



Gold Coast Bulletin

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 Editors Nick Hughes & Nicoleta Giura



Goodbye Surfers

This has been the last and biggest Gold Coast Congress at Surfers Paradise.

As of next year, we move 5km down the road to Broadbeach and its huge Convention Centre & Jupiters Casino.

So make your hotel bookings now, the dates are set: 17-24 February 2007.



Paul Marston, John Holland, Michelle Brunner, Hugh McGann, Howard Melbourne and John Armstrong – repeat Teams winners.

The Teams Final

As expected, the two leading Holiday Inn Teams won their semis comfortably. The defending HOLLAND teams (last year's five plus Irishman Hugh McGann) skipped out by 24imps in the first 10 boards and held that gap over the next 40 to win quite comfortably.



Here's to a stress free move to Broadbeach. Now where are those ABF laptops?



Richard Jedrychowski, Gavin Wolpert, Mary-Ann Brifman, Vince Demuy and Peter Gill – runners up.

Here's a flat board from the second VuGraph set:

Bd 11

S/Nil ♠ Q 4 2
 ♥ A K Q 9 5 4
 ♦ 9
 ♣ K J 9

♠ 10 8 7 5 ♠ K 6 3
 ♥ 3 2 ♥ 7
 ♦ 10 4 ♦ A Q 8 6 5 3 2
 ♣ Q 7 6 4 2 ♣ 8 3

♠ A J 9
 ♥ J 10 8 6
 ♦ K J 7
 ♣ A 10 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Marston		McGann
	Demuy		Wolpert
			1NT
no	2♦	3♦	3♥!

Both Souths did well to bid 3♥ with their square minimums, upgrading ♦KJx. Both tables reached slam and both Souths made it, finessing in spades then squeezing East. No need to locate the ♣Q.



Final Top 10 Open (244 teams)

1	1-H	Holland	
2	3-H	Brifman	36 PPs
3=	3-G	Wyer	18 PPs
3=	7-G	Gruia	
5=	5-G	Neill	232
5=	9-H	Nelson	220
7=	12-G	Krochmalik	225
7=	5-H	Gardiner	219
9=	2-G	Noble	217
9=	6-H	Chua	215

Seniors (56 teams)

1	3	Puskas	36 PPs
2	1	Ridgway	18 PPs
3	4	Mendick	219
4	6	Marinos	218
5	15	Smee	218
6	7	Milward	212
7	2	Doddridge	206
8	17	Winestock	197
9	10	Fordham	195
10	23	Samuel	194

Restricted (86 teams)

1	Houghton	264
2	Whitmee	243
3	Whiddon	219
4	Daglish	215
5	Harris	214
6	Ferguson	213
7	Paul	210
8	Graham	207
9	Woolf	207
10	Bloomfield	202

386 teams altogether, compared with 260 in 2000. That's 504 more seats for bums.

There were 57 tables in the last ever ANA (Holiday Inn) Shield. It was won by

Anisia Shami & Michael Courtney

G C Teams final	1-10	11-20	21-35	36-50	total
John Holland - Michelle Brunner John Armstrong - Howard Melbourne Hugh McGann - Paul Marston	29	8	44	31	112
Peter Gill - Richard Jedrychowski Vince Demuy - Gavin Wolpert Mary-Ann Brifman (npc)	5	8	36	26	75

Vugraph

The organisation slipped up a bit here. There were a 100+ in the audience for the live BBO transmission but a shortage of computer operators and no commentators lined up. After some furrowed brows and frantic phone calls, the show started with Michael Courtney and Ishmael Del'Monte grabbing the mikes.

HOLLAND played careful error-free bridge while BRIFMAN were a little loose. Witness:

♠ 6	♠ AK 8 7 3
♥ 10 9 7 6 5	♥ AK 2
♦ K Q J 3	♦ 10 9 8 6
♣ 7 4 3	♣ A

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Armstrong	Wolpert	Melbourne	Demuy
	1♣	1♠	no
no	2♣	X	no
3♥	no	4♥	end

Wolpert, with a stiff heart, could have passed them out in 1♠ and probably should have. At the other table:

Jeddy	Marston	Gill	McGann
	1♣	X	no
4♥	no	5♣	no
5♦	no	6♥	end

Double looks right, then Richard had a flight of fancy. 11 IMPs out when it could easily have been 7 in.

Bd 7

♠ K 9 8 2	♠ 6
♥ Q 8 6 3	♥ A 10 9 7
♦ Q 10	♦ A K J 8 2
♣ K 5 3	♣ J 10 9

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			2♠
no	no	X	no
3♥	no	?	



The mainly Adelaide team of Peter Chan, John Puskas, Roger Januszke, Wally Malaczynski & Bob Bignall won the Senior Teams.

This was the auction at both tables. Gill passed 3♥ but Howard Melbourne raised, for +620 when John Armstrong picked up North's ♥KJx. Maybe Lebensohl was a factor?

The Friday semi-finals were both one-sided, with the top two Holiday Inn teams winning comfortably over their cavalier GCI opponents.

BRIFMAN beat WYER 136-69

HOLLAND beat GRUIA 117-48

Peter Gill found this nice avoidance play in the semi-final:

Semi 1, Bd 5

N/NS	♠ A 10 7
	♥ 10 5 4
	♦ A 5 2
	♣ Q 5 3 2

♠ K J 4 3 2	♠ 8 6
♥ K Q J 6	♥ A 8 3
♦ 10 6 3	♦ K 9 7
♣ A	♣ K J 8 7 4

♠ Q 9 5
♥ 9 7 2
♦ Q J 8 4
♣ 10 9 6

He played 3NT/E on a diamond lead. He won the third diamond and went after spades, keen to keep South off lead. First he ran the ♠8-9-J-7. Then he crossed to the ♥A and ran the ♠6-5-2-10. That way he lost two spades to North, none to South.



The entire final was broadcast live on bridgebase. Thanks to Charles Page and his crew.

Clare's last year?

Clare and Tony Jackman and the Gold Coast Congress have been intertwined since Tony took on the role of Convener 15 years ago.



Even in retirement, Tony promotes the event and Clare has continued to work for the congress as Floor Manager, though this is her last year in the job.

Clare will need no further mention for those of us who have been looked after or consoled by her. But for the rest of you ...

Clare has recruited her family and friends – including her sister Marge Jabore, her friends Claire Hyne and Gerald Schaaf and her son Tim – to join the efficient Gold Coast Congress team on the floor.

She has retrieved or located the owners of a huge range of items, from system cards to shoes. She has calmed ruffled feathers and found temporary partners for those she couldn't calm.

In the early days, when the hospital room was an innovation, Clare found that the only people that came were those that she and Tony personally invited. To ensure that all players knew they were welcome at the "hospital" as it was affectionately known, Clare wrote invitations to every attendee, giving her a frozen shoulder and tennis elbow.

Come back next year as a player, Clare, so we can all have the opportunity to look after you.

Meta Goodman



Wendy Boxall & Rebecca Plush from Canberra, plus Christine & Wayne Houghton from Sydney won the Restricted Teams.