



THE SYDNEY SPRING NATIONALS BULLETIN



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Event 3: The Open Teams Qualifying

YOUTH BRIDGE NOW -- AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE OF THE FUTURE

The conventional wisdom has been that Australian Youth Bridge is in a sorry state with disappointing numbers of young people taking up the game. But dotted across the country are people and centres of interest that make everything look different.

These centres of interest have often developed at universities: for example at Sydney University, Gabby Feiler and Warren Lazer seem to have discovered a winning combination of teaching and running sessions. Larry Moses and Richard Touton in Queensland, Andrew and Catherine Mill in Melbourne are just some of the people who have devoted time to developing talented young players.

That the schools bridge program is unearthing rich veins of talent was made clear by David Lusk in his sorry tale, "Squeezed by an 8 Year-old!" - an account of a school lunch-time bridge session in which a clever young girl made 11 tricks against him in 1NT. (*ABF Youth Bulletin*, September 2005)

2005 has provided several good opportunities for young players to show off their talents. There was the PABFC in Seoul in which the Australian team, (Feiler, Porter, Geromboux, Ware and Roberts, (NPC) came second to Japan.

And in August, 7th – 17th, the World Youth Championships were run in Sydney. This was the first truly international youth event to be held in Australia. The organizers did a splendid

job and the Australian team improved its position to 7th out of 18. On this occasion the Australian team was Feiler-Porter, Geromboux-Ware, Krochmalik-Williams and Roberts (NPC).

At the end of September, the Trans Tasman event against New Zealand gave Nye Griffiths an opportunity to demonstrate his skills by winning the prize for the best-played hand of the tournament.

However, just when the future of Australian Youth Bridge, (and therefore Australian bridge in the future) was looking so promising, problems have arisen: several of the key organizers have had to step down.

*So if you have any spare time at all, Australian Youth Bridge needs you. For information contact David Lusk :
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Nye Griffiths receives his trophy



