

BRIDGE VICTORIA BULLETIN

# JULY 2023

EDITOR: CHRIS HUGHES



# EDITORIAL – CHRIS HUGHES

A very observant individual commented on my inability to use punctuation marks accurately.

In the June Bulletin, the 'Bridge Humour' opening sentence was

*"The picture shows Tim Seres with Mary McMahon who was one of his partner's."*

It was pointed out that the apostrophe is used to indicate possessive case, contractions, and omitted letters. The apostrophe is not strictly a punctuation mark, but more a part of a word to indicate possessive case, contractions, or omitted letters.

I admit to the error as I extracted part of the text from an article and deleted parts of it inappropriately.

## **It's Chris' error and not a proof reader's oversight.**

Another comment was to put a more appropriate picture (without 'jokers' in the pack) for the TEST YOUR DECLARER SKILLS and BRIDGE HAND OF THE MONTH section.

While playing at the Victor Champion Cup at the Moonee Valley racecourse, I heard a person comment that the only time they came here in the past was to bet on the races. They were looking for the bookmaker to place a bet on the event without having any success.



Above is a picture of Chris Hughes looking puzzled at home.

Submit all your input to my private email address.

If you wish to comment on grammatical issues so be it but bridge issues are more preferred.

[loganrun@optusnet.com.au](mailto:loganrun@optusnet.com.au)

Movie buffs will recognise a subtle reference to a 1976 science fiction film.

# TEST YOUR DECLARER SKILLS

The following hand took place in a team's event

NORTH

♠ 52  
♥ AJT652  
♦ K3  
♣ AKJ

WEST

♠  
♥  
♦  
♣

EAST

♠  
♥  
♦  
♣

SOUTH

♠ A3  
♥ K984  
♦ QJ984  
♣ 53

After a cue bid and RKC/B is used (South must have ♠A as he denied a ♦ cue bid). A little aggressive 6♥ is reached.

The ♠K is led.

Decide how you are going to make this ♥ slam

## What is your plan from here?

The answer is at the end of the bulletin.

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
			1♦
DBL	1♠	3♥	P
4♣	P	4♥	P
4NT	P	5♥	P
6♥	P	P	P

North doubles first as they are too strong to just overcall.

South jumps in ♥s with virtually an opening hand.

# BRIDGE HAND OF THE MONTH

The following hand took place both vulnerable.

NORTH

♠ 32  
♥ AQ54  
♦ 943  
♣ KJ98

WEST

♠  
♥  
♦  
♣

EAST

♠  
♥  
♦  
♣

SOUTH

♠ A  
♥ 32  
♦ AKQJT2  
♣ 5432

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
		1♦	2♦
DBL	2♠	3♦	4♠
P	P	5♦	P
P	P		

2♦ is Michaels showing both majors

North doubles to indicate penalty aspirations for one of their suits.

South is not interested in penalties and bids 3♦.

West shows a very strong distributional hand by bidding 4♠.

When North does not DBL 4♠, South bids 5♦.

West leads the ♣A and switches to the ♠T.

You play the ♦A and both opponents follow suit.

## What is your plan from here?

Submit all your input to my private email address

[loganrun@optusnet.com.au](mailto:loganrun@optusnet.com.au)

A detailed line of play is preferred.



# YOUTH IN BRIDGE

The Youth Bridge sessions at the Victorian Bridge Centre on Tuesday evenings from 6:30pm are free and open to anyone under the age of 30 of any skill level.

Please encourage somebody you know to attend.

Perhaps a new interest for the younger ones during the school holidays.

Rebecca (Bec) O'Reilly does a fantastic job.

# BRIDGE HUMOUR



The Asia Pacific Bridge Federation (APBF) tournament is held annually (normally) in various cities across the Asia Pacific region. This year the event was held in Hong Kong from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of June (see a small report later in the bulletin).

Ten years ago, I was lucky enough to join a strong group of senior players at the last minute and became part of the Australian Senior team in the tournament. The hosting city was Hong Kong.

I decided that I would learn a few words in each of the various languages so that I could say hello and good morning or good afternoon (as appropriate) to the players at the table in their own language. I saw this as a small gesture on my part to start proceedings in each match. However, as in all events across the world, English is the language to be spoken at the table during play.

Bridge players across the world have learnt enough English and are familiar with enough bridge terminology to make this possible and to not be disadvantaged whilst playing against people from an English-speaking background.

However, this was not always the case.

After the first day, we had played teams from Thailand, Chinese Taipei and the Philippines. Each player from those teams had an excellent mastery of the English language (some people might say better than mine).

Then on the second day, we started the proceedings against a team representing China Hong Kong and the player's English-speaking ability was flawless.

The second match of the day was scheduled to be played against a team from China. My partner and I were seated at the table and awaiting the arrival of our opposition. Less than a minute before the start of play, a gentleman arrived at the table. With an Aussie accent, I said "Ni hao, xiaowu hao" which I hoped he would understand as "Hello, good afternoon". This created an unexpectedly awkward situation. He started talking to me in Mandarin.

Now I can assure you that asking him to please explain what he is saying to me by repeating "Ni hao, xiaowu hao" was not successful. I called the director. Fortunately, all the directors were fluent in both English and Mandarin. I asked the director to explain that my Mandarin was exceptionally limited at best and could he please ask this gentleman where is his system card and where is his partner.

Through our interpreter, our opponent stated that his partner should be here shortly (he hoped) and then he gave me his system card. My partner and I looked at the system card that was presented. There was only one piece of paper that indicated their leading conventions. There was no indication of what system they were playing and other important details. The gentleman explained that his partner had a much more complete system card.

My partner and I decided that, whilst we were waiting for his partner to arrive (and through our interpreter), we would write their basic system details on a separate piece of paper. By the time his partner arrived, about twelve minutes after the scheduled starting time, my partner and I had enough basic knowledge of their system to start the match. I glanced at his partner's 'more complete' system card and it did state their basic system was 'Standard' but had not much more detail. My partner and I decided to use the notes we had written.

I was on the same side of the screen as the gentleman that came to the table first. When I asked him what one of his partner's bids meant (perhaps 'asked' was the wrong verb, I looked puzzled and pointed to his partner's bid), he would say 'forcing'. I nodded to indicate that I understood.

As the match proceeded, any time I queried the gentleman (with a well-rehearsed quizzical facial expression) as to what one of his partner's bids meant, the reply was always 'forcing'.

When the match finished, I drew a couple of conclusions

- Thank goodness I was fortunate enough to come from an English-speaking background and not have to learn a foreign language to play bridge
- I think the extent of the gentleman's English vocabulary was equivalent to mine in Mandarin

I must conclude by saying that this happened ten years ago. Nowadays, China, with its vast human resources and enviable work ethics, have excelled in bridge. Their international representatives are all well versed in English.



# RESULTS

## RESULTS FOR JUNE-VICTORIA

### **MOONEE VALLEY SUPER CONGRESS** SATURDAY-MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup>/3<sup>RD</sup> 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2A PATTISON ST MOONEE PONDS

56 pairs contested the Open Pairs and the placegetters were

1st	Ismail Gulec	Christopher Leach
2nd	George Lovrecz	Bob Geyer
3rd	Phillip Fent	Dee Harley

20 pairs contested the Novice Pairs and the placegetters were

1st	Geoff Bunyard	Debbie Goldsworthy
2nd	Lindsay Image	Terri Hopkins
3rd	Sharley Fyfe	Peter Millington

22 pairs contested the Restricted Pairs and the placegetters were

1st	Ian Hanmer	Bronwyn Simmonds
2nd	Toni Arnott	David Methven
3rd	Heather Lindsay	Karen Ferguson

25 teams contested the Teams and the placegetters were

1st	David Beckett	Neil Ewart	Chris Hughes	Steven White
2nd	Gavin Bailey	Kirsten Bailey	Douglas Newlands	Arthur Robbins
3rd	Dee Harley	Gordon McRobert	Thilak Ranasinghe	Anna St Clair



## GEELONG BRIDGE CLUB CONGRESS

SATURDAY 24TH AND SUNDAY 25TH JUNE

Highton Bowls Club - cnr Roslyn & North Valley Roads, Highton Vic 3216

44 pairs contested the Open pairs on the Saturday and the placegetters were

1st	L Saoud	M. Ghatwari
2nd	G. Ridgway	A. Robbins
3rd	L. Yoffa	K. Frazer

16 pairs contested the Restricted pairs on the Saturday and the placegetters were

1st	M. Doyle	E. Bennetto
2nd	R. Gude	L. Johnston
3rd	R. Thornton	J. McGonigal

18 teams contested the Teams on the Sunday and the placegetters were

1st	G. Ghali	T. Ranasinghe	D. Samuels	V. Zhang
2nd	K. Frazer	B. Geyer	G. Lovrecz	L. Yoffa
3rd	S. Lester	D. Newland	D. Newlands	A. Robbins

# RESULTS FOR JUNE- NATIONAL

VICTOR CHAMPION CUP (VCC) – VICTORIA'S NATIONAL CONGRESS

THURSDAY - MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

MOONEE VALLEY RACECOURSE

86 pairs contested the Open Pairs and the placegetters were

1st	Bijan Assaee	Dominic Kwok
2nd	David Gue	Joshua Tomlin
3rd	Malcolm Carter	Bernard Waters

30 pairs contested the Mixed Pairs and the placegetters were

1st	Andrew Peake	Giselle Mundell
2nd	Vanessa Brown	Will Jenner-O'Shea
3rd	Christy Geromboux	Sebastian Yuen

20 pairs contested the Restricted Pairs and the placegetters were

1st	Lynda Young	Phillip Young
2nd	Sean Xie	Bei Tang
3rd	Francis Rose	Viv Dacey

58 teams contested the Teams and the placegetters were

1st	Ron Klinger	Matt Mullamphy	Andrew Spooner	Ian Thomson
2nd	James Coutts	Sartaj Hans	Andy Hung	Liam Milne
3rd	Jane Dawson	Peter Gill	Shane Harrison	Marlene Watts

The following hand took place in Victor Champion Congress Pairs in Match 3

**NORTH**

♠ Q973  
♥  
♦ 8  
♣ AKJT7654

**WEST**

♠ JT8642  
♥ K62  
♦ KJ53  
♣

**EAST**

♠  
♥ AQJ983  
♦ AQT96  
♣ Q2

**SOUTH**

♠ AK5  
♥ T754  
♦ 742  
♣ 983

	♣	♦	♥	♠
N	5 <sup>(1)</sup>			
S	4 <sup>(2)</sup>			
E		6 <sup>(3)</sup>	7	1
W		7	7	1

The table shown at the bottom of the previous column indicates the 'know all' double dummy outcomes for this board.

Examining various outcomes

- (1) To hold North to 11 tricks in ♣s. East must lead a low ♦ to West for West to return a ♠ for East to ruff
- (2) To hold South to 10 tricks in ♣s. West must lead a ♠ for East to ruff, then East must lead a low ♦ to West for West to return a ♠ for East to ruff
- (3) To hold East to 12 tricks in ♦ South must lead a ♥ for North to ruff

This is why the double dummy solution is an indication only and not necessarily a normal outcome.

Thilak Ranasinghe (known universally as 'TP') sent me the following with respect to this hand.

*Not very often you come across a hand which has the potential to earn 19 imps.*

*After 2 passes, as North, I decided to open 1♣ rather than text book opening of 5♣. With only 4 or 5 loses and possibility of a ♠ contract, I thought 1♣ is a good opening without out disclosing my weakness in hcp.*

*After my LHO bid 2♣ showing a two suitor my RHO decided to bid 3♦. My next bid was 4♠ telling my story to my partner and the LHO decided to bid 5♥, which was doubled by my partner. I did not hesitate to bid 6♣, which was doubled. I got a score of 1540 and the datum was - 510, giving me 19 imps.*

*In almost all the other tables opening was 5♣ and some got doubled (6 times). Most of the Easts overcalled 5♥ and 9 got doubled. Strangely only one East bid and kept 6♥.*

# RESULTS FOR JUNE- INTERNATIONAL

## ASIA PACIFIC BRIDGE FEDERATION (APBF) CHAMPIONSHIPS

9<sup>TH</sup> – 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

HONG KONG

Australia had four representative teams at this event. All events are conducted in a two or three round robin format (depending on the entries) with no finals. Therefore, the winner is the leader at the end of the round robin format.

13 teams contested the Open teams

- 1st CHINA
- 2nd NEW ZEALAND
- 3rd CHINESE TAIPEI

Australia, captained by David Fryda, finished 10<sup>th</sup>.

Tony Leibowitz	Paul Gosney	Tony Nunn	Paul Dalley
Jamie Thompson	Robert Fruewirth		

Where Robert Fruewirth is Victorian and Jamie Thompson lived in Victoria until fairly recently.

Their performance was severely affected by illness. Tony Nunn got COVID and the team had to play most of the event with only 4 players.

11 teams contested the Ladies teams

- 1st CHINA
- 2nd CHINESE TAIPEI
- 3rd HONG KONG CHINA

Australia, captained by Peter Buchen, finished 8<sup>th</sup>.

Helena Dawson	Avril Zets	Nazife Bashar	Kinga Moses
Catherine Zhang	Wei Zhang		

8 teams contested the Senior teams

- 1st CHINA
- 2nd CHINESE TAIPEI
- 3rd HONG KONG CHINA 1

Australia, captained by John McIlrath, finished 4<sup>th</sup>.

Stephen Burgess	Phil Gue	Avi Kanetkar	David Beauchamp
Paul Lavings	Robert Krochmalik		

12 teams contested the Mixed teams

1st CHINA

2nd SINGAPORE

3rd CHINESE TAIPEI

Australia, captained by Mike Doecke, finished 4<sup>th</sup>.

Phil Markey

Lauren Travis

Ben Thompson

Renee Cooper

Dave Whilshire

Sophie Ashton

Where Ben Thompson is Victorian.



# UPCOMING EVENTS IN JULY

## VICTORIA

### KATTERY BRIDGE CLUB CONGRESS

Saturday 1st July, Sunday 2nd July.

Details of the event follow that were kindly sent by Keith Kat.

Entry details are on their website:

<https://www.kattery.net/kattery.press/congress-entry-form/#entryform>

or here's the direct link:

[The Kattery celebrates 30 years as a bridge club](#)

Keith Kat is the director of the event (both a very talented Victorian player and an accredited director).

### GARDENVALE BRIDGE CLUB CONGRESS

Sunday 23rd July

Theodore Herzl Club

222 Balaclava Road, Caulfield

A pairs event directed by Laurie Kelso

### TEAMS OF THREE

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July

Victorian Bridge Centre

Brighton Bowling Club, Breen Drive, Brighton East

A unique and enjoyable event where 3 players form a team with a designated 'expert' assigned by the club.

### HERZL BRIDGE CLUB CONGRESS

Sunday 30th July

Theodore Herzl Club

222 Balaclava Road, Caulfield

# NATIONAL

## AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

July 9<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July

Perth

This annual event is held in different cities each year and allows states and territories to field selected teams. The winner is the national champion. The teams' competition actually runs from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> July in a round robin format.

Victorian representatives are as follows –

OPEN

David Beckett, Neil Ewart, Dee Harley, Phil Fent, Chen Ding, Ming Zhang, Jenny Thompson (NPC)

WOMEN

Kim Frazer, Kitty Muntz, Penny Blankfield, Sue Read, Eva Samuel, Laura Ginnan, Laurie Kelso (NPC)

SENIORS

Robert Gallus, Stephen Weisz, Quentin Van Abbe, Andrzej Krolikowski, George Lovrecz, Martin Willcox (PC)

YOUTH

Damon Flicker, Seb Wright, Alex Goss, Simon Pui, Taydon Gold, Matthew Sieredzinski, Leigh Gold (NPC)

Good luck to all of our representatives.

# WHAT NEXT IN DEFENCE?

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
		1♥	2NT
3♣	5♣	6♥	P

West's 2NT bid shows both minors.

Where North's 3♣ is a limit raise plus in ♥s.

As East, with a good distributional hand, you raise to 5♣.

Partner leads the ♠T against South's small slam.

Declarer plays the ♠Q from dummy and you cover with the ♠K and declarer wins the ♠A.

Declarer plays a trump to dummy, as partner follows with a small ♥. Then declarer plays the ♠2 which you win with the ♠J as declarer follows with the ♠8.

What do you lead now?

Dummy as NORTH

Your hand as EAST

♠Q932  
♥KQ9742  
♦Q4  
♣4

♠KJ7654  
♥  
♦865  
♣8653

**What information do you have about declarer's hand and partner's possible holding?**

**What is your plan from here to defeat this contract (if possible)?**

Answer at the end of the bulletin



# OTHER

## MCMANAMNY CLUB TEAMS EVENT

After the success of the 2022 McManamny Club Teams, the event will be held again this year on Sunday 24 September at Moonee Valley Bridge Club.

Twenty teams from five clubs took part last year at the Waverley B.C. The Crofts Trophy (best Club performance) was won by Geelong and the Stokes trophy (best team on the day) was won by Waverley Team 3 (Alex Goss, Peter Goss, Elizabeth Vanselow and Robert Quirk).

The event is named after Nicole McManamny, a Waverley stalwart and Bridge fanatic.

In Club Teams competitions, each club selects up to five teams to play all day against other club teams. Pairs compete against pairs of a similar level.

**Think about entering this fun competition and save the date in your calendar.**

## RECENT RANKING PROMOTIONS – AS UPDATED BY THE CLUBS IN MAY 2023

CLUB	NAME	RANK
Bayside Bridge Club	Bauer, MaryBeth	Graduate
Bayside Bridge Club	Brand, Tony	Local
Bayside Bridge Club	Dixon, Orani	State
Bayside Bridge Club	Vulcan, Peter	Bronze Local
Bayside Bridge Club	Wein, Tami	Graduate
Benalla Bridge Club	Holmes, Peter	Bronze State
Bendigo Bridge Club	Batten, Carolyn	Regional
Berwick Bridge Club	Gubbels, Lorraine	Local
Berwick Bridge Club	Gubbels, Matt	Local
Berwick Bridge Club	Hastie, Bev	Regional

Berwick Bridge Club	Mahendren, Durisamy	Silver Local
Berwick Bridge Club	McInerney, Lauris	Local
Berwick Bridge Club	Thorp, Maree	Regional
Berwick Bridge Club	Wells, Colin	Graduate
BWOnline Bridge Club	Kramer, George	Club
Frankston Bridge Club	Moodie, Lynn	Silver National
Frankston Bridge Club	Pert, Karyn	Club
Gardenvale Bridge Club	Casey, Nikki	Graduate
Gardenvale Bridge Club	Yelen, Sandra	Regional
Geelong Bridge Club	Brunton, Tilly	Club
Geelong Bridge Club	Casey, Gail	Graduate
Geelong Bridge Club	Lehmann, Jennifer	Club
Geelong Bridge Club	Ling, John	Graduate
Geelong Bridge Club	Peck, Maureen	Silver Local
Geelong Bridge Club	Ryan, Heather	Graduate
Geelong Bridge Club	Skeen, Jane	Club
Geelong Bridge Club	Skeen, Libby	Graduate
Geelong Bridge Club	Ward, Philip	State
KLTC Bridge Club	Campbell, Maria	Bronze National
KLTC Bridge Club	Dolphin, Roma	Club
KLTC Bridge Club	Goldbloom, Yvonne	Bronze Regional
KLTC Bridge Club	Greenhatch, Christine	Club
KLTC Bridge Club	Levy, Estelle	Regional
KLTC Bridge Club	Rosolino, Mary	Local
KLTC Bridge Club	St Hill, Diana	Regional
Knox Bridge Club	Coombs, Brenton	Local
Macedon Ranges Bridge Club	Crosling, Gretchen	Local
Maine Bridge Club	Madden, Tracey	Graduate
Maine Bridge Club	Ride, Jo	Club
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Buckstein, Ruth	Graduate
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Butcher, Molly	Bronze Life
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Jones, Annmaree	Local
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Samuels, David	Life
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Smith, Chris	Graduate
Mornington Bridge Club	Ponnampalam, Anthony	Graduate
Northern Bridge Club	Choong, Kerry	Graduate
Northern Bridge Club	Gulec, Ismail	Bronze Life
Northern Bridge Club	Schultz, Jeffrey	Bronze Local
Northern Bridge Club	Travers, Gordon	Regional
Northern Bridge Club	Yoffa, Lisa	Silver Life
Ocean Grove Bridge Club	Davis, Alan	Graduate
Ocean Grove Bridge Club	Hamilton, Carol	Regional
Ocean Grove Bridge Club	Magee, Alex	Bronze Regional
Ocean Grove Bridge Club	Pilbeam, Max	State
Ocean Grove Bridge Club	Snow, Maree	Graduate

Ocean Grove Bridge Club	Topfner, George	Bronze Life
Patterson Lakes Bridge Club	Winnell, Helen	Club
Paynesville Bridge Club	Haylock, John	Bronze State
Paynesville Bridge Club	Wilson, Ron	Life
Phillip Island Bridge Club	Hodgson, Anne	Bronze Local
RACV Bridge Group	Fitzherbert, Richard	National
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Cooke, Katrina	Regional
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Ingram, Joanna	Club
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Kinnear, Sue	Bronze National
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Lyon, Judy	State
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Macneil, Jayne	Bronze Local
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Osborne, Julia	Graduate
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Scott, Nicholas	Bronze Local
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Walker, Sue	Club
Sale Bridge Club	Ziffer, Rob	Bronze National
Shepparton Bridge Club	Barnet, Ruth	Silver Local
Shepparton Bridge Club	Liggins, Nigel	Club
South Gippsland Bridge Club	Edwards, Susan	Local
South Gippsland Bridge Club	Harvey, Ruth	Local
Theodor Herzl Social Club	Berlinski, Neil	Club
Torquay Bridge Club Inc.	Erving, Lydia	Bronze Local
Torquay Bridge Club Inc.	Keyte, Neil	Bronze State
U3A Knox Bridge Club	Lang, Ross	Graduate
U3A Knox Bridge Club	Martyn, Fred	Graduate
Victorian Bridge Association	Bold, Keith	Local
Victorian Bridge Association	Cole, Gene	Graduate
Victorian Bridge Association	Jacobs, Leah	Graduate
Victorian Bridge Association	McCarthy, Sue	Bronze Local
Victorian Bridge Association	Riska, Philip	Local
Wangaratta Bridge Club	Cairns, Colleen	Club
Waverley Bridge Club	Cocking, Hilary	Silver Local
Waverley Bridge Club	Hui, Lilian	Silver Local
Waverley Bridge Club	Minogue, Michael	Bronze Local
Waverley Bridge Club	Morrison, Chris	Graduate
Waverley Bridge Club	Terlecka, Jolanta	Bronze National
Waverley Bridge Club	Williams, Paul	Club
Waverley Bridge Club	Wilson, Carleen	Graduate
Wodonga Bridge Club	Stanford, Wendy	Silver Local
Yarra Valley Bridge Club	Read, Sue	Grand
Yarrowonga Bridge Club	Dawes, John	Club
Yarrowonga Bridge Club	Williams, Les	Graduate

Congratulations to all of the above.

# Bridge Victoria Operating Committee (BVOC) Update for June.

BVOC met for the second time on the 20th June 2023, hosted at the RACV Club, thanks to Sally Foster. There was a full turnout of committee members with two guests by special invitation. Please find the highlights summarised and expect more by email:

- **DEMOCRATISATION.** A paper was presented by Derek Poulton, from the working group tasked with defining the ongoing structure of BVOC. The aim is to enable fair representation from clubs across Victoria. The paper was discussed, and modifications were made. This will now be circulated to clubs via email seeking their input.
- **BRIDGE VICTORIA – FINANCIAL OVERVIEW.** The high-level financials of bridge Victoria were discussed exploring spending and income.
- **STATE MANAGER RECRUITMENT UPDATE.** The working group responsible for recruiting the state manager has interviewed candidates and, although excellent in their own ways, it was recommended to hold off appointing a state manager.
- **MATCH & TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE REPORT.** Jenny Thompson (chair of the match and tournament committee which now reports into BVOC) provided an overview of the role of the match and tournament committee, including:
  - the annual scheduling of congresses and state events, and
  - the management of processes for the selection of state teams.
- **TRIALLING OF STATE EVENTS.** Jenny also presented a paper proposing the trialling of state events at clubs other than the Victorian Bridge Centre. This paper will now be circulated to clubs seeking expressions of interest to host events. The objective of the trial is to create greater participation in state events.
- **TEACHER ACCREDITATION.** The ABF has a teacher accreditation scheme, for which 17 Victorian teachers are currently accredited. The process for managing teacher accreditation has been handed from the ABF to the states. The criteria for accrediting teachers in Victoria was proposed and updated. It was also proposed that the following teachers be accredited immediately:

- MARY ELSON
- LAURA GINNAN
- PETER HOLLANDS
- BEN KINGHAM
- JUSTIN MILL
- CAROL WOODLEY

All were unanimously agreed. All future nominations would also come through BVOC.

- **CLUB ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS.** Jim Naughtin has agreed to chair the BVOC communications committee, and a draft plan was presented. to compliment the work of the communications committee, each member of BVOC will be taking responsibility for engaging with a small group of clubs each. We want to understand the wants and needs of stakeholders and please contact Jim or your representative with any thoughts.
- **STRATEGY WORKSHOP.** It is proposed that to hold a one-day strategy session and in preparation for the session, BVOC members will be asking clubs what they would like to see us doing of the next few years (i.e. how can we help them).

From Laura Ginnan  
Managing Director



Real Deal Bridge proudly hosted the 2023 VCC Youth Bridge Fundraiser Trivia Night, where eager minds came together to test their knowledge, have an amazing time, and raise funds for Youth Bridge in Victoria and across the nation. The evening was filled with excitement, laughter, and impressive displays of brainpower.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our wonderful host, Ethan Cavanagh, whose vibrant presence lit up the room and set the perfect atmosphere for the night. We would also like to extend our appreciation to David Astle for his mind-bending cryptic challenge, which added an extra layer of fun to the event.

The success of the night wouldn't have been possible without the enthusiastic participation of our attendees and the generous prizes donated by the Australian Bridge Federation and Tony Bremrose Insurance Brokers. We are also incredibly grateful for the contributions made by those who couldn't attend the event but still showed their support.

We would like to acknowledge the support of various bridge clubs, including Ballarat Bridge Club, Canberra Bridge Club, Joan Butts Bridge, Kattery Bridge, Kenmore Bridge Club, Leeron Branicki, Mornington Bridge Group, Northern Suburbs Bridge Club, Patterson Lakes Bridge Club, Paynesville Bridge Club, and the Sydney Bridge Centre. Your support helped make the event a resounding success.

We extend our gratitude to everyone who was involved in making the event a memorable one. For those who missed the night but would like to take on DA's puzzle, here are the clues:

Messy tailor (6)

Deviant longed for scandalous finale? (6,4)

Nude boy Harry's shot (6,7)

Sampling Vietnam's attraction in retreat (6)

Spooner's estimate delay (4,4)

Tugboat? (5)

Endlessly ran (5)

Blind eagles flapping (5,6)

Just out of the medals on The Voice? (5)

Reflected strange light (6)

Once again, thank you to everyone involved, and we hope to see you at future events.

The following page shows a photo from the event.



# JENNY THOMPSON'S UPDATE

As a new member on the MyABF Steering Committee I am now learning more about the great platform that MyABF is for our clubs and players. There are areas still under development, but I recommend that all affiliated clubs investigate it further now as it already offers clubs management tools.

Julian Foster recently came to the Victor Champion Cup to run an information session on this program. Jacqui Dudurovic, from the Northern Suburbs Bridge Club in Brisbane, also talked at that session about the program from a club administrator's perspective. For those clubs administrators who were not able to attend the VCC session please refer to the link below which sets out the platform and all that it can do.

<https://www.abf.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/MY-ABF-INTRODUCTION-FOR-CLUBS.pdf>

We will be able to organise another information session in Melbourne in the future with Julian where you would be able to ask specific questions that you have.

If there is interest for Julian to come to Melbourne, please contact me on [jenny.thompson@duckcube.com](mailto:jenny.thompson@duckcube.com).

Jenny Thompson





# FEEDBACK

Chris

I had the following hand sitting North and we were not vulnerable

- ♠ A
- ♥ KQ9862
- ♦ AQJT9
- ♣ 5

What should I bid?

2♠ is a weak two in ♠s.

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
		2♠	P
?			

Answer:

Bidding 4♠ is problematic because on a ♣ lead and a continuation, partner will need to possibly ruff with the ♠A and then how do they get to their hand to draw trumps? Even if they have either the ♥A or the ♦K, they will need to have a lucky ♠ break and/or a suitable ♣ holding.

It would be better to try and play in 4♥ (which has a chance with partner having as little as the ♥J). Even a 5♦ contract with partner holding three small ♦s and a singleton ♥ is possible with your powerful two suited hand.

The next question to ask is bidding 3♥ forcing in this situation or is it non-forcing (where you must bid 2NT first to make a forcing bid). This needs to be discussed in the partnership.

The other option is perhaps to bid 4♥ immediately but this may run into a 6-1 situation as 4♠ does (but it is still a better prospect).

Please submit your queries to the email address.

[loganrun@optusnet.com.au](mailto:loganrun@optusnet.com.au)

# WHAT NEXT IN DEFENCE? – JUNE Solution

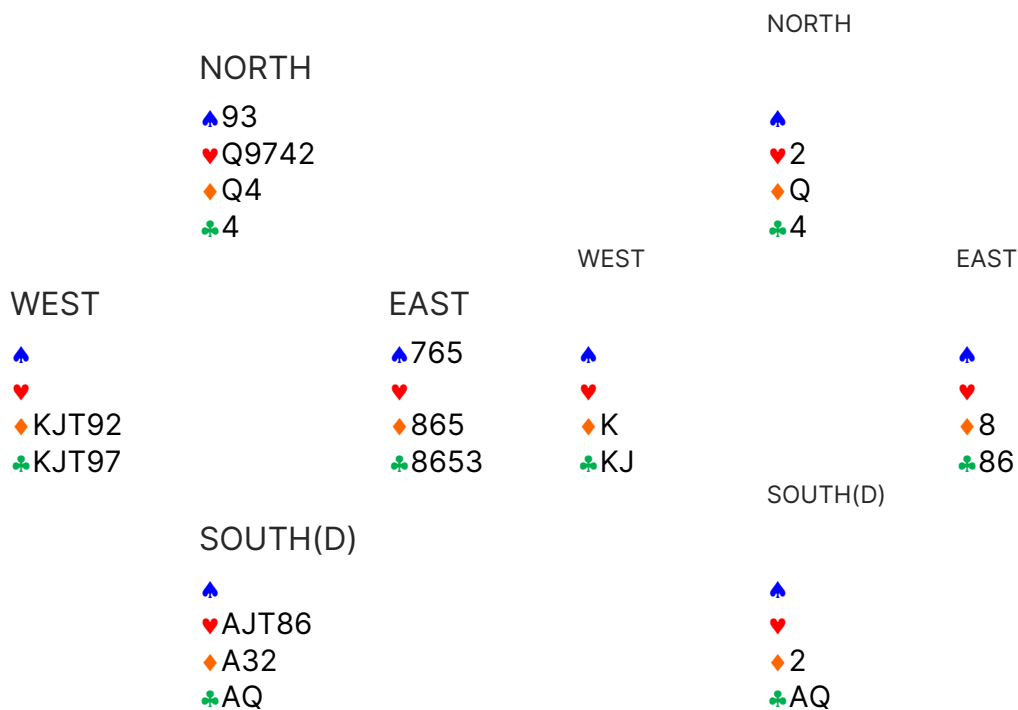
NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
		1♥	2NT
3♣	5♣	6♥	P

Partner leads the ♠T against South's small slam. Declarer plays the ♠Q from dummy and you cover, as East, with the ♠K and declarer wins the ♠A. Declarer plays a trump to dummy, as partner follows with a small ♥. Then declarer plays the ♠2 which you win with the ♠J as declarer follows with the ♠8.

What do you lead now? If partner has either the ♣A or the ♦A, then it isn't a problem (and South doesn't have their 6♥ bid). Also, it would appear that partner has a 1 1 6 5 distribution. So, declarer is 2 6 3 2. Declarer does not have the ♣AK as they would have discarded a ♦ in dummy before leading a trump. Therefore, the position of the remaining cards resembles the diagram in the left-hand side below.

For example, if you return a high ♠ or a ♦, then watch what happens. Declarer will win the ♦A and ruff both of dummy's ♠s (crossing each time with trumps). Declarer will then play all of dummy's trumps. Dummy's last three cards are shown on the right-hand side below. When dummy leads their last ♥, you, as East does not have a care in the world. South throws the ♦2 and poor partner has a horrible problem.

If you had returned a ♣ rather than a high ♠ or a ♦, then partner would not have this problem as the ♣A is no longer in declarer's hand and partner's problems are solved.



# TEST YOUR DECLARER SKILLS – JULY Solution

The following hand took place in a team's event

	<b>NORTH</b> ♠ 52 ♥ AJT652 ♦ K3 ♣ AKJ		
<b>WEST</b>		<b>EAST</b>	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣		♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	
	<b>SOUTH</b> ♠ A3 ♥ K984 ♦ QJ984 ♣ 53		

After a cue bid and RKCB is used (South must have ♠A as he denied a ♦ cue bid). A little aggressive 6♥ is reached.

The ♠K is led..

Decide how you are going to make this ♥ slam

## What is your plan from here?

The ♠ lead, although not a surprise, means that your contract is in a bit of jeopardy.

Draw trumps in two rounds and.....

You must get rid of the ♠ loser before knocking out the ♦A. The only way to do this is to hope that West, the opening bidder, has the ♣Q. If the finesse loses, you go 2 off but what else can you do?

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
			1♦
DBL	1♠	3♥	P
4♣	P	4♥	P
4NT	P	5♥	P
6♥	P	P	P

North doubles first as they are too strong to just overcall.

South jumps in ♥s with virtually an opening hand.

# BRIDGE HAND OF THE MONTH JUNE 23 SOLUTION

The following hand took place in a team's event

<p style="text-align: center;">NORTH</p> <p>♠K32 ♥AQJT932 ♦J ♣32</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EAST</p> <p>♠ ♥ ♦ ♣</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">WEST</p> <p>♠ ♥ ♦ ♣</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTH</p> <p>♠Q4 ♥4 ♦KQT432 ♣AK87</p>

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
		1♦	P
1♥	P	2♣	P
4♥	P	P	P

North knows where the contract should be played after South's non-jump of 2♣.

4♥ is reached quickly and West leads the ♣5.

Take it from here.

The Plan B solution was submitted card for card by Thilak Ranasinghe (known universally as 'TP') and by Chen Ding.

Well done.

Decide how you are going to make this ♥ game

## What is your plan from here?

Plan A

What can go wrong on this hand if you lead win the ♣A and lead the ♥4 for a finesse of the ♥K?

If it loses and East plays another ♣ what could happen now?

You lead a small ♦ and one of the defenders wins the ♦A and plays another ♣ or a ♥.

Then after pulling trumps, the only way to get to dummy is hoping that East and not West has the ♠A.

If the stars are aligned for you this day, you make the contract, if not the you lose 2♠s, and 1 in each red suit

Plan B

What can go wrong on this hand if you lead win the ♣A and lead a small ♦ at trick 2?

The defence continues the same way as East plays another ♣.

You can now throw a ♠ on the ♦K

Now you lead a trump and play ♥A and ♥Q.

There is still a small chance this plan doesn't work on certain layouts of the opponent's cards but a 4-2 or 3-3 ♦ break and a reasonable trump break makes it a strong chance.

You now lose only 1 ♠ trick.