



Butler Stage 1



Around 80 pairs have entered Stage 1 Open, which ends on Sunday afternoon. There will also be a number of

young overseas pairs, using this event as a warm-up for the World Youth Teams. Session times (to be confirmed) are 10am, 2pm, 8pm.

Likely format (Open & Women's) is 12 x 10-bd rounds of Swiss with separate NS & EW fields.

The Stage 2 field is 14 tables but around half those spots may go to pairs nominated from the States, or overseas Juniors. So it's tough to make it through. Good luck!

Half time entertainment

Swapping the Interstate teams with the Butler brings the Victory Dinner to the midway point, which lacks a little of the atmosphere of a finale.

Pre-dinner drinks, more speeches than usual, the food was good, no band or dancing (age shall weary them?), prize-giving then an early night for those of us playing the Butler.

JDR - the MC - got off to a bad start, getting the Keiths mixed up but soon settled down.

Richard Grenside told us anecdotes from his 30+ years attending ANCs. Such as his first – 1973 in Hobart – the year Wrest Point opened, when it was hard to get players to the sessions on time. 1976 when Len Summers(?) had a heart attack at the table. "Write *Passed Out* on the traveller, Roelof." (RDK related that last bit) 1988 in Melbourne – the venue doubled as a brothel. 1989 at Epping in Sydney, when Chris Diment first appeared to say "How can I help." 1995 in Hotel Darwin - a bit hot but fabulous, perhaps the most enjoyable so far.

Richard is now a member of the ABF Management Committee. He will be Chief Director at next week's World Youth Teams at Homebush.

Julia Hoffman didn't speak for long but packed a lot in. Her experiences go back to 1969. In her 27 ANCs, she has done everything - played, captained, convened, sat on appeals – "I've learned to look the other way when Ivy comes hunting" but not directing "I can run a 9-table Mitchell if the players cooperate."

She remembers Zirinsky scoring, bridgerama, Individuals, the Munich and Maccabiah tragedies in 1972 and 1997. She likes datums as a captain's tool; opposes system restrictions; notes there are fewer appeals these days. She fondly recalls playing against Sesile Miles, Gerda Stern, Ivy Dahler. "Excuse me. You can't sit there. Ivy just slept there."

Ron Klinger related some of his disasters, a la Neville Moses.

He played his first ANC in 1969. Playing with Tim Seres, he messed up a suit like this against 3NT:

♠ 9
♠ K10 8 5 3 ♠ A Q 7 4 2
♣ J 6

Seres, won the ♠A and returned the ♠4-J-3 ... which cleared away the kibitzers. (In fairness, declarer – Jim Borin – might have had ♠QJ76)

Playing against a notoriously slow player – Marshall? – Ron waited for ever for the opening lead, with Richard Grenside hovering. When the card finally appeared, Grenside continued on his rounds, returning a few minutes later to see the same player on lead at trick two. "Ron, I'm going to fine you for slow play." "Why me?" "For ducking the first trick, leaving him on lead."

In Ron's uni days, the discussion turned to the correct opening bid with 13 spades. The idea is to

ANC Pairs results

Open

- 1st Theo Antoff & Al Simpson
- 2nd John Horowitz & David Cherry

Women's

- 1st Julianne Rocks & Judy Marks
- 2nd Inez Glanger & Marcia Scudder

Seniors

- 1st Andrew Struik & Brian Thorp
- 2nd George Bilski & Barry Noble

Mixed

- 1st Carolyn Molloy & Peter Gill
- 2nd Lynn Lovelock & Kieran Dyke

Youth

- 1st Adam & Nabile Edgton
- 2nd Griff Ware & Nye Griffiths

get doubled, so a slow approach is called for – according to Terence Reese. Best is to pass first up then allow them to push you into a save.

One day at the lunchtime duplicate he picked up 13 spades and duly passed. The auction continued pass - pass - pass. When a smirking partner asked him what he had, Ron was ready with "Just 10 points, couldn't open."

He played for a bit with Khokan Bagchi. They might meet at Ron's to discuss system, then play a session at the NSWBA. On this occasion a missed grand slam on the last board provoked an extended postmortem that continued in the car on the way home. With the issue still unresolved, they went inside to sort it out over a cup of tea. Then came a knock at the front door. It was Suzie.



*Favourites NSW won the Open Teams
Ted spoke of restoring the natural order – NSW, then ACT, improving Queensland, fading Victoria*

"Leave something at the club, Dear" she said icily.

Alex Yezerki is Chairman of the NSWBA and part of the ANC Organising Committee. He thanked Bruce & Chris (Nettle) as co-conveners, Julian Foster, Matthew McManus, Kim Neale, Judys Frazier and Mott, Val Cummings, Ross Stuart, Jim & Ellie Fitz-Gerald and the VuGraph team of Nick Fahrer, David Stern, Kieran Dyke.

Adelaide next year

Dianne Marler invited us all to Adelaide and asked us to consider the merit of swapping the Butler and Interstate.

Not sure – it's always good to finish with the Victory Dinner. Also, not sure I like the NSWBA idea of mak-

ing the Pairs events virtually walk-ins. It lowers the tone detracts from the status of each state's qualifying events. Note that virtually none of the Pairs winners were present at the Victory Dinner.



Improving the game's image!



NSW won the Seniors Teams



ACT finally beat South Australia to win the Youth Teams

ABF events

Stage 1 Butler

Sat 30th 10am, 2pm, 8pm
Sun 10am, 2pm

Stage 2 & Seniors Stage A Sun 8pm

Mon, Tue 10am, 3pm

Stage 3

Wed - Fri 10am, 2.30

Youth triathlon at NSWBA

5-7 August, Fri - Sun
Teams, Pairs then Individual!

World Youth Championships

7-17 August
at Olympic Park Homebush



Restaurant Guide

There are dozens of good cafés and restaurants near the venue.

A number of restaurants on Oxford or Crown – *Thai Green Chillies*, *The Clove*, *Uchi Lounge*, *Whoopee's* & *RQ* – are sponsoring with prizes or special menus. They are highlighted on the map below.

Or just head down Goulburn St towards Dixon Street – the heart of Chinatown.

Parking & transport

Special rates have been arranged with Goulburn St Parking, corner Elizabeth. Daily subsidised rate is \$5. Vouchers can be purchased from the Hospitality Desk during session times.

Public transport is abundant. The Masonic Centre – cnr Castlereagh & Goulburn – is within 5 minutes' walk of Museum train station.

