

MISFITS OR JUST MISUNDERSTOOD?

DI MARLER

The majority of bridge players are of an age when we all think that "we know best" - something we all need to learn is not necessarily true.

Over the past ten days I have witnessed all types of behaviour from youth players as they try to navigate the mine field of participating in an adult environment without any of the defences that could help them—complete deafness and total body armour!!! Some of them have acquitted themselves well, being polite and deferential whatever is put in front of them, but others have been just plain rude and obnoxious.

As we adults try to bolster the numbers of youth players in Australia, perhaps we need to be mindful of how we go about it. Let's not only encourage youth to play our wonderful sport, but let's also be a little considerate of what they have to go through just to put their foot through the door of a bridge club. Many of the players are often shy and sensitive and introducing them to an alien environment where all of the players are usually triple their age (and then some!!), it can be quite daunting to say the least. They then come across the well meaning teachers who insist on giving instruction on every hand—these are perhaps the most harmless of the piranhas at the table. Worse are the bolshy know-it-alls who are condescending or just down right rude to their younger opponents. Rather than belittling the youth players because they happen to have a success against us, how about we all take them under our wings and encourage them to continue to play. These players are our future. Already we have seen too many of the younger set decide to "retire" because it is just all too much for them.

I started my playing career in a little club in Perth called Maylands. This club is made up primarily of retirees who just like to come out and enjoy a game of "cards" with their friends. Imagine my surprise when I rocked up to one Saturday play and came across the pair of Paul Brayshaw and Chris Mulley. These two young gentlemen (and that is all that I could have called them) played a wonderful game of bridge, were respectful and well mannered to their opponents and left the club-

TODAY'S TIMETABLE

Championship Event:

Open, Women's, Senior & Youth Teams
10.30am, 2.45pm, 8pm

Congress Event:

Thorpe Wines Second of three Session Pairs
7.30pm

rooms with a crowd of friends. The players at this club, you see, didn't have anything to prove, they all knew who they were and were generous of spirit.

We should all be trying to emulate the players at Maylands and "give Youth a go!!"

And as for the testosterone kids, perhaps they will grow up one day and have kids of their own—a worse fate, I think, than what they are going through just now.



A little photo from the attic of Wendy Driscoll. As Ed, I'd like to offer a bottle of wine to the person who can correctly identify all of the players above—and don't think that I won't be able to check. No good quizzing Wendy either because her memory has failed her in this regard—so over to you all. First correct name drawn will win. Answer in the next bulletin.

BOLD BIDDING AND NEAT PLAY

DAVID LUSK

This board from round 3 was bid accurately to 4S by Andrew Peake – Murray Green for NSW against WA in the Open. How would your partnership manage the shapely North hand? Peake opened 1D and rebid 1S over South's 1H response. When South attempted to sign off with 1NT, North rebid his spade suit. He has clearly shown his shape but has he shown the sort of overall quality this hand possesses? Clearly Murray thought so because he raised 2S to 3 and Andrew bid 4.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Miller</i>	<i>Peake</i>	<i>Lusk</i>	<i>Murray</i>
	1D	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

East led a club. Declarer won and played the J♠. East rose with the Ace and led another club, ruffed. Next came the 10♠, ducked. Now North led the A♦ and another diamond. The best that West could do was win and play another club but Peake simply ruffed in hand, ruffed a diamond on the table and returned to hand with a heart. Holding winning diamonds and a trump, Peake claimed on the run of diamonds against East's master

Quotable Quips

Two players comparing results across different fields—one player says to the other, “Just a minute while I put my eyes in!!”

Ed: Wonder if my partner would accept this as an excuse the next time that I mess up a hand?

LIGHTNING BOLT ISSUED BY COLTS

PETER GILL

With only 5 State Teams in the Youth Championship, a combined WA/SA team of teenagers, called the ABF Colts, was rounded up in order to avoid a bye in this competition.

Last time it was necessary to gather an ABF Colts Team was about 5 years ago at the Canberra ANC. That particular Colts Team lost all 15 matches. Its team members were: Justin Howard and Michael Delivera (currently representing Australia in Bangkok), Robin Stevenson (2nd in 2006 ANC Youth Pairs), Fiona Brown (4th in the 2006 World Mixed Pairs in Verona) and Desli Allen (retired).

After a 99 imp loss to Victoria in Round 3, the 2006 Colts Team shocked NSW in Round 4 by defeating them by 21imps. NSW had just come off a victory over the ACT by 110imps in Round 3. The successful Colts representatives playing in the winning combination were James Reynolds (WA—aged 14), Jesse Davies (SA—aged 13), Jane Reynolds (WA—aged 21) and Sean Howie (SA—19). Twenty four hours earlier, none of the four players had met each other, except for the brother and sister from WA.

Winners are grinners as demonstrated in this photograph below. Keep up the good work Colts.



ABF Colts Team

Jane Reynolds, James Reynolds,
Hannah Sprod, Sean Howie.
Absent: Phil Sellars (Captain) Jesse Davies,
Sam Schulz, Shane Harrison &
Roger Middlemiss

SUB-OPTIMAL CONTRACT, OPTIMAL TECHNIQUE

BOB BIGNALL

Board 13 from round 5 offered both sides at the table a chance to go wrong. North was the dealer and everyone was vulnerable.



North
 ♠ K 7 3 4
 ♥ J 7 5
 ♦ T 5 2
 ♣ J 7 3

West
 ♠ 6
 ♥ A Q T 9 3
 ♦ 8 7 6
 ♣ Q 9 8 4

East
 ♠ J 2
 ♥ 8 6
 ♦ K J 9 4 3
 ♣ A T 6 5

South
 ♠ A Q T 9 8 5
 ♥ K 4 2
 ♦ A Q
 ♣ K 2

The only game that is cold is 3NT by North or South. The most common contract was 4S, reached after South opened 1S and North responded with a raise to 2S. A rebid of 3NT by South would be a good call at this point. However, most South players chose 4S. That contract can be defeated by a club lead to East's Ace and a heart back. Only one pair reached the cold 3NT. Niek van Vucht and Stephen White for the ACT Open team bid the hand to 3NT and were rewarded with 12 IMPS when their NSW opponents went down in 4S in the other room.

Playing for the SA Women's team, Barbara Travis received a diamond lead against 4S. After winning two diamond tricks and the spade A she led a high spade to Dummy's K and ruffed the diamond 10 high in hand. Returning to Dummy via the spade 7 she led a club from Dummy and won in hand after East played low. She exited with a club and the defenders had to play a third round, which was ruffed. Now the lead of the heart K made sure that the contract would be made not only when West held the heart Q, but also whenever East held either the heart A or any doubleton in hearts.

SAFE OR SORRY

DI MARLER

Round 6 Board 20 was the cause of some consternation by 80% of the field. Not so for Chris Hughes and Adam Sarten who were only one of four pairs who played in the "safe" contract of 6 Clubs.

West (*Hughes*)

♠ Q 10 4
 ♥ A K 10
 ♦ A 9 5
 ♣ Q J 9 7

East (*Sarten*)

♠ A K 5 3
 ♥ Q J 2
 ♦ 7 6
 ♣ A K 8 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Hughes</i>		<i>Sarten</i>	
1NT ¹	Pass	2♠ ²	Pass
2NT ³	Pass	3♣ ⁴	Pass
3NT ⁵	Pass	4♣ ⁶	Pass
5♠ ⁷	Pass	6♣	All Pass

1 = 15-17 HCP

2 = Mild slam interest and starts relay

3 = 4♣

4 = Relay

5 = 3, 3, 3, 4

6 = Relay

7 = 2 aces and Q♣, Axx♦ and Qxx or AKx♥

6♣ = to play

South can discern partner has ♠ x x and ♥ A K x, but must have at least 2 more HCPs so with the ♦ A x x and ♣ Q x x x holding and the diamond suit wide open, Chris and Adam chose to play in the "safe" contract of 6♣. Result 6♣ making 6—match result +16 imps.

A long relay auction above, but it identified points, shape and also alerted partner to the mine field that was to be found in a suit with only one genuine stopper.

Well bid boys—this type of bidding is sure to pave the way to a birth in the OzOne Team.

Results overall showed that of the 14 pairs who tried the 6NT contract, only 6 pairs managed to bring it home. 3 other pairs played in the "safe" 6♣ and surprisingly 6 pairs failed to find a slam of any kind.

Who's sorry now???



OPEN RESULTS AFTER ROUND 2 RR2

Place	Team	Name	VPs	Opp	Last VPs
1	1	VIC	153.6	7	35.3
2	2	NSW	64.0	8	0.0
3	3	ACT	26.2	5	-16.0
4	5	SA	-30.7	3	16.0
5	4	QLD	-48.4	6	-8.0
6	6	TAS	-69.7	4	8.0
7	7	WA	-95.6	1	-35.3
8	8	BYE	-300.0	2	0.0

SENIOR RESULTS AFTER ROUND 2 RR2

Place	Team	Name	VPs	Opp	Last VPs
1	2	QLD	78.7	8	0.0
2	1	ACT	66.6	7	12.0
3	3	NSW	25.0	5	-5.0
4	6	TAS	4.8	4	10.0
5	4	VIC	-6.1	6	-10.0
6	5	WA	-25.0	3	5.0
7	7	SA	-146.0	1	-12.0
8	8	BYE	-300.0	2	0.0

WOMEN'S RESULTS AFTER ROUND 2 RR2

Place	Team	Name	VPs	Opp	Last VPs
1	1	NSW	167.4	7	35.2
2	2	VIC	161.9	8	36.1
3	3	QLD	81.8	5	17.0
4	4	SA	26.6	6	-11.0
5	5	WA	-55.7	3	-17.0
6	6	ACT	-66.7	4	11.0
7	8	NT	-135.3	2	-36.1
8	7	TAS	-181.9	1	-35.2

YOUTH RESULTS AFTER ROUND 4 RR2

Place	Team	Name	VPs	Opp	Last VPs
1	6	SA	165.7	4	-39.9
2	4	QLD	160.6	6	37.5
3	3	NSW	59.5	2	24.0
4	5	VIC	46.5	1	37.5
5	1	ACT	-184.5	5	-37.8
6	2	COLTS	-264.2	3	-24.0

**AN ASSORTMENT
OF PLAYERS
REPRESENTING
THEIR STATES**

