



Gold Coast Bulletin

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Editors Nick Hughes & Nicoleta Giura



The 43rd Surfers

"We're back again and, once more, in record numbers. 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 2004 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 2004 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. 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 Arie Geursen and Sean Mullanphy. 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. Check the venue for details.

On Tuesday night, at the end of the pairs, a bridge players 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 well in advance (8pm Wednesday is the deadline). Even then, tickets will be issued sequentially according to the time the arrangement was finalised. Please pick up a "table list" from the Functions Desk asap.

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 on Sunday and Wednesday and the GCI on Monday and Thursday afternoons soon after end of session. Would t'were not so but the budget is limited – I'd like everyone to have A glass on the Congress, preferably with me."

Except for the most minor changes the preceding paragraphs are directly quoted from my opening welcoming remarks last year. Again we are delighted that more and more bridge players want to compete at Surfers and again we are apprehensive about our ability to cope in future years – but, as ever, we will! Should we decide to move, maybe to the Convention Centre, at least a full years notice will be given. Put in your diary now that the 2005 GCC will be held once again at the ANA and GCI Hotels.

It is a matter of much sadness that I must note the untimely deaths in recent months of two of our great

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 Buffet dinner, tickets from Level 2 & GCI

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 at ANA (\$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 at ANA, 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

**ANA HOTEL
GOLD COAST**

22 View Avenue, (P.O. Box 93),
Surfers Paradise, Queensland, 4217
Australia. Telephone: (07) 5579 1000
Facsimile: (07) 5570 1260
Toll Free Reservations: 1 800 074 440

GCC patrons, Jim Borin of Victoria and Bobby Evans of NSW. Both in their different ways had contributed much to the Congress. Both will be greatly missed.

Finally I must report a message of best wishes for the 2004 Congress from, over forty plus years, its greatest player – Tim Seres. Not 100%, Tim can't be with us this year - for the first time since 1964. We expect him back at his "favourite congress" in 2005.

Tony Jackman, Convener

The Indonesians

Last month in Canberra, 1000+ Australians in 250 teams took on a team from Indonesia and lost, again. From the winning Canberra team, Bert Polii & Julius George are also in Surfers. Also back are Taufik Asbi & Lusje Bojoh, part of the Indonesian team that made the semis here last year.

Here are two hands from that Canberra final:

N/EW ♠ 8 7
 ♡ K J 9 8
 ◇ AK 9 5 4
 ♣ 9 5

♠ Q 6 5 4 3 ♠ A 2
 ♡ A 2 ♡ 7 4
 ◇ Q 10 8 3 ◇ 6
 ♣ 7 6 ♣ AKQJ10842

 ♠ K J 10 9
 ♡ Q 10 6 5 3
 ◇ J 7 2
 ♣ 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Tontey	Burgess	Waluyan	Bach
	1◇	2♣	Dbl
No	2♡	3♣	3♡
3NT	No	No	4♡
Dbl	No	4NT	End

10 tricks, +630

Bach did well to save against 3NT. 4♡ can escape for -100 but the Indonesians did even better to land on a sixpence. In the Closed room:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Marston	Noldy	Thomson	Polii
	1◇*	3NT	Dbl
No	No	4♣	No
4NT	No	5♣	End

10 tricks, 12 IMPs to Indonesia.

1◇ in the closed room was Precision so Thomson couldn't bid 3◇ as a

stopper ask. 3NT was a good shot but Polii's double suggested a red suit problem. He ran twice, rejecting Marston's imaginative offer. +950 had become -100 for a 20 IMP turnaround, equal to the final margin.

S/Both ♠ K 8 6
 ♡ 10 8 5 4
 ◇ J 4 3
 ♣ A 5 3

♠ A 4 2 ♠ Q 9
 ♡ A 9 7 2 ♡ K Q J 3
 ◇ 8 7 ◇ 9 5 2
 ♣ K 9 7 4 ♣ 8 6 2

 ♠ J 10 7 5 3
 ♡ 6
 ◇ AK Q 6
 ♣ Q J 10

The locals played 2♠/S in the open room for +170. In the closed room:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Bach	Noldy	Burgess	Polii
	No	No	1♠
No	2♠	No	3♠
No	4♠	End	

Ron Klinger wrote: "Given the limited NS assets, 4♠ is a respectable game. West led the ◇8. South won and ran the ♠J to East's queen. He won the next diamond and played another trump. West hopped with the ♠A and ... exited with his last trump. 10 tricks, +420. 6 IMPs to WALUYAN.

"West needs to switch to a low heart and receive the diamond ruff for one down. The heart shift is suggested by East's ◇10 at trick 3."

How important was the final result? As has been noted elsewhere, it signified little. There was no audience, no prize money and nothing at stake. As top locals, the MARSTON team got the full 72 Playoff Points for making the final. Read more in the February edition of **Australian Bridge**.

10% Discount

A number of restaurants are offering a 10% discount to bridge players. Just present your scorebook to get the benefit. They are:

Costa D'Oro	27 Orchid
Royal Thai	Centrepoint
Gloria Jean's	Elkhorn
La Porchetta	Piazza



Escape the daily grind

Numbers game

	00	01	02	03	04?
Open Pairs	302	325	258	268	282
Rstr Pairs	38	70	113	137	161
Senior Pairs	-	-	72	70	80
All pairs	340	395	443	475	523
Open Teams	260	175	192	218	227
Rstr Teams	-	59	60	88	83
Senior Teams	-	51	50	40	42
All teams	260	285	302	346	352

Onwards and upwards. This year the Open Teams is slightly oversubscribed, so some teams have taken an offer of a spot in the Seniors or Restricted, at reduced price. Speak to Reg Busch to see whether the offer is still open.

Stay tuned for the plan for 2005. One **possibility** is to split the Open Teams in two, running one section at the GCI.