



BRIDGE VICTORIA BULLETIN

MAY 2024

EDITOR: CHRIS HUGHES



EDITORIAL – CHRIS HUGHES

There is no 'Interview' this month. This feature will recommence in next month's bulletin.

In most sports, a late missing of a score in a team event that costs the game is always a major talking point in the media. As most Victorians would appreciate, when the team is less than six points behind in an AFL game and there is a kick for goal after the siren, the player feels terrible if they don't kick the goal.

The fact that the team that the poor player plays for had many chances to kick a winning score earlier in the game is generally either only mentioned in passing or glossed over.

The same is true in a long team's match in bridge.

Recently, I have been involved in two longer team matches where the team that I was playing with were in front late in the match and then lost in the final stages. In one of these matches, it was on the very last board and, in the other, in the last stanza of the match.

In both cases, the player felt that they alone had caused our team to lose but, in fact, they had played very well up until that point. My response was that the rest of the team had many chances during the course of the match to establish a large enough lead that this player's oversight would not have ended in the team's defeat.

The 'Bridge Hand of the Month' is an example of how I had taken 'my eye off of the ball' in an earlier stage in one of those matches.



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

Submit all your input to the following email address

editor@bridgevictoria.au

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BRIDGE VICTORIA CHAIR – COLIN JASPER

What is it you like about bridge? When friends ask why you play bridge, what's your response?

With so many passionate bridge players, surely if we had the right words to share the reasons behind our passion we could help grow the game.

This month I received a copy of a Master's Thesis from BAMSA (Bridge: A Mind Sport for All) on promoting bridge. The [findings](#), while not surprising, provided eight clear recommendations for increasing participation.

The use of the term Mind Sport, I think positions the game well, particularly for Australians who are obsessed with sport. This puts bridge in a category with Chess, Backgammon and Sudoku.

The two big differences I see between bridge and other mind sports are:

1. **Bridge involves a partnership.** No one player can see the whole game. Hence the importance of judgement and inference. It also makes it more social!
2. Bridge is the only major Mind Sport where **computers cannot beat the best players.** Deep Blue (an IBM Computer) beat then world champion Garry Kasparov in 1997.

For these reasons, I would argue that bridge is **the Ultimate Mind Sport.**

When friends ask why you play bridge, what's your response?

State Teams

During April, finals have been held to select the state teams. I'd like to congratulate all the players who qualified for the finals. An outstanding achievement in itself.

I'm pleased to announce that the state teams are:

Open Team

- Kevin Chan
- Chen Ding
- Jack Huang
- Daniel Mao
- Serhat Ozenir
- Ming Zhang



Seniors Team

- Phillip Fent
- Robert Gallus
- Dee Harley
- George Lovrecz
- Stephen Weisz
- John Yang

Womens Team

- Maryanne Bird
- Alison Farthing
- Kae French
- Diana Smart
- Jenny Thompson
- Lisa Yoffa

Youth Team

- Patrick Clifford
- Taydon Gold
- Sam Goss
- Matt Sieredzinski
- Heath Watkins
- Seb Wright
- Damon Flicker (Non-Playing Captain)

We wish them all the best representing Victoria at the Australian National Championships in July.

Victor Champion Cup

Victoria's Festival of Bridge will be a celebration, as players come from across the country to join us at the Moonee Valley Racecourse. This year we have three separate restricted events, and a novice event for players with under 25 MPs. These will be accompanied by lunchtime clinics. Why not join us, enjoy the festival, develop your game and be a part of this outstanding event. [Victor Champion Cup](#) – 6th-10th June.

Victorian Restricted Pairs

On Saturday 11th May, we will be holding the Victorian Restricted Pairs event at the VBC.

The top two pairs in this event will each be provided with a generous subsidy by the Australian Bridge Federation towards airfares and accommodation plus free entry to the Restricted Butler Pairs at this year's Australian National Championships (ANC) in Orange NSW in July.

This red-point event is limited to players with under 300 masterpoints (as at 31/12/2023). If this is you, we would encourage you to [enter](#).

Other Upcoming Events

Congresses:

- Bayside – 4th May
- Sale – 18th & 19th May
- Bendigo – 25th & 26th May
- Moonee Valley – 31st May – 2nd June
- Geelong – 29th & 30th June

State Events

- The Ian McCance Swiss Pairs – Thursday nights at Kooyong, commencing on 9th May.
- The Victorian Online Pairs – Offering state event access to participants from all over Victoria. Monday nights commencing 13th May
- The Thwaites Mixed Pairs – Wednesday Nights at the VBC, commencing on 22nd May.

State Manager – Bridge Victoria.

We are seeking to appoint a State Manager of Bridge Victoria. It's a part-time role, that could be conducted from anywhere in the State. Details are on the following page. If you know someone who would be interested, please ask them to consider applying.

Colin Jasper
Bridge Victoria – Chair

WE WISH YOU A GREAT MONTH OF BRIDGE AND PLEASE
FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US AT: info@bridgevictoria.au.

TWO POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Seeking a Bridge Victoria State Manager

Are you interested or do you know anyone who may be interested in the role of State Manager for Bridge Victoria?

This is an important role for Bridge Victoria and critical to achieving the outcomes we envisage for bridge in Victoria.

The State Manager will be responsible for the operational management and administration of State Bridge and will be passionate about growing bridge across Victoria. A background in complex stakeholder management, marketing and an understanding of the way state bridge works would be an advantage.

The Bridge Victoria State Manager will work with the Bridge Victoria Operations Committee (BVOC) to achieve the mission of Bridge Victoria which is:

- To promote the game of bridge throughout Victoria and to foster interest in the game
- To run state bridge activities within Victoria
- To support and assist affiliated bridge clubs.

Key objectives of the role include increasing satisfaction of Affiliated Clubs, increasing the number of clubs wishing to be affiliated and growing the number of bridge players across Victoria such that there are greater funds to apply to state activities such as education of players, directors and teachers.

This is a part-time position, up to three days or equivalent hours, with a base salary plus superannuation and flexible working arrangements. It is envisaged this will be a 12-month fixed-term contact, with options for extension.

For further information or to see the full PD please contact Colin Jasper, Chair of BVOC at chair@bridgevictoria.au or Mobile: 0418 310 058.

Seeking a VCC Tournament Organiser

Our VCC Tournament Organiser, Geoff Schaller, has decided after a number of successful years to make 2024 his last year. We are looking for a new Tournament Organiser for the state's premier bridge event, the Victor Champion Cup, in 2025.

Key to the success of the event is the promotion and relationship management functions. Managing stakeholders such as venue staff, directing and dealing personnel, players and sponsors is critical. Other activities include managing the 'MyABF' website and making sure everything runs to time and budget.

We have started a new era with fresh sponsors, new directors and a new venue at the Moonee Valley Racecourse. There is an opportunity for a new organiser to observe operations in the lead up to the 2024 event before taking over the role completely in 2025. If you are interested in bringing innovation and energy to this role, please send an email with your details to info@bridgevictoria.au.

TEST YOUR DECLARER SKILLS MAY

The following hand took place in a team event

West leads the ♠Q.

Show that partner's faith is well founded.

What is your plan from here?

The answer is at the end of the bulletin.

NORTH

♠ T
♥ K82
♦ K643
♣ QJT97

WEST

♠
♥
♦
♣

EAST

♠
♥
♦
♣

SOUTH(D)

♠ A43
♥ AJ7
♦ AQ72
♣ A83

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

3♠ was a game force splinter agreeing ♦s (some people are very optimistic).

4♥ was a cue bid.

4NT was key card and 5♣ showed 1 or 4 (♦K).

Your partner's faith in your declarer play has got you to a pretty good contract in 6♦.

BRIDGE HAND OF THE MONTH MAY

NS vulnerable in a team's match

West leads the $\heartsuit A$.

West then switched to the $\clubsuit 9$ and everybody follows.

You play the $\heartsuit A$ (concealing the $\heartsuit Q$ as you may need to have a later entry to your hand to pull trumps).

You decided to play the $\heartsuit A$ and then the $\heartsuit 9$ and East plays two small \heartsuits and West a small \heartsuit and wins the second \heartsuit with the $\heartsuit J$ when you play small.

After some thought, West exits with the $\heartsuit 4$.

What is your plan from here?

Answer in the next bulletin.

Send in your play to

editor@bridgevictoria.au

NORTH

$\heartsuit A96$
 $\heartsuit AKJ7$
 $\heartsuit Q$
 $\heartsuit AKJT7$

WEST

\heartsuit
 \heartsuit
 \heartsuit
 \heartsuit

EAST(D)

\heartsuit
 \heartsuit
 \heartsuit
 \heartsuit

SOUTH

$\heartsuit KT73$
 $\heartsuit 632$
 $\heartsuit J32$
 $\heartsuit Q62$

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
	P	P	1 \heartsuit
DBL	P	1 \heartsuit	P
2 \heartsuit	P	2 \heartsuit	P
4 \heartsuit	P	P	P

North doubled and then cue bid 2 \heartsuit showing a very strong hand.

South could do no more than rebid 2 \heartsuit but North had a lot extra and bid 4 \heartsuit .

Opening in third seat (NV), West may be a little light for their opening bid (but, then again, they might have a full opening).

BRIDGE HUMOUR

IGNORANCE IS BLISS

While I was living in Sydney several years ago, there was a married couple who played regularly together at the bridge club. If they weren't at the club for a while, it probably meant that they were overseas. They loved travelling overseas and usually played in bridge tournaments whilst there. As a matter of fact, the timing of any overseas trip invariably coincided with a bridge tournament near where they were to stay.

The husband was a good player in his twenties and, although age and a full-time career had dulled his abilities a little bit, he was still a very capable player. The wife had taken up bridge a little later in life and wasn't as proficient as her partner but she was still of a reasonable standard.

On one of their trips to Europe, they managed to get an entry into one of the continent's more prestigious match point pairs event. These events were held in major hotels with large ballrooms and attracted very large fields and quite a few kibitzers.

They were sitting as North and South and remained stationary throughout the event. They played two boards against each East and West pair that game to their table.

Early in the event, they were doing okay and the wife was gaining more confidence as she was initially a little concerned that the partnership and, more particularly, herself might be overawed by the occasion.

Just before lunch, two gentlemen sat down at their table and, at the same time, about forty kibitzers circled the table to watch the proceedings. The wife thought that the kibitzers might have heard about this Australian couple who were playing reasonably well and people wanted to see them in action.

The first board was played and nothing of any significance happened. The couple had bid to a normal 4♠ contract and the two gentlemen took their three tricks which appeared to me a normal par result for both North and South and East and West.

On the second board, the wife opened 1NT and her husband bid 2♣ (simple Stayman) and after she had denied the possession of a major (by bidding 2♦), he bid 3NT. The wife was about to write the contract in her scoring book when she noticed that gentleman on her right doubled. She now looked at her hand and confirmed that she had a maximum for her opening bid and so she redoubled. The left-hand opponent led a small ♠ and she made the redoubled contract even though she didn't have a ♥ stopper. The two gentlemen then spoke to each other in somewhat heated terms in a language that wasn't English.

After they and the forty kibitzers left the table for the next round, the wife asked the husband if he knew what language the two gentlemen were speaking. He replied that they were speaking Italian. Moreover, he continued, do you know who they were? The wife indicated that she didn't. He said that they were Giorgio Belladonna and Benito Garozzo (Italy's top pair and current world champions).

She then started to noticeably shake and said that I would never have redoubled if I had known beforehand.

BRIDGE RESULTS

BRIDGE RESULTS FOR APRIL

- VICTORIA

FRANKSTON CONGRESS

Saturday 6th April - 52 pairs entered and the placegetters were

(Best placed from Mornington Peninsula was Peter Lardy & Alison Farthing)



1st Ming Zhang and Daniel Mao



2nd Peter Hollands and Eva Samuel



3rd Victor Zhang and Phillip Chang

Sunday 7th April - 22 teams entered and the placegetters were

(Winners in restricted section

Team Crowley - Tim Crowley, David Carruthers, Kevin Gu, Andries Britz

The overall Team winner from the Mornington Peninsula was team Farthing - Alison Farthing, Peter Lardy, Lindsay Young and Jens Norling) and they won the use of the car for a weekend.

The car was parked outside the venue by the sponsor of the event – Frankston Mazda.



1st Team Ewart

From left to right - Thilak Ranasinghe, Michael Phillips, Neil Ewart, David Beckett

2nd Team Leach –

Christopher Leach, Kim Frazer, Ismail Gulec, Stephen Weisz (no photo)

PLAYOFF TO SELECT THE VICTORIAN OPEN TEAM

The semi-final and final were held on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th April.

The winning team were the Ozenir Team.

The team comprised of five players

Serhat Ozenir playing captain

Kevin Chan player

Chen Ding player

Jack Huang player

Ming Zhang player



From left to right Chen Ding, Ming Zhang, Serhat Ozenir and Kevin Chan (Jack Huang and Daniel Mao were not available)

They have the privilege of representing Victoria as the Open Team in July in Orange New South Wales in the **Australian National Championships**. They will duel with the 'open team' representatives from the other states and territories.

We wish them well.

The margin of their win in the final was fairly small. However, as is mostly the case in longer matches, the team making the fewer errors is generally victorious. They deserved their victory.

A special congratulations must go to Serhat Ozenir and Kevin Chan as they are a new partnership. Daniel Mao and Jack Huang are regular placegetters on the congress circuit whether playing together or with other people. Whereas, Chen Ding and Ming Zhang are an established partnership that are proven performers at this level.

PLAYOFF TO SELECT THE VICTORIAN SENIOR AND WOMENS TEAM

This was held on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th April.

Unlike the open team selection, these two teams were determined by pairs entering a selection process and finishing in the top three.

THE WOMENS TEAM

There were eight pairs in the women's field and they played a double run robin over the two days (fourteen eight board matches). The top three pairs were

1 st	Kae French	Alison Farthing
2 nd	Diana Smart	Jenny Thompson
3 rd	Lisa Yoffa	Maryanne Bird



From left to right

Lisa Yoffa, Maryanne Bird, Jenny Thompson, Diana Smart, Kae French (Alison Farthing not available).

THE SENIOR TEAM

There were ten pairs in the senior's field and they played a single run robin over the two days (nine twelve board matches). The top three pairs were

1 st	John Yang	Stephen Weisz
2 nd	Dee Harley	Phillip Fent
3 rd	George Lovrecz	Robert Gallus



From left to right

Dee Harley, Robert Gallus, George Lovrecz, Stephen Weisz, John Yang (Phillip Fent not available).

We all wish all three of these teams shown above plus the 'Youth Team' the best of luck in July in Orange New South Wales.



UPCOMING EVENTS IN MAY/JUNE

VICTORIA

BA YSIDE CONGRESS

Saturday 4th May. See the flyer on the following page

SALE CONGRESS

Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May. See the flyer on a following page

BENDIGO CONGRESS

Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th May. See the flyer on a following page

MOONEE VALLEY SUPER CONGRESS

Friday 31st May to and Sunday 2nd June See the flyer on a following page

VICTOR CHAMPION CUP

Thursday 6th to Monday 10th June

This event is Victoria's major annual event on the National stage.

All ability levels are encouraged to play and there are two flyers on a following page highlighting the various competitions.

GEELONG CONGRESS

Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June See the flyer on a following page

NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

AUTUMN CONGRESS (ADELAIDE)

Thursday 2nd to Monday 6th May

ASIA PACIFIC BRIDGE FEDERATION (BANGKOK)

Saturday 18th to Sunday 28th May



2024 Bayside Congress

Swiss Pairs - *Red Points*

Saturday, 4th May at 10am – 5pm

(please arrive by 9:30am)



Hampton Bayside Bowls Club
25 Fewster Road, Hampton
(parking front and
back of greens – off Earlsfield Road)

\$45 per person (cash / card / eft)

Prizes for first division & best Bayside pairs

Bring your own lunch. Snacks & tea/coffee provided

- System cards mandatory
- Highly artificial systems not permitted
- Entries may be refused at discretion of Convenor
- Entries seeded at discretion of Director

Director: Martin Willcox

Entries close: 3 May

Register: www.bridgeunlimited.com

Payment: cash/card on day or transfer funds to:

Account Name: **GAR Bridge Pty Ltd**

BSB No: **633 000**

Account Number: **181 259 656**

Reference: **Congress & name**

Host: Bayside Bridge Club 0493 112 412

email: baysidebridgeclub@gmail.com

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/bayside>

OUR SPONSORS



Sale Bridge Club

INVITES YOU TO OUR:

2024 Annual Congress



WHERE

To be held at the:
Sale Masonic Hall
5-7 Marilyn Way, Sale
Enter online:
www.bridgeunlimited.com



SATURDAY 18TH MAY

Swiss Pairs

11:30am - 6:30pm
Lunch not provided

\$45 per person
(CASH only)

SUNDAY 19TH MAY

Swiss Teams

10:00am - 4:00pm
Lunch provided

\$50 per person
(CASH only)



Enter online at:

www.bridgeunlimited.com

System cards are mandatory and the Congress follows BVOC rules & regulations.

DETAILS

Director: Martin Willcox
Convenor: Rob Ziffer
Email: rziffer@bigpond.com
Mobile: 0418 514 782



BENDIGO BRIDGE CLUB Inc.

A0005397Z

2024 Red Point Congress

Bendigo Swiss Pairs

Date: Saturday, 25 May
Time: 10 am Reg for 10.30 Start
Fee: \$50 per player

Bendigo Swiss Teams

Date: Sunday, 26 May
Time: 9.30 am Reg for 10 am Start
Fee: \$50 per player

Entry fee includes light lunch and refreshments.

Please let the Convenor know if you have any special dietary requirements.

Enter via www.bridgeunlimited.com or call/email Congress Convenor.

Please book your entries on or before Tuesday, 21 May

Director: Martin Willcox

Recorder: Seb Wright

Congress Convenor: Paul O'Hare

Phone: 0419 345 240 or Email: directorbendigobridge@gmail.com

On-line enquiries: www.bridgewebs.com/bendigo

VENUE

Quality Hotel Lakeside

286 Napier Street BENDIGO VIC 3550

Phone: (03) 5445 5300

Quality Hotel Lakeside offers a 10% corporate discount to congress participants.

When booking, mention the congress to access the discounted rate.

Saturday Night Dining: *We have made an advance booking for dinner at Lakeside for Saturday 25th. Congress participants and partners are invited to join us. Please contact Barb Evans at evansb3@bigpond.com*

Conditions of Play

- This congress will be conducted under current BV Rules and Regulations.
- By entering, you are agreeing to comply with BV's Congress Behaviour guidelines.
- System Cards are mandatory. Highly complex systems are not permitted.
- Entries may be refused at the discretion of the club's Management Committee.
- Mobile phones must be switched off before play starts.
- Attendees must comply with current Victorian government Covid-safety regulations.

Bendigo Bridge Club Inc gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance provided to our congress by the City of Greater Bendigo's Small Community Grants program.

Congress Flyer 2024 V3.docx



Moonee Valley Bridge Club



Leap into winter at the

2024 MVBC Super Congress

∞ Super Congress = you earn 50% bonus red points ∞

Friday 31st May to Sunday 2nd June 2024

at MVBC, 2a Pattison St Moonee Ponds VIC 3039

Entries are now open - go to myabf.com.au



Prizes in all events, including sectional prizes



Program: all days 10am - 5.30pm*

Fri 31st May: Matchpoint Pairs Open & Novice-S/Novice sections

* Novice-S/Novice section ends by 4.30pm, runs at slower pace

Sat 1st June: Swiss pairs: Open & Restricted (<300MP) sections

Sun 2nd June: Teams event

Directors: Laurie Kelso, Rex Fox

ENTRY FEES:

- Special Novice [<100] & Supernovice [<15] rate - Friday only: \$60/pair (\$50 early bird)
- Open & Restricted Pairs: \$90/pair (\$80 early bird)
- Teams event: \$180/team (\$160 early bird)

Early bird discount, \$5/person/event applies if paid in full by 22nd May

SYSTEM CARDS are mandatory. Highly artificial systems are not permitted.

HOSPITALITY: Bring your own lunch. Cakes & nibbles provided. Bar opens at end of play on all days with hot snacks provided.

CAR PARKING: available at the venue, & in nearby streets.

CONGRESS CONVENOR: Fraser Thorpe M: 0419135826 E: fraserthorpe54@gmail.com

2024 Victor Champion Cup Festival of Bridge

6th – 10th JUNE 2024

Chief Tournament Director: Laurie Kelso

- ❖ ABF **GOLD** Point and Playoff Qualifying Point (PQP) Events
- ❖ A new Rookies event for players under 25 MPs
- ❖ Prizes for beginners through to champions
- ❖ The Teams will be broadcast on BBO
- ❖ For event information and to book and pay website: <https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1055>
- ❖ Early bird discounts before 20th May 2024



For general enquiries,
the Tournament
Organiser is Geoff
Schaller

Phone: 0418 559 343
Email: vcc@abf.com.au

PRESENTED BY:



Please join us at Victoria's Premier Bridge event the VCC Festival of Bridge!

If you enjoy the Gold Coast Congress – this is your **winter** choice.

With a proven venue and excellent amenities, the VCC will be held again at the site of Australia's Race of Champions – the Cox Plate.

Venue: Moonee Valley Racecourse

2 Feehan Avenue, Moonee Ponds Victoria 3039

- ❖ The Moonee Valley Racecourse features a spacious and bright playing space, with a view of the racecourse.
- ❖ Walking distance to trams, trains, accommodation and restaurants and only 15 mins from Tullamarine airport.
- ❖ There are numerous options for food, with restaurants and pubs within 200 metres. There is also an order and delivery service available.
- ❖ On-site public parking is free and available in the centre of the course.
- ❖ Go to the website for more information: <https://www.thevalley.com.au/racing/getting-to-the-valley>

SPONSORED BY:



Paul Lavings
Bridgegear



Victor Champion Cup 2024 Festival of Bridge

6th – 10th JUNE 2024

Venue: Moonee Valley Racecourse



To book and pay go to:
<https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1055>

Discounts apply for early birds before 29th May 2024.

For general enquiries contact the
Tournament Organiser
Geoff Schaller

Phone: 0418 559 343
Email: vcc@abf.com.au

Chief Tournament Director: Laurie Kelso



PRESENTED BY



Restricted Pairs and Teams

Players under 300 Masterpoints please join us at Victoria's Premier Bridge event over the June long weekend.



The Rookie Pairs - under 25 MP players. An Introduction to competitive bridge with a relaxed pace, welcome session and lunchtime clinics.

7th June



Victor Muntz Restricted Swiss Pairs - under 300 MP. 20% reduction in entry for 2024. Welcome session with strategy advice on the first day, lunchtime clinics

6th & 7th
June



Frank Power Restricted Swiss Pairs - 200 MP combined. A separate event if there are 24+ pairs, otherwise will be run as part of the Victor Muntz above.

6th & 7th
June



VCC Restricted Teams – under 300 MPs each. If the club nominates a club team, they will be eligible for a 20% reduction in entry fee.

8th, 9th &
10th June

SPONSORED BY:



Paul Lavings
Bridgegear



V.C.C. EVENT	DAY	DATE/TIME
Rookie Pairs (Under 25 MPs)	Friday	07-06-2024 10: 00am & 2.15pm
Victor Muntz Restricted Swiss Pairs (Under 300 MP each) & Frank Power Restricted Swiss Pairs (200 MP combined)	Thursday	06-06-2024 10: 00am & 2.15pm
	Friday	07-06-2024 10: 00am & 2.15pm
Jim and Norma Borin Mixed Swiss Pairs	Thursday	06-06-2024 10: 00am & 2 15pm
	Friday	07-06-2024 10: 00am & 2.15pm
	Thursday	06-06-2024 10: 00am & 2.15pm
Wally Scott Open Swiss Pairs	Thursday	06-06-2024 10: 00am & 2.15pm
	Friday	07-06-2024 10: 00am & 2.15pm
Victor Champion Cup Swiss Teams & Restricted Teams	Saturday	08-06-2024 10: 00am & 2.15pm
	Sunday	09-06-2024 10.00am & 2:15pm
	Monday	10-06-2024 10am



Geelong Bridge Club 2024 Congress Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 June 2024

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

**Director: Martin Willcox
Recorder: Arthur Robbins**

**Entries on Bridge Unlimited: bridgeunlimited.com
Entries close **Wednesday 5pm 26 June 2024****

**Cost: \$60 per person each day
Payment will be by **cash only** on the day of play**

Program

Saturday: 10am start - Swiss Pairs Open and Restricted
Restricted: <100 Masterpoints as at 31 March 2024

Sunday: 10am start - Open and Restricted Teams
Restricted: <100 MPs per player as at 31 March 2024

Cash prizes

Morning tea, lunch and nibbles will be provided. Bar open at lunch and at the end of play. Please notify Convenor of any dietary requirements at least one week prior to play.

**Convenor: Jennifer Blyton jlblyton@gmail.com
Mobile: 0409 852 538**

Highly artificial systems not permitted. System cards mandatory.

WHAT NEXT IN DEFENCE? MAY

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
P	P	1♥	P
4♥	P	P	P

Playing in a team's match where beating the contract is your main concern (overtricks are secondary).

A simple auction sees the opponents finish in 4♥.

NORTH

♠ T9
♥ AJ543
♦ JT32
♣ K3

EAST

♠ QJ32
♥ 62
♦ AK7
♣ 8765

West leads the ♠5. Dummy plays the 9, you play the J and declarer then wins the trick with the A.

Declarer plays the ♥K (West following suit) and then the ♣A. Declarer then plays the ♥7 and wins the ♥A in dummy (West throws a ♣). Declarer then plays the ♣K and throws the ♦6 from hand.

Declarer now leads the ♠T from dummy.

What is your plan?

Answer at the end of the bulletin.

RECENT RANKING PROMOTIONS

UPDATED BY THE CLUBS IN MARCH 2024

CLUB	NAME	RANK
Ballarat Bridge Club	McCutcheon, Jade	Graduate
Bayside Bridge Club	Dennis, Anne	Bronze Local
Bayside Bridge Club	Galea, John	Regional
Bayside Bridge Club	Goldwater, Jane	Club
Bayside Bridge Club	Harrison, Lynne	Club
Bayside Bridge Club	Jacoby, Garth	Graduate
Bayside Bridge Club	Koschade, Sue	Club
Bayside Bridge Club	Newton, Sue	Graduate
Bayside Bridge Club	Woolhouse, Jenny	Bronze Local
Bendigo Bridge Club	Burt, Peter	Silver National
Bendigo Bridge Club	Hegarty, Graeme	State
Berwick Bridge Club	Reardon, Shirley	Bronze Local
Bridge@Blake Bridge Club	Newman, Steve	Bronze Local
Frankston Bridge Club	Donald, Denise	Life
Gardenvale Bridge Club	Jaffe, Linda	Silver Local
Gardenvale Bridge Club	Lazarescu, Gabriela	Silver Local
Gardenvale Bridge Club	Nahum, Tania	Silver Local
Gardenvale Bridge School	Zelwer, Marlene	Bronze Local
Geelong Bridge Club	De Boos, Allan	Graduate
Geelong Bridge Club	Dunlop-Moore, Philip	Club
Geelong Bridge Club	Dunn, Sue	Graduate
Geelong Bridge Club	Lehmann, Jennifer	Local
Geelong Bridge Club	Peck, Maureen	Regional
Geelong Bridge Club	Seed, Tony	Silver National
Kattery Bridge Club	O'Donoghue, Gigi	Graduate
Kattery Bridge Club	Stuart, Susie	Club
Kattery Bridge Club	Walsh, Marg	Club
KLTC Bridge Club	Carter, Barbara	Bronze State
KLTC Bridge Club	Dhingra, Poonam	Club
KLTC Bridge Club	Harris, Nancy	Club
Maine Bridge Club	Morton, Adrian	State
Mildura Bridge Club	Rochester, Sue	Graduate
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Fridell, Marianne	State
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Kirby, Julie	Bronze Local
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Mann, Greg	Club
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Pennell, Jan	Graduate
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Pitman, Helen	Club
Moonee Valley Bridge Club	Williamson, Dei	Local
Mornington Bridge Club	Gilbert, Jean	Club

Mornington Bridge Club	Murphy, Fay	Club
Mornington Bridge Club	Perry, Ali	Bronze Local
Mornington Bridge Club	Ponnampalam, Anthony	Club
Northern Bridge Club	Gulec, Ismail	Silver Life
Northern Bridge Club	Landgren, Kay	Graduate
Northern Bridge Club	Lu, Ken	Graduate
Northern Bridge Club	Macallan, Sally	Graduate
Northern Bridge Club	Michael, Sharon	Bronze Local
Northern Bridge Club	Sartori, Thea	Silver Local
Northern Bridge Club	Schultz, Jeffrey	Silver Local
Northern Bridge Club	Starkie, Pat	Regional
Ocean Grove Bridge Club	Revie, Peter	Club
Ocean Grove Bridge Club	Skeen, Margaret	Bronze State
OZ Bridge Club	Bell, Aron	Bronze Local
OZ Bridge Club	Chang, Eva	Bronze Regional
OZ Bridge Club	Smorgon, Kathie	Regional
Patterson Lakes Bridge Club	Joseph, Marianna	Graduate
Patterson Lakes Bridge Club	Taranto, Titie	Graduate
Paynesville Bridge Club	Gasko, Henry	National
Phillip Island Bridge Club	Sage, Miranda	Silver Local
RACV Bridge Group	Hradsky, Karl	Club
RACV Bridge Group	Nelson, Loris	Graduate
RACV Bridge Group	Wurf, Shayne	Silver National
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Bongiorno, Elizabeth	Club
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Brougham, Jane	National
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Buckley, Jill	Local
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	McCormick, Jennifer	Regional
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Mitchell, Hayley	Silver National
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Richardson, Alexandra	Regional
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Syme, Sue	Regional
Royal South Yarra Bridge Club	Von Bibra, Petille	Bronze National
Rye-Dromana Bridge Club	Besley, Pat	Bronze State
Sale Bridge Club	Braham, Viv	Bronze State
Sale Bridge Club	Cheyne, Carol	Silver Local
Shepparton Bridge Club	Murphy, Graeme	Silver Local
Theodor Herzl Social Club	Ajzensztat, Frank	Regional
Traralgon Bridge Club	Douglas, Kaye	Gold Life
U3A Knox Bridge Club	Beswick, Christine	Club
U3A Knox Bridge Club	Hua, Mark	Club
U3A Knox Bridge Club	Moore, Pat	Bronze Local
U3A Knox Bridge Club	Roos, Leon	Silver Local
Upwey Bridge Club	Pan, Ann	Graduate
Victorian Bridge Centre	Dacey, Viv	Bronze State
Victorian Bridge Centre	Eisenberger, Helen	State
Victorian Bridge Centre	Fernando, Chris	Grand

Victorian Bridge Centre	Grant, Margaret	Local
Victorian Bridge Centre	Hamilton, Irene	Grand
Victorian Bridge Centre	Michaels, Barry	State
Victorian Bridge Centre	Phelan, Dan	Silver National
Victorian Bridge Centre	Small, Sue	Bronze Life
Victorian Bridge Centre	Van Riel, Jan	State
Victorian Bridge Centre	Wise, Michelle	Bronze Local
Wangaratta Bridge Club	Glenister, Mike	Local
Warrnambool Bridge Club	Cooper, Peter	Local
Waverley Bridge Club	Carey, Peter	Graduate
Waverley Bridge Club	Codognotto, Jenifer	Silver Life
Waverley Bridge Club	Herman, Judy	Silver National
Waverley Bridge Club	Mehmet, Murray	Local
Waverley Bridge Club	Silman, Annette	Club
Whittlesea Bridge Club	Goldsworthy, Debbie	Bronze State
Whittlesea Bridge Club	Ogilvy, Cheryl	National
Williamstown Bridge Club	Dyer, Rosemary	Bronze Local
Yarra Valley Bridge Club	Langer, Karim	Bronze Local
Yarrowonga Bridge Club	Droop, Karen	Local
Yarrowonga Bridge Club	Jarrad, Liz	Graduate
Yarrowonga Bridge Club	Presnell, Barb	Club

Congratulations to all of the above.

OTHER INTERESTING ITEMS

AN ITEM THAT MISSED THE APRIL BULLETIN

A further commendable result from the **TASMANIAN FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE** held Thursday 14th March – Sunday 17th March, that was not mentioned in the April Bulletin was the following –

Seb Wright won the TFOB Restricted Swiss Pairs at the Tasmanian Festival of Bridge (with Jeremy Reid from Tasmania). Seb is a regional player, part of our youth team and a restricted player. It was a very good achievement to win such an event in a field of 60 pairs.

Well down to both of them. There is a very good chance that they will both become ineligible for this category in the not-too-distant future.

THE WAVERLEY BRIDGE CLUB

Address (Do not send mail to this address)	Electra Community Centre 21a Electra Ave Ashwood Victoria 3147
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President, Tim Crowley	president@waverleybridgeclub.com.au
Secretary, Susan Hill	secretary@waverleybridgeclub.com.au
Help Desk	helpdesk@waverleybridgeclub.com.au

This large Melbourne bridge club wish to advertise a couple of events that could well appeal to many bridge players.

The first is the Charity event (see flyer on the following page) – you can enter by clicking the following link

<https://booking.waverleybridgeclub.com.au/>

The second is their second cruise expedition (see flyer on a following page)

After the success of last year's cruise, the club has arranged a cruise for this year.



**WAVERLEY
BRIDGE CLUB**
MELBOURNE

**Monash
Children's
Hospital**

Monash Children's Hospital Charity Day

Date: Saturday 11th May

Time: 10:00 am

Cost: \$20

Drinks at Bar Prices

BYO LUNCH

RED POINT EVENT

All proceeds going directly to the Monash Children's Hospital

BOOK HERE





WBC Bridge Cruise

Embark on a scenic boat trip from Melbourne to Adelaide, with stops at Phillip Island Kangaroo Island, and Port Lincoln. Enjoy the serene beauty of the southern coast while indulging in some competitive bridge onboard

30TH NOVEMBER – 7TH DECEMBER



Prices starting from
\$1449PP Twin Share
(Inc Taxes)



Costs include bridge on board

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL TRAVELRITE 03 8803 6868





FEEDBACK

Chris

Ralph Berlinski of the Victorian Bridge Centre in Brighton sent in the following play problem.

You are sitting South and, after bypassing 3NT, you land in 5♦ and West leads the ♥8. Plan the play (obviously you don't see the four hands as shown).

NORTH

♠KT
♥AJ4
♦KT52
♣KQ92

WEST

♠J84
♥98532
♦84
♣A73

EAST

♠963
♥KT6
♦QJ3
♣JT85

SOUTH(D)

♠AQ752
♥Q7
♦A876
♣64

Answer:

If the ♥ finesse is working, the contract is very good as long as trumps behave. However, the ♥8 appears to be from a holding without an honour in the suit.

Therefore, if you eschew the ♥ finesse and take the first trick, what are your chances like? They are poor as you have a certain ♣ loser and, assuming there is a ♦ loser (ie not QJ doubleton), you almost certainly need the ♠ suit to be 3 – 3 and trumps to be 3 – 2 (a 4 – 2 ♠ break will cause re-entry problems back to your hand plus other issues).

Therefore, the simple approach is to play 2 rounds of ♦s (so that the hand with only two ♦s doesn't ruff – also QJ may doubleton) and then play on ♠s. If this makes, you have used up your luck for the evening.

Please submit your queries to the email address.

editor@bridgevictoria.au

WHAT NEXT IN DEFENCE – MAY SOLUTION

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
P	P	1♥	P
4♥	P	P	P

A simple auction sees the opponents finish in 4♥.

NORTH

♠T9
♥AJ543
♦JT32
♣K3

EAST

♠QJ32
♥62
♦AK7
♣8765

West leads the ♠5. Dummy plays the 9, you play the J and declarer then wins the trick with the A.

Declarer plays the ♥K (West following suit) and then the ♣A. Declarer then plays the ♥7 and wins the ♥A in dummy (West throws a ♣). Declarer then plays the ♣K and throws the ♦6 from hand.

Declarer now leads the ♠T from dummy.

Answer:

You know declarer started with five ♥s and one ♣. If declarer's original holding was 4=5=3=1, declarer now has 3=3=2=0 (thrown one ♦ on the ♣). Declarer now can lose one ♠ and two ♦s and ruff the remaining non-trumps (also, if declarer's original holding was 2=5=5=1, declarer is also going to make).

Therefore, the only hope is that declarer started with 3=4=4=1. Therefore, their remaining cards are 2=3=3=0 (thrown one ♦ on the ♣). Hence, partner only started with and still has two ♦s.

Hence, after winning the ♠Q, cashing one of the top ♦s will give declarer the contract. You must lead the ♦7 and hope that partner started with QX or JX (in the latter case, you must hope that declarer does not play the Q).

It is all very logical but you must be alert at the table.

TEST YOUR DECLARER SKILLS - MAY SOLUTION

The following hand took place in a team event

NORTH

♠ T
♥ K82
♦ K643
♣ QJT97

WEST

♠ QJ85
♥ T65
♦ JT
♣ K542

EAST

♠ K9762
♥ Q943
♦ 985
♣ 6

SOUTH(D)

♠ A43
♥ AJ7
♦ AQ72
♣ A83

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

3♠ was a game force splinter agreeing ♦s (some people are very optimistic!).

4♥ was a cue bid.

4NT was key card and 5♣ showed 1 or 4 (♦K).

Your partner's faith in your declarer play has got you to a pretty good contract in 6♦.

West leads the ♠Q.

Show that partner's faith is well founded.

What is your plan from here?

Win the ♠A and ruff a ♠ with the ♦3 and then lead the ♦4 back to the ♦A and then ruff your last ♠ and then cash the ♦K.

If ♦s break 3 – 2, proceed as follows

Now, you must get back to hand to draw the last trump.

If you finesse the ♣Q, look what happens. West will win and give partner a ♣ ruff.

Such niceties of an overtrick can be costly. You are in a great contract and, at this stage, even a 5 – 0 ♣ break will not beat you. The safest way back to hand is the ♥2 back to the ♥A and pull the last trump.

Now ♣A and a small ♣ guarantees the contract (even if East holds up, the ♥A is an entry to the remaining ♣s).

If ♦s break 4 – 1, you are going to need the ♣ finesse (and possibly the ♥ finesse if clubs break badly).

Therefore, take the finesse now and you will need a bit of luck.

If ♦s break 5 – 0, you will already have found out. The best laid plans etc.). You are playing for practice.

BRIDGE HAND OF THE MONTH – APRIL SOLUTION

Both sides vulnerable in a match point pairs event

NORTH

♠ 975
♥ AQ5
♦ AK9
♣ AJ76

WEST

♠
♥
♦
♣

EAST(D)

♠
♥
♦
♣

SOUTH(D)

♠ A86
♥ 973
♦ T72
♣ KQ95

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
	P	P	P
1♣	1♠	1NT	P
3NT	P	P	P

North was too strong to open 1NT, so they opened 1♣.

A vulnerable East overcalled 1♠ (after passing originally) and after South showed some points with a ♠ stopper, by bidding 1NT, North bid 3NT.

West leads the ♠K.

You duck this trick and West continues with the ♠2 and East plays the ♠T.

SOLUTION

It would appear that West started with two ♠s and East with five ♠s. Moreover, East couldn't open but had enough to bid vulnerable at their second turn. It would be a reasonable assumption to suggest, that East had some honour card(s) outside of the ♠ suit.

Therefore, play the ♠A now (you might be able to throw East in with a small ♠ later in the play, if you deem it necessary at the time).

Now play a small ♣ to the A and then a small ♣ from dummy back to the K. East throws a small ♦ on this trick. You now know that East started with five ♠s and one ♣ and therefore seven red cards (and this ♦ discard suggests that East started with three ♥s and four ♦s).

You now play a small ♣ to the J in dummy and East throws a small ♥.

It would appear that East has kept the three remaining ♠s and discarded some or all of their original ♦ holding.

Therefore, cash the ♦AK and return to your ♣Q in your hand. East follows to the ♦A and the ♦K.

The current position is shown on the next page.

Both sides vulnerable in a match point pairs event

	NORTH	
	♠9	
	♥AQ5	
	♦9	
	♣	
WEST		EAST(D)
♠		♠QJ3
♥???		♥??
♦QJ		♦
♣		♣
	SOUTH(D)	
	♠8	
	♥973	
	♦T	
	♣	

A couple of readers submitted an answer to this and they were more or less on the money, by throwing East in with a ♠. The timing wasn't always accurate but the concept was correct.

TP (my usual contributor) did submit the answer shown and he also suggested that an expert East may make the ending unclear.

I thank them for their input.

You are in your hand and now one of the reasons for not ducking the second ♠ lead becomes apparent.

You simply exit with the ♠8 and East can cash their three ♠ tricks but, after that, they must lead a ♥ around to the AQ in dummy. This comes to nine tricks.

An expert defender sitting in the East seat may make your understanding of the current position a little more obscure (by discarding differently for example baring down to the singleton ♥K). However, the principle is the same. Holding on to the potential ♠ exit card and understanding that East probably holds some points other than those in ♠s does give you a reasonably good chance of getting the ending correct.