



Gold Coast Bulletin

No 1 Sunday 16th Feb 2003

Editors Nick Hughes & Nicoleta Giura



The 42nd Surfers

We're back again and once more in record numbers. Close to a thousand players will compete in the Pairs. Five hundred more than that number will start in the Teams. This is both a source of pride for my Congress team of workers and a major worry. We will have some, I hope minor, space problems this year. We believe 2003 is under control but our options for future years are difficult and complex. A move to the soon to be finished Convention Centre, a third site close to the ANA and GCI Hotels, or even closing off entries when capacity is reached – each of these is a possible option. Each has major drawbacks. We will worry about them after we have all enjoyed this one - the 2003 Gold Coast Congress.

Perhaps a major reason for our ongoing success is a stable format. It has changed over the years, but slowly and then in response to growth or considered suggestions. This year's congress will be almost

identical with last year's. The only change is an addition of a final for the Restricted Teams Championship. All Senior and Restricted events will be played at the GCI Hotel. All others, including the walk-ins, will be held at the ANA.

Dr Laurie Kelso once again will head our directing team, QBA manager Kim Ellaway holds the administrative reins and Martin Willcox will look after all the scoring. Keith McDonald and John Lenart will be the recorders at the ANA with John Brockwell doing that job at the GCI. Ivy Dahler (in addition to her directing role) and Neville Francis will manage our appeals. Appeals advisors will be 'other-floor' directors. Nick Hughes (and Nicoleta) will produce the Bulletin and will be grateful for contributions. The ABDA have a directors workshop planned for Wednesday morning at the ANA and the teachers (ABTA) have their's scheduled for Tuesday. Check the bulletin for details.

On Tuesday night, at the end of the pairs, a bridge player's Seafood

Buffet will held at each hotel. Tickets are necessary for both and can be purchased at each bridge information desk. Price at the ANA will be \$35, at the GCI \$30 - and that after some subsidy from the Congress! The Dinner Dance on the closing Saturday is again a ticket only affair. Please organise your tables and book at least two days in advance, the earlier the better. Tickets are complimentary to those who played in BOTH major events. For those who played in one major event only the charge is \$30. For all others the price is \$60. Once again note that tickets are **NOT TRANSFERRABLE!**

Hospitality lounges will operate at the ANA and GCI on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday afternoons soon after end of session and at the GCI also on Thursday. Would t'were not so but the budget is limited - I'd like everyone to have a glass on the Congress, preferably with me.

Every year, from 1962 until this one, it has been a major pleasure and indeed honour for me once again to come in contact with Mary McMahon, so often with Tim Seres, when she arrived at the Congress. Mary died last September after a long illness. Her contribution to Australian bridge, in both open and women's fields was immense. Her record at, and love for, our Gold Coast Congress was unparalleled. In 2001, at our 40th Congress we paid tribute to Mary and Tim by appointing the pair to our 'Roll of Honour'. Mary McMahon – *Ave atque Vale*

Tony Jackman, Convener

Sat 7 to 7.30 Complimentary Drinks & Carinya Walk-in Prs

Gold Coast Pairs (Senior & Restricted Pairs at GCI)

Sun 1.30 & 8 pm **Qualifying 1 & 2**
 Mon 1.30 & 8 pm **Finals Rds 1 & 2**
 Tue 11.30 - 12.30 Teachers' Forum on 4th floor
 1.30 **Finals Rd 3**
 5.30 pm Carinya Buffet dinner, tickets from Level 2

Gold Coast Teams (Senior & Restricted Tms at GCI)

Tue 8 pm **Swiss Rds 1 & 2, 2 x 14 bds**
 Wed 9 am Walk-in Pairs (\$10)
 10 am Directors' workshop on 4th Floor
 1.30 & 8 pm **Swiss Rds 3 - 6**
 Thu 10.30 & 3.30 **Swiss Rds 7 - 10, don't sleep in**
 9 pm Semi-finals start, night off for the rest of us
 Fri 10 am ? Semis continue
 12.30 **Swiss Rds 11 & 12, finishing at 5 pm**
 1.30 ? Final starts
 8 pm Vu-graph, last 20 boards of final
 Sat 9 to 9.30 **ANA Shield starts, walk-in, 9.30 cut-off**
 7.30 for 8 pm Dinner/Dance

22 View Avenue, (P.O. Box 93),
 Surfers Paradise, Queensland, 4217
 Australia. Telephone: (07) 5579 1000
 Facsimile: (07) 5570 1250
 Toll Free Reservations: 1 800 074 440

Culture cringe

Not a lot of overseas visitors this year, though Polish stars Kryzstof Lasocki & Marek Szymanowski are on Ervin's team. The NEC Cup finished a week ago in Yokohama and a number of players from there have been known to continue on to Surfers, but not this time.

Ex-Surfers players in Tokyo this year included Paul & Justin Hackett, Irishman Hugh McGann, PO Sunderlin, Brian Senior, Pablo Lambardi, Craig Gower, Ishmael Del'Monte (he's here).

Of these Pablo & Brian were on the winning English team in Japan, while Ishmael was the ring-in on a Japanese team that made the semis.

Here's a hand from the semis. It's from the Daily Bulletin of Richard Colker & Eric Kokish:

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|-----------------|--|
| N/NS | ♠ 10 9 4 3 | | |
| | ♥ AK Q J 2 | | |
| | ♦ Q 9 3 | | |
| | ♣ Q | | |
| ♠ AK J 7 | | ♠ 8 | |
| ♥ 8 4 3 | | ♥ 10 9 | |
| ♦ 7 | | ♦ AK J 10 8 4 2 | |
| ♣ A 10 7 4 2 | | ♣ K 9 3 | |
| | ♠ Q 6 5 2 | | |
| | ♥ 7 6 5 | | |
| | ♦ 6 5 | | |
| | ♣ J 8 6 5 | | |

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| WEST | NORTH | EAST | SOUTH |
| Sutherlin | Armstrong | Wolff | Callaghan |
| | 1♥ | 2♦ | End |
| Lambardi | Feldman | Senior | Osberg |
| | 2♦ * | 3♦ | End |

2♦ was Flannery. Kokish writes: "Even if your 2-level minor-suit overcalls are not always serious attempts to reach 3NT, it looks like a big position for West to pass 2♦. It's not as if you're planning to double the opponents in 2♥ at IMPs if they get there via a reopening double.

And even if you have to stretch on occasion to introduce a long suit at the 3-level over an opponent's normal-strength 2-level opening, that doesn't mean you're less likely to have a full value overcall when you stick your neck out to compete.

Which gives you some idea of how I feel about those passes by West. Not that any bid stands out or comes with any security, but it's bad for

morale to pass and be wrong. Partner will start to overbid with fairly good hands because he'll remember this deal. Sutherlin might have tried 2♥ or 3♣ or a fancy 2♠ and Lambardi had an easier advance in spades. Here both pairs might have reached 5♦ and made it.

In the other semifinal, Pszczola opened 1♥ and Del'Monte jumped to 3♥, asking for a heart stopper. Well, he was down over 30 IMPs and was willing to gamble a bit. Teramoto couldn't bid 3NT but he had so much strength that he drove Ish to 5♦. Declarer took the diamond finesse and gained 10 IMPs."

Pairs starts Sunday

Englishmen Howard Melbourne and Mike Pomfrey are back to defend their pairs title. Remember, all Senior and Restricted events are at the GCI.

Qualifying for the Pairs events will be **across the field**. Red Systems are okay throughout but not in the Restricted Pairs.

The Local Newsletters

This is the company that brings you the daily bulletin - a quality printer who will always deliver. Call Sally Wilson on 5527 0314 for all your printing needs.

Paid your entry fees?

If not, please go directly to the **Functions Desk** at either the ANA or the GCI and settle up by Sunday.

Still a smoker?

Then you'll need to take your breaks on the balcony or at the bar.

Numbers game

| | | | | |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | 00 | 01 | 02 | 03? |
| Open Pairs | 302 | 325 | 258 | 255 |
| Rstr Pairs | 38 | 70 | 113 | 137 |
| Senior Pairs | - | - | 72 | 70 |
| All pairs | 340 | 395 | 443 | 462 |
| Open Teams | 260 | 175 | 192 | 221 |
| Rstr Teams | - | 59 | 60 | 87 |
| Senior Teams | - | 51 | 50 | 41 |
| All teams | 260 | 285 | 302 | 349 |

The trend continues, with strong growth in the Restricted events. Numbers are a bit down in the Seniors. Although the GCI is a fine venue, some have preferred the bustle (& extra masterpoints?) at the ANA.

Meet Ivy Dahler

Stephen Lester edited the Bulletin in Canberra and included a profile of Ivy. Here's an edited version:

Ivy is a member of the ABF Tournament Unit and chairperson of Appeals. She turns 80 this year.

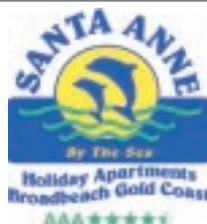
She is a Londoner and was a *clippie* on buses during WW2. She came to Australia as a war bride and began life as farmer's wife in Chinchilla, West of Brisbane. Left a widow after three years, she moved to Blackwood St Toowoomba with husband No. 2 and has remained there since. She has 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

She began bridge at Toowoomba, where George McCutcheon ran Australia's first congress.

She represented Queensland with Fay Landy, Gray Reynolds and Rosemary Atherton. She often made the Australian Women's team and won the Far East Teams twice.

She directed cruises with Ron Klinger and Richard Grenside then became part of the ABF directing team. She last played the Gold Coast Pairs final in 2001.

Ivy is private an unassuming. She was a champion table tennis player and her favourite dessert is sticky date pudding.



Apartments for Couples

15 Anne Ave, Broadbeach
Ph: (07) 5538 5455
www.santaanne.com.au
Book your accommodation now for the 2004 Congress!

