



NOT News12

Sunday January 29th 2006

Session Times

Sunday

10 am 2 pm

Monday

10 am and by agreement

NOT Dates For 2007

Wednesday 17th January to Monday 29th

Preceded by

Last Train for Women and Seniors Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th January.

Women's, Seniors' and Restricted Teams 17th – 19th January

Open Last Train 18th, 19th January

SWPT 22nd – 26th January

NEW ZEALAND NATIONALS

This tournament will be held from the 1st of July to the 8th at the Kingsgate Hotel Hamilton. Entry to all congress events costs NZ\$290 (approximately AU\$265).

Entry is available through rksolomon@xtra.co.nz.

Thank You

To all those people who have made it possible to produce the Not News. Very special thanks to those who have submitted articles and to the experts whom I have pestered for interesting hands. Their patience has been remarkable and their willingness to help even more so.

The A.B.F. gratefully acknowledges the support of



Tim Bourke's Problem

12. STEPS

Dealer North; NS Vul.

NORTH

♠ A K Q 10 8

♥ A K Q J 10

♦ 4

♣ K Q

SOUTH

♠ 9 3

♥ 8 7 4

♦ K J

♣ A J 7 6 4 3

West	North	East	South
	2 ♣	Pass	3 ♣
5 ♦	6 ♦	Pass	6 NT
All pass			

Perhaps six hearts would have been a better choice than six notrump, but as the South hand has a diamond stopper and no great length in either major, the final choice is not unreasonable. West leads the five of hearts and both opponents follow when you play the ace-king of hearts. Assuming West has at least eight diamonds for his pre-emptive barrage and neither black suit breaks, how do you plan to make this contract?

Deserved Better?

Ishmael DelMonte came up with a quick swindle in the second round of the NOT. Unfortunately, although the swindle worked, the lie of the cards meant that it was only worth an overtrick.

Dealer: N

♠ Q 9 5 3 2

♥ 10 9 4

Vul: Nil

♦ 8 6 4

♣ A 9

♠ 10 4

♥ Q 8 5 2

♦ A Q

♣ 8 6 5 4 2

♠ 8 7

♥ 7 3

♦ K 7 5 3 2

♣ Q J 10 3

♠ A K J 6

♥ A K J 6

♦ J 10 9

♣ K 7

Ish was in 4S from South and received the lead of the 10 of trumps. He took this on table, somewhat unhappy to see three diamond losers and a potential heart loser. He immediately played a diamond to his Jack!

Swindle succeeds – West returns a heart removing that loser immediately. Imagine his chagrin when the diamond situation comes to light and there was no way for the defence ever to get their third trick in the suit.

Crunched!

Michael Ware and Matthew McManus play a highly artificial system of their own devising, which they call Crunch.

The system stopped them at a suitably low level but when the opponents backed in the defence was really crunching.

Dealer: E	♠ 2	
	♥ J 10 6 5 4 3	
Vul: EW	♦ A Q 4	
	♣ Q 9 5	
♠ K J 9 7 4		♠ Q 3
♥ A K 9		♥ 8 7
♦ 8 7 3		♦ K J 5 2
♣ J 6		♣ A K 8 3 2
	♠ A 10 8 6 5	
	♥ Q 2	
	♦ 10 9 6	
	♣ 10 7 4	

Michael opened 1S as East. This showed 10 to 14 points with no major, but not a weak no trump hand. Matthew responded 2C, which ostensibly showed 0 to 10, Matthew having down-valued his hand. This ran round to South who decided to re-open with 2S. Matthew thought this an excellent thing and doubled. North was not so impressed and ran to 3H and Matthew still had the red card out.

Michael cashed the Ace and King of clubs and continued a third club for Matthew to ruff. Matthew exited a diamond which declarer ducked towards dummy and Michael scored his Jack. He played a spade which was taken by the Ace and declarer took the opportunity to take another losing diamond finesse. A second spade saw declarer ruff in hand to play a trump to Matthew's King. A further spade from West saw Michael's trump score and re was still the Ace of trumps to come. 800.

Stuff Of Dreams

You hold : ♠ 6 ♥ A K J 10 6 5 4 2 ♦ 10 ♣ K 5 4

What's your dream bid from partner?

How about 2D – showing both MAJORS though weak.

The layout

Dealer: E	♠ J 7 5 3	
	♥	
Vul: NS	♦ A K Q 9 8 6	
	♣ J 8 6	
♠ 6		♠ K Q 10 8 4 2
♥ A K J 10 6 5 4 2		♥ Q 8 7 3
♦ 10		♦ 4
♣ K 5 4		♣ 9 7
	♠ A 9	
	♥ 9	
	♦ J 7 5 3 2	
	♣ A Q 10 3 2	

South passed and West had a fairly easy 4H bid which ended the auction. Neither North nor South felt able to take a bid on a hand where they are cold for slam. It happened to Ishmael DelMonte and Sarfraz Khan of the Penline team in the third round robin match of the NOT.

Sarfraz had a system bid of 2H available to him which would have shown both minors with better clubs. This would surely have propelled them to slam but Sarfraz didn't fancy it at unfavourable.

In the other room, North-South had an easier run and reached slam, though East-West sacrificed in 6H for only 300 – still a useful pick-up.

Card Reading

Peter Gill reported this one which sees Ryszard Jedrichowski reading his opponents' card to make a difficult game.

Dealer: E	♠ K J 8 7	
	♥ A K 9 2	
Vul: All	♦ Q 7 6 4	
	♣ A	
♠ A		♠ Q 10 9 6 2
♥ 7 4 3		♥ J 8
♦ A J 10		♦ 9 3 2
♣ Q J 8 6 5 2		♣ K 9 7
	♠ 5 4 3	
	♥ Q 10 6 5	
	♦ K 8 5	
	♣ 10 4 3	

The seven of clubs was led and Ryszard played back a diamond to the King and Ace. West continued diamonds to declarer's Queen and he, in turn continued the suit to West's 10. A club saw Ryszard ruff and cash 2 rounds of trumps, dropping East's Jack and ending in dummy. He now ruffed another club, again dropping an honour from East, to bring about

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

And Ryszard knew it. Consider, the fall of the honours suggests hearts 3-2 (W-E), clubs 6-3 and the diamonds were proven to be 3-3. So West has a singleton spade and hasn't tried for a ruff. There was only one explanation so Ryszard passed a small spade to West's bare Ace and whichever suit was returned Ryszard had access to table to make 2 hearts a diamond and a spade.

Taking Advantage

Dennis Yovich was most impressed by the manner in which partner, TP Ranasinghe, took advantage of a favourable lie of the cards to bring home a very thin game.

Dealer: N	♠ 8 7 6	
	♥ Q 10 8 2	
Vul: EW	♦ J 10 9	
	♣ Q 10 6	
♠ K Q 5 3		♠ A J 2
♥ 9 7		♥ A J 5 4
♦ A 3		♦ 8 7 6 4
♣ A 9 8 5 2		♣ J 7
	♠ 10 9 4	
	♥ K 6 3	
	♦ K Q 5 2	
	♣ K 4 3	

South opened 1NT and Dennis overcalled 2S, showing spades and a minor.

TP promptly shot 3NT. The 2 of diamonds was led and TP took the Ace. He played a small club to the Jack and South's King. South cashed the King and Queen of diamonds and then led the 5 of diamonds to TP's 8.

He now played a second club to North's 10 and when North switched to a heart, TP took the Ace and claimed.

SOLUTION TO TIM BOURKE'S PROBLEM

Assuming that you plan to overtake in clubs on the second round of that suit, you have eleven sure tricks. If spades are 3-3 or clubs 3-2, you will have tricks to burn. Something more subtle is needed when neither suit divides:

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

After cashing a third round of hearts, one club and three spade winners you will have a pretty good idea of East's original distribution. After cashing the two remaining heart winners, everyone will be reduced to four cards.

On this layout, the last heart will force East to make a discard from the jack of spades, his last diamond, and the 10-9-8 of clubs. A spade discard will be immediately fatal as will a club, because you will overtake the queen of clubs and run the suit.

Therefore East has to throw a diamond, removing his link to the West hand, and allowing you to cash the queen of clubs and then concede a spade to East's bare jack! Since his last two cards will be the 10-9 of clubs, your twelfth and thirteenth will be the ace-jack of clubs.

When West has one spade and two hearts, you will have to decide whether West began with 1282 or 1291 distribution. As the former is nine times as likely as the latter, you will need a very good reason not to play for a 3-2 division in clubs.

Happy Endings

A couple of nice endplays here by David Weston in round 3 of the Rydges playoff.

Dealer: S	♠ 10 6 5 3 2	
	♥ Q 4 3	
Vul: EW	♦ J 2	
	♣ 10 8 4	
♠ Q 8		♠ A K 4
♥ J 10 8 7		♥ A 6 5
♦ A 9 7 6 3		♦ Q 5
♣ J 5		♣ A 9 7 3 2
	♠ J 9 7	
	♥ K 9 2	
	♦ K 10 8 4	
	♣ K Q 6	

After South opened 1NT and North found a spade bid, David declared 3NT from East.

The Jack of spades was led which David took in hand with the King. He led the 2 of clubs and South jumped in with the Queen to continue spades to dummy's Queen. David overtook the Jack of clubs with his Ace and cashed the Ace of spades. He gave South the king of clubs and....

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

In desperation, South tried a small heart, on which David played the Jack from table and North ducked, although playing the Queen is no better.

The next one sees the defence co-operating to avoid an endplay on North, so David endplayed South instead.

Dealer: E

Vul: EW

♠ A
♥ A 7 4
♦ A 9 5 2
♣ K 10 7 6 4

♠ K J 5
♥ Q 9 6 5
♦ 8 6
♣ A J 9 3

♠ Q 8 6 4 3
♥ 10 2
♦ 10 4 3
♣ Q 8 2

♠ 10 9 7 2
♥ K J 8 3
♦ K Q J 7
♣ 5

Again, David was playing no trumps and, this time, he received the lead of a small spade. He took this, perforce, and played four rounds of diamonds finishing on table. On these, North shed a heart and a club and South a club. David next took a successful heart finesse and returned a heart to the Ace before continuing hearts to pick up North's Queen. The 8 of hearts ensued to produce

♠
♥
♦
♣ K 10 7 6

♠ K J
♥
♦
♣ A J

♠ Q 8 6
♥
♦
♣ Q

♠ 10 9 7
♥
♦
♣ 5

David continued with a spade, ducked by South and taken by North with the King, in an attempt to avoid giving dummy the King of clubs at trick 13. North now played the Jack of spades to exit the endplay but, even though South overtook, David still had the riposte.

When South played the Queen of clubs, David ducked in dummy! If North overtook, then dummy's King would score while, if he didn't, South would have to give the closed hand a spade.

David's partner, Kieran Crowe-Mai also got into the endgame on the same set though his involved a *coup en passant*

Dealer: E

Vul: Nil

♠ K 9 8 5 4 2
♥ Q 8
♦ 8
♣ A K J 5

♠ 7 3
♥ J 10 9 6 3
♦ A K 4 2
♣ 9 3

♠ A Q J 10
♥ K 7 5
♦ Q 10 5
♣ 10 4 2

♠ 6
♥ A 4 2
♦ J 9 7 6 3
♣ Q 8 7 6

Kieran was playing a spade contract from West and a heart was led, ducked in dummy and taken by the King. South played a diamond to North's King and a diamond was returned, ruffed in hand. Kieran led a small spade to the 10 and South exited a club to Kieran's Ace. A second trump went to South's Jack and he played back a diamond for Kieran to ruff again. Kieran now cashed the Queen of hearts and Ace of clubs to bring about

	♠	
	♥ J 10	
	♦ A	
	♣	
♠ K 9		♠
♥		♥
♦		♦ J 9
♣ J		♣ Q
	♠ A Q	
	♥	
	♦	
	♣ 10	

The Jack of clubs was overtaken by the Queen and a diamond towards hand saw a trump score for Kieran.

A Play Problem

Through partner's appalling bidding, you have reached 7NT, against silent opposition. The 5 of hearts (2nd and 4th) is led. What is your best line on this?

♠ A K Q 10 7 6 2
♥ A Q 8
♦ A
♣ 7 6

♠ 9 5
♥ K 6 3
♦ Q J 6
♣ A Q J 10 8

Another Unusual Auction

We've seen some curiosities in the past 10 days. Here's another

West	North	East	South
			2H (8-11, 6 cards)
2NT (strong NT type)	X	P	P
3C	3S	P	3NT

Now be honest, when was the last time that you saw a weak 2 opener bid 3NT, knowing that a strong no trump hand was sitting over him? But it all makes sense on this

Dealer: S	♠ A J 10 6 4 3	
	♥ 8	
Vul: EW	♦ A J 9 7	
	♣ J 8	
♠ Q 5		♠ 9 8 7
♥ K J		♥ Q 9 3 2
♦ K Q 8 2		♦ 10 6 5
♣ A 10 9 7 5		♣ Q 3 2
	♠ K 2	
	♥ A 10 7 6 5 4	
	♦ 4 3	
	♣ K 6 4	

Ishmael DelMonte and Sarfraz Khan of the **PENLINE** team found this unusual sequence to a very playable spot.

The Play Problem

This one caused a certain amount of academic debate amongst some of the teams in the play-offs. Eavesdropping, I found Terry Brown's argument most convincing. Obviously the key to the hand is the position of the diamond King. Whichever line you choose will depend for its success on your placing it correctly. Terry suggests that you should take the lead and play the Queen of diamonds towards hand. You may get a cover, in which case your problems are over. Failing the cover, take your major suit tricks and a show-up squeeze will develop if North has the hand that was in the wallet

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

N. O. T. – STAGE 1

NCC

Team	C/fwd	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Plc
Otvosi	285	-	6	16	16	25	14	362	1
Markey	269	24	-	17	13	18	4	345	2
McManus	253	14	17	13	-	13	25	335	3
Jedrychowski	252	2	12	19	17	-	25	327	4
Noble	257	14	13	-	17	11	10	322	5
Szalay	248	16	25	21	4	3	-	317	6

RYDGES

Team	C/fwd	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Plc
Brogeland	269	-	24	25	8	11	20.5	357.5	1
Marston	255	22	9	19	-	15	14	334	2
Morrison	249	19	16	20	15	-	14	333	3
Bourke	261	6	-	12	21	14	11	325	4
Penline	257	5	18	-	11	10	23	324	5
Cummings	248	5.5	19	7	16	16	-	311.5	6

LEAVING THE SEMI FINALS AS

Table	Team
1	Otvosi E Otvosi, J Pszczola, M Borewicz, J Stepinski, M Szymanowski, J Russyan
	Marston P Marston, B Richman, K Bagchi, P Gue, N Rosendorff, A Kanetkar
Table	Team
2	Brogeland B Brogeland, E Erichsen, L Stern, D Stern, R Grynberg, P Lambardi
	Markey P Markey, G Smolanko, G Wolpert, V Demuy

Australian Mixed Teams

Progress after 6 rounds

Place	Name	Score	Players
1	Watts	118	M Watts, J Fust, N Ewart, B Howe
2	Chosid	117	B Chosid, M Porter, G Ware, T Nunn, L Matthews
3	Waters	113	B Waters, S Ingham, E Chadwick, S Tishler
4	O'Hara	110	B O'Hara, S Burgess, J Cormack, D Jagelman, P Wilshire
5	Pettigrew	109	A Pettigrew, A Stephens, S Mendick, P Kahler
6	Ferris	109	D Ferris, J Forster, L Gunson, K Mitchell
7	Braithwaite	109	A Braithwaite, B Haughie, C Snashall, H Snashall, K Boardman, R Nixon
8	Crichton	108	R Crichton, P Crichton, H Ali, P Grant
9	Strong	107	T Strong, J Magee, S Hans, C Ritter
10	Kershaw	106	T Kershaw, S Carter, K Kalejs, V Mitchell
11	McLeish	105	D McLeish, P McLeish, D Beauchamp, K Cumpstone, S Henry, A Henry
12	Williams	103	J Williams, R Harms, G Feiler, J Ryman
13	Pryde	103	M Pryde, D Pryde, J Glenn, A Hamilton
14	Gardiner	100	V Gardiner, B Callaghan, J Armstrong, V Cornell, M Cornell, A Bach
15	Genc	100	M Genc, M Perley, C Ackerley, A Schwartz
16	Boxall	99	W Boxall, R Webb, B Nash, R Curnow, S Mullamphy
17	Pettitt	97	J Pettitt, C Boylson, T Hutton, H Hutton
18	Raaphorst	95	B Raaphorst, C Miller, N McIvor, J McFall
19	Goldstein	94	A Goldstein, E Mullin, T Mangos, L Foran
20	Miller	91	K Miller, L Miller, A Hooper, P Hooper
21	Coats	91	P Coats, D Coats, S Clarke, G Clarke
22	Allgood	90	R Allgood, L Allgood, P Havlicek, M Obenchain
23	Strong	90	T Strong, B Goss, J Morris, S Birrer
24	Norden	88	L Norden, J Parry, M Jakes, R Green
25	Dixon	88	J Dixon, L Dixon, B Thorp, H Leslie, D Leslie
26	Bracegirdle	88	M Bracegirdle, B Gariepy, B Gariepy, L Conway
27	Dawson	87	J Dawson, M Courtney, J Courtney, M Brifman, P Gill
28	Wehner	87	C Wehner, G Gray, P Brennan, J Strzelecki