

In the Seniors', Victoria maintained their lead after a bit of aggro and some slow play fines.

The Women traded less than half the IMPs of the Open. Does that suggest they were careful and cautious? You be the judge:

Final 1, Bd 1

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Nailand	Frankel	Pitt	Krasenstein
	No	No	No
1♥	2♣	3♣	Dbf
4♥	5♣	5♥	End

-50 instead of +300. If Helene bids 4♥ straight away, the auction will probably end. Another thought is for Rita to bid 4♦ instead of 4♥, to help partner's 5-level decision.

At the other table, the contract was 3♣. Hmm.

After 10 boards, Michael Prescott turned to the volatile and dangerous Al Simpson and Theo Antoff.

This time the Southerners were at sea as the favourites recouped 34 IMPs to lead by 22.

Hands from earlier

Okay, who made 4♥ here:

Teams 14, Bd 4

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

Many declarers would have kicked themselves after this one. You play 4♥/S on the ♠J lead. You take your spade pitch on the top clubs and

choose to cash the ♥A (maybe not best).

Then the brain should go "trump endplay" as you picture West's hand. East covers the ♦10 and you duck (otherwise West wins to lead ♥K-another). Cross-ruffing produces this ending:

♠ —		♠ K
♥ K J 9		♥ —
♦ —		♦ Q
♣ —		♣ J
	♠ —	
	♥ Q 10	
	♦ K	
	♣ —	

You pitch the ♦K on the ♣10 as the crowd erupts. You had to pick West's shape. If he's 3-4-2-4, you have to time things differently.

This hand helped WA Youth to the final:

Teams 12, Bd 1

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

6♣ is cold but Leigh Gold played 6♥/S on a club lead. He won the ♣Q, played a trump to the king and called for the ♥10. He honest, wouldn't you cover with ♥J976 left?

Simon Brayshaw ducked, declarer naturally played the ♥Q and had to lose two trump tricks. If East cover the ♥10, declarer makes on a trump coup, running clubs through East, using the ♠Q for a late entry.

Special thanks to Narelle from Kwik Kopy and Cathy Cummings for uploading to the web page:
www.abf.com.au/events/anc/2001

Making it tough for Tony:

Match 14, Bd 21

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

David Hoffman led a trump against Tony Jackman's 4♠/E, the only lead to give the defence a chance. After drawing trumps, declarer naturally played a club to the king and club to the 10 and jack. South got out with ♣A-another, leaving declarer to guess the ending. With nothing much to guide him, Jackman cashed the ♦A-K and played a heart up for one off. One small clue – with four small diamonds, South might have led a diamond at trick one.

Postscript

That's more or less it, though there will be a Saturday internet edition with the final results and some pics from the dinner.

I'm told the weather's been mild, even sunny in the first week. The Butler was a great success; everything went well, as you'd expect from an organised committee in an organised city.

From us, thanks to all the contributors. I still have good unused stuff from Richard Hills, David Lusk, Brian Thorp. Sorry guys.

ACTEW Swiss Pairs (40 prs)

1st Kerrin Daws & Charlie Schwabegger
2nd David & Jill Hill

ActewAGL

Hurry Back Teams (11 teams)

1st Brian Thorp, Wayne Smith
Pat Back, Jim Ascione