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OUR PAIRS WINNERS



**Open Pairs
 Championship**
 Howard MELBOURNE
 Barbara TRAVIS



**Intermediate Pairs
 Championship**
 Karl BERZINS
 Lee ANDREWS



**Novice Pairs
 Championship**
 Annemarie HUGENTOBLER
 Walter HUGENTOBLER



**Seniors Pairs
 Championship**
 Richard BRIGHTLING
 Kathy BOARDMAN



**Restricted Pairs
 Championship**
 Diana ELLIS
 Chris HANNAN



**Monday Butler
 Swiss Pairs**
 Doreen JONES
 Catherine HOOD

PAIRS FINALS SESSION 3

Barry Rigal

For the final session the coverage was to focus on the pairs at the top of the leader board. Over the course of the afternoon this turned out to be Richman-Reitzer, Travis-Melbourne, Lilley-Nagy and Edgton-Del'Monte.

Dealer: North	♠ 7		
Vul: N-S	♥ 10 6		
Brd 5	♦ J 10 9 7		
Open Prs Final S3	♣ A Q J 10 4 3		
♠ A 6 5 4 3		♠ 8	
♥ A K J 8 2		♥ Q 5 4 3	
♦ 5		♦ K Q 6 4 3	
♣ 9 5		♣ 8 6 2	
	♠ K Q J 10 9 2		
	♥ 9 7		
	♦ A 8 2		
	♣ K 7		

	West	North	East	South
	Makeable Contracts			
	-	1	-	1 NT
	-	2	-	2 ♠
	4	-	4	-
	-	1	-	1 ♥
	-	3	-	3 ♣

When Travis and Melbourne sat E/W here they benefited from opponents who took a curiously passive approach. In third seat Melbourne heard 1♠ to his right and he overcalled 2♥. North (continuing his Trappist approach to the auction) passed rather than introduce his clubs, and Travis jumped to 4♥, making 420 for an 88% result when declarer could arrange to take three spade ruffs in dummy. At the other table I was watching, GeO Tislevoll as North opened 3♣ and Ware closed the auction with a jump to 4♠. Loo elected to lead his singleton diamond, but then won the second trump to cash the two top hearts and the defence was over. A better defence might have been to lead a top heart (the anti-systemic card that is consistent with being about to shift to your singleton). Now after the diamond shift you duck a spade or two and win the ♠A as partner pitches an encouraging heart, to let you underlead in hearts for the ruff, and two down. Only one table beat 4♠ here -- well done Pat Carter and Julie Atkinson.

Dealer: South	♠ A K		
Vul: None	♥ A K Q 10		
Brd 11	♦ K 10 3		
Open Prs Final S3	♣ Q 10 8 7		
♠ Q 6 3		♠ 10 5 4 2	
♥ 9 8 5 3		♥ J 6 4 2	
♦ 8 7 4 2		♦ A Q J	
♣ A 2		♣ K J	
	♠ J 9 8 7		
	♥ 7		
	♦ 9 6 5		
	♣ 9 6 5 4 3		

	West	North	East	South
	Makeable Contracts			
	-	1	-	-
	-	1	-	-
	1	-	1	-
	-	1	-	-
	-	3	-	2 ♣

This board showed an enterprising defence by Zhang and Wu against the room contract of 2NT. Just like you and I would do, Zhang led a heart against 2NT. (Two spade leads, both ducked, actually might defeat 2NT). Courtney won the heart cheaply and advanced the ♣Q in case there was a singleton club jack around - that was really the only singleton he could cope with. Zhang took this with the king and found the shift to the ♦A and a second diamond; that had set up the defenders' fourth trick, and when Courtney ducked the trick he had untangled the defenders diamond to let them hold him to 120, which meant virtually all the matchpoints for the defenders.

Dealer: South	♠ A J 10 9 8 5		
Vul: N-S	♥ A K 3		
Brd 15	♦ A J		
Open Prs Final S3	♣ A 10		
♠ 3		♠ K Q 4 2	
♥ Q J 10 9 6 4		♥ 7 5 2	
♦ Q 9 7 6 5		♦ K 4 3 2	
♣ 9		♣ 7 5	
	♠ 7 6		
	♥ 8		
	♦ 10 8		
	♣ K Q J 8 6 4 3 2		

	West	North	East	South
	3♥	4NT	Pass	5♦ [=1 KC]
	Pass	5♥	Pass	5NT
	Pass	6NT	Pass	7NT
	Pass	Pass	Pass	
	Makeable Contracts			
	-	6	-	6 NT
	-	4	-	4 ♠
	2	-	2	-
	1	-	1	-
	-	7	-	6 ♣

Melbourne and Travis were ticking along nicely until this deal came along, which swung a complete top in the wrong direction. 5NT showed either no king or an unbidable king (diamonds) depending on whom you asked.

Melbourne thought he had an extra trick he had not shown in the eighth club. Travis won the top spade lead and ran eight clubs at once, pitching spades from hand. She was hoping to catch her RHO in a heart diamond squeeze but that did not materialize. The better (and winning) line is to cash both hearts then run the clubs.

♠ ---	♠ ---	♠ Q
♥ 3	♥ Q	♥ ---
♦ A J	♦ Q 9	♦ K 4
♣ ---	♣ ---	♣ ---
♠ 7	♠ 7	
♥ ---	♥ ---	
♦ 10	♦ 10	
♣ 2	♣ 2	

This is the ending as the last club is led. On the last club West must keep hearts guarded so pitches a diamond. Declarer lets the heart go and catches East in a spade-diamond squeeze.

Incidentally, narrow winners of the second final were Frank To and Bruce Neill, who took advantage of this deal too. To opened 3♣ and Neill used Blackwood to get to 6♣. When West saved in 6♥ Neill passed to invite further action and To bid 7♣ when perhaps 6NT might have been wiser. Against 7♣ the heart lead let declarer cash two hearts to pitch a spade then play spade ace and ruff a spade. He could now use the two club entries to ruff the spades good with the ♦A as the late entry to dummy. Either minor suit lead would have seen the defence home (a diamond for sure, a trump unless declarer can see through the backs of the cards). For the record 6NT was an 83% board, -100 a 17% result.

With three deals to go, the top four pairs were separated by about a top. Melbourne-Travis led by 12MP from Lilley-Nagy, who were seven in front of Edgton-Del'Monte, themselves seven in front of Richman-Reitzer. Top on a board was 26.

Dealer: North ♠ A K Q 6
 Vul: E-W ♥ K Q J
 Brd 25 ♦ Q J 5
 Open Prs Final S3 ♣ A 8 5

♠ 10 5
 ♥ A 10 2
 ♦ A 9 7 6 2
 ♣ J 9 7

♠ 9 4 3 2
 ♥ 9 8 5 3
 ♦ K 10 4
 ♣ K Q

♠ J 8 7
 ♥ 7 6 4
 ♦ 8 3
 ♣ 10 6 4 3 2

West	North	East	South	
Makeable Contracts				
-	5	-	5	NT
-	5	-	5	♠
-	5	-	5	♥
-	3	-	3	♦
-	3	-	3	♣

Only Melbourne-Travis were E/W here; the other three pairs had the opportunity to win half a top in very simple fashion, converting a 42% result into a 92% one, simply by not using Stayman facing a 2♣ opening but to blast out 3NT. And as many Norths indicated when dummy came down, why would you look for a major-suit fit with enough high-cards to ensure you should make game on strength alone?

In practice though all three pairs used delicate modern science to play the suit game. So Melbourne-Travis had picked up a fraction on the others; two deals to go.

Dealer: East ♠ Q 5
 Vul: Both ♥ K 8 7 6
 Brd 26 ♦ 7 6
 Open Prs Final S3 ♣ K J 9 5 2

♠ J 9
 ♥ J 9 2
 ♦ J 10 9 8 3 2
 ♣ Q 7

♠ A 6 4 2
 ♥ A 4 3
 ♦ A K Q
 ♣ 6 4 3

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

West	North	East	South	
		Pass	1NT	
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠	
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
Makeable Contracts				
-	3	-	1	NT
-	1	-	-	♠
-	4	-	2	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
-	4	-	3	♣

Again simplicity wins out over science. After this auction how could Melbourne do anything other than lead a diamond? Declarer could go after clubs with his ♠Q protected, and the defenders could take only two clubs and one heart. That was a 77% result for Richman-Reitzer and a 23% one for Melbourne-Travis.

Both the other two pairs in contention did even worse than the leaders, though. Del'Monte-Edgton bid:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦ [Show ♥s]
Double	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

McGann was not tested to lead ♠J and when Del'Monte ducked it did not force Brown to do something clever on the second round of the suit. Had he covered the first trick Brown would have had to continue with the ten, swallowing partner's nine. As it was, 3NT went down one, which should have been two, and that was 15% for N/S.

You could argue that Lilley-Nagy's result was more dignified -- if you are going to go down you might as well play slam? They bid:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠[*s]	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♣ //

Responder showed clubs and hearts, opener went past 3NT and Blackwood saw them to a slam that would still have had no play had either hand held the club queen. Someone did a lot too much here; you may attribute blame as you see fit but my vote goes to North. Despite declarer getting out for down one somehow, that was still the same 15%.

With one deal to go Melbourne and Travis appeared relatively safe. They were 17 MP ahead of Lillie-Nagy and the other two pairs could no longer catch them.

Dealer: South ♠ 8 7 2
 Vul: None ♥ A 8 2
 Brd 27 ♦ Q
 Open Prs Final S3 ♣ Q 9 8 7 6 3
 ♠ A K 10 3
 ♥ 3
 ♦ A 10 8 5 4
 ♣ J 5 2

♠ Q J 9 5 4
 ♥ Q 9 7 5
 ♦ 9 6
 ♣ 10 4

♠ 6
 ♥ K J 10 6 4
 ♦ K J 7 3 2
 ♣ A K

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

Makeable Contracts

4	-	4	-	NT
2	-	2	-	♠
4	-	4	-	♥
6	-	6	-	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

Both Del'Monte's and Richman's opponents rubbed salt in the wound by bidding slam. Both defences allowed 6♦ to make 940 here, for an 85% result. All Travis-Melbourne needed to do was get to game. What could have happened to lead to them stopping in just 3♦?

Travis had forgotten they play XYZ where 2♣ was not game-forcing but the start of an invitational sequence. Making +170 meant that they now needed Lilley-Nagy to score less than a complete top to win. And they certainly beat par here, by opening the South hand 2♣ to show both majors, persuading their opponents to play 3NT not 6♦.

Unfortunately for them, the field significantly underperformed here: three pairs played partscore, four other pairs missed slam, so they collected only a 70% board, and Travis and Melbourne held on to win by 12 MP - and the marriage would survive for at least one more bridge tournament...



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QUALIFYING PAIRS SESSION 2 – TAKING YOUR CHANCES

Barry Rigal

Your opponents don't always defend correctly; it is up to you to make them pay. On board 11 of the second pairs qualifying game Michael Prescott as South found his way to 3♥:

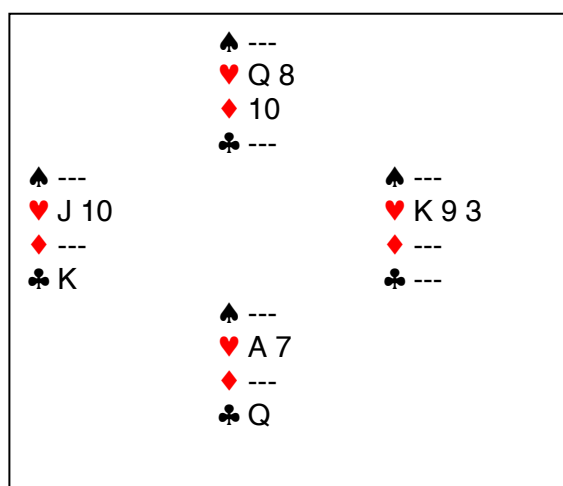
Dealer: South ♠ A 9 7 5
 Vul: None ♥ Q 8 4 2
 Brd 11 ♦ A K 10 5
 Open Prs Qual S2 ♣ 7
 ♠ Q J 6
 ♥ J 10
 ♦ J 8 3
 ♣ A K J 9 4

♠ 8 4
 ♥ A 7 6 5
 ♦ 7 6 2
 ♣ Q 8 6 5

♠ K 10 3 2
 ♥ K 9 3
 ♦ Q 9 4
 ♣ 10 3 2

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♣	Double	1NT	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Makeable Contracts				
2	-	2	-	NT
2	-	2	-	♠
-	2	-	2	♥
-	-	-	-	♦
3	-	3	-	♣



Jacob Tarszisz led a top club and shifted to a top spade. Prescott ducked and won the next spade to ruff a spade, ruffed a club, then played the fourth spade and pitched a diamond from hand. West gave declarer his chance when he pitched a club. Aidan Dorrell played a third club, and Prescott ruffed then played the top diamonds and ruffed a diamond, to reach this ending:

Prescott was fairly sure that West, who had a balanced hand, could not hold the heart king or he would have opened a strong no-trump. So he led his last club and pitched dummy's diamond when west produced the king. Success! East was forced to ruff his partner's winner and lead from the heart king for a spectacular +140 for declarer. That was worth 98% for him.

TRAVELING MAN

Brent Manley



Tournament Director Peter Marley isn't kidding when says, "I've had a busy life." The former engineer turned music teacher now works with people who have disabilities, especially those with acquired brain injuries. There's also a bit of tournament bridge work for the resident of Maldon, Victoria. He is working at the Gold Coast Congress this week.

"Peter has a good eye for detail," says Laurie Kelso, director in charge at this tournament, "and he has a good work rate and a reasonable analysis of situations."

Marley studied engineering at Melbourne University and worked for the Melbourne Harbor Trust until age 40 (he will be 61 next week). He began playing classical guitar while studying engineering and in 1977, returned to Melbourne University to earn a degree in music education. He taught guitar to help finance his studies.

Marley took up bridge while at Melbourne University for the second time, and he taught music at Wantirna High School for seven years, leaving in 1988 to start work as a bridge pro. In 1990, he became chief tournament director for the Victoria Bridge Association, moving to Maldon, out in the country, in 1996. Three or four times a week, he drove 150 kilometres to the bridge association. Kelso succeeded him as the association's chief TD.

Marley says the variations in his work life have come naturally to him. "I've always done things I get satisfaction from," he notes. As for bridge, he adds, "I love the game, the challenges, the people – and it's fun."

Among the pursuits that satisfy Marley is travelling. With his Irish heritage in mind, the first time he left Australia – in 1990 – was to visit Inniscarra, in County Cork, where his ancestors lived. When he arrived at the Emerald Isle, Marley says, “it felt like home.” He tries to return to Ireland at least once a year.

The trip to Ireland included a stop in the United States, which has become a regular destination. Marley now has a goal of visiting each of the 50 states (he has 18 to go).

Among his favourite trips was the one that began in New Orleans, a sort of “musical” tour of the South, from the home of jazz to Nashville, famous for the Grand Old Opry (country music) and over to Memphis, home of the blues.

Another great adventure, he says, was one he dreamed of from childhood – driving the length of the iconic Route 66, more than 2,448 miles from Chicago to Los Angeles. The journey, he says, “exceeded expectations.”

His habit, Marley says, is to fly into a city, rent a car and hit the road with no special plans.

On one trip, he started in New York, drove to Boston to soak up some of the Revolutionary War history, then travelled to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to learn about the American Civil War “from the Northern point of view.” The next stop, he says, was Richmond, Virginia, in the South, so he could get “the other side of the story.”

Marley is not the only member of his family to show an artistic side. Jo, his wife of 37 years, creates textile arts, and his daughter is a chef. Although not involved in an artistic pursuit, his son has an unusual occupation working for the CSIRO in scientific research. Says Marley, “He tells people he burns rocks for a living.”

MUSINGS FROM MY FIRST OUTING IN THE SENIORS

David Stern

Yes folks it has finally happened. After starting to play bridge around age 12 I have finally, well maybe I should in fact use the word finally given the following revelation, reached the.....ability to enter yes....the Seniors Teams.

I went to some lengths to put together a social team with limited expectations due to the fact that you could count on one hand the number of sessions of bridge I have played in the last 12 months. If you want some proof of just how rusty I am sit down behind me and (don't) learn.

Dealer: North	♠ J 8 6 2	West	North	East	South
Vul: N-S	♥ J 10 9 4 3		Pass	1♦	Pass
Brd 5	♦ 9	1♥	Pass	2♥	3♦
Sen Tms Qual R1	♣ Q 7 2	4♥	Double	Pass	Pass
♠ 9 7 4		Pass			
♥ A K 6 5 2	♠ A Q 3	Makeable Contracts			
♦ 10 6	♥ Q 8 7	1	-	1	-
♣ A J 4	♦ K 8 3 2	-	1	-	1
	♣ 10 8 6	1	-	1	-
	♠ K 10 5	-	1	-	1
	♥ ---	1	-	1	-
	♦ A Q J 7 5 4	-	1	-	2
	♣ K 9 5 3	-	1	-	1
					♠
					♥
					♦
					♣

Partner led the ♦9 and I thought to myself “I’ll leave partner on lead for another diamond through or maybe a spade switch. When West looked startled at winning the ♦10 I finally clued in to the fact that maybe I did not have ♦AQJ10XX. Partner’s trump holding protected me and we still collected +500.

Dealer: South	♠ K 10 4	West	North	East	South
Vul: Both	♥ A J 10 6 5 2				2NT
Brd 7	♦ 8 6	Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Sen Tms Qual R1	♣ 4 2	Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass!!!!
♠ 9 7 5		Pass			
♥ Q	♠ 8 6 3 2	Makeable Contracts			
♦ Q J 10 9 4 3	♥ 7 4 3	-	6	-	6
♣ J 6 3	♦ 2	-	3	-	3
	♣ K Q 10 7 5	-	6	-	6
		-	2	-	2
		-	2	-	2
	♠ A Q J				♠
	♥ K 9 8				♥
	♦ A K 7 5				♦
	♣ A 9 8				♣

Playing both 3♦ and 4♣ as a transfer to hearts, the auction by responder of transferring and then bidding game opposite what may be a doubleton heart (as opposed to a 2NT:4♣ direct transfer) shows that he has mild slam aspirations. Dopey me passed without digesting my partner's subtle message. Not that 6♥ is a great contract but the loss of four imps against the datum score suggests I should have made a try.

That raises another issue. Assuming I was more awake than in fact I was at the table and bid 4♠ cue bid partner would either bid 4NT showing continued interest or more likely 5♥ to say I've made a try and that's all I have. In any event I think it unlikely that we would have reached what would turn out to be a cold slam.

The following hand was probably the most careless of plays in the two sets that I played today.

Dealer: West	♠ 5 4 3 2	West	North	East	South
Vul: None	♥ A 7 4	Pass	Pass	1♣ [2+]	1♠
Brd 8	♦ K J 7 5 2	2♣	4♠	Pass	Pass
Sen Tms Qual R1	♣ 7	Pass			
♠ 10 8		Makeable Contracts			
♥ K 10 8	♠ Q 6	-	-	-	-
♦ A 8 4	♥ J 9 5 2	-	3	-	4
♣ 9 8 6 5 3	♦ 10 9 6	-	-	-	1
	♣ A K Q 10	-	3	-	4
	♠ A K J 9 7	2	-	2	-
	♥ Q 6 3				♠
	♦ Q 3				♥
	♣ J 4 2				♦
					♣

West led the 5♣ with East winning the ♣Q and promptly switching to a low heart. Assuming I can avoid a spade loser I need to focus on the loss of one club, one heart and one diamond. Without enough thought I flew with the ♥Q and now had to lose two hearts, a club and diamond for one down.

The winning line is to assume that the ♥K is with West knowing that the ♣A-K-Q and maybe the ♦A is with East – yes it isn't but this is a reasonable assumption – and duck the heart and duck in dummy when West plays the ♥10. This will allow you to set up diamonds to pitch the heart loser later. It's amazing how playing quickly leads to poor plays such as this.

Dealer: West	♠ A 10 7 6 3	West	North	East	South
Vul: E-W	♥ K 7 6 5	Pass	Pass	1♣ [1]	Pass
Brd 16	♦ 9 4 3	1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
Sen Tms Qual R1	♣ 4	3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
♠ 5 2		[1] Precision 16+			
♥ A 4	♠ J 9	Makeable Contracts			
♦ Q J 10 6 5	♥ J 10 8 3	2	-	2	-
♣ 9 8 5 3	♦ A K 8 2	-	4	-	4
	♣ A K 10	-	1	-	1
	♠ K Q 8 4	3	-	3	-
	♥ Q 9 2	1	-	1	-
	♦ 7				♠
	♣ Q J 7 6 2				♥
					♦
					♣

We lost a bunch of imps on this hand but I don't confess to 'owning' much of the loss. In our room (auction above) I led the ♣6 handing declarer his ninth trick. In the other room N/S bought the hand in 2♠ after East's strong 1NT opening which combined with our score led to a 12 imp loss.

I could have been more severely punished on the following board.

Dealer: East	♠ K 9 6	West	North	East	South
Vul: N-S	♥ 9 7	Pass	3NT	Pass	1NT
Brd 18	♦ A Q J	Pass		Pass	Pass
Sen Tms Qual R1	♣ 10 8 6 5 4	Pass			
♠ A 8 3		Makeable Contracts			
♥ K 10 2	♠ Q J 5 4 2	-	1	-	3
♦ 10 4 3	♥ A J 8 6 5	3	-	3	-
♣ J 7 3 2	♦ 9 2	3	-	3	-
	♣ 9	-	3	-	3
	♠ 10 7				♠
	♥ Q 4 3				♥
	♦ K 8 7 6 5				♦
	♣ A K Q				♣

For some reason I don't really recall (see above; I am playing in the Seniors OK), I upgraded the South hand by a point and opened a 15-17 1NT. Partner raised me and West found the inspired 'fourth' best ♥2 lead. East won the ♥A and returned the six. Now I know that West has either three or four hearts. I should duck this hoping that West had a holding exactly as shown above and be forced to win the ♥10, cash the king and have no more hearts hoping upon hope that he also has the ♠A: or I can put up the ♥Q in the forlorn hope that East started with ♥A-K. I elected for the vastly inferior play of putting up the queen upon which West won the ♥K and played the ♥10. East fell from grace by 'forgetting' to overtake the ten and when the ♠A was onside I emerged with nine tricks. It always amazes me how I can see these things after the event.

One of my better skills has been choosing good partners and team mates, a skill which saw our team win the two matches 25-3 and 19-11.

TEAMS QUALIFYING ROUND 1

Brent Manley



All in the family - Helen Clayton, John Sharp, Meg Sharp and Kathy Palmer.

It's not unheard of for all members of a team to be related, but probably not many are like the John Sharp squad in the Intermediate Teams. Three of the four members are sisters. Sharp is the brother-in-law.

Sharp and his wife, Meg, are from Sydney. Their teammates are Kathy Palmer of Melbourne and Helen Clayton of Brisbane.

Their first-round opponents on Tuesday were led by Pat Leighton, playing with Gayleen Brown, both of Townsville. Their teammates are Barbara Hospers and Gladys Tulloch.

The Sharp team won a close match, 10-9.

On the following deal, Clayton had to play carefully to land her contract for a push. Palmer was South, Clayton North, Leighton West and Brown East.

Dealer: South ♠ Q 8 3
 Vul: E-W ♥ A Q 9 6 4
 Brd 3 ♦ J
 Int Tms Qual R1 ♣ Q J 8 3
 ♠ K J 10
 ♥ 10 8 7
 ♦ 7 4 3 2
 ♣ 9 5 4

♠ A 9 7 2
 ♥ J 5 3
 ♦ 9 8 6
 ♣ K 7 2

♠ 6 5 4
 ♥ K 2
 ♦ A K Q 10 5
 ♣ A 10 6

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1♥	Double	2♥
Pass	Pass	3♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Makeable Contracts

	West	North	East	South	
1	-	1	-	NT	
-	2	-	1	♠	
-	3	-	3	♥	
2	-	2	-	♦	
-	2	-	2	♣	

Brown started with a high diamond and continued the suit, Clayton ruffing. She played a low club from hand, taken by Brown with the ace to force declarer again with a third round of diamonds. Clayton went to dummy with the ♣K and ran the ♥J to East. Clayton won the club exit in hand and cashed the ♥A. Players are taught

to draw trumps when they can, but Clayton realized that if she did so, she would be out of trumps and with a spade still to lose. The opponents could then cash enough diamonds to defeat her.

Leaving a trump in dummy to deal with another diamond play, Clayton played a spade to dummy's ace and another spade. Leighton won the ♠K, but that was the last trick for the defence. If Leighton continued with a diamond, declarer could ruff in dummy and return to hand with the ♠Q to draw the last trump. As it was, Leighton exited with a spade and Clayton could claim plus 140 for a push.

This one was worth 3 IMPs to the Leighton team.

Dealer: North	♠ J 8 6 2	West	North	East	South	
Vul: N-S	♥ J 10 9 4 3		Pass	Pass	1♦	
Brd 5	♦ 9	1♥	Pass	2♥	3♦	
Int Tms Qual R1	♣ Q 7 2	Pass	Pass	Pass		
♠ 9 7 4		<hr/>				
♥ A K 6 5 2	♠ A Q 3	Makeable Contracts				
♦ 10 6	♥ Q 8 7	1	-	1	-	NT
♣ A J 4	♦ K 8 3 2	-	1	-	1	♠
	♣ 10 8 6	1	-	1	-	♥
	♠ K 10 5	-	1	-	2	♦
	♥	-	1	-	1	♣
	♦ A Q J 7 5 4					
	♣ K 9 5 3					

That nice diamond suit and void in hearts proved too much for Palmer to resist. The sight of dummy was disappointing, but she ruffed the heart opening lead and led a club from her hand. Leighton ducked, and the queen won the trick. Taking advantage of her one trip to the dummy, Palmer played the ♠J, taken by Sharp with the ace to return the ♣10 to the king and ace. The ♣J produced another trick for the defence, and the ♦10 went to the 9, 2 and jack, Sharp correctly playing low. Palmer did not have many options from there, and she finished play two down for minus 200. Fortunately for her, the contract was the same at the other table but declarer went three down.

On board 10, both North-South pairs bid to a major-suit game, but one was hearts the other spades – and it was the heart contract that produced an overtrick.

Dealer: East	♠ A 6 4	West	North	East	South	
Vul: Both	♥ Q 10 8 7			Pass	1♠	
Brd 10	♦ J 10 9 8	2♣	3♣	Pass	4♠	
Int Tms Qual R1	♣ K 4	Pass	Pass	Pass		
♠ K		<hr/>				
♥ A 5 3	♠ J 9 8 7	Makeable Contracts				
♦ K 3 2	♥ 6 2	-	3	-	3	NT
♣ Q J 10 9 8 5	♦ Q 7 5 4	-	4	-	4	♠
	♣ 6 3 2	-	5	-	5	♥
	♠ Q 10 5 3 2	-	3	-	3	♦
	♥ K J 9 4	1	-	1	-	♣
	♦ A 6					
	♣ A 7					

The auction from the other table is not known, but the contract there was 4♥.

Against 4♠, Leighton led the ♣Q, taken by declarer with the ace. Palmer played a low spade from hand, winning the ace when West's king popped up. She finessed the ♠10 and cashed the queen, and was soon claiming 10 tricks – conceding a trump, the ♥A and a diamond. Plus 620.

As you can see, in 4♥, South does not lose a spade, thanks to the favourable lie of the suit. That was 1 IMP to Leighton.

On this deal, Leighton played well to earn an overtrick and another 1-IMP swing. That doesn't seem like a lot, but every IMP counts in a close match.

ATTORNEY: Do you know if your daughter has ever been involved in voodoo?

WITNESS: We both do.

ATTORNEY: Voodoo?

WITNESS: We do..

ATTORNEY: You do?

WITNESS: Yes , voodoo.

ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep , he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

Dealer: North ♠ Q 6 4
 Vul: Both ♥ Q 8 3
 Brd 13 ♦ K 7 2
 Int Tms Qual R1 ♣ 7 6 5 4
 ♠ 8 3
 ♥ K J 10 2
 ♦ Q J 9 6 5
 ♣ K J

♠ J 10 7
 ♥ A 9 7 5
 ♦ 10 8 4 3
 ♣ 10 8

♠ A K 9 5 2
 ♥ 6 4
 ♦ A
 ♣ A Q 9 3 2

West	North	East	South
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Makeable Contracts				
4	-	4	-	NT
5	-	5	-	♠
4	-	4	-	♥
4	-	4	-	♦
6	-	6	-	♣

North started with a low club, taken by Leighton with the jack. She considered her options for a time before playing a diamond to dummy's ace. Back in hand with a club to the king, Leighton played a sneaky ♦J. When that held the trick, Leighton could see her way to nine tricks, so she played a spade to dummy's ace, cashed the ♠K and ran three club tricks, coming down to the ♥K-J and ♦Q in her hand. With nine tricks in the bag, Leighton played a low heart from dummy. Palmer followed low smoothly and Leighton capped off a fine effort by guessing to play the ♥K. Very well done.

The opponents' spades divided 3-3, but they don't rate to, and Leighton's line guarantees nine tricks. She played her contract as well as any expert would have done.

TEAMS QUALIFYING ROUND 2

Barry Rigal

I was well situated to watch the action from two tables here. At one table it was Frank To and Bruce Neill N/S respectively against Michael Doecke and William Jenner-O'Shea. At the next table Sartaj Hans and Andrew Peake (N/S) were taking on Matt Mullamphy and Ron Klinger.

In what was an exciting set of deals, where every hand had the potential for swings, the IMPs flowed backwards and forwards at great speed.

On the first deal Cornell (N/S for the Klinger Team) and Neill picked up partscore swings -- Neill managing this by defending 2♥ in both rooms. Cornell and Doecke both managed a big pick-up on the second deal:

Dealer: West ♠ A 10 7 6 3
 Vul: E-W ♥ K 7 6 5
 Brd 16 ♦ 9 4 3
 Open Tms Qual R2 ♣ 4
 ♠ 5 2
 ♥ A 4
 ♦ Q J 10 6 5
 ♣ 9 8 5 3

♠ K Q 8 4
 ♥ Q 9 2
 ♦ 7
 ♣ Q J 7 6 2

♠ J 9
 ♥ J 10 8 3
 ♦ A K 8 2
 ♣ A K 10

West	North	East	South	
Makeable Contracts				
2	-	2	-	NT
-	4	-	4	♠
-	1	-	1	♥
3	-	3	-	♦
1	-	1	-	♣

E/W have 22 high-card points but it is N/S who can make game here. Mullamphy had obviously not read the script though. He opened 1NT as East, Klinger used a form of modified Stayman to find a maximum hand with no major, and raised his partner to the no-trump game. Peake must have felt victimized when his small club lead was the only one to let through nine tricks. Meanwhile in the other match To balanced over 1NT as North to show a one-suiter. Neill passed the 2♣ call (quite a view!) and when Doecke balanced with 2♦ he let his opponents play there. That was -110 and 7 IMPs away when Morrison-Hinge played 5♦ down 200.

After a quiet 3NT deal both matches generated double figure swings.

ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?

WITNESS: He's 20, much like your IQ.

ATTORNEY: Were you present when your picture was taken?

WITNESS: Are you sh#tting me?

ATTORNEY: So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And what were you doing at that time?

WITNESS: Getting laid.

Dealer: East ♠ K 9 6
 Vul: N-S ♥ 9 7
 Brd 18 ♦ A Q J
 Open Tms Qual R2 ♣ 10 8 6 5 4
 ♠ A 8 3
 ♥ K 10 2
 ♦ 10 4 3
 ♣ J 7 3 2

♠ Q J 5 4 2
 ♥ A J 8 6 5
 ♦ 9 2
 ♣ 9

♠ 10 7
 ♥ Q 4 3
 ♦ K 8 7 6 5
 ♣ A K Q

West	North	East	South	
Makeable Contracts				
-	1	-	3	NT
3	-	3	-	♠
3	-	3	-	♥
-	3	-	3	♦
-	3	-	3	♣

Can you blame either To or Neill for passing out Jenner-O'Shea's 2♥ opening (majors, weak)? They conceded 110, while in the other room Kim Prescott as South reached 3NT after East had shown the majors, weak. West found the heart lead but declarer ducked the second heart, and West took his best shot to beat the game when he hopped up with the king and returned the suit. That gave declarer +630 and 12 IMPs.

Klinger earned his swing on this deal when as West he led a heart on the auction: 1NT-3NT. By contrast to the revealing auction elsewhere, Peake had no reason to guess the position here; when Mullamphy won the heart ace and returned the suit, declarer rose with the queen. Two down and 13 IMPs to Cornell when this defence was not found in the other room. Cornell led 28-0 now, while Doecke was in front 19-5.

On Board 19 Mullamphy gave Burke their first IMPs of the set when he held ♠A4 ♥J84 ♦KJ842 ♣AQ2 and at unfavourable vulnerability he heard the auction go 2♦:Pass:3♥ to him. 2♦ was Precision - short diamonds and 11-15 points, three-suited, 3♥ was non-constructive. He doubled and Klinger bid 3♠ and then had the joy of playing a 4-2 spade fit with considerably less than half the deck. Nobody doubled but Burke had 6 IMPs painlessly enough for collecting 400.

Dealer: West ♠ A K 8 5 4 2
 Vul: Both ♥ K 8
 Brd 20 ♦ Q J
 Open Tms Qual R2 ♣ K 8 2
 ♠ 7 6 3
 ♥ 6 2
 ♦ A 10 9 7 3
 ♣ 7 6 3

♠ 10
 ♥ A Q J 9 5
 ♦ K 4
 ♣ A Q J 10 5

♠ Q J 9
 ♥ 10 7 4 3
 ♦ 8 6 5 2
 ♣ 9 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	3♣	3♠
Pass	Pass	Double	??

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
-	1	-	1	♠
4	-	4	-	♥
4	-	4	-	♦
5	-	5	-	♣

On this deal I thought Doecke had a very challenging problem. As West he heard the auction above:

Passing would have collected a painless +500 and bidding 4♥ would have done even better at +620. But he bid 4♣, for which one can hardly blame him. That collected +130 when his partner played safe for the contract. But how would you play 5♣ on repeated spade leads? Gill ruffed and crossed to dummy with a diamond to take the heart finesse, then cashed ♥A and ruffed a heart. North could overruff and exit in diamonds, with a trump trick still to come. The winning line is simple enough - but apparently no one in 5♣ found it.

Simply play a diamond to the ace then finesse in hearts, cash the heart ace and when the king appears, next play the diamond king then the heart jack pitching a spade. North can ruff but now has to play a black card, giving you the club finesse or letting you get to dummy with a ruff and discard. Since the diamonds are good you lead one out and plan to pitch your last heart. If North ruffs in you overruff, cash the club ace to drop his king, and take your heart ruff. You want to know how many people found this line? Hint: rhymes with 'hero'. Many more players made nine tricks than ten in clubs. Humph. The other three tables made small partscores as E/W so Cornell had 6 IMPs and led 34-6.

ATTORNEY: She had three children , right?
 WITNESS: Yes.
 ATTORNEY: How many were boys?
 WITNESS: None.
 ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?
 WITNESS: Your Honour, I think I need a different attorney.
 Can I get a new attorney?
 ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death..
 ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?
 WITNESS: Take a guess.
 ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?
 WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard.
 ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?
 WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

Dealer: North ♠ K Q 6 5
 Vul: N-S ♥ 6 5 2
 Brd 21 ♦ K 10 6 5
 Open Tms Qual R2 ♣ 9 4
 ♠ 3
 ♥ A J 8
 ♦ A J 8
 ♣ K J 10 7 6 3

♠ 10 8 7 4 2
 ♥ 4 3
 ♦ 9 4 3 2
 ♣ 8 2

♠ A J 9
 ♥ K Q 10 9 7
 ♦ Q 7
 ♣ A Q 5

West	North	East	South	
Makeable Contracts				
-	3	-	3	NT
-	3	-	3	♠
-	3	-	4	♥
-	2	-	3	♦
1	-	1	-	♣

This board looks like a test from Challenge the Champs. When South hears his partner raise hearts after a 2♣ overcall from West, wouldn't you head directly for 3NT... or would it be wiser to cue-bid then bid 3NT to offer a choice of games? I think I prefer the first route but today 4♥ is easy and 3NT...not so much. You can however make it: on a club lead you win and lead a low diamond up. West must duck or you have nine winners, so you put in the ten, cash four spades to squeeze West out of clubs and a diamond and then play a heart to the king. West wins and cashes the ♦A then returns a top club. You win and throw him in with a club to lead hearts; easy-peasy!

Bruce Neill made 3NT when Doecke did not lead a club, flattening the board when Prescott-Janor found their way to 4♥ and made it. Well done. Both tables played 3NT in our other match, Ashley Bach going down an extra trick and losing 3 IMPs for his pains.

Dealer: East ♠ Q J 7 6
 Vul: E-W ♥
 Brd 22 ♦ K 9 8 4
 ♣ Q 10 9 6 5
 ♠ A 8 3
 ♥ A K 5 4 3
 ♦ J 6 2
 ♣ 4 2
 ♠ K 5 2
 ♥ 8 7 6 2
 ♦ Q 5
 ♣ A K J 3

♠ 10 9 4
 ♥ Q J 10 9
 ♦ A 10 7 3
 ♣ 8 7

West	North	East	South	
Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
-	2	-	2	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
-	5	-	5	♣

Two of our pairs had real problems with the N/S cards here. Cornell-Bach missed game when their opponents meanly refused to compete in hearts. At least they went plus, playing 1♠ for +110. By contrast, Prescott-Janor sold out to 3♥, and let it make on a defence that is being optioned for the revived Hammer Horror franchise. Both the other tables played 5♣ by South and each of the declarers ruffed the heart lead, played a diamond to the queen, ruffed a heart, then led a low diamond from the board, exploiting Tony Forrester's tip about the power of the closed hand. Both defenders in the East seat went in with the ♦A, and that was a painless +400 for N/S. with spades 3-3 declarer could succeed whatever the defence did, of course, but this was nice pressure play by the two Souths, Andrew Peake and Bruce Neill.

Dealer: South ♠ A J 10 9 4 2
 Vul: Both ♥ 9 8
 Brd 23 ♦ A 9 4
 ♣ A 9
 ♠ K Q 6 5 3
 ♥ J 7 4 3
 ♦ ---
 ♣ Q J 4 2
 ♠
 ♥ A 6
 ♦ J 10 8 7 6 5 3
 ♣ K 10 6 3

♠ 8 7
 ♥ K Q 10 5 2
 ♦ K Q 2
 ♣ 8 7 5

West	North	East	South	
			1♦	
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	
2♣	2♠	Double	3♦	
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass	
Pass				
Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
-	2	-	2	♠
1	-	1	-	♥
-	5	-	5	♦
-	1	-	1	♣

Another monstrous deal here; ten pairs went for huge penalties as E/W and while nobody attempted the incredibly unlucky 6♦ contract on the N/S cards, pairs in both directions attempted 4♠x. Hinge and Morrison

did well as E/W, stealing the deal in 3♥ down 100. Neill-To did less well after Neill elected to open the South hand of power and quality. The auction was as shown above:

As To commented afterwards, 'was it fair that the opponents never bid their nine-card fit?' with 5♦ laydown and South marked with a spade void maybe To should have considered playing the suit game? 3NT went two down on a heart lead, and Doecke led 26-18. In the other match Burke registered a 13 IMP swing when Peake-Hans bid Pass:1♠:1NT:2♠:3♦:4♦:5♦. Nicely judged, but note that the safe line of play on e.g. a heart lead is to win, cash the club and spade aces to pitch the heart loser, then lead a second club and ruff it. With trumps 3-0 you risk defeat if clubs are also 5-2 by playing a trump before trying to ruff a club. It was 35-29 now for Klinger.

Dealer: West	♠ 10 5				
Vul: None	♥ K 4				
Brd 24	♦ Q 10 9 8 3				
	♣ K J 7 4				
♠ 7 3		♠ A K Q J 9 4			
♥ Q J 7 3		♥ 10 9			
♦ 7 6 5		♦ A J			
♣ Q 9 5 2		♣ A 6 3			
	♠ 8 6 2				
	♥ A 8 6 5 2				
	♦ K 4 2				
	♣ 10 8				

	West	North	East	South	
	Makeable Contracts				
	2	-	2	-	NT
	2	-	2	-	♠
	1	-	-	-	♥
	-	3	-	3	♦
	1	-	1	-	♣

Would you reopen as North if you heard a pass on your right, pass from you, and 1♠ opened on your left? To and Cornell did, and heard their opponents bid promptly to 3NT. They may have been regretting their decision, but declarer's eight tricks when added to zero in dummy didn't come to the required number. Jenner-O'Shea tried to sneak a club through and went three down, Gill settled for down one. Both the other tables made a spade partscore.

On Boards 25 and 26 everyone played a sensible game, down one or two when all the finesses lost, then overreached to play optimistic partscores or games down a bunch. With two deals to go Klinger had a 16 IMP lead over Burke, but then had a system accident to miss an easy game. They ended up winning 45-36.

Meanwhile Neill rescued their match from the fire when Doecke had to play 3NT here.

Dealer: West	♠ K Q 10				
Vul: N-S	♥ 7 3 2				
Brd 28	♦ J 10 8 5				
	♣ 7 6 4				
♠ A 9 7		♠ J 8 5 3			
♥ K Q 10 9		♥ A 4			
♦ K 9		♦ Q 4 3			
♣ A J 9 5		♣ K 10 8 3			
	♠ 6 4 2				
	♥ J 8 6 5				
	♦ A 7 6 2				
	♣ Q 2				

	West	North	East	South	
	Makeable Contracts				
	4	-	4	-	NT
	4	-	4	-	♠
	4	-	4	-	♥
	2	-	2	-	♦
	5	-	5	-	♣

After the diamond jack lead against 3NT round to his king, declarer sensibly lost the club finesse into the safe hand, and won the spade shift with the ace. He then rattled off the clubs, his RHO discarding a diamond and a spade, and now it looks logical to finesse the heart ten as the best chance for four tricks. Doecke actually played hearts from the top and when the jack did not fall he exited with a heart, hoping the ♦Q would take the ninth trick, but Neill could win and get out with a spade to his partner and the defenders had five winners. That meant a 36-33 win for Neill.

PUZZLE DU JOUR

Barry Rigal

Today's problem from the Lille Olympiad sees the England Seniors, who had not yet lost a match and had a clear lead at the head of Group H when they met their closest follower, Israel. The match was tight with this board being the key to Israel's narrow win 20-16 or 16-14 in VPs:

Dealer: East ♠ Q 8 5
 Vul: N/S ♥ 8 7 5 3
 ♦ J 4
 ♣ A K 9 5

♠ 9 4
 ♥ 4 2
 ♦ A 10 9 8 7 3
 ♣ 8 6 2

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

What would you lead against the heart game. I like a spade myself, but David Birman led a trump. East won the king and shifted to the 5♦. Over to you – how do you plan the defence when declarer follows with the 6♦?

SOLUTION DU JOUR

Barry Rigal

Here is the full deal from yesterday's puzzle with declarer playing 6♣ on the lead of the 2♥:

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

At the table declarer played low from dummy and West won the queen. A trump was returned. To avoid the spade finesse declarer has to dispose of five cards in the suit. Two can go on the diamonds, so three must disappear on the hearts. Is this possible?

Yes: East is marked with the ace. If West has five you can only set up two hearts by felling South's bare ace. If West has three hearts you need him to have the nine.

You ruff a heart, then use a trump entry to lead the king of hearts, covered by East and set up three winning hearts when the nine falls. The spade finesse is not needed!

However, suppose South had won the first heart with the ♥A. That sets up the king at once but now declarer will surely place West with the queen and, at the crucial moment, will try to fell that by ruffing a low heart. When that fails there are at most two heart winners to dispose of spades and declarer has to rely on the spade finesse. One down!

HAVE YOU DISCUSSED?

Brent Manley

A player opened 1♠ in third seat and his partner responded 2♣. When opener rebid 2♥, his opponent called for the director. "They're playing Drury and they didn't Alert," she said. "But we don't play Drury," said the 1♠ opener. "There it is," she continued, "right on their convention card." Opener calmly said, "That's not our convention card." Undeterred, the woman said, "Look at the name on the top. It belongs to....." At that point, her voice trailed off as she realized she was reading her own name.

On the so-called "front" of the ABF convention card is a section for describing a partnership's 1NT overcall agreements.

Most partnerships use a range similar, if not identical, to the strong 1NT opener, i.e., 15-17. There is room in the box to indicate whether systems – e.g., Stayman and transfers – are "ON." If the bidding goes 1♦:1NT: Pass:2♣, does your partnership have an agreement about what 2♣ means, is it to play or Stayman and what about 2♦?

Do you have an agreement about what to do if your hand is stronger than the 1NT overcall range? The normal way is to double the opener and bid no-trump, assuming partner has made a minimum response. You're on your own if partner jumps to the four or five level in your doubleton. No one said there is a perfect bid for every situation.

Another important topic: Do you have some means of escape if partner's 1NT overcall is doubled for penalty by third hand? If the card gods have dealt you a five-card suit, your choice is easier, but you might not always be so lucky. Suppose you hold

♠ 5 4 3 ♥ J 8 7 6 ♦ K 7 6 5 ♣ 6 2

and the auction goes

West	North	East	South
	Partner		You
1♣	1NT	Dbl	?

You do not want leave partner in 1NT doubled, but you could end up in a 4-2 fit if you pick one of your four-card suits to run out to. It's important for you and your partner to decide on a system for running in such cases.

One possibility is "DONT" escape, which has the virtue of simplicity. In the given auction, you could bid 2♦ to show diamonds and a major. You might even be lucky enough to find a 4-4 fit. When you have a five-card suit or, on a really lucky day, a six-bagger, you can redouble, which tells partner to bid 2♣, after which you will pass if clubs is your long suit. With some other long suit, just bid it.

For those occasions when you are on the other side of the 1NT overcall, you will occasionally find yourself with a hand strong enough that you want to compete but not strong enough to double (usually a good 9 or more high-card points). Say partner opens 1♦ and your right-hand opponent overcalls 1NT. Maybe your hand is

♠ Q 10 8 7 ♥ Q J 8 4 ♦ K 5 ♣ 10 9 7

If you are playing Hamilton (or Cappelletti, depending on where you play bridge), you can get into the auction by bidding 2♦ for the majors. If partner doesn't like either major and has five or six diamonds, he can pass.

The full scheme is this: double = penalty; 2♠ = single-suited hand; 2♦ = majors, and two of a major shows that major and a minor. Partner won't go crazy because your failure to double limits your hand.

There's one more 1NT situation you and partner must discuss: When the bidding goes 1any suit:Pass:Pass, what does a bid of 1NT show? Do you play "system on" as you do when its 1Suit:1NT? Does it guarantee a stopper?

Many experts recommend that the balancing 1NT shows 11-14 when the opening bid was in a minor and 13-15 when it was a major. The reason for the different ranges is that when you are stronger than your agreed range, you must double first and bid no-trump over partner's response. When the opening was in a minor, you most likely will be able to double and rebid 1NT. When the opener was a major, your second call after doubling would be 2NT in the majority of cases. That will put you too high when partner is broke.

WEEKEND SWISS PAIRS MATCH II

Barry Rigal

Dealer: South ♠ 10 9 7
 Vul: N-S ♥ K Q 10 4 3
 Brd 15 ♦ A K 6 5
 Swiss Pairs Sat ♣ J
 ♠ A 8 6 4
 ♥ 9 7 6 2
 ♦ 9
 ♣ Q 8 4 3

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

West	North	East	South	
Makeable Contracts				
-	2	-	2	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
-	5	-	5	♥
-	6	-	6	♦
-	5	-	5	♣

We received a request to comment on the Double-Dummy analysis that suggests 6♦ can always be made. If South is declarer then on a passive lead such as a heart declarer can ruff a club in dummy to draw trumps with the aid of the marked (after cashing ♦A-♦K) finesse. That produces five hearts, five trumps and two clubs.

The most challenging lead is two rounds of spades. Declarer must ruff and cash ♥A, cross to a heart in dummy and take a first round diamond finesse of the ten. Then he can draw trumps and run the hearts and pitch dummy's remaining spade on the clubs. Anyone who finds that line at the table will earn his partner's admiration and opponent's suspicion.



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BRIDGE FOR THE IMPROVER

Ron Klinger

Dealer: South	West	North	East	South
Vul: N/S				1♠
West	Pass	1NT	4♥	4♠
♠ 7	5♥	Pass	Pass	5♠
♥ 10 8 7 2	Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass
♦ A 6 5				
♣ Q 8 7 5 3				

What should West lead against 5♠X on the auction above?

LIGHTING THE WAY

From an Open Teams:

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

A double by a pre-emptive bidder commonly shows a void and asks partner not to lead the suit bid by the defence. West duly led a club and chose the ♣3 as suit-preference for diamonds. East ruffed and returned a diamond. Message received and understood. The next club ruff sank the contract for +200. A nice defence.

MAKE A WISH – OUR CHARITY FOR 2013



Supporter Event 2013

The Queensland Bridge Association would like to announce that Make-A-Wish® Australia volunteers will be fundraising at the Gold Coast Bridge Congress on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th February 2013.

The aim of Make-A-Wish Australia is to grant wishes to children and young people across Australia with life-threatening medical conditions, giving them hope, strength and joy at a time when they need them most.

- Over 7,000 wishes have been granted to children with life-threatening medical conditions since their inception in Australia 27 years ago
- Children with life-threatening illnesses who are under three years of age receive a 'Wish Hamper' – a selection of fun and age-appropriate toys. Once they are three, they are able to apply for a wish.
- Once a child has been found to be eligible, local Make-A-Wish volunteers visit the family and ask the child to reach into their imagination and think of their one cherished wish
- Their ultimate vision is for every child in Australia diagnosed with a life-threatening illness to have the opportunity to experience the hope, strength and joy that come from a Make-A-Wish wish.

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Representatives from TBIB will be available on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th February to discuss travel and general insurance issues. Look for their banners in the foyer.

LATE ENTRIES IVY DAHLER BUTLER PRS, FRIDAY & MIXED TMS & FRIDAY NOVICE PRS

Entries for the end-of-week events (Ivy Dahler Butler Pairs, Friday and Mixed Teams, and Friday Novice Pairs) close at **Noon Thursday 27 February**.

To relieve the pressure on the Administration Desk at this time and to cut down on the queues, we are leaving the web site on-line entries open right up until **Noon Thursday 27th February** for players wishing to enter and pay on-line by credit card. You will still be able to pay at the Administration Desk using cash, cheque or credit card. Changes to existing entries (different players, changing events, cancellations etc.) will need to be done at the Administration Desk however **any changes will incur a \$10.00 administrative fee**.

So, avoid the queues, and enter on-line using your iPad, notebook or smartphone.

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OASIS OF CALM – MORE ON CONCENTRATION

Peter Gill

The Open Pairs began with a “hiccup” when some boards were put on the wrong tables. Directors halted play while the problem was rectified.

At our table concentration was difficult, so our Kiwi opponent Patrick Carter reassuringly said to his partner Julie Atkinson, “I understand that you are distracted, but we are in our little ‘Oasis of Calm’ now”. They promptly got a good score against us so I wondered how long the “Oasis of Calm” lasted.

After the Session I was going to deliver my talk on concentration and quoted Patrick as one of the examples of how to overcome distractions. After the talk I looked up the scores to find that Patrick and Julie had topped the entire East-West field.

So their approach to distraction management clearly proved to be an Oasis rather than a mirage.

CHOCOLATE FROG NOMINATION

Sue Picus

I would like to nominate Ishmael Del’Monte and commend him for his exemplary behaviour during the Open Pairs. Ish had gone into a deep thought about how to proceed to explore a slam on board 10 of the final session when the pair at the next table could be heard discussing whether they should have gotten to 6NT or 6S. Ish called the director and told him of the situation, forgoing the easy opportunity to get a clear top on the board. This is certainly deserving of a Chocolate Frog Award.

Open Teams Qualifying

Place	No.	Team Members	Score
1	57	Attilio De Luca - Susan Emerson - Gordon Fallon - Alison Fallon	90
2	12	David Hoffman - Margaret Bourke - Felicity Beale - Robbie Van Riel	89
3	65	Linda Alexander - Dianne Marler - Keith McDonald - Jenny Cater	87
4	1	Hugh McGann - Kieran Dyke - Fiona Brown - Tony Nunn - Michael Ware - Geo Tislevoll	84
5	26	Ralph Parker - Arran Hodkinson - Peter Hainsworth – Sanmugaras Kamalarasa	83
6	20	David Beauchamp - Elizabeth Adams - Richard Brightling - Kathy Boardman	81
6	11	Jane & John Skipper - Bob Scott - John Wignall - Joan Butts - Paul Wyer	81
6	2	Tony Leibowitz - Alex Smirnov - Andy Hung - Michael Whibley – Ishmael Del'Monte	81
9	17	Lester Kalmin - Lynn Kalmin - Lorna Ichilcik - Mannie Ichilcik	80
9	18	Michael Wu - William Zhang - Jin Li - Michael Chen	80
11	6	Barbara Travis - Howard Melbourne - Peter Reynolds - David Appleton	79
12	48	Barry Palmer - Glenis Palmer - Neil Stuckey - Christine Wilson	78
13	7	Anthony Burke - Peter Gill - Andrew Peake - Sartaj Hans	77
14	4	Mike Cornell - Ashley Bach - Matthew Mullamphy - Ron Klinger	76
14	183	Susan Rodgers - Diana Stagg - Mads Eyde - Lisbeth Grove	76
14	16	Siegfried Konig - James Wallis - David McLeish - Paula McLeish	76
17	60	Ian Afflick - Paul Collins - Ann Harrison - David Harrison	75
17	53	Debbie McLeod - Brian Cleaver - Kirstin Gardiner - Alan Grant	75
17	27	Owen Camp - Anisia Shami - Michael Courtney - Sue Ingham	75
17	31	Henry Sawicki - Eva Caplan - Rachel Frenkel - Rena Kaplan	75

Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
21	177	Collins	74	108	47	Cheval	58
21	9	Horwitz	74	108	189	Guthrie	58
21	5	Tan	74	108	76	Doddridge	58
21	3	Brown	74	114	139	Campbell	57
21	35	Evans	74	114	199	Prescott	57
26	29	Barrie	73	114	169	Morgan-King	57
26	32	Cornell	73	114	85	Munro	57
26	67	Lemon	73	114	122	Rutter	57
26	24	Smolanko	73	114	167	Kudelka	57
26	30	Nixon	73	120	137	Flynn	56
26	90	Williams	73	120	84	Maltz	56
26	50	Maclaurin	73	120	194	Ajzner	56
33	73	Woodhall	72	120	55	Coutts	56
33	143	Rawson	72	120	106	Cullen	56
33	182	Ross	72	125	94	Priestley	55
36	34	Malinas	71	125	44	Richman	55
36	13	Moren	71	125	190	Corbett	55
36	170	Howard	71	125	173	Eddie	55
36	23	Livesey	71	129	103	Barclay	54
40	68	Feiler	70	129	118	Pike	54
40	43	Allen	70	129	25	Henry	54
40	115	Hoff	70	129	124	Brown	54
43	22	Encontro	69	129	154	Kaplan	54
43	39	Waring	69	129	87	Howard	54
43	74	Dawson	69	135	127	Reid	53
43	192	Evans	69	135	123	Beil	53
43	98	Meldrum	69	135	152	Blackham	53
48	10	Lester	68	135	197	Spencer	53
48	171	Tall	68	135	81	Snelling	53
48	62	Hood	68	135	126	Lewin	53
48	21	Hughes	68	141	54	Moses	52
52	15	Duckworth	67	141	174	Bourke	52
52	51	Mayo	67	141	198	Humphreys	52
52	78	Johnson	67	141	46	Crichton	52
52	88	Bogatie	67	141	146	Rose	52

52	82	Samuel	67	141	132	Cooke	52
52	8	Neill	67	141	176	Maltby	52
52	14	Carter	67	141	133	Rusher	52
52	109	Bugeia	67	149	185	Whigham	51
60	166	Porter	66	149	161	Allan	51
60	105	Clyne	66	149	100	Darley	51
60	75	Brockwell	66	149	99	Scown	51
60	93	Valentine	66	149	112	Fraser	51
60	40	Sundstrom	66	149	96	Banks	51
60	36	Herden	66	155	52	Tucker	50
60	58	Steffensen	66	155	129	Power	50
60	91	Colmer	66	155	86	Martin	50
68	119	Osmund	65	155	147	McAlister	50
68	131	Allison	65	155	107	Crafti	50
68	80	Mooney	65	160	92	Gunner	49
68	193	Barda	65	160	140	Sher	49
68	33	Askew	65	160	72	Mottram	49
68	66	Luck	65	160	108	Morrison	49
68	196	De Vocht	65	160	138	Tarszisz	49
68	113	Jensen	65	160	104	Allen	49
76	41	Maluish	64	166	163	Lorroway	48
76	180	Kellerman	64	166	38	Ginsberg	48
76	125	Lowe	64	166	117	Mickevics	48
76	95	Mitchell	64	166	101	Ashwell	48
76	56	Speiser	64	170	136	Foos	47
76	77	Steinwedel	64	170	162	Kearns	47
82	178	Wilkinson	63	170	188	Winter	47
82	159	McArthur	63	173	181	Krishan	46
82	79	Halford	63	173	157	Graham	46
85	19	Reitzer	62	173	83	Fletcher	46
85	89	Ashman	62	173	145	Ingold	46
85	149	Tredrea	62	173	102	Edwards	46
85	70	Van Vucht	62	173	195	Inglis	46
85	37	Hyne	62	179	165	Dick	45
85	61	Martelletti	62	179	175	Mangos	45
91	134	Terry	61	179	158	Wallis	45
91	59	Hegedus	61	182	130	Grant	44
91	97	Bernau	61	182	150	Rose	44
91	116	Lindsay	61	184	128	Struik	43
91	71	Walters	61	185	42	Scudder	42
91	156	Garrick	61	186	121	Kable	41
97	64	Assae	60	187	153	Townend	40
97	160	Ham	60	187	120	Steele	40
97	164	Budai	60	189	168	Roughley	39
97	45	Gluyas	60	189	69	Fanos	39
97	186	Raymond	60	191	135	Campbell	38
102	200	Varmo	59	191	187	Leach	38
102	184	Littler	59	193	179	Lacey	36
102	155	Brandt	59	193	110	Travers	36
102	28	Tarbutt	59	193	148	Homik	36
102	191	Fox	59	196	111	Eastment	33
102	49	Clarke	59	196	151	Mann	33
108	172	Feeney	58	196	142	Siganto	33
108	114	Dawson	58	199	141	Wilson	32
108	63	Andrew	58	200	144	Ivanyi	30

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All of them.. The live ones put up too much of a fight.

ATTORNEY: ALL your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you go to?

WITNESS: Oral...

Seniors Teams Qualifying

Place	No.	Team Members	Score
1	5	Stephen Mendick - Andrew Creet - Tony Marinos - Peter Grant	89
2	16	Richard Grenside - Sue Grenside - Jim Fitz-Gerald - Ellie Fitz-Gerald	86
3	4	Martin Bloom - Nigel Rosendorff - Steven Bock - Les Grewcock	79
4	9	Mike Robson - Betty Lee - Andrew Braithwaite - Suzie Moses	77
5	6	David Stern - Robert Grynberg - Tom Moss - Peter Buchen - Sue Picus - Brent Manley	76
6	2	Bill Lockwood - Peter Chan - Roger Januszke - Robert Bignall	73
7	1	Alan Walsh - Barbara McDonald - Elizabeth Havas - Gordon Schmidt	71
7	13	Meta Goodman - Sue Lusk - Tony Jackman - Therese Tully - Richard Wallis - Wynne Webber	71
9	15	Peter Kahler - Jeannette Collins - Janet Kahler - Alison Farthing	70
9	22	Nicky Strasser - Peter Strasser - Eva Shand - Les Varadi	70

Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
11	7	Klofa	69	32	30	Parkin	56
11	8	Marr	69	32	40	Jeffery	56
13	20	Strong	68	34	11	Milward	55
13	44	Houghton	68	34	25	Hall	55
15	43	Jefferson	67	36	33	Hey	53
15	3	Brockwell	67	36	29	Nichols	53
15	18	Lynn	67	38	51	Daly	52
18	37	Hooper	65	38	31	Talbot	52
18	21	Stobo	65	38	35	Allgood	52
20	14	Robb	64	41	28	Obenchain	51
20	17	Ascione	64	42	34	Glasson	50
22	10	Smee	63	43	52	Greenwood	48
22	39	Robinson	63	43	19	Lanham	48
22	23	Berzins	63	43	38	Andersson	48
25	36	Shine	62	46	49	Maher	46
26	24	Allan	61	46	48	Rose	46
26	12	Creugnet	61	48	41	Desmond	45
28	45	Adcock	60	49	42	Kite	44
29	27	Byrnes	59	50	47	Martin	38
30	26	Goncharoff	58	51	32	Biro	33
31	46	Gutteridge	57	52	50	Knight	20

Intermediate Teams Qualifying

Place	No.	Team Members	Score
1	40	Caroline Collie - Lorna Edrich - Amanda Harburg - Janet Lovell	85
2	17	Bernie Atkins - Tony Wagstaff - Judy Atkins - Kate Cafe	82
3	10	David Johnson - Mandy Johnson - Ian Doland - John Watson	79
4	8	Ian Lisle - Vicky Wiley - Biljana Novakovic - Lee Weldon	78
5	13	Lorraine Collins - Brian Horan - Margaret Williamson - Andrea Smith	75
6	22	Derek Richards - David Yarwood - Gwen Gray - Lyn Turner	74
7	50	John Sharp - Meg Sharp - Kathy Palmer - Helen Clayton	73
7	43	Ian Muir - Raji Muir - Mary Adams - Pamela Richardson	73
9	3	Michael Stoneman - Val Roland - John Kelly - Murray Perrin	72
10	56	Greg Nicholson - Jean Barbour - John Puusepp - Frank Vearing	70

Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
11	29	Francis	69	39	41	Pritchard	59
11	1	Weaver	69	39	65	Davies	59
11	67	Fraser	69	45	4	Nimmo	58
14	16	Allen	68	45	61	Bush	58
14	5	Bolt	68	45	44	O'Donohue	58
14	38	Giles	68	48	18	Isle	57
14	68	Andrews	68	48	53	Roberts	57
18	19	Krosch	67	50	48	Binsted	56
18	73	Rozier	67	50	7	Munro	56
18	23	Wylie	67	50	72	Mitchell	56
21	52	Schmalkuche	66	50	15	Watson	56

22	28	Wright	65	54	51	Pincus	55
22	9	Dwerryhouse	65	55	59	Gosney	54
22	64	Webcke	65	56	42	Lee	53
22	32	Baker	65	57	69	Church	52
22	21	Graham	65	58	37	Cockbill	50
27	2	Lee	64	58	66	Stacey	50
27	27	De Mestre	64	60	47	Campbell	49
27	57	Hurst	64	60	74	Peak	49
30	12	Leighton	63	60	39	Jury	49
30	71	Nabarro	63	63	46	Featherstone	48
32	33	McGhee	61	63	20	Roberts	48
32	45	Ranke	61	65	35	Campbell	46
32	63	Kershaw	61	65	26	Ferguson	46
32	25	Mills	61	67	34	Sear	45
32	31	Keating	61	68	58	Scott	44
37	14	Quigley	60	69	62	Kelley	43
37	55	Bailey	60	70	24	Havercroft	42
39	6	Fraser	59	71	36	Harington	40
39	11	Moffat	59	71	49	Leckie	40
39	70	Gray	59	73	60	Avunduk	39
39	54	Lawrence	59	74	30	Walsh	36

Restricted Teams Qualifying

Place	No.	Team Members	Score
1	12	Sally Lazar - Richard Lazar - Yong White - David Grout	82
1	29	Helen Rollond - Sue Hapek - Raymond Jones - Rita Jones	82
3	49	Noreen Armstrong - Patricia Armstrong - Sue Luby - Margaret Stevens	79
3	3	Cassie Morin - Helen Arendts - John Hughes - Kristin Hughes	79
5	7	Kerryn Murray - Rhonda Innes - Sylvia Robb - Kay Simpson	77
6	22	Penny Brodie - Madeleine Gray - Catherine Drury - Maggie Campbell	76
7	53	Marlise Jones - Kerry Watson - Carolin Morahan - Julie Nyst	75
8	4	Pam Brewer - Ruth Goerg - Denise O'Regan - Adrian Lohmann	74
9	51	Marcia Krampel - Joe Krampel - Lillian Pearce - Gerald Pearce	71
10	6	Jillian Tuckey - Rozanne Thomas - Christine Baynes - Sheryl Cullenward	70

Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score
11	39	Ward	69	36	40	Boyd	57
11	2	Fulton	69	36	5	Hirschhorn	57
13	9	George	68	36	33	Howard	57
14	16	Sinclair	67	41	30	Crothers	56
14	62	Holmes	67	42	23	Morris	55
14	59	Jacobs	67	42	54	Hall	55
17	18	Carroll	66	42	34	Stuart	55
17	14	Chamberlin	66	42	20	Cullen	55
19	46	Fraser	65	46	1	Aiston	54
19	36	Devries	65	47	64	Wang	53
19	15	Morgan	65	48	35	Wippell	52
19	19	Mander	65	48	37	Pike	52
23	28	Barry	64	50	57	Pearce	51
23	38	Munro	64	50	32	Treloar	51
23	24	Fletcher	64	52	27	Chamberlain	50
26	58	Sher	63	53	42	Look	49
26	43	Parmenter	63	53	56	Miller	49
28	13	Clifford	61	55	45	Corney	48
28	21	Tomlinson	61	55	17	Weaver	48
30	47	Serry	60	55	61	Mabin	48
30	50	Paul	60	58	55	Gearon	47
30	31	Forsyth	60	58	60	Carr-Boyd	47
33	26	Hooper	59	60	25	Hancock	46
33	11	Irving	59	60	41	Gooding	46

35	63	Ryan	58	62	44	Farmer	43	
36	52	Chalk	57	63	10	Carson	38	
36	8	Moody	57	64	48	Tyler	32	
Novice Teams Qualifying								
Place	No.	Team Members						Score
1	16	Odette Mayne - Susan Walters - Pamela McKittrick - Lee Egerton						82
2	25	John Elich - Gabrielle Elich - Christophe Wlodarczyk - Justine Wlodarczyk						80
3	11	Linda Norman - Kay Roberts - Joan Jenkins - Ross Currin						75
4	8	Helen Gault - Rob Gault - Margaret Ziffer - Rob Ziffer						73
5	3	Pam Nearhos - Diane Sargent - John Stuart - Frances Stuart						71
5	21	Jane Carter - Heather Andrews - Baiba Mikelsons - Helen Himstedt						71
5	36	Coleen Gambetta - Leonie O'Brien - Pamela Brown - Graham Ardern						71
8	13	Jann Macintosh - Helen Acton - Elizabeth Hone - Tweed Holman						70
8	9	Maureen Collins - Janice Steward - Louise Smith - Roland Trevisanello						70
10	14	Ross Shardlow - Gary Ypinazar - Beverley O'Hara - Susan Kennard						69
Place	No.	Team	Score	Place	No.	Team	Score	
10	2	Shaw	69	24	19	Hugentobler	56	
12	20	Durrant	68	25	4	Gibson	55	
13	27	Carter	66	26	32	Webb	54	
14	23	Davis	65	26	7	Nice	54	
15	29	Renton	62	26	6	Meakin	54	
16	1	Stewart	61	29	10	Neary	52	
16	15	Garden	61	30	34	Ball	51	
18	17	Gibney	60	31	30	Lloyd	47	
19	12	Egan	58	32	22	Mathews	44	
19	5	Wilson	58	33	18	O'Reilly	42	
19	28	Ackman	58	34	31	Phillips	40	
22	24	Mulcahy	57	34	33	Taylor	40	
22	35	McMenamin	57	36	26	Fisher	37	



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THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

Difficult Calcudoku

20*	2-	6*	1-		2/
				160*	
	30*	7+	6+		
2/					
		13+	180*		
6*					

Hard Sudoku

		1	3		6			4
				8			2	3
6	9					1		
9					2			6
	4			9			8	
3			8					1
		9					1	5
4	3			1				
2			5		8	4		

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT – YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Difficult Calcudoku

30*	120*			36*	2*
3	5	6	4	2	1
5	13+	4	1	3	6
2	3	17+	5	4*	6
11+	4	6	2	5	1
1	16*	2	3	6	5
6	1	4	2	3	5

Hard Sudoku

2	1	9	4	8	5	3	7	6
4	7	5	6	3	2	8	9	1
3	6	8	9	7	1	2	5	4
8	2	4	1	5	3	7	6	9
6	9	1	7	2	4	5	3	8
7	5	3	8	9	6	4	1	2
9	3	7	2	6	8	1	4	5
1	8	6	5	4	7	9	2	3
5	4	2	3	1	9	6	8	7

Holiday Pairs Event 1 - Session 1

N-S		Score	E-W		Score
1	Antoinette REES - Sidney REYNOLDS	57.18	1	Eddie MULLIN - Dianne MULLIN	59.95
2	Irene CHAU - Rebecca ROOKE	56.42	2	Alison BANNAH - Joan BANNAH	56.94
3	Norma CAMERON - Royala ROONEY	55.56	3	Jim SKEEN - Ming Shu YANG	53.62
4	John VERDICKT - Lea VERDICKT	54.17	4	Ray THORLEY - Elsie THORLEY	53.47
5	Dorothy READ - Geoff READ	53.15	5	Carol COWLEY - Robert COWLEY	52.92
6	Rosalyn STEVENS - Penelope JOHNSON	51.10	6	Lynn KELLY - Sue HERBERT	52.78
7	Ken CLEM - Janet LOOSMORE	50.78	7	Delma CLARK - Judith BRIGGS	51.22
8	Catherine ANG - Theresa YOUNG	49.62	8	Beth CALCINO - Evi CRESSWELL	47.51
9	Michael AULTON - Maureen COLLINGWOOD	48.93	9	Minnie BRAGG - Chris BRAGG	44.59
10	Leonie DELLA - Barbara WILSON	46.53	10	Heather MATHISON - Helen MCGREGOR	44.35
11	Lorraine FREDERICKS - Peter FREDERICKS	38.74	11	Eunice FOO - Robine BLACKLOCK	41.58
12	Pam LAWSON - Rudi LIDL	38.19	12	Jill WARD - Fiona SAGE	41.44



Melbourne Bridge Weekend with Joan Butts



3 - 6 May 2013 The Langham, Melbourne, VIC

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- Victory Dinner at Melba Restaurant.

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Daily Package:

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(without accommodation)

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Friday 3 May -

Welcome Cocktail Party \$56 per person.

Sunday 5 May -

Victory Dinner \$100 per person.

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