



Four-digit scores from the Open Playoffs

Playoff winner FRASER REW discusses some takeout doubles that led to an 1100-point penalty

Twenty-one pairs applied to play in the Australian Open Playoff, with Playoff Qualifying Points determining which sixteen pairs would receive a spot in the field. A two-day round-robin reduced these sixteen to ten, and those ten pairs played another round-robin over the next three days.

Here are some hands that demonstrate how even entirely normal takeout doubles can backfire:

Board 26. Dealer East. Both sides vulnerable.

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

WEST Hans	NORTH Haffer	EAST Hung	SOUTH Rew
dbl	rdbl	4♣	dbl
4♦	dbl	all pass	

Partner was always doubling 4♦, but my double of 4♣ reassured him that we were getting a big number. And so we did, the dust eventually settling on +1100.

This hand was from the last match of Stage One, against a pair who were on the cusp of qualifying:

Board 23. Dealer South. Both sides vulnerable.

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

WEST Spooner	NORTH Haffer	EAST Thompson	SOUTH Rew
pass	2♣ ¹	pass	1♠
pass	pass	dbl	2♠ ²
3♣	pass	pass	pass
all pass			dbl

1. Various options, at least invitational.
2. Minimum, any shape.

APRIL 2026

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Cover photo: Australian Open Team Phil Markey, Joe Haffer, Fraser Rew, David Appleton

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Ron Klinger
Solution on page 15

Teams, dealer South, North-South vulnerable.

♠ Q J 9 4
 ♥ 2
 ♦ Q 6 5 3
 ♣ Q J 10 3

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



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		pass	1NT ¹
pass	2♣ ²	pass	2♠
pass	4♠	all pass	

1. (14)15-17 points.
 2. Simple Stayman.

West leads ♠5: queen - six - two. Declarer plays the ♣Q: four - two - king. What would you play at trick 3?



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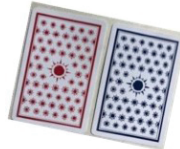


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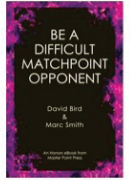


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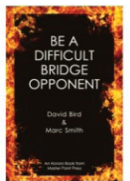
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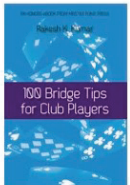
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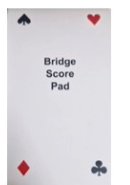
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David Fryda

Executive Director

✉ david.fryda@abf.com.au

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As we move through a busy and productive start to the year, it's a good moment to pause and recognise some outstanding contributions across our bridge community.

Thank You, Allison

At this month's AGM, **Allison Stralow** will step down as President of the ABF.

Allison has provided strong, thoughtful leadership during her time in the role, guiding Australian bridge through a period of significant activity and change. She has been a tireless advocate for all of us, always focused on what is best for the game and its players.

On behalf of the Board, Council, and the wider bridge community, and most of all myself, I would like to sincerely thank Allison for her dedication, professionalism, and commitment. While she may be stepping down from the Presidency, her contribution to bridge in Australia will continue to be felt for many years to come.

A Successful Tasmanian Festival

Congratulations to the **Tasmanian Bridge Association** on delivering another excellent Tasmanian Festival of Bridge. The event continues to be one of the highlights of the national calendar, combining strong competition with a welcoming and enjoyable atmosphere. Well done to the winners, and I am sure that everyone enjoyed the wonderful hospitality of the locals, including their marvellous help with providing lifts to visitors to and from the venue!

This year's Festival also hosted the Mixed and Seniors' Playoffs, adding further significance to the event. Thank you to everyone involved in the organisation and delivery – it is no small task to run events of this scale so smoothly.

Congratulations go to:

- **Mixed Playoff:** Christy Geromboux and Sebastian Yuen, with Dagmar Neumann and Maurits van der Vlugt second, and Cathryn Herden and Matthew Thomson third.
- **Seniors' Playoff:** Terry Brown and Ian Thomson, with David Hudson and Peter Gill second, and Hugh Grosvenor and George Kozakos third.

We look forward to seeing these partnerships represent Australia with distinction.

Open Playoffs – Canberra

The Open Playoffs were held in Canberra in February, bringing together many of the country's leading players in what was, as always, a highly competitive and closely contested event.

Congratulations to **Fraser Rew and Joe Haffer** on their excellent victory. Winning the Open Playoffs is a significant achievement and a testament to both their skill and consistency over the course of the event.

Well done also to the runners-up, **David Appleton and Phil Markey**, and to **Tony Nunn and Paul Dalley** who finished third. All three partnerships demonstrated the high standard of bridge being played in Australia.

Events such as the Open Playoffs continue to showcase the strength and depth of our top-level competition, and we look forward to seeing these players represent Australia in upcoming international events.

Progress on MyABF and the Masterpoint Centre

Development work on **MyABF** continues, with a strong focus on the integration of the Masterpoint Centre.

This remains a complex and important piece of work. We are currently exploring how emerging **AI technologies** may assist us in accelerating aspects of this integration – particularly in dealing with the intricacies of the Masterpoint Scheme and the legacy systems that support it.

While there is still much to be done, the intent remains clear: to deliver a modern, reliable, and sustainable platform that supports clubs, players, and administrators across the country.

Supporting Our Directors

I would also like to congratulate the **Australian Bridge Directors Association (ABDA)** on the successful delivery of their recent seminar in Melbourne.

The role of the director is central to the quality and integrity of our game. Well-trained, confident, and

supported directors ensure that our events run smoothly and that players have a positive experience at the table.

Initiatives such as this seminar are vital in building and maintaining that capability, and the ABF strongly values the work of the ABDA in this area.

Looking Ahead

As we approach the AGM and the next phase of the ABF's work, we remain focused on strengthening

the foundations of the game – supporting clubs, improving our systems, and ensuring that players at all levels feel engaged and valued.

I am looking forward to working with **Stephen Fischer**, who is expected to be appointed as our new President at the AGM.

Thank you to everyone who contributes their time and energy to bridge in Australia. The strength of our game continues to come from its people.

Australian Open Playoff

Fraser Rew

Continued from page one

Holding such good trumps and poor values outside, I would have passed out 2♠ doubled on the West cards. In a way, Andrew Spooner did well to run: five of the six tables in spade contracts made at least eight tricks. If I'd been in 2♠ and tipped off about the layout, I like to think that I would have managed the same.

Against 3♣ doubled, I cheered (only internally, of course) when I saw ♣KJx in dummy. 3♣ eventually lost a spade, two hearts, a diamond, and four clubs, for +1100 – even better than the +670 we would have scored from 2♠ doubled. Bridge can be a funny game.

Finally, I should show a balancing double that actually worked. From the last round of Stage Two:

Board 9. Dealer North. East-West vulnerable.

♠ K 10 8 7 3
♥ Q 9 7 2
♦ 8 5 2
♣ 7

♠ Q 5
♥ J 6 5
♦ K Q J 6 4
♣ J 10 9

♠ A J 9 4 2
♥ K 10 4
♦ 3
♣ A 8 6 2

♠ 6
♥ A 8 3
♦ A 10 9 7
♣ K Q 5 4 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rew	Hung	Haffer	Hans
	2♠ ¹	pass	pass
dbl	pass	pass	2NT ²
pass	pass	dbl	3♣
pass	pass	dbl	pass
pass	rdbl ³	pass	3♦
dbl	all pass		

This was an argument against aggressive preempts (Hung's 2♠ was 0-6 HCP and commonly a five-card suit).

A few people have expressed reservations about my initial takeout double. I do understand where they're coming from, as it really is not a good hand, but just for this one week I get to be right, and everyone else is wrong.

South's 2NT was a two-way bid (natural or rescue) and North's redouble was for rescue.

I led a high diamond. Declarer ducked and won the diamond continuation. When he led a heart and I played low, he rose with the queen, and the hand fell apart. Partner played a second heart to the ace, but now I had a heart entry to draw dummy's last trump. Declarer had to lead clubs from hand, and eventually made just one heart, two diamonds, and one club, for -1100.

Australian Mixed Playoff winners



1st Sebastian Yuen - Christy Geromboux, 2nd Maurits van der Vlugt - Dagmar Neumann

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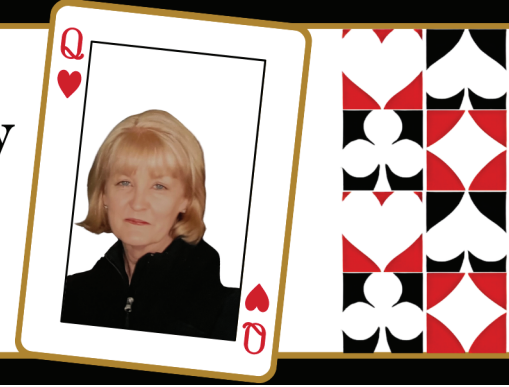


Allison Stralow

President

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At the ABF Annual General Meeting in Adelaide on Friday 28 April, my tenure as President of the Australian Bridge Federation will end and I will move on to the next chapter of my life.

My dedication to bridge will continue for a little longer as I take on the role of President Emeritus.

In this new role, my goal is to ensure a seamless transition for the next President by providing corporate knowledge and support. I am excited that Stephen Fischer has been nominated as the next President and that he has accepted the nomination.

The appointment of the President will occur during the Annual General Meeting.

Stephen has hit the ground running, working on the next strategic plan in consultation with the Presidents of the States and Territories. All the other current Board members intend to continue, and this will provide Stephen with further support and continuity.

I want to express my gratitude to past and present staff and Board members for their incredible support and input. These individuals have given selfless

service to Australian bridge especially during challenging times such as COVID.

During my tenure, I have tried to play in as many licenced events as possible with the purpose of engaging with players of all levels and ages to give them an opportunity to voice opinions and express their ideas. I have been inspired by the many volunteers and sponsors who give their time, talents, and resources to support and promote bridge in Australia.

Like a game of bridge, not all my finesses have worked, and I have not always pleased everyone, and I have made mistakes, but my tenure has never been about me – it has always been about contributing to Australian bridge.

I encourage all players to continue to support club, state, and territory events as you are the heart and soul of bridge. Also, please introduce bridge to as many friends and family members as you can, because growing the game has always been high on my agenda as President. I look forward to seeing you at the table soon.

The best of bridge to you all.

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Tasmania puts on a great show

Kim Frazer

The 2026 Tasmanian Festival of Bridge was once again held in Hobart, with strong entries in all events. The spacious MyState Bank Arena provided plenty of room for participants, with on-site food outlets, a lovely reception area for the presentations after bridge on Friday and Sunday, a dinner function on the Saturday night, and beautiful sunny walks beside the river at lunchtime.

Katherine Marsden and the Tassie team did a super job with event organisation, and the directing staff, led by Simon Edler, were truly excellent. This year's event also featured Australian team qualifying events for Mixed and Seniors, with the top three placegetters offered the right to represent Australia at the World Bridge Series in Katowice, Poland, from 20 August to 3 September 2026.

The popularity of the TFOB is evidenced by the growth in numbers over the past three years across the field, with this year's event showing a 32% increase in numbers over last year, which is sensational growth and illustrates how popular pairs' events are with players.

Event	2026	2025	2024
Senior Swiss Pairs	78	50	38
Mixed Swiss Pairs	48	42	24
Restricted Swiss Pairs	90	66	60
Australian Swiss Pairs	142	114	90
Novice Swiss Pairs	34	22	—
Rookie Swiss Pairs	26	22	24
Total	418	316	236

The first two days of bridge feature the Seniors, Mixed and Restricted Pairs, while the weekend saw the running of the 32nd Australian Swiss Pairs together with one-day events for players in the Novice (Saturday) and Rookie (Sunday) categories. All events were tightly contested down to the very last board, although in most, the eventual winners held commanding leads going into the last round. In both the Seniors, won by Muntz - Frazer, and Open Pairs, won by Robbins - Newlands, the winners led for most of the final day and held on despite being challenged in the final round.

In the Mixed, the lead changed a few times over the second day, with the eventual winners Beauchamp - Rankin heading into the final round well in the lead,

so a draw in the final round was enough to secure victory.

Two big wins at the start of the final day were enough to give the Restricted winners Dorman - Mackiggan a strong lead, which they held with two smaller wins in the final two matches, ensuring they could not be overtaken.

Hebblethwaite - Martyn led for most of the day in the Novice event after an excellent morning session, while in the Rookie's on the final day, Pashev - McCaghern recovered from a penultimate round loss to secure victory with a big final round win.

So on to a few of my favourite hands from the event.

This board from the first match presented an interesting defensive problem that ought to be solvable at the table:

Board 3. Dealer South. East-West vulnerable.

♠ A K 3
♥ 6 5
♦ J 10 9 8 6 2
♣ 7 4

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

♠ J 10
♥ 10 8 4 2
♦ 5
♣ K J 9 6 3 2



Seniors: Kitty Muntz - Kim Frazer; Open: Arthur Robbins - Doug Newlands; Mixed: David Beauchamp - Pele Rankin. Photos by tasbridge.com.au.

The auction was short and sweet, with West bidding 3NT over my 3♣ preempt. Partner led the ♣7, and the contract now ought to fail, with declarer holding only eight top tricks. Declarer ducked the first club, won by me with the ♣J, and won my continuation of the ♣K with the ace in hand. They cashed four rounds of hearts, pitching a club from hand on the fourth heart and ending in dummy, with partner discarding two diamonds, then three rounds of diamonds ending in dummy to leave this end position:

<p>♠ A K 3 ♥ — ♦ J ♣ —</p> <p>♠ Q 9 7 2 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ —</p> <p>♠ J 10 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ 9 6</p>	<p>♠ 8 6 5 4 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ —</p>
---	--

With a complete count on the hand, when declarer played the ♠8 spade up to hand, partner overtook declarer's ♠Q with the ♠K and now needed to recognise that I held the ♠J and exit with the ♠3 so I could cash the remaining tricks. Had declarer not pitched a club from hand, the task would have been more difficult, but the critical question for partner was – "With only two spades remaining, why did I play the ♠10?" It must be a count card, and, given that declarer only had spades remaining, this really was the only option to defeat the contract. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be and we lost 7 imps for 3NT making.

In Round 2, Kitty and I picked up 11 imps when we pushed the opponents to 5♠x for one off, when most of the field were left in 4♠ making, while others managed to take a save in 5♦ for one or two down:

Board 18. Dealer East. North-South vulnerable.

<p>♠ Q 6 5 4 2 ♥ Q 9 8 6 5 ♦ Q 3 ♣ Q</p> <p>♠ A 7 ♥ A K 4 3 ♦ J 2 ♣ A 9 8 7 3</p> <p>♠ K J 9 8 3 ♥ 7 ♦ A K ♣ K 6 5 4 2</p>	<p>♠ 10 ♥ J 10 2 ♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 ♣ J 10</p>
--	--

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		pass	1♠
dbl	4♠	5♦	5♠
dbl	all pass		

Partner started with the ♥K, on which I played the ♥J (count showing an odd number), then cashed the A♣ on which I played the ten, normally a suit-preference signal, but a bit hard to read in this situation with so many pips missing, so the club continuation lost to declarer's king, but the contract was doomed with declarer still to lose the ♠A.

Finally, it's not often you get dealt a 7-6, so when this hand appeared, I was lucky enough to hold it:

Board 22. Dealer East. East-West vulnerable.

<p>♠ A K 6 ♥ J 3 ♦ A K Q J ♣ A Q J 5</p> <p>♠ Q 10 5 4 3 2 ♥ 2 ♦ 10 9 7 6 5 2 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ J 9 8 7 ♥ K 8 4 ♦ 8 4 3 ♣ 8 4 3</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ A Q 10 9 7 6 5 ♦ — ♣ K 10 9 7 6 2</p>
--	--

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		4♥	pass
pass	dbl	Pass	4♠
dbl	all pass		

Many will open this hand 1♥ given it is quite powerful, however, with no spade cards, this felt risky to me, as this would give the opponents a lot of space to find a potential spade or diamond fit, so I opted for 4♥, intending to rebid 5♣ if necessary. As the bidding eventuated, the opponents found a 4♠ contract which my partner doubled for penalty, so with some reluctance and my wildly distributional hand, I passed and hoped we were not losing out.

I feel a bit sorry for the North player. Holding 25 points and going three off in 4♠ doubled for -500, when most of the field ended up in 4♥ doubled going two or more off, was really tough.

The TFOB was once again a very enjoyable and well-run event, and I look forward to returning in 2027.



Rookie: Jack Pashev - Lee McCaghern; Restricted: Rebecca Dorman - Rebecca Mackiggan; Novice: Helen Hebblethwaite - Debbie Maree Martyn



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Batemans Bay Congress

Jade Wilkinson

Last weekend the Batemans Bay Congress was held at the Batemans Bay Soldiers Club. The event was directed by Christy and Sebastian, and attracted a large youth crowd from both Sydney and Canberra. There were over thirty youth players at the event (pictured above), including a stall selling mugs to fundraise for the Youth Transnationals, held this August in China.

The following hand from the Swiss Pairs (which was won by Andrew and Karen Creet) had a wide range of results. 6♠ was the most common contract, with only half of the people in it making.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both sides vulnerable.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♠	pass
2♥	pass	3♣	pass
3♠	pass	4♣ ¹	pass
4NT ²	pass	5♥ ³	pass
5NT ⁴	pass	6♠	all pass

1. First- or second-round control.
2. Keycard for spades.
3. Two without the queen.
4. King ask.

After the lead of the ♦6, the trick was won with the ace in dummy. From the layout, it looks like hearts can be set up for extra tricks. To start, I drew trumps by cashing the ♠K, dropping the queen. This is clearly a singleton, so in order to set up hearts and get an entry back to dummy, I played hearts immediately. After cashing the top two hearts and ruffing a heart in hand, I crossed back to dummy with the ♠A. I started running hearts, and on the second round, North ruffed and I overruffed. From here I drew the last trump with the jack, putting me in dummy to cash my last heart. I was left with ♣AQ9 in my hand, with the only way to make my contract being to take the club finesse (overtaking the jack with the queen). Luckily, North covered with the king, and I was able to win the ace-queen, to which the ten dropped, giving me a 13th trick.

A better line of play would have been to set up a trump coup after the ♠Q has dropped. Declarer can follow the same line as I did, however after ruffing the first heart, they would cash the ♣A before ruffing a club. Now in dummy they can run hearts until North ruffs, which declarer overruffs. Then they ruff another club before continuing to cash hearts until North ruffs again, to which you can draw their trumps and cash clubs. If North never ruffs, then declarer's clubs can be discarded on the hearts.

I was sitting East, and the auction at my table went:

Book reviews

Paul Lavings

Paul Lavings Bridge Supplies



Be A Difficult Matchpoint Opponent David Bird & Marc Smith

Masterpoint Press, Toronto, Canada, 2025, soft cover, 248 pages, \$44.95 post-free.

The authors present 24 chapters on matchpoint tactics, including over 200 hands. Even better, most of the hands name the players involved, and there are many Australian and New Zealand players. Kate McCallum features in at least half a dozen hands, terrorizing opponents.

I enjoyed every second of reading the book. Some of the hands are amazing, as is this hand from the chapter on high level decisions:

Dealer South. East-West vulnerable.

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

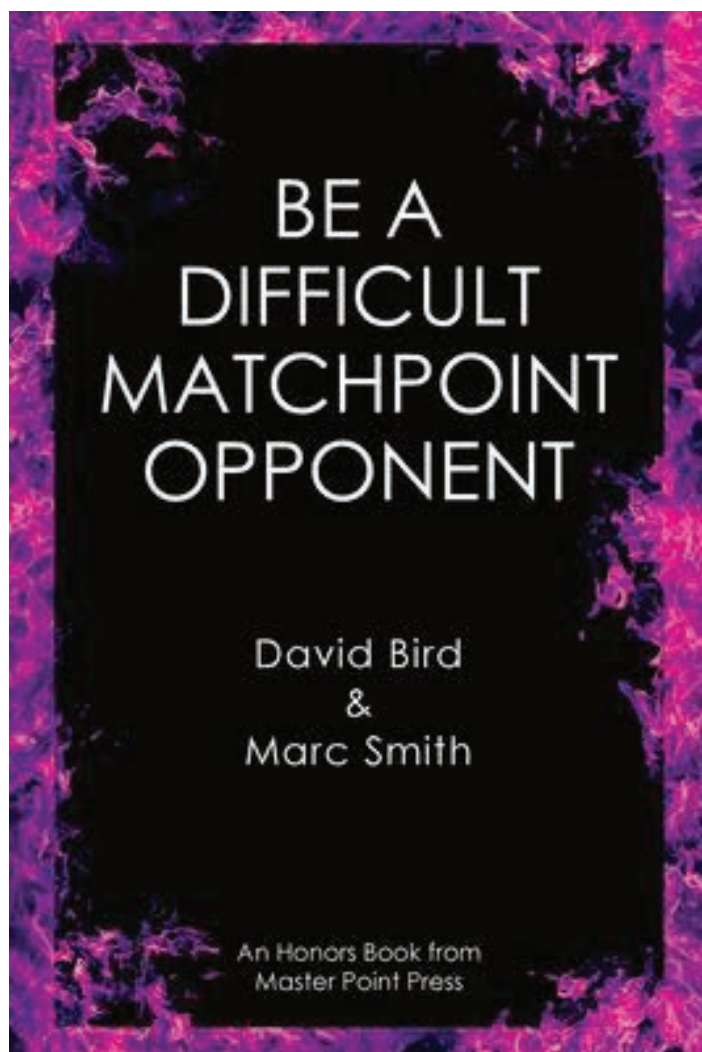
WEST Jabbour	NORTH Tamev	EAST Gordon	SOUTH Drumov
2♠	pass	3♠	1♣ ¹
4♠	pass	pass	4♣
pass	pass	dbl	5♥
			all pass

1. Precision.

Zeke Jabbour started the defence with the imaginative lead of ♠2, hoping to put partner in with ♠Q to give him a club ruff. Declarer had the chance to

rise with the ♠Q and claim eleven tricks, however he played low and East found himself on lead with ♠10.

Instead of wondering why partner led ♠2 from a six-card suit and returning ♣2, Jim Gordon woodenly tried to cash two diamond tricks, and the contract was only one down for -100. This was still 19/26 matchpoints for North-South. Highly recommended for both instruction and entertainment.



20 Bridge Techniques

Patrick O'Connor

Amazon, Sydney, Australia, 2025, soft cover, 92 pages, \$29.95 post-free.

Over 20 chapters the author covers many of the themes that are so important for improving bridge players, including establishing a suit, crossruffing, and ruffing in the long hand, to name a few. And his selection certainly hit the spot for me. This deal is from the chapter on percentages:

♠ A K
♥ 3 2
♦ Q J 10 6 4 2
♣ 10 8 4

♠ 10 9 6 5 2
♥ 4
♦ 9 8 7 5
♣ A K Q

♠ Q J 7 3
♥ Q 7 6 5
♦ 3
♣ 9 7 5 3

♠ 8 4
♥ A K J 10 9 8
♦ A K
♣ J 6 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♥
pass	2♦	pass	3♥
pass	4♥	all pass	

West cashed ♣AKQ and switched to the ♦8, which you win in hand. The only problem is the trump suit: should you play ♥A before you finesse, to drop bare ♥Q, or finesse twice against ♥Q?

Cashing ♥A first fails against Qxxx with East, which is more likely than bare ♥Q with West, so the correct play is to cross to spades twice and take two finesses against ♥Q.



100 Bridge Tips for Club Players

Rakesh K Kumar

Masterpoint Press, Toronto, Canada, 2025, soft cover, 201 pages, \$36.95 post-free.

In his fourth book, Rakesh Kumar offers 100 chunks of good advice for the club player, divided equally between competitive bidding, constructive bidding, play, and defence. The piece on fourth suit game forcing is invaluable:

♠ A Q 10 9 5 ♥ A 2 ♦ 10 9 4 ♣ Q J 4

Partner opens 1♥, you reply 1♠ and partner rebids 2♣. What now? You bid 2♦, fourth-suit game forcing, and opener rebids 2NT, showing a diamond stopper. You bid 3NT, and that is where you want to be when opener has:

♠ 3 2 ♥ K J 7 6 2 ♦ A Q ♣ A 10 9 3

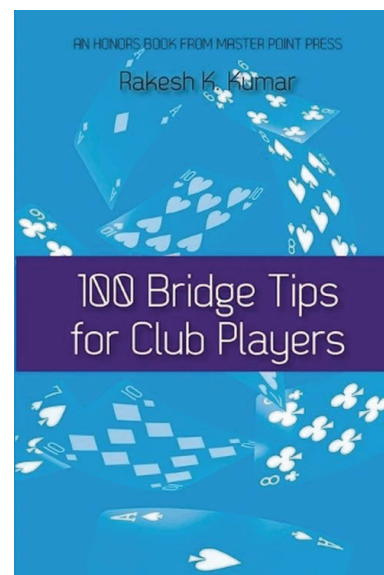
You can also use fourth-suit game forcing to slow down the auction and find out more about partner's hand:

♠ 9
♥ 7
♦ A Q 6 5 3 2
♣ K Q 10 6 3

♠ A K 10 5 4
♥ A Q 10 9
♦ 9
♣ A 9 7

WEST	EAST
1♦	1♠
2♣	2♥
3♣	4♣
4NT	6♣

After the 2♥ bid, everything became clear. 4♣ was Minorwood, and 4NT showed two keycards and the ♣Q. The diamond finesse worked, so twelve tricks rolled home.



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IMPROVE YOUR DEFENCE

with Ron Klinger

Solution to problem on page 2



SOURCE OF TRICKS

Teams, dealer South, North-South vulnerable.

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



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
pass	2♣ ²	pass	1NT ¹
pass	4♠	all pass	2♠

1. (14)15-17 points.
2. Simple Stayman.

West leads the ♠5: queen - six - two. Declarer plays the ♣Q: four - two - king. What would you play at trick three?

* * * * *

With no spade tricks coming for the defence and likely only one heart trick and one club trick at most, where might you find two more tricks?

The deal comes from the 2024 Australian Mixed Teams Selection:

Board 15, dealer South, North-South vulnerable.

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

♠ A K 7 3 2
♥ K J 5
♦ 10 7
♣ A 6 2

At one of the six tables, the contract was 1NT, North-South +90. At the other five tables, South played 4♠, three times on a heart lead and twice on the ♠5 lead as above. After the low heart lead, two declarers succeeded, one failed. After the ♠5 lead, both declarers won in dummy and ran the ♣Q to West's ♣K. What next?

Jodi Tutty went for diamonds for the extra tricks needed to defeat 4♠. The ♦A switch was followed by the ♦J, winning. The ♥3 came next. East won with the ♥A, for one down, East-West +100.

At the other table, West continued spades when in with the ♣K. Declarer drew trumps, cashed the clubs, discarding a diamond, and played the ♥2, nine, king, for ten tricks, +620 and +12 imps.

You can find more of Ron Klinger Bridge in The Sydney Morning Herald on Saturdays and The Sun-Herald on Sundays.

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A GAME AT THE CLUB

Barbara Travis

www.bridgeatbeaumont.com

Recently, I have had a few games with friends, and some educational hands came up. There were some interesting 'themes' for me to share.

Firstly, there were a couple of hands that our opponents did not bid optimally. Both involved using fourth suit forcing to show a big hand. Here's the first:

♠ K 9 ♥ A K 10 8 6 3 ♦ 9 ♣ A J 10 4

Here's the auction at my table:

WEST Partner	NORTH	EAST You	SOUTH
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
1♠	pass	3♥ forcing?	pass
3NT	all pass		

Here is an improved auction, playing natural bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♣	pass	1♥	pass
1♠ ¹	pass	2♦ ²	pass
2NT ³	pass	3♣ ⁴	pass
4♣ ⁵	pass	4NT ⁶	pass
5♠ ⁷	pass	6♣	all pass

1. A partnership needs agreements. I play this as at least 4-4 in the blacks, though others play it as at least 4-5.
2. Fourth suit game forcing.
3. Diamond stopper, denying three hearts.
4. Setting clubs, showing a good hand.
5. Cooperating.
6. Roman Key Card Blackwood.
7. Two key cards + ♣Q.

These are the two hands:

♠ A Q 6 2
♥ 2
♦ A Q 8
♣ Q 9 8 3 2

♠ K 9
♥ A K 10 8 6 3
♦ 9
♣ A J 10 4

♠ Q J 9 7 2
♥ K Q 10 6 5
♦ 4
♣ Q J

♠ A 10 6
♥ 4
♦ A K Q 10 5
♣ A 10 4 2

On another deal, your partner opens 1♠ and you hold:

♠ A 10 6 ♥ 4 ♦ A K Q 10 5 ♣ A 10 4 2

At my table:

WEST Partner	NORTH	EAST You	SOUTH
1♠	pass	2♦	pass
2♥	pass	6♠	all pass

Hardly scientific! And it duly failed by two tricks.

At another table:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♠	pass	4NT	pass
5♦ zero	pass	5♠	all pass

4NT was an overbid, though the hand is attractive.

Let's take a slower and more structured approach:

WEST Partner	NORTH	EAST You	SOUTH
1♠	pass	2♦	pass
2♥	pass	3♣ ¹	pass
3♥ ²	pass	3♠ ³	pass
4♠ ⁴	all pass		

1. Fourth suit game forcing.
2. 5-5 majors.
3. Setting spades.
4. NO slam interest at all.

This hand is really suited to two-over-one, where you can respond 2♦ and you have already created a game force. Over partner's 2♥ rebid, you can bid 3♣, to demand cue bids, and partner would rebid 4♠ to show absolutely no interest with his disappointing hand:

There followed a series of hands which involved second round bidding accuracy.

♠ 5 ♥ 6 2 ♦ A K Q 10 7 3 ♣ A J 10 9

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♦	pass	1♥	1♠
?			

I rebid 2♣, trusting partner to make the right continuation, and offering her some choice. I know most people in my seat rebid either 2♦, offering partner no choice of suit, or 3♦, which was a straight overbid. When 2♣ was passed out, I was delighted with my rebid and partner's dummy:

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

What would your rebid be on the next hand?

♠ K J 10 ♥ A Q J 8 2 ♦ 9 ♣ K Q J 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
You		Partner	
1♥	pass	1♠	pass
?			

My partner rebid 3♣, which is an overbid, but did lead to an interesting auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♥	pass	1♠	pass
3♣ ^{GF}	pass	3♥	pass
4♥	all pass		

The 'correct' auction should have been:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♥	pass	1♠	pass
2♣	pass	2♥	pass
2♠	pass	4♠	all pass

2♥ is "false preference" showing at least two hearts and 6-9 HCP. This sequence of bids shows a non-minimum opening hand, so about 16-18 HCP, with five hearts, four clubs and three spades. It invites game

if partner has a decent hand, whether in spades or notrumps.

The full hand was:

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

The initial 3♣ rebid was incorrect because it forced to game, even if responder had 6 HCP. However, having bid 3♣, over my 3♥ bid, opener could have bid 3♠ in case I held five of them.

And, finally, this hand appeared:

♠ A Q J 10 2 ♥ A 9 8 ♦ — ♣ A J 10 4 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
You		Partner	
1♠	pass	1NT	pass
2♣	pass	2♠ ¹	pass
?			

1. False preference: doubleton spade, 6-9 HCP.

On this hand, you can now rebid 3♣, showing your non-minimum hand and the 5-5 shape. If you had a minimum hand with your 5-5, you should tend to pass 2♠, aiming for your plus score at Pairs.

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

The auction would go:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♠	pass	1NT	pass
2♣	pass	2♠	pass
3♣ ¹	pass	3NT ²	all pass

1. 5-5 in the blacks, invitational, so ~16-18 HCP.

2. Accepting, but with red suit values.

Bridge Australia Foundation and Real Deal Bridge Schools & Clubs Pilot Program

Real Deal Bridge, in conjunction with the Bridge Australia Foundation, has launched pilot programs aimed at introducing bridge to both schools and bridge clubs.

At St Kieran's Primary School, Real Deal Bridge has been developing and testing resources designed specifically for younger players. The focus is on creating engaging materials that can easily be used by facilitators and helping students learn through participation and play.

While bringing bridge into schools presents a number of challenges, the program has also expanded to include club-based trials. Sale Bridge Club will be the first to host youth sessions as part of this initiative.

This is an exciting step forward, and further updates will be shared as the program develops, with broader rollout planned once resources and delivery models are fully refined.



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I Should Be So Lucky

Lucky, Lucky, Lucky

Chris Depasquale

If you want to find out more about my relationship with Kylie back in the 1980s when we both lived in Melbourne, you will have to track down a copy of *Heroic Tales: The Best of Chesscafe.com 1996-2001*. That book contains my "Kiss-and-Tell" piece entitled, *When Sally Met Harry – A Love Story* and is available from all the usual online repositories.

The Conversation

I was reminded of the hit that launched Kylie onto the world stage by a conversation overheard in the corridor. Person 1: "That Depasquale fellow has had some good results lately, but the chump can't even take a finesse!" Person 2: "I know! Yet it seems that every time he misplays a hand, he picks up a game swing. I should be so lucky! Have a look at this hand..."

The Hand – 2026 Open Playoff

I eavesdropped just long enough to identify the hand in question and then scurried off to analyse it to see what I had done wrong. I opened 4♠ as West and played there.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both sides vulnerable.

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

Presumably, the conversation continued to point out that I must have played spades from the top, whereas every duffer knows that with Qxxxx missing, the finesse is the percentage play. Spades by West

was played at six of the eight tables, with nine tricks the result at the other five.

At my table, North led the diamond ten, won by the queen in dummy. I ran the spade ten, which lost to the queen, and, reluctant to lead away from the round suit honours, North played another diamond. I won the king over the jack and cashed all six of my spades. This was the position when I led the diamond nine at trick ten, needing two more tricks:

♠ —	♠ —	♠ —
♥ J 4	♥ K 8	♥ —
♦ 9 (led)	♦ —	♦ A 7
♣ 9	♣ A Q	♣ J 8
	♠ —	
	♥ A	
	♦ 8 6	
	♣ K	

North discarded the club queen, after which the defence is doomed. I exited a club; North was bound to win and to lead a heart, after which the diamond ace will win trick thirteen. A rare variation of the "Stepping-Stone" Coup, where declarer's exit is won not by the defender who can provide entry to dummy's stranded winner but by that defender's partner.

The Elidocorc Coup

This hand is exceedingly difficult for the defence after trick three when the spades are run. Even if North discarded a heart on the ♦9, the club exit creates a new problem. North must rise with the ace of clubs, swallowing South's winner in the suit – the Crocodile Coup. The natural inclination to win cheaply with the queen results in what we Territorians call the Elidocorc Coup – a reverse Crocodile Coup. But I doubt anyone residing more than 15° South of the equator would get that one right; you folk just don't interact enough with crocodiles!



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2025 ABF Youth Awards

Laura Ginnan

Andrew Reiner Trophy: George Bartley and Bertie Morgan



ABF Youth Liaison Jenny Thompson, Bertie Morgan, George Bartley, and up and coming youth player Ashléy Matheson

The Andrew Reiner Trophy is granted to the best performing pair in the primary target international event, taking account of performance in the event itself, commitment and preparation, and contribution to team success.

George Bartley and Bertie Morgan are deserving recipients of this award in 2025. Both are experienced Australian representatives, having played on Under 21 teams before moving up to the Under 26 category in 2024. George and Bertie had little time to prepare as a partnership, with the composition of the team changing just a few months before the World Championships in Italy. Despite this, they recorded the Under 26 team's most consistent results, especially against strong opposition. Both players also made an important contribution to the team's positive atmosphere throughout the event.

Helman-Klinger Achievement Award: Heath Watkins

The Helman-Klinger Achievement Award is presented each year to the Australian Youth Bridge Player whose ability, achievements, sportsmanship, attitude, contribution, and commitment during the calendar year are most deserving.

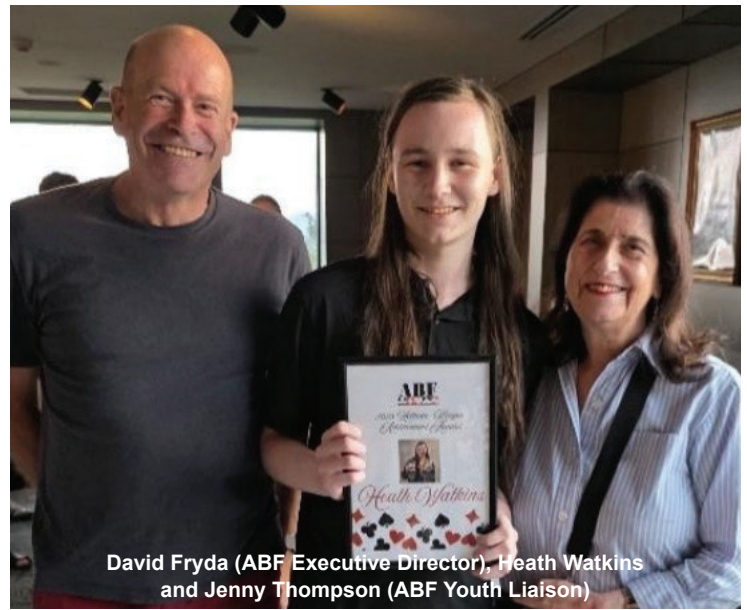
Heath Watkins has shown exceptional development and contribution throughout the year. He advanced quickly to become one of Australia's leading youth competitors. Heath won the 2025 youth team trials and represented Australia for the first time at the World Youth Championships in Italy. With his partner Matt, he finished 8th in the Victorian Festival of

Bridge Open Pairs; he and Kate Macdonald reached the quarter-finals of the SNOT Open Teams Plate; and he consistently achieved strong results at Victorian congresses.

You would have seen Heath at almost every national event on the calendar in 2025. He practises hard, analyses boards, and works to improve his game. Additionally, Heath has put in the effort to play with a number of partners and is eager to play with and learn from more experienced players.

Heath is known for his positive table manner, ethical play, and being enjoyable to partner or opponents. He regularly attends Victorian youth nights and supports and encourages less experienced youth players.

Helman-Klinger Masterpoint Award: Heath Watkins



David Fryda (ABF Executive Director), Heath Watkins and Jenny Thompson (ABF Youth Liaison)

The Helman-Klinger Masterpoint Award is awarded to the Australian Youth Player who earns the most masterpoints in the calendar year in question.

Heath Watkins won the Helman-Klinger Masterpoint Award with 196.53 MPs in 2025. While Kate Macdonald earned 199.25 MPs, she was ineligible as she has won the award the award in a previous year. Special mentions to Kate Macdonald for winning the Life Master McCutcheon, Alex Goss for taking out the Bronze National Master McCutcheon, Lauren Morgan for second place in the National Master category, Anne Davey for third place in the Bronze State Master category, and Duncan Lai for second in the State Master behind Heath in first.

Hills-Hurley Trophy: Kate Macdonald and Zac Ross



Kate Macdonald, Zac Ross and Jenny Thompson (ABF Youth Liaison)

The Hills-Hurley Trophy, donated by Richard Hills and Steve Hurley, is intended to encourage young bridge players in forming long-standing partnerships and reward successful pairs who have developed a well-organised partnership to harness their full potential.

In 2021 Zac and Kate were both very new to bridge, and they looked across the table at the empty bridge

club that was Queensland youth nights, and realised their destiny must lay ahead together. They quickly took to club play and formed a partnership for the ANC that year.

It was then that the competitive bridge bug really hit them, and they went from strength to strength, playing in congresses, winning the Gold Coast Novice Pairs in 2023, and playing ANCs and youth weeks. They brought an enthusiastic and supportive attitude to their play together, along with their questionable assortment of matching Hawaiian shirts and KFC bucket headwear.

At the 2025 youth week selection trials, they jumped like Mario over each collapsing ledge and were eventually rewarded with their first taste of international play as a pair. Their partnership has shown how invaluable it is to stay positive, patient, and persistent whether results are good or bad.

They have each put significant work into forming new youth partnerships recently, and both partnerships have prospered early on, in no small part due to the same traits that Kate and Zac learnt and developed together.

ABF Women's Bridge Liaison to the WBF

Kim Frazer

On the last weekend in March 2026, the WBF held its 3rd annual Women's online transnational teams' tournament. The event has been well-supported by countries around the world despite the complexities of scheduling an event with players in different time zones.

Unfortunately for this year's event, the dates clashed with the interstate teams' playoffs in several states, so Australian teams were not as prolific as in previous years. As a consequence, Australian women players have missed an opportunity to gain experience playing against some of the best female players from around the world.

As the newly appointed women's liaison to the WBF for Australia, this is one of the issues I hope to address for future years. While there are some who question the need for women's only events, I believe they can be a stepping stone for many women to progress to Open and Mixed competition, while for others this provides an opportunity to represent their countries, which might not otherwise be available.

The key responsibilities of the role are:

- to act as a key contact point between the WBF & Australian bridge;

- to inform women players of upcoming Zonal & WBF competitions for women
- to circulate newsletters & other promotional materials relating to women's bridge
- to encourage participation in WBF & Zonal events
- to work with other NBOs to promote women's bridge.

Longer term, it is envisaged that the responsibilities will expand to include working with women on development and training activities.

When I started playing bridge in 2005, women's events featured in every national event. At one time the Summer Festival in Canberra boasted a Teams event for women with well over 70 entries – a far cry from this year's entry of 12 teams. As a first step, I would like to revitalise entries to this major national event for women.

I will also aim to work with a nominated person from each state or territory, and through the ABF Newsletter, to ensure that as many women as possible are made aware of opportunities to play in National, World, and Zonal events. If you would like to be added to an email circulation list, or if you have any ideas or suggestions to assist with the development of women's bridge, please contact me at

frazerkimmie@gmail.com



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BRIDGE INTO THE 21st CENTURY

Paul Lavings, plavings@gmail.com



YOUR ACTION AFTER OPPONENTS BID 1♠-2♠

What would you call on the following hands, nil vulnerable?

WEST (1♠)	NORTH Pass	EAST (2♠)	SOUTH ?
1. ♠ A 4 3 ♥ K 4 3 ♦ Q J 10 4 ♣ A K J			
2. ♠ 6 5 ♥ 5 4 ♦ K Q J 6 ♣ Q J 10 8 7			
3. ♠ 2 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ K J 8 7 2 ♣ K 8 7 6			
4. ♠ 4 ♥ K Q 10 9 ♦ A 8 6 2 ♣ 10 8 7 6			
5. ♠ A K J 7 ♥ — ♦ A K 6 4 3 ♣ K J 10 8			
6. ♠ 6 2 ♥ A 3 ♦ K 10 4 ♣ Q J 8 7 3 2			
7. ♠ Q 7 ♥ K 3 ♦ Q 5 2 ♣ Q 8 7 6 4 3			
8. ♠ 6 ♥ A K Q 8 7 ♦ 6 2 ♣ A Q 8 6 2			
9. ♠ 6 ♥ A Q J 8 7 ♦ 6 2 ♣ K 8 6 4 3			
10. ♠ 2 ♥ A K J 10 6 5 4 ♦ K 10 5 3 ♣ 3			
11. ♠ 6 ♥ K 10 3 ♦ 2 ♣ K Q J 10 8 7 6 2			

SOLUTIONS

1. Double. Your partnership needs to decide whether 2NT in this situation is natural, 18-19 balanced, or for the minors. 2NT to show a strong balanced hand will often be too high, and double for takeout is a better bet. That leaves 2NT to show the minors, which is quite frequent.

2. 2NT. Whereas a 2NT overall over a one-level opening guarantees at least 5-5 in the minors, this situation is much more flexible, and 2NT can be 5-4, even 4-4 in an emergency. One often reads that opponents should never be allowed to play in their eight-card fit at the two level. Never is too strong, but certainly compete with any reasonable excuse.

3. Double. You would hate to miss your 5-3 heart fit, so double for takeout rather than 2NT for minors.

4. Double. Only 9 HCP but great shape and good enough to compete. You may be bidding your side into trouble if you have a collection of 4-3 fits, but

opponents often come to the rescue and bid a failing 3♠.

5. 3♦. This question is from the Bidding Forum in the April-May issue of *Australian Bridge Magazine* and will be discussed there by the expert panel.

You have an amazing hand, especially when you consider that partner is marked with at most one spade. Even so, I take a negative view and bid only 3♦ for the moment. Who knows what is happening? Partner often has a poorly fitting hand with lots of hearts.

6. 3♣. Automatic with your six-card suit. You are hoping to push opponents to 3♠ and score +50 instead of -110. On a bad day you will suffer a penalty or silly partner will bid 4♣ but over the long run bidding here is a big winner.

7. Pass. A poor hand with a poor suit, two good reasons not to bid. All those queens are good in defence but won't take many tricks declaring.

8. 3♠. Michaels, five hearts and at least five of a minor. Sure, partner could have nothing of use and a poor fit, but give partner a heart fit and ♣K and you will make your 4♥. And don't underestimate the possibility that opponents will misjudge the auction and compete to 4♠, or that 4♥ will be a good save against 3♠.

9. 3♥. Not enough to Michaels with 3♠ so just bid 3♥ and hope for the best. You have put the opponents to the sword, as well as showing partner a good lead. You have done your duty.

10. 4♥. You are more likely to make ten tricks than nine. On a good day you bid 4♥ and would only make nine tricks, but opponents bid 4♠ and fail. Don't be afraid of pushing opponents into game; often that is your best result.

11. 4♣. 3♣ is not enough and 5♣ could well be too much. 4♣ gives a good picture of your hand, and if opponents bid 4♠ your partner will have an easy decision whether to bid 5♣ or defend.

Youth Bridge Report

In December 2025, I took on the role of National Youth Coordinator, with a clear goal: to build a youth program capable of supporting a significant increase in player numbers. The focus is on creating a strong, sustainable foundation through:

- Increasing playing and development opportunities
- Placing organisers and volunteers where they are most effective
- Supporting State and Territory coordinators
- Strengthening policies, processes, and procedures
- Improving the online presence of Aussie Youth Bridge

At the centre of all of this is communication, clarity, and coordination.

A number of initiatives are already underway.

The Aussie Youth Bridge website

www.aussieyouthbridge.com

has been established as a central hub for communication. It provides current players with a clear point of connection while also making it easier for new players to find their way into the youth bridge community. The site also serves as a gateway for donors, clubs, and supporters to see what is happening and contribute to the growth of the program.

Alongside this, new avenues for supporting Aussie Youth Bridge have been developed. A successful program relies on more than just players. It requires time, expertise, and financial backing. Whether through volunteering, professional skills such as grant writing or policy development, or direct financial support, the aim is to make it easy for people to contribute in a way that suits them. More information is available at

www.aussieyouthbridge.com/supportaussieyouthbridge

From late April, a weekly online youth development session will run on Sunday evenings. These sessions are open to players aged 30 and under from Australia and New Zealand and will include a quiz, lesson, play, and post-game analysis. They are designed to provide consistent, high-quality development op-

portunities regardless of location. Further details can be found at

www.aussieyouthbridge.com/sunday-development-sessions

An opt-in ABF Youth Player Database has also been created. Staying connected with young players is an ongoing challenge, and this database allows national, state, and territory coordinators to maintain contact and ensure players are aware of opportunities. International players under 30 are also welcome to join to stay informed.

You may not know that there are five primary youth divisions: Under 31, Under 26, Under 26 Women, Under 21, and Under 16.

The Under 26 division is the premier youth category within the World Bridge Federation, and Australia has a long and proud history at this level, including silver medal finishes. While Australian teams have participated across the various divisions over time, each level plays an important role in the development pathway.

The Under 16 category is where many players begin their competitive journey. The Under 21 level introduces greater pressure, partnership dynamics, and team responsibility. The Under 26 level represents elite youth competition, while the Under 31 category brings experience, perspective, and leadership to the broader group.

In 2025, Sophie Ashton became the first woman to represent the Australian Open Team since Pauline Gumby in 2006 and 2007. While women make up around 68% of ABF membership, they represent approximately 37% of youth players. However, at the top youth level the balance shifts, with nearly every Australian Under 26 Open team since 2013 including at least one female player. The one exception came in 2016, when the Australian Under 26 Women's team won silver in their division.

The selection cycle for the 2026 ABF Youth Teams began in January with Youth Week, which determined the Under 26 team and provided qualification pathways for other divisions. Throughout February and March, the remaining teams were selected via an application and panel process.

This process was made possible by the selection panel: Phil Markey (Chair and ABF Legal Counsel),

Jenny Thompson (ABF Youth Liaison) and Peter Gill, who contributed significant time and expertise.

Player profiles are progressively being published and are available at

www.abf.com.au/australian-representative-teams/meet-the-teams/

2026 Australian Bridge Federation Youth Teams:

- Under 26: Gilbert Morgan, Paddy Taylor, Kate Macdonald, Heath Watkins, Adrian Le, Fletcher Davey, non-playing captain Mike Doecke.
- Under 26 Women: Lara Topper, Jasmine Skeate, Natalie Newman, Ida Andersen, Alexis Wilsmore, Jess He, non-playing captain Renee Cooper.
- Under 21: Diya Shah, Dev Shah, Jade Wilkinson, Taydon Gold, Aadhi Hariharan, Remco Spencer.
- Under 16: Ada Sun, Alex Wu, Lizzy Brayshaw, Oliver Brayshaw, Genevieve Hunter, Solcita Lu.
- Under 31: Damon Flicker, Alex Goss, Yiwei Qi, Ben Leung, Sebastian Wright, Jeremy Reid.

The 2026 international calendar presents a significant opportunity. The World Transnational Championships will be held in Hefei, China, in August. With the event located in Asia rather than Europe, travel costs are expected to be considerably lower, making participation more accessible.

The ABF is supporting the Under 26 team with direct funding and providing uniforms and entry fees for the Under 16, Under 21, Under 26 Womens and Under 31 teams. Additional fundraising initiatives are planned to assist with remaining costs, including merchandise, donations, and other activities.

For those interested in supporting the program, further details are available at

www.aussieyouthbridge.com/supportaussieyouthbridge

Beyond the role of ABF National Youth Coordinator, there is a great deal happening across the country at a grassroots level.

Around Australia, ANC selections are underway, and a range of state-based development initiatives continue to provide valuable opportunities for young players to improve and compete.

In the ACT, Will Jenner O'Shea (Youth Coordinator) and Suz Wilkinson (Canberra Bridge Club Youth Coordinator) are working to revive the long-dormant ABF Youth Triathlon, to be held alongside the Canberra in Bloom Festival. This is an exciting step

toward reintroducing a unique and much-loved event to the youth calendar.

In New South Wales, youth players (along with a few enthusiastic interlopers) turned out in strong numbers at the Batemans Bay Congress in March. Thanks go to Mitch and the organising team for helping establish this as a highlight on the youth calendar, and to the Batemans Bay bridge community for their support through fundraiser mug purchases and donations to youth bridge.

Fundraiser Mugs



One of the primary fundraisers for the 2026 International Youth Teams is the Mug Fundraiser with four different designs.

At Moonee Valley Bridge Club, rather than selling mugs to players, they've brightened up their clubrooms by adding 32 Youth Supporter mugs into their regular circulation.

At a recent beginners' class, one mug in particular proved a hit, featuring the quote: "Everyone started somewhere – usually at the bottom!"

A fitting reminder for every new player picking up the cards for the first time. A big thank you to Phil and everyone at MVBC for the support, enjoy the sunshine!

If your club is interested in selling mugs or incorporating them into your usual circulation please contact me at

youth@abf.com.au



Front page of the Latrobe Valley Express, November 2024



SUPPORT YOUTH BRIDGE

There are four great Aussie Youth Bridge fundraiser mug designs.

Individuals can purchase mugs at upcoming national events and even some congresses

Find out more about the mug fundraiser and how you can incorporate youth mugs into your clubs normal circulation or run your own mug fundraiser at

<https://www.aussieyouthbridge.com/supportaussieyouthbridge>





WORKSHOPS WITH WILL

with Will Jenner-O'Shea

RESPONDING TO A DOUBLE

One of the online lessons that I ran this month was describing the meaning of responder's bids in response to partner's takeout double. Everyone knows that if your partner doubles, and there is no bid in between, then you must respond. Even with no points, and possibly at the two-level, with any quality suit.

If the responder to a double bids at the lowest level, it shows 0-9 points, and responder should usually bid their longest suit, though more on this topic later. The doubler usually passes if the responder bids at the lowest level. If the responder to a double actually has a few points, say 10-12, then they shouldn't make a simple bid, since partner might think that you have nothing. With 10-12 points, responder should jump a level. This is an invitation, and opener can decide whether to pass or perhaps bid to game. If the responder to the double has 13+ points, then they can count on game. They should make sure to get to game, usually just by bidding game.

There are two other tactical decisions that the responder to the double sometimes faces. Imagine that your opponent opens a Weak Two in hearts, your partner doubles, and the other opponent passes. This is your hand:

Example 1:

♠ Q 10 8 7
♥ 6 5
♦ 9 7
♣ K J 10 3 2

Your longest and best suit is clubs, so bidding 3♣ is an option. Your partner knows that was a minimum bid and won't count on you for too much. The other option here is to bid spades. Spades is a major, and a major contract will score better if you make it. Bidding spades also has the advantage of being able to be bid at the two-level instead of the three-level. If your responding hand is very bad, then try to bid the longer and better suit for safety.

The other strategic choice that the responder faces is a hand like this one. Your opponent opens 1♠, your partner doubles, and the next hand passes. Your call?

Example 2:

♠ K J 3
♥ 8 7 3
♦ 9 3
♣ K J 9 4 3

Bidding 2♣ is fine; it is your longest and best suit, and there are no restrictions to responding at the two-level. The other tactical choice is to respond 1NT. You have a spade stopper, and a few points. Typically a 1NT response to a double shows around 8-10 points. You might have a hand with only six or seven points and offer a 1NT response, however your team might be underpowered.

In most cases, responder to a double will bid with a four+ card suit. If responder has a five+ card suit, then they can be sure of having a fit, and can add shortage points. If responder makes a bid at the one- or two-level and only has a four+ card suit, then they might end in a 4-3 fit, but this is often the best outcome. If responder has game points, but no five+ card suit, they can cue bid the opener's suit. A cue bid response to the double shows game points, then both players offer suits looking for the best contract, which is ideally a major, or possibly notrumps if you have stoppers in opener's suit.

If there is a bid over the double, then responder can pass with 0-7 points, but should still bid with most hands of 8+ points. This is a great starting point for players who muddle their way through competitive auctions.

Will is doing Online Lessons on Thursdays at 9:30am AEDT or you can receive the recordings and notes to watch at any time. Check out willjenneroshea.com and click on Online Lessons for the dates, topics and back catalogue of previous lessons.



Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

You intend to run a tournament for five days with IMP scoring. There are 16 pairs entered. Would you choose:

- (A) Five days, 15 rounds of 20-board matches?
- (B) Two days qualifying, 14-board matches, to eliminate six pairs, and three days, nine rounds of 20-board matches?

Either format is workable, but (B) has one serious defect. With only five tables, the top and bottom scores on each board are eliminated, and the average of the remaining three boards becomes the datum. With (A), 16 tables competing throughout, there are eight scores per board and the average of six boards becomes the datum. It is not hard to see that the average of six scores is a more accurate indication than the average of three scores. For the 2026 Mixed Teams Playoff, the ABF chose (B).

Ron Klinger

Dear Editor,

Ron makes a valid point. If maximizing the number of comparisons were our only objective, all Playoffs would include the entire field straight through to the end.

However, tournament design requires balancing mathematics with competitive integrity. The ABF

uses a two-stage format with a cut – not just in the 2026 Mixed Playoff, but in the 2026 Open Playoff and almost all Pairs Playoffs since 2002 – to mitigate the ‘spoiler effect’ of pairs out of contention.

In winner-take-all events, pairs that fall firmly out of contention can inadvertently skew the results. Imagine two pairs vying for the final spot on an Australian team on the last day. One pair draws tough matches against other contenders, while the other draws three matches against pairs struggling at the bottom of the ladder. Who would you bet on? Cutting the field after two days significantly levels the playing field.

We also saw this first-hand in the ANC Open Butler. When we temporarily changed the format from three stages to two, we noticed players near the bottom losing interest during the long, four-day final. Directors regularly heard that datums in the later rounds were “weird” and unreliable. We reverted to three stages for exactly this reason, accepting fewer comparisons in Stage 3 in exchange for a higher quality of play towards the pointy end.

The ABF always welcomes constructive feedback like Ron’s. Players can send their thoughts on Playoffs and national events to tchair@abf.com.au.

Liam Milne, Chair, ABF Tournament Committee

2026 VICTORIAN
FESTIVAL
OF BRIDGE

♠♥♦♣

KING'S BIRTHDAY PERIOD
JUNE 3rd - 8th, 2026

AMORA HOTEL
RIVERWALK
RICHMOND (VIC)

BOOK IN TODAY USING YOUR MyABF ACCOUNT

EVENTS

u20MP & u100MP Pairs
(NEW)
Wednesday 2.30-5.30pm

Main Pairs Events
Thursday-Friday
10.30am-6.00pm
Restricted (u300MP)
Mixed
Open

Victor Champion Cup Teams
Saturday - Monday
10.00am start each day.
5.30pm finish on
Saturday and Sunday &
1.30pm on Monday

Social/other
Dining with the Stars
(Wednesday 6.00pm)
Trivia night (Saturday)
Celebrity speakers
(Thursday and Friday
9.30am)

Richmond location
Great dining options!

Fun for all skill levels

Stay and play onsite

\$5 airport bus
From airport departing
3.00pm Wednesday,
to airport arriving MEL
by 3.15pm Monday

Tournament
Organiser
Laura Ginnan
vfob@abf.com.au



Myrna Saunders and Molly Butcher test out the tablets during the trial

Eliminating the sit-out

Kim Frazer

How to keep players entertained during breaks at club duplicate sessions

Everyone who has enjoyed a game of bridge at their local club will most likely have experienced a sit-out table at some point in their lives. A few players don't seem to mind having a break and a chat, but most who come to the club find sit-outs unappealing, particularly if the sit-out is three or four boards long in a Mitchell movement. Removing four-board sit-outs by running a Howell with fewer boards per round helps, but with aging players who are less mobile and want to sit North-South, Howell movements are not practical.

Moonee Valley Bridge Club's President and Treasurer, Ev Fallshaw and Phil Young, suggested implementing a solution that Ev had seen in operation at the Chicago Duplicate Bridge Club in the USA. This involved using two computer tablets (or iPads) and BBO. MVBC is grateful to BBO for the support they have provided to the club with the use of the robots at no charge and advertisement-free accounts for these sessions.

Essentially, the sit-out table is set up with the tablets sitting East-West, with robots sitting North-South. The deal file for the session is converted to a LIN file (with a dummy board inserted between each round), loaded into BBO, and set as the deal source for the session. The director logs into a club account and sets up a teaching table with two robots NS and two club players (for us it is MVEAST and MVWest). This allows the director to monitor the table action, redeal at the end of each round, and manage any other issues that might arise, such as internet dropouts.

MVBC ran the first session using robots/tablets at the sit-out table at my Tuesday afternoon session, without scoring the boards played on the tablets as a trial. This identified a few ideas for improving how to run this format, and also helped to engage player support with the idea. The first live session ran the following week with mostly positive feedback from players, especially as, without the robots, players would have had a four-board (26 minute) sit-out. One player complained that the robots played too quickly, but almost all the players who experienced playing on the tablets against the robots seemed to have been happy with avoiding a sit-out!

1st BRISBANE GOLD CONGRESS

30th January – 6th February 2027

VOCO Brisbane City Centre 85-87 North Quay

Tournament Organisers: Jan Peach brisbanegoldto.jan@qldbridge.com.au 0487 466 109
Tony Treloar brisbanegoldto.tony@qldbridge.com.au 0468 398 843

Open Pairs Championship: 6 Sessions

Saturday 30th (Qualifying) Sunday 31st (Semi-final & Le Réconfortant)

Monday 1st (Barometer Finals: Championship/Plate/Consolation
& Swiss Matchpoint Pairs Consolation)

PQP

NEW
PAIRS
FORMAT

Open Teams Championship: 6 Sessions plus Finals

Tuesday 2nd to Thursday 4th (Qualifying) Friday 5th (Semi-finals)
Late Afternoon Friday 5th to Early Afternoon Saturday 6th (Final)

Special Event: Friday 5th & Saturday Morning 6th 3-Session Cross-Imp Swiss Pairs
Walk In Pairs Late Afternoon Friday 29th

SIMILAR PARALLEL EVENTS FOR U500



MYABF UPDATE

with Julian Foster

The My ABF support desk

The My ABF support desk is available to assist with all sorts of issues with My ABF (although some types are best directed elsewhere – see below). This article talks a bit more about it.

BEFORE you raise an issue – look at the My ABF resources page on the ABF website:

There are many things a user can find out how to do themselves. Go the My ABF Resources pages on the main ABF website – it's under the Members section:



That's split into a main page and then dedicated pages for Players, Clubs and Tournament Organisers. Each has user guides, videos, frequently asked questions and other material. The players page

<https://www.abf.com.au/member-services/my-abf-resources/players/>

also has lots of "How to" guides which give you illustrated step by step instructions for common areas:

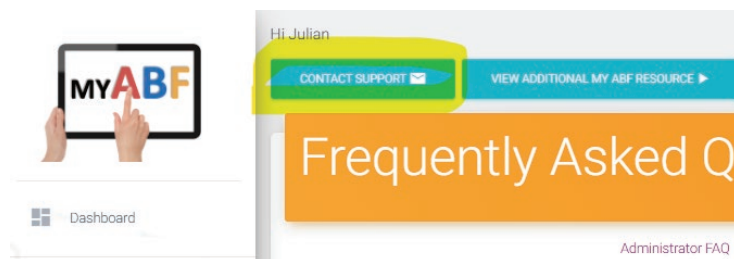
"How to" Guides

- [Sign up \(detail\)](#)
- [Reset your password](#)
- [Browse the Calendar](#)
- [Enter and pay for a congress](#)
- [Enter a congress but not pay for everyone](#)
- [Make payments for an existing entry](#)
- [Make changes to an existing entry](#)
- [Withdraw an entry and request a refund](#)
- [Lodge and respond to support issues](#)
- [What are Bridge Credits and how do they work](#)
- [Apps for Tournament Results and Draw Notifications](#)
- [Manage your email address](#)
- [Update your card details](#)

Resetting passwords is a common question – for which there is a guide. But there are times when things have gone wrong with someone's account, an email address gets blocked, etc. In those cases we do have to go behind the scenes to fix things.

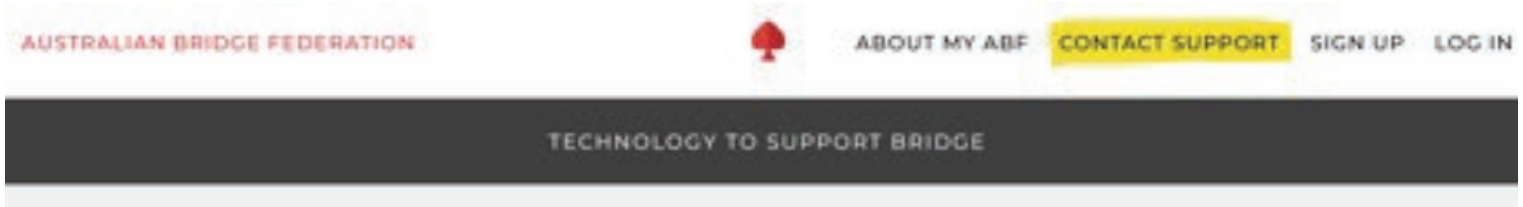
How to raise an issue? You can raise a support issue (we refer to them internally as "tickets") either from within My ABF or outside:

- If you are logged in – use the Support page from the main menu:



- If you are not logged in (common if the problem relates to being unable to log in, forgotten password, etc) - use Contact Support from the

primary logged out My ABF page (which you can access most easily from the My ABF link at the far top right of the main ABF website):



Who are we? At the moment the support desk is broadly two people – myself and Margaret Cusack. Margaret tends to handle finance related queries relating to club settlements, player refunds, etc – and I handle most other things. We are real people (no, there is no AI or robots involved and we don't run an offshore call centre) and therefore we always respond better to constructive, polite requests!

When is it open? In theory 9am - 5pm East Coast time Mon-Fri. In reality, I work pretty flexible hours, so am frequently looking outside those times and, as some of you may testify, will sometimes reply at some odd hours!

Why is it email? We don't have a dedicated My ABF phone number for support (I know some players do call Margaret at ABF HQ). It is not impossible that one could be added in future, but at the moment we don't have the resources to man one on a regular basis.

What do we deal with? A very wide variety of things, of course. But the most common tend to be to do with accounts, login, passwords, etc.

What areas are we NOT best placed to help with? There are a couple of areas where we are not best equipped to help – at least not to start with.

- For Tournament queries – you should contact the Tournament Organiser
- For Club Session queries – you should contact the Club.

Here is why:

1. Tournaments

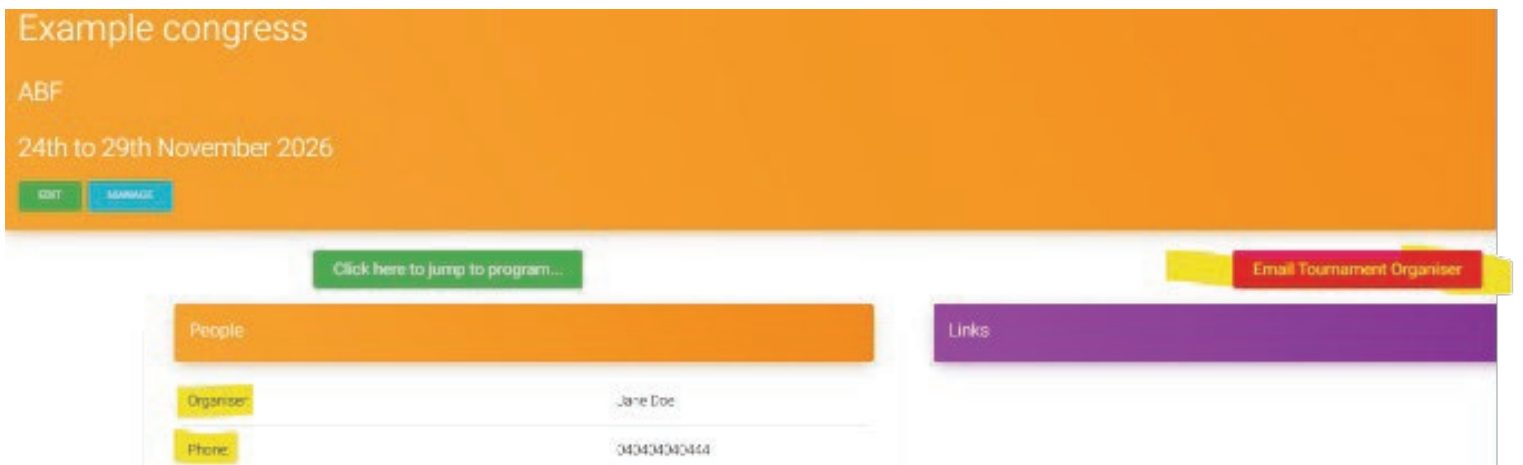
My ABF lists events at all levels from all over the country. It is very much a self-service system where organising bodies generate the listing themselves and then publish it to make it visible on the general calendar. That means we at My ABF often have no idea about the details of any particular event.

I have sometimes had queries along the lines of "What time does the pairs start on Sunday?"

It's completely impossible for us to answer a query as vague as this which doesn't even indicate which tournament or which Sunday they are talking about!

Therefore, if you have a query about a particular tournament or event coming up, the best approach is almost always to contact the Tournament Organiser.

For many queries directly relating to a tournament, we'll just refer you to them anyway. Their details are always available on the main webpage for the event. There is a "People" box at the top left and there is also a pink "Email Tournament Organiser" button which should initiate composing an email direct to their address using the default email service on your machine:



If your query relates to entries and payments, it's worth looking at the "How to" guides referenced above – several of those relate to common things you might want to do with entries and payments.

2. Club Sessions

Quite a number of clubs are now using the My ABF club sessions payment facility where you can pay for regular club sessions with bridge credits. This is extremely convenient both for the player and the club.

You can see every transaction that comes through your bridge credits account – you have a statement which is visible at all times. It is accessible either via the Bridge Credits main menu item down the left or the top left "Bridge Credits" shortcut on your dashboard.

Like anything though it is possible for mistakes to happen with session charges. For example:

- You might believe you've been charged for a session you didn't play in.
- You might believe you've been charged the wrong rate of table money.
- You might believe you've been charged by the wrong club.

We sometimes receive support requests along these lines.

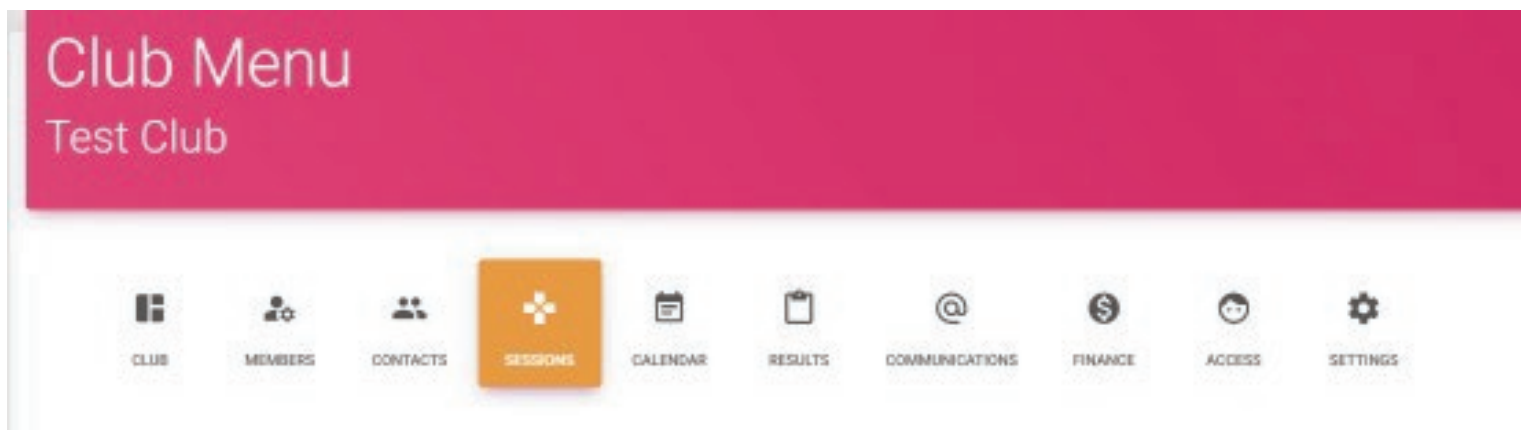
It's important to understand that My ABF just processes the sessions with the data it is given (the player name file exported from the scoring program on the day). We have no way of knowing:

- What session(s) a club runs
- What session(s) you have or have not played in
- Whether you are a member of that club when you play a session there
- What the correct table money rates are

Therefore, if you think your charge for a session is wrong, the first port of call should always be to contact your club. We will usually just refer you back to the club if you raise a support ticket along these lines.

I have certainly seen mistakes made. For example:

- We had a case where a player had keyed a wrong ABF number into the Bridgемate. As a result, the wrong person was shown in the file and the wrong person initially ended up getting charged (the same wrong person would have also been visible in the session results so I was quite surprised no one noticed at the time and this error made it right through to My ABF!)
- If the club has not kept their membership list up to date in My ABF, then the system might not think you are a member and will then charge visitor table money (clubs set up their table money rates in advance – which are nearly always different for members and visitors).
- On one occasion, we had a scenario where the director (who works at multiple clubs) had the wrong club admin page open – and uploaded the session there, which meant almost everyone got charged visitor rates and that club wrongly received the credits! This was quite an achievement considering there is a large banner visible at the top of the screen the entire time showing what club you ARE in!



All of these mistakes can easily be fixed up by the club – either by editing the session, or by doing a separate transaction or occasionally (like the 3rd one above) deleting a session completely (which refunds everyone that had paid) and re-doing it.

My ABF Product Manager Julian Foster, julian.foster@abf.com.au

Tournament results

Online Gold Coast Congress

TBIB MATCHPOINT PAIRS – OPEN

1 John Yang - Dee Harley	144.17
2 Liz Adams - Peter Gill	132.93
3 Jeff Miller - Pam Livingston	131.92
4 Matt Sun - Martin Qin	129.82
5 Tania Lloyd - Hugh Grosvenor	126.02
6 Chris Cullen - Mimi Packer	124.42
7 Rakesh Kumar - Jake Andrew	123.87
8 Tony Nunn - Martin Bloom	123.60
9 John Wang - Yuzhong Chen	122.63
10 Andrew Peake - Giselle Mundell	121.32
11 Chris DePasquale - Michael Courtney	118.79
12 Peerapan Maslen - Anthony Lusk	115.57
13 Moss Wylie - Pamela Nisbet	115.53
14 Karin Le Roux - Malcolm Allan	114.75
15 Wei Zhang - William Zhang	113.75
16 Tere Wotherspoon - Siegfried Konig	113.52
17 Patrick Jiang - Wayne Zhu	112.73
18 Andrzej Krolikowski - Stephen Weisz	112.50
19 Yolanda Floris - Toni Bardon	111.00
20 Steve Baron - James Wallis	110.37

TBIB X-IMP PAIRS – OPEN

1 John Wang - Yuzhong Chen	120.79
2 John Yang - Dee Harley	117.19
3 Liz Adams - Peter Gill	116.76
4 Tania Lloyd - Hugh Grosvenor	113.51
5 Lynn Kalmin - Rena Kaplan	112.96
6 Mindy Wu - Kim Frazer	112.88
7 Dorothy Bain - Bill Mecchia	111.02
8 Peter Jeffery - Bob Sebesfi	110.44
9 Steve Baron - James Wallis	110.40
10 Bruce Neill - Kim Morrison	109.39
11 Elsabrout Mahmoud - Leo Saoud	109.14
12 Andrew Liu - Herman Yuan	108.84
13 Alex Jones - Tim Legge	108.62
14 Sue Southen - Pam Tibble	108.24
15 Chris Dibley - Steven Bock	107.55
16 Carol Yeomans - Noel Woodhall	107.13
16= Maurits Van Der Vlugt - Dagmar Neumann	107.13
18 Kennet Christiansen - Ron Speiser	105.84
19 Michael Courtney - Joan Butts	105.17
20 Anthony Burke - Phil Gue	105.07

TBIB MATCHPOINT PAIRS – UNDER 500

1 Colin Jasper - Allan Hardie	142.80
2 Steven Kemp - Glen Chick	124.89
3 Mary Colling - Steve Colling	121.64
4 Jo Ampherlaw - Sharon Thompson	120.06
5 Rebecca Dorman - Rebecca Mackiggan	113.52
6 Kevin Gu - Gayle Bagg	112.96
7 Susan Macken - Margie Weston	111.80
8 Michael Goh - Bruce Minchinton	110.64
9 Jan Letts - Paul Letts	110.39
10 Mukesh Parekh - Paul Stebbing	108.36
11 Rosemary Jackson - Takayo Yanagisawa	107.17
12 Tony Abbott - Neil Williams	104.88
13 Rhonda Chantler - Kevin Chapman	104.80
14 Roanna Chan - Klaus Dorbecker	103.82
15 Ross Longney - Kerri McCrae	101.71
16 Robyn Stanhope - Pauline Lane	100.73
17 Meera Kudva - Tien Chey	100.71
18 Shelley James - Geoff Saxby	100.21
19 Tina Hesketh - Tony Georgeson	99.49
20 Heather Whitely - Ina Buhse	99.41

TBIB X-IMP PAIRS – UNDER 500

1 Tammy Hubbard - Libby Heyward	117.82
2 Michael Goh - Bruce Minchinton	112.77
3 Tina Hesketh - Tony Georgeson	109.77
4 Lucy D'Ambrosio - Shannon Queree	109.49
5 Heather Whitely - Ina Buhse	108.76
6 Steven Kemp - Glen Chick	107.51
7 Anne-Marie Stevenson - Jennette Rosetta	106.63
8 Shanaal de Zoysa - Hema de Zoysa	104.64
9 Sandi Pirozzo - Rosemary Porter	102.41
10 Trish Clearwater - Viv Murray	102.32
11 Tony Abbott - Neil Williams	102.23
12 Sandra McBain - Glenda Parmenter	99.65
13 Mary Carter - Felix Shteyman	98.73
14 Alan Saultry - Sandy Spencer	98.30
15 Robyn Stanhope - Pauline Lane	97.38
16 Oleg Glushchenko - Elena Rohtchina	96.77
17 Peter Munro - Gill Phillippo	96.56
18 Roanna Chan - Klaus Dorbecker	94.40
19 Rosemary Jackson - Takayo Yanagisawa	94.22
20 Sylvia Mason - Barbara Studholme	94.19

2026 Mixed Playoff

1 Christy Geromboux - Sebastian Yuen	119.13
2 Maurits van der Vlugt - Dagmar Neumann	113
3 Cathryn Herden - Matthew Thomson	99.78
4 Joan Butts - Peter Buchen	97.75
5 Warren Lazer - Pauline Gumby	94.57

2026 Seniors' Playoff

1 Terry Brown - Ian Thomson	111.56
2 Peter Gill - David Hudson	109.73
3 Hugh Grosvenor - George Kozakos	106.41
4 Chris Hughes - Kim Morrison	104.23
5 Mathew Vadas - George Fleischer	104.08

2026 Open Playoff

1 Fraser Rew - Joachim Haffer	120.80
2 David Appleton - Philip Markey	112.05
3 Tony Nunn - Paul Dalley	109.86
4 Hugh Grosvenor - George Kozakos	102.45
5 Chris Depasquale - Michael Courtney	102.13

Tasmanian Festival of Bridge

ROGER PENNY SENIOR SWISS PAIRS

1 Kitty Muntz - Kim Frazer	114.38
2 George Bilski - Martin Bloom	110.15
3 Yolanda Floris - Toni Bardon	109.54
4 George Lovrecz - Thilak Ranasinghe	107.56
5 Margaret Pussell - Peter Cox	105.47
6 Chris Hughes - Kim Morrison	103.29
7 Andrzej Krolikowski - Robert Gallus	102.95
8 Morag Lokan - Chris Lokan	99.55
9 Brenda Kaplan - Elliott Kaplan	99.42
10 Arthur Robbins - Douglas Newlands	96.81
11 Bal Krishan - Richard Cooke	94.01
12 Gary Ridgway - Piyush Jain	93.72
13 Hugh Grosvenor - George Kozakos	93.69
14 Jo-Anne Heywood - Desma Sampson	93.34
15 Axel Johannsson - Kate McCallum	93.33
16 Sheila Wills - Dewi Eastman	92.30
17 Liz Fanos - George Finikiotis	91.16
18 Rhonda Graham - Nick Edginton	90.59

FIS AUSTRALIAN MIXED SWISS PAIRS

1 Pele Rankin - David Beauchamp	110.40
2 Maurits Van Der Vlugt - Dagmar Neumann	105.30
3 Trevor Fuller - Leone Fuller	105.26
4 Andrew Peake - Giselle Mundell	104.53
5 Helena Dawson - Richard Douglas	99.00
6 Liz Sylvester - Peter Gill	98.91
7 Ann Liu - Usher Zeng	97.35
8 Therese Tully - Paul Hooykaas	94.93
9 Warren Lazer - Pauline Gumby	93.23
10 Lauren Morgan - Joachim Haffer	93.00
11 Nicoleta Giura - Nick Hughes	89.10
12 Barbara Holland - Chris Girvan	88.23
13 Jonathan Free - Mimi Packer	87.70
14 Arjuna De Livera - Lori Smith	86.78
15 Jenny Thompson - David Fryda	85.58
16 Myra Katz - Darryl Almeida	85.52
17 Kimberley Zhao - Alan Cransberg	85.10
18 Sonya Palfreyman - Shayne Palfreyman	85.01

TFOB RESTRICTED SWISS PAIRS

1 Rebecca Dorman - Rebecca Mackiggan	110.89
2 Ann Bennett - Elizabeth Gillies	106.84
3 Bronwyn Fuller - Marg Enright	105.86
4 Roderick Crouch - John Currier	104.98
5 Jane Hall - Anne Francis	103.61
6 Erik Moller - Gabrielle Bastow	100.30
7 Gillian Hibbard - Jenni Cover	100.20
8 Sue Solomons - Craig Shannahan	100.09
9 Marcus Brodmeyer - Brendan Murray	98.10
10 Julia Johnson - Geoff Green	97.24
11 Chris Lamb - Serita Mudford	96.46
12 Paul Acfield - Graham Stucley	96.31
13 Megan Edwards - Michelle George	95.95
14 Nat Wright - Jo Wright	95.91
15 James Bezette - Susan Bezette	95.86
16 Victor Coombe - Steve Thollar	95.09
17 Geraldine Carey - Shelley James	94.80
18 Gordon Travers - Anne Travers	93.40
19 Wayne Seabrook - Paul Fredheim	92.38
20 Tony McKinnon - Shane Brown	91.93

JENNY PENNY NOVICE SWISS PAIRS

1 Helen Hebblethwaite - Debbie Maree Martyn	86.60
2 Nat Wright - Jo Wright	84.46
3 Neil McMaster - Jennifer Bissett	79.96
4 Gillian Hibbard - Jenni Cover	76.34
5 Ross Addison - Jack Pashev	75.58
6 Rebecca Dorman - Rebecca Mackiggan	72.54
7 Annette Silman - Anita Czarny	71.97
8 Alan Kestenbergh - John Lemarchand	71.85
9 Marguerite Lester - Sue Rae	71.76
10 Laurie Queay - Sally McCracken	70.02
11 Katrina Cooke - Christine Campbell	67.24
12 Laura Best - Lynn Barlow	66.72
13 Andrea Bissett - Joan Ketteridge	63.27
14 Robyn Russell - Anne Donnelly	61.25
15 Gina McKenzie - Megan Anstie	61.12
16 Susy Baenziger - Kate Richards	59.72
17 Nicky McKibben - Victoria Onslow	58.63
18 Denise Connor - Lynne Tomati	58.43
19 Roger Hooley - Judy Hooley	57.68
20 Maureen Richardson - Jane Dickie	57.10

TFOB ROOKIE SWISS PAIRS

1 Jack Pashev - Lee McCaghern	68.13
2 Gina McKenzie - Megan Anstie	67.89
3 Wendy Gilson - Fran Healy	65.92
4 Nick Andrianopoulos - Robert Longair	64.55
5 Ken Chilcott - Victoria Vyvyan	60.54
6 Robyn Russell - Anne Donnelly	60.49
7 Anthea Sinkovits - Genevieve Foskett	57.46
8 Brian Herman - Elizabeth Gordon	57.10
9 Michael French - Daryl Hart	56.62
10 Nola Calvert - Rex Calvert	55.26
11 Heather Thurstans - Paul Rodgers	53.31
12 Susy Baenziger - Kate Richards	52.00
13 Sarah Bolt - Robyn Gregory	51.09
14 Judi Baron - Judith Candy	50.84
14= Jenny McCormick - Pam Collins	50.84
16 Beryl Gelling - Denise Devitt	50.28

TBIB AUSTRALIAN SWISS PAIRS

1 Arthur Robbins - Douglas Newlands	150.80
2 Ron Klinger - Matt Mullamphy	149.03
3 Andrzej Krolikowski - Robert Gallus	145.25
4 Sylvia Schwarcz - Ben Kingham	144.86
5 Michael Ware - Matthew McManus	143.02
6 Hugh Grosvenor - George Kozakos	141.75
7 Kitty Muntz - Kim Frazer	141.32
8 Axel Johannsson - Kate McCallum	138.67
9 Lauren Morgan - Joachim Haffer	136.80
10 Terry Brown - Ian Thomson	136.19
11 Therese Tully - Paul Hooykaas	136.01
12 Arjuna De Livera - Lori Smith	134.75
13 Kerry Rymer - Kit Meyers	134.40
14 Kelvin Tibble - Pam Tibble	131.86
15 Moss Wylie - Pamela Nisbet	131.21
16 Liz Fanos - George Finikiotis	130.08
17 Simon Rose - Barry Rawicki	129.68
18 Julia Watson - Peter Watson	129.32
19 Peter Gill - David Hudson	129.24
20 Hilton Francis - Julie Rhodes	128.97

Australia's Bridge Day Out

The Bridge Australia Foundations Primary Fundraiser Tuesday July 28th

Australia's
Bridge Day Out
TUESDAY
July 28th

THE BRIDGE AUSTRALIA FOUNDATION

The Bridge Australia Foundation (formerly ABF Foundation), established in 2020, is a not-for-profit organisation that supports bridge through grants and scholarships for research and projects that strengthen the game's future. Funded by bequests, donations, and fundraisers, it has already made a meaningful impact and is exploring charity status.



BRIDGE DAY OUT

In September 2025, the Foundation launched its inaugural Bridge Day Out as the major fundraiser for the year. Clubs across the country hosted special Red Masterpoint bridge sessions, bringing players together to support the Foundation while enjoying the game. Prizes and expert analysis, added an extra layer of engagement to the day.

Funds raised from the event are already making an impact, supporting the Foundation's ongoing initiatives, including the early development of a program for school-aged children.

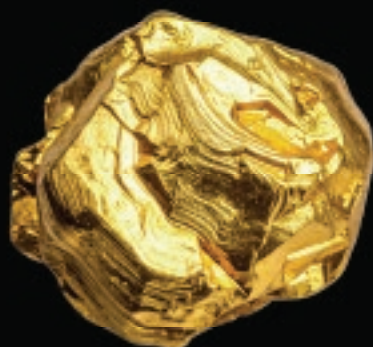
2026 REGISTRATIONS OPEN MAY 1st

Click [HERE](#) to register your clubs interest. Click the facebook link below to follow us on Facebook



GOLD IN THE GOLDFIELDS

18-22 NOVEMBER 2026



A New National Gold Point Tournament

Taking place in the heart of the historic Goldfields district in central Victoria.



Tournament Director
Laurie Kelso



Tournament Organiser
Phil Young, 0419 338 798

TOURNAMENT PROGRAM

Wed 18 Nov	7:00pm	Walk-in Pairs
Thu 19 Nov	9:30am	Swiss Teams
Fri 20 Nov	9:30am	Swiss Teams
	7:30pm	Trivia Night
Sat 21 Nov	9:30am	Swiss Pairs
Sun 22 Nov	9:30am	Swiss Pairs

Enter at MyABF:



All Seasons Resort Hotel, Strathdale, BENDIGO

