

April 2007

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Coming Events

AUTUMN NATIONAL EVENTS

10-14 MAY 2007

The three events that make up this 5-day period are:

- The Autumn National Seniors' Swiss Pairs (Thursday 10 - Friday 11 May)
- The Autumn National Women's Swiss Pairs (Thursday 10 - Friday 11 May)
- The Autumn National Open Teams (Friday 11 - Monday 14 May)

The events will once again be held at the Sporting Car Club (for the first two events) and the SA Bridge Association Clubrooms (the ANOT).

Entry forms are available in all clubs and can also be accessed online at:

www.sabridgefederation.com.au on the "What's Coming" page.

Players will be pleased to know that there is no play on either the Saturday or Sunday evening. This should give everyone an opportunity to socialise with our interstate visitors.

We are looking for volunteers amongst the Adelaide players who would be willing to act as "chauffeurs" for those interstate visitors who would like transport to and from the venue. If you think you can help out, please give Di Marler a call on 0414 689 620.

GAWLER WINTER PAIRS CONGRESS

Sunday 27th May 2007 at Gawler Elderly Centre, 14th Street, Gawler

Contact: Clive Stokes 8523 4539

SABF PLEASANT SUNDAY and presentation of State Representatives

Sunday 1st July 2007 at SA Bridge Association

BRIDGE IN THE HILLS' CHRISTMAS IN WINTER PAIRS CONGRESS

Sunday 19th August 2007 at Mt Barker District Golf Club, Alexandrina Road, Mt Barker

Contact: Barbara Travis 8339 4723

SABA SWISS PAIRS CONGRESS

Sunday 25th August 2007 at SA Bridge Association

Hands ... from Canberra

In Round 3 of the South West Pacific Teams, our West opponent found a perfect defence to this 4S contract.

♠ KQ93	♠ A42
♥ A98	♥ 43
♦ J105	♦ K642
♣ 532	♣ QJ87
	♠ 5
	♥ QJ10762
	♦ 983
	♣ K96
	♠ J10876
	♥ K5
	♦ AQ7
	♣ A104

South played in 4S after East had made a weak jump overcall in hearts. Firstly West avoided the heart lead, leading the DJ instead. The SJ was covered with the SK and SA and the contract was looking good. Unfortunately East showed out on the next spade. West won and led a second diamond. Another spade was led to West and a third diamond was led to dummy's DK. The club finesse worked but there was no way to avoid two heart losers.

Deep Finesse shows that 4S is 'cold' from South, but this involves cashing three clubs and three diamonds before tackling the spade suit. Furthermore, when West covers the first spade declarer needs to duck, endplaying West.

Our most spectacular hand from the SWPT shows Robert Bignall executing a double squeeze to make 6S. *(Hand at top of next column)*

Cathy Chua (East) led the DJ through dummy. Robert (North) won the DA and trumped a diamond high to check whether they were behaving. Now he led a trump, Simon Hinge winning the SA and returning his singleton heart.

♠ KQJ109832	
♥ 103	
♦ 10	
♣ A8	
♠ A4	♠ 65
♥ 9	♥ QJ8754
♦ K97643	♦ J
♣ K1095	♣ J432
	♠ 7
	♥ AK62
	♦ AQ852
	♣ Q76

Robert won the heart in dummy, ruffed another diamond and proceeded to lead his remaining five spades. As long as Cathy held 5+ hearts he could see the squeeze working. The end position was:

♠	♠ 2	♠
♥	♥ 3	♥ Q8
♦	♦	♦
♣	♣ A8	♣ J4
♠		
♥	♥ K6	
♦	♦ Q	
♣	♣ Q	
♠		
♥		
♦	♦ K	
♣	♣ K109	

On the last spade Cathy (East) had to discard a small club in order to retain the heart control, whilst Simon had to discard a club to keep his top diamond. (And after Cathy's discard, dummy discarded the small heart; it had done its job.) Robert then led the heart to dummy, and Simon could not keep both his club and diamond guards. His club discard gave Robert the last two tricks with his clubs.

* * * *

Hands ... from the Gold Coast

This year I returned to the Gold Coast Congress aiming to 'defend' my Gold Coast Pairs title which I won in 1979. (It's true - I hadn't been back between 1979 and 2007.) In 1979 I won the Gold Coast Pairs with Peter Jamieson from Sydney. This year I played with Elizabeth Havas, who is not only my regular partner but also my cousin. We also share a birthday - the day the event started. We did not win the Pairs but we did qualify for the Final, finishing with the title "Best Women's Pair" for our 6th placing.

The Gold Coast Pairs is a fantastic event - with three events running concurrently - the Open Pairs, the Seniors' Pairs and the Restricted Pairs. There is a two-session qualifying and a three-session final; long matchpoint pairs events are becoming rare in Australia so it provides a challenging change.

The Congress is also popular with overseas bridge players, providing a warm escape from the northern winter. Approximately half the Pairs final comprised overseas players: 9 English players, 1 Irishman, 2 American women, 1 Pole, 1 Lithuanian and, of course, 10 Kiwis.

The Gold Coast Teams follows the Pairs. Until this year it had been divided into two sections because of space restrictions at the venue. With the move to the Gold Coast Convention Centre the field reunited, however the number of rounds is probably too few for such a large field. The convenors are constantly considering ways to improve the Congress so I am sure they will resolve the issue in due course.

Early in the teams Elizabeth and I played against Ishmael Del'Monte and Vince Demuy (who has since returned to Canada). It was against them that our auction led to an amusing result:

Ishmael

♠ J9652

♥ 85

♦ K73

♣ 1053

Barbara

♠ 3

♥ 9

♦ A1062

♣ AQ98764

Elizabeth

♠ Q10

♥ KQJ6

♦ J9854

♣ K2

Vince

♠ AK874

♥ A107432

♦ Q

♣ J

W	N	E	S
1C	P	1D	2NT*
3C	3S	DBL	P
4D	All Pass		

Vince's 2NT bid showed at least 5 cards in both the unbid suits (majors). When Elizabeth made her penalty double of 3S I suspect that Vince forgot that Ishmael had made a 'free' bid (since I had bid 3C). With my sub-minimal opening and support for partner I was always removing partner's double. We were allowed to play in 4D, making 10 tricks. After all, would you want to bid on to 4S when one opponent has already doubled your 3S bid?

Barbara McDonald and Alan Walsh easily bid to the cold 4S contract for a big pick-up.

Hands ... from the Gold Coast

The following hand is the most publicised hand from the Gold Coast Teams.

Karen ("Kate") McCallum, from USA, was playing against Felicity Beale and Robbie Van Riel from Victoria in the last round. Neither team was in contention so Kate just wanted to have a good time. She bought some wine for the players at the table, determined to enjoy herself. The others were still being serious about the bridge and were playing rather slowly.

By the time they got to the last board of the event most of the room had finished. As the auction unfolded, Kate saw the opportunity to lighten things up.

♠ 982	
♥ KQ76	
♦ AJ4	
♣ QJ5	
♠ KJ10	♠ 6
♥ 9542	♥ 1083
♦ K87	♦ 106532
♣ 864	♣ 10972
	♠ AQ7543
	♥ AJ
	♦ Q9
	♣ AK3

SOUTH	NORTH
1S	2C
2S (forcing)	4S..

At this point Felicity (South) started thinking. Kate recognised that this was a textbook hand where 6S could make if declarer knew to endplay Kate (West). She was willing Felicity to keep bidding and was delighted to see the 4NT bid emerge. When Felicity settled in 6S, Kate grabbed her chance: "Double" - and showed North her hand as he put dummy down. As hoped, Robbie conceded "Down 1", telling Felicity that the KJ10 of trumps were offside.

Kate urged Felicity on: "Come on, see if you can make it." Without the double, Felicity would have played the trump suit normally, as did most declarers. However she now played the hand out - ever so slowly, according to Kate - with the knowledge that she had to shorten her trumps to execute a trump endplay. The whole table was cheering Felicity on as she played each trick out. Basing her play on West holding a 3433 which is what she needed to succeed, Felicity won the HA, overtook the HJ and discarded a diamond on the next heart winner. She now ruffed a heart, led to the DA and trumped a diamond. A club to the CQ allowed another diamond ruff, then declarer cashed her CA and CK, before exiting with a trump. Both South and West had been reduced to three trumps, so Kate was forced to win the spade lead and return a trump into the SAQ.

Kate had achieved her good time, Felicity was thrilled and journalists had a great story. What a way to end a wonderful tournament!

Candice Feitelson and Cathy Mill who are members of the 2007 Australian Women's Team bid this hand really well.

♠ 10652
♥ J543
♦ K5
♣ 1052

Candice
♠ AKJ83
♥ 107
♦ 943
♣ AKQ

Cathy
♠ Q74
♥ A8
♦ J1086
♣ J764

♠ 9
♥ KQ962
♦ AQ72
♣ 983

Hands ... from Adelaide

E	S	W	N
P	1H	1S	2H
2S	P	3D	P
3H	P	3NT	All Pass

Candice made a long suit game try with her 3D bid. Cathy responded by showing heart values, at which stage Candice made the good decision to play in 3NT with 9 top tricks.

* * * *

Over the Adelaide Cup weekend in March the State Women's Teams was selected. I thought that Alison Fallon and I did really well to bid these hands to the grand slam:

♠	♠ AK6
♥ AK1075	♥ Q832
♦ AKQJ9	♦ 64
♣ 1092	♣ AJ86

Unfortunately Sue Lusk (South) received a diamond ruff at trick 1. Sue held all four hearts, so 7H could not make (even without the diamond lead). And 7NT could not make with the bad diamond break. No-one else had bid the grand so we lost a lot of IMPs.

However we got all those IMPs back when we bid our next grand slam:

♠ A764	♠ KJ5
♥ KQ4	♥ A3
♦ KQ	♦ AJ10843
♣ K1072	♣ AQ

Alison Fallon (East) opened with 1D and I responded 1S. Alison made an excellent rebid of 2NT, systemically showing 19-20 HCP. Now I had a bidding dilemma: 4NT would ask for aces, 5NT should be a grand slam suggestion (but would you try that with a 'new' partner), 6NT didn't seem to be doing justice to the hand. After much thinking, I decided to take the most direct route and bid an unscientific 7NT.

The last session of the Open Teams selection was on the Monday following the Women's event. Robert Bignall and I needed a sound win against Peter Chan and Phil Gue in order to qualify.

About 18 months ago we started playing 'inverted minor' raises, where 1m—2m is a game forcing raise, 1m—3m is a weak raise. These bids did not occur until this year's SWPT in Canberra where we had three 'successes' with inverted minors.

This hand was our latest inverted minor success and contributed to our win being sufficient to ensure our qualifying in 2nd place, with Peter and Phil hanging on to 3rd place (when the next-placed pair also lost their last match).

♠ A2
♥ J
♦ KJ9532
♣ A873

♠ QJ4	♠ 108653
♥ Q1095432	♥ K6
♦	♦ Q10
♣ 954	♣ KJ106

♠ K97
♥ A87
♦ A8764
♣ Q3

W	N	E	S
P	1D	P	2D
2H	4H	X	XX
P	4S	P	6D
All Pass			

Robert's 4H bid showed a heart shortage and Peter's double allowed me to redouble which showed the HA. After partner cuebid the SA I felt my hand could not be any better.

Only one other pair bid the slam—Jeff Travis (South) bid directly to 6D after Russel Harms bid 4D over a 3H opening.

Christmas Cheer and Beer

The South Australian Bridge Federation celebrated Christmas by having a Speedball Pairs event at the SA Bridge Association.

What is a Speedball Pairs? It is a normal pairs session but at a much faster rate than usual. Rex Whitford, the Director, gave us 13 minutes each round to play 4 boards.

I played in the event with William Keyte who had never experienced Speedball before. By the end of the 28 boards (which took a little over one and a half hours) William was at ease with the concept and keen to keep playing.

He was amazed that I played for beer cards during a Speedball Pairs. In fact I noted my successes on the travelling scorers in case there were any beer card aficionados playing in our section.

♠ 8	
♥ J9863	
♦ 98	
♣ AQ542	
♠ K7	♠ 9432
♥ Q1075	♥ A42
♦ 1053	♦ KQ64
♣ 10983	♣ J7
♠ AQJ1065	
♥ K	
♦ AJ72	
♣ K6	

This was the third board of the evening and the auction was fairly typical Speedball: 1S—1NT—4S.

West led C10, won with the CK. As South, I led SA and SQ to West's SK. A heart was led to the HA and I trumped the heart return. Now I drew trumps and watched as West discarded a couple of diamonds (including D10). Dummy's clubs provided me with one diamond discard, then I led a diamond towards my hand. East inserted the DQ, I won the

ace and now the scene was set for a potential beer card ending. I could exit with the DJ to the DK, since the D10 had been discarded. After trumping the heart exit I was left with the D7 as the winner at trick 13.

East could have prevented the beer card by either ducking the DJ or by returning his diamond at the penultimate trick, but clearly he was not a beer card aficionado.

♠ A9653	
♥ AJ5	
♦ 84	
♣ 1052	
♠ 102	♠ QJ874
♥ 742	♥ 96
♦ K1032	♦ J5
♣ Q963	♣ J874
♠ K	
♥ KQ1083	
♦ AQ976	
♣ AK	

Another typical Speedball auction led to my playing in 6H: 2C—2S—3H—6H. West found the unfortunate lead of D2 into my tenace. I cashed the DA and ruffed a diamond with HJ. Crossing back to hand with SK I could ruff another diamond with the HA. Of course, I made sure I ruffed the D9, not the D7. Now I drew trumps, cashed the clubs, then the hearts, keeping the D7 for trick 13. [I couldn't afford to utilise dummy's SA for a discard; the obvious diamond discard would cost me the beer card.]

The Speedball Pairs was a really enjoyable night of bridge (over before 10pm), with a delicious supper supplied by the SA Bridge Federation. There were prizes awarded to each winning pair. All this for \$5.00.

I suggest you mark the Thursday before Christmas in your diary for 2007.

Bridge Week

Each year the SA Bridge Association at Unley holds "Bridge Week" during the first week of January.

In addition to a week-long intensive beginners' course, there are special guest lecturers before certain sessions, and on the Tuesday evening individuals can nominate for the Pairs with an Expert. On the Thursday evening there is a Teams of Three event, where an expert is allocated to three nominees, playing one teams match with each team member.

This year I played in the Pairs with an Expert with Jinny Fuss. I was particularly impressed with the expert defence demonstrated by one of my non-expert opponents, Margaret Reid playing with Judy Hone.

♠ AQJ104	
♥ K83	
♦ 654	
♣ 109	
♠ 652	♠ K873
♥ AJ109642	♥ 75
♦ 10	♦ K972
♣ 52	♣ KQ3
♠ 9	
♥ Q	
♦ AQJ83	
♣ AJ8764	

After a less than perfect auction on my part, and Judy Hone's 3H intervention, I became declarer in 5C.

Judy cashed the HA, then damaged my entry situation by leading the S5. I won this with the SA but this was my only entry to dummy so I was in difficulty. Hoping to make Margaret Reid (East) give me some help with entries, I led the SQ from dummy - if she covered I could ruff, then try a small club.

However Margaret foiled these plans by not covering so I discarded. She did, however, cover the SJ so I ruffed. I now led a small club towards dummy's C109, anticipating the Margaret held both honours. This was correct, but Margaret won the club and led another spade whilst Judy still held a trump so I had to ruff.

I was in some trouble now. I cashed the CA and exited with a club to Margaret. Undaunted, Margaret exited with a diamond; she wasn't letting me near dummy. I won the DJ and sloppily cashed the DA. Margaret could now take two diamond tricks.

This was 'sloppy' because I could now count Judy's hand shape - 7 hearts, 3 spades, 2 clubs, therefore 1 diamond. I should have exited with a small diamond, going only 2 off.

One of the joys of such an event for the non-experts is to play against experts, pitting their wits and sometimes coming out ahead, as in this case. Another of the elements is that players put faces to the names they hear about.

One of the joys of such an event for the experts is seeing the non-expert partner or opponent relax and play good bridge.

David Lusk puts a lot of effort into getting commitment to both nights from enough experts. Do come along and support this educational and enjoyable experience. Pairs with an Expert is the first Tuesday of the year and the Teams of Three is the following Thursday. You just need to ring SABA on 8373 3995 to nominate.

Blue Lake Contract Bridge Club

The Blue Lake Contract Bridge Club has been in existence for a year and so far has fulfilled its charter—to play serious bridge in a pleasant social atmosphere and encourage beginners.

Most of our members are retirees with a tendency to long holidays and trips to visit grandchildren but even so we've not had less than four tables per session.

We've taken part in the Australian Bridge's Autumn, Novice and Spring Pairs and enjoyed the challenge plus the interest of taking the booklets home and working out what we should have bid. Our local paper has printed photos of the club winners with accompanying story, even if they did get it wrong with the headline "S.E. bridge players claim national title", rather to the embarrassment of Flip Gardner and Irene Mills!

As our venue is at the RSL we have all become members and have had two tournaments to raise money for Legacy as a way of thanking the RSL.

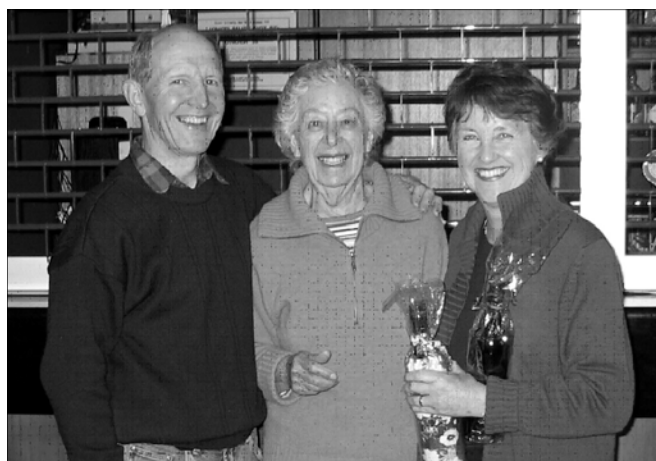
With the advent of daylight saving we've started an evening session at a member's house to encourage beginners who might find Monday afternoon a bit daunting; however two beginners turned

up for the first time at the AB Spring Pairs and acquitted themselves pretty well.

The Committee has planned an interesting schedule for 2007 with a different social event every month and we hope to increase our membership further.

The Bridge Club plays at the RSL in Sturt Street every Monday, starting at 12.45pm and anyone wishing to play should contact the President, Brenton Wittwer on 8723 9824, or the Secretary, Helen Boomsma on 8725 6850.

By Helen Boomsma



Elva Mitchell (centre) presents Richard and Rhonda Strickland with their prizes for winning the Club section of the AB Spring Pairs.

Insufficient Bids

When your opponent makes an insufficient bid the next player has two options:

- To accept the insufficient bid
ACTION:
 - They may then make any legal bid at the current level of bidding, E.g. 1H—1S—2H—1S—the next bidder may now bid 2C if they wish
 - There is no penalty on the offending side if this option is selected
- Not to accept the insufficient bid
ACTION:
 - The offender has two options:
 - To make the bid good at the LOWEST sufficient level, in which case there is no penalty
 - To make another bid, including Pass (but NOT Double), BUT the offender's partner is barred for the remainder of the auction

Defending Against Multi 2D Openings

There are many different ways of defending against a Multi 2D opening bid. Those who play each structure will advocate why their methods are better. There probably is no best method, so three options are presented and you can select that which most appeals to you and your partner.

OPTION 1

DBL = a takeout double of spades
2H = a takeout double of hearts
2NT = 16-18 HCP, system on
(i.e. Stayman and transfers)

This option is popular with some NSW players and many Victorians.

OPTION 2

DBL = 14+ HCP, support for at least one major
2M = natural overcall

After the initial double, a second double is takeout but all subsequent doubles are penalties.

This defence was mentioned by David Anderson in SABA News, April 2007.

OPTION 3

DBL = approx. 16+ HCP
2M = natural overcall
2NT = 16-18 HCP, system on
(i.e. Stayman and transfers)

Pass, then DBL = takeout of bid suit

* * * *

Let's look at some hands.

On my first example you hold

♠ AQ1083
♥ Q10964
♦
♣ K108

and hear the bidding start:

2D (Multi) P 2H to you...

Is there any urgency to bid? Your LHO has 6 cards in one of your majors. It may be spades if you bid them, or it could be hearts. PASS.

When LHO passes, you know they have 6 hearts. You may be worried about missing a spade fit, but if partner is short in hearts he/she will re-open. (Passing then bidding shows a weaker hand; passing then doubling shows less than your initial double with shortage in the bid suit.)

The opponents' hands:

♠ 4	♠ KJ92
♥ AJ7532	♥
♦ J983	♦ KQ654
♣ QJ	♣ A964

Here's another hand on which I would PASS:

♠ KQ943
♥ KJ104
♦ 7
♣ KQ2

Your RHO opens a Multi 2D bid, so pass and await developments—they either have hearts, spades or a big balanced hand. Wouldn't you rather defend than bid?

When you overcall a major you need to be confident that your opponent does not have that major. That means that you need to have a good suit.

Defending Against Multi 2D Openings cont.

- ♠ 3
- ♥ AKJ3
- ♦ KQ42
- ♣ KJ105

Your RHO opens a Multi 2D. You might assume they have spades, but this could be incorrect.

Let's utilise Options 2 or 3 and double, showing a good hand.

If LHO now bids 2H and your partner doubles, this double is takeout. If RHO passes (showing hearts), you will Pass to convert the double to penalties.

If LHO bids 2H, partner passes and RHO bids 2S, your double is takeout.

You have all passes covered.

* * * *

Against the 2-suited 2H and 2S bids where the opponents have the bid major, doubles should be takeout.

A second double remains takeout, but the third double becomes penalty.

This hand came up recently:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| ♠ AK86 | |
| ♥ 986 | |
| ♦ KJ93 | |
| ♣ AK | |
| ♠ Q3 | ♠ J109752 |
| ♥ AKJ104 | ♥ 3 |
| ♦ 7 | ♦ 862 |
| ♣ 109765 | ♣ 432 |
| ♠ 4 | |
| ♥ Q752 | |
| ♦ AQ1054 | |
| ♣ QJ8 | |

West opened 2H (vulnerable against not), showing hearts and a minor. North doubled (takeout). East should now have bid an immediate 3C (pass or correct) which makes South's double takeout—so South would probably bid 3NT directly. Instead East used 2NT to ask for the other minor (an inaccurate use of the bid) which allowed South to

start doubling for penalty. Now 3C was doubled and EW went 3 off for -800, versus a non-vul game.

* * * *

An area of Multi 2D bidding which I have not discussed to date is what to do when the opponents overcall or double.

AFTER A DOUBLE

Your basic responses remain the same:

- 2H = Pass or Correct
- 2S = To play opposite spades, liking for hearts
- 3M = Preemptive—Pass or Correct
- 4H = Pass or Correct
- 4S = To play

However, you tend not to use the 2NT bid to show a big hand—why would you? Wouldn't you rather take the opponents down? So with good hands where you think the opponents are in trouble, you redouble to indicate to partner that you wish to start penalising them.

AFTER 2-MAJOR OVERCALL

Just because the opponents have bid one suit it does not mean that partner has the other. Imagine that you have a singleton in the overcalled major and 4 cards in the other—partner may well have 6 cards where you are short.

DBL = Pass or Correct, some values (i.e. you have support for the other major but are doubling in case they have the bid suit)

AFTER 3-MINOR OVERCALL

Now you need to be able to get back to your major suit:

- 3M = Pass or Correct
- 4H = Pass or Correct
- 4S = To play

20 Years Ago

During 1985/86 Sue Lusk and I experimented with Regres, a forcing pass system created in Poland.

Any hand with 13+ HCP was 'opened' with a Pass, and partner used a variety of systemic responses to describe her hand. The 1C opening bid showed a hand of 8-12 HCP with a singleton or void. We modified the system to suit our requirements, thus 1H and 1S showed 8-12 HCP with 4+ cards in the suit (we could have a longer minor). And with 0-7 HCP we had to open 1D, commonly called a 'fertiliser' bid.

Initially it took a certain amount of courage to open the 'ferts' and the opening bids certainly kept us on our toes. Whenever we saw that partner was dealer we had to be ready to alert. In one international event I was still thinking about the opponents' auction from the previous hand and automatically passed with my 3 HCP. Thankfully the opponents overcalled and partner's pass showed either 0-6 HCP or a penalty double!

Opponents often did not know how to defend against these bids or simply had not discussed situations that arose. Typically, I once "passed" with ♠AK109 ♥AKJ10985 ♦73 ♣ void. LHO now overcalled with 4C, intended as natural but interpreted by her partner as a transfer to hearts (which is what a 4C opening bid showed). Sue doubled 4C, showing some values, and RHO now accepted the transfer by bidding 4H (instead of letting partner clarify the situation). I must admit that the next double was the most confident double I have ever made, so it was probably fortunate that we were using bidding boxes. To my amazement, everyone passed! We could take the first 12 tricks, but less than optimum defence allowed declarer three tricks. Given that the opposition overbid to 7H, one off, this was a healthy pick-up for the system.

[Partner held ♠Q743 ♥764 ♦Q8642 ♣A.]

Bridge commentators and writers generally just guessed what our bids meant when they had to discuss our auctions!

Sue and I had a really interesting situation arise on this deal.

	♠ 97		
	♥ J		
	♦ Q4		
	♣ KQ987432		
♠ AKQ865		♠ J10	
♥ A2		♥ 1098754	
♦ K105		♦ AJ873	
♣ A10		♣	
	♠ 432		
	♥ KQ63		
	♦ 962		
	♣ J65		
Sue	NORTH	Barb	SOUTH
Pass *	4C	4H	Pass
4NT	5C	Pass *	Pass
5NT	Pass	6H	Pass
6S	Pass	Pass	7C
Pass *	Pass	DBL	Pass

Sue's initial pass was forcing, showing 13+ HCP. Her 4NT bid was normal Blackwood and, after the 5C intervene, my Pass showed the one missing ace. Now her 5NT bid was the Grand Slam Force, checking the quality of my hearts and my response showed none of the top three honours. Sue now knew to correct to 6S. When South now saved with 7C, Sue made a 'forcing' pass, guaranteeing first round club control and inviting a grand slam. She already knew about my hearts and wasn't worried about spades so must be asking me to look at my diamond suit. I decided AJxxx was not enough for the grand slam.

It wasn't the forcing pass that brought this situation about, but it was a rare and inferential auction that required a lot of trust between partners.

A Game for All

♠ 965
♥ AKQJ9
♦ AQJ3
♣ 7

Recently I used this hand in a lesson about opening leads. As it happened, I became declarer in 4H (West) after the auction: 1H—2H—4H.

When dummy came down, it was apparent to me that the hand had been fouled:

♠ 965	♠ KQ2
♥ AKQJ9	♥ 762
♦ AQJ3	♦ 976
♣ 7	♣ QJ109

Since I had expected North to lead the CQ I knew the hands had been mixed up! However I didn't remember the other two hands fully.

I never give up on a contract, and with the SA onside and the diamond finesse working I made my contract.

This was the hand I had expected:

♠ 965	♠ A73
♥ AKQJ9	♥ 10854
♦ AQJ3	♦ 108
♣ 7	♣ K853

4H is also makeable, as long as you utilise your entries to take the diamond finesse, which works.

Now I wondered whether I could also make game opposite the South hand:

♠ 965	♠ J1084
♥ AKQJ9	♥ 3
♦ AQJ3	♦ K542
♣ 7	♣ A642

Once again 4H is cold. The only losers are the three spades.

I'm not sure how often such hands appear: where you can make the same game opposite any of the other three hands.

ABF Initiatives

MARKETING GRANT

At a recent meeting of the Management Committee of the Australian Bridge Federation, it was agreed that an amount of \$3,000 was to be granted to all State bodies specifically for the purposes of promoting bridge in each State. The ABF is hopeful that this grant will assist with advertising/marketing costs that will ultimately be instrumental in increasing the affiliated player numbers in each State/Territory. The SABF applauds this initiative by the ABF.

AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Australian Bridge Federation has also decided to provide a subscription to the Australian Bridge magazine to all affiliated clubs for a two-year period. Clubs can expect to see the next issue of Australian Bridge coming to their mail box shortly.

ABF LOAN AVAILABILITY

The James O'Sullivan Fund was set up from a bequest and is aimed at assisting bridge clubs with building, extending or improving their premises and/or buying bridge related equipment.

A loan of up to \$30,000 is available provided that the applicant can demonstrate the ability to service the agreed loan and in a timeframe that is acceptable to the JOS trustees. Interest rate is a nominal 5% and repayment terms are very flexible.

Clubs may be interested in this facility.

ANC Perth

As well as the National Championship events, there will be an associated Congress with a range of events to cater for all bridge players. Further details are available via: www.bawa.asn.au, where you can also submit entries (with payment).

Results

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE

South Australians performed well in the Summer Festival of Bridge held during January in Canberra:

NATIONAL YOUTH PAIRS

- 1st Joel Gue & Alex Lockwood
- 3rd Justin Williams & Justin Howard

NATIONAL YOUTH TEAMS

- 1st Justin Williams' team
- 3rd Stevenson team containing Andrew Morcombe, William Jenner-O'Shea, Matthew Porter

NATIONAL WOMEN'S TEAMS

- 1st Bourke team containing Sue Lusk
- 3rd Kaplan team containing Barbara Travis

NATIONAL SENIORS' TEAMS

- 1st Noble team
- 2nd Newman team containing David Lusk

NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

- 1st Brogeland team
- 2nd Noble team containing Phil Gue
- 3rd Markey team containing Phil Markey, George Smolanko
- 5th OzOne containing Zoli Nagy

Of particular merit was the Howard team's result, finishing =8th. Justin Howard is 17, Andy Hung 18, with Adam Edgton being 15 and his brother Nabil 14.

GOLD COAST CONGRESS

OPEN PAIRS

- 1st John Armstrong - Howard Melbourne
- 2nd Jamie Ebery - Ron Klinger
- 3rd Wojtek Olanski - Vytautas Vainikonis

Best Women's Pair:

Elizabeth Havas - Barbara Travis (6th)

SENIORS' PAIRS

- 1st Robert Bignall - Roger Januszke

OPEN TEAMS

- 1st HIRST (England)

SENIORS'S TEAMS

- 1st PUSKAS: John Puskas, David Lusk, Robert Bignall, Peter Chan, Roger Januszke, John Hewitt

AUSTRALIAN TEAMS PLAYOFFS

OPEN TEAMS

- 1st Representing Australia at Bermuda Bowl in Shanghai:
CHADWICK (npc):
Bruce Neill - Richard Jedrychowski,
Pauline Gumby - Warren Lazer,
Murray Green - Andrew Peake
- 2nd Representing Australia at PABFC in Indonesia:
Zoli NAGY - Bob Richman,
Peter Gill - Paul Gosney,
Sartaj Hans, Tony Nunn

WOMEN'S TEAMS

- 1st Representing Australia at Venice Cup in Shanghai:
WILLCOX (npc):
Rena Kaplan - Paula Schroor,
Elizabeth Havas - Barbara Travis,
Candice Feitelson - Cathy Mill
- 2nd Representing Australia at PABFC in Indonesia:
Margaret BOURKE - Dagmar Neumann,
Sue Lusk - Therese Tully,
Felicity Beale - Diana Smart

SENIORS' TEAMS

- 1st Representing Australia at World Seniors' Bill HAUGHIE - David Lilley,
Zoli Nagy - Ron Klinger,
John Lester - Gabi Lorentz
- 2nd Representing Australia at PABFC:
Ted CHADWICK - Martin Bloom,
Barbara McDonald - Alan Walsh,
Edward Griffin - Michael Hughes

Results cont.

SA WOMEN'S TRIALS QUALIFYING

NS field

- 1st Freya & Margaret Wilson
- 2nd Alison Fallon & Barbara Travis
- 3rd Linda Alexander & Dianne Marler
- 4th Rosemary Grund & Yadi Parrott
- 5th Linda Babiszewski & Judy Hocking

EW field

- 1st Carmel Kain & Judy Roberts
- 2nd Sue Lusk & Barbara Marrett
- 3rd Ann Clarke & Wendy Hooper
- 4th Adrienne Kelly & Margaret Walters
- 5th Deb Bennett & Pam Morgan-King

ANC STATE TEAMS

OPEN TEAM

- 1st Attilio De Luca - David Lusk
- 2nd Robert Bignall - Barbara Travis
- 3rd Peter Chan - Phil Gue

WOMEN'S TEAM

- 1st Alison Fallon - Barbara Travis
 - 2nd Sue Lusk - Barbara Marrett
 - 3rd Linda Babiszewski - Judy Hocking
 - 4th Adrienne Kelly - Margaret Walters
- Alison and Barbara withdrew because Barbara qualified for the Open Team, so Adrienne and Margaret will take their place.*

SENIORS' TEAM

- 1st John Hewitt - Roger Januszke
- 2nd David Cherry - John Horowitz
- 3rd Bob Clarke - Arthur Porter

BRIDGE IN THE HILLS'

EASTER CONGRESS

EASTER PAIRS

- 1st Dianne Marler - John Smith
- 2nd Luke Matthews - Justin Williams
- 3rd Andrew Eddie - Jeff Travis

EASTER TEAMS

- 1st FALLON: Alison & Gordon Fallon, Luke Matthews, Justin Williams
- 2nd HARRISON: Jane & Shane Harrison, Sam Schulz, John Smith
- 3rd HOLDER: Anne & Wayne Holder, Robert Bignall, Helen Luxton