



Spring Nationals Bulletin

No 6 Sunday night 19 November 2000
 Editor Nick Hughes

Close finish to SNWT

Most pundits thought the finalists would come from the top 3 seeds and so it proved.

Travis (3) looked comfortable at half-way but finished with 16, 16, 9, 11 & 20, so Teams 1 & 2 would fight it out, pleasing the seeding committee.

Beech built up a 25 IMP lead going into the last set, which saw 94 IMPs turned over, most of it going to **Cummings**. There were missed opportunities for both teams:

SNWT Final 4, Bd 2

E/NS ♠ A 9 6 4
 ♥ J 9 5 4
 ♦ 9
 ♣ J 10 9 4

♠ K Q 8 3 ♠ 5 2
 ♥ A K 10 6 3 2 ♥ 8 7
 ♦ A 8 2 ♦ Q 10 7 6 5 3
 ♣ --- ♣ Q 6 2

♠ J 10 7
 ♥ Q
 ♦ K J 4
 ♣ A K 8 7 5 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Weal	Hay	Yule	Godfrey
		3♦!	3NT!
Dbl	No	No	4♣
4♥	End		

Can't blame Lizzie for running but 3NT is cold. 4♥ drifted three off.

Regular winners

This was the 113th SNWT. Margaret Bourke has now won 8 times, Felicity Beale & Lidia Beech 7 times and Di Smart 6 times. This is the first win for NZ-ers Kathy Yule and Sue Weal.

SNWT Final 4, Bd 3

S/EW ♠ 2
 ♥ A Q
 ♦ A K Q J 10 4
 ♣ A Q 8 3

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

♠ K 10
 ♥ K J 7 6 4 3
 ♦ 9 5 3 2
 ♣ K

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Weal	Hay	Yule	Godfrey
			2♥
No	4NT	No	5♦
No	6♥	End	

6♥ is safer as a glance the West hand shows but that's hard to diagnose. Besides, South bid diamonds first.

Sue Weal knew she had to find partner's black ace and chose an unlucky ♣J.

What's the safest line here:

SNWT Final 4, Bd 5 (rotated)

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

Jillian played 4♥ on a spade lead to the king and ace. Trumps were 2-1 so she had 10 tricks. However, she was concerned about 3-0 trumps so she played three rounds of diamonds to pitch a club, planning a heart to the jack next. Diamonds were 6-2. North ruffed with the ♥K and she had to go down, since South's ♥Q-x was now unfinessable.

On Bd 6 Beale - Smart bid a marginal 6NT that made and they were effectively out of reach.

SNWT final placings

1	Beech	176
2	Cummings	170

(These 2 teams to final, won by Beech)

3rd	3	Travis	161
4=	23	Lees	157
4=	7	Tucker	157
6th	4	Scudder	153
7th	6	Hoffman	150
8th	17	Kebby	148
9th	12	Goodyer	147
10th	11	Collins	146

Entry - 35 teams

Congress

While this was going on, a meagre 13 teams were playing in a congress teams event. Considering this was a gold point event with prize money, the turnout was disappointing. The parking problems would have discouraged some of the local congress regulars.

The winners were Karen Barclay, Ashley Bach, Ishmael & Kim Del'Monte. Here's a hand that should have illustrated the dangers of having two overbidders as partners:

Congress Teams 2, Bd 3

S/EW ♠ 10 6
 ♥ 6
 ♦ Q J 10 8 7 6 2
 ♣ 10 8 5

♠ A J 8 4 3 ♠ K 7 2
 ♥ K Q J 2 ♥ 6
 ♦ A K 9 5 ♦ ---
 ♣ --- ♣ AQJ976432

♠ Q 9 5
 ♥ A 9 8 7 5 4 3
 ♦ 4 3
 ♣ K

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Kim		Ish	
			3♥
Dbl	No	6♣!?	No
7♣?!	End		

Ish took a punt and Kim hoped for solid clubs and a heart void opposite. South was convinced and chose not to lead the ♥A so that was +2140. Just another 30 IMP swing.

A busy week for Val

Val started by winning the GNOT as she did last year, backed up to come second in the SNOT and then runner up in the SNWT.

SNWT final	1-16	17-32		33-48		49-64	
L Beech M Bourke F Beale D Smart S Weal K Yule	34	47	81	32	113	37	150
V Cummings C Feitelson L Godfrey J Hay B Folkard D Moir	31	29	60	28	88	57	145