



Thursday 22 February

Stephen Lester and Barry Rigal

**BULLETIN 5**

Session tables  
 as at Wed PM -  
 4849 (2023:

**Gold Coast Teams Qualifying 4**

Sometimes the players disappoint you, sometimes it is the boards themselves (more often both). What can I tell you? The fourth stanza of day one saw a well-played set of deals in both rooms and a remarkably low-scoring set. Not what the journalist or his audience wants!

In a set where the final score was 15-11 significant IMPs changed hands on only three deals.

Here they are:

<b>Board 17</b>	♠10		♠986
<i>Dealer North</i>	♥Q10943		♥AJ87
<i>Vul:nil</i>	♦KJ82		♦AQ1097
	♣QJ8		♣7
♠KJ543			
♥62			
♦63			
♣K1054			
	♠AQ72		
	♥K5		
	♦54		
	♣A9632		

In one room Paul Lavings opened the North hand 2♥ (two-suiter) and when East unwisely overcalled 3♦ he played there for down one.

**Thursday 22nd  
 1.30pm -2.15pm**

**Nick Jacob**

**Demystifying  
 auctions after  
 a takeout double**



In the other room this was the auction.

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Kozakos</i>	<i>Harms</i>	<i>de Livera</i>	<i>Nagy</i>
	pass	1♦	1♠
1NT	pass	pass	2♣
pass	pass	dbl	all pass

Nobody could accuse Russell Harms of bidding too much here. As to the other three...

George Kozakos led a diamond and won the trump shift with his king to play a second diamond. de Livera won cheaply and had to make a play. I think he did remarkably well to shift to a spade. He won the ♥K and played another spade. Declarer ruffed, cashed ♥Q and ruffed a heart low. Kozakos

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overruffed and played back a trump and declarer could no longer avoid going for 300.

<b>Board 20</b>	♠973		
<i>Dealer West</i>	♥AKQJ765		
<i>Vul:all</i>	♦7		
	♣53		
♠64		♠KQ105	
♥432		♥9	
♦AKJ532		♦86	
♣74		♣AK10982	
	♠AJ82		
	♥108		
	♦Q1094		
	♣QJ6		



NAGY.

<b>Board 21</b>	♠93		
<i>Dealer North</i>	♥AJ10954		
<i>Vul:NS</i>	♦K94		
	♣43		
♠A2		♠Q1064	
♥KQ6		♥83	
♦AJ52		♦103	
♣AK87		♣J10952	
	♠KJ875		
	♥72		
	♦Q876		
	♣Q6		



This is a splendid play-or-defend board in 3NT.

Beauty and 4♥ opening bids are in the eye of the beholder, apparently. What seems to be one of the world's most normal 4♥ call was opened 1♥ by Lavings. He alanced over a 2♣ overcall with 3♥ and was raised to 4♥, losing the obvious four tricks.

In the other room Harms chose a splendid moment to open 3♥. When de Livera overcalled 4♣ Kozakos might have passed but he bid 4♦ and when de Livera rebid 5♣ Zolly Nagy doubled. Kozakos ran to 5♦x and escaped for one down on repeated heart leads but that was still 7 IMPs to



Paul Lavings

Kozakos was at the wheel (they had somehow managed to stop in 2NT in the other room after a Multi 2♦ opener from Lavings).

Harms correctly led from his interior sequence in hearts, Kozakos sensibly won and started running clubs. When North pitched a spade, declarer accurately played ♦10, covered all round, and then ran the rest of the clubs. He then crossed to the ♠A and endplayed North with a diamond to lead hearts for him. That was the ninth trick and 7 IMPs to KROCHMALIK,

who ended up winners by 15-11.

To defeat 3NT legitimately North must pitch a heart on the third club. When South covers ♦10 declarer wins and runs the rest of the clubs but North keeps both his spades and can put partner on play in the spade suit for the heart through.



Teams Qualifying 5

I sat down to watch Paul Dalley and Tony Nunn take on Bruce Neill and Peter Buchen. In the other room Ashley Bach and Arlene Dalley were taking on Alan Watson and Rick Roeder.

**Board 2**      ♠764  
*Dealer East*    ♥KQ1072  
*Vul: NS*        ♦Q10  
                      ♣1062

♠98	N W E S	♠AJ1053
♥A8		♥965
♦A965		♦KJ8
♣AKJ87		♣54

♠KQ2  
 ♥J43  
 ♦7432  
 ♣Q93

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>P. Dalley</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Nunn</i>	<i>Buchen</i>
pass	pass	1♣	pass
1♥ <sup>1</sup>	pass	2♦	pass
2♠	pass	3♠	pass
4♠	all pass		

1. Spades

In the other room E/W had ground to a halt in 3♣ and were doubtless disappointed to find the clubs and diamonds lying as well as they did.

But in our featured room Nunn forced to game with his 2♠ rebid. Dalley knew he was facing only five spades (no opening bid by Nunn) so maybe a 2NT rebid is a more attractive option?

Be that as it may 4♠ looks a pretty decent spot. Buchen led a heart, best. Neill won and shifted to the ♦Q. Nunn opted for simplicity; he won the ♦A and finessed spades, took the heart return and repeated the finesse. Of course spades were the one suit that didn't behave. Buchen could win and cash a heart for down one and 6 IMPs.

While Buchen's chosen defence perhaps indicated this was the lie of the cards, relying on the club finesse wasn't that attractive either.

Two boards later Arlene Dalley took a fine view: admittedly Buchen in her seat in the other room

had more reason to be optimistic than she; but even so. I believe she did very well.

**Board 4**      ♠A832  
*Dealer West*    ♥AQJ95  
*Vul: all*        ♦J106  
                      ♣9

♠QJ10	N W E S	♠K954
♥8		♥K107642
♦K92		♦5
♣A106532		♣84

♠76  
 ♥3  
 ♦AQ8743  
 ♣KQJ7

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>P. Dalley</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Nunn</i>	<i>Buchan</i>
1♣	1♥	pass	2♦
pass	3♦	pass	5♦
all pass			


<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>Roeder</i>	<i>Bach</i>	<i>Watson</i>	<i>Dalley</i>
1♣	1♥	dbl	2♦
pass	3♦	all pass	

At her final turn Arlene knew her partner strongly rated to have four spades, so her club values rated to be wasted. Even so passing was brave, and successful. 3♦ was a comfortable +110 while in 5♦ Buchen won the spade queen lead and crossed to the ♦A to take the heart finesse with some confidence, since his RHO had passed throughout and was marked with ♠K.

Disaster; the defence now scored a heart spade club and two trumps for three down. That was 9 MPs to Dalley.



Dalley added 6 IMPs for a sharper defence to 1NT, then a further partscore here:

<b>Board 7</b>	♠3	
<i>Dealer South</i>	♥AKQ986	
<i>Vul:all</i>	♦AQ9	
	♣754	
♠AQ98		♠KJ52
♥52		♥J1073
♦K85		♦6
♣KQ93		♣10862
		
	♠10764	
	♥4	
	♦J107432	
	♣AJ	

In the other room Bach had bid to 3♥ on his own and collected 140 on a hand where red-suit games are not so terrible. In the other room this was the auction:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
<i>P. Dalley</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Nunn</i>	<i>Buchen</i>
			pass
1♣	1♥	pass	pass
dbl	2♥	2♠	all pass

Had Neill redoubled 1♥ Buchen might have got his diamonds into play. As it was the defence might have prevailed against 2♠ until Buchen had a 'finger-fehler' at trick two and ruffed his partner's heart winner. 2♠ registered +140 now and Dalley led 24-6.

Neill struck back with a swing that owed rather more to luck than judgment...does that sound harsh?

You be the judge.


Dalley - Nunn bid unopposed 1♠ - 1NT - 2NT-3♥ - 3NT, where 2NT was an artificial game-force, typically 5-5. Had Nunn relayed to find his partner had diamonds he might have looked for slam perhaps. 6♦ looks pretty good -- but 3NT wasn't entirely comfortable. Nunn ducked the club and Neill's signal wasn't clear enough for Buchen to continue the suit. After a spade shift Nunn gave up a trick to the ♦K and claimed nine winners.

In the other room Watson responded 2♦ to 1♠.

That may look surprising but Watson hadn't seen the opening bid and was showing a multi 2♦.

That got his side to 6♦ and after a top club lead Watson pitched a club and heart on the spades, then ruffed a spade with ♦9 and gave up a trump for +920 and 11 IMPs.

NEILL team had one more chance to pull out the match:

<b>Board 9</b>	♠Q74	
<i>Dealer North</i>	♥J7	
<i>Vul:EW</i>	♦9873	
	♣AJ84	
♠93		♠KJ1065
♥AKQ642		♥93
♦AJ		♦Q5
♣Q95		♣K763
		
	♠A82	
	♥1085	
	♦K10642	
	♣102	

In one room Roeder had guessed spades in 4♥ and wrapped up 480 when the defenders took the first spade and didn't cash out. Dalley played 4♥ on the ♦8 (2nd and 4th) lead. Buchen put in the 6; Dalley won cheaply and drew trumps in three round before leading a spade to the king and ace as North followed with the ♠7 to give reverse count.

Buchen exited passively with ♦K and declarer set up spades then used the ♣K as the entry to dummy to pitch the club loser. If the spade count is to be believed you need to shift to clubs – but note that you have to lead the two!! If you play the ♣10 declarer covers and North has no winning option.

On the low club shift North covers declarer's card and eventually collects two club tricks.

The final result was a 29-19 win for Dalley.



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## Blackwood abuses

A successful small slam has three elements: enough material for 12 winners, controls in every suit (so the defenders can't take two fast tricks anywhere) and, if there is a trump suit, adequate trump quality. Slam may depend on other elements: for instance, the degree of fit in a key side suit. A Blackwood 4NT inquiry reveals only one piece of the puzzle.

Blackwood was never intended as a slam-bidding convention, but as a way of avoiding slam when too many aces were missing. Nevertheless, some players seem to view Blackwood as an obligatory rite of passage to any slam; they wheel out "Old Black" even when it won't provide the information they need.

Suppose you hold

♠ A Q J 6 4 ♥ 7 2 ♦ K 3 ♣ A Q J 4.

You open 1♠, and your partner bids 2NT, a conventional forcing raise (often called a "Jacoby 2NT" response). Should you try Blackwood? Suppose partner shows one ace. If you bid 6♠, he will have

♠ K 9 5 2 ♥ J 5 3 ♦ A Q 5 ♣ K 7 6.

The opening leader finds a heart lead, and you lose the first two heart tricks. If you stop at 5♠, partner will have

♠ K 9 5 2 ♥ A 5 3 ♦ Q J 4 2 ♣ K 6,

and 6♠ will be colder than Labrador.

Principle: Don't use Blackwood if a lack of controls is an issue. On the hand above, it's better to start with a cuebid of 4♣, showing slam interest and a control, almost always the ace. Involve your partner in the decision. Let your slam bidding be a

cooperative effort.

What went wrong here?

♠ A J 8 2 ♥ Q 8 4 ♦ 8 3 ♣ A Q 7 3

♠ K Q 9 5 3 ♥ A 9 5 ♦ A J 6 ♣ K 6

North South

1♠

2NT 4NT

5♥ 6♠

The slam had no chance after a trump lead. South had a balanced hand with several losers. What he needed from North was maximum values to provide help.

Since a possible lack of power was the problem, Blackwood was no help. South might have jumped to 5♠ to consult North.

Suppose you hold

♠ K 9 6 5 2 ♥ --- ♦ K J 7 6 2 ♣ A K 5.

You open 1♠, partner bids 2NT. He could hold

♠ J 7 4 3 ♥ A K 4 3 ♦ A 8 3 ♣ J 4. Slam will have problems in trumps and in diamonds.

He could hold

♠ A Q 7 3 ♥ A J 6 ♦ 9 5 3 ♣ Q 8 3. Slam will need good luck in diamonds.

He could hold:

♠ A Q 8 3 ♥ Q 8 4 ♦ A Q 4 ♣ 8 4 2. A grand slam will be all but cold.

With all three hands, partner will show two aces in response to Blackwood.

Opener will do better to start with a 4♣ cuebid.

You hold ♠ K Q 10 6 4 ♥ K Q J 6 4 ♦ A K ♣ 4.

You open 1♠, partner responds 2NT. This is an ideal hand for Blackwood. You can place the contract accurately after seeing partner's answer.

## Dress Up Day - Sport

Here are the placegetters for the Theme Day – prizes can be collected from the Administration desk.

Thanks to all the players who dressed for the Sports Day theme. All photos taken of the entrants will be on the GCC Facebook page. The theme for next year is “Silly shoes and Kinky Boots”.



Grand Slam Ball: Ruth Hemmerling, Kate Hartley, William Morgan & Peter Wilson, Second



2024 International Mixed Team: Pauline Gumby, Warren Lazer, Maurits Van der Vlugt, David Beauchamp, Jodi Tutty, Dagmar Neumann



The Shuttle Cocks: Bigi Cameron, Tim Tigter, Rochelle Van Heuven, on ground Emma Russell, First



The Trick Tricks - Dina Charpentier, Val Smith, Mary-Lou Dwyer, Annie Dennis, equal third



**Psychodrama**

Joan Butts wrote an article in yesterday's bulletin bemoaning the fashion for undisciplined pre-empts, and blaming our youth (some of whom could be in their 80s or older, I suspect!)

JUMP OVERCALL			
Strong	<input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Weak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OPENING PREEMPTS			
	Sound	Light	Very Light
3/4-bids	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conv./Resp.	Vul	Not Vul	

Tim Runting, the Tournament Organiser tried to help:

Hi Joan,

Back in the late 1970's early 1980's we played this convention vs three-level preempts.

C.M.O.B.O.D.O.R

**C**heaper **M**inor **o**ver **B**lack, **O**ptional **D**ouble **o**ver **R**ed.

(3♣) – 3♦ = T/O

(3♣) - X = penalties

(3♠) – 4♣ = T/O

(3♠) - X = penalties

Over 3♦/3♥ pre-empts.

X = Optional, tends to be more like current T/O.

Might be of interest as another alternative to countering three-level preempts.

Cheers, Tim Runting


*The Editor suggests tarring and feathering culprits a suitable deterrent.*



Tony Georgeson & Tina Hesketh 1st Bobby Richman Restricted A Grade



Graeme Lean & Allan Adams 3rd 0-50 MPs Tuesday

	<p><b>Friday 23rd</b> <b>Champagne and Nibbles</b></p>	<p>All welcome to <b>champagne and nibbles</b> where you will receive a 10% discount on certain items. Enter a free draw to win a pair of shoes, to be drawn that morning.</p>	<p>Meeting at In-Her Shoes Oasis Shopping Centre.</p>	<p>8.15am</p>	<p>No cost</p>
	<p><b>Friday 23rd</b> <b>Sanctuary Cove</b> <a href="https://sanctuarycove.com/">https://sanctuarycove.com/</a></p>	<p>Trip to Sanctuary Cove – A fabulous range of boutiques, with mouth-watering selections of cafes and restaurants with views over the Marina.</p>	<p>Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach</p>	<p>10:30am -2:30pm</p>	<p>\$15</p>



Jennifer Finigan & Matthew Tiplady  
Bobby Richman 1st Restricted D

### Online course for youngsters

Paul Marston and Nevena Djurovic will present a special online Introduction to Bridge course for kids aged 14 to 24, in conjunction with the ABF.

The course will be in May 2024. It will consist of 4 lessons and 4 practice sessions of about one hour, and the whole thing will be entirely free. This course is a one-off. It will not be repeated.

The goal is to create a community of young bridge players who play in regular duplicates together. To achieve this goal, they will need to have a good number of students in the course.

Here they will need the help of the wider bridge community. We ask you to encourage all the kids you know to get on board and have a go. Please help us to reach a critical mass.

Registrations will open in April. The link to register will be available in the next Newsletter and on the ABF website at the end of March. Please pass this link on to any potential new students. It will provide them with interesting additional information, with an opportunity to grab a seat once bookings finally open.

Why should kids learn bridge?

- Teamwork: You always have a partner when you play bridge, so the game teaches you how to work together.
- Bridge is a great way to make new friends.
- Cognitive Skills: Since many of the cards are hidden, bridge is a strategic game. It helps

to develop a young player's reasoning, logic, and critical thinking skills.

- Competition & Travel: Bridge students can go on to participate in Youth Bridge competitions locally, regionally, and internationally. Many trips are partially or fully funded. These events teach sportsmanship – how to be good winners and good losers. They also provide opportunities for kids to travel and see the world.

Why should kids learn with Paul and Nevena?

They can handle numbers. More than 2,000 students graduated from Paul and Nevena's course between June 2020 to June 2023 with greater than 95% retention. True, these were adults and kids are different.

That is the challenge ahead.

The course is very hands on. The lessons will follow the first four chapters in Paul's book Introduction to Bridge. These chapters focus on the basic conversation of bidding. That is, when to open in a suit, how to look first for a fit, ideally in a major, then decide about game.

This is the essential thinking of a bridge player. Once you understand this, you have reached first base. The opening bid of 1NT, overcalls and doubles can come later.

The card play topics are what to lead, the importance of drawing trumps, honour from the short hand, and promoting winners.

Paul Marston





2024 Open Team, Peter Gill, Liam Milne, James Coutts, Tony Nunn & Peter Hollands, npc



The Jockey - Julia Caldwell,  
=3rd in Dress Up Day



2024 Women's Team, Jessica Brake, Susan Humphries, Jane Reynolds, Renee Cooper,  
Ella Jacob, Jenny Thompson & Pele Rankin, npc

## RBF and the death of matchpoint pairs by Stephen Lester

How are the two related? And how many of you know whether you possess RBF (resting bitch face?)

This is a real phenomenon, most notably seen in the late Queen Elizabeth II and Victoria Beckham. We think of the derogatory word 'bitch' as female (forget our mothers correcting us, saying "a bitch is a female dog", but it was not until I did some research that I found that RBF is also a masculine trait.

A male, strictly speaking has RAF (think Donald Trump). If you're not sure what the "A" stands for, look up RBF on *Wikipedia*.

### Wikipedia:

*Resting bitch face is a facial expression that unintentionally creates the impression that a person is angry, annoyed, irritated, or contemptuous, particularly when the individual is relaxed, resting, or not expressing any particular emotion.*

I mention it in this article which focusses on matchpoint pairs. Last year I kibitzed numerous pairs nominally playing matchpoint pairs at the NZ Pairs event, held at *BayCorp* Stadium, Mt. Maunganui, in late September.

A largely unchanged format has existed for many years, although 2022's controversial change in style (pairs at the end not the beginning, and three board rounds in the final instead of two) was forgotten and went unmentioned



The style of the players has not changed, however. We all have our own 'tells' when playing face-to-face bridge, whether it be the way we hold our cards, our body language, our attitude to partner and the opposition and

RBF, RAF or just plain poker face.

RBF is rarely acknowledged by the perpetrator ("I can't help my face"), and indeed they may well not know that they are guilty of the syndrome.



Witness this deal, a perfect matchpoint tussle:

<b>Board 17</b>	♠Q76					
<i>Dealer East</i>	♥KQJ76					
<i>Vul: NS</i>	♦J					
	♣KQ52					
♠A54		<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 30px; height: 30px; 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	♠K10832
N						
W E						
S						
♥943			♥A1082			
♦Q42			♦10653			
♣AJ104			♣---			
	♠J9					
	♥5					
	♦AK987					
	♣98763					

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	1♥	1♠	pass
2♥	pass	2♠	2NT <sup>1</sup>
dbl	3♣	pass	pass
dbl	pass	3♠	all pass

1. Minors, 5-5+

Now this action by East really deserves a bit more than RBF. After South shows a 5-5 shape in the minors, West has gone out of her way to show she wants to double one or both minor suits for penalty. Can it ever be right to pull partner's carefully orchestrated penalty double?

Even when it's right, it's wrong, and contradicts every treatise written on matchpoint pairs.

3♣ doubled goes only one down, but earns a bucketload of matchpoints, whereas toiling away at 3♠ for -50 (actually, many matchpoint pairs players would double the run out to 3♠ for +100) is a waste of time.

That's why I observe that a majority of players are not playing matchpoint pairs but IMPs, where a

disaster can hurt badly, but a bottom is just another bottom.

**Board 18**      ♠Q1043  
*Dealer East*      ♥109  
*Vul: NS*          ♦KJ1092  
                  ♣104

♠A97	N W E S	♠J652
♥J8762		♥AQ54
♦AQ76		♦4
♣3		♣KJ95
		♠K8

♥K3  
 ♦853  
 ♣AQ8762

Having just been subject to intense RBF scrutiny, East had better try to improve partner's stony countenance on the next deal. With NS silent, EW sail into 4♥, played by the same hapless East, who had the ill fortune to be playing Acol, so opened 1♥.

South leads a thirds and fifths ♦3, and East momentarily survives by rising ♦A. How to plan for 10 tricks? ♣A could be onside, as could the trump king.

At trick two, East plays ♣3 from dummy, and with no flinching from North inserts ♣J, losing to the queen. South continues with ♦5, ruffed by declarer.

Already *Bridge Solver* has given up on declarer, indicating that a maximum of nine tricks are now possible. Declarer, however finishes with eight tricks when he ruffs a club in dummy, ruffs a diamond in hand and plays ♠A and another. In with ♠K, South plays a third club, ruffed low in dummy and overruffed with ♥9.

Maybe the RBF syndrome has contributed to declarer's fruitless line.

The winning play on the hand is to ruff a diamond at trick two, cross to dummy with ♠A and ruff a third diamond. Now a second spade leads to this ending:

♠9	N W E S	♠J6
♥J8762		♥AQ
♦Q		♦---
♣3		♣KJ95
		♠---

♥K3  
 ♦---  
 ♣AQ8762

South is in with ♠K. What can she do? A heart runs around to declarer's queen, while cashing ♣A gives declarer a vital extra trick.

Easy to miss the better line when you are facing RBF, even easier to miss when it is ABF (Active Bitch Face, *not* Australian Bridge Federation).

### Farewell Sue Ziegenfuss and Lana

Sue and Lana came on board when Gaye Tully retired from hospitality. The trips Sue has organised are spoken about long after finishing. Her heart is in every trip, so you can always guarantee an excellent day if



Lana and Sue

Sue is the organiser. She will be seen around the traps as she is going to play. Lana is not a bridge player.



For follow up to the MyABF meeting contact:

[Julian.foster@abf.com.au](mailto:Julian.foster@abf.com.au)



**Congratulations!**

Andrew & Sandra Richman recently celebrated their 25-year wedding anniversary. They went to Canberra's Summer Festival of Bridge for their honeymoon, which was Sandra's first congress.

They have been at the last 25 Gold Coast Congresses apart from one when they were overseas on a four-month Asia backpacking trip.

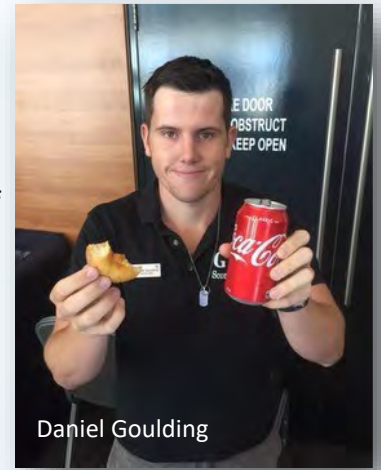
They first met at the Gold Coast Bridge club where they were the youngest players and at the Gold Coast Turf Club where Sandra was the marketing manager and Andrew was a punter.

This year their biggest wins were the Coffs Gold Congress Pairs and the Queensland Festival of Bridge Open Teams with Andy Braithwaite & Paul Hooykaas.

**Farewell**

**Goulding Family**

The GCC Goulding family consists of Geoff (brother-in-law), Nic (sister), Ben (nephew), Daniel and his wife Rani (nephew and niece-in-law) and Philip and friends. There is not an area within the running of the congress that they have not been involved in.



Daniel Goulding



Daniel & Rani Goulding

Geoff has done everything, Nic – coffee, Ben – Floor Manager and caddy, Daniel – scoring support, Rani – coffee, Philip – caddy and this year as it's my last GCC, volunteered to do coffee.



Pele and Gary Hooykaas



Daniel Ben and Pip and their mum Nicola

Nic has retired from duties on site as someone has to look after my dog, however, when bins need filling with plastic bags, stuff needs folding or packing – I can always rely on her support. The Congress owes a lot to the Goulding family and will be greatly missed. Unfortunately, not a bridge player between them.

**StepBridge Australia**  
**APRIL CONGRESS**  
**Open, Restricted & Novice**  
 (An approved SABF red point congress)



*Online on the StepBridge Platform*

**SATURDAY 13th APRIL 2024 – SWISS BUTLER IMP PAIRS**  
**SUNDAY 14th APRIL 2024 – SWISS TEAMS**

<b>Directors</b>	Alan Bustany (Swiss Butler IMP Pairs) & Chris Snook (Swiss Teams)
<b>Movement</b>	Swiss Butler IMP Pairs - Three separate fields of Open, Restricted & Novice Swiss Teams - Two separate fields of Open & Restricted The number of boards and rounds will be at the discretion of the Director and StepBridge.
<b>Conditions of Entry</b>	SABF Approved Red Masterpoint Congress conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge. Masterpoints not guaranteed unless ABF number is provided. Green, blue & red systems, and Brown Sticker conventions and treatments, permitted in the Open Grade. Blue & green systems permitted in the Novice & Restricted fields. No Yellow (HUM) systems in this Congress. Novice players must have fewer than 100 Masterpoints as at 31 January 2024. Restricted players must have fewer than 300 Masterpoints as at 31 January 2024. Each pair must have 2 systemically identical current system cards. Players are responsible for ensuring their system classification is correct.
<b>Start Time</b>	10.00am (ACT, NSW, QLD, VIC & TAS) / 9.30am (NT & SA) / 8.00am (WA)
<b>Closing Date</b>	Thursday 11th April 2024, 5.00pm Australian Eastern Standard Time. Late entries accepted at the discretion of the Director and StepBridge.
<b>Entries &amp; Entry List</b>	<a href="https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1302">https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/1302</a> If you have not used MyABF before, register for MyABF via the following link: <a href="https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register">https://www.myabf.com.au/accounts/register</a>
<b>Entry Fee</b>	400 Participation Points per Player per Day. Select "Club PP System" in MyABF for payment The Participation Points will be deducted from your account on the day of the congress. Please ensure you have enough Participation Points in your account.
<b>Prizes</b>	Cash Prizes will be awarded in the separate fields. Pairs - 1st \$300, 2nd \$200 & 3rd \$150, subject to 20 tables in the particular field. Teams - 1st \$600, 2nd \$400 & 3rd \$300, subject to 20 tables in the particular field. Should there be less than 20 tables in the particular field, the above prizes will be reassessed & reduced.
<b>StepBridge Username Registration</b>	All players must be registered with StepBridge Australia. Details on registration at <a href="http://www.stepbridge.com.au">www.stepbridge.com.au</a> If registering solely for this Congress, you can have temporary membership with no membership fee payable and in addition 150 free Participation Points to familiarise yourself with the StepBridge Australia platform. You will need order and pay \$20 for purchase of your Participation Points for this event. Account Name: StepBridge Australia BSB: 012013 Account Number: 302538455 StepBridge enquiries to <a href="mailto:support@stepbridge.com.au">support@stepbridge.com.au</a>



Geoff and Nicola



Kim and Ray's three grandchildren

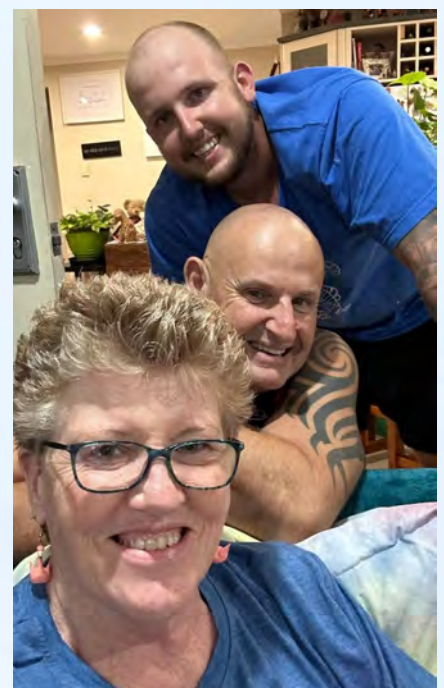


Nic, Pip & Michael Ellaway

Goulding  
page



Shak & Ben Goulding



Nic Geoff & Pip



## 8 reasons for coming to Hobart in March

### Tasmanian Festival of Bridge 14-17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

1. **Most importantly, great bridge** in a spacious well-appointed venue.
2. **Ideal weather** - March is a beautiful time in Tasmania. This year the typically calm sunny days are likely to be the most pleasant in Australia.
3. **Fine food** - Hobart, according to Delicious magazine, 'has solidified its place as a culinary hotbed.' Check out the delicious [must visit places](#) or better still ask a local about their favourite place.

*Then stay a little longer and enjoy much more*

4. **MONA (Museum of Old & New Art)** - A world renowned museum which was built to fulfil David Walsh's dream of sharing his fascinating art collection with us all. Get there by car or a scenic ferry trip from near the CBD.
5. **Mt Wellington** - The views are stunning and on the drive to the top there are walks (including easy) through beautiful bush. No car? An Explorer bus offers tours and a hop-on hop-off option.
6. **High quality wineries, breweries and distilleries** abound and in the vicinity of Hobart include the 2023 Australian Winery of the Year, Pooley Wines, and the Cascades Brewery the oldest continuously operating brewery in Australia.
7. **Hobart from the water** Relaxing harbour cruises lasting from 1 hour to half a day with Historic Hobart Cruises or Pennicott Wilderness Journeys.
8. **Relaxing local walks** A few minutes wander from the Hobart CBD are the historic waterfront (with Antarctic connections), Salamanca Place and Battery Point. The Botanical Gardens, a bit further away, are well worth a visit.
9. During TFOB you can refresh your mind on the waterfront walk just outside the venue.

*This is just a start - there are many other wonderful places around the rest of Tasmania!*

**Tasmania things to do**



***The Chris Diment Memorial Congress***  
***Illawarra Bridge Association, Wollongong***

**At Port Kembla Golf Club,  
30 Golf Place, Primbee, NSW 2002**

***15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024***

Saturday Swiss Pairs, Sunday Teams



Director: Jeff Carberry

Convenor: Marie Pickering

Information: [pickering\\_marie@hotmail.com.au](mailto:pickering_marie@hotmail.com.au) or 0422375712

Online entry: [www.nswba.com.au/tourn/calendar.asp](http://www.nswba.com.au/tourn/calendar.asp)

Registration: **9.30 am** Saturday, **9am** Sunday

Entry fee: \$50 per player (pairs), \$50 per player (teams).

Conducted under the auspices of the NSWBA, with all players being subject to the NSWBA's Congress Disciplinary Regulations. The ABF has approved the issue of red masterpoints at level B4.

Please pay in advance by direct debit to:

**IBA BSB 814282 Acc# 31204318. Please include your ABF number in the payment reference.**

Lunch provided both days. Please make sure you bring your system card. Yellow systems and brown sticker conventions are not permitted. If for any reason the event becomes an on-line event, we will let you know.



Mackay Contract Bridge Club is proud to present the 28th Barrier Reef Congress, being held from Friday 3rd May - Monday 6th May 2024. The last few years are some we will never forget so lets play Bridge face to face again.

Bring your partner and family, take a few extra days or weeks, and get a glimpse of what we have to offer - along with a fabulous weekend of Bridge. Our city is pulling out all the stops for you. Flight and accommodation packages are available along with a range of day trips to tempt nonplaying partners – see the links for full details. Whether it is relaxation, adventure or natural experiences, Mackay is the perfect getaway. You may not know it, but we boast Australia's largest sub-tropical rainforest in Eungella National Park where platypus spotting is "must do". Perhaps you can make time to see wallabies on the beach at sunrise - as seen in the Qantas promos. Oh, and did we mention, Mackay is the gateway to the fabulous Whitsunday Islands?

### *Discover Mackay*

Whilst you are here take the time to visit some of these beautiful locations.

Click the link below for further information:

<https://www.mackayregion.com/>

### *Book your travel package*

Helloworld Travel Mackay has prepared a range of flight, accommodation and tour packages, just click on the link for details. If you are coming from a different destination, Johanna will be happy to prepare similar options for you. For enquires on all you travel needs, please contact Johanna Wood at Helloworld Travel Mackay:

Phone: 07 4969 3680 or Email: [johanna.mackay@helloworld.com.au](mailto:johanna.mackay@helloworld.com.au)

### *More Information*

Programme details and entry on MyABF

*We look forward to welcoming you to Mackay.*