



62nd International
Gold Coast Bridge Congress
 18 - 24 February 2024
Exercise your brain - play Bridge

**YOUR DAILY
 BULLETIN**

Tuesday 20 February

Stephen Lester and Barry Rigal

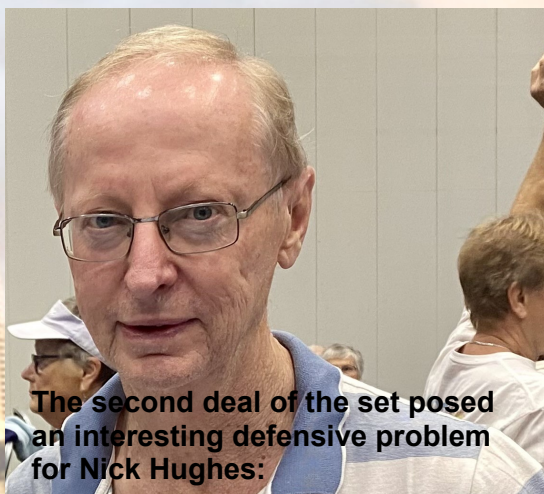
BULLETIN 3

Session tables as at
 Monday evening -
 1579 (2023 - 1634)

Dress Up Day Wednesday

To be considered for prizes for today's theme, please have your photographs taken by the official photographers Anne and Valmae during *all* breaks on Wednesday morning. There is a designated location at the northern end of the foyer at 2.15 to 2.30pm.

Bobby Richman Pairs Qualifying 2



The second deal of the set posed an interesting defensive problem for Nick Hughes:

Board 2
 Dealer E
 Vul :NS

♠876
 ♥AKJ86
 ♦5
 ♣AK52

♠J10942
 ♥Q43
 ♦863
 ♣73



♠AK
 ♥10952
 ♦KQ2
 ♣Q984

♠Q53
 ♥7
 ♦AJ10974
 ♣J106

Nick

Celebrity Speakers Tuesday Paul Dalley and Andy Hung

Tuesday 20th
 9.00am – 9.45am

Paul Dalley

Fresh bidding ideas
 for 2024



Tuesday 20th
 1.30-2.15pm

Andy Hung

How to Defend
 Against Common
 and Strange
 Conventions



Sitting East, Nick was obligated by system to open 1♥. (Yes, if you wanted to sue the system-designer for a refund, I'd be behind you 100% of the way).

South, John McMahon overcalled 3♦ and played there. When partner leads ♠J you win the ace then king to show a doubleton, partner following at their second turn with an intermediate spot. What next?

On a not-so-passive club exit declarer wins the jack and cashes two hearts pitching the ♠Q. Now they can afford to lead a trump to the jack without fearing a defensive ruff. The only defence to give declarer a headache is to shift to a low trump at trick three (as you might do with a 2-4-4-3 with only one of the diamond honours). If declarer elects to finesse, he might then lose a spade ruff and a second trump trick.

Could you blame him for rising ♦A to take the spade discard on the top hearts? If he does, he may be in more danger of going down as opposed to making an overtrick.

For the record, however, with 3NT cold for N/S, the overtrick was only the difference between a 69% and a 50% result for E/W.

Board 6

Dealer E
Vul :EW

♠AQ105
♥3
♦AQ10876
♣85

♠KJ9632
♥Q87
♦94
♣J3



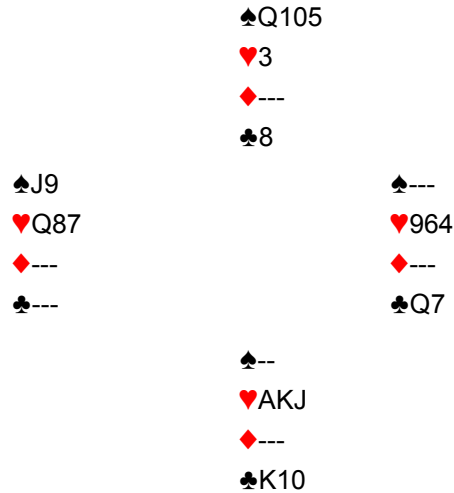
♠874
♥9642
♦J53
♣Q72

♠--
♥AKJ105
♦K2
♣AK10964

Adam and Finn managed to solve a vicious problem here, one the rest of the field didn't really succeed in getting to grips on.

West	North	East	South
Ashton	Kaplan	Hans	Kolesnik
		pass	1♣
1♠	2♦	pass	2♥
pass	3NT	Pass	5♠
pass	6♦	Pass	6♥
pass	6NT	all pass	

Kolesnik reversed then jumped to 5♠ to show a void and corrected 6♦ to 6♥ to show 5-6 or perhaps 5-7. Kaplan guessed to bid 6NT and that was decent spot, though 7♦ is certainly reasonable enough. Declarer won the spade lead to cash one club then run diamonds. In the five-card ending:



West, still to pitch is caught in a somewhat improbable squeeze. A club discard is best in theory, since though it lets declarer cash the ♠Q to pitch the heart then finesse clubs, that does risk the contract. By contrast, a spade exit is immediately fatal, while Sophie Ashton's choice of a heart pitch saw Kaplan take the ♠Q to pitch the club loser then cash hearts from the top for 1020 and a 94% result for N/S.

Sometimes it doesn't pay to get out of bed.

Board 8

Dealer W
Vul: Nil

♠J764
♥A8
♦42
♣K10542

♠AQ2
♥K542
♦J97
♣986



♠K93
♥J6
♦AK1086
♣QJ7

♠1085
♥Q10973
♦Q53
♣A3

This looks like a deal where 3NT is no worse than the diamond finesse for E/W. The good news is that if you stop in 1NT as West, you find the finesse losing. That has to be good news, right?

Well look again: 1NT on a heart lead might lose four hearts, the ♦Q, and two clubs. But no: you stop in 1NT *and* the opponents lead a club from North and continue the suit, That has to be good news...right?

...Right? Under what circumstances could this combination of events lead to a stone cold zero?

So here is the full story: read them and weep.

West	North	East	South
Carrier	Roeder	Calvert	Watson
pass	pass	1♦	1♥
1NT	dbl	all pass	

Colin Carrier opened in third seat, Alan Watson found a light overcall, Sandra Calvert made a normal 1NT response. Rick Roeder stretched to double for takeout and Watson passed – not perhaps everyone's choice. But admittedly nothing appeals!

Roeder did not find the heart lead that would perhaps have set the partscore by a trick. Instead he led a club and Watson continued the suit. Declarer took the third club in dummy and came to hand in spades to finesse diamonds. Watson won to lead a low heart and declarer had a guess for +180 and a 90% board or -500 and a zero. By now you know the result.

Yes, maybe Roeder's double is consistent only with his holding the ♥A not the ♥Q...let he who is without sin cast the first stone.

Board 17	♠A85	♠93
Dealer N	♥AQ10874	♥KJ52
Vul: Nil	♦2	♦KQ10
	♣J42	♣K985
♠KJ4		
♥63		
♦9754		
♣A763		
	♠Q10762	
	♥9	
	♦AJ863	
	♣Q10	

The question of when opener should raise responder's major with only three trumps is one that

is not going to be settled tonight (or indeed, perhaps, ever).

Paul Lavings made the call I suspect 90% of the field would have done. As North he opened ♥ and over his partner's 1♠ response rebid 2♥ and his partner let it go.

Normal enough, but on a top diamond lead Lavings made the correct percentage play or leading a heart to the queen. After a club shift he was booked for one down. Is it just unlucky that your side can make 3♠ without breaking a sweat? I'll leave that to the Monday morning quarterbacks...

Board 26	♠J7	♠---
Dealer E	♥KQ1094	♥J875
Vul: All	♦AJ10	♦KQ72
	♣952	♣KQ743
♠KQ1054		
♥A3		
♦9843		
♣J8		
	♠A98632	
	♥62	
	♦65	
	♣A106	

Bobby Wolff's quip 'Last bidder gets the zero' might apply to the next deal.

GeO Tislevoll sat North and when his partner overcalled 1♠ over Matt Mullamphy's emetic 1♣ opener, he advanced to 2♥, encouraging but non-forcing. That was passed round to Andrew Spooner, who doubled, showing a penalty double of 1♠, ending the auction.

Mullamphy did well to lead a top club and GeO won to finesse diamonds. The best defence might be to underlead in clubs now, but since West's carding was consistent with ♣98 Mullamphy led ♣Q and gave his partner the ruff with the lowest club spot. Spooner cashed the ♥A and led a top spade; Mullamphy ruffed and returned a trump to ensure one down. While 500 is available on best defence, +200 was a 92% result. I guess that means opening miserable aceless 11-counts with



no conceivable attractive rebid is winning bridge?
(For cross-reference check out 'Gag me with a spoon'.)

Finals 1

Board 8

Dealer W
Vul: All

♠AKQ1087
♥Q109
♦82
♣92

♠9
♥754
♦K7653
♣AK85



♠J65
♥A862
♦AJ
♣Q1043

♠432
♥KJ3
♦Q1094
♣J76

The field played 4♠ here, and it is hard to blame them, though both 3NT and 4♠ are no play on a diamond lead. Jodi Tutty led a top club and accurately shifted to a diamond. Declarer flew with the ace to draw trumps and lead a club up. Tutty won the second club, cashed ♦K and led a heart through. Declarer let it run and ♥K was the setting trick.

West had missed a point here. The diamond honours were known to be split (North had the ♦K but had shifted to a small diamond. If she didn't have the ♥K she would have left her partner on play with the ♦Q – which she was known to hold because of the play to trick two. So while the fall of

the ♣J in three isn't likely, a slim chance is better than none.

Board 5

Dealer N
Vul: NS

♠753
♥Q9843
♦J107
♣A6

♠QJ86
♥A7
♦KQ982
♣107




♠A92
♥652
♦543
♣KJ52

♠K104
♥KJ10
♦A6
♣Q9843


All 10 tables led a low heart against South's 3NT. All declarers won in hand and played on spades. Where I was watching the defenders took the first spade and continued hearts, and declarer claimed 11 tricks a moment later for a 78% result. If East ducks the ♠A they ought to get some com-



ination of Smith/suit preference to allow them to shift to clubs. Cashing out accurately would get you a 78% board instead of conceding the same score!

Board 12	♠Q109875		
<i>Dealer W</i>	♥32		
<i>Vul: NS</i>	♦J653		
	♣5		
♠A		♠K6	
♥874		♥AK1095	
♦K109		♦A872	
♣KQJ1097		♣A8	
	♠J432		
	♥QJ6		
	♦Q4		
	♣6432		

This was an interesting bidding problem for Sue Southern and Pam Tibble. They almost cracked the problem, and still ended up with an above average result, but they did have all the MP coming their way... Pam opened 1♣, and their unopposed sequence was a natural 1♣ -1♥; 2♣ - 3♦; 4♥. Sue bid Key Card and jumped to 6♥, making 980. Had she asked for the trump queen Pam would have denied it. Now partner was known to have extras and a decent six-card club suit. Would it have been unreasonable to take a shot at 6NT here? Since nobody did, I guess this was just too hard.


Board 15	♠Q1075		
<i>Dealer: S</i>	♥J763		
<i>Vul: NS</i>	♦43		
	♣K102		
♠63		♠J4	
♥AQ10		♥984	
♦AJ65		♦Q10987	
♣Q973		♣A85	
	♠AK982		
	♥K52		
	♦K2		
	♣J64		

Joachim Haffer sat East here and declared 3♦ after 1♠ -dbl - 2♠ - 3♦.

When dummy came down the fact that the opponents had not competed to the level of their fit

meant that his RHO surely had four spades and about 5-7? Phil Markey for the defenders cashed two spades and shifted to a heart. Declarer's choice of putting in the 10 looks normal. But Jacob won and exited in trumps to the ♦Q, ♦K and ♦A. While that let declarer draw trumps ending in hand, Haffer could not see anything better than leading a club to the queen, and that was down one.

If you trust South (and you should do since they are leading the event) South cannot have three or four small hearts or he would have shifted to a heart at trick two. Therefore the ♥K is right and the ♣K wrong. Instead of taking the club finesse, eliminate hearts, come back to hand in trumps and lead a club, planning to cover South's card. If he puts up the jack and you subsequently misguess by ducking...well, maybe he deserves to set you?

Board 18	♠J854		
<i>Dealer E</i>	♥J984		
<i>Vul: NS</i>	♦AJ		
	♣865		
♠AQ76		♠103	
♥K106		♥AQ732	
♦K854		♦Q93	
♣92		♠J103	
	♠K92		
	♥5		
	♦10762		
	♣AKQ74		

I will not name the participants here but the deal has a basic point of technique, one in which the participants at my table were weighed in the balance and found wanting...

Say you sit East and hear the auction start 1♣ - dbl - 1♥ to you. What are your options?

First things first. Double is penalty, and 2♥ should be natural saying "I would have bid 2♥ if they hadn't bid 1♥" are you worth that here? Maybe not, but doubling 1♥ then bidding 2♥ gets your values across perfectly. If you have the other two suits and want partner to pick one, cuebid 2♣. As the cards lie you cannot quite pick up the 4-1 break for no losers - but you would do so if South had the bare ♥8 or ♥9.

The leaders after the first set were Andy Hung and Alex Smirnov. Andy demonstrated that he was going to do his best to get a quart out of a pint pot here:

Board 22	♠K10532	
<i>Dealer E</i>	♥QJ5	
<i>Vul:EW</i>	♦A864	
	♣5	
♠876		♠QJ9
♥K1043		♥76
♦Q10		♦K953
♣AQJ7		♣K1082
	♠A4	
	♥A982	
	♦J72	
	♣9643	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
		pass	pass
1♣	1♠	1NT	all pass

The defenders, Sue Lusk and Viv Wood led and cleared spades. Hung won the third spade in hand and guessed very well to lead a diamond to the 10 and ace.

Wood cashed her spades, Hung pitching hearts from hand and a heart then club from dummy. Can you blame Wood for exiting in diamonds? Hung could win the ♦Q, run the clubs ending in hand and cash the two diamond winners for +120 instead of +90. That was every one of the MP.

Board 24	♠---	
<i>Dealer W</i>	♥A95	
<i>Vul:Nil</i>	♦109543	
	♣A9853	
♠107		♠A632
♥QJ108432		♥76
♦K		♦QJ862
♣QJ4		♣62
	♠KQJ9854	
	♥K	
	♦A7	
	♣K107	

Two deals later Sue Lusk returned the favour.

She jumped to 4♠ over Smirnov's 3♥ preempt. What to lead? Smirnov avoided the fatal club lead



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but his ♥Q lead was not as good as the ♦K. Lusk won in hand and advanced the ♠K and ♠Q.

Hung ducked, waiting for a signal, then saw Smirnov discard the ♥3. Hung won the ♠A and needed to play a club to disrupt declarer's entries –not so easy to do. On the diamond exit declarer won in hand and ran the trumps. With her LHO guarding hearts and RHO guarding diamonds nobody could keep clubs, and that was +480 for a 78% score.

Board 26*Dealer E*

♠108543	♠972
♥K4	♥A10765
♦AK10732	♦Q6
♣---	♣932
♠QJ6	♠AK
♥J98	♥Q32
♦J98	♦54
♣10854	♣AKQJ76

John McMahon playing with his brother Charles reached the 'delicate' 6NT by South on a top spade lead.

How would you play it? There are a number of technical options available but John led a diamond to the 10 and Joan Butts won and wisely cashed out.

Look at the effect of playing a heart to the king at trick two. What is East to do?

If she ducks declarer has two heart tricks (assuming they are foolhardy enough to play on hearts). If she wins, declarer rattles off the clubs and ♥Q and her partner is squeezed in spades and diamonds.

Hand from the qualifier**Junior sparkle**

David Beauchamp, victim of this play, generously reported a splendid hand, defended by Kate Macdonald and Ben Leung (at right).

Board 16, Bobby Richman qualifying 2
West deals, EW vulnerable

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

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Macdonald</i>	<i>Beauchamp</i>	<i>Leung</i>	<i>Korenhof</i>
1♣	pass	1♠ ¹	dbl
2♣	2♠	3♣	4♠
Dbl	all pass		

1. No major

Leung led a top diamond and Beauchamp won in dummy to lead a top spade. Macdonald took this and shifted to a club, letting Leung win to make the expert shift to ♥J, the defenders cashing three hearts.

Next Macdonald led the last heart to allow Leung to ruff in with ♠10, promoting the trump jack for +500 and virtually all the matchpoints.

Kate will be part of the under-26 Women's team at the next Transnational Teams in Poland. With plays like this, the sky is the limit!



IBPA tidbits: a decade past

by **Barry Rigal**

In 2014, New Zealanders Bob Scott and John Wignall were the early leaders. The first board out of the box certainly didn't hurt.

Ed: John Wignall, who passed away almost a year ago, was a much-respected bridge administrator both for the WBF and in New Zealand, while the enigmatic Bob Scott succumbed to cancer in 2016. They finished 13th in Final A, while the overall Bobby Richman Pairs was won by Justin Howard – Ishmael Del'Monte.

Board 1, Bobby Richman Pairs final 1

North deals, nil vulnerable

<p>♠ A J 2 ♥ A 4 ♦ 7 5 2 ♣ A 8 5 4 3</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ 6 4 ♥ J 8 6 2 ♦ K 10 6 3 ♣ Q 9 6</p>	<p>♠ K 10 9 8 7 5 ♥ K Q 7 3 ♦ 8 ♣ J 2</p>
<p>West</p>	<p>North</p>	<p>East</p>	<p>South</p>
	<p>Scott</p>		<p>Wignall</p>
	<p>1NT</p>	<p>pass</p>	<p>2♥</p>
<p>pass</p>	<p>2♠</p>	<p>pass</p>	<p>4♠</p>
<p>all pass</p>			

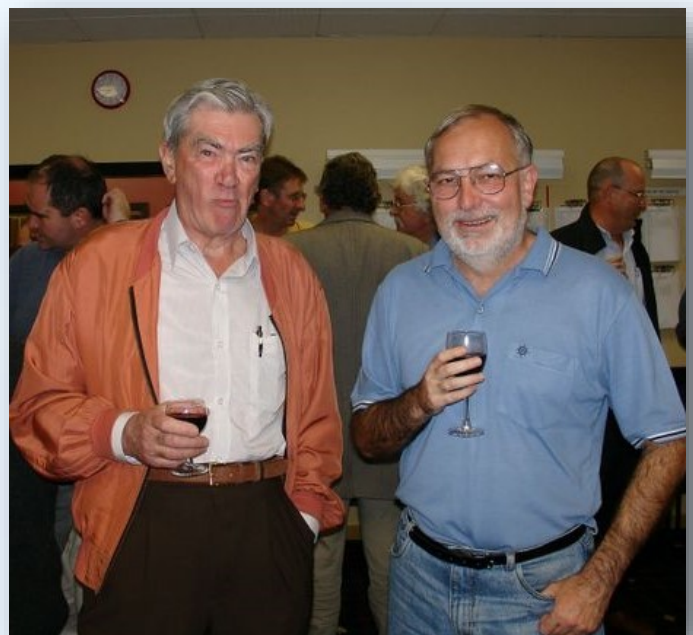
John Wignall certainly had his bidding boots on. When East led a trump (one can hardly argue with the choice of any card in his hand) that was one hurdle over. Scott's ♠7 held, and he played a second trump.

West won and should surely have exited a low club, but he cashed his club ace, receiving encouragement, then erred by taking his heart ace before playing a second club. Scott rose with the king and led the heart ten from hand, ducked smoothly by East. Scott overtook and ran the trumps, and in the four-card ending had come down to this position:

<p>♠ --- ♥ 9 ♦ A Q ♣ 10</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ --- ♥ J 8 ♦ K ♣ Q</p>	<p>♠ 8 ♥ Q 7 ♦ 8 ♣ ---</p>
---	---	--	--


Notice the effect of cashing the last trump and pitching your heart from hand. East gets caught in a bizarre triple squeeze of the show-up variety.

Scott erred when he pitched his club ten instead, and East could now let go the ♣Q, which he did after much squirming. Scott then took ♥Q and decided to play East for an honest man when he led a diamond to his ace and made +420.



Ed: As well as losing John Wignall, 91 in 2023, all round good guy Michael Sykes, 70 passed away in 2023.



CALENDAR OF SOCIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES GOLD COAST CONGRESS 2024						
		Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	Venue	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd
		February	February	February	February	February
NOVICE AND ROOKIE ACTIVITIES						
Rookies Help Available	In the Playing Area Rookies Section	9:15 am to 10:00am				9:15am to 10:00 am
Under 50MPs Help Available	In the Playing Area Under 50s Section			9:15 am to 10:00am	9:15am to 10:00am	9:30am to 10:00 am
Novices Help Available	In the Playing Area Novices Section	9:30 am to 10:00am		9:30 am to 10:00am		9:30 am to 10:00am
SOCIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES						
Try your luck at the TBIB "Name that City Game" and you could win \$250.	Foyer GCCEC					
Directors Get Together Hosted by Chris Snook	Upstairs Room 10		8:30am			
myABF Seminar	Upstairs Room 10				1.30 pm to 2.00 pm	
Parade Entrants "Sports Day" Theme. Registration and entrant photos taken at every break - Prizes to be won!	Foyer GCCEC				2:15pm to 2:30pm	
ABDA AGM	Upstairs Room 10					8.30am
Champagne Breakfast For Shoe Shoppers In Her Shoes	In Her Shoes Ground Floor Oasis Shopping Centre					inherSHOES 8:15am local & imported shoes · bags · accessories
BRIDGE 'COMPANIONS' ACTIVITIES						
Get Together Non-Bridge Playing Partners	Apartment 1901 Air on Broadbeach	11:00am to 12:30 Noon		9:45am to 10:15am		
Kingscliff , a coastal town, is just south of Tweed Heads. The main street Marine Parade offers lovely boutique shopping with many cafes. We will lunch here, and then off to Fingal Head if time allows. A slow walk to the lighthouse and outlook, to view Cook Island.	Depart Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach, \$30 bus, lunch & tea at own costs		10.30am to 4:30pm			
Cedar Creek Falls track to lookout 500m return. Time: Allow about 15min walking time. Details: Take a walk to Cedar Creek Falls lookout and admire views of the gorge and waterfalls. Cedar Creek Falls rock pools. 1.1km return. There are many steps on this walk, so be prepared for an uphill climb on our return.	Depart Apartment 1901 & Grnd Floor Lobby Air on Broadbeach \$30 bus, lunch at own cost			Depart 10:30am Return Appr 4:00pm		
Harbour Town - One of Australia's largest outlet shopping centres with over 240 stores, as well as providing alfresco dining.	Depart Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach \$15 bus				Depart 10:30am Pickup 3:30pm	
The Margaret Olley Art Centre (MOAC) is the third and final stage of the Tweed Regional Gallery. MOAC celebrates Australia's most celebrated painter of still life and interiors. Lunch at the Apex dining tearoom.	Depart Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach, \$30 bus, lunch & tea at own costs				Depart 10:30am return 4:30pm	
Sanctuary Cove – A fabulous range of boutiques, with mouth-watering selections of cafes and restaurants with views over the Marina.	Depart Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach, \$15 bus					10.30am return approx. 2.30pm
David Fleay Wildlife Park - A wildlife park with a difference! You can stroll through natural habitats and visit a nocturnal house to see some of Australia's most iconic wildlife.	Other Options					
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SkyPoint Observation Deck - Offers panoramic views of the Gold Coast, 230m above sea level, located atop the iconic Q1 building in Surfers Paradise.	Other Options, \$36 pp one time entry					
		Sunday 18th February	Monday 19th February	Tuesday 20th February	Wednesday 21st February	Thursday 22nd February
						Friday 23rd February

All Golf Enquiries to
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11 years ago . . .

by Barry Rigal

Pablo Lambardi had a great declarer play problem from the 2013 Gold Coast Swiss Team in Australia:

GCC 2013, East deals, nil vulnerable

<p>♠ K Q J 8 5 2 ♥ K 8 6 4 ♦ Q 2 ♣ 6</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>♠ --- ♥ J 9 2 ♦ A K J 9 8 6 5 ♣ 8 5 2</p>	
N						
W E						
S						

♠ A 10 9 7 6
♥ 10
♦ ---
♣ K Q J 10 9 7 3

West	North	East	South Lambardi
		3♦	4♣
4♠	5♣	all pass	

5♣ might look easy to make -- any self-respecting West would lead ♠K and give you an easy task. But declarer was faced with the lead of ♦Q, overtaken by East and ruffed. Lambardi knew spades rated to be 6-0. Since he had four spades to dispose of and no easy place to put them, he took the heart finesse then cashed the heart ace; one spade down, three to go!

He next played a spade from dummy; East defended strongly by ruffing and returning a trump. Lambardi now had a choice as to how to dispose of one of his two remaining losing spades; if East had started life with a doubleton club, the play would be easy. South could win the club ace, then lead a spade to the ace and ruff a spade. But if East had three clubs he would discard when the second spade was led, then would overruff dummy. Lambardi decided correctly that East rated to 0-3-7-3. How should he play now?

The answer is simple --when you think of it! Lambardi won the club shift in hand and led a low spade. If West won the trick he could not prevent declarer ruffing his remaining spade with the club ace. If East ruffed in, he would have no trump left to lead, so declarer could take his ruff in peace and comfort.



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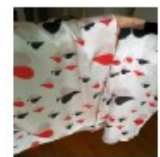
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Second hand ... what?

Learning players are taught certain “rules” of defensive play: second hand low, third hand high, cover an honour and so forth. But bridge would lack charm and challenge if it amounted only to obeying an array of rules. The “rules” should be regarded as general guidelines.

How should East defend here?

South deals, all vulnerable

	♠ Q 10 6 3		
	♥ J 6		
	♦ K Q 4		
	♣ 10 8 6 3		
♠ A 8 4	N	♠ 9 7 2	
♥ K 9 8 3 2	W E	♥ 10 7 5	
♦ 9 5 2	S	♦ J 10 7 3	
♣ J 5		♣ A 4 2	
	♠ K J 5		
	♥ A Q 4		
	♦ A 8 6		
	♣ K Q 9 7		
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1♣
pass	1♠	pass	2NT
pass	3NT	all pass	

Against 3NT, West leads ♥3. Declarer puts up dummy’s jack, winning, and calls for a low club. If East puts his faith in “second hand low,” declarer’s queen wins. He forces out ♠A and has nine tricks: three spades, three diamonds, two hearts and that club trick he stole.

To beat 3NT, East must grab his ♣A to return a heart. A principle of defense: when your partner has led a long suit against a notrump contract,

strive to win an early trick to return his lead. You hope to establish his suit while he retains an entry.

What about here?

South deals, all vulnerable


		♠ J 10 3	
		♥ J 4	
		♦ K Q 10 6 4	
		♣ 7 6 3	
♠ Q 9 6 5 2	N	♠ K 8	
♥ Q 6 5	W E	♥ K 9 8 7	
♦ 8 7 2	S	♦ A 5 3	
♣ 5 4		♣ J 10 9 8	
		♠ A 7 4	
		♥ A 10 3 2	
		♦ J 9	
		♣ A K Q 2	
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1♣
pass	1♦	pass	2NT
pass	3NT	all pass	

Against 3NT, West leads ♠5, and dummy plays the jack. Suppose East puts up the king: third hand high. Declarer takes the ace and leads ♦J and a second diamond, forcing out East’s ace.

If East returns a spade – no defence is better – South can reach dummy with ♠10 to take the good diamonds and will finish with an overtrick.

On the bidding, South must hold at least one high spade. To beat 3NT, East must follow to the first spade with the eight. He deprives declarer of an entry to dummy, and without the diamonds, declarer can take only eight tricks.



	<p>Wednesday 21st</p> <p>Harbour Town</p> <p>https://www.harbourtowngoldcoast.com.au/</p> <p>One of Australia's largest outlet shopping centres with over 240 stores, as well as providing alfresco dining.</p>	<p>VIP invitations to Harbour Town are available at the get together at apartment 1901, Air on Broadbeach</p> <p>Drop off, pick up.</p>	<p>Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach</p>	<p>10:30am -3:30pm</p>	<p>\$15 bus.</p>
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Consistent evergreens
by **Stephen Lester**



I saw via social media that 33 years ago, Nick Hughes (once esteemed GCC bulletin editor) and Nicoleta Giura did not make their annual pilgrimage to the Surfers Congress. They had an excuse - the GCC coincides with their wedding anniversary and they were married in Sydney.

On Monday they proved their consistency, scoring two back to back 51.21% sessions, surely a feat worth mentioning.



Here's a teaser for you:

What year did Mike Prescott and Peter Fordham

win the Gold Coast Pairs Plate, and who was the bulletin editor at the time?

Farewell
Jessie Jabore

Jessie is Tony Jackman's great niece. Jessie's grandmother Marj Jabore was the Floor Manager at the Gold Coast International and Jessie has just naturally followed in her



footsteps. Jessie's cousins the Blyth family (Andrew, Matthew, Alex and Madonna (ex Hockeyroos Captain) have all worked as caddies and Floor Managers at the event. We wish you well in everything you do, Jess.



Lightner strikes again

by Joan Butts

When I'm writing, I always like to be able to refer to a convention or two that relate to the hands, so the Lightner Double is a case in point here...

Boards 25 - 27 in Sunday morning's session were terribly exciting.

Stephen Burgess and I played these three boards against Michael Courtney - Jeanette Reitzer. I had the majority of decisions, being in the East seat.

Board 25, North deals, EW vulnerable

♠ J8	
♥ 864	
♦ AK9543	
♣ J3	
♠ AK93	♠ Q10542
♥ J7	♥ AQ3
♦ J76	♦ 2
♣ K1075	♣ A842
♠ 76	
♥ K10952	
♦ Q108	
♣ Q96	

This was a shocker for us...all my fault, suffering from a rush of blood (away from the brain). I overbid horribly, somehow feeling that a slam was in the air. I pushed us to slam, when most sensible humans bid the EW game in spades and made 11 tricks.

The slam that really was in the air came on the next board, but we played in game only.

Feeling a bit of chagrin after Board 25, I wasn't about to overbid again. (silly attitude of course).

Board 26, East deals, all vulnerable

♠ Q10		
♥ 543		
♦ J7		
♣ QJ9763		
♠ K6532		♠ AJ9
♥ 2		♥ AKQ6
♦ K963		♦ A84
♣ K85		♣ A42
	♠ 874	
	♥ J10987	
	♦ Q1052	
	♣ 10	

Later at the drinks organised by Tim Runting to let the visiting players mingle, I discussed East's opening with Adam Kaplan, James Coutts and Brad Johnson.

They all agreed that they prefer 20-21 as the range for a 2NT opening, and this was a very good 22 hcp which they opened 2♣, thus easily reaching 6♠.

Because our card says 20- 22, I opened 2NT and after Stephen's transfer, we played 4♠.



On Board 27, Michael and Jeanette had a strong uninterrupted auction to a heart slam:

Board 27, South deals, nil vulnerable

♠ 10
♥ A985
♦ AJ5
♣ QJ1084

♠ 63	♠ 987542
♥ 63	♥ 72
♦ Q1087643	♦ ---
♣ K2	♣ A9653

♠ AKQJ
♥ KQJ104
♦ K92
♣ 7

West	North	East	South
			1♥
Pass	2♣	pass	2♠
Pass	4NT	pass	5♠
Pass	6♥	all pass	

After messing up the last two boards, would I meekly pass, and hope Stephen found the diamond lead which I would trump, and cash my ♣A, or would I double and hope Stephen found a diamond lead?

It's interesting to discuss the meaning of a Lightner double...we hadn't discussed it...I was worried it could mean lead dummy's first bid suit, a club, or would Stephen work out to lead a diamond?

♦7 hit the deck in no time at all, and I ruffed and cashed ♣A for + 100.

Imagine if the lead had been ♦3? Would it be possible anyone would *underlead* their ♣A after ruffing, to get to partner's ♣K for a second diamond ruff!

That is in the realm of the wildest imagination, and I was very happy with the great score we gained after ♦7 lead.

Discussing this hand too, later, a number of people preempted in diamonds on the West hand

(not really recommended) and the double was probably easier to find over 6♥. A number of people felt that a 3♠ splinter over the 1♥ opening would have worked well on the hand too, as the first move by North. What would South have done over a 3♠ splinter? They may decide they had too much in spades, or become wildly excited that they would have three or four discards on their powerful spades?

Melbourne expert Juzz Mill and Mike Doecke were able to utilise one of their agreements on the deal: they play that a double of a splinter has a specific meaning. When North splintered with 3♠, East was able to double to suggest the higher of the two side suits - here diamonds - was the lead to find against the final contract.

Maybe South should have asked more questions about the double of 3♠; the final contract was 6♥x, down 1, +100 and a 94% board.

[Wikipedia:](#)

"The Lightner double is used to direct the opening lead against slam contracts. It was devised by Theodore Lightner.

The Lightner double is a call made by the partner of the player who will make the opening lead. It asks for an "unusual" opening lead. The opening lead is often crucial to the play of the hand, and the right opening lead is often the only chance for the defenders to defeat the contract. The doubler will most often have a void in a side suit, or sometimes AQ or KQ in the suit bid by the dummy. The partner is expected to find the correct lead, which might be unusual from his viewpoint; in any case, he should not lead a trump. The most common interpretation is to lead the first suit (other than trumps) bid by the opponents."

In his 1945 book *Why You Lose at Bridge*, S. J. "Skid" Simon called it "one of the most brilliant contributions to Contract Bridge yet made

Ed: Note to Joan - if partner preempts on a deal, I play that a double says "Do not lead your suit, find an unusual lead!"



**Farewell
Pele Rankin**

When myABF was flagged to be incorporated into all gold point ABF events, thank goodness for Pele, who put her hand up to do the entries through this facility. Anyone who enters knows Pele and appreciates the help she gives them all. Pele's boys have been employed one way or another caddying or assisting with scoring.



Bless you, Pele



At left, feeling unloved - our Bridge café baristas Pip Goulding and Sam Williams

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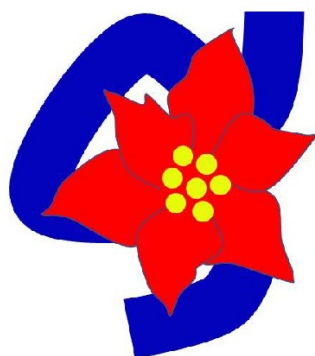
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