



Spring Nationals Bulletin



Welcome to the 2003 ABF Spring Carnival. We have some exciting developments this year, however the session times, parking and lunch arrangements are similar to last year.

On most days play will finish by 7pm so it will be possible to eat at one of Bondi's excellent restaurants.

We wish you all good Bridge.

Frank Budai, Convener

Parking

On-street parking is metered and the Hakoah car park is generally unavailable so go to the Secure Parking under the nearby Swiss Grand.

Collect a ticket from one of the ABF officials and insert **this** ticket to pay as you are leaving the parking station. Parking for the whole day and/or evening will cost only **\$3.50**.

No Evening Sessions

This is good for locals and visitors. Now you can devote 9 hours to bridge, with shortish breaks (1 hour for lunch, 30 mins at 4pm).

This is the WBF and European way, with Americans falling into line. You finish your day's bridge at 7pm, and from then your time is your own.

The SpNWT

The field is 35 teams, compared with 33 last year.

Qualifying is over nine 20-board matches, then the top 2 play a 64 board final on Sunday.

Winners receive 36 playoff points (PQPs), and the runners up 18. Same in the SpNOT, (the more up-market acronym for the SNOT).

Masterpoints

In the Women's Teams (20 bd matches), 4.80 Gold Points per team for each win, divided between all team members.

In the Open Teams, (16 bd matches), 5.12 Gold Points per team, divided between all team members.

Signing In

You will need to sign in each time you arrive at the club.

Smoking

The smoking area at the Hakoah Club is on the ground floor, in the gaming area. Any player found smoking in any other area, in particular the stairwells, will be suspended for either the remainder of the current session, and/or for the following session.

There will be no warnings. **Smoking in the stairwells is against the law!**

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones must be switched off in the playing area. A procedural penalty of 3 VPs (or 9 IMPs) applies to any player whose mobile is switched on unless the director determines that there is a valid (e.g. medical) reason.

Lunch Menus

Menus will be provided during the morning sessions for collection before 12.30. Coffee, including cappuccinos etc, is available. There is a bar on the ground floor.

Charity IMP Pairs

for Mission Australia

This will be held next Thursday 20th November, with a 10 am start.

There will be 3 x 16-board matches.

The boards will be the same as those being played simultaneously in the SpNOT final and scores will be IMPed against the closed room results. Entries to Frank Budai

No1 Thursday, 13 November 2003
Editor Anne Bates

ABF Alert Regulations

Alert by circling partner's call and saying "Alert" but don't offer an explanation unless asked. Then aim to be concise not complete. **Don't alert** these 'self alerting' calls:

- any double or redouble
- any call beyond 3NT
- a bid in a suit *bid* by an opponent

At the end of the auction the declaring side should offer an explanation of any 'self-alerting' calls.

Do alert:

- All other conventional calls (including Stayman)

Note: This natural-sounding bid:

2 H = hearts & a minor

is conventional because it conveys a meaning other than a desire to play in hearts.

- 'unusual' natural bids
These include: weak jump shift responses, pre-emptive jump raises, inverted minors, canapé tendency,

negative free bids, transfer accepts that deny four trumps, etc.

Pre-alerts

The Pre-alerts section of your system card should include 'unusual' self-alerting calls, such as a double of 1NT that shows a 1-suiter; lack of negative doubles.

Also list methods that may require a prepared defence - complex defences to 1NT or a strong club, RCO Twos, transfer pre-empts, etc.

Scoring and Datums

Normal result sheets will not be used in this tournament. Instead datum sheets must be completed at all tables and handed to the director at the completion of each round. From these, the match result will be computed.

As an ongoing service, each pair will receive a datum analysis, by board for each match, and in total for the whole tournament. There will also be a cross table on display, showing the results of all matches.

In order to achieve this, the datum sheets must be completed and returned.

The Program

Spring National Womens' Teams (SpNWT) 9 x 20 bds

Thursday 13 th	Rounds 1 - 3 at 10.00am; 1.30pm; 4.30pm
Friday 14 th	4 - 6 at 10.00am; 1.30pm; 4.30pm
Saturday 15 th	7 - 9 at 10.00am; 1.30pm; 4.30pm
Sunday 16 th	SpNWT Final from 9.00am. Start time to be confirmed.

Sunday 16th 7 Round Congress Teams 10.00am \$110 per team

Spring National Open Teams (SpNOT) 12 x16 bds

Monday 17 th	Rounds 1 - 4	1.15pm; 3.30pm; 7.15pm; 9.30pm
Tuesday 18 th	5 - 8	10.00am; 1.00pm; 3.15pm; 5.30pm
Wednesday 19 th	9 - 12	10.00am; 1.00pm; 3.15pm; 5.30pm
Thursday 20 th	SpNOT Final from 9.00am. Start time to be confirmed.	



Thursday 20th Mission Australia Pro-Am IMP Pairs 10.00am \$50.00 per pair

Grand National Open Teams (GNOT)

Qualifying	Friday 21 st	10.30am -- 11.30pm
	Saturday 22 nd	10.00am -- 11.30pm
Semi Final	Sunday 23 rd	from 9.00am
Final	Monday 24 th	from 9.00am at Double Bay Bridge Club
Provincial Pairs	Sunday 23 rd	For details contact John Brockwell



Chief Tournament Director: Matthew McManus
Tournament Committee/Unit: Eric Ramshaw
Computers & Scoring: Edward Barnes
Appeals Committee: Ivy Dahler
GNOT Convener: John Brockwell
Spring National Conveners: Frank Budai John Mottram





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NEWS FLASH

WEBCAST SUNDAY
16 November 2003

The Womens Final will be webcast on Bridge Base. Dial up to

www.bridgebase.com.au/online

You will see the Womens final live with expert commentary.

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Editor

Thursday, 13 November 2003
Anne Bates



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Meet the Tournament Committee

Matthew McManus - Chief Tournament Director

Profession: Speech Pathologist

Home: Bondi

Interests: Golf, contemporary music, theatre

Bridge Involvement: Most recently accredited Grade A1 national director.

Chief Director, NSWBA since 1995

President, Australian Bridge Directors' Association for 4 years.

Australian Open Bridge Team, 2002

Eric Ramshaw - Tournament C'tee/Unit

Profession: Scientist

Home: Ballarat

Interests: All-consuming small rural land holding.

Bridge Involvement: 'Eminence grise' of the ABF for more than a decade.

Edward Barnes - Computers and Scoring

Profession: Caterer, Bridge Director

Home : Bondi

Interests: Bridge, cooking, bad films. Dilettante at large

Bridge Involvement: Stepping into the large footprints left by Martin Wilcox to do the scoring this year.

Ivy Dahler - Appeals Committee

Profession: Legal Secretary, Bridge teacher

Home: Toowoomba

Interests: 10 Grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren (Wow), arts and crafts

Bridge Involvement: Internationally accredited director; member of winning Australian team in 3 Far Eastern Championships; Australian representative player at Bridge Olympiads in Miami and Monte Carlo; teacher at Ron Klinger's bridge holidays.

John Brockwell - GNOT Convenor

Profession: Agricultural Scientist

Home: Canberra

Interests: Gardening, Outback Touring, Photography, Philately

Bridge Involvement: A former president of the ABF; Australian representative in the seniors'

competition at the Bermuda Bowl, in Bermuda 2000; GNOT convenor for 18 years.

All about Jack

The World Championship Competition Program, Jack, will be playing the some of the hands in the Women's and Open. In one direction, Jack will be North/South, playing Standard. In the other direction, Jack as East/West will be playing ACOL. The contracts and results of this contest will be published.

An Up-Market Systems Card

Why not have your systems card prepared on computer using the ABF Convention Card Generator?

For \$10.00 (to cover costs), Spin staff will prepare 2 copies of your card, and provide you with a disc with the computer files on it, for future use.

Bridge Base on Line

Using Bridge Base On Line you can play Bridge in the Internet, watch Vugraph of major events throughout the world, access an extensive Bridge library, and purchase Bridge memorabilia, to mention just a few uses. Believe it or not, Bridge Base on Line is free!

If you bring your computer in, for a fee of \$20.00, the Spring Nationals staff will load Bridge Base on Line onto your machine.

And for Light Relief

The late Keith McNeil was one of the best-known and best-liked characters on the Australian Bridge scene. He acquired international fame through his often hilarious Bidding Forum, a regular feature of *Australian Bridge* magazine. While he was the bridge columnist for the *Adelaide Daily Mail* he recorded his methods for dealing with players with whom he was not on the best of terms.

1. If you dislike someone, do not write up his/her good hands.
2. If you really dislike someone intensely, write up their bad hands.
3. If you dislike someone intensely, write up someone else's bad hands but attribute them to the player you dislike.
4. If you absolutely and utterly detest someone, write up their good hands but attribute their fine play to their partner.