



2006 DAILY BULLETIN AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Editor: Dianne Marler

Email me at: dianne.marler@santos.com

Issue 13

Thursday 3, August 2006

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

DAVE BEAUCHAMP

As a regular participant at the ANC for a little over 20 years, I would like to make a few comments about the future direction of the event.

The ANC has always been one of my favourite events with 2 weeks of challenging bridge and a friendly atmosphere. However, I, like Stephen Lester, am concerned about the level of support given to the Butler events (see bulletin 6). The major reason for the decline in the number of entries to the Butler is easy to pinpoint.

There is major competition from other ABF events and the New Zealand Nationals. From June to August, players can choose between the following events – VCC in early June; NZ Nationals 30/6; Butler last week of July; Swan River Swiss Pairs, Fremantle mid August; Australian Swiss Pairs, Hobart, late August; and the Territory Gold Festival, Alice Springs, late August. Given the number of choices available, it is important to ensure the location of the ANC is an attractive proposition.

Geoff Thomas in Saturday's bulletin commented that "When the ANC next visits Queensland, it will escape the clutches of the capital city and be held on the Gold Coast." I hope this starts a trend that other states may benefit from. "This is a move in the right direction, but I am sure that Noosa would be more attractive as many bridge players already head to the Gold Coast in February.

Perhaps the ABF in consultation with the State organisations could consider the merits of the following locations - Alice Springs, Bryon Bay, Coffs Harbour, Blue Mountains, Broome and Launceston.

From next year, the NZ nationals have been rescheduled to September.

Ed: Is what Dave has to say thought provoking and worthy of further consideration? Let's have some intelligent debate. I do know that as the Convenor of this year's ANC, without the assistance of the ABF Tournament Unit, SA would have been in a real bind. Is it viable to expect that the TU would be able to find the right facilities to follow through with the service to which we have all become accustomed if this event was moved to a more provincial location?

TODAY'S TIMETABLE

Championship Event:

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

Congress Event:

Thorpe Wines Third of three Session Pairs
7.30pm

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE 15-29 JANUARY 2007



CHANGES OF NOTE

NEW VENUE:

Due to Renovations to the National Convention Centre, **The Hellenic Club, Woden**, will be the 2nd venue for the 2007 Summer Festival of Bridge

NATIONAL WOMEN'S & SENIORS TEAMS

New session times – no evening play Thursday or Friday.

NEW EVENTS:

SENIORS & WOMEN'S LAST TRAIN PAIRS EVENTS.

Last Train Events will each qualify pairs to form a team to compete in their respective event in the 2007 Australian Teams Playoffs.

NATIONAL SENIORS SWISS PAIRS

Players will now have the choice to play in either an Open or a Seniors National Swiss Pairs Event.

SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC TEAMS

New session times – no evening play Tuesday-Thursday.

1st to 8th from each SWPT field to NOT

All Correspondence:

PO Box 4173, WESTON ACT 2611

Phone: 0401 509 616 email: not@abf.com.au

TOURNAMENT BRIDGE—IT'S ON FOR YOUNG AND OLD

LEN DIXON

Not only does the ACT contingent in this year's interstate teams championships contain the oldest player ever to have been part of an open team, and the (even older) oldest ever non-playing captain; it also includes one of the youngest players ever to have represented their state or territory in the interstate teams.

Fourteen-year old Stephen Williams, (he turns 15 in November), was, like his older team mates Robin Stevenson and Paul Bonato, introduced to the game five years or so ago. They were among about 1,000 youngsters in a remarkably successful, though now sadly defunct learn-bridge-in-ACT-schools program. This was initiated, developed and run by Dorothy Jesner, a former interstate women's team champion and Australian international.

He is accompanied in Adelaide by his father Emlyn, (who took up bridge at university 35 years ago and is unrelated, so far as he knows to his namesake, the famous Welsh actor/playwright; of whom few will be old enough to remember), Stephen is immensely enjoying this new step along the road to becoming a strong bridge player.

If his manifest desire to improve and succeed could only somehow be replicated in Canberra, and in every significant Australian bridge centre, this country's future in world bridge would surely look much brighter than it has in recent years.



Stephen Williams of the ACT

TO RUFF OR NOT TO RUFF

DAVID WILTSHIRE

Ed: Round 6 certainly provided a plethora of interesting hands to record, here is another that came to the attention of the non-playing captain of the NSW Youth Team.

Round 6
Board 21

North
♠ K
♥ 10 7 5 3 2
♦ 2
♣ K Q 8 5 4 3

West
♠ A J 7 5
♥ Q 8 6
♦ Q 8 4
♣ J 10 7

East
♠ Q 10 6 4 2
♥ K 4
♦ A K 10 6
♣ 9 2

South
♠ 9 8 3
♥ A J 9
♦ J 9 7 5 3
♣ A 6

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Stevenson</i>	<i>Jenner-O'Shea</i>	<i>Yuen</i>	<i>Morcombe</i>
	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2NT (1)	3♣	3 ♠	All Pass

(1) = Limit raise

Morcombe led Ace and another club to North's queen. Jenner-O'Shea led the club king. Yuen chose to ruff with the ten of spades in order to avoid a cheap ruff by South. After South failed to over-ruff, North was marked with the king. Yuen decided to play his Ace of spades and dropped the singleton king for 10 tricks.

When North was on lead after two rounds of clubs, a better line of play could have been to try the hearts thereby foxing declarer into believing that he did not hold the singleton king. If South held either a doubleton ace or king in the heart suit, then the heart switch could have set up a heart ruff with the spade king as an entry. Of course, declarer can employ a little used discovery play by ruffing the last club from dummy themselves.

If South follows suit, then declarer should take the spade finesse. When South is not able to over-ruff, the spade king is marked as being offside.

CORRECTION:

Bob Bignall attributed the 3NT contract to Nick Van Vucht and Stephen White but, in fact, Peter Gill and Martin Bloom were North-South against Nick and Stephen. Their bidding was not difficult: 2NT — 3NT .

CLASH OF THE TITANS: YOUTH-STYLE

BARBARA TRAVIS

I found a different way to entertain myself on Tuesday night by watching the Youth match between South Australia and Queensland.

William Jenner-O'Shea 'complained' that both opponents and the kibitzer laughed at the defence on one hand. Paul Gosney was in 2NT with limited prospects until his club suit of A982 opposite J4 played for three tricks. The play: CQ was taken by the CA, C2 was ducked to the CJ, and later in the play the C10 was led by William and overtaken by partner who immediately returned the C7 to dummy's C8. Some of my laughter related to a hand from long ago where I played in 3NT holding a diamond suit of AQ942 opposite a void. After a diamond lead into the AQ and a later continuation I actually managed to make FIVE tricks with this suit!

Watching some of the younger youth players play a hand nearly card-perfect is always extremely satisfying. Andrew Morcombe (aged 16) played 3NT:

♠ A 10 5 2
♥ J 10 9 6
♦ 9 5
♣ 9 4 2

♠ K J
♥ 8 5 4 3
♦ K 10 3
♣ K J 10 8

♠ 9 8 6 3
♥ Q 7
♦ J 7 4 2
♣ Q 7 3

♠ Q 7 4
♥ A K 2
♦ A Q 8 6
♣ A 6 5

Paul Gosney led the CJ which held. Another club went to the CQ, ducked again. (I suspect that to be card-perfect he needed to win the club, avoiding a diamond through.) The next round of clubs was won, and a small spade led towards dummy. The SJ was a welcome sight and the SA was played. Andrew now led the HJ, which was covered and won. (Had Pranjal ducked the HJ, Andrew would have had to win the HK anyway, playing for doubleton HQ in order to have enough entries to dummy. However, the HJ was a good card to entice a cover anyway.) A small spade towards dummy brought out the SK and Andrew now had his nine tricks: after the club was cashed he won the heart in hand, unblocked his SQ, crossed to dummy's two hearts and S10 and had the DA for the last trick.

I'm sure the mathematicians amongst the bridge players

here could answer the following question. What is the best way to play K8xx opposite J9xx for two tricks? I tend to lead the Jack and play LHO for one of the Queen or Ten. Declarer's chosen line of small to the King was extremely unsuccessful when Q10x was onside. And do the odds change when RHO has overcalled? (Board 3, Round 9, club suit refers.)

The match resulted in a very large win to Queensland which has moved them to within 5 VPs of South Australia.

P.S. In response to David Beauchamp's letter, I agree that we have a significant number of events in the middle of the year and this year the World Championships in Verona in June may also have impacted on the ANC Butler.

THE CROCODILE THE ENDANGERED SPECIES

ROSEMARY MOONEY



Not even in chilly Adelaide can we Territorians escape 'Crocodiles', invariably the main topic on Page 1 of the NT News.

So Barbara Travis could not have described a more topical coup than the one attempted against Betty Mill and I, (SA v NT Women), as reported in Monday's Bulletin (#10). It was fascinating to read, particularly as I, and perhaps others, had never heard of a Crocodile Coup.

Anyone wishing to SNAP up a real crocodile should come to Darwin in early September 2007 for the 'Territory Gold', a 4 day gold point event. Following this, go outback on a professional croc safari, which have just been legalised. Of course, if you have never been to the Red Centre it is not too late to enter this year's 'Territory Gold' in Alice Springs at the end of this month.

AND THE WINNER IS:

WA Senior representative, Terry Piper, grabbed the bottle of wine for his response to who was in the photo. His memory served him well when he panted out from left to right:-

Wendy Driscoll (nee Golding), Jeremy Flint, Honor Flint, Tony Priday, Clare Lester (nee Griss), Nicola Gardener and P.O. Sunderlin.



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN OPEN TEAM:

Back L-R: Tony Lusk, Les Calcraft, Phil Tearne NPC,
Karol Miller
Front L to R: Dennis Yovich, Jonathan Free,



VICTORIAN OPEN TEAM:

Back L-R: Adam Sarten, Jeff Fust, Laurie Kelso (NPC)
Front L to R: Wally Scott, Robbie van Riel, Andrew
Mill, Chris Hughes

OPEN TEAM RESULTS AFTER ROUND 5 RR2

Place	Team	Name	VPs	Opp	Last VPs
1	1	VIC	251.6	4	35.5
2	2	NSW	73.0	3	1.0
3	3	ACT	57.2	2	-1.0
4	5	SA	-44.7	8	0.0
5	4	QLD	-94.9	1	-35.5
6	7	WA	-100.6	6	24.0
7	6	TAS	-142.8	7	-24.0
8	8	BYE	-300.0	5	0.0

WOMEN'S TEAM RESULTS AFTER ROUND 5 RR2

Place	Team	Name	VPs	Opp	Last VPs
1	2	VIC	248.3	3	35.4
2	1	NSW	182.4	4	-4.0
3	3	QLD	73.4	2	-35.4
4	4	SA	-7.4	1	4.0
5	8	NT	-83.0	5	35.3
6	5	WA	-88.0	8	-35.3
7	6	ACT	-107.7	7	-26.0
8	7	TAS	-219.9	6	26.0

SENIOR TEAM RESULTS AFTER ROUND 5 RR2

Place	Team	Name	VPs	Opp	Last VPs
1	1	ACT	97.7	4	30.0
2	3	NSW	46.4	2	35.4
3	2	QLD	5.2	3	-35.4
4	4	VIC	-1.1	1	-30.0
5	5	WA	-25.0	8	0.0
6	6	TAS	-52.3	7	-23.0
7	7	SA	-72.9	6	23.0
8	8	BYE	-300.0	5	0.0

YOUTH RESULTS AFTER ROUND 2 RR3

Place	Team	Name	VPs	Opp	Last VPs
1	1	SA	235.2	4	35.5
2	2	QLD	195.1	5	37.5
3	3	NSW	84.0	6	-30.0
4	4	VIC	-1.0	1	-35.5
5	5	ACT	-261.0	2	-40.0
6	6	COLTS	-271.2	3	30.0

Quotable Quips

4C was Gerber; 4D showed no aces; 4NT was probably Blackwood and my pass showed -1 ace!
Result: 2 off!

ALZHEIMER'S RAMPANT IN THE SENIOR FRATERNITY:

Four LOLs playing together for years and years sit down at the table ready for their weekly game. One LOL turns to her left hand oppo and says: "Sorry, but I just have to ask you a question—what is your name?" The response came back faster than lightning: "Who's asking?"