



**Stage 1 at half way**

The top 11 or 12 pairs qualifying for Stage 2, which starts tonight (not tomorrow morning!).

There are 78 Pairs in the Open, 50 in the Women's – a decent turnout, about the same as last year. This year we have separate NS and EW fields – a better approach, though it puts extra pressure on the seeding committee. One advantage of separate fields is in removing directional bias. You don't get penalised for sitting the wrong way – wait till Stage 3 for that injustice!

We have a few overseas pairs – mostly New Zealanders – but virtually nobody warming up for next week's World Youth Teams. This is a trifle sad because the ANC event order was swapped largely to accommodate them. Admittedly, some overseas pairs will be playing in the upcoming side events.

Here are some hands from yesterday. Did you bid these grands?

**Stage 1, Match 1, Bd 3**

S/EW ♠ J10 8 7 6  
♥ 6 5 4 3  
♦ 6 5  
♣ J 5

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

♠ Q 4 3  
♥ Q 9 2  
♦ 9 8 7  
♣ Q 10 7 6

|         |       |       |       |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| WEST    | NORTH | EAST  | SOUTH |
| Neumann |       | Stern |       |
| 1♠      | no    | 2♦    | no    |
| 3♦      | no    | 4♦*   | no    |
| 5♣*     | no    | 7♦    | end   |

Few pairs bid this one. 4♦ was KeyCard, 5♣ showed 2+ the ♦Q. 7♦ is a good spot, thanks to the ♦10.

In the Women's, Dagmar Neumann and Linda Stern played Rena Kaplan and Paula Schroor in the first round. This is a bit surprising, since

the event is supposed to be seeded "bloodbath-style". In Europe, the first round in a Swiss event is always a random draw – as it should be. In Australia, the top half plays the bottom, which is patently unfair. For instance, if you are Pair/Team 16 out of 32, you play the bottom pair in round 1. If you are Pair 17, you play the top seed. Please explain ...

**Here's the next 7♦**

David Beauchamp and New Zealander Karen Cumpstone were the only open pair to bid this one:

**Stage 1, Match 5, Bd 18**

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

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| WEST      | EAST      |
| Beauchamp | Cumpstone |
|           | 1♣        |
| 1♥        | 2♦        |
| 3♦        | 3♥        |
| 4♦        | 4NT       |
| 5♥        | 5NT       |
| 7♦        | end       |

3♦ was forcing, 4NT RKC. When East pressed the button again, Beauchamp knew he had whatever partner needed. Surprising that this was the only 1440. There were a few deserved -50s in 7NT.

**Stage 1, Match 6, Bd 23**

S/Both ♠ —  
♥ K Q 7 6  
♦ 10 5 2  
♣ AK J 8 7 5

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

♠ A Q 5 3  
♥ A J 5 3  
♦ A 8  
♣ Q 10 4

|      |        |      |       |
|------|--------|------|-------|
| WEST | NORTH  | EAST | SOUTH |
|      | Strong |      | Magee |
|      |        |      | 1♥    |
|      | 2♣     |      | 2NT   |
|      | 4NT*   |      | 5♦*   |
|      | 7♥     |      | no    |

A clean Acol auction. Terry couldn't quite count 13 tricks but he knew it had to be a good spot. Seven open pairs bid it. Again, there were a few -100s in 7♣.

Strong notrumpers should also have an easy ride after 1NT – 2♠<sup>tr</sup> – 2NT – 3♥ – 4♥.

The following one isn't so good but half the field didn't even reach six:

**Stage 1, Match 7, Bd 4**

W/Both ♠ 5  
♥ A J 10 9 8 5 4 2  
♦ A 7 4  
♣ A

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

♠ AK 3 2  
♥ K  
♦ K 9 6 5  
♣ 10 5 4 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| no   | 1♥    | no   | 1♠    |
| no   | 4♥    | no   | no    |

Who is to blame for this 10 IMP loss? Should North open 2♣? Should he do more than rebid 4♥? If so, what? Should South have bid over 4♥ anyway? Opinions please.

Now earn some IMPs with some bold bidding and thoughtful cardplay:

**ABF events**

**Stage 1 Butler**

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

**Stage 1, Match 2, Bd 13**

N/Both ♠ J 6 4 3  
♥ A J 8 3  
♦ 8 7  
♣ Q 5 3

♠ 9 2                      ♠ AKQ10875  
♥ Q 9 5 2                  ♥ K 4  
♦ 10 9 5 4                  ♦ 6 2  
♣ K 10 8                    ♣ 7 4

♠ —  
♥ 10 7 6  
♦ AKQJ3  
♣ AJ962

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|      |       | 4♣   | 4NT   |
| no   | 5♣    | end  |       |

This looks normal. Making 5♣ is worth 10 IMPs. East leads a spade. Ruff and play ♣A-another. West wins and forces with another spade.

To make now, declarer needs to finesse against the ♥9, not so tough after the preempt. +600 would earn you 10 IMPs

**Stage 1, Match 2, Bd 18**

E/NS ♠ QJ  
♥ 10 6 5 4  
♦ K 9 8  
♣ A10 6 5

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

♠ K 8 3 2  
♥ AKQ  
♦ Q10 2  
♣ Q 9 3

3NT should fail on a diamond lead but East needs to be careful. George Gaspar won the diamond, tested hearts then knocked out the ♠A.. East should play ♦A-another now. Instead he led another low diamond.

Declarer cashed a spade then threw in East with a diamond. After cashing two, East had to lead away from the ♣K. +600 was worth 9 IMPs.

Anonymous question:

*"Which meanie decided that the last week's Senior Teams and Senior Pairs should be the sections furthest away from the toilets?"*

**Stage 1, Match 2, Bd 19**

S/EW ♠ K 7  
♥ A Q J 9 5  
♦ A J  
♣ J 6 3 2

♠ 8                              ♠ Q10 9 3 2  
♥ K 8 3                      ♥ 7 6  
♦ K Q 10 9 8                ♦ 7 4 3  
♣ A Q 8 7                    ♣ K 10 4

♠ A J 6 5 4  
♥ 10 4 2  
♦ 6 5 2  
♣ 9 5

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|      |       |      | 2♠!   |
| dbl  | no    | ?    |       |

The current trend around Sydney is to open 2♥ & 2♠ not vul on crappy hands with crappy 5-card suits like this one.

Seamus Browne did so here for a great result. West doubled and East had a problem. 2NT would have been Lebensohl, perhaps leading to -500 in 3♣x (how would they know to run to 3♦?). He decided to take his chances against 2♠x. -470.

One sure way to gain IMPs is to find good saves at favourable vulnerability:

**Stage 1, Match 3, Bd 21**

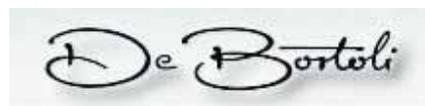
N/NS ♠ 9 8 4 2  
♥ AK10 9 5  
♦ Q  
♣ 8 3 2

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

♠ AKQJ10  
♥ 4 3  
♦ A 7  
♣ J 10 7 5

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|      | No    | ?    |       |

In a Butler, it's crucial to find these saves. You have 40 teammates who will ensure you reap a decent reward. East should open 3♦ or 4♦ here. If he/she forgets to – quoting 1960s mantras like "bad suit, 4-card



major, 2nd seat" – at least back in with 4♦ later. 4♠ is cold, 5♦ is -100 if you guess trumps, -300 if you don't.

**Stage 1, Match 5, Bd 15**

S/NS ♠ 5  
♥ A 9 8 7 4  
♦ Q 9 7 5 3  
♣ J 4

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

♠ 10 7 6  
♥ K J 3 2  
♦ K 6  
♣ AK 5 3

|      |       |      |       |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
|      |       |      | 1♣    |

?

2♠ by West is not enough. I quite like 2♥! which would have ended the auction here for a cute -300.

3♠ looks normal and might slip past North – it did at our table. It allows partner to save over 4♥ if they get there. *Anything* is better than meekly allowing and accepting -650.



*We need hands!*

**National Senior Swiss Pairs**

13 - 14 October, 2005

(1pm Thursday - 4pm Friday)

**Australian Swiss Pairs**

15 - 16 October

(10 am Saturday - 5.40 Sunday)

**at Wrest Point Casino**

**Hobart**

Playoff Points and Gold Masterpoints in both events

Ring Barry Kelly: (03) 6228 5247

Email: [asp@abf.com.au](mailto:asp@abf.com.au)

website: [www.tasbridge.com.au](http://www.tasbridge.com.au)

## Coleta's Corner

Hello everyone, this is Nicoleta typing. For the first time in a while – please don't ask – I'm not playing with Nick in the Butler.

He's playing with his (distant?) second favourite partner while I'm taking over the keyboard, so I hope you'll be tolerant.

Butler Pairs is my favourite form of bridge: play safely to make your contracts, don't worry about overtricks, you may have a snooze during part-scores.

After the session it's not rude to compare your scores with the datums – data I should say – because you don't have team mates to offend. There is only one person you can blame, your partner.

Tactics are based on knowing the odds. Don't bid a close non-vulnerable game because the odds are only 6 to 5 in your favour – you stand to gain 6 IMPs, but may lose 5. But do bid a vulnerable game if it seems faintly possible – here you can gain 10 IMPs and lose only 6.

Small slams are even money bets; Grand slams seem to have odds against them if only 15 to 11 non-vulnerable, or 17 to 13 vulnerable. But there is a hidden factor: at the other tables the majority might not bid even a small slam. Then going down in a vulnerable grand slam costs you 26 IMPs (the 13 you lose plus the 13 you could have won; making your grand gains only 4imps extra. So avoid grand slams, unless you can count 13+ tricks.

## New Zealand National Congress

24 Sept - 1 Oct  
in Hamilton

Speak to Julie Atkinson  
(playing with Sue Weal)

or email  
rksolomon@extra.co.nz

## World Youth Teams

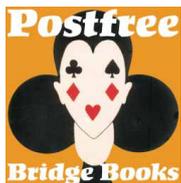
Support the  
Australians  
in the World  
Youth  
Teams –



a double  
pack of high  
quality  
commemorative cards from  
Judy Frazier or the Bridge Shop



[www.bridgeshop.com.au](http://www.bridgeshop.com.au)



PAUL  
LAVINGS  
POSTFREE  
BRIDGE  
BOOKS

Visit our stall at the ANC and  
Butler. New books & software,  
second hand books, World  
Championship books,  
magazines .



## Territory Gold Festival

1 - 4 September, 2005  
(Thursday - Sunday)  
at Holiday Inn Darwin

Welcome BBQ, four bridge  
sessions, gold points, cash  
prizes, & a farewell dinner.

Ring (or talk to!) Pam Nunn on  
08 9881 7287.

[peanunn@internode.on.net](mailto:peanunn@internode.on.net)

## Games for everyone

During the Interstate, those who weren't reading or snoozing seemed to spend most of their time playing games – other card games, crosswords, online poker, sudoku.

Try this word puzzle:

**ENTURY**

## It's good to be thin

As well as winning the Youth Pairs on Friday – presumably the youngest ever winners – Adam and Nabil Edgton, known disconcertingly as *The Terrorists*, are doing a great caddying job. Lithe and slim, they move easily among the crowded tables.

## Restaurant Deals

These four restaurants – grouped around the intersection of Oxford and Crown – offer special dinner deals (6pm - 7.30) for bridge players.

Typically a choice of entrees, main course and a glass of wine.

## WHOOPEE'S

Italian – 241 Crown St – \$25

## rq

Asian – 294 Crown St – \$30

## THE CLOVE

Indian – 249 Crown St – \$26.90

## GREEN CHILLIES

Thai – 113 Oxford St – \$25

## Maths through the ages

*Adapted from the net*

Last week when I was purchasing a meal at Burger King for \$4.20, the girl at the counter took my \$5 then started to dig around for my change. I pulled 20c from my pocket and gave it to her. She stood there, looking at the screen on her register, then hailed the manager for help.

Why do I tell you this? Because of the evolution in teaching maths since the 1960s:

**Teaching Maths in 1960:** A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is 4/5 of the price. What is his profit?

**Teaching Maths in 1970:** A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is \$80. Did he make a profit?

**Teaching Maths in 1980:** A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is \$80 and his profit is \$20. Your assignment: Underline the number 20.

**Teaching Maths in 1990:** A logger cuts down a beautiful forest because he is selfish and inconsiderate and cares nothing for the habitat of animals or the preservation of our woodlands. He does this so he can make a profit of \$20. What do you think of this way of making a living? Topic for class participation after answering the question:

How did the birds and squirrels feel as the logger cut down their homes? (There are no wrong answers.)

**Teaching Maths in 2005:** Un hachero vende una carretada de maderapara \$100. El costo de la producción es \$80 ...

### The education crisis

If you are involved in education at the tertiary and secondary levels, please contact Denise McKinnon who is playing in the Women's Butler – Pair 4.

She wants to discuss the *dumbing down* of education in the last 20 years.



*The bar will be open at the end of play tonight. It was also open upstairs last night but only a handful of us were paying attention.*

Ellie and Jim Fitz-Gerald opened their home for us on the night of the finals on Thursday the 28th (they have an apartment in the World Trade Centre round the corner from NSWBA).



This helped us with space etc at the NSWBA for the vugraph. In addition, they have offered to be a standby pair to even the numbers should we need them.

### Congress events in Week 2

All these events at the **Masonic Centre**, 279 Castlereagh St.

All start at 10am with no play in the evenings, to give you a chance to experience some of Sydney's night life.

#### Swiss Teams

Monday 1st Aug

#### Swiss Pairs

Tuesday 2nd Aug

#### Restricted Pairs

Wednesday 3rd Aug

#### ANC Swiss Pairs (gold points)

Wed - Fri, 3-5 August

Open to everyone! Not just drop-outs from Stages 1,2 & A.

You can enter at the Hospitality Desk or ring the Convener on 0411248 248.

## Tale of two cities

You all know what these last two ANCs have in common – both held in Masonic Halls. (The Dallas Brooks Hall in Melbourne)

Who are the (free) masons?

Formally a secret society with origins in stone masonry, supposedly anti-catholic, the

image these days is one of elderly men; strange clothes, rituals and handshakes; small suitcases.

I googled around to find a list of famous masons, such as:

Bud Abbott  
Edmund Barton  
Robert Burns  
Winston Churchill  
Cecil B DeMille  
Jack Dempsey  
Duke Ellington  
Benjamin Franklin  
Henry Ford  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Rudyard Kipling

Bud Abbott

Edmund Barton

Robert Burns

Winston Churchill

Cecil B DeMille

Jack Dempsey

Duke Ellington

Benjamin Franklin

Henry Ford

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Rudyard Kipling

My first exposure was in *The Man who would be King* by Kipling, starring Sean Connery and Michael Caine.

Masons were dominant in the early decades of the USA. The Masonic "eye" is still on American banknotes.



*Mahogany Leather*

### Contacts

The editors will be at the venue most of the time. The mobile is 0414 601 175, deadline is midnight. You can email [nhughes@bigpond.net.au](mailto:nhughes@bigpond.net.au)

Or just drop something in the Bulletin box at the venue.

NSWBA phone: 9264 8111

Bruce Neill: 0411 248 248