

Nixon Leads GCC Open Teams after 6 Matches

The team captained by R Nixon (S Hurley, N Francis, M Moren, C Snashall, A De Livera) leads the 2007 GCC Open Teams after six matches with 137 VPs. In second place, with 127 VPs, is Hirst (B Hirst, P Hackett, J Hackett, T Hanlon). The remaining top 10 teams are listed below.

Cornell Leads GCC Senior Teams after 6 Matches

In the Seniors division, the team captained by M Cornell (V Cornell, J Cormack, A Turner) leads after six matches with 131 VPs, 8 ahead of the second-place A Robbins team (G Ridgway, J Brockwell, E Ramshaw). The rest of the top 10 teams are listed below.

Mclvor Leads the GCC Restricted Teams after 6 Matches

The N Mclvor team (D Featherstone, W Boxall, J Wiczorek) holds a thin lead in the Restricted teams with 123 VPs, just 1 VP ahead of T Wotherspoon (E Baker, R Taylor, R Taylor) and 1 more VP ahead of J Homer (B A'Beckett, M Allison, R O'Dell). The remaining top 10 Restricted teams are listed below.

Rank/#	Captain	VP	imps	Rank/#	Captain	VP	imps	Rank/#	Captain	VP	imps
1 11	Nixon	137	244	1 1	Cornell	131	203	1 13	Mclvor	123	132
2 2	Hirst	127	183	2 3	Robbins	123	158	2 18	Wotherspoon	122	168
3 7	Vainikonis	123	156	3 10	Smee	113	124	3 24	Homer	121	180
4 1	Holland	121	135	4 2	Puskas	113	106	4 9	Stoneman	117	118
5 6	Haughie	121	132	5 6	Mendick	107	117	5 11	Ferguson	115	121
6 106	Birrer	120	149	6 7	Hunt	106	84	6 71	Busch	113	116
7 9	Mullamphy	120	121	7 19	Yovich	105	115	7 55	Baker	113	101
8 12	Courtney	118	127	8 8	Marinos	104	71	8 19	Anderson	111	103
9 36	Hurley	117	115	9 4	Klofa	104	53	9 21	Davenport	109	81
10 8	Ware	116	143	10 9	Lenart	102	51	10 12	Munro	109	78
11 5	Rothfield	115	163	11 11	Milward	100	43	11 32	Kable	108	97
12 242	Minchin	115	102	12 16	Halmos	99	46	12 4	Whitmee	107	125
13 21	Jackman	114	130	13 27	Berry	97	30	13 61	Lloyd	107	71
14 58	Magee	114	119	14 13	Winestock	97	28	14 53	Clyne	106	151
15 35	Fahrer	114	100	15 14	Harkness	96	67	15 41	Crawt	106	75
16 15	Beale	113	109	16 12	Varadi	96	21	16 49	Bolt	105	86
17 23	Krochmalik	113	109	17 30	Sheehy	95	65	17 28	Daglish	105	57
18 240	Scott	113	94	18 29	Davis	94	52	18 8	Cresswell	104	67
19 26	Jones	111	132	19 5	Robertson	91	12	19 30	Scholfield	104	58
20 29	Hyne	111	110	20 17	Eriksson	89	-8	20 27	Fenwicke	104	51

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Hop on the Bus, Gus...

GCC COURTESY BUS

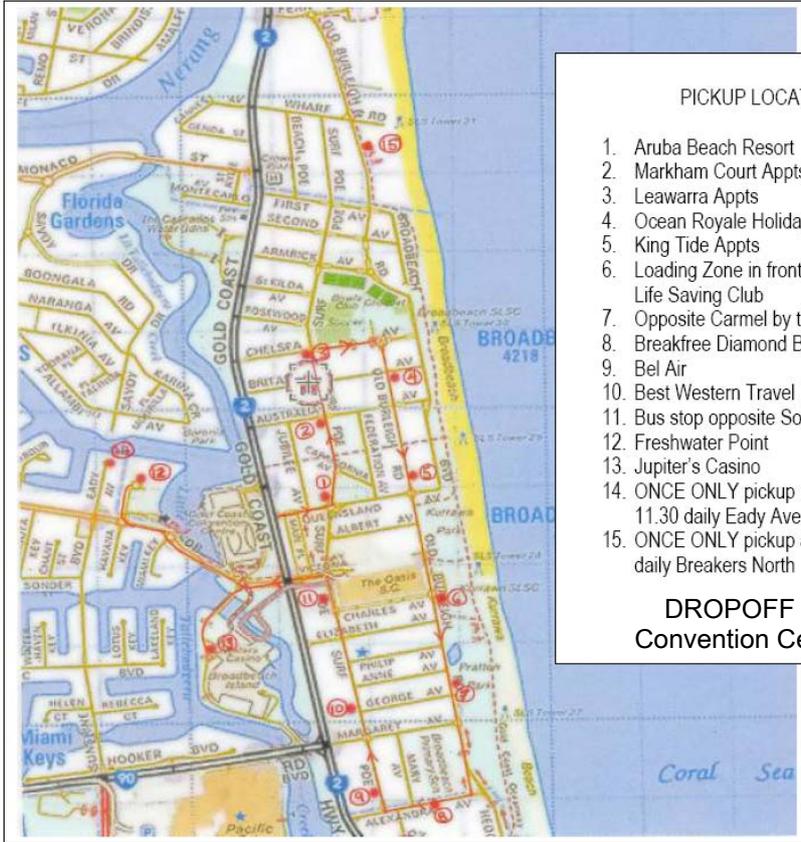
BROADBEACH

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@tpg.com.au> or fill in the Bus Request sheet when registering for the congress.



PICKUP LOCATIONS

1. Aruba Beach Resort
2. Markham Court Appts
3. Leawarra Appts
4. Ocean Royale Holiday Appts
5. King Tide Appts
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



"Here's the intrepid hunter, using a plant as camouflage, ready to pounce on my unwary victim. Here comes one now. Geronimo!"



"There's nothing as embarrassing as getting slam dunked by your victim."



...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."

RAFFLES

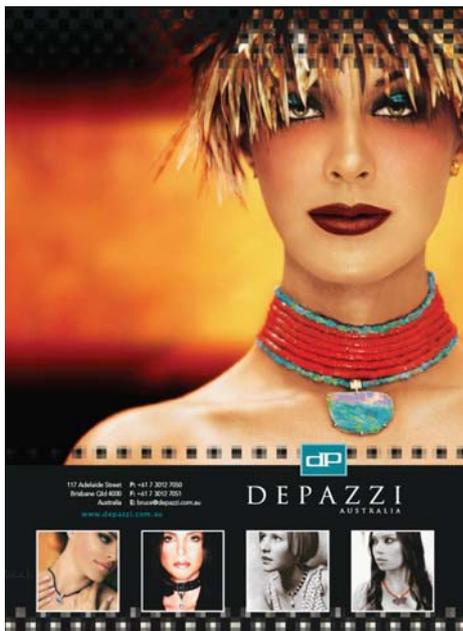
PRIZES

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



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 began last Sunday, February 18, but it runs for 15 days. The area will likely be buzzing with activity that could mean unexpected problems with accommodations (lodging, dinner, etc.). 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.



Stores at Bundaberg, Browns Plains, Caloundra, Carindale, Chermside, Earlville, Garden City, Gladstone, Logan Hyperdome, Mackay, Morayfield, North Lakes, Noosa Junction, Sunshine Plaza, Townsville & Toowoomba

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"Humans are so gullible. I told her if she rubs hard enough a Genie will appear and grant her three wishes...heh, heh, heh."

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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GCC Open Teams: Match 3

In Match 3 the #5 seed **Rothfield** (J Rothfield, C Rothfield, S Browne, K Dyke, I Del'Monte, V Demuy) met team **Havas** (E Havas, B Travis, B McDonald, A Walsh). Del'Monte-Demuy were playing their version of Mosquito, featuring, among other things, a strong 1♣ opening and transfer 1♦, 1♥ and 1♠ openings in first and second seats.

Bd: 1 ♠ K765
 Dir: North ♥ AK7643
 Vul: None ♦ 3
 ♣ 83

♠ QJ1083	♠ A4
♥ 2	♥ Q108
♦ A96	♦ J752
♣ Q976	♣ AJ42
♠ 92	
♥ J95	
♦ KQ1084	
♣ K105	

West	North	East	South
<i>Travis</i>	<i>Del'Monte</i>	<i>Havas</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
Pass	1♦*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Demuy's 2♦ was an artificial three-card heart raise (it was coincidence that he actually held diamonds) and over 2♠ Demuy went slow with 3♥—and it was good that he did. Havas led the ♦2 to the king and ace and Travis got out with a heart to Del'Monte's ace. Ish then played the ♣8 and Havas took a long look at this before finally rising with the ace and returning a club to dummy's king. The ♦Q provided a parking spot for one of Ish's spades and a spade went to the king and ace. Del'Monte ruffed Havas's club return and exited with a second spade to the ten. Travis continued with the ♠Q, ruffed in dummy as Havas pitched a club. The ♥J now revealed the news that there was a trump still to lose and Del'Monte finished one down, -50. At the other table West went two off in 4♠. That was -100 and 4 imps to Havas.

Board 2 An overtrick imp for Rothfield; 4-1 Havas.



"Decisions, decisions..."

Bd: 4 ♠ A4
 Dir: West ♥ A64
 Vul: Both ♦ AKQ96
 ♣ K63

♠ K752	♠ Q1086
♥ Q9	♥ 1052
♦ J4	♦ 1087
♣ AQ1072	♣ 854
♠ J93	
♥ KJ873	
♦ 532	
♣ J9	

West	North	East	South
<i>Travis</i>	<i>Del'Monte</i>	<i>Havas</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
1♣	Dbl	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

4♥ is a fine contract as long as hearts are not four-one (or worse) offside. Demuy got the ♣A lead and the ♣Q continuation. He won dummy's king and carefully considered how to approach trumps. If East has four of them almost any line will work; declarer can always afford one heart loser. But if West has the four then two main lines are possible to hold trump losers to one. One is to play East for a singleton ten or nine and lead the ♥J from hand (or play a heart from dummy and cover East's nine or ten with the jack, then finesse dummy's six on the second round). The other line is to play a heart to the ace and a low heart back, covering West's second spot. That's the line Demuy followed and was rewarded when the ♥Q fell doubleton; +680.

At the other table N/S stopped in 2♥ (we didn't ask, and we wouldn't tell if we had—unless a suitable amount of money changed hands) and again made six; +230 and 10 imps to Rothfield, ahead 11-4.

In his match Paul "Papa" Hackett played in the inelegant contract of 5♦, where he could not afford a heart loser. A club went to the ace and the spade switch was ducked to the queen. East then got out with a spade. Papa now worked out that if West held the ♥Q and ♠K he could be squeezed in the majors. Did West set up a squeeze on himself to present Papa with a losing option, with the ♥Qxx onside all the time? Papa finally got it right, but he's sporting a few more grey hairs than he was at this time yesterday.

Havas picked up overtrick imps on Boards 5 and 6, trailing 11-6.

Bd: 7 ♠ AQ6
 Dir: South ♥ 953
 Vul: Both ♦ AQ8
 ♣ J832

 ♠ K ♠ 10854
 ♥ 10872 ♥ KJ6
 ♦ 10742 ♦ J63
 ♣ K975 ♣ AQ6

 ♠ J9732
 ♥ AQ4
 ♦ K95
 ♣ 104

West	North	East	South
<i>Travis</i>	<i>Del'Monte</i>	<i>Havas</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
Pass	1♦*	Pass	1♠
All Pass			

Against 1♠ Travis led a heart to the king and ace and Demuy discovered the good news in trumps when the ♠K appeared at trick 2. He drew trumps in four rounds and eventually lost two clubs and a heart for +170.

At the other table South also declared 1♠. We wish we could tell you what razzle-dazzle defense led to two down, -200, but we don't know. But that was 9 more imps to Rothfield, leading now 20-6.

Bd: 8 ♠ J9652
 Dir: West ♥ 85
 Vul: Both ♦ K73
 ♣ 1053

 ♠ 3 ♠ Q10
 ♥ 9 ♥ KQJ6
 ♦ A1062 ♦ J9854
 ♣ AQ98764 ♣ K2

 ♠ AK874
 ♥ A107432
 ♦ Q
 ♣ J

West	North	East	South
<i>Travis</i>	<i>Del'Monte</i>	<i>Havas</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	2NT*
3♣	3♠	Dbl	Pass
4♦	All Pass		

Demuy's pass of 4♦ after Del'Monte "freely" bid 3♠ (yes, I know there's no such thing as a "free bid" in today's expert game, but in this case I disagree) seems unduly conservative to me; perhaps he was afraid of pushing E/W to a makeable game and then having to save. Anyhow, Travis scored up her +130 when the defense cashed their two aces on the go.

At the other table N/S were left to play 4♠ (here it was E/W whose actions seem a bit conservative; when you hold eleven cards in two suits you need to get out and bid more) and they scored that up easily for +420. 11 imps to Havas, cutting the deficit to 3 at 20-17.

Another overtrick imps on Board 9 made the score Rothfield 21, Havas 17. Then...

Bd: 10 ♠ K72
 Dir: East ♥ 98
 Vul:Both ♦ 7653
 ♣ K943

 ♠ 864 ♠ AQJ
 ♥ J652 ♥ Q10743
 ♦ J108 ♦ AQ94
 ♣ Q87 ♣ J

 ♠ 10953
 ♥ AK
 ♦ K2
 ♣ A10652

West	North	East	South
<i>Travis</i>	<i>Del'Monte</i>	<i>Havas</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
2♥	Dbl	1♥	Dbl
All Pass		4♥	Dbl

West's 2♥ bid was certainly no thing of beauty, but if it's beauty you want I hear there's a bridal show right down the hall. There's no reason that West couldn't have held the ♥K instead of the ♣Q for her raise, in which case 4♥ would need only one of two finesse instead of two of two. That anyone could see to double was just plain unlucky, and Havas finished one down for -200.

At the other table East was allowed to play 2♥ (3♣ is cold for N/S—hello, Law believers) and scored up +140. 2 imps to Rothfield, increasing their lead to 6 at 23-17.

On Board 12 Rothfield returned those 2 imps when at the other table they allowed Havas to score two overtricks in 4♥ off three top cashers; back to 4 at 23-19.



"I said I wanted a drink—not a bath."

Bd: 13
Dir: North
Vul: Both

♠ Q85
♥ AK1082
♦ 10
♣ AQ107

♠ 3
♥ 75
♦ K8732
♣ KJ953

♠ AJ109742
♥ 9
♦ 954
♣ 42

♠ K6
♥ QJ643
♦ AQJ6
♣ 86

At the other table East played an unbelievable 1♥ (on your honor, can you guess how before reading on?). Here's what happened. North opened an artificial 1♣ and East overcalled 1♥—showing the majors! (I don't know whether East psyched, or didn't think this convention applied over the type of artificial club he was playing against, or whether he misbid, or just plain forgot his system. But if I were him I'd claim clairvoyance.) South said pass because East had his suit, and North passed because East had *his* suit. Simple, really, when you think of it. East took six tricks for -100; 13imps for Rothfield, ahead 36-19.

On this remarkable deal Demuy played in a more-or-less normal 4♠ contract and with two finesses working he took the obvious twelve tricks for +680.

On the final board Rothfield picked up one more overtrick imp to win the match 37-19, 19-11 in VPs.

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The Tale of the Three of Diamonds

Richard Wallis

Board 25 in Match 2 of the Teams could have been included in Darvas' classic book "All Through the Pack."

Bd: 25 ♠ 1076
Dir: North ♥ AKQ5
Vul: E/W ♦ QJ4
 ♣ 1093

♠ KJ43	♠ A2
♥ J1043	♥ 9872
♦ 7	♦ A1093
♣ KQ84	♣ J76

 ♠ Q985
 ♥ 6
 ♦ K8652
 ♣ A52

After North opened 1NT, South looked for a four-four spade fit before subsiding in 3♦, to which my

partner led a club.

After the ♣A, declarer pitched his losing clubs on the hearts, ducked a spade to West, ruffed the heart return and led to the ♠10 in dummy. I won the ♠A and returned a club, ruffed.

When declarer next led a spade to partner, I discarded a club and was left with all trumps, needing to take two more tricks to defeat the contract. This is where the ♦3 comes into the story as when declarer ruffed a spade in dummy with the ♦Q and I overruffed, I found I was endplayed. I tried exiting with the ♦3. Luckily declarer did not insert the eight so the contract was one off after all.

How much easier it would have been had I underruffed with the ♦3; now I would be certain to get my two tricks.

And You Thought the Bridge Was the Challenge

The following involves the Openers, Marlyn and Kathy, and the Responder, the manager of a new Broadbeach apartment block.

Opener: Arrive Saturday 11:00 pm, locked out, drive back to Brisbane.

Responder: "Don't tell me your problems."

Opener: Saturday, lift problem, walk up, luggage in hand, from the 21st floor to the 25th.

Responder: Pass—this is my day off...

Opener: On the way to Session 1, trapped alone in a pitch dark lift for 25 minutes, claustrophobic and terrified, my partner will think I'm late because I'm out shoe shopping.

Responder (emergency phone): "Can't hear you, you're in Maroochydore?"

Opener: Strong body language.

Responder: Pass—"I can't control the lifts."

Opener: Back to the apartment at 11:30 pm, foyer in complete darkness.

Responder: Pass

Opener: Think I'll go out on the balcony; door won't open; think I'll go out to the living room; door won't open.

Responder: Pass—"What do you expect me to do?" and "Remove and dispose of all rubbish from your unit" and "Ensure that all washing up is completed."

Opener: SLAM

Like to know who not to partner next year?



"How hard can it be to enter a few scores? After all, Martin can do it."



If nominated I will not run; if elected I will not serve."

Know Thy Enemy

by Peter Jamieson

Yesterday's bulletin discussed what happened to Lynn Baker and Karen McCallum on Board 11 from the first final session of the Pairs. I have a "slightly" different story of what happened on this board.

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

♠ J9764 ♥ K9753 ♦ AQ ♣ 8	♠ K ♥ A1064 ♦ 108 ♣ AKQJ54
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♠ 2
 ♥ Q2
 ♦ K765432
 ♣ 1072

West	North	East	South
<i>Bill</i>	<i>Tony</i>	<i>Peter</i>	<i>Tony</i>
<i>Hunt</i>	<i>Jackman</i>	<i>Jamieson</i>	<i>Hutton</i>
Pass	Pass	3NT!	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

I've seen Tony Hutton's preempts before—they are usually "lacking." So I played my partner, Bill Hunt, to have a diamond stopper. If Bill passes 3NT and Tony Jackman does not lead a spade we make all thirteen tricks.

As it was, Tony unerringly led his stiff spade for +50. (Note: If Bill bids 4NT over my 4♥ bid I would have jumped to 6♣., which makes with clubs three-three.)

The Shortest Distance...

A. Markovics reported a nice play by his partner, Simone Schwartz, on Board 22 of the fourth match in yesterday's Teams, Simone may have been late for a hot dinner date. Witness the following auction.

Bd: 22 ♠ 75
 Dlr: East ♥ Q10
 Vul: E/W ♦ K
 ♣ AKQ109873

♠ J1084 ♥ AJ85 ♦ Q875 ♣ 4	♠ Q963 ♥ 96432 ♦ 64 ♣ 65
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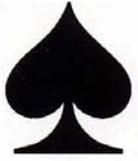
♠ AK2
 ♥ K7
 ♦ AJ10932
 ♣ J2

West	North	East	South
	<i>Simone</i>		<i>A.</i>
	<i>Schwartz</i>		<i>Markovics</i>
		Pass	1NT
Pass	7♣	All Pass	

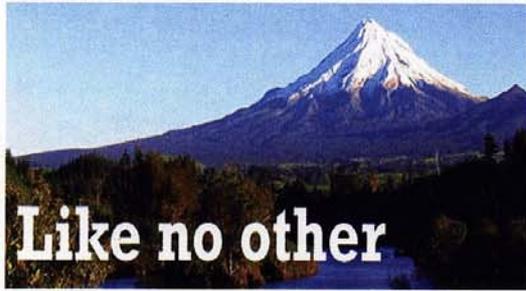
Whatever North's reasons, she wasted no time in arriving at the final contract of 7♣. We can see that a heart lead would have proved immediately fatal, but in this story East led the ♣5. Simone won the jack in dummy and played a second club to her hand. She unblocked the ♦K, led a spade to the ace, pitched the ♥Q on the ♦A, cashed the ♠K, ruffed a diamond back to hand, and ran all of her trumps, eventually pitching the ♥K from dummy. Naturally her effort was rewarded when she took the thirteenth trick with her ♥10.

Of course there's a legitimate line to thirteen tricks on a club lead, requiring only that diamonds be no worse than four-two. Win the first club *in hand*, unblock the ♦K, cross to the ♣J, pitch a heart on the ♦A, ruff a diamond, cross back to dummy with a spade, ruff another diamond, and use dummy's remaining high spade as a reentry to pitch the other heart.

We bet Simone knew that. But she also knew that you don't get your name in the bulletin for doing things the "easy" way—now do you?



NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL CONGRESS SEPTEMBER 2007



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- Siegfried Konig (Australian Bridge Magazine)



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For details contact rksolomon@xtra.co.nz

The New Zealand Contract Bridge Association is offering 2 free entries to the New Zealand National Congress 22 – 29th September 2007. The prize will be presented before Match 9 3.30 pm on Thursday. The winner will be selected by a random draw on entries in the Barometer Pairs and Teams.

Bridge Defense - What's Going On (5)?

by Mike Lawrence

South deals, E/W vulnerable.

West	North	East	South
Pass	4♠	All Pass	2♠

North
 ♠ KQ87
 ♥ 43
 ♦ KJ107
 ♣ KJ10

East
 ♠ 2
 ♥ J975
 ♦ AQ6
 ♣ A8654

♠ KQ87
 ♥ 43
 ♦ KJ107
 ♣ KJ10

♠ A3
 ♥ Q1082
 ♦ 9832
 ♣ 732

♠ 2
 ♥ J975
 ♦ AQ6
 ♣ A8654

♠ J109654
 ♥ AK6
 ♦ 54
 ♣ Q9

West leads the ♥2 to your jack and declarer's ace. Before touching trumps declarer leads the ♣Q. West plays the two. Do you take this trick? Not yet. Partner should be giving you count. The two shows three clubs. If West had two or four clubs, he would play a higher club to show an even number. Declarer continues clubs and you take the ace. You would like to get partner in to lead diamonds. How do you do that?

Return a spade to partner's ace. For this to be right it means that declarer opened 2♠ on a jack-high suit. The clues say he did. The only way a heart return can be right is if partner has the ♥K. Remember which heart declarer won the first trick with? It was the ace. The only way partner can

have the ♥K is if he also has the queen. That holding can't exist. Partner would lead the king from that holding. The logical conclusion is that declarer has the ♥A AND ♥K. South also has the ♣Q, so unless declarer has miscounted his points, he shouldn't have the ♠A. Return your spade and partner will return a diamond as the only hope for the defense.

Down one. This hand points out an important fact of bridge. Your opponents don't always play the way you think the game should be played. The South hand is hardly an ideal weak two bid and many players will pass it. At the table, these things do happen and if you don't work it out you get a big fat zero. It doesn't give you much solace to think that you lost a top to a bad bid. That's what will happen if you return a heart. Declarer will win, ruff a heart in dummy, discard a diamond, and will concede a trump at his leisure.

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



The Cadbury Caddies

Eskimo Hospitalized By North Pole Deal

by Richard Pavlicek

Today's deal, another from the North Pole Tournament, caused havoc for many N/S pairs who bid too much with their 31 high-card points. Indeed one Eskimo was hospitalized after he bid a slam—it seems the reindeer sitting East-West celebrated the defeat with too much glee, dealing the Eskimo an antler in the ear. Latest reports indicate he is recovering.

Most of the reindeer duplicated the auction of Randolph and Raymond as shown. Randolph, South, opened 1♣ and Raymond bid his diamond suit after West's overcall. Randolph rebid 2NT to show his spade stopper and Raymond raised to four—a quantitative slam try (not Blackwood), which Randolph correctly refused with his lousy 14 points. An excellent auction, but even 4NT proved to be too high.

Dir: South ♠ 987
Vul: None ♥ K104
 ♦ AK94
 ♣ AK9

♠ AQJ65 ♠ 104
♥ 97 ♥ J865
♦ 105 ♦ J876
♣ 10654 ♣ 873

♠ K32
♥ AQ32
♦ Q32
♣ QJ2

West	North	East	South
			1♣
1♠	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	4NT	All Pass	

West cagily led the ♥9, rather than present declarer with a spade trick, and Randolph had nine sure tricks: three in every suit but spades. The ♠A obviously was offside, so he first tested hearts, then diamonds, to see if either suit broke favorably. No luck. Randolph then cashed his club winners ending in dummy and made one last attempt by leading the ♠9. If East had played low, he would have ducked it to West who remained with AQJ6; but East alertly played the ten, and Randolph was defeated.

A discussion was held later to determine if 4NT could be made, but the reindeer failed to find a solution. Even Rudolph, with his inspired play, could win no more than nine tricks after a heart lead. Can you make it?

This was a job for Master Mouse. The reindeer chipped in for a long-distance phone call to the rodent's home, and the answer came forthwith: "Yes...your basic holdup play. Duck the ♥9 completely, then cash all your red-suit winners on which West discards one spade and two clubs (best). Cash your clubs ending in dummy and West must keep either AQJ or AQ6 in spades. Either way you can force a spade trick in the end."

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

15 Minutes of Fame



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

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

Good Luck, or Bad?

by Barry Rigal

Sylvia Moss is not known to be backwards about coming forward in the auction. On this deal (hands rotated) from the A/X Pairs at the NABC in Hawaii last November, as North she decided to respond to a 15-17 1NT opener by showing five-five in the majors and a game-forcing hand with a jump to 3♠.

Dlr: North ♠ K10762
 Vul: None ♥ J9832
 ♦ Q
 ♣ Q 10

♠ QJ43 ♠ 95
 ♥ 6 ♥ AKQ7
 ♦ K875 ♦ 10432
 ♣ 8763 ♣ J92

 ♠ A8
 ♥ 1054
 ♦ AJ96
 ♣ AK54

West	North	East	South
	Moss		Radin
	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Judi Radin bid 4♥ and played there, wrapping up 10 tricks on a non-trump lead: she could cash plain-suit winners and crossruff spades and diamonds. Afterwards, you would have expected

Sylvia to feel she had been a little fortunate that 4♥ was declared from the South seat. If North were declaring, three rounds of trumps leaves you short of tricks.

Not so, said Sylvia: imagine that the defense cashes three hearts and shifts to a diamond. Since East is a passed hand, you rise with the ♦A, ruff a diamond and draw the last trump, pitching a diamond from dummy. Remarkably, despite the fact that both minor-suit menaces are badly placed, there is a repeating triple squeeze. In this position,

♠ K10762
 ♥ ---
 ♦ ---
 ♣ Q10

♠ QJ4 ♠ 95
 ♥ --- ♥ ---
 ♦ K ♦ 104
 ♣ 8763 ♣ J92

♠ A8
 ♥ ---
 ♦ J
 ♣ AK54

West still has to discard on the last trump. The discard of either minor suit lets declarer cash the winner there and repeat the squeeze, and a spade discard is immediately fatal.

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.



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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
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)
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

Evie Colhoun, of the Surfers Paradise Bridge Club, told us of a funny experience she had on Tuesday. She and another lady went into the Powder Room between sessions (for obvious reasons). There they encountered two men who were in the process of washing their hands.

The two ladies both exclaimed, "Oops, think we are in the wrong place." The four of them all had a good laugh until the gentlemen came out and looked again at the sign and realized they were the ones in the wrong place.

They all had another good laugh.

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