



ANC 2008  
SURFERS PARADISE

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Editor LINDY VINCENT ♡ Contributions to [froghome@caboolture.hotkey.net.au](mailto:froghome@caboolture.hotkey.net.au) ♡ phone 0421 272 463

## FINAL FINAL FINAL

Yes I know we did all that yesterday but a few hands arrived on Saturday and I didn't want them to be wasted.

So this will be a very brief version. Two hands from Leigh and one from Peter Gill

### THE YOUNGEST AND THE OLDEST

By Leigh Matheson

The youth field continued to show off their card play technique in the last rounds of the qualifying event, despite the fact that VIC and NSW were locked in to play the finals.

The following two deals feature the youngest and the oldest player in the event.

S/EW	♠K5 ♥Q9654 ♦4 ♣AK965	♠QJ843 ♥ ♦1075 ♣J8432
♠96 ♥AK10832 ♦AJ632 ♣	♠A1072 ♥J7 ♦KQ98 ♣Q107	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Ryan Touton	Renee Cooper	Geoff Martin	Kirstyn Fuller
			1NT(1)
	2♥(2)	3♣	P
			3NT
All pass			

- 1 12-14
- 2 5+/5+ hearts and a minor

West led the ♥3, South winning the ♥7. The ♣Q was cashed, and the ♠10 led to the J. East returned the ♦10 and Kirstyn played the ♦Q which was allowed to hold. After 3 more rounds of clubs, this was the position:

♠96 ♥AK ♦AJ ♣	♠K5 ♥Q965 ♦ ♣	♠QJ84 ♥ ♦75 ♣
	♠A10 ♥J ♦K98 ♣	

A heart was continued to West, who now had a dilemma. A heart return would establish the ♥Q, so the only other option was a spade. Kirstyn won the ♠A and K but threw West in with another heart to lead away from the ♦K for the 10th trick.

I won't say more than to point out that Kirstyn Fuller is only 16 years old. She is the 3rd youngest player in the event, and her 12 year old partner is the youngest.

This next hand was played by Freya Wilson who has been dominating the youth events since before I started playing bridge.

### SA vs QLD

S/EW	♠KQ108 ♥K8 ♦J985 ♣1072	♠4 ♥J107532 ♦K1072 ♣Q5
♠J762 ♥6 ♦Q43 ♣J9863	♠A953 ♥AQ94 ♦A6 ♣AK4	

Playing in 4♠, Freya won the opening ♣ lead and played two rounds of top trumps, receiving the bad news. The ♦A was cashed and another diamond continued. West won and continued with a third diamond. Freya ruffed and cashed the ♣K before finessing the ♠J. When the last trump was drawn, East was squeezed in the red suits, making 12 tricks.

When I played this board, partner declared 6♠. But after Jon Pynt (WA) led a heart, there was no way to stop the heart ruff.

**INTERSTATE YOUTH TEAMS FINAL**

By Peter Gill

The 2008 Interstate Youth Teams was won by VIC from NSW. Ming Chan and Leigh Matheson from Sydney University won the Australian Open Pairs on the weekend before the teams, the first youth pair to win the event since Courtney-Wilsmore almost 30 years ago.

Justin Howard and Peter Hollands, the anchor pair of the Under 21 team to play the World Championships in Beijing in October, had topped the datums in all three qualifying round robins of the Youth Teams. Then the two pairs clashed in the Final of the Youth Teams .....

Final Session 1/Youth Final. (Session 3 of other Finals)

<b>7</b>	<b>♠K62</b>		
<b>S/All</b>	<b>♥10743</b>		
	<b>♦A63</b>		
	<b>♣432</b>		
<b>♠J987</b>		<b>♠A1053</b>	
<b>♥J6</b>		<b>♥K5</b>	
<b>♦9</b>		<b>♦Q8742</b>	
<b>♣AQJ1098</b>		<b>♣75</b>	
	<b>♠Q4</b>		
	<b>♥AQ982</b>		
	<b>♦KJ105</b>		
	<b>♣K6</b>		

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Leigh	Peter	Ming	Justin
Matheson	Hollands	Chan	Howard
			1♥
2♣	2♥	P	P
2♠	P	P	3♦
P	4♥	All pass	

EW would have successfully competed to 3♠ but wisely rejected the sacrifice in 4♠.

Declarer's second suit is usually a poor lead so Ming led the ♠7. Leigh won the A, and switched to the ♣7, Ming won, not with the 8 but with the Q, then cashed ♠A and played the ♣8, his unusual choice of club cards being an attempt to help partner see that a trump promotion with the ♥Q or K was necessary. Leigh duly ruffed the ♣8 with the ♥K, setting 4♥ by a trick.

At the other table, NSW played in 3♥ and the ♦9 was led to the 10. Declarer tried a spade to the K, but East won the A, played back the ♦7 for the ruff, and the spade exit defeated 3♥, a flat board.

In the Open Final, NSW's South in 3♥ won the ♦9 lead with the 10, and played ♥A and another heart for +140.

At a Youth Coaching Session the following day, Leigh Matheson and several other declarers reached 4♥ by South. Leigh won the ♦9 lead with the ace (the best play), played a heart to the Q, then ♥A, making 4♥. Leigh had not remembered the hand that he had defended the previous day, but he now has the rare distinction of starring both as defender and declarer on the same hand.

<b>4</b>	<b>♠K105</b>		
<b>W/All</b>	<b>♥Q862</b>		
	<b>♦743</b>		
<b>♠Q762</b>		<b>♠A83</b>	
<b>♥K10</b>		<b>♥A74</b>	
<b>♦QJ1052</b>		<b>♦A98</b>	
	<b>♠J94</b>		
	<b>♥J953</b>		
	<b>♦K6</b>		

Session 1, Round Robin 2, NSW vs QLD.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Leigh		Ming
	Matheson		Chan
P	P	1NT(1)	P
2♣	P	2♦	P
3NT	All pass		

1 15-17

Ming led the ♥3 to the K. Next came the ♦Q, on which Ming smoothly played ♦6. With the ♦ finesse appearing to be successful, declarer naturally continued with the ♦J to the K. Ming now considered his play, having succeeded in blocking declarer's diamonds.

North had played the ♦3 then 4, a count signal to show three diamonds so the ♠K was a possible play, to remove dummy's entry while diamonds were blocked. But with ♥K10 opposite Axx, wouldn't declarer play ♥10 from dummy in case Ming had ♥QJxx(x)? Therefore it looked like North, who encouraged with the 8 at trick 1, perhaps has five hearts. Therefore, another heart looked like the percentage play.

Alas, the ♠K would have made for a brilliant defence.

**THREE NOTRUMPS AND FOUR HAPPY DECLARERS**

Match 14 saw plenty of action in the youth field.

Board of the <b>8</b>	<b>♠K84</b>	8 was one
<b>N/Nil</b>	<b>♥J97</b>	highlights:
	<b>♦42</b>	
	<b>♣AJ842</b>	
<b>♠AJ6</b>		<b>♠10952</b>
<b>♥Q84</b>		<b>♥10653</b>
<b>♦J108753</b>		<b>♦KQ9</b>
<b>♣3</b>		<b>♣Q9</b>
	<b>♠Q73</b>	
	<b>♥AK2</b>	
	<b>♦A6</b>	
	<b>♣K9765</b>	

At one table, East played in 2♦X making. The VIC NS bid to 5♣ and went one down, unluckily.

At the other four tables, South played in 3NT, usually after West made a weak jump overcall in diamonds.

At all three of these tables, play started in the same way. West led a diamond to the ♦Q which was allowed to hold. The ♦K was returned to the ♦A. Five rounds of clubs were cashed next, catching West in a three suit squeeze. West can discard two spades and a diamond but has no winning option on the last club.

The successful declarers were Michael Yuen NSW, Jon Pynt (WA) Bec Thornberry ACT and Ryan Touton QLD.

At three of the tables, West discarded a heart and declarer was able to cash the ♥A, K and J. When Ryan Touton played it, West elected to discard a third diamond. Not to be fooled, Ryan played on spades instead of hearts. West won the ♠A and was able to cash two more diamonds, but that was it.