

61ST International
**2023 GOLD COAST
BRIDGE CONGRESS**
BULLETIN 9



**YOUR DAILY
BULLETIN**

Electronic only and
a link sent daily

Saturday 25 February

[Stephen Lester](#) and [Barry Rigal](#)

Final tables

6457

3993 in 2022



Open Teams Champions, Paul Dalley, Paul Gosney, Tony Leibowitz and Tony Nunn



I can't believe Dad opened that hand!



Y'all come back now!

In 2024 the Gold Coast Congress will be held from the 17th to 24th February,
with the theme Sports



Open Teams runners up, Michael Ware, Brian Mace, Hugh McGann, Tom Jacob, NZ residents



Match in progress: Matthew Thomson second from left

Thanks and farewell

Congratulations to David Stern, who edited the Gold Coast Bulletin from 2008 right through to the early 2020s. He left a legacy.

It is daunting to follow in the deep footprints David etched in the sand, and I am now ready for a long holiday.

I received only one submission in the Bulletin box. It was anonymous and pleaded for a return to a single column format.

David agrees with the suggestion, but I have no problem reading a single column by enlarging with my fingers.

Stephen Lester, Editor

Semi finals Gold Coast Teams 3

Down 28, the Rosenberg team had 12 boards to come back. They started promisingly when Rosenberg brought home 3NT here while Leibowitz did not.

Board 26	♠ T98		
<i>Dealer E</i>	♥ KQ976		
<i>Vul Both</i>	♦ K95		
	♣ 63		
♠ 765		♠ AKJ	
♥ J843		♥ AT	
♦ J		♦ AQ863	
♣ KT542		♣ QJ9	
	♠ Q432		
	♥ 52		
	♦ T742		
	♣ A87		



It seems to me on a spade lead that correct technique is to win cheaply and play the ♣Q then overtake a second club when South follows. Then run the ♦J from dummy. North will cover so you can play three rounds of the suit, hoping to come to three diamonds, three spades two clubs and a heart. With the hearts lying as they do, you cannot be defeated.

The only question is whether when North wins the third diamond and shifts to a low heart, might you consider going up with the ace to block the suit?

That would be necessary if North had four diamonds and five hearts to an honour – but the early play in the black suits may have made that improbable?

On the next deal Thomson widened the gap over Ziggy perhaps after a state-of-the-match decision?

Board 27	♠ Q874		
<i>Dealer S</i>	♥		
<i>Vul None</i>	♦ KT4		
	♣ A87642		
♠ AT3		♠ K96	
♥ KQT643		♥ AJ9852	
♦ J6		♦ Q972	
♣ Q9		♣	
	♠ J52		
	♥ 7		
	♦ A853		
	♣ KJT53		

As East Mill heard Brown open 1♥ and he jumped to 4♣ after the 2♣ overcall. Brown bid 5♥ (weaker than a forcing pass) and Mill looked with favour on his club void and bid 6♥. Even if Brown's ♣Q and ♦J had been the king slam wouldn't have been great, so perhaps the decision was rather pushy. But one doesn't come back from big deficits by playing down the middle.

With nothing much happening at their table Kole-snik - Kaplan pushed to a very thin 3NT – down three – but the killer was this deal:

Board 35 ♠ Q97

Dealer S ♥ Q8742

Vul E-W ♦ 85

♣ AK6

♠ AJ85

♥ AKJT

♦ AQT

♣ Q9

♠ T6

♥ 95

♦ KJ743

♣ 8754

♠ K432

♥ 63

♦ 962

♣ JT32

Everyone's 3NT, making nine on a heart lead? No, a psychic opener from Kaplan, South saw him escape for 500 (in 4♥x), while in the other room Paul Dalley led a top club and cashed out the suit, leaving declarer with no ninth trick.

Both trailing teams bid a decent slam on the final deal (missed in the other room) to reduce the match margin but Leibowitz and Thomson had deserved their wins and would surely produce a good final.



Adam Kaplan

Gold Coast Teams**Finals 1**

The match started with a flat board that was anything but dull:

Board 1

Dealer N

Vul None

♠ K4

♥ AQT93

♦ AT65

♣ J8

♠ QJ96

♥ KJ875

♦ J83

♣ 5

♠ T82

♥ 42

♦ K4

♣ QT7642

♠ A753

♥ 6

♦ Q972

♣ AK93

Jacob - Mace play a form of little Major where the minor openings show the linked major. North opened to show hearts, 11+. South relayed to find five hearts and four diamonds and a minimum in context, then settled for 3NT.

On a club lead declarer won in hand and misguessed diamonds by leading to the nine, but with both heart honours onside all roads led to at least nine tricks.

In the other room Paul Gosney showed the red suits and Leibowitz went past 3NT looking for slam, putting the brakes on in 5♦. Gosney won the club lead in dummy and finessed the ♥Q, then ruffed a heart and ran the ♦9. The defenders took their club ruff and exited in trumps. Gosney won in dummy and ruffed a club – and in the process executed a trump squeeze on West.

That player had to give up long card in either spades or hearts and when he pitched a spade Gosney could ruff out the suit. 11 tricks and no swing.

The second deal saw Dalley take the lead when Leibowitz overcalled on a hand that Mace did not. Holding seven semi-solid clubs missing the ace his 2♣ overcall saw his opponents correctly stop in

partscore rather than play 4♠ (since with two aces to lose game was heavily odds against). Mace did not overcall and now Nunn - Dalley reached 3NT on power. When there was no entry to the clubs, declarer could drive out the aces from the other hand and come to nine tricks for +400 and a 6 IMP gain.

Each EW pair set a 4♠ contract off three top tricks and a trump promotion (aggravatingly, with a singleton trump queen missing just three trumps).

A difference in hand valuation put Thomson in front. How would you evaluate a seven-count (KQ-sixth of spades and a singleton ♣Q in a 6-3-3-1 pattern) facing a 15-17 no-trump?

Board 4 ♠ J94
Dealer W ♥ Q9
Vul Both ♦ 9853
 ♣ J953

♠ A83	♠ KQ7652
♥ KJT8	♥ 532
♦ AJ7	♦ T62
♣ A84	♣ Q
♠ T	
♥ A764	
♦ KQ4	
♣ KT762	

Thomson drove to game via a Texas transfer, and found 10 tricks were almost cold.

Nunn transferred at the two-level and passed the response. The opponents reopened and even though Dalley suggested a maximum the partnership ended up defending 3♣*x* for 200, but a loss of 9 IMPs.

On the next deal the EW pairs had a choice of games to play. Both 4♠, despite a 5-0 trump break and 3NT came home, leaving the match score at 9-6 after six well-played deals.

Dalley levelled the match when both NS pairs stretched on reasonable auctions to a misfitting 24-point 3NT, and Leibowitz saved an undertrick.

Board 8 ♠ KQ52
Dealer W ♥ AKQ5
Vul None ♦ T
 ♣ AJ54

♠ 973	♠ A86
♥ T763	♥ J98
♦ AK	♦ 9754
♣ T763	♣ K92
♠ JT4	
♥ 42	
♦ QJ8632	
♣ Q8	

Both Norths opened 1♣ (Jacob showing hearts). Gosney heard his partner show no major, he jumped to 2NT and accepted the transfer to diamonds, which Leibowitz sensibly passed. After a diamond lead and heart switch Gosney could pitch the club loser on the hearts and take nine tricks without needing to pick the diamond suit.

Jacob heard Mace make a negative response then show diamonds and 5-7 over his spade-showing rebid. Now he blasted out 3NT and got a friendly low club lead. The queen held and he ducked a diamond and ducked the club return. When Nunn won and played the ♣K declarer has three clubs three hearts and three spade tricks. With clubs lying in such friendly fashion, I don't think the defence could do anything. Thomson led 16-9.



The waiting game

Final 2

Board 14	♠ KJ875		♠ A6
<i>Dealer E</i>	♥ AJ543		♥ 9872
<i>Vul None</i>	♦ AJT		♦ K2
	♣		♣ K8732
♠ T932		♠ Q4	
♥		♥ KQT6	
♦ 9853		♦ Q764	
♣ AJ965		♣ QT4	

Brian Mace outplayed his counterpart when he played 5♥, which needs to be played carefully. He brought 11 tricks home when North at the other table was one down in 4♥. It looks as though declarer should be aiming to set up the North hand, not ruffing clubs. The aim is to lose a spade and a diamond if the king is offside. A blow, for sure, especially with THOMSON accruing single figure IMPs.

Board 22	♠ QJT94		♠ AK63
<i>Dealer E</i>	♥ T5		♥ K32
<i>Vul E-W</i>	♦ 75		♦ T2
	♣ T653		♣ AQ42
♠ --		♠ 8752	
♥ A74		♥ QJ986	
♦ AKQ964		♦ J83	
♣ KJ98		♣ 7	

The drought was stemmed with an auction to 7♦ by Nunn and Dalley, when Thomson – McGann only reached 6♦, and 13 IMPs to DALLEY, but THOMSON had gained another 10 IMPs on the set to be leading 56.1 – 38 IMPs at the halfway point.

Final 3

DALLEY had made a late comeback at the end of the second set to halve the deficit. It was 56-38 for THOMSON. Would the resurgence continue?

The set started with a small pickup for Dalley when 1NT went down five for 250 in one room while a heart partscore was making in the other direction.

Board 2	♠ QT		♠ K843
<i>Dealer E</i>	♥ A8732		♥ K6
<i>Vul N-S</i>	♦ J87		♦ A643
	♣ 954		♣ T76
♠ A92		♠ J765	
♥ J4		♥ QT95	
♦ KQT52		♦ 9	
♣ A32		♣ KQJ8	

The second deal saw Dalley - Nunn settle in 1NT after an 8-12 no-trump was passed out by a 14-count, while in the other room a 14-17 no-trump was raised to game by a 10-count. In 1NT the hand with ♥Kx (facing Jx) was declarer and had nine easy tricks. In the other room McGann as the stronger hand got the heart lead from the other side. Time stood still (as it often seems to do when McGann is declarer).

Eventually he misguessed and was down one for a somewhat surprising 6 IMPs to Dalley, now down 56-46.

Just when the match had closed up an unforced error seemed destined to throw away 10 IMPs.

In one room Jacob as North could open 1♦ to show spades then canape into clubs. Mace invited game and Jacob accepted. 5♣ was a claimer.

Board 3	♠ A654		
<i>Dealer S</i>	♥ A		
<i>Vul E-W</i>	♦ KJ3		
	♣ QJ876		
♠ QT7		♠ KJ83	
♥ KT732		♥ Q964	
♦ 9874		♦ AT2	
♣ T		♣ 54	
	♠ 92		
	♥ J85		
	♦ Q65		
	♣ AK932		

In the other room Gosney opened the North hand 1NT, which in my book qualifies as emetic. Against 3NT, the heart lead left declarer with no chance...except that after five rounds of clubs with West having pitched diamonds and spades, declarer played a diamond and Thomson won and led a spade. I'll leave him to explain why... no swing.

After four deals Dalley led 9-0 on the set and trailed 56-47. Next came a flat board in 4♠, down two against a 5-0 trump break.

Board 5	♠ AJ53		
<i>Dealer N</i>	♥ KJ6		
<i>Vul N-S</i>	♦ KT98		
	♣ T2		
♠		♠ QT972	
♥ AT854		♥ 732	
♦ AQJ72		♦ 654	
♣ KJ8		♣ 54	
	♠ K864		
	♥ Q9		
	♦ 3		
	♣ AQ9763		

(Thomson might well have doubled since he was facing a partner who had taken two calls and was looking at ♠Q10972).

The IMP swings then dried up, for a while, though the boards were hardly dull. But Dalley took the lead on this hugely-double edged deal.

Board 10	♠ 87		
<i>Dealer E</i>	♥ KQ9742		
<i>Vul Both</i>	♦ A3		
	♣ KJ2		
♠ T62		♠ KQJ9	
♥ 6		♥ AT853	
♦ JT7642		♦ KQ98	
♣ 543		♣ --	
	♠ A543		
	♥ J		
	♦ 5		
	♣ AQT9876		

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Dalley</i>	<i>Jacob</i>	<i>Nunn</i>	<i>Mace</i>
		1♥	2♣
pass	2♥	pass	2♠
pass	3NT	dbl	pass
pass	4♣	all pass	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>McGann</i>	<i>Gosney</i>	<i>Thomsson</i>	<i>Leibowitz</i>
		1♥	2♣
pass	2♥	2♠	5♣
all pass			

6♣ can be defeated on a spade lead but is cold on a heart lead. (It doesn't help to duck the ♥A as declarer can lead spades from dummy to keep West off play from leading trumps.) After Jacobs ran from 3NTx, Mace's pass of 4♣ looks very cowardly to me – but I can see the full deal, of course.

After Thomson got on the board with an overtrick, IMP Gosney closed out the set with another double-digit pick-up, yet again demonstrating that

Gold Coast Final 4

Board 13 ♠ KQJ8753
 Dealer N ♥ KQ
 Vul Both ♦ J96
 ♣ Q

♠ 2	♠ AT64
♥ 87643	♥ AT
♦ 75	♦ AT3
♣ KJ875	♣ A942

♠ 9
 ♥ J952
 ♦ KQ842
 ♣ T63

West	North	East	South
McGann	Gosney	Thomson	Leibowitz
	1♠	1NT	pass
2♦	2♠	pass	pass
3♣	pass	3NT	all pass

In one room Mace's 4♠ opener bought the pot, when Nunn could not double for penalty. Declarer came to eight tricks, so with 3NT reached in the other room, there was going to be a big swing one way or the other.

After two rounds of spades, ducked, Gosney played a top heart and declarer managed to block the clubs, so went two down rather than one. 9 more IMPs to Gosney, leading by 23.

Board 14 ♠ 742
 Dealer E ♥ AQJ975
 Vul None ♦ 9
 ♣ AT5

♠ QJ5	♠ AKT63
♥ K842	♥ T
♦ T832	♦ J75
♣ 42	♣ KJ73

♠ 98
 ♥ 63
 ♦ AKQ64
 ♣ Q986

Both tables opened the East hand to show

spades, (Mace opened 1♦ rather than 1♠) and West raised to 2♠. Both Norths bid 3♥, but McGann did not raise to game, Leibowitz probed with 3♠ and Gosney bid 4♥.

The defenders gave it their best shot. Top spade, West playing the queen, underlead to West for a club shift (top of doubleton). Declarer flew up with the ace, pitched his clubs on the diamonds, ruffed a club, ruffed a spade and led a trump to the ♥Q, losing only to the ♥K.

Note that if East had started with a small singleton heart he might do well to follow with the ♣J or ♣K on the second round of the suit so as not to tip declarer off to the bad trump break. At the stage declarer led a trump to the queen the carding has suggested East had his actual shape so a lead to the ♥9 would not have been absurd.

Board 15 ♠ T
 Dealer S ♥ AJ9752
 Vul N-S ♦ 7
 ♣ KQ932

♠ 75432	♠ AKQ86
♥ K6	♥ QT
♦ QJ6	♦ 854
♣ AJ5	♣ T74

♠ J9
 ♥ 843
 ♦ AKT932
 ♣ 86

A big opportunity for gain for Thomson got away.

West	North	East	South
Dalley	Ware	Nunn	McGann
			pass
1NT	2♥	2♠	3♥
Pass	4♥	pass	pass
4♠	all pass		

West	North	East	South
Jacob	Gosney	Mace	Leibowitz
			pass
1♠	2♠	4♠	all pass

4♠ undoubled went one down on the unfortunate top club lead. In the other room 4♥ was coming home so Dalley's save would save some IMPs.

McGann led the ♦A and now two more rounds of diamonds would have collected at least 300. The heart shift let declarer out for 100 and just 2 IMPs.

DALLEY led 86-58 and THOMSON had a steep hill to climb.

It became a mountain after the next deal:

Board 18	♠ Q42		
<i>Dealer E</i>	♥ AK986		
<i>Vul N-S</i>	♦ AT4		
	♣ 85		
♠ K97		♠ 53	
♥ 43		♥ 752	
♦ KQ83		♦ J75	
♣ AT76		♣ J9432	
	♠ AJT86		
	♥ QJT		
	♦ 962		
	♣ KQ		

Both tables played a major-suit game. For THOMSON Ware (North) relayed then jumped to 4♠ while Gosney responded 2♥ to 1♠ and Leibowitz put him in 4♥.

Dalley as West had an obvious diamond lead against 4♥ and the defenders cashed out for down one when the spade finesse lost. Mace (East) refused to guess which minor to lead against Gosney's 4♥ (either would have worked of course). He led a trump and declarer had a painless 650 for 13 more IMPs.

The lead had risen to 41 IMPs and while Thompson had the better of the next four deals they only yielded 5 IMPs, far too little too late.

With DALLEY up 41 IMPs and one deal to play your reporter folded his metaphorical tent, put away his metaphorical pen, and handed in his last despatch of what had been one of the most remarkable turn-arounds in a final he had ever

seen.

After 21 deals THOMSON led 55-13. Up until the final deal over the next 26 deals (when Nunn - Dalley played 3NT off the heart suit and six of either minor excellent – duly bid and made by Jacob - Mace) DALLEY outscored their opponents 93-8!! Not only was this a highly deserved win for the four-man DALLEY team it was especially pleasing on a personal note to me to see Tony Leibowitz on the winners' podium.

The final score was 104-75 IMPs to DALLEY.



ABF 
FOUNDATION
 Supporting the future of bridge



Matt Brown, NZ



Rodrigo Garcia da Rosa, Argentina



A tense discussion



Michael Whibley, NZ



James Coutts, Australia



Shane Harrison, Australia



Ashley Bach, NZ



Under 1500 MP; Don Cameron, Jan Randall, Adrian Lohmann & Bill Bishop



Pele Rankin, Annette Henry, 2nd, Stephen Henry, Paul Hooykaas, 1st, Seres McMahon



Best Queensland Intermediate, Richard Spelman, Janet Price, Mary Simon, Kevin Hamilton-Reen

Creatures of habit



Would you recognise it was your hand from the way you hold your cards? A partner from long ago still holds his hand the same way he did 20 years ago. I also have a friend who it is impossible to kibitz, as she holds her cards back to front, with any index on the card only visible to her. But she never plucks out the wrong card . . .



Make your guesstimate

I was asked to make mention of the fantastic dealing team Kim uses during the congress. I asked readers to guess the number of board sets that had to be dealt, but then I lost the message that contained the answer, and to punish me Kim is being secretive.

My guess (and I did have the exact number) is 3784.

How far out am I , Kim?

Welcome to StepBridge Australia



- ABF Affiliated Club.
- For new players joining StepBridge, we offer 250 free participation points (game credits).
- Play bridge with real people online. No robots allowed!
- Feel at home in a friendly and controlled environment.
- Play daily duplicate bridge sessions.
We offer Novice, Restricted & Open sessions.
- Youth Player Bonuses.
- Organise club sessions exclusively for members of your own local bridge club.
- We welcome new players and invite you to join us.
Go to the Registration button to sign up.
- Available for Windows, Mac OS X, iPad, Android and every modern browser.



There are many great problems if you care to go over the hand records when you play, often via the deep finesse analysis box.

Deep Finesse Problem 9

N/All ♠ J8753
 ♥ AKQ4
 ♦ Q4
 ♣ 75

♠ K96	♠ 42
♥ 1095	♥ 87632
♦ 5	♦ 98732
♣ KQ9432	♣ 10
	♠ AQ10
	♥ J
	♦ AKJ106
	♣ AJ86

You can make 6♦ on any lead but at the table West Led ♠K. You could win ♣A, cash ♥J, and cross to ♦Q to throw 3 clubs on ♥AKQ. But what now, when West wins ♠K they play ♣Q and East has one more trump than you.

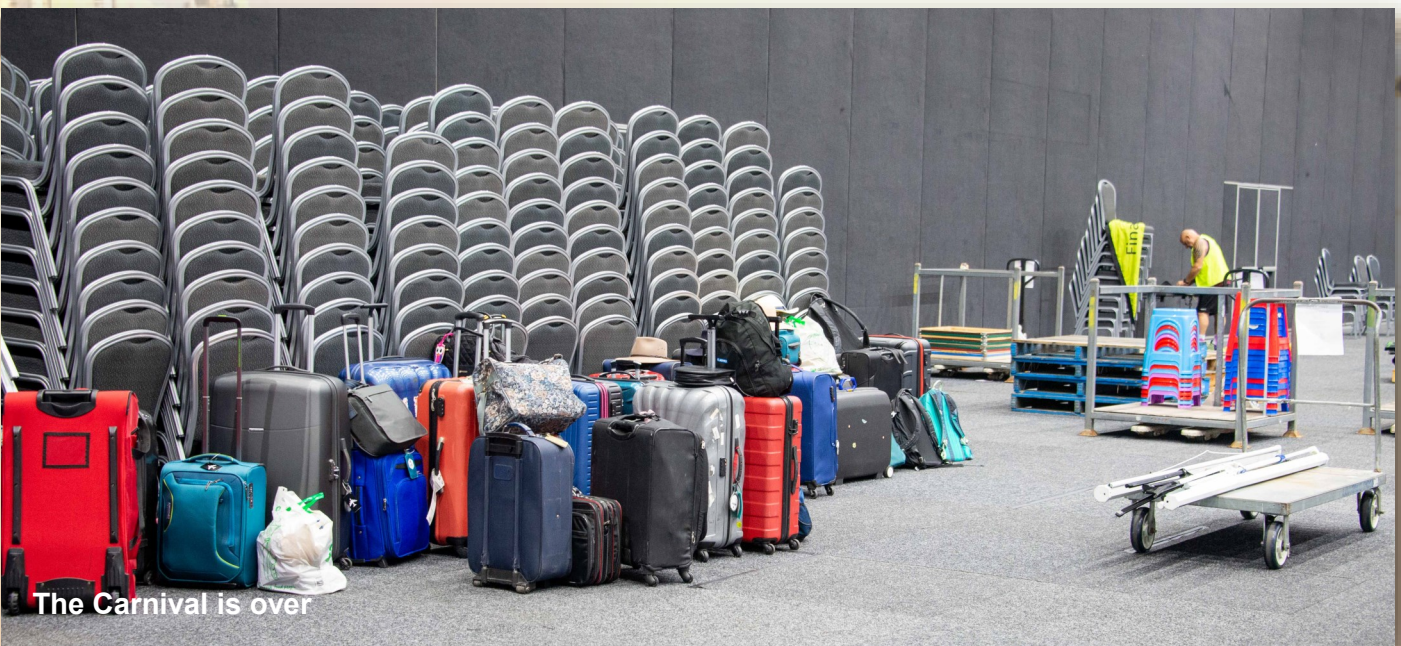
The solution is to discard 2 clubs and one spade on the hearts and run the trumps. With 3 cards remaining West holds ♠K9 and ♣Q and you throw West in with a club to play back into your ♠AQ.



Sue and Laurel our Hospitality Girls



Nick Edginton - Rhonda Graham,
2nd Ivy Dahler Intermediate



The Carnival is over

What would you do?**by Ron Klinger****An indiscretion****Question 9***West deals, NS vulnerable*

West	North	East	South
2♠ (1)	pass	4♠	4NT (2)
pass	?		

(1). Weak two

(2). Freak two-suiter

What would you do as North with:

♠Q53, ♥9876, ♦AK76, ♣K8

Answer overleaf

Wish to come on a bridge cruise with Ron and Suzie Klinger in 2024?

Bridge class with Ron in the mornings and duplicate in the afternoons (except when in port).

Please contact Suzie via 0411 229 705 or suzie@ronklingerbridge.com for email.



Kate goes troppo



David Hoffman watches final



2nd Ivy Dahler, Sandra Calvert - Colin Carryer

61st 2023 GOLD

What would you do?**Pessimist or optimist?****Solution to Question 9**

The deal arose in the final of the 2013 Gold Coast Teams:

West deals, NS vulnerable

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

North has a great hand as North might have had almost nothing. As South is prepared to play at the five-level opposite a possibly useless hand, North is far too good to settle just for game.

At one table, North bid 5NT! (two places to play), double by East, 6♣ by South, 6♦ North, 6♥ South, all pass.

Declarer made 12 tricks, +1430.

At the other table West opened 2♦ multi, East bid 2♥, pass or correct, then 3♣ by South, 3NT North, 4♥ South, 5♥ North, all pass, 13 IMPs away.

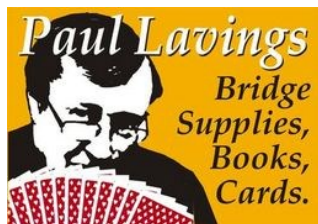
It is true that the ♥K could have been offside and that 6♥ might have failed, but on the bidding East was more likely to have the ♥K. Pessimists are unlucky, optimists are lucky. For both, the ♥K should be with East.

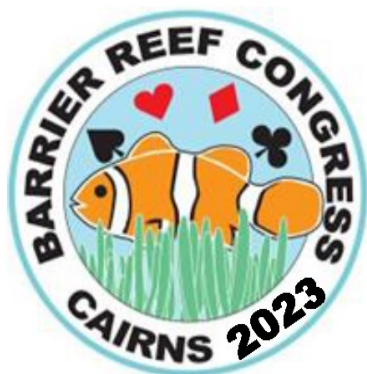


2nd Ivy Danier Restricted Marion Coburn
- Pat Murphy



Michael Courtney





27th Barrier Reef Congress

Cairns Colonial Club

April 28 – May 1, 2023

Chief Director: Jan Peach

An ABF Gold Point Event

Swiss Teams (Open and Barrier Reef 300)
Butler Swiss Pairs (Open, Restricted and Novice)

Tournament Organisers: William van Bakel 0414 430 145

Joan Campbell 0467 669 239

E-Mail: brc@cairnsbridgeclub.org.au

Web: www.qldbridge.com/brc

