>Bd 9</b>	T				
<b>Dlr N</b>	AJ64				
<b>Vul EW</b>	T976				
AKQ62			5		The opening lead was the HT, which set up our side suit, and when North got a ruff with his natural trump trick, we had 10 easy tricks for +170.
AJ76			Q9843		
T52			73		Holding 4 trumps, albeit only small ones, North was unwise to try for a ruff, as an opening lead of the CT gives nothing away and is almost certain to result in 5 losers for declarer.
A			J8532		At the other table Kerry also showed good restraint by passing out the 1S opening bid, and Charlie and Kerry defended more accurately to restrict declarer to just 8 tricks, so we gained a modest 2 Imps.
	JT7				Note that 4H is cold, even 11 tricks are there by running the HQ.
	K52				
	KQ98				
	KQ4				
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>		
1S	/	/	/		
	//				

<b>M 14</b>	J2				On board 17 in match 14, I made a simple overcall of 1S, and Therese's 3S showed values, and 4-card support.
<b>Bd 17</b>	T7				South had 8 tricks in his own hand, and gambled that a 9 <sup>th</sup> would emerge from dummy, but he was utterly disappointed.
<b>Dlr N</b>	QJ9542				
<b>Vul Nil</b>	Q82				
Q9763			T854		I led the S6, and declarer won the SK and led the DT, but my D6 showed an even number, and allowed Therese to win the DK and lead another spade, forcing South to win the SA and run his hearts as his last hope.
5			6432		Since we had 4 tricks in the minors to go with any spade winners left, I could not really go wrong in the discarding, in spite of having to find 5 discards, and 3NT went 1 off for +50.
A876			K3		
K65			AT9		At the other table Kerry opened with a Precision 1C, and finished in 4H, which can be defeated by leaving the club suit alone, or by not flying with an honour if declarer leads clubs, and Kerry emerged with 10 tricks for +420, and 10 Imps.
	AK				
	AKQJ98				
	T				
	J743				
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>		
1S	/	/	1H		
//	/	3S!	3NT		

<b>M 14</b>	K92				On board 19 in match 14, I did not double the 1D opening due to my doubleton club, instead opting to overcall 1S, thinking that maybe I could show the heart suit on the next round if appropriate.
<b>Bd 19</b>	632				South's rebid of 1NT after North passed showed 18-19 points, and North could have passed, invited (not normal with such a narrow range for the 1NT rebid), or take a flyer with 3NT (which he did).
<b>Dlr S</b>	J965				I led the HQ, won by South in hand, who deceptively led the CQ at trick 2 and when that held, he appeared to stake the contract on the diamond finesse, by leading a spade to the SK at trick 3.
<b>Vul EW</b>	T52				When the diamond finesse lost, South was sunk, as we could cash our hearts, finishing with Therese, and then a spade gave me 4 spade tricks, before finishing with the CA for 5 off and +250.
AJ543			86		At the other table EW found their heart fit, maybe via a major-suit orientated double with my hand, and they made 9 tricks for -140, but 3 Imps to us.
QJ98			KT74		
K3			74		
J8			A9763		
	QT7				
	A5				
	AQT82				
	KQ4				
<b>W</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>		
1S	/	/	1D		
/	3NT	//	1NT		