



GOLD COAST
congress

February 17th - 24th



Number 4

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

Editors: Rich Colker, Dianne Brinkworth

And the 2007 Winners are...
Armstrong-Melbourne: GCC Open Pairs
Bignall-Januszke: GCC Seniors Pairs
Atkins-Wagstaff: GCC Restricted Pairs



Seniors 1st: Bignall-Januszke



Open 1st: Armstrong-Melbourne



Restricted 1st: Wagstaff-Atkins

Here are the top places, by section, for the three Championship Pairs events. Congratulations to all.

GCC Seniors Pairs Final
(Monday 19th February, 2007)

Section/ Place	Players	Score
A 1	R Bignall, R Januszke	1255
2	R Wallis, J Brockwell	1208
3	S Mendick, P Kahler	1194
4	G Ridgway, A Robbins	1174
B 1	F Lyons, J Lindsay	1214
2	K Daws, C Schwabegger	1213
3	S Jackson, P Scott	1207
C 1	M Kelly, S Narita	1575
2	S Robertson, A Chaudhry	1571
3	D Hansen, J Hansen	1554

GCC Open Pairs Final
(Monday 19th February, 2007)

Section/ Place	Players	Score
A 1	J Armstrong, H Melbourne	1235
2	J Ebery, R Klinger	1227
3	V Vainikonis, W Olanski	1203
4	N Griffiths, G Ware	1162
5	G Bilski, T Brown	1160
B 1	T Nunn, P Wyer	1173
2	C Snashall, A De Livera	1169
3	M Bourke, R Brightling	1165
C 1	F Beale, R Van Riel	1188
2	M Jurgelait, J Luoni	1176
3	J Davidson, C Ker	1166
D 1	B Marr, M Marr	1293
E 1	M Sykes, P Dewar	1327
F 1	F Whitaker, D Badley	1277
G 1	J Lenart, C Woodhall	1187
H 1	J De Ravin, P Wilsmore	1307
J 1	J Eddie, A Paul	1194
K 1	D Yarwood, D Richards	1246
L 1	F Kovacs, D McRae	819

GCC Restricted Pairs Final
(Monday 19th February, 2007)

Section/ Place	Players	Score
A 1	B Atkins, T Wagstaff	1173
2	J Steele, J Steele	1148
3	D Featherstone, N McIvor	1137
B 1	Dean, G Roberts	1205
2	R Fraser, D McAdam	1194
3	G Collins, J Clyne	1189
C 1	V Roland, J Cox	1250
D 1	S Leahy, J McWilliam	1189
E 1	T Fenwicke, J Fenwicke	1161
F 1	P Thompson, M Doyle	1278
G 1	K Pope, C Wheeler	526



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We look forward to working with you this year to help you achieve your fundraising goals.

Penny & Ed Spearritt



Phone 07 3310 8842 or email penny@powerup.com.au

Hop on the Bus, Gus...

GCC COURTESY BUS

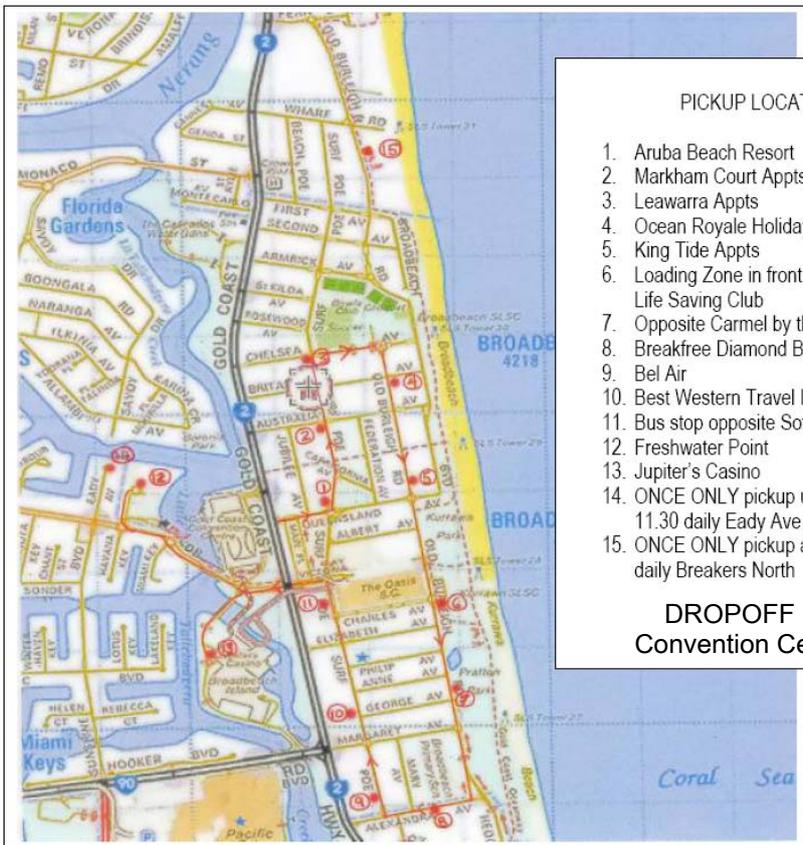
BROADBEACH

Below is courtesy bus route servicing the BROADBEACH area.

Bus will commence circuit at 4pm on Saturday for Registration and Walk-in Pairs; and run approx every 30 mins. Last pickup 6.30pm

Route for pickup will commence 11.10 daily until Wednesday, and run every 25 – 30 mins approx. Further schedules to be published later. All times are approximate and subject to traffic conditions and numbers.

Advance confirmation of numbers using the bus would be gratefully appreciated, enabling us to fine tune the schedules. To make your request, please email Diana <alahari@tgp.com.au> or fill in the Bus Request sheet when registering for the congress.



- PICKUP LOCATIONS**
1. Aruba Beach Resort
 2. Markham Court Apts
 3. Leawarra Apts
 4. Ocean Royale Holiday Apts
 5. King Tide Apts
 6. Loading Zone in front of Kurrawa Surf Life Saving Club
 7. Opposite Carmel by the Sea
 8. Breakfree Diamond Beach Resort
 9. Bel Air
 10. Best Western Travel Inn
 11. Bus stop opposite Sofitel
 12. Freshwater Point
 13. Jupiter's Casino
 14. ONCE ONLY pickup up 4.30pm Sat; 11.30 daily Eady Ave
 15. ONCE ONLY pickup approx 11.00 daily Breakers North
- DROPOFF**
Convention Center

BROADBEACH Courtesy Bus Schedule

Bus will circuit the route (see below left) approx. every 10 mins.

Pick-up commences:

Monday	11:10
Tuesday	11:10
Wednesday	7:30-8:45 & 11:10
Thursday	8:40
Friday	11:10
Saturday	8:15

PLEASE FLAG THE BUS

Bus will be available for shuttles to Broadbeach for dinner after afternoon play, and for return journeys to Broadbeach.

Your Bus Drivers



Veronica Pieters

Diana Baumanis



RAFFLES

PRIZES

1. An Opal Bracelet with Crocodile skin band, donated by Depazzi Jewelers.

A range of Depazzi Jewelry is on display in the lobby and is available for purchase.

2. A 10 Kg Block of Cadbury Dairy Milk Chocolate.

3/4/5. A basket containing of a half-dozen bottles of premier mixed red and white wine donated by the Tucker family. One basket winner will be drawn during the last session of the Pairs, another after the last session of the Teams, and

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AUSTRALIA

...and Set Yourself Free

GCC COURTESY BUS

SURFERS PARADISE

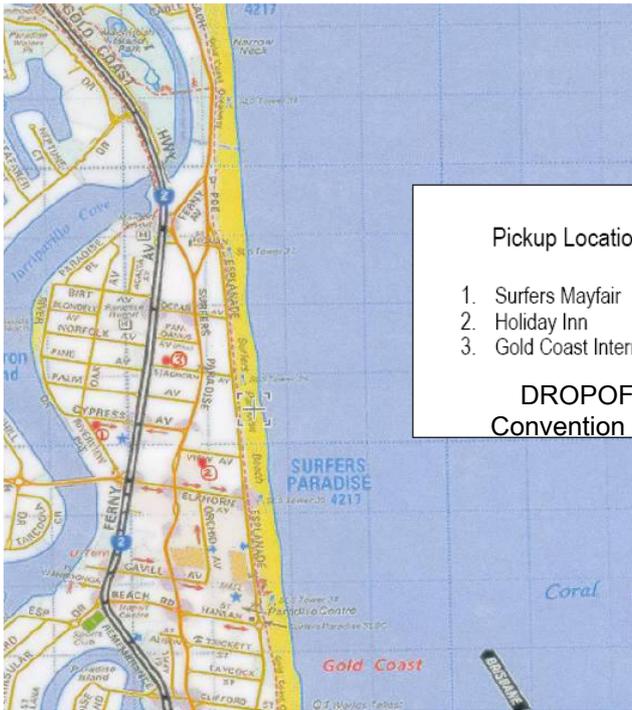
Below is courtesy bus route servicing Surfers Paradise the area.

Bus will commence circuit at 4pm on Saturday for Registration and Walk-in Pairs; and run approx every 45 mins
Last pickup 6.15pm

Pickup will be approx. **10.45** and **11.30** daily until Wednesday. Further schedules to be published later. All times are approximate and subject to traffic conditions and numbers.

Advance confirmation of numbers using the bus would be gratefully appreciated, enabling us to fine tune the schedules. To make your request, please email Diana <alahari@tpg.com.au or fill in the Bus Request sheet when registering for the congress.

Buses will be available for return journey after completion of play on an "as needs" basis.



Pickup Locations

1. Surfers Mayfair
2. Holiday Inn
3. Gold Coast International

DROPOFF
Convention Center

SURFERS Courtesy Bus Schedule

Bus will circuit the route (see below left) approx. every 10 mins.

Pick-up commences:

Monday	10:45 & 11:30
Tuesday	10:45 & 11:30
Wednesday	10:45 & 11:30
Thursday	8:15
Friday	10:45 & 11:30
Saturday	8:00

**PLEASE NOTIFY DESK OF
INTENTION TO USE THE
BUS TO ACCOMODATE
NUMBERS**

Bus will be available for shuttles to Broadbeach for dinner after afternoon play, and for return journeys to Surfers "as needed."

Last Chance, Last Dance...and Dinner too

This year's Dinner/Dance will be held in the Gold Coast Convention Centre on Saturday, 24 February, at 8:00 pm. Come at 7:30 for a complimentary drink.

As in the past, entry to this event is by ticket only and the onus is on the individual to make arrangements. The only procedure is to pick up a "table list" from Reception and return it as soon as possible, but no later than 8 pm Wednesday. Tables will accommodate a maximum of 10 people and the list can be for any number, from 1-10.

Tickets are complimentary to those playing in all three events of the Congress. For those playing in two events the surcharge is \$20, in one event \$40, and \$60 for non-players. These charges are payable when handing in the list. Dinner/Dance tickets are non-transferable. Personalized tickets will be available for collection from Reception after 5 pm on Friday.

Notices

Unpaid Entry Fees

Entry Fees: A few players, because of extenuating circumstances, have not been able to pre-pay their entry fee. If this means YOU, please proceed to Reception and take care of the matter. Play cannot commence if an entry fee is unpaid.

Parking

There will be a weekly pass issued from Saturday 17/02/07 to Saturday 24/02/07 for \$20.00 (8 days) or a flat rate of \$5.00 per day. Our understanding is that you will pay on arrival at the car park.

Player Survey

We have been granted funding for the 2008 GC from the Qld Regional Tourist Board, but one of the requisites is that we supply certain facts and figures about our players. We also need these demographics when applying for Sponsorship (which would keep our costs down). So we have bitten the bullet and compiled a Player Survey form that you will find in your satchel. It is completely confidential—no name, phone number or e-mail address is asked for. It is essential that we receive your input so **PLEASE** fill out your form before you forget (a mind is a terrible thing to waste) and return it to the Registration desk. Thank you for your prompt cooperation.

Pens

The pen you receive in your satchel is the one you will use to bid and score with throughout this congress. Remember to bring it to each session.

Coffee, Tea, or Me

As a service to Congress participants, brewed coffee and tea will be available inside the playing area (look for the large urns) for only \$2.00/cup. If too few players avail themselves of this service, it will have to be discontinued—so **drink more coffee and tea!**

Gold Coast Convention Centre Coffee Shop

For your convenience, the Coffee Shop will be open from 11.00 am to 8.00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; on Thursday it will open at 9.00am. **Use it or lose it.**

Chinese New Year and Dinner

Chinese New Year begins Sunday, February 18, and runs for 15 days. The area will likely be buzzing with activity and excitement, but this could also mean unexpected problems with accommodations (lodging, dinner, etc.) might occur. It might be best to make reservations ahead of time.

Problems?

Therese Tully is the Convenor and Kim Ellaway the Manager. If you experience any problems with the events see either of them. Kim can be contacted on 0412 06 4903 at any time during the congress.

Seating

This year seating is being done in advance in each event for those who pre-registered. We hope to improve on it next year, so **PLEASE** remember to register early.



"I've been waitin' here since Monday, mate. When is this bloody Bar-B-Q gonna start?"

GCC BBQ

For a limited time on Thursday 2:45 pm

Southern Terrace BBQ Menu

Bridge 2007

Rib Fillet focaccia with Aussie bush spices	7.9
Tandoori Chicken Burger with cucumber yoghurt . .	7.9
Vegetarian Burger with tomato relish	6.9
Gourmet sausage on a Panini Roll, grilled onion . . .	7.9
Reef fish burgers with lemon pepper seasoning . . .	7.9

Drinks

Soft drinks 600ml	3.4
Mt Franklin 600ml	3.0
Pump 750ml	3.9
Fruitopia 250ml	3.0
Powerade	3.9
Red Bull	4.6

Snacks

Crisps	2.8
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A Good Partner...

by Dianne Brinkworth

Ralph Parker was playing with Peter Hainsworth in the first qualifying session of the Pairs. In first seat Ralph, as North, picked up ♠732 ♥J ♦AK109832 ♣86. It was Board 9 and Ralph was the dealer, non-vulnerable against vulnerable.

He opened 3♦, East and South passed, and West doubled. North passed and East bid a confident 3NT, all pass. The full deal was (*see next column*):

After the demolition, East commented, "Oh I thought you'd have a stopper partner."

♠ 732
♥ J
♦ AK109832
♣ 86

♠ Q65
♥ AKQ9
♦ Q65
♣ Q43

♠ A98
♥ 1074
♦ 7
♣ AKJ1092

♠ KJ104
♥ 86532
♦ J2
♣ 75

Multi 2♦ and Power Acol at Work

by Phil Pollett

The following board from the first final session of the Pairs on Monday illustrates the value of the multi 2♦ opening.

Bd: 25 ♠ KJ10843
Dlr: North ♥ 76
Vul: E/W ♦ 4

Bd: 26
Dlr: East
Vul: Both

♠ K102
♥ 10
♦ 7
♣ AKQJ10863

♣ J743
♠ A97652 ♠ Q
♥ K ♥ QJ8542
♦ K6 ♦ J10
♣ 8652 ♣ AQ109

♠ AQ54
♥ J65
♦ AJ865
♣ 9

♠ 73
♥ 87432
♦ Q92
♣ 742

♠ J986
♥ AKQ9
♦ K1043
♣ 5

♠ ---
♥ A1093
♦ AQ987532
♣ K

As North I opened 2♦, Multi. East passed and my partner, Vivienne Croft, in the South seat bid 2NT. West now made an unfortunate decision to take an active part in the auction and bid 3♠. North and East passed and when Vivienne doubled, we all passed.

On this board South opened 1♦ after a pass by East. West passed and I bid 2♦. Systemically (we play Ron Klingler's Power Acol system) this is game forcing.

East passed and Vivienne bid 2♥. I jumped to 4NT (RKC in hearts) and Vivienne's reply of 5♠ meant the partnership was now committed to 6♣. So I bid a confident 6♣, and after two passes West doubled.

Now doesn't a double of a slam ask for some special lead? East thought "Ah yes, that's a Lightner double asking for an unusual lead." So East dutifully led a heart—not a success.



Vivienne Croft and Phil Pollett

A Woman's Prayer

"Dear Lord, I pray for the Wisdom to understand a man, to love and forgive him, for Patience to deal with for his moods. Because, Lord, if I pray for strength I'll just beat him to death."

Would the Experts Always Get It Right?

by Rosemary Mooney

Bd: 6
Dir: East
Vul: E/W

♠ A
♥ Q63
♦ KQJ
♣ AKQJ97

♠ 10
♥ K9842
♦ 7542
♣ 862

♠ Q7432
♥ 10
♦ A10863
♣ 104

♠ KJ9865
♥ AJ75
♦ K873
♣ 6

5♥ reply and 6NT looked a sure thing—wrong!

So back to an area of conjecture among even the experts. Should South, at her first turn, pass, bid 1♠ (with a side four-card heart suit), bid 2♠ (weak, despite holding four hearts), or bid 2♦ (Multi)?

Who knows?...We don't.

Please come to Darwin in early September for the Territory Gold Bridge Festival. You can earn PQP'S. Darwin is a "must see" place; a great time and great bridge are promised.

Would the experts always get it right? Sue O'Brien (from Brisbane) and I (from Darwin) are far from a finely-tuned bridge partnership. We bid the N/S cards as shown below (East and West passed throughout).

South North

1♠	2♣	
2♥	3♦(1)	(1) 4 th -suit forcing
3♠(2)	4NT(3)	(2) No ♦ stop; (3) RKC: 3014 (♠)
5♥(4)	6NT	(4) Two key cards, no ♠Q

A quick mathematical calculation by North after the



"So I passed Blackwood. Is that any reason to...?"

The following e-mail was received by the editor on Tuesday

From: :Mike & Jan" <mija@redzone.com.au>
To: <rcolker>
Sent: Tuesday, 20 February 2007 6:10 PM
Subject: Appreciation

Hi. Having read all the articles in our daily newsletter over the years with great appreciation, I don't know if this is the appropriate place to express all our thanks to Therese Tully for fabulous job. A new venue and thank god, the most comfortable chairs (can we take them back to our club?), we truly do know the hard yards done by Therese, Kim, Gerald, Nolene and all the Directors and background staff and it is terrific that it is such a success, and handled with such grace and humour. Congratulations Therese and to all of you.

Thanks again - See you in 2008.

Janet Wallis
Gold Coast Bridge Club

Signed, Janet Wallis

We'd like to add our own appreciation to those expressed by Janet. We arrived in Brisbane last Wednesday and stayed for several days at Connie Schoutrop's and her husband's house (where Therese lives). We've worked with Therese for long hours every day since then and it would not be bending the truth very much to say that we've rarely seen her feet touch ground in the week we've been here. Kudos, Therese, and the same all the other people who are making this tournament such a fabulous success. — Rich Colker

We Owe You...

Bd: 10 ♠ 10653
 Dir: East ♥ 64
 Vul: Both ♦ Q32
 ♣ 8742

♠ 97 ♠ KQ82
 ♥ KQ973 ♥ AJ10
 ♦ 5 ♦ AKJ76
 ♣ AKJ63 ♣ 10
 ♠ AJ4
 ♥ 852
 ♦ 10984
 ♣ Q95

Bd: 11 ♠ AQ10853
 Dir: South ♥ J8
 Vul: None ♦ J9
 ♣ 963

♠ J9764 ♠ K
 ♥ K9753 ♥ A1064
 ♦ AQ ♦ 108
 ♣ 8 ♣ AKQJ54
 ♠ 2
 ♥ Q2
 ♦ K765432
 ♣ 61072

Bd: 12 ♠ J1074
 Dir: West ♥ K2
 Vul: N/S ♦ Q42
 ♣ KQ76

♠ K65 ♠ A2
 ♥ Q4 ♥ AJ65
 ♦ 8763 ♦ K1095
 ♣ AJ32 ♣ 1094
 ♠ Q983
 ♥ 109873
 ♦ AJ
 ♣ 85

Karen McCallum and Lynn Baker arrived for the first session of the Open Pairs on Sunday during Round 8. It wasn't that they'd forgotten the starting time; they knew game time was 1 pm. It wasn't that they'd lost track of time, or that they'd overslept. It wasn't even that they'd experienced a flight delay and arrived in Australia late—they'd arrived on "Saturday."

They had checked into their rooms and then gone out and spent hours strolling around town, shopping, scouting restaurants, getting familiar with the area.

Finally they decided to take a look at the playing venue and walked over to the Convention Centre, only to discover that play was under way and that a substitute pair had been filling in for them until they arrived.

What had happened was that they'd forgotten about that little hiccup you encounter when you fly from America to Australia—you know, the International date line. It wasn't on Saturday that they had arrived; it was on Sunday.

So, when they finally sat down at the table they were dead last in the field. They then proceeded to play the spots off the cards, and finished the second qualifying session with a mammoth game—and qualified.

Then, in the finals, they started against Ron Klinger and Jamie Ebery, third in the field going into the first final session. They played the three boards shown above against Ron and Jamie, and here's what happened.

On Board 10 the dynamic duo from America bid 6NT and made it—on two out of three finesses. It wasn't the worst contract any of us has even been in, but +1440 was worth 25 out of 25 matchpoints.

On Board 11 Lynn declared 6♥ from the West seat and received the ♥J opening lead. Somehow she convinced herself that North was trying to do her in and had led the jack from QJx. So she won the king in hand and put in the ♥10 when North followed with a low heart at trick two. South won and had he found the spade return Lynn would have been down and we wouldn't be telling you this story. But South returned a diamond and Lynn still had life. She steeled herself, took the now-mandatory diamond finesse, and scored up 980—another 25 out of 25 matchpoints.

On Board 12 N/S played 2♥ and the girls managed to collect six tricks, for down one, as the Deep Finesse analysis on the hand records tells us they always had coming. Down lone may have been their due but that was worth 22 out of 25 matchpoints, for w whopping 72 out of 75 matchpoints on the round. (For those of you mathematically inclined, that's 96%.)

We'd bet that few players have ever been as happy to see their opponents leave their table as Ron and Jamie were at that moment.

But the *coup de gras* was, as the girls left the table they turned to Ron and said, "We owe you a bottle of wine."

How about two bottles?...er, make that three bottles...uh, no, make that four...

Colour Coding

For the whole event, the Open Area will be dressed in light and dark blue, the Restricted in green and dark green and the Seniors in pink and lilac. Coloured balloons will identify your section results and playing areas.

Some Restricted Thoughts

By Bill Hunt

In the second qualifying session of the Restricted Pairs this was Board 13.

This was Board 8:

Bd: 13 ♠ Q964
Dlr: North ♥ 74
Vul: Both ♦ AKJ7

Bd: 8 ♠ AQJ9
Dlr: West ♥ Q1032
Vul: None ♦ KQJ
 ♣ 65

♠ 1052
♥ 96
♦ 942
♣ AK1093

♠ 873
♥ K10852
♦ 1063
♣ Q4

♠ 632
♥ AK86
♦ 543
♣ 1084

♠ 1087
♥ J974
♦ 9872
♣ Q7

♠ AKJ
♥ AQJ3
♦ Q85
♣ J76

♠ K54
♥ 5
♦ A106
♣ AKJ932

Regardless of what system you play, all roads lead to 3NT by N/S. If played by North, no sweat on a heart lead, but if played by South, how do you beat 3NT?

North opened 1NT and South bid 6NT. West asked, "Do you play Gerber?"

"No"

Years ago when you had bridge lessons you were told to lead the fourth highest from your longest and strongest suit. During a recent bridge seminar the presenter noted that AK109x is stronger than AK108x, as the 10-9 is equivalent to a jack. So with AKJxx you would lead the ace and that asks partner to drop an honour if he has one.

"Blackwood?"

"Sometimes."

"Roman Keycard Blackwood?"

"What's that?"

But Hanna, Kathy, and Sue found all this too hard and like attitude leads; they led the ♣3. So +100 to the good guys and about a 90% score on this board.

So what does East lead? The fourth highest from her longest and strongest: the ♥4.

A Cruel Game

by Bill Hunt

I was asked how to bid Board 12 from the second qualifying session of the Pairs.

bids 3NT—what else? There are stoppers in all four suits. Yes indeed, when you have 9xx opposite Q10 and the suit breaks 6-2 you are a winner.

Bd: 12 ♠ 10
Dlr: West ♥ J9754
Vul: N/S ♦ J
 ♣ A87532

This game we love can be so cruel.

♠ QJ53
♥ A1086
♦ A9
♣ 964

♠ K76
♥ K2
♦ KQ10873
♣ Q10

♠ A9842
♥ Q3
♦ 6542
♣ KJ

At the conclusion of a hand on which the declaring pair had been less than successful and the penalty computed, dummy remarked, "I was hoping you had a second suit."

Declarer: "I didn't even have a first suit."

— John Sarjeant

Your opponents are the only pair in the room playing Precision. West opens the bidding 1♦. "Alert." East

From the Restricted Section

by Loraine Eaves

Board 19 from the first final pairs session was:

Bd: 19
 Dir: S
 Vul:ew

♠ ---
 ♥ 1096
 ♦ K9642
 ♣ KQ962

♠ J9862
 ♥ K7
 ♦ AQJ8
 ♣ A3

♠ AQ753
 ♥ A432
 ♦ 53
 ♣ 84

♠ K104
 ♥ QJ85
 ♦ 107
 ♣ J1075

bid 5♣. I was in a quandary. Partner appeared to have five spades but could be short on game-level points. On the bidding I could see four likely defensive tricks in my hand: a heart, two diamonds and a club.

With the opponents non-vulnerable, if I double it's two down and 300 for us. However, we were vulnerable and making 5♠ would have given us +650. Hoping partner's hand was sufficiently unbalanced for useful ruffs I allowed greed to dominate and bid 5♠—wrong decision. Yes, the five level does belong to the opponents.

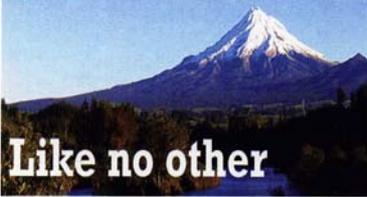
Sitting West I opened 1♠ after a pass from South. LHO bid 2NT for the minors. Partner bid 4♠ and RHO

The only consolation was that we were always going to be beaten by E/W pairs allowed to play in 4♠.

♠

NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL CONGRESS SEPTEMBER 2007

♥



Like no other



♦







♣

THE BEST TOURNAMENT ON PLANET EARTH

- Siegfried Konig (Australian Bridge Magazine)

♠

You are invited...

The N.Z.C.B.A. cordially invites you to take a winter holiday at the
New Zealand Congress - September 22nd to the 29th 2007.

3 days of the NZ Pairs Championships &
5 days of the NZ Teams Championships.

Congress entry fee \$NZ290 (currently \$US190).
Accommodation available at the playing site.

The Congress is to be held in the city of Hamilton, which is within easy reach of

- North Island skiing resorts
- Rotorua thermal field
- Sky City Casino

- Beautiful Huka Falls
- Dozens of world class golf courses
- World famous trout fishing at Lake Taupo

For details contact rksolomon@xtra.co.nz

Is it a Record?

by Barbara Travis

M. Szymanowski and J. Strepinsky may have been the pre-tournament Gold Coast Pairs titleholders, but I've been claiming that I'm here to defend my Gold Coast Pairs title...that I won in 1979. Twenty-eight years between visits. Is it a record?

This year I'm playing with Elizabeth Havas, with whom I've played since 1993. This is our first ever pairs event together.

In 1979, I played the Pairs with Peter Jamieson, joining up with Peter and Kathy Buchen for the teams. Here are my main memories.

The package deal for return flights from Sydney and the week's accommodation cost us \$119 each. For winning the pairs we received \$500 plus a mantle clock.

I can't remember too much from the pairs but we did

have a celebratory dinner before the teams started. Kathy Buchen and I were somewhat under the weather and in desperate need of coffee— which wasn't to be served for half an hour. After the first hand I was totally sober again: the opponents had bid to 7NT holding all the aces and kings but no long suits. As it happened, they needed four tricks from JT9 opposite AK32. Clearly you need to finesse twice. However, the first-round finesse to my singleton queen wasn't a resounding success for declarer play.

Why have I finally returned to the Gold Coast? This year is my year between children doing Year 12 so I'm grabbing the opportunity to play more bridge. There is, however, a sort of symmetry to the Gold Coast for me this year. In 1979, Sunday was my 20th birthday. This year Sunday was my birthday once again, and it was also Elizabeth's. We've made the finals. Maybe it was meant to be.

A Retrospective of Barbara (circa 1979)...& Her Friends



Bridge Defense - What's Going On (4)?

by Mike Lawrence

East deals, no one vulnerable.

West	North	East	South
Pass	3NT	Pass	1NT (15-17)
		All Pass	

North
♠ Q2
♥ 1072
♦ QJ876
♣ AK10

East
♠ 1093
♥ A64
♦ 95
♣ 87643

♠ Q2
♥ 1072
♦ QJ876
♣ AK10

♠ J8754
♥ KJ83
♦ K2
♣ 95

♠ 1093
♥ A64
♦ 95
♣ 87643

♠ AK6
♥ Q95
♦ A1043
♣ QJ2

West leads the ♠5 and dummy wins with the queen. You should play the ten on this. The ten obviously denies the ace or king since you would have covered the queen if you could.

If you had the jack and ten, you would play the jack. When you play the ten, it tells partner you do not have the jack, but you do have the nine. This will be useful to partner when he gets in. Your ten is NOT suit preference. It is just telling partner what you have in spades. At trick two, declarer finesses the ♦Q to West's king. West leads the ♥3 and you take your ace. What now? Why?

Return the ♥6. West led a little heart, which shows interest in hearts. If West wanted you to return a spade, he would have led a high heart spot to tell you he was just trying to get you in. It is important to have the understanding that when you shift to a little card

you are showing interest in the new suit and when you shift to a big spot card, you do not like the new suit. How else can you tell partner what you want him to do? NOTE that you should return the ♥6. If you had started with the ♥A654, you would return the four. You are trying to tell partner how many hearts you have. If you started with four or more cards in the suit partner leads, you return your original fourth best. With three only, you return the higher card. Hopefully, partner can read it.

If E/W don't have this agreement, East might return a spade, allowing declarer to take his ten tricks.

This is a frequently recurring theme. You make your opening lead and at the end of trick one, you usually know whether it was a good lead or a bad one. Later, when you get in, you will need to put partner in to make a return for you. Remember the above rule. If you want him to return your new suit, lead a little card. If you want him to return your original suit, lead a high card. It would be a shame to have partner return the wrong suit.

For more of Michael Lawrence on bridge, visit his web site at: www.michaelslawrence.com

Kiwi Humor

Two businessmen in Melbourne, Australia are sitting in their soon-to-be new store. As of now the store is bare with just a few shelves.

One says to the other, "I bet any minute now a Kiwi is going to walk by, put his face to the window and ask what we are selling."

No sooner were the words out of his mouth when sure enough, a curious Kiwi walks to the window, has a peak and asks, "What are ya sellin' here boys?"

One of the men—being a smart ass—replies, "Oh we're selling ass holes here."

Without skipping a beat the Kiwi says, "Well, I see you're doing really well, you've only got two left!"

Tourney Dominated By Hooves and Antlers

by Richard Pavlicek

Today's deal occurred at the annual North Pole Regional, an unusual tournament in that local reindeer are invited to attend. This has caused complaints from the Eskimos who cite "hoofings" and "antler gougings" as reasons for barring the reindeer; but the truth is that no Eskimo has won since the reindeer were admitted in 1976.

At one table Mush, the top Eskimo player, opened the South hand with 4NT, Blackwood. (Eskimo bidding left a lot to be desired.) His partner, Slush, showed no aces (what a surprise) and Mush continued with 5NT to ask for kings. When Slush showed one king, Mush still had no idea what to bid and he took a stab at 6NT.

Dlr: South ♠ KQ105432
 Vul: E/W ♥ 32
 ♦ 5 4
 ♣ 10 9

♠ J987 ♠ 6
 ♥ 987 ♥ J654
 ♦ 876 ♦ J932
 ♣ 765 ♣ J432

♠ A
 ♥ AKQ10
 ♦ AKQ10
 ♣ AKQ8

West	North	East	South
			4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

West led a spade and Mush was...well, in the slush. He had 10 top tricks in his hand and two in dummy, but there was no way to reach the dummy. He played skillfully (endplaying East) to escape for down one. After the session he asked some of the reindeer what they had done on this annoying deal.

"Oh, we bid 7♠," said Randolph, "and I made it on a trump coup. After ruffing three times in the North hand, I ended with South on lead and West's ♠J was trapped in the end position. Not much to it really."

"We bid 7♥," exclaimed Raymond. "West led a spade and I had to hope for miracles. I ruffed the third round of diamonds in dummy then, fearing a bad spade break, I led the ♣10 for a finesse. When this held I took the heart finesse and all of a sudden my hand was good. Making seven!"

"How about that!" echoed Ralph. "We bid 7♦ and I made it the same way."

"Guess what?" chimed Rudolph. "We bid 7♣...some kind of Gerber malfunction as I recall. I won the spade lead, cashed all my red-nosed...er, red-suit winners, and ruffed a heart. The ♠K was ruffed and overruffed, then a diamond ruff gave me 13 tricks. Rather easy."

What do you call a boomerang that doesn't work?

A stick.

For more of Richard Pavlicek on bridge, visit his web site at: www.rpbridge.net



"I submitted a hand to the bulletin and I can't even write. What's your excuse?"

15 Minutes of Fame

We at the daily bulletin wish to keep you informed (and amused) about the bridge at this Congress. Please let us know about anything amusing, brilliant or embarrassing that happens at your table (of course *we* are responsible for the brilliancies while our partner, teammates, or opponents always seem to commit the blunders). Tell Dianne Brinkworth or me if you run into one of us (hopefully not literally). Or you can drop a note in the Bulletin Box at the Registration desk or even e-mail me at: rcolker@worldnet.att.net. Thanks.

— Rich Colker, Bulletin Editor

Under the Microscope

by Barry Rigal

Bridge is a game of mistakes. You have to take advantage of your opponents' errors and hope they don't take advantage of yours.

On the deal below, the suit combination of J-8 in dummy facing A-7 in hand comes under the microscope. At a suit contract, when the defense lead the suit at trick one, you are pretty sure to lose one trick and one only (unless this is your trump suit, in which case I suggest you revisit your bidding textbooks).

If the suit is led, there are clear deceptive advantages to putting up the jack. Why? Well, imagine you play low and take your RHO's 9 or 10 with the ace. When your LHO gets the lead, he will be able to lead to his partner, knowing he has a high honor in the suit. By contrast, if the layout is something like:

	J 8	
K9652		Q1043
	A7	

and the first trick goes 5, J, Q, A, how will West know if South has A-10 doubleton (in which case an underlead costs a trick) or the actual layout?

But that is by the by. Here is the deal in question (see top of next column; hands rotated).

Dir: North Vul: Both	♠ A1064 ♥ 82 ♦ J8 ♣ AKJ102
♠ 8 ♥ AQ653 ♦ Q9652 ♣ 43	♠ Q73 ♠ J104 ♦ K1043 ♣ Q85
	♠ KJ952 ♥ K97 ♦ A7 ♣ 976

What actually happened was that Vardana Vidwana, playing with Rajeev Gupta, declared 4♣ on an informative auction.

West	North	East	South
	1♣	Pass	1♠
1NT(1)	2♣	2NT(2)	4♠
All Pass			
(1) Red suits.			
(2) Cards.			

Since East had shown both suits himself, he was a little cornered when his partner led a fifth-highest ♦2. Could this be an underlead of the ace? Trying not to spoil his partner's brilliancy, East played the ♦K on the 8—and that was all the help Vardana needed. She won the ace, played a spade to the ace, finessed in trumps, drew East's queen, cashed the ♣AK and exited with the ♦J to West.

West could now open up hearts and hold declarer's losses in the suit to one trick or lead a diamond and concede a ruff-sluff. Either way, declarer had her 10 tricks.



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Events & Happenings

Unless indicated otherwise, the activities listed will be held in the playing area. If you have difficulty finding the event of interest to you, check at the registration desk.

Day/Date	Time	Event/Activity	Description/Information
Wednesday 21	9:30 am	Australian Bridge Directors Workshop	Co-hosted by Laurie Kelso, CTD here at Broadbeach, and Arie Gersen, Cheif Director, NZ. Come along and join our annual get-together on the coast. This will be a valuable arena for exchange of ideas in a question and answer forum. Put forward your questions <i>prior</i> to the gathering to assure their proper consideration. You may submit a question to any Director at this congress. — John McIlrath, President, ABDA
Friday 23	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Butler Swiss Scoring	Joan Butts & many-time World and US champion Karen McCallum will discuss Butler Swiss scoring starting one hour prior to the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs.

2007 Gold Coast Congress: Program

Day/Date	Time(s)	Event(s)
Wednesday 21 Feb.	9:00 am 1:00 pm 7:30 pm	Walk-In Pairs Open/Seniors/Restricted Teams (Matches 3-6)
Thursday 22 Feb.	10:30 am & 3:30 pm Finish approx. 7:00 pm	Open/Seniors/Restricted Teams (Matches 7-10)
Friday 23 Feb.	1:00 pm & 8:00 pm 10:00 am & 2:00 pm 10:00 am & 2:15 pm	Ivy Dahler Open/Restricted Swiss Butler Pairs (1 st & 2 nd) Seniors/Restricted Teams (Final) Open Teams (Qtr-/Semi-Finals)
Saturday 24 Feb.	10:00 am - 1:30 pm 9:30 am/to be agreed 8:00 pm	Ivy Dahler Open/Restricted Swiss Butler Pairs (3 rd) Open Teams Final Dinner/Dance

Share Taxi to Brisbane Airport

Sunday (25/2/07) QF0619 Brisbane to Melbourne at 11:50.
Please contact Alison Brogan, telephone: 0418 65 7292
Staying at Air on Brisbane

Raffle Winner

Tuesday's winner of a Basket of Wine, drawn the last round of the Pairs, was:
C67 (Senior Pairs) — Jeff Pugh
Congratulations!