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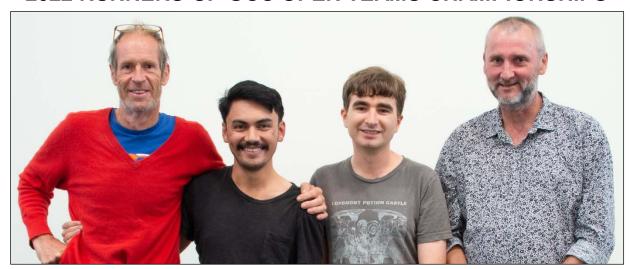


2022 WINNERS GCC OPEN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS



Team MILNE: GeO Tislevoll, Tony Nunn, Liam Milne, James Coutts, Nick Jacob, Paul Dalley

2022 RUNNERS-UP GCC OPEN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS



Team HAFFER: Joe Haffer, Jamie Thompson, Andrew Spooner, Phil Markey

OPEN	Place	C/F	1	2	3	4	Total	Team
Team	1 ST	0.1	36	43	51	18	148.1	MILNE : Nick Jacob - GeO Tislevoll - Tony Nunn - Liam Milne - Paul Dalley - James Coutts
Final	2 ND	0	28	13	34	47	122	HAFFER : Joachim Haffer - Jamie Thompson - Andrew Spooner - Philip Markey

Winners of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Open Pairs:

1st: Paul Gosney – Tony Leibowitz

2nd: Andy Hung – Sebastian Langdon MacMillan

3rd: Richard Wallis – Geoffrey Toon

Winners of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Intermediate Pairs:

Winners of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Restricted Pairs:



Winner of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs and Trophy
Paul Gosney and Tony Leibowitz



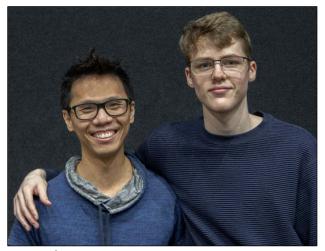
Winner of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Intermediate Pairs: Janet Hansen and Diane Morgan



Winner of the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Restricted Pairs: Nerida Gillies and Sandy Carter

See you all in 2023!

1st Janet Hansen – Diane Morgan
 2nd Joanne Bakas – Tassi Georgiadis
 3rd Gideon Azar – Michael Byrne
 1st Sandy Carter – Nerida Gillies
 2nd Izumi Offen – Annie Sheth
 3rd Anka Saundry – Peter Saundry



2nd in the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs: Andy Hung and Sebastion Langon MacMillian



2nd in the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Intermediate Pairs: Joanne Bakas and Tassi Georgiadis



2nd in the Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Restricted Pairs: Izumi Offen and Annie Sheth

OPEN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

Liam Milne

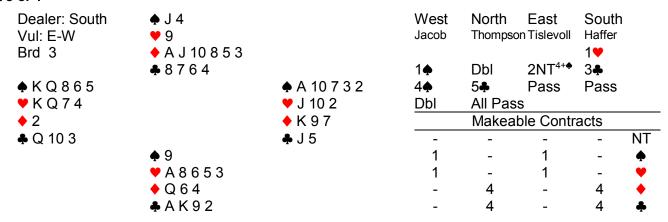
The finale of the week, the last stage of the Open Teams Championship, promised to be a doozy. The original second seeds MILNE and sixth seeds HAFFER had qualified top two and had both easily won their semi-final matches. Now it was all on the line for the title.

MILNE would be the bookies' favourites, but not by much. Liam Milne-James Coutts had recently won the event as a partnership in 2019, while Tony Nunn and GeO Tislevoll had both been on the winning 2014 team. For the rest of the players on each team, this was a rare opportunity to notch up a first win in the event.

Both teams also had the reputation of being active in the bidding and strong in the cardplay, so there were likely to be fireworks for the crowds watching the vugraph broadcast on BBO.

The first set saw MILNE take the lead with a 36-28 scoreline, followed by a 43-13 session in their favour to amass a 38-imp lead by lunchtime. Certainly not insurmountable, but HAFFER had some work to do.

Set 3 of 4



West	North	East	South
Markey	Dalley	Spooner	Nunn
			1♥
1 ♠ Pass	Dbl	3♠	Dbl
Pass	4	Pass	Pass
4♠	All Pass	3	

MILNE picked up a good swing early in the third set. North at both tables began with a negative double showing both minor suits, but from there matters diverged.

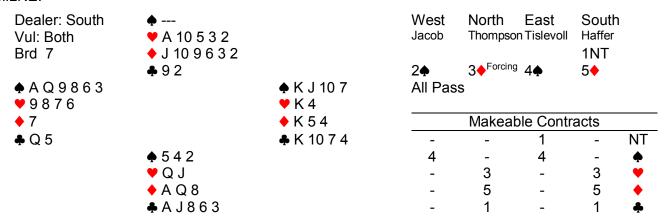
GeO Tislevoll, sitting East in the closed room, showed four spades and values. This convinced Nick Jacob to go for the vulnerable game, and likewise convinced Jamie Thompson to sacrifice at the favourable vulnerability. Jacob led his singleton diamond, and Joe Haffer unwisely

played low which created a second doubled undertrick when Jacob received two ruffs; NS -300.

At the other table Andrew Spooner raised spades in a weaker, more preemptive manner. Tony Nunn showed his spade shortage and fit for both minors with a takeout double, and Paul Dalley judged well to bid only 4 with his doubleton spade and stiff heart.

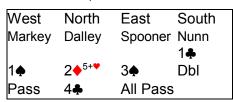
Now Phil Markey, who had passed over the double, tried a delayed 4♠. This was unconvincing enough that no one wanted to sacrifice, but not so unconvincing that anyone doubled.

Dalley led his stiff heart and the defence took all their ruffs. That was three down and another 300 for 12 imps to MILNE.



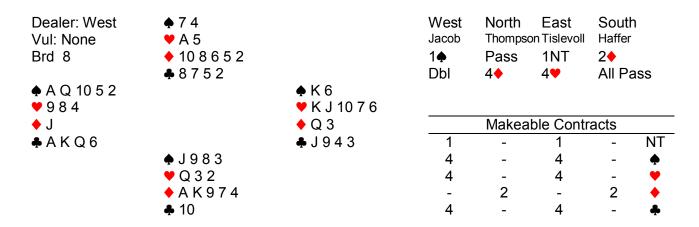
Thompson-Haffer did very well to reach their vulnerable 19-point game in the face of intervention. Under pressure, Thompson judged to describe his long suit with a forcing 3♦ giving up on the hearts for now with the opponents potentially going to 4♠ anyway.

This worked a treat when Haffer was able to raise diamonds to the five level. There were no difficulties in the play, Thompson ruffing the spade lead, drawing trumps and running the heart queen. That lost but there were eleven tricks, NS +600.



Tony Nunn chose not to upgrade into a strong notrump with the soft major suits. On a hand where plenty of bidding was required, Dalley started fine by bidding 2♠, a competitive transfer to hearts. After Spooner jumped to 3♠, Nunn doubled for takeout and Dalley inexplicably chose 4♣ rather than mention his six-card suit that partner had implied support for. Nunn could see no reason to keep bidding so that was the final resting place (or grave).

4♣ was not a thing of beauty and eventually drifted two down. That was NS -200 and a huge 13 imps back to HAFFER, now trailing 63-95.



Haffer found an aggressive 2♦ overcall with paradoxically simplified the East-West task of finding 4♥. He then thought long and hard about further overbidding with a 5♦ sacrifice, but eventually passed and led his singleton club.

Thompson rose ace on the first round of trumps and gave Haffer his club ruff. There was a long pause while Haffer considered underleading his diamonds to Thompson's potential queen, but eventually he decided that the suit preference signals in clubs suggested this wasn't working and played a spade.

Tislevoll won in hand, plonked down the heart king and claimed, NS -420.

West	North	East	South
Markey	Dalley	Spooner	Nunn
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Markey-Spooner had an 'Outback Acol' sequence to rapidly identify the heart fit and shut their opponents out of the auction.

Nunn led a top diamond then switched to a club, and Dalley did very well to duck the first heart. When Spooner finessed to the heart queen, there

was no avoiding a second heart loser and a ruff; NS +50 and 11 back to the MILNE squad.

On the next board, Markey took an uncharacteristically timid view with a strong 7-4 hand to miss a vulnerable game, while Nick Jacob bid the game at his opportunity. Single-dummy game was fair and in practice it was cold, so that was 10 more imps to MILNE.

Board 10 of the set saw Markey-Spooner conduct an aggressive Acol sequence where Dalley took a conservative view and could not catch up later, missing a cold vulnerable 3NT. At the other table, Haffer-Thompson had a much stronger auction to bid 3NT, and that was 12 imps back to HAFFER.

The scoreboard was resembling a yo-yo by this stage and the kibitzers on BBO were getting dizzy.

Dealer: South Vul: None	♠ A 7 4 ♥ K J 9 8 7		West Jacob	North Thompso	East on Tislevoll	Soutl Haffer	
Brd 11	♦ 4					Pass	
	♣ K 8 4 2		2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pa	ass
♠ K Q 8 6 5 3		♦ J 10 2					
v 10 3		* 2					
♦ Q 9 8		♦ A K J 6		Makea	ble Contr	acts	
♣ J 10		♣ A 9 7 6 5	-	-	-	-	NT
	• 9		4	-	4	-	•
	A Q 6 5 4		-	5	-	5	•
	10 7 5 3 2		-	-	-	-	•
	♣ Q 3		1	-	1	-	*

It is hard to fault either North or South for not entering the auction here. A weak 2♥ from Haffer would have saved the day, or a risky 3♥ overcall from Thompson, but everyone's actions were within tolerance.

There were only three losers in 4\,\Phi\$ and Thompson-Haffer surely hoped this would be a flat board.

West	North	East	South
Markey	Dalley	Spooner	Nunn
			Pass
1NT ⁹⁻¹⁴	2♥ ^{+minor}	Dbl	4 •
4 ∳ Pass	Pass	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Markey tested the market with a highly fruity "weak notrump" that would have Terence Reese turning in his grave. It was much safer for North to enter the auction at this table, and Nunn eventually made the fine decision to persist with the hearts at the five-level.

Spooner was happy to double this and collect the money. There was little money to be found, however, and when Dalley played on diamonds to establish the suit he was able to make 5 x for +650 and a final massive 14

imps to MILNE to round out the set.

After a wild set where 85 imps were turned over, MILNE had added another 17 to their overall margin, now leading 130-75 with one last set to play out.

The match continues on page 11.



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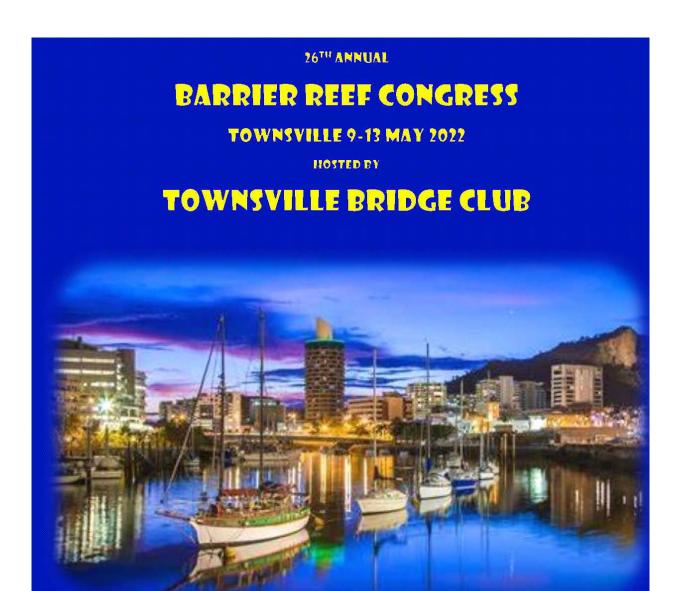
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TABLE COUNT TO THE END OF PLAY SATURDAY NIGHT 3993

(Last GCC 2020: 8853, and in 2019: 8845)

ADVENTURES FROM THE GOLD COAST

Rick Roeder, United States



I had planned to attend one of the truly great bridge tournaments in the world at Australia's Gold Coast. HOWEVER,.....

I could really relate to Novak Djokovic – just not in the way you think as I was always a big Federer guy. The efforts of Liliane and I to be able to get into Australia were absolutely comical if you have a madly perverse view of the word "comical." Prior to February 21, 2022, getting into Australia from overseas was about as easy as executing a non-simultaneous double squeeze. Even those living in Western Australia were strongly discouraged to attend given the quarantine requirements upon re-entry into WA.

I diddled around and did not apply for a tourist visa until about 17 days before our planned departure from the States. I was foolish to wait so long as I found out to my terror that Aussie's Home Affairs bureau was taking a very leisurely time in perusing visa applications. I suppose this made a degree of sense when you realize that Australia's COVID-related restrictions had been tighter than any country in the world.

I panicked. We had made travel arrangements and team arrangements, although such arrangements were frequently shifting. Liliane's close friend and bridge partner, Anne Marie Hazell, had cancelled due to COVID-induced caution. My partner for the teams and the pairs, Alan Watson, had previously backed out of our pairs commitment so that he could play with long-time friend, Peter Fordham, for understandable reasons. Alan feared that Peter's remaining time was quite limited. Peter had been in a courageous battle with cancer for 2+ years and later decided he only wanted to play in the teams with us. OK, my pairs game with Alan was now back on.

However, some potential visa relief appeared possible. I cleverly found a loophole in the visa process in the form of the words "de facto spouse." AHA!! De facto spouses of Aussie citizens appeared to receive special dispensation. Parisian-born Liliane maintains dual citizenship as she lived for a number of years in the Sydney suburb of Mosman. Truly a woman of the world, Liliane had displayed some questionable taste by living with me in San Diego the past 7 years.

But the Home Affairs folks were sharp. You could not have a one-night stand with an Aussie woman and then claim that you now had a de facto spouse. Those clever Aussies could see right through that! Proof was needed. I applied for a new visa with documentation that we had embarked on mutual ownership of some time shares that we NEVER should have purchased. Within 24 hours, I received a "no" response. Not enough proof was the verdict.

Undeterred, I immediately filed visa application #3 with LOTS more proof. Absolutely everything except for our most intimate details. Application accepted! I was now an official "de facto spouse" as I felt like "Dancing In The Street" with Martha & The Vandellas.

A happy end to the story? Not quite. I had been granted a "tourist" visa. There started to be some rumbling that there were certain subclasses of visas would not be acceptable for entry, one being a tourist visa. I re-panicked. One of my teammates, Bruce Neill, started to get very involved. He, and others, came up with the idea that if I applied for a "participant" visa, that might settle any doubts.

Meanwhile, Alan Watson called me again and said, "I have a big favor to ask." Uh oh! After all this bureaucratic heartache, I was quite wary. Alan said that Peter's oncologist had given him the "go ahead" to be a touch more active than initially thought. He wanted to play with Peter in pairs, again figuring that this would be their Last Dance. What could I do? A first for me as I have never been cancelled on TWICE by the same partner in the same event. The whole saga had given me a massive migraine. If Alan had re-cancelled a week earlier, Liliane and I likely would have scraped the trip. But, given the Herculean efforts by Bruce and others, I did not think cancellation was appropriate.

A bloke unknown to me, Charles Page, was now intervening on my behalf with Home Affairs. There were two other international players who were seeking to come into Australia as Charles was interceding on our behalf with the government. Pity those other two were not de facto spouses! Charles advised me to file a visa (number 4, by my counting) asking for a "participant" visa. Done! A couple days before our departure, we got affirmation from the government that we were a "go." I badly wanted to thank Charles at Gold Coast but the macabre intervened. He had a heart attack the night before the beginning of the tournament.

I would up with a "pick up" partner for the pairs, but no worries. I enjoyed the experience as Aussies tend to be cheerful and fun-loving. Being able to play Multi in pairs was refreshing as many, many Aussies do. As some know, my 12-year crusade to get Multi reinstated in National, open pair events in the USA is still ongoing. Memo to Bob Hamman: 85-year-old Little Old Ladies do not seem to have the slightest problem Down Under bidding against Multi.

I knew my only realistic chance to do something would rest in the forthcoming teams. The teams format is intriguing. After twelve 14-board Swiss matches over 3 days, the field is severely cut to 6 teams. Speaking of teammates, when I first saw Peter Fordham, I had to laugh. Cancer did not crimp his style in the least. Peter sported a way-too-small, half-cocked cap, a sweater vest and shorts. He appeared to be ready to go to a tribute event for AC/DC's Angus Young.

There is strong incentive to finish in the top 2 as they receive a bye into the semis. There is also incentive to finish 3rd. You get to pick whom to play in the "round of 6" from the remaining qualifiers.

Our second day of Swiss qualifying was truly memorable. In our first match, were embarrassed by the #38 seed to the tune of 61 IMPs. Damn, bridge is humbling! Next, we sat down against the legendary Stephen Burgess. Burgess is considered such a prodigious talent that Aussie expert, Peter Buchen, once asked me if I knew who the 2nd best bridge player in Australia was. Nope, I responded. His answer: Stephen Burgess – sober. Burgess has an unbelievable love affair with wine as I was to witness first hand. Burgess held:

♦9xx **♥**108xx **♦**: xxx **♣**: xxx

In fourth chair, at all red, Burgess heard Lefty open 1. Your partner bids 1NT, which gets smashed by Righty. Burgess passed, put down dummy and quickly left the room. About eight minutes and 1100 later, Burgess remerged with a bottle of wine in tow. Never mind that it was not quite noon and bringing alcohol into the convention centre was clearly illegal. "Ah," I sagely nodded as Burgess approached, "I always thought you were a Shiraz type of guy." Should Burgess have run from 1 No Trump doubled? I wondered if lengthening the auction was a factor in his decision. After all, that Shiraz seemed to be strongly beckoning. This episode offered testimony to another tale about the caustic Burgess. For better or worse, the prodigy is painfully honest. Turns out there was one exception: When he visited a doctor, Burgess was asked how much he drank, Burgess fibbed and said "two bottles a day." The reality: four! That he is still alive today is a medical marvel noted by actuaries the world over.

I was happy to play well against Burgess. Our reward in the next match: Michael Courtney. If Hollywood was casting for a rumpled man who looks like a brilliant, absent-minded university professor, they would look no further than Courtney. And Courtney IS brilliant as attested by his rubber bridge legend during his London years. Go through your Bridge World archives to check out some of his exploits. The chain-smoking Courtney was lamenting his first return to face-to-face bridge in 2 years. During COVID isolation, he could smoke to his heart's content while BBOing. Michael's confession: the transition in going without his cigarettes in his return to face-to-face bridge had adversely affected his game.

In our 12th and last qualifying match, we were in good shape, sitting 3rd. However, our opponents would be the formidable Milne team. I started to have flashbacks of the 12th qualifying match from my only previous visit to the Gold Coast in 2018. My partner was Perth's Jon Free. The pony-tailed bridge pro had a literal harem of bridge clients who had also flown cross country for the Gold Coast. Life in Perth seemed like it must be really swell! We needed a big finale to rise to the top 6. We totally nailed it except for one board: Jon and I had agreed to play Kickback. Our auction at nil vul:

Me LHO Jon RHO
1♦ Pass 1♥ 3♣
3♦ Pass 4NT All Pass

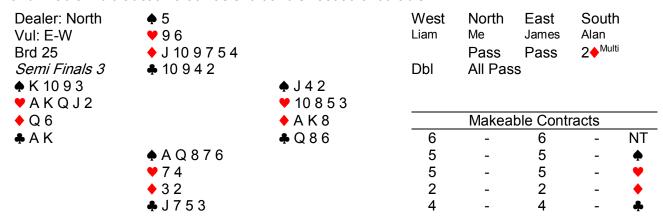
I was almost subminimum for my 3♦ rebid. I nervously passed 4NT. I watched the opponents proceed to cash EIGHT Club tricks as shock fully set in. Plus 920 was available. We missed out on 6th by less than 1 Victory Point. Four years later, I was having devilish flashbacks.

Our 12th match did not go well. 89% is a nice percent. Except when 9 tricks are available in 3NT and due to greed, stupidity and other sundry factors, you only manage to take 8 of them. I am guilty as charged. The Milne team was also the beneficiary of a random 26-IMP swing when they successfully bid to a 6 Spade contract that was slightly under 50% to fetch. In short, we lost the match by 23 IMPs as our faces turned to ash at the end of the comparison.

Perhaps the bridge Gods took pity on me for my 2018 nightmare. We fell in the final standings, but only to sixth. We snuck in by a margin of 0.2 Victory Points.

Fewer elements of bridge are sweeter than being "picked" by a team to be their KO opponent and then beating them. We were "picked" in the round of 6. We overcame a 13-IMP halftime deficit to make the semis. Naturally, the leading qualifier, the Milne team, picked us after our desultory showing the previous day. One of the pairs on the Milne team was the GeO Tislevoll and Nick Jacob duo that would represent New Zealand in the 2022 World Championships: If there was a bridge ranking equally weighted two factors: 1) bridge expertise and 2) a nice human being, I have little doubt that Nick would reign at the top of the list.

Not surprisingly, we were stuck 39 IMPs with 12 boards to go. However, the next two boards gave us hope. Alan and I had a Multi auction that was short and sweet at favourable:

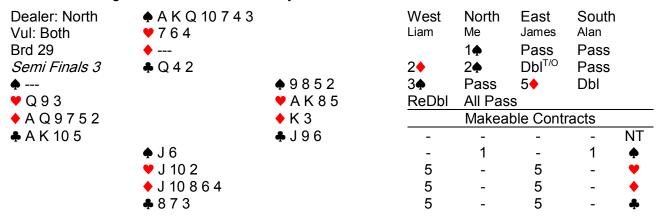


3 elements delighted me:

- 1) My decision not to open 3♦ was looking better.
- 2) My pass of the Double explicitly showed diamonds
- 3) The opponents could make 6NT. A spade ruff would beat 6♥ if found.

Our opponents collected 300 (could have been 500). On the next board, our opponents settled in 5. Slam makes as the diamond queen cooperates. Just the type of swingy board that one needs when trailing.

Hope is a curious commodity as it can be quickly extinguished. The nails would soon be in our coffin, thanks in measure to an exciting hand of 5♦xx, declared by Liam Milne.



Liam made quick work of the hand. He ruffed the spade lead and led a diamond to the king, confirming the 5-0 trump break. He continued with a diamond, as Alan played the 10 to Liam's queen. Two high clubs were cashed to see if the Lady would drop. Nope. Then a heart to dummy and another spade ruff. Liam cashed a sigh of relief to see that that two more heart tricks both lived. Then he exited a club, with the A9 of diamonds in coup position. +1000 for the bad guys. Ballgame. A real shame as Bruce Neill carefully made 4♥ on the Moysian. I feel sure Bruce was shocked to see that he lost 8 IMPs after his fine effort.

Liam would go on to beat Phil Markey's team in the finals. If you think that I have exhausted my stories about colorful characters in the Aussie bridge universe, think again. Consider Phil Markey. Phil loves to play his 1NT openers as 9-14 HCP. Purists will gasp but, in practice, most find it difficult to effectively hand out speeding tickets. In my maiden trip to the Gold Coast, when I played Markey, we kept playing 1NT redoubled. I can assure you that when this occurs in teams, your blood pressure will be skyrocketing. If you happened to be at Orlando's 2018 World Championships and saw a tall Aussie bloke walking around barefoot at the playing site, you have set eyes on Mr. Markey.

Was the journey Down Under worth our epic visa saga, driving 3 hours to Los Angeles, just so we could get on a 15-hour flight to Sydney, transfer over to the domestic terminal, followed by yet another flight to the Gold Coast? Damn Straight!



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OPEN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL - SET 4 OF 4

Liam Milne

With 55 imps to find, HAFFER were bound to turn up the dial a notch or two. After a quiet first few boards, they landed their first swing.

Dealer: North Vul: None	♠ 8 6 4 ♥ K 4 2		West Markey	North Tislevoll	East Spooner	South Jacob	1
Brd 17	♦ 8 7 6 3				1♥	Pass	
	A 10 4		2	Pass	2♥	Pass	
♠ A Q 10 2		♦ 5 3	2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass	
♥ A		♥ Q J 10 9 6 5	3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pa	ass
♦ K Q J 10 9		•		Makeal	ole Contra	acts	
♣ J 9 2		♣ K Q 8 7 3	4	-	4	-	NT
	♠ KJ97		3	-	3	-	•
	9 8 7 3		4	-	4	-	•
	♦ A 5 4 2		2	-	2	-	•
	♣ 6 5		5	-	5	-	♣

West	North E	ast	South
Milne	Thompson C	outts	Haffer
	. 3	Y	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Both tables bid to the excellent 4 contract. Both Souths found the most challenging lead of their doubleton club, and both Norths opted to win the ace and make a deceptive return of the club ten, ostensibly signalling suit preference for spades.

Coutts won dummy's club jack, cashed the ace of trumps and played a diamond pitching his losing spade. Haffer won and played a testing spade, and now Coutts had to guess whether the hand that had short clubs also held the heart king (and therefore there was no ruff coming) or whether diamonds were 4-4, allowing him to throw all three of his remaining clubs. Deciding the latter was more likely, he ruffed a diamond and led a trump. Curtains – Thompson could win the king and return a club for down one.

Spooner also won trick two in dummy, cashed the heart ace and played a diamond. When Tislevoll played low, he judged that the diamond ace was definitely offside while the spade hook was still a live chance. Accordingly, he ruffed the diamond and played a trump. Tislevoll could win and return a club for Jacob to ruff, but Spooner took the spade finesse to make his contract. NS -420 and 10 imps to HAFFER.

Dealer: South	10 6 4		West	North	East	South	1
Vul: E-W	♥ K Q 7 3		Markey	Tislevoll	Spooner	Jacob	
Brd 19	A K Q 3					Pass	
	4 10 9		Pass	1♦	1♠	Dbl	
♦ 952		♠ A K J 8 7 3	2♠	3♥	3♠	4 🕶	
♥ A 9 5 2		♥ J	Dbl	All Pas	S		
10 7 4		9652		Makeal	ole Contra	acts	
♣ K Q 8		♣ 7 2	1	-	1	-	NT
	♠ Q		2	-	2	-	•
	v 10 8 6 4		-	3	-	3	•
	♦ J 8		-	1	-	1	•
	♣ A J 6 5 4 3		-	2	-	2	*

A hotly contested board saw Tislevoll declare a shaky 4 v with the hearts breaking 4-1. Knowing partner had four trumps, Spooner opted to tap the dummy with two rounds of spades. Tislevoll ruffed and played a heart to the king and jack, then passed a club to Markey's gueen.

Now ace of hearts and another heart would leave Tislevoll without a place for his losing third spade, but Markey continued that attack on dummy's trumps with a third spade. Tislevoll ruffed and led a second heart to Markey's ace. Declarer now needed West to follow to all four diamonds and a second club, and the lead would be in dummy at trick twelve for a trump coup with North's ♥Q-7 covering West's ♥9-5. Not today, and Tislevoll was down in a contract that he could have made in various ways; NS -100.

West	North	East	South
Milne	Thompson	Coutts	Haffer
			3♣
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
Pass 3NT	Pass Dbl	3 ♠ ReDbl ^{Do}	

Haffer's wily 3♣ preempt created a totally different auction. Coutts might have passed out 3♣, or Milne might have passed 3♠, but when they both took aggressive views searching for the non-existent vulnerable game, Thompson was happy to teach them a lesson. Haffer selected the best lead of a diamond and Thompson was able to play four rounds to promote the queen of trumps. There was still the ace of clubs to come and NS had +500 for 12 imps to HAFFER.

Dealer: West Vul: Both Brd 20	♠ 6 5♥ A 6♦ A Q 6 5 3♣ K 7 4 2		West Markey 3♠ Pass	North Tislevoll Pass 5NTYou pi		South Jacob 4NT ² Dbl	
♠ 10 9 8 7 3 2 ♥ 8		♠ A K Q J 4 ♥ K 10 7 3	All Pas		ala Cambo		
♦ K 10 8		♦ J 7 4		Makear	ole Contra	acts	
4 8 5 3		♣ Q	-	1	-	1	NT
	•		3	-	3	-	•
	🛡 Q J 9 5 4 2		-	6	-	6	•
	♦ 9 2		-	5	-	4	•
	♣ A J 10 9 6		-	6	-	6	*

Phil Markey found another anti-field opening, this time treating the West hand as a 3• preempt. At least he did not open a weak notrump, some in the audience whispered.

Loving his spade void, Jacob ventured in with a 4NT two-suited takeout. Tislevoll had support for at least one of partner's suits and a great hand in context, so he sent the decision back to Jacob but at the six level.

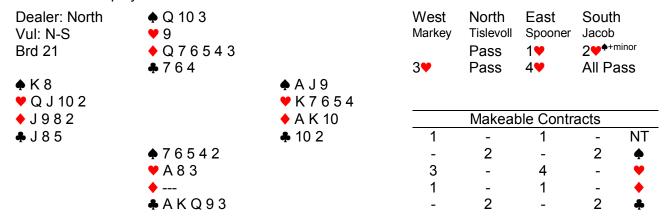
Spooner had some defence but knew someone had a spade void. Deciding there weren't likely to be two defensive tricks, he took the save in 6♠. He was right, and when 6♠ was doubled for NS +800, this was a position that could be lots of imps either direction depending on whether HAFFER could find slam in the other room.

West	North	East	South
Milne	Thompson	n Coutts	Haffer
Pass 4 ♠	1♦	1♠	2 💙
4♠	Dbl	All Pas	SS

A much slower start to the auction saw Thompson double 4, intended as takeout to encourage action at the five-level from his partner. Looking at his spade void, Haffer thought his partner was doubling for penalties and decided to leave it in.

This was not a roaring success when Coutts made nine tricks. Only +200 for NS and 12 imps away to MILNE.

Now trailing by 43 with four boards left to play, HAFFER needed a minor miracle to pull off an upset. But who amongst us does not remember the previous Open Teams Final in 2020, where CORNELL trailed by 30 imps with three boards to play and won 42 across those to win the event?



Eyeing the vulnerability, Tislevoll conservatively passed 3 rather than dredge up a 3 raise in case partner had a large hand. In normal conditions this might pass muster; with an opposing team bidding everything in sight, it might have been prudent to protect his side by mentioning the fit.

Thinking partner likely had heart shortage, Jacob wanted to bid once more but couldn't bring himself to do it. 4♥ was a trivial make, NS -420.

West	North	East	South
Milne	Thompson	Coutts	Haffer
	Pass	1NT	2♠
Dbl	3♠	4 •	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Haffer and Thompson landed another heavy blow on this deal, bidding boldly and aggressively to reach their vulnerable 4♠. The spotlight was on Milne to find the killing lead of the spade king, perhaps findable given Coutts' double, but he fell from grace and led the 'normal' heart queen. Haffer was able to ruff two hearts in dummy and lose just three trumps for an outrageous +790.

The double game swing was good for 15 imps to HAFFER and the margin was down to 29 imps with three boards left.

Sadly for them, the fairy-tale finish fizzled out. The last three boards were partscore hands and although HAFFER picked up one more small swing, MILNE were the winners 148-123.

PHOTOS: DAY NINE





PHOTOS: DAY NINE







GOLD COAST RESCUE

SERIES ONE

GOLD MASTERPOINTS

Saturday 5th March

Open and Restricted (Under 300 at 31/12/21)

Butler Swiss Pairs

Sunday 6th March Open Swiss Teams

Two sessions each day: 9 am and 1 pm AEST

(Queensland Time)

All entries and payments on



\$40 per player per day

https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/193

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ABF Regulations as modified by the Supplementary Regulations apply. Green and Blue systems only in Restricted. No Yellow systems in Open.









GIVES US YOUR IDEAS FOR 2023 AND BEYOND

Thank you for joining our 60th birthday celebration of the Gold Coast Congress 2022. As we scale up towards 2023, we would value your ideas and suggestions as we make the GCC bigger and better than ever.

Click on the following link to take you to a simple two question survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q22F5TV

or scan the QR code below with your smart phone



DEFENCE IN DETAIL

Liam Milne

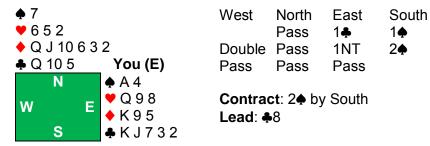


Dlr: North

Vul: Nil

Letting auto-pilot take over is not normally conducive to high quality bridge. But sometimes partner's signal can help you snap out of it.

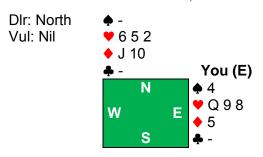
Playing matchpoints sitting in the East seat, you hear the following auction:



The defence against 2♠ begins very nicely. Partner's ♣8 lead goes to the ♣5, ♣J and declarer takes their ♣A. At trick two declarer leads a diamond and partner win the ace in order to continue with the ♣4 confirming a doubleton.

You take the ♣K and return the ♣2 to signal for a diamond as partner ruffs. Partner dutifully follows your signal, but declarer trumps your ♦K then plays the ♠K around to your ♠A.

With four tricks in the bag already and dummy completely dead, you naturally continue with the deluge of clubs. On the fourth club, declarer throws the ♥4 and partner throws their last diamond, while on the fifth and final club declarer throws the ♥7 and partner throws the ♥3, low encouraging. What should you play in this ending?

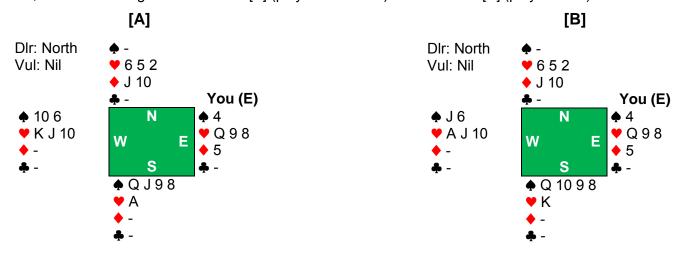


As always, we must start with what we know. Declarer is surely marked with a 6=3=1=3 shape, so they have one heart and four trumps left. Partner has two trumps and three hearts. The top two hearts rate to be split both on the bidding and partner's failure to lead a heart.

The auto-pilot play is to play a diamond. There doesn't seem much that can go wrong, and we might promote a trump trick for partner – for example, if they are down to \$\int\$10-x at this point. It certainly does look like declarer is trying to avoid a trump promotion.

Could it ever be wrong to play your diamond? Yes. If partner has the ♥A and an unpromotable trump holding, declarer will throw their last (losing) heart on the diamond and partner will be forced to ruff with their trump trick. Turning +150 into +100 won't be a good outcome.

So, does the ending look like this in [A] (play a diamond?). Or like this in [B] (play a heart)?



There are plenty of clues, but partner has given you one clear signal at just the moment you need it. Their encouraging heart discard when declarer is marked with only one more heart to everyone at the table simply must show the ace. If that is the case, it can never be wrong to play a heart and might be the only way to avoid declarer throwing their $\forall K$ away.

If partner didn't have the ace of hearts, they could make their need for a trump promotion as clear as possible by throwing a high (discouraging) heart. Even the king (denying the ace) would do the trick nicely!

Point to remember: when you aren't quite sure what is going on, conduct a quick recap on what spot cards partner has played. They are the one on your side, after all – even if it doesn't always feel like it!

THE KLINGER QUIZ

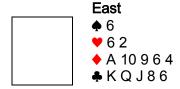
Ron Klinger



This series of quizzes consist of problems that were faced in real life tournaments. Here is the final problem:

Teams
Dealer: South
Vul: Both

W	'est	
•	10 9 8	
•	K 7 4 3	
•	KJ732	2
*	5	



West	North	East	South
			1♠
Pass	4 ♦ ¹	Dbl	4♠
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	
(1) 4+	, 0-1 dia	mond, 10	0-14 pts

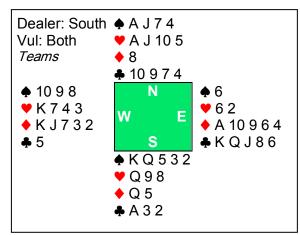
Contract: 5♦X by West Lead: ♠A by North.

Trick 1: $\triangle A - \sin A - \cos A - \cos A$

Trick 2: ♣10 – ? Plan the play.

Solution:

This deal was from the final of a National Women's Team Selection Playoff:



At both tables in the Open Final, South was +650 in 4♠, no E-W bidding. Ditto at one table in the Women's final. At the remaining table, Barbara Travis was West in 5♦ doubled after the auction given.

North led the \triangle A and switched to the \triangle 10. Travis cleverly ducked in dummy! On the next club, king, ace, West ruffed. After \triangle K, \triangle A, she ditched three hearts on the clubs, one off, -100, +11 Imps.

South could / should have taken the A at trick 2 to shift to a heart, but North can make it easier by switching to a low club.

Murphy's Basic Law for defenders: If you give partner a chance to do the wrong thing, partner will take that chance.

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Buy any eight books from the ones listed in the Daily Bulletin and they will be sent post free, together with a free copy of *The Bridge Player Who Laughed* (humour), normally \$10, and also a free copy of *Bid Against The Masters* (normally \$16), by Keith McNeil.

Bridge holidays: Currently on hold.



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VISIT THE TBIB TEAM AT TBIB'S KIOSK IN THE FOYER AT THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS ON THE Monday 21st February TILL Friday 25th February 2022.

The team can talk to you about ABF Travel Insurance or any of your insurance matters right there at the GCC

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Each day, 5 names will be drawn from the congress register and those 5 will get a chance to spin the TBIB Prize Wheel to win Bridge gift vouchers and a bunch of TBIB goodies. Don't miss out!

		Ivy Dahler Swiss Pa	irs (C	PEN	1) –	Overall Results	
Rank	Pair	Names	Total	Rank	Pair	Names	Total
1	8	Paul Gosney – Tony Leibowitz	145.28	50	52	Julian Gauld - John Clarson	98.95
2	9	Andy Hung - Sebastian Langdon Macmillan	135.05	50	62	Heath Henn – Paul Brake	98.95
3	22	Richard Wallis - Geoffrey Toon	129.37	52	42	Patricia Grigson – John McIlrath	98.12
4	24	Sue O'Brien - Ken Dawson	127.19	53	70	Robin Ho - Alexander Cook	97.84
5	97	Justin Mill - Siegfried Konig	125.30	54	79	Tim O'Loughlin - Keith Barrie	97.82
6	19	Neville Francis - Patrick Bugler	124.75	55	35	Jim Fitz-Gerald - Ellie Fitz-Gerald	97.38
7	54	Val Roland - Michael Stoneman	123.32	56	43	Richard Misior - Eduardo Besprosvan	97.03
8	10	Terry Strong - Jill Magee	123.19	57	80	Sue Robinson - Lou Tillotson	96.74
9	37	Jenny Michael - Rakesh Kumar	123.02	58	13	Jessica Brake - Susan Humphries	95.47
10	66	Simon Rose - Barry Rawicki	122.98	59	17	Jane Beeby - Michael Wilkinson	95.38
11	34	Sylvia Gluck - Ben Kingham	121.15	60	83	Joan Campbell - Joy Trigg	95.22
11	1	David Smith - David Beauchamp	121.15	61	69	Alex Phillips - Alan Stoneham	95.12
13	3	Alex Smirnov - Ella Jacob	121.07	62	11	Anthony Burke - Phil Gue	94.76
14	61	Andrew Woollons - Richard Fox	120.91	63	53	Bijan Assaee - Dominic Kwok	93.85
15	14	Ian Afflick - Paul Collins	119.39	64	67	Trish Thatcher - Amber Noonan	93.19
16	12	David Hudson - David Fryda	117.59	65	15	Alexander Long - Tony Lusk	91.91
17	96	Alan Hamilton - June Glenn	115.90	66	92	Michael Dorevitch - Paul Kron	91.37
18	56	Kuldip Bedi - Bronwyn Macleod	114.41	67	39	Nikolas Moore - Rachel Langdon	91.03
18	20	Bill Nash - James Wallis	114.41	68	27	Eva Shand - Les Varadi	90.64
20	58	Pamela Evans - James Evans	113.96	69	25	Andrew Mill - Annette Maluish	89.66
21	78	Angeline Christie - Edward Hahn	113.71	70	82	Phil Pollett - Annette Corkhill	89.31
22	18	Sandra Richman - Andrew Richman	113.70	71	76	Annette Hyland - Abby Wanigaratne	89.17
23	2	Michael Courtney - George Kozakos	113.01	72	44	Frank Vearing - Greg Nicholson	88.74
24	49	George Gaspar - Sue Small	112.85	73	59	Yvonne Kilvert - Rosemary Mooney	88.61
25	4	Shane Harrison - Martin Bloom	112.52	74	74	Gil Clarke - Pauline Erby	87.74
26	32	Normand Maclaurin - Terry O'Dempsey	111.10	75	81	David O'Gorman - Julie Jeffries	86.75
27	65	Rebecca O'Reilly - David Gue	110.52	76	31	Jay Faranda - Eva Berger	86.68
28	46	Neven Burica - Roberta Tait	110.28	77	36	Paul Weaver - Terry Bodycote	86.60
29	45	Bev Crossman - Ian Lisle	109.42	78	77	Lois Pollock - Dianne Rigano	86.50
30	6	Jeanette Reitzer - Terry Brown	106.85	79	94	Mark Igel - Les Ajzner	86.36
31	51	Tere Wotherspoon - Liliane Kirchhoff	106.58	80	29	Vicky Lisle - Niek Van Vucht	84.62
32	30	Merle Bogatie - Tony Berger	106.56	81	41	Edda Strong - Tom Strong	84.24
33	23	Tomer Libman - Lavy Libman	106.04	82	73	Sue Read - Penny Blankfield	83.93
34	40	David Shilling - Andrew Hill	105.75	83	57	Val Holbrook - Pat Beattie	83.86
35	68	Michael Gearing - Damon Flicker	105.55	84	91	Gayle Bagg - Louis Cukierman	83.73
35		Peter Clarke - Hans Van Weeren	105.55	85	64	Barry Williams - Lex Bourke	82.42
37	7	Nicoleta Giura - Nick Hughes	105.16	86	47	Phil Hale - Jim Wood	81.69
38	75	Jack Rohde - Lex Ranke	103.48	87	89	Melva Leal - Fay Jeppesen	77.65
39	48	Gary Lynn - Clive Klugman	103.24	88	93	Stan Rosenthal - Harry Procel	77.49
40	55	Winston Guymer - Paul Smith	102.21	89	38	Wendy O'Brien - Malcolm Allan	75.95
41	16	Larry Moses - Ralph Parker	101.84	90	72	Sunil Mukherjee - Bert Luchjenbroers	75.56
42	28	John Luck - Ivy Luck	101.82	91	95	Danni Fuller - Joshua Tomlin	75.20
43	5	Liz Sylvester - Peter Gill	101.74	92	21	Sue Ingham - Fraser Rew	74.82
44	60	Christine Houghton - Wayne Houghton	101.64	93	26	Bas Bolt - Roger Weathered	73.82
45	84	Dewi Eastman - Winny Chan	101.14	94	86	Lynne Gray - Evelyne Mander	72.22
46	50	Tony Treloar - Graham Rusher	101.11	95	88	Anne Brooks - Betty Mill	71.56
47	98	Lindell Day - Lynley Jenkins	100.99	96	90	Peter Bardos - Elizabeth Neil	69.44
48	33	Errol Miller - Noel Bugeia	100.20	97	71	Yolande Coroneo - Peter Nilsson	64.83
49	63	Michael Sullivan - Christopher Leach	99.96	98	87	Joan Small - Penny Baldwin	57.33





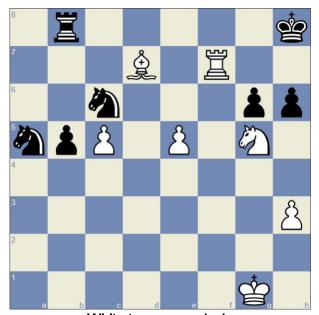
Ivy Dahler Swiss Pairs (INTERMEDIATE) – Overall Results								
Rank	Pair	Names	Total	Rank	Pair	Names	Total	
1	8	Janet Hansen - Diane Morgan	139.73	20	10	Lyn Tracey - Mick Fawcett	100.38	
2	12	Joanne Bakas - Tassi Georgiadis	122.39	21	15	Ian Barfoot - Fay Stanton	100.36	
3	26	Gideon Azar - Michael Byrne	121.46	22	37	Judith Anderson - Dorothy Bennett	99.31	
4	38	Kate Gargan - Sonja Ramsund	116.66	23	13	Jamal Rayani - Parveen Rayani	97.26	
5	14	Andrew Ferguson - Doug Baldwin	116.34	24	31	Kevin Willcocks - Julie Willcocks	96.46	
6	28	Matti Shub - John Quayle	115.89	25	34	Barbara O'Shea - Glenda Parmenter	95.60	
7	6	Wendy Gibson - Linda Norman	114.90	26	27	Jane Gryg - Rick Gryg	91.01	
8	20	Joanne Crockford - Peter Karol	114.20	27	7	Kay Leeton - Jenny Hoff	90.22	
9	1	Neil Strutton - Helen Chamberlin	111.34	28	21	Dean Hollingworth - Peter Coppin	89.87	
10	17	Kim McDonald - Barry Koster	110.48	29	29	Klarika Tortely - Jenny Crawt	89.08	
11	25	John Churchett - Trevor Henderson	110.44	30	19	Kay Anderson - Lorraine Zoia	86.94	
12	16	Robin Devries - Daria Williams	109.96	31	30	Joyce Donovan - Sylvia Fox	85.44	
13	9	Bernadette O'Connell - Narelle McIver	109.45	32	11	Catherine Ellice-Flint - Bill Bradshaw	85.24	
14	24	Jeff Conroy - Suzi Ledger	108.20	33	35	Maeve Doyle - Stuart Schon	84.61	
15	2	Rilla England - Lise Allan	107.00	34	3	Denise Rogers - Lee Rogers	83.28	
16	5	Dot Piddington - Jennifer Sawyer	103.69	35	33	Sue Martin - Sue Falkingham	80.84	
17	18	Loraine Neville - Jeanette Weaver	103.41	36	4	Barry Coe - Patricia Powis	78.78	
18	32	Barbara Williams - Megan Grant	102.91	37	22	Denis Ward - Allan McIntyre	69.89	
19	23	Carolann Verity - Jennifer Hollingworth	102.24	38	36	Roxane Brayshaw - Dimity Burke	56.20	

	Ivy Dahler Swiss Pairs (RESTRICTED) – Overall Results								
Rank	Pair	Names	Total	Rank	Pair	Names	Total		
1	25	Sandy Carter - Nerida Gillies	131.39	24	30	Eugene Krausz - Marina Green	102.74		
2	11	Izumi Offen - Annie Sheth	123.51	25	22	Catherine Griffiths - Bev Northey	101.69		
3	42	Anka Saundry - Peter Saundry	122.78	26	18	Barbara Howard - Lyn Dempster	100.13		
4	36	Peter Lyons - Tom Lyons	122.45	27	27	Barbara Moni - Pat Eather	97.37		
5	28	Petille Faulkner - Hayley Mitchell	121.89	28	35	Judy Mawbey - Jenny Mawson	97.07		
6	46	Nanette Hinsch - Kerry Pope	120.43	29	31	Robyn Green - Ann Smith	95.05		
7	4	Mary Simon - Kevin Hamilton-Reen	117.81	30	17	Drew Campi - Moira Smith	94.66		
8	33	Gary Petterson - Carmel Dwan	117.60	31	44	Frank Ajzensztat - Michelle Ajzensztat	92.32		
9	6	Matthew Tiplady - Rodney Macey	116.30	32	8	Deanne Gaskill - Gill Phillippo	91.82		
10	37	David Cumming - Colin Speller	111.69	33	24	Sandi Pirozzo - Ann Sauer	90.91		
11	1	Debbie Gibbards - Gary Gibbards	111.56	34	15	Magdeline Wong - Susan Kennard	90.34		
12	7	Ted Morriss - Jane Doyle	111.10	35	9	Rob Anderson - Glenys Tipler	89.55		
13	39	Oliver McCarthy - Darren Brake	110.49	36	19	Jenny Paterson - Max Paterson	88.94		
14	14	Ming Ting - David Ting	108.11	37	2	Manfred JUNGE - Mingshu YANG	87.66		
15	12	Philip Roberts - Lesley Sutherland	106.85	38	45	Helen Zerphey - Ada Krawczyk	85.54		
16	38	Peter Schmidt - John Rivers	106.24	39	43	Lesley Cobb - Alexa Parker	84.63		
17	32	Annette Scott - Katheleen Clifford	106.10	40	26	Jane Stephens - Colin Kleinig	82.71		
18	29	Helen Blair - Inta Devine	105.27	41	41	Tertia Brink - Jane Lennox	79.77		
19	10	Ken Hubbell - Frank Hardiman	104.84	42	23	Ruth Hoffensetz - Mel Gilmour	78.72		
20	3	Anne Russell - Jenny Coyle	104.09	43	40	Raelene Kell - Christine Egan	72.64		
21	13	Sewyoon Yap-Giles - Lynette Fraser	103.78	44	21	Susie Herring - Peter Hooper	71.81		
22	16	Vesna Markovic - Voyko Markovic	103.49	45	20	Jim Love - Barbara Love	67.27		
23	5	Janette Kollisch - Natasha Thomas	103.20	46	34	Sue Noble - Irene Allpass	65.69		

	Paul Lavings Bridgegear Sat AM Walk-In Pairs	
	Pair	Score
1	Gabrielle Elich - Fay Stanton	61.46
1	Diana Saul - Douglas Harrah	61.46
3	Gregory Gosney - Margaret Plunkett	54.51
4	Paul Thiem - Alan Corkhill	52.78
5	Beryl Manuel - Chris Van Wyck	51.39
6	Jake Andrew - Frances Lyons	51.04
7	Gwen Riordan - Kevin Riordan	36.46
8	Hanna Majewski - Leif Michelsson	30.90

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S CHESS PROBLEM SOLUTION TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU [TOUGH]

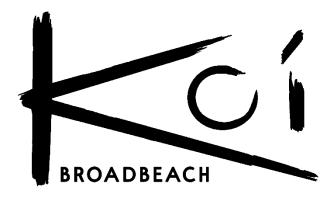


White to move and wi	In
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- 1. Rh7+ Kg8 2. Be6+ Kf8 3. Rf7+ Kg8 4. Rd7+ Kf8+
- 5. Nh7+ Ke8 6. Nf6+ Kf8 7. Rf7#











GOLD COAST BRIDGE CONGRESS

— 2023 —

Friday 17th to Saturday 25th February 2023 GOLD COAST CONVENTION CENTRE, BROADBEACH

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