



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

**YOUR DAILY
BULLETIN**

Sunday 18th February

Stephen Lester and Barry Rigal



**Welcome from Tim Runting
Gold Coast Congress
Tournament Organiser
and Richard Ward,
QBA President**

Welcome to the 62nd annual
Gold Coast Congress!

I would like to begin today by
acknowledging the Yugambeh & Kombumerri
people, traditional custodians of the land on which
we gather today, and pay my respects to their
Elders, past, present, and emerging. I extend that
respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
peoples here today.

At last, after the difficulties of the last three years
we have encountered, all three halls are back up
and running with our attendance looking
impressive as we write this. Fingers crossed our
numbers are getting much closer to our record
2020 year! And on the back of this great news,
we have also secured the dates for our 63rd
Congress; note the earlier start from 1 - 8
February, 2025.

As always, a very warm welcome to all our other
international guests – at last count we have 218
of our friends from over the ditch, along with
another 42 international players from 13 other
countries.

A very big thank you again to my partner Sue Z,



who has provided another
entertaining Bridge
Companions programme
along with several social
activities to keep everyone
involved throughout the
duration of the event.
Please support those who
support us! A full listing is

available in this Bulletin and on the screens
throughout the Centre.

The bulletins are your greatest source of
information and this year we welcome back Editor
Stephen Lester, heading our team with world
renowned bridge expert and columnist Barry Rigal,
who tells me the Gold Coast Congress is his
favourite event! And that's saying something when
you consider Barry ventures around the globe
reporting as sub-editor on many major tournaments
in the WBF calendar.

Talking about the WBF calendar, the World Bridge
Tour (WBT) has just kicked off in Iceland with the
Reykjavik teams & pairs. The idea of a World Tour
(conceived by last year's visitor to the GCC, WBF
President Jan Kamras) is to rank the performance
of partnerships in international bridge.

After the 2023 "Dry Run" of the WBT, (won by top
Italian pair Alfredo Versace & Antonio Sementa) the
Gold Coast pairs and teams is next on the list; This

truly puts the Gold Coast on the world map and for our top Aussie & NZ players along with other international visitors it is a wonderful opportunity to help accrue points towards their 2024 ranking.

The theme this year is "Sports Day" – please come well-dressed on Wednesday in your best attire. As in the past I am certain it will be a fun event for all those that get involved!

I warmly welcome all our regulars, as you are the backbone of our tournament – and to all first timers and especially novices - I hope it is a pleasant experience where you enjoy not only good bridge but a happy and enjoyable time.

May you all have a wonderful experience and when it is time to return home, please spread the word about our Congress to your friends. We would love to meet them too!

Tim Runting
Richard Ward

Gold Coast Congress Tournament Organiser
QBA President

World class Co-Editor

Co-editor Barry Rigal, born in England but now firmly based in New York will be providing in depth commentary on the boards played across the seven days of the congress.



Barry

Among Barry's many accomplishments are author, writer, player and Vugraph commentator. (Barry is Chief Commentator of WBF and EBL events.)

He is also President of the highly regarded IBPA (International Bridge Press Association). Barry is always on the lookout for a good hand, featuring play and defence, squeeze or coup or a good joke, so if you have one to report either find him in the room, where he will often be kibitzing, email him via the link on the front of the bulletin or at barryrigal@mindspring.com

Barry has written a number of books, including the winning 2022 ABTA book in the Advanced

category, *Test Your Bridge Judgment* (Bridge Winners' Press.)

Ed: We are fortunate the GCC is Barry's favourite event, so take advantage of the fact you can expect to see incisive and witty writeups of feature hands.

Barry was good friends with Pablo Lambardi, who died on Christmas Day. Pablo was a frequent visitor to our summer events (he was here last year.) He has collected some great hands featuring Pablo, a couple of which I featured with Barry's permission in the recent Summer Festival Bulletin.

Here's one from the 2021 fall NABC in Austin, Tx:

Tit for tat

by Barry Rigal

South deals, nil vulnerable

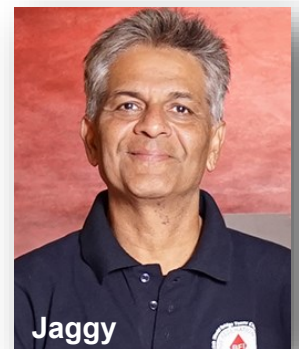
<p>♠ Q 10 5 ♥ A 7 4 3 ♦ Q 7 3 2 ♣ A 9</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ K 8 2 ♥ K 10 5 2 ♦ A 5 ♣ J 10 7 3</p>	
<p>♠ 4 ♥ Q J 9 8 6 ♦ K J 10 4 ♣ Q 5 2</p>		<p>♠ A J 9 7 6 3 ♥ --- ♦ 9 8 6 ♣ K 8 6 4</p>	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	<i>Allegaert</i>		<i>Jaggy</i>
pass	2NT	pass	2♠
pass	4♠	all pass	3♦ ¹

1. Non-minimum

You show me your (trump coup) and I'll show you mine!

On successive deals from the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs final, the opportunity for a trump coup presented itself and both



Jaggy

sides took advantage when Danny and JoAnn Sprung met Jaggy Shivdasani and Wynn Allegaert.

On a heart lead, Jaggy took the ace, pitching a diamond, then ruffed three hearts in hand, using ♣A and a club ruff to get back to dummy. Then he ruffed his last club with ♠Q and passed ♠10 successfully. In the four-card ending he exited with a diamond and sat back to wait for his ♠A-J.

Not to be outdone, Danny Sprung showed on the next deal that he knew a thing or two about trump coups.

West deals, all vulnerable

		♠ 10									
		♥ K Q 10 9 7									
		♦ 9 8 5 3									
		♣ A K 9									
♠ K J 7 4			♠ A Q 3								
♥ A 5 4 2			♥ 8 6								
♦ Q	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♦ A K J 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♣ J 7 3 2			♣ 8 6 5 4								
		♠ 9 8 6 5 2									
		♥ J 3									
		♦ 10 7 6 4									
		♣ Q 10									
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH								
<i>Sprung</i>											
pass	1♥	dbl	pass								
2♠	all pass										

On the lead of ♥K, Sprung won and unblocked the ♦Q, then crossed to ♠A, running the diamonds to discard clubs. Now came a club to the 10, jack and king. (Yes, perhaps if South wins the ♣Q to play a trump he does better). Back came ♥K and a second heart. Danny ruffed high and led a club from dummy. This was the four-card ending:

		♠ ---						
		♥ 10 9						
		♦ ---						
		♣ K 9						
♠ K J 7			♠ 3					
♥ 5			♥ ---					
♦ ---	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; height: 30px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> </table>		N		W		E	♦ ---
	N							
W		E						
♣ ---			♣ 8 6 5					
		♠ 9 8 6 5						
		♥ ---						
		♦ ---						
		♣ ---						



Pablo at right , GCC 2023

When South ruffed high, Sprung discarded, and finessed ♠7 on the trump return for +170.

At another table, Pablo Lambardi (East) was in 4♠ on the second deal following this auction:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		<i>Lambardi</i>	
pass	1♥	dbl	pass
2♥	pass	3♦	pass
3♥	pass	3♠	pass
4♠	all pass		

South led ♥J. In order to avoid the possible ending in the earlier version (and aided by the fact that West was dummy and the club weakness was not apparent), Lambardi ducked. He won ♥A at trick two, cashed ♦Q, played a spade to his queen and cashed his diamond winners, throwing clubs, then played a club.

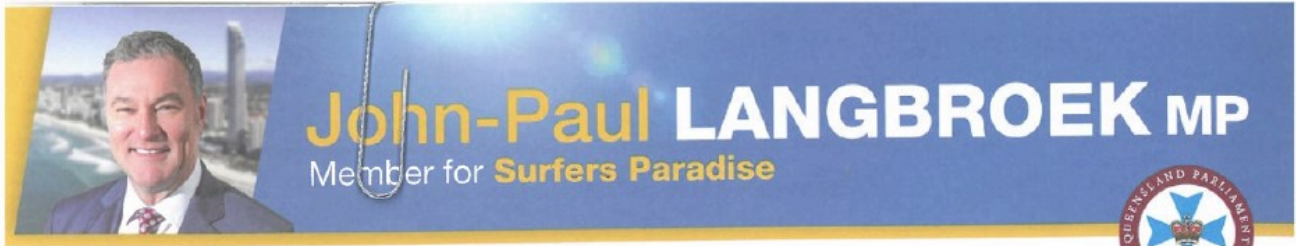
Even if South had shifted to a trump, declarer can succeed by covering a low spot with the 7 or winning ♠8 (or 9) with the jack and ruffing a heart high. The same trump coup still works.

Jaggy Power

Jaggy Shivdasani , previous page, partnering Rajeshwar Tiwari won the Invitational Pairs at the Gold Coast during the 2018 Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championships.

He went on as part of INDIA A to win the final against AUSTRALIA.

Jaggy, from Mumbai has spearheaded many Indian national teams, and has enjoyed great success in major US events, winning both the Spingold and the Reisinger in 1987.



Welcome to the 62nd Gold Coast Bridge Congress
February 18 to February 24, 2024

Dear Participants

As the State Member for Surfers Paradise and patron of the Surfers Paradise Bridge Club, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 62nd Annual Bridge Congress on the fabulous Gold Coast!

The Bridge Congress grows bigger and better every year and I'm proud to have such a wonderful event in my electorate of Surfers Paradise.

Whether it's your first time on the Gold Coast, or you're a return visitor, there's no shortage of things to see and do in our city. From exploring the natural wonders to checking out our theme parks, there's plenty to keep you entertained during your stay here.

With the combination of many wonderful attractions, perfect weather, world-class entertainment and spectacular scenery for all of the Congress participants to enjoy it is no wonder that this tournament is one of the largest annual bridge festivals in the southern hemisphere and one of the largest in the world.

Locals will agree that our greatest asset on the Gold Coast is our community.

Our Bridge clubs are an important part of the fabric of our community. It's a place to forge new friendships, engage in some friendly competition, and learn new skills.

That's why I have always supported the Annual Bridge Congress here on the Gold Coast.

I wish you a very successful tournament. I hope you enjoy your stay on the sunny Gold Coast and that you take the time to experience all that our city has to offer.

Yours sincerely

JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Member for Surfers Paradise
Shadow Minister for Seniors, Communities and Disability Services
Shadow Minister for Multiculturalism and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships



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 JohnPaulLangbroekMP @JPLangbroek jplangbroek

Welcome!

On behalf of the ABF we welcome you to the 2024 Gold Coast Congress (GCC). It is great to see the event back at 'full strength' after



last year's event had table number limitations. The GCC has long been the most popular event on the Australian Bridge calendar for a raft of very good reasons. Hopefully the weather this year will be favourable but from personal experience, we know you will have a great time even if we are being rained upon.

Yet again Kim Ellaway, Tim Runting and their team have been working tirelessly to ensure that absolutely everything has been done to ensure we all have a wonderful experience. Even those of us who don't play bridge as well as we would like seem to enjoy ourselves, thanks to them! Kim and many others have advised the QBA they will be retiring from their Gold Coast roles after this year, so please ensure you take the opportunity to thank them for their service when you see them.

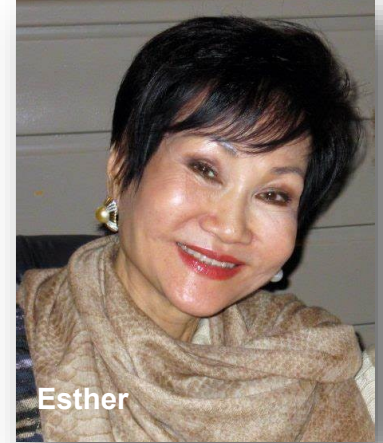
We have several sponsors again this year. You will see them around throughout the Congress both outside the playing area and in the bulletins. As bridge players we tend to take sponsors for granted far too often. Bridge remains a very affordable pastime here in Australia thanks to our sponsors, so please remember when you are considering your purchases to support those companies that support us.

Whilst on the topic of sponsorship, we would like to encourage you all to become sponsors yourselves. We have a team of Under 26 Women who are planning to go to Poland later this year to compete in the 8th World Youth Transnational Championships. Whilst they will be attending as Australian representatives the ABF does not have the funds this year to subsidise a second youth team. We have agreed to pay their entry fees but

they need your help to cover their travel costs. We urge you all to support their fundraising efforts here at the GCC.

Once again we will have several overseas visitors with us this year. It gives us great pleasure to welcome so many of you to our premier event. We would like to make special mention of two of our visitors.

Firstly, Khunying (Esther) Sophonpanich and her Magic Eyes Team members. Esther is the President of the Asia Pacific Bridge Federation (APBF). Secondly, Allan Morris who is the Chairman of New Zealand Bridge will be playing in the Morris team. We thank both Esther and Allan for supporting bridge in Australia.



We would like to ask everyone to reinforce our reputation of being friendly people here in Australia.



Whilst it is easy for us to get caught up in the emotions of bridge from time to time, it is far more important that we all behave as fitting ambassadors

for both bridge and Australia. Let's ensure everyone goes home with a smile on their face and planning to return again next year.

We wish you all a wonderful experience here at the Gold Coast and if you see either of us throughout the Congress please be sure to share your thoughts with us on how we can continue to improve bridge for everyone in Australia.

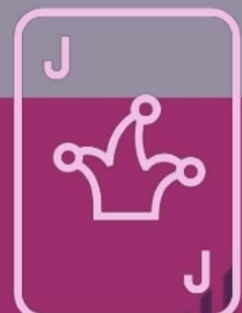
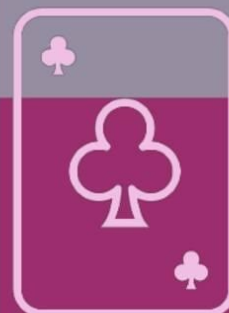
Allison Stralow
President

David Fryda
Executive Director

Under 26 Women's Team Fundraising Dinner!

SOLD OUT

THANK YOU SO MUCH to everyone who has supported us! If you missed out on tickets to the fundraising dinner, but would still like to support us, you can buy raffle tickets at the Gold Coast Congress to be drawn Thursday, or you can directly donate through the QR code.



Joan McPheat – ♥ R.I.P. 11 November 2023 ♠



Joan McPheat has made many significant contributions to bridge in Queensland since she first became involved with directing, administration and playing in the early 1980s. She and Reg Busch (QBA President 1973-1979, 1983-1986 and QBA Life Member) became a formidable directing duo, combining his expertise on regulations, movements, scoring and the Laws with her mainly self-taught computer-programming abilities.

This was at a time when computer-bridge-scoring was in its infancy; *Bridgemates* did not exist; every sub-program required extensive error-discovery and on-the-job testing; the hardware for data storage and printing was relatively primitive.

And so "*Compscore*" was born. Of particular importance was the user-friendliness of the software for directors unfamiliar with computers in general and this program in particular. Such matters as scoring errors, arrow-switched and fouled boards, tie-breaking and late adjustments after appeals all needed to be handled simply and efficiently by directors for whom time availability during an event was critical. Many, many years of time and individual effort by Joan (and Reg) went in to refining and adding to the *Compscore* menu.

The Queensland-Wide Pairs has always been popular, with most clubs participating with large entries. In the early days, the clubs would hold the



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\$1.00 each**UMBRELLAS \$25**

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event using travelling score cards which would be packaged and posted to Toowoomba into the waiting arms of Ivy Dahler and Enid Busch. They would then sticky-tape the travellers for each board into one continuous strip, each strip being long enough to start at the front steps, wind through the house and finish out in the back yard! Then the arduous task of walking up and down to manually score each board would begin.

With Joan's assistance, a new scoring module was created which allowed the traveller scores from each club to be entered into *Compscore*, scored, tallied and amalgamated into the final Queensland - Wide results listing.

In the mid-1990's and after a few years of use at club and congress level, *Compscore* became sufficiently sophisticated to be trialled at the daunting Gold Coast Congress. This was a daring step to take, as the number of entrants in the multi-level pairs events was far beyond anything attempted previously.

To complicate matters further, the venue for the GCC at the time was the ANA Hotel – awkwardly taking up all of the 2nd and 4th floors. Joan gathered together a team of scorers who manually entered all of the scores as they were delivered on paper score sheets by volunteer runners. As the data entry for each qualifying section was completed, Joan would move from computer to computer, ready to download the information onto disks. She then uploaded each disk on to her own computer where *Compscore* could then combine and compile the entire event into one huge set of results.



This was a trail-blazing moment in Queensland bridge history and one that required all of Joan's undoubted courage and tenacity to bring to fruition. All it would have taken would have been one tiny failure of the system at any point to bring the whole congress grinding to a calamitous halt – collapsing like a house of cards – and the responsibility for its success or its failure was Joan's alone.

History should record this triumphant occasion.

Joan became the QBA State Masterpoint

Secretary in 1990, a role she maintained for a remarkable 25 years. The QBA has always been fortunate to have such competent people in this

important position (Reg Busch, Ivy Dahler, Joan McPheat and Peter Busch) each of whom has, without fail, regularly reported to the QBA Council with the words "All masterpointing is completed and up-to-date".

Despite the latest developments in technology, Joan's legacy continues throughout Queensland to this day and it is timely for this to be recognised by awarding her Life Membership.

Joan's long and meritorious contribution to Queensland bridge was recognized when she was elevated to Honorary Life Member of the

Queensland Bridge Association.

So, what did Joan do for her goals in retirement?

She turned her hand to supporting learners. Every Wednesday at the Sunshine Coast Contract Bridge Club, she would be there helping new players to gain the skills to enjoy the great game. With Alison Dawson as the



Joan accepting life membership of the Sunshine Coast BC from President Brian Cordiner

primary teacher, she built a great affinity. Joan took them straight from lessons and built their skills in supervised play so that they could take their place in regular sessions. This wearisome, endless task was appreciated by the continuous stream of learners.

At the behest of her learners, Joan's devotion culminated in her receiving a volunteer's award in the Australia Day Honours in 2014. Joan was also elevated to the very short list of honorary life members of the Sunshine Coast Contract Bridge Club.

The QBA hosts an annual Festival of Bridge. Three sessions of teams sees players playing for the Reg Busch Trophy – the Queensland Open Teams. The now three sessions of pairs sees players playing for the Joan McPheat Trophy – the Queensland Open Pairs Championship.

The Gold Coast Congress will honour Reg and Joan with a trophy for the winner of the three Butler events. It will be called the Reg and Joan Trophy.

Kim Ellaway
Manager
Queensland Bridge Association



UPDATE

Wednesday 21st February **Location: Upstairs opposite administration**
1.30–2.15pm

Julian Foster (ABF) will give a short presentation about My ABF, some tips and tricks and what's planned next.

- Tips & tricks
 - your dashboard
 - using bridge credits
- Coming next
 - enhancements to Club Admin (membership & communications)
 - masterpoints

Club Panel Discussion

We will follow with a short panel discussion with officials from clubs who have implemented My ABF to share their experiences. This includes use of the system for congresses, club events and club duplicates.

The panel includes:





- Jacqui Dudurovic (Northern Suburbs Bridge Club, Brisbane – now a member of the My ABF Steering committee)
- Siobhan Davies (Caloundra Contract Bridge Club)
- Paul Brake (Gold Coast Bridge Club)

If you can't attend in person more information can be found here:




<https://www.abf.com.au/member-services/my-abf-resources/>

2024 Bridge Companions Programme

Hello and a huge welcome back to our **2024 Bridge Companions** programme.
 We look forward to meeting you all – Please note that the first get together is being held on the Sunday because of a shortened Congress.
 Below, please find the organised activities for the week.
 Here's to a fun week, Sue, and Lana

Location	Dates	Event	Meeting	Depart	Costs
	Sunday 18th	Get together Non-Bridge Partners. Golf days will be discussed at the same time. Arranged by Ian Wright	Apartment 1901 Air on Broadbeach	11am- 12:30pm	
	Monday 19th Kingscliff, and Fingal Head https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingscliff,_New_South_Wales	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. Fingal Head and Cook Island were first sighted by James Cook on 16 May 1770.	Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach	10:30am -4:30pm.	\$30 bus. Lunch & Tea costs to be incurred by self.
	Tuesday 20th	Coffee or Tea for Non-Bridge Partners A quick tea or coffee for those partners unable to attend on the Sunday am get together to discuss the programme. Please advise attendance by latest Monday pm	Apartment 1901 Air on Broadbeach	09:45am- 10:15am	
	Tuesday 20th <u>Cedar Creek Falls track to lookout</u> 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. https://www.mustdbrisbane.com/outdoors-pools/cedar-creek-falls-tamborine-mountain	Lunch Lunch and shopping at Gallery Walk. <u>Cedar Creek Falls track to rock pools</u> 1.1km return Time: Allow about 30min walking time Details: From Cedar Creek Falls lookout, descend through eucalypt forest and dry rainforest to the rock pools below. There are many steps on this walk, so be prepared for an uphill climb on our return.	Ground floor Air on Broadbeach	Leave 10:30am Bus to be back by 17:00 latest	\$30 bus. Lunch at own cost

	<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>
 <p>Lunch</p>  <p>Apex Dining Menu Spring 23_09.docx (2)</p>	<p>Thursday 22nd</p> <p>Tweed Regional Gallery and Margaret Olley Art Centre</p> <p>https://gallery.tweed.nsw.gov.au/visit/margaret-olley-art-centre</p> <p>MOAC celebrates the career, life and legacy of its namesake, Margaret Olley – Australia's most celebrated painter of still life and interiors. Central to MOAC is the recreation of areas of Olley's famous home studio, principally the Hat Factory and the Yellow Room.</p> <p>Lunch at the Apex dining tearoom</p>	<p>The Margaret Olley Art Centre (MOAC) is the third and final stage of the Tweed Regional Gallery.</p>	<p>Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach</p>	<p>10:30am – 4:30pm latest</p>	<p>Lunch and tea costs to be incurred by self</p> <p>\$30 bus</p>
	<p>Friday 23rd</p> <p>Champagne and Nibbles</p>	<p>All welcome to champagne and nibbles 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>Friday 23rd</p> <p>Sanctuary Cove</p> <p>https://sanctuarycove.com/</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>

	OTHER OPTIONS:			
	David Fleay Wildlife Park https://www.npsr.qld.gov.au/parks/david-fleay/	David Fleay Wildlife Park is 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. You'll meet crocodiles, koalas, emus, brolgas, dingoes, dunnarts, bilbies, and kangaroos, as well as platypus.		
	Sirromet Winery & tasting. https://www.sirromet.com/	Try some of Queensland's award-winning wines during a 1.5-hour wine tasting experience at the Sirromet Winery in Mount Cotton. Stroll around the vineyards, enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of the family-run winery, then sample red, white, and sparkling wines during a tasting		
	SkyPoint Observation Deck https://www.skypoint.com.au/	SkyPoint Observation Deck offers panoramic views of the Gold Coast, 230m above sea level, located atop the iconic Q1 building in Surfers Paradise. SkyPoint's unique vantage point lets you take in the entire city from the 77 floor.		
Any expressions of interest or pre-bookings would be very welcome.		Contacts: Sue (m) 0424 830158 Lana (m) 0481187578 Ian (m) 0417194347	gchospitality@qldbridge.com.au ian83@me.com	

Sorry, Partner

Argentinian champion Agustin Madala joins us to talk about playing on auto-pilot, the addictive nature of the game, and the way his partner's upbeat temperament keeps him cool under pressure. Plus, he shares his top tip for developing players. But first, we kibitz!

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THE BRIDGE MAGICIAN

<https://sorrypartner.com/episodes>





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TWO MEN AND A TRUCK












10% Discount on showing you are from the congress at Hideaway Kitchen and Bar, 2657 Gold Coast Highway, Broadbeach



15% Discount when you show you are from the congress

CALENDAR OF SOCIAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES GOLD COAST CONGRESS 2024

		Sunday 18th February	Monday 19th February	Tuesday 20th February	Wednesday 21st February	Thursday 22nd February	Friday 23rd February
NOVICE AND ROOKIE ACTIVITIES							
Rookies Help Available	In the Playing Area Rookies Section	9:15am to 10:00am				9:15am to 10:00am	
Under 50MPs Help Available	In the Playing Area Under 50s Section			9:15am to 10:00am	9:15am to 10:00am	9:30am to 10:00am	
Novices Help Available	In the Playing Area Novices Section	9:30am to 10:00am		9:30am to 10:00am			9:30am 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				1.30pm to 2.00pm		
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				 local & imported shoes - bans - accessories		8:15am
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		
<u>Kingscliff</u> , 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 4:30 pm				
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 & Gmd 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		
<u>Sanctuary Cove</u> - 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	
<u>David Fleay Wildlife Park</u> - 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						
<u>Sirromet Winery & tasting</u> - Try some of Queensland's award-winning wines during a 1.5-hour wine tasting experience at the Sirromet Winery in Mount Cotton.	Other Options						
<u>SkyPoint Observation Deck</u> - 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						
All Golf Enquiries to Ian Wright 0417194347 • ian83@me.com		Sunday 18th February	Monday 19th February	Tuesday 20th February	Wednesday 21st February	Thursday 22nd February	Friday 23rd February

Tips for new players

by Frank Stewart

Prolific bridge player, columnist and author Frank Stewart has provided a wealth of material for countless NABC bulletins as well as newspaper columns, teaching and his own bridge books - 25 of them! Barry Rigal mentioned to Frank we were keen for good material for our newer players, and Frank obliged.



I have a slight relationship with Frank from the times he supported Australian Bridge magazine and was a Bidding Forum panellist. When I had an email correspondence with him last month he remembered this and told me:

"In 1968 -- 56 years ago -- when I was in the Army and stationed in Korea, I played for Korea in the Far East Championship in Kuala Lumpur. I knew little about the game then, and here I was, up against Australia, who won - Tim Seres, Roelof Smilde, Jim Borin, Wally Scott, Jessel Rothfield, and also the great Taipei team."

Frank's Daily Bridge Column is a go to read for many keen players. His syndicated column appears daily at www.baronbarclay.com. He is coming up on 12,000 by-lined columns.

Tips for New Players

Basic bidding

What would you say is the best part of an expert's game? It's not that an expert can pull off an esoteric squeeze. Experts win for three reasons:

1. Their focus lets them keep avoidable errors to a minimum;
2. their judgment is sharp, based on experience; and
3. their fundamental skills are rock-solid. Give an expert a problem in basic bidding or play, and he will go right. Always.

To test your basic bidding, try this quiz.

1. You hold: ♠ J76 ♥ A5 ♦ 76 ♣ KJ10853. Your partner opens 1NT (15 - 17 HCP). What is your call?

2. .You hold ♠ Q5 ♥ 754 ♦ A10632 ♣ K53. Your partner opens 1♠, you respond 1NT and he bids 2♥. What is your call?
3. You hold: ♠ 74 ♥ AQ ♦ A10764 ♣ AQ76. You open 1♦, partner responds 1♠, you bid 2♣ and partner returns to 2♦ You try 2NT, and he bids 3♦. What is your call?
4. You hold : ♠ AQ54 ♥ 4 ♦AQ762 ♣ KT5. You open 1♦. partner responds 1♥, you bid 1♠ and he rebids 2♥. What is your call?
5. You hold: ♠ AQ52 ♥ J63 ♦ 63 ♣ 8532. Your partner opens 1♥. What is your call?
6. You hold: ♠ AJ63 ♥ K4 ♦ 53 ♣ AQ43. Your partner opens 1♥. What is your call?
7. You hold: ♠ 764 ♥ 10742 ♦ AKJ4 ♣ A104. You open 1♦, and your partner responds 1♥. RHO overcalls 1♠. What is your call?

Answers overleaf

Farewell to Gerald SchAAF

Gerald started working at the GCC in 1997 as a caddy (back in the ANA days) and in 1999 took over the entries both on and off site, dinner dance co-ordinator and prize guru.



As we all know this is now undertaken by four different people. When Gerald retired from being the Entries Co-ordinator he took on the job of Dinner Dance Co-ordinator which he has done ever since, however, has tried to retire every year but continues to do it as a favour for me. Thank you Gerald for not only helping out over the past 25 plus years but being one of my bestest friends.

Kim Ellaway



**FRANK
STEWART**

Tips for new players

1. Bid 3NT. Rarely, 3NT will fail when a club contract would have been better, but the nine-trick game is more likely to make. To play at notrump might be essential at matchpoint scoring
2. Take a “false preference” to 2♠. To pass might work if opener has a minimum with 5-5 in the majors, but if he has 5-4, to play at the 5-2 fit will usually be better. Moreover, you have a decent hand, so give partner another chance if he has extra strength
3. Pass. You tried for game, partner rejected. *Respect a signoff.*
4. Pass. Partner has long hearts but a poor hand. You have no game, and his hand may be worthless unless hearts are trumps. *Don't fight a misfit.*
5. Raise to 2♥. You suggest a trump suit and limit your strength promptly. A 1♠ response would do neither. To raise would still be correct with ♠ AJ432 ♥ Q52 ♦ 65 ♣ 543.
6. Bid 2♣. You have the ammunition for several bids, so bid your long suit first. With ♠ AJ64 ♥ K4 ♦ 53 ♣ Q10543, to respond 1♠ would be correct ; locating a fit in the other major would be a priority.
7. Bid 2♥. Your hand is a minimum, but you can't suppress a fit for partner's suit. In some situations, a “free bid” may suggest a sound hand, but a “free raise” has no such implication.

Gold Coast farewells

Anne Russell

Ed: This year sees a number of longterm congress facilitators - including Kim and Ray Ellaway



- complete their last year as workers.

Our second farewell is to Anne Russell:

“When Therese Tully became Convenor, many Kenmore members put their hands up to help. Anne was one of them. She came with lots of skills but the main one was her photography prowess.

Anne has been responsible for the photos that are archived so professionally on the website. Anne has been working with us since 2013.

Thank you, Anne.”

Kim Ellaway



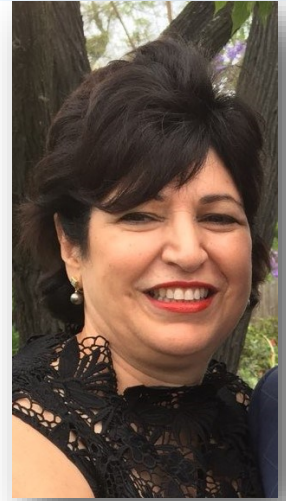
2023 Bobby Richman Open Pairs winners

Finn Kolesnik - Adam Kaplan



Zephyr

EDUCATION INC



Helping children affected by domestic violence get back to school

My name is Carmel Martin, co-founder and treasurer of Zephyr Education Inc. For the few who don't know, Zephyr helps those affected by domestic and family violence to resume their education – usually within 24 to 48 hours of receiving a request for assistance.

We provide (mostly) children in Domestic Violence shelters, Family Service organisations and outreach services with some or all of their school needs - as and when required – on approval only, which approval is frugally and carefully assessed. We don't pay into any private accounts. The range of what Zephyr pays for includes: the full book list specific to the child's year and school; full uniform including shoes, socks and hats; swimwear; lunchbox and water bottle; resource fees, iPads and laptops - expensive, yet indispensable learning tools.

Our aim is solely to have that child - the saddest and most vulnerable victim of domestic violence, look like every other school child, so they do not feel out of place, nor appear less valuable than others, nor attract the eye of a potential bully. This is all in the hope that they can resume their education successfully.

11 years ago, Isabella Bevan, Zephyr's President and my sister, read Kathleen Noonan's article about children arriving at school from shelters without shoes or school bags... and Zephyr was born. On that memorable day, she informed me that "she thought WE – she and I and our poor long-suffering husbands, could do something about it". For many reasons, I groaned (inwardly, I hope).

She thought that she and David, Terry and I could fund this enterprise, and with my reluctant acquiescence, which she mistook for enthusiasm, she set out to approach domestic violence refuges to ascertain exactly what their needs were and if anyone else was fulfilling them. They weren't according to the model she had in mind i.e. **IMMEDIATE, PRACTICAL, UNCOMPLICATED access to assistance - all provided ENTIRELY BY VOLUNTEERS with MINIMAL OVERHEADS AND EXPENSES.**

Zephyr very quickly became an ACNC registered charity with tax deductible status – and I'll say it again - run entirely by volunteers and with overheads of less than 1% making virtually all of your tax deductible donation work for our

cause. This is how we started and this is how we've continued.

The bridge community, starting with my home club QCBC, has been right beside us from the very beginning. The wider bridge community continues to support Zephyr with club charity days and individual donations. The QBA again has Zephyr as its charity at the 2024 Gold Coast Congress. The value of this exposure is incalculable and I can't begin to thank you for your unstinting support.

I've given up believing Isabella that she'll stop registering shelters and outreach organisations. Last year the number was 170. As I write this in late January 2024, the number has grown to 208.

We now support 139 organisations in QLD, 12 in Tasmania, 29 in WA, 23 in NSW, 3 in the ACT, 1 in Darwin and 1 in SA.

In the 2022-2023 financial year, Zephyr Education paid for uniforms for 1379 children and resource fees for 355 children.

Some of what we also supplied were:

- ◆ 396 laptops and iPads;
- ◆ 2712 school bags; and
- ◆ 1999 pairs of school shoes

School stationery expenditure was \$146343, up from \$116114 in 21/22.

We also provide swimwear, pay camp fees etc, so that child is not missing out.

In the 2022-2023 financial year, the total expenditure including cost price stock, uniforms and resource fees amounted to \$745,061 which was an increase of 33% on the \$560,124 spent in 21/22 which was an increase of 19.6% on the previous year. Yes, heartbreakingly our numbers are increasing.

Zephyr now supports more than 3000 children each year and has become an acknowledged game changer in the sector. The best evidence of Zephyr's impact is receiving unsolicited praise, so I've again set out some excerpts as follows:

"Hi Isabella, how are you? Thank you for your phone call this morning, it was lovely to speak with you and hear about the wonderful work that Zephyr does. It is so great that we have wonderful people in our community who think about and really understand what our kids go through when they experience DFV and are forced to suddenly leave away from other family, friends, pets and forced to change schools and not know anyone. It is so important for them to try and fit in and feel part of it all as quickly as possible so thank you for what you do, it is absolutely amazing."

Another: ***"Just a brief line Isabella to thank you so much for meeting our request this morning and so promptly too. We are left breathless by the abilities and generosity of Zephyr. Please thank your team."***

Another: ***"A mother said her kids had never had new uniforms before and that they 'won't know themselves' in new uniforms." She then broke down and cried.***

Another: ***"I hope this short piece can support you to continue make big things happen, we all appreciate you and everything Zephyr does to support our work and clients."***

Our partnership with Zephyr Education has been blossoming for two years now. In that time Zephyr Education has provided support with an enormous amount of generous materials and resources that assist a child escaping DFV return to school with the equipment and uniforms they need to remove some of the barriers children experience during this unfortunate and often unpredictable journey."

Beyond the materials though is the social and emotional wellbeing that is improved for families thanks to the assistance of Zephyr Education.

And I love this one which has stuck with me and which I know I told you about last year:

"Thanks Barb, for everything. Kelsey, Isabella and yourself have been amazing. Myself and the family have been very grateful. Wish you

could have been there to see the smile of the youngest girl when she tried on her uniforms.

I hope you could feel it though, I'm sure it beamed all around the world

I read somewhere that 'great things can be accomplished when no one wants to take credit'. Zephyr personifies this ideal and is the closest thing to 'egoless' that I have had the privilege to be a part of.

The heart of Zephyr is an incredibly selfless, generous, motivated team of over 50 volunteers working daily to ensure that we are responding to and completing every request as quickly as possible, raising funds, delivering to all corners of the country (thank you Followmont Transport and all the suppliers who deliver free of charge) and attending to the myriad logistics which come with operating what is now a sizeable business.

Zephyr wouldn't exist without the hugely compassionate contribution of these tireless good men and women some of whom you will find as partners or opposition at this very congress. On top of all this is the support and motivation received from everyone who supports Zephyr's vision – you're an indispensable part of the team.

Our focus is, and always has been, on the children and their education. But this, of course, also assists the carers of all children who fall within our scope, including mothers, fathers, grandparents, foster carers and guardians.

We weren't looking for something to do – we stumbled on the need and thought we could do something. You've all got behind us and huge numbers of children have felt less alone and a little more loved.

If you would like to make a donation, we will be rattling collection boxes and have Eftpos machines on hand. Kim Ellaway in the main office has kindly volunteered to accept donations as well.

All donations are tax deductible and for those of you who may wish to donate by bank transfer – Zephyr's bank account details are:

NAB Zephyr Education Inc

BSB: 084-004; ACC: 15-629-0526

Please reference your name and send your email address to

admin@zephyreducation.com.au so I can forward your receipt.

And to repeat what I said last year - have a safe, brilliant congress. We're so lucky to have this fabulous game in our lives - non bridge players have no idea what they're missing.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Carmel Martin

Co-founder and Treasurer

Zephyr Education Inc.



Liam Milne, Celebrity Speaker

Leading thirds and fifths

Sunday 18 February, 1.30 - 2.15pm

Why do so many experts lead thirds and fifths against suit contracts, while intermediate players tend to prefer fourth best? And how do third and fifth leads work? Find out how to play this useful defense convention.

Liam Milne is a current member of the Australian Open team. As well as playing professionally, Liam also teaches and directs in Sydney. His recent national titles include the 2022 Gold Coast Teams, ANC Open Teams, Victor Champion Cup and Spring National Open Teams.



COME AND SEE US AT THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS 2024

VISIT THE TBIB KIOSK IN THE FOYER AT THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS.

TEST YOUR TRAVEL KNOWLEDGE AND TRY YOUR LUCK AT THE TBIB NAME THAT CITY GAME AND YOU COULD WIN \$250

We'll be there from Monday 19th February till Friday 23rd February

*The team can speak with you about **ABF Travel Insurance** or any insurance query you may have.*

You can talk to us about

- **Travel Insurance**
- **Insurance for your Investment or Commercial Property**
- **Home and Contents and Motor Vehicle Insurance**
- **Insurance for your Business**
- and*
- **Insurance for your Bridge Club**

Each day we'll be drawing names from the successful 'Name that City' entrants to win Gift Vouchers and a range of TBIB goodies. Don't Miss out!

www.abfinsurance.com.au

07 3252 5254

abf@tbib.com.au

PRIZES

Link with the list of prizes is published on the GCC website.

Please see the prize board near the office. Qualifying Rounds – the bridge admin office will decide on how many within the section receives pens. It depends on the end number of sessions.

House players are eligible to win prizes.

Youth players who had free entry to an event and win a prize, will have half the entry fee deducted from their prize should the prize money exceed \$150.

PRIZE MONEY – 2024

		PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP			
OPEN (8 sect)		INTER(5 sect)	REST(5 sect)	NOVICE(3 sect)	
		PLATE			
1 st	\$1,800.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$400.00	
2 nd	\$ 800.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$350.00	
3 rd	\$ 600.00				

Best Women's Pair (Open) - \$200.00

Best Queensland Pair in each category \$200.00(v)

Qualifying – decision as to how many, will be made by Bridge Admin after event starts – pens to be awarded. It is assumed as at 29/8 that it will be 11 in the Open, 6 in the Restricted, 6 in the Intermediate and 3 in the Novice.

Finals – winners in each section in each session to be awarded pens.

Other Sections

1 st	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$300.00
2 nd	\$300.00 (C\$200 V\$100)	\$300.00 (C\$200 V\$100)	\$300.00 (C\$200 V\$100)	\$250.00 (C\$150 V\$100)

Prize of Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre.



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

SUNDAY, MONDAY and FRIDAY SWISS PAIRS

0-500 Field only applies to the Sunday and Monday events.

One field only

<u>OPEN</u>		<u>0-500</u>	
1 st	\$300.00	1 st	\$200.00
2 nd	\$200.00	2 nd	\$150.00
3 rd	\$150.00 (C\$50 & V\$100)		

No 3rd Prize for Friday Butler

Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre.

Sessional winners will receive pens.

ROOKIE PAIRS

1 st	\$80.00 for both North-South and East-West
2 nd	\$60.00 for both North-South and East-West – (Vouchers)

UNDER 50 PAIRS – 2 SESSIONS

1 st	\$160.00
2 nd	\$120.00 (Vouchers)
3 rd	\$100.00 (Vouchers)

Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre Foyer.

IVY DAHLER BUTLER SWISS PAIRS

		<u>Open (2 fields)</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Novice</u>
1 st	NS/EW	\$400.00 x2	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
2 nd	NS/EW	\$300.00 x2	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00

WALK IN PAIRS

\$50/\$60 Restaurant or Clothing vouchers for North/South and East/West Daily Winners when more than 10 ½ tables. One prize only if 10 tables or less.

No Frills Walk Ins – Sectional and Directional Winners to receive WINE and PEN

TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

	<u>Open</u>	<u>Under 1500</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Novice</u>
1 st	\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
2 nd	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00
3 rd	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$ 700.00
3 rd	\$1,500.00				
5 th	\$1,000.00				
5 th	\$1,000.00				

Team Categories

1 st	\$400.00 (C & V) 4 categories	\$400.00(C&V) 3 categories	\$400.00(C&V) 3 categories	\$400.00(C&V) 3 categories	\$400.00(C&V) 3 categories
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C & V = \$100 in Vouchers and \$300 in Direct Deposit in all categories. Vouchers will be for Bridge Supplies at Paul Lavings Book Shop situated in Convention Centre.

Wine to be distributed to spot prizes throughout the event.

PRIZES – PAYMENT

When players come to the admin desk for their prize, they will be asked for Bank Account Details for one member of the winning pair or team. Prizes in bridge credits can be organised. Overseas winners will need to discuss with Administration Staff.

PRIZES – RESTRICTED PAIRS

The top two Qld pairs in the Gold Coast Restricted Pairs will be awarded the airfare and entry to the ANC Restricted Pairs held in Orange, NSW. To qualify for the prize, the pairs must meet the ABF Eligibility criteria for the ANC Restricted Pairs which is under 300 Masterpoints on 31 December 2023.

PRIZES – YOUTH

If a youth player has paid no entry fee and he/she wins a prize over \$150, half price entry fee to be taken out of the prize.

PROBLEMS

Tim Runting is the Convenor and Kim Ellaway the Manager. If you experience any problems with the events, see either of them. Kim can be contacted on 0412 064 903 at any time during the congress, or Tim on 0458 448 765.

PROTECTED PAIRS

Pairs playing a **GREEN** system can apply for an Orange sticker if both are below Life Master or one is below State Master.

This affords protection from **BROWN STICKER** conventions in all events where they are permitted with the exception of the major Final of the Open Pairs.

RECORDERS

The ABF is keen to ensure events are played in the spirit of sportsmanship, and that players have an enjoyable experience at events run under the auspices of the ABF. The recorders at this event fulfil an important role in supporting this objective.

Recorders may receive oral or written communication from players at the end of each session regarding issues that have arisen during the event relating to player ethics or behaviour. Please feel free to consult with them about any concerns you might have.

The recorders for this event are Richard Ward, Jodi Tutty, Bob Sebesfi and David Beauchamp. The Director will guide you to the appropriate adviser.

Sorry, Partner

NEW EPISODE

MIHAELA BALINT

GOES THE EXTRA MILE FOR BRIDGE

<https://sorrypartner.com/episodes>

7NT 6NT 5NT 4NT 3NT 2NT 1NT
 7♠ 6♠ 5♠ 4♠ 3♠ 2♠ 1♠
 7♥ 6♥ 5♥ 4♥ 3♥ 2♥ 1♥
 7♦ 6♦ 5♦ 4♦ 3♦ 2♦ 1♦
 7♣ 6♣ 5♣ 4♣ 3♣ 2♣ 1♣

Romanian champion Mihaela Balint joins us to talk about what drew her to bridge, why she became an international tournament director, and what keeps her fascinated by the game. Plus, she shares her top tip for developing players. But first, we kibitz! Never miss an episode ... "Follow" us in your favourite podcast app and you'll never miss a show. You can find us on Spotify, Apple or wherever you get your podcasts.



MACKAY CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB

PRESENTS

28th BARRIER REEF CONGRESS 2024

3 - 6 MAY 2024

VENUE: 500 PAVILION, THE SHOWGROUNDS
MILTON STREET, MACKAY QUEENSLAND



Chief Director: Jan Peach | Senior Director: Peter Busch
Tournament Organiser: Diane Morgan 0427 574 328 | 07 4951 2147
Email: brc2024mky@gmail.com



CORRECTION OF SCORES

Scoring Area Phone Number is 0456 587 765 – accepts text messages only

After each session, a printout of the results for each pair or team will be made available. For the last session of a stage of an event, you may obtain a copy on request from the Scoring Enquiries Desk – located in the Administration Office during the pairs and outside the playing area thereafter.

If you believe that there is a mistake, you need to follow this procedure:

1. on the board where you believe that there was an error, agree with your opponents that the score was entered incorrectly;
2. make the correction on your printout and have them sign it;
3. give the corrected printout to the Scoring Liaison Officer, Toni Bardon, under the sign “SCORING ENQUIRIES” next to the Scoring Room. She will check that you have provided all the necessary information. The correction will be made by the scorers during the following session and a new personal printout will be made available for you to collect.

Agreed scoring errors need to be advised within the scoring correction period for the session in which the error occurred. The scoring correction periods are displayed prominently near the scoreboards. At the conclusion of the scoring correction period, scores become final and, under the Laws of Bridge, no further changes can be made. **This is critical for the last rounds when the correction period is limited, and scorers may not pick up anomalies. You are responsible for your own actions - or lack thereof.**

The Scoring team may be advised of potential scoring errors via text to 0456-587-765 (receives texts only). Include the following information: Event, Session/Match, Pair number, Board number, Contract, Declarer, Score, What you believe is correct. The scoring team has a protocol to follow to determine if a result is manifestly wrong. If it is not accepted or if the error relates to the number of tricks taken, you will need to obtain written confirmation from your opponents as described above.

COURTESY BUS

The Gold Coast Congress Bus will pick up and return visiting players who are residing within a reasonable distance from the Gold Coast Convention Centre. No pickup from The Star Gold Coast or Freshwater Point Resort.

The bus service is mainly for those who need the service. To make pre-bookings – contact Barry on 0418 747 078 and advise your location so he is aware when driving the loop - from the Convention Centre up Surf Parade to Wharf Road then Old Burleigh Road, Broadbeach Boulevard to Alexandra Avenue then Surf Parade then to Convention Centre.

DINNER DANCE

Saturday 24th February 7.30pm. Limited Numbers.

Table Lists can be collected from the Dinner Dance Table next to the Scoring Area. Table sizes are for 10 guests. We are unable to accommodate larger tables than 10. Numbers will be restricted to 250 people. Please advise us of any special dietary requirement when making your booking.

Please return your form before 5:00pm Wednesday 21st February. Seating allocation will be based on the time of lodgement of your form.



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

More Information

Programme details and entry on MyABF

We look forward to welcoming you to Mackay.

WALK-IN PAIRS AT THE GOLD COAST CONGRESS

Walk In events mean you do not have to pre-register. You turn up with your partner and pay at the tables designated for walk ins. Walk ins are master pointed with redpoints.

Youth Walk-Ins - Unless you have the appropriate token, there will be no free places at the Walk Ins. Tokens can only be obtained from the Scoring Liaison Officer, Toni Bardon or Kim Ellaway. Youth can only claim half price regardless of date of birth. Youth definition for Walk-ins is born on or after 01/01/1999.

All walk in pairs sessions are sponsored by Broadbeach Restaurants and Paul Lavings Bridge Supplies.

Cost is \$15.00 per player – pay at the table. Voucher Prizes for each Session Winner.

Saturday 17 th February	6.00pm No Frills Walk In Pairs – BYO water
Sunday 18 th February	10.00am and 2.30pm
Monday 19 th February	10.00am and 2.30pm
Tuesday 20 th February	10.00am and 2.30pm
Wednesday 21 st February	10.00am and 2.30pm
Thursday 22 nd February	10.00am and 2.30pm
Friday 23 rd February	10.00am and 2.00pm
Saturday 24 th February	10.00am

***No Frills Walk Ins – 6.00pm – No Frills means exactly that. No Outlets opened, no coffee, no water, no food.

WEB DRAW FOR NEXT ROUND PAGE

The draw for the next round in the Teams and Swiss Pairs events will be published on the web at the same time it is displayed on the projector screens at the venue. So, if you are "[connected](#)" you can check your standings and the draw online.

WEBSITE

The Gold Coast Congress website is on MyABF.

<https://www.myabf.com.au/events/congress/view/780>

WITHDRAWALS

Players are permitted to withdraw from all divisions of the Championship Pairs (Open, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice) Finals (Monday 19th February) at the end of the qualifying rounds, provided that they notify the Chief Director or Bridge Administration Desk within **ONE HOUR** of the qualifying scores being posted. No portion of the entry fees will be refunded. All refunds of the one hour of the qualifying scores is at the discretion of the GCC Management.

YOUTH ELEGIBILITY

Must be born on or after 1 January 1999



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – 2024

Tim Runting is the Tournament Organiser and Kim Ellaway the Manager. Any problems with the event see either one of them. Kim can be contacted on 0412 064903 at any time during the congress.

Colour Coding – Open = Light and Dark Blue, Under 1500 = Orange, Intermediate = Light and Dark Yellow, Restricted = Light and Dark Green, Novices = Maroon, Open Matchpoint Swiss Pairs and the Open Monday Butler Pairs = Orange, 0-500 Matchpoint Swiss Pairs and the 0-500 Monday Butler Pairs = Purple. Rookie/0-50/WalkIns = Fuchsia, Friday Butler = Purple. Coloured Flags will identify your seating, section results and the areas that you play within.

Entry Fees – If you have not already paid and it is after February 12, Entry Fees for the events are as follows – BR MP Pairs Championship: \$145 per player, Teams Championship: \$860 per team, Sunday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$85 per player, Monday Butler Swiss Pairs: \$85 per player, Rookie Pairs: \$45 per player, Under 50 Masterpoint Pairs \$70 per player, Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs: \$115 per player, Friday Butler Swiss Pairs \$85 per player. If you have not paid, you must see the Bridge Administration Desk before play starts. **It is not too late to enter the Ivy Dahler Butler Pairs, Friday Butler Swiss Pairs, however entries for these events close 2.00 pm Thursday. Please remember the prices above are as at 12th February. A \$20.00 discount applies to each person and to each event if entry and entry fee is received prior to the 12th February.**

Session Times – all finishing times are approximate. No night bridge except No Frills Walk In.

Pairs Championship – Open, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice

Sunday & Monday (Sun) 10.00 am and 2.30 pm finishing time 5.45 pm
(Mon) 10.00 am and 2.30 pm finishing time 5.45 pm

Butler Swiss Pairs – 3 separate events

Sunday 10.00 am and 2.30 pm finishing time 5.45 pm
Monday 10.00 am and 2.30 pm finishing time 5.45 pm
Friday 10.00 am and 2.00 pm finishing time 5.00 pm

Under 50 Masterpoint Pairs – 3 separate events

Tuesday 10.00 am – 2.30 pm – finishing time 5.45 pm
Wednesday 10.00 am – 2.30 pm – finishing time 5.45 pm
Thursday 10.00 am – 2.30 pm – finishing time 5.45 pm

Rookie Pairs – two separate events

Sunday 10.00 am – 1.45 pm finish – there will be a short coffee break during session
Thursday 10.00 am – 1.45 pm finish – there will be a short coffee break during session

Teams Championship

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10.00 am – 1.30 pm 2.30 pm – 6.00 pm

NOTE – The top 2 from each field of 0-1500, Intermediate, Restricted and Novice teams within the Open Field will play in the finals beginning at 10.00 am on Friday 23rd February. The top 6 in the Open Field will play Round of Four (3rd-6th place) and Semi-finals on Friday. Final for the top 2 on Saturday.

Ivy Dahler Butler Swiss Pairs

Friday 10.00 am - approx. 1.30 pm 2.00 pm – approx. 6.00 pm
Saturday 10.00 am – finished by 1.30 pm

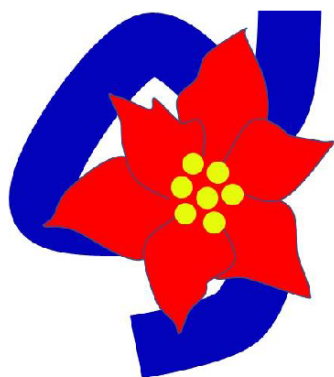
Walk In Pairs – Every session No Frills Walk-In Saturday 17th – starting time 6.00 pm. At this stage we are trying to get approval for a 2.00 pm no frills event however as at today's event, it has not been approved.

ALL WALK INS \$15.00 PER PLAYER PER SESSION – TO BE PAID AT TABLE. CREDIT CARD FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TABLE

Scoring Issues - “The Scoring Liaison Officer is Toni Bardon. She will act as liaison between players and the Scoring Unit. Any problems and concerns you have about scoring and results should be addressed to Toni – she has a desk outside the Scoring Room. Scoring Area Phone Number is 0456587765 – accepts text messages only.

Substitutes – If you need substitutes during the week, please contact Toni at the Scoring Desk. No substitutes without emergency reasons will be permitted for the Ivy Dahler Event.

Dinner Dance – Saturday 24th February 7.30 pm – Tables will be set up for 10. Music will be provided by the band “CAPTAIN WOW”. Players must make their own arrangements to obtain a ticket for the Dance. The procedure is to pick up a table list from the Dinner Dance Table located next to the Scoring Area and return as soon as possible.



RIVER CITY GOLD MIXED PAIRS 2024

Hosted by TOOWONG BRIDGE CLUB
22 Roy Street AUCHENFLOWER QLD 4066

Gold Masterpoints and ABF Playoff Qualifying Points (PQP)

Residentially qualified pairs also play for the Queensland Mixed Pairs Title
and the Queensland Novice Mixed Pairs Title

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th May

9.30 am start both days

All ENTRIES and PAYMENTS on



\$180 per entry

Chief Director: Alan Gibson

Tournament Organiser: Janet Lovell

E: tbccompetitions@gmail.com

T: 0409 387 527

- ABF Regulations as modified by the Supplementary Regulations apply
- Green, Blue and Red systems and Brown Sticker Conventions and Treatments
- Swiss Pairs - Matchpoints converted to VPs - 12 x 9 board matches

LUNCH INCLUDED

(Please advise beforehand if gluten free)

Wellness Guidelines

Players and officials are asked not to attend any event if they are infectious, or if they are supposed to be isolating or quarantining. Those who come to play and, feeling unwell, self-diagnose that they may be infectious, should inform the director and leave the venue.



DRESS UP THEME DAY

We encourage all players to dress in keeping with the Gold Coast Annual Theme for Wednesday Teams Sessions.

The 2024 theme is **SPORTS DAY** !

Please celebrate our 62nd year and wear your most sporty gear. The photography will commence when play finishes and the parade from 2:30pm to 3:00pm Wednesday 21st February. Prizes will be available for some combination of groups, pairs or individuals.



SUBSCRIBE TO AUSTRALIAN BRIDGE MAGAZINE

Australian Bridge Magazine will keep you up to date with what's going on in the bridge community, and provide you with ideas to improve your game from the best writers.

- Regular columns from David Bird, Andrew Robson, Ron Klinger, Larry Cohen, Sartaj Hans, Tim Bourke and Paul Lavings.
- Improve your skills with articles and quizzes for players of all levels.
- Compete with the experts in our bidding forum and bidding challenge features.

For enquiries, or to subscribe, email Brad at mail@australianbridge.com or phone 0412 335 840. Subscriptions are \$69 for one year (six issues), or \$129 for two years.

For less experienced players, we also have an online version of the magazine (\$25), aimed at players who have not yet entered the tournament world.



StepBridge.com.au



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- ABF Affiliated Club.
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Go to the Registration button to sign up.
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DIRECTOR GET TOGETHER

Meet & Greet
Q & A
General Discussion
All Directors & Players
Welcome



8.30 am - 9:30 am

MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY

Enquiries:

Chris Snook 0413 136435

chris@snook.id.au

2024 - 20 years ago

2004 was the 43rd Surfers, growing every year, but still contained within the confines of the ANA and GCI Hotels, but the first event without superstar Tim Seres, who had been every year since 1964.

Players mourned the recent passing of Jim Borin and Bobby Evans.

The Indonesians were there following their January trip to Canberra Summer Festival, where they defeated MARSTON in the final:

“1000+ Australians in 250 teams took on a team from Indonesia and lost, again. From the winning Canberra team, Bert Polii & Julius George are also in Surfers. Also back are Taufik Asbi & Lusje Bojoh, part of the Indonesian team that made the semis here last year.”

Here is a famous hand:

2004 NOT Final :

North deals, EW vulnerable

♠ 8 7
♥ K J 9 8
♦ A K 9 5 4
♣ 9 5

♠ Q 6 5 4 3
♥ A 2
♦ Q 10 8 3
♣ 7 6

♠ A 2
♥ 7 4
♦ 6
♣ A K Q J T 8 4 2

♠ K J 10 9
♥ Q 10 6 5 3
♦ J 7 2
♣ 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Tontey</i>	<i>Burgess</i>	<i>Waluyan</i>	<i>Bach</i>
	1♦	2♣	dbl
pass	2♥	3♣	3♥
3NT	pass	pass	4♥
dbl	pass	4NT	all pass

10 tricks, +630 EW

Bach did well to save against 3NT. 4♥ can escape for -100 but the Indonesians did even better to land on a sixpence. In the Closed room:

♠ 8 7
♥ K J 9 8
♦ A K 9 5 4
♣ 9 5

♠ Q 6 5 4 3
♥ A 2
♦ Q 10 8 3
♣ 7 6

♠ A 2
♥ 7 4
♦ 6
♣ A K Q J T 8 4 2

♠ K J 10 9
♥ Q 10 6 5 3
♦ J 7 2
♣ 3



WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Marston</i>	<i>Noldy</i>	<i>Thomson</i>	<i>Polii</i>
	1♦ ¹	3NT	dbl
pass	pass	4♣	pass
4NT	pass	5♣	all pass

1. Precision

1♦ in the Closed Room was Precision so Thomson couldn't bid 3♦ as a stopper ask. 3NT was a good shot but Polii's double suggested a red suit problem. He ran twice, rejecting Marston's imaginative offer. +950 had become -100 for a 20 IMP turnaround, equal to the final margin.



Reported by Nick Hughes and Nicoleta Giura, Editors

This editor: 20 years later, I still remember this disastrous deal in Australian bridge history.



GOLD COAST CONGRESS INFORMATION MANUAL




CELEBRITY SPEAKERS

Located upstairs opposite Administration

Min \$5 contribution to ABF Youth Bridge (free for Youth)

100 participants maximum – GCCEC Health & Safety Regulations

<p>Sunday 18th 1.30-2.15pm</p> <p>Liam Milne</p> <p>Leading Thirds and Fifths</p>		<p>Why do so many experts lead thirds and fifths against suit contracts, while intermediate players tend to prefer fourth best? And how do third and fifth leads work? Find out how to play this useful defense convention.</p> <p><i>Liam Milne is a current member of the Australian Open team. As well as playing professionally, Liam also teaches and directs in Sydney. His recent national titles include the 2022 Gold Coast Teams, ANC Open Teams, Victor Champion Cup and Spring National Open Teams.</i></p>
<p>Monday 19th 1.30-2.15pm</p> <p>William Jenner-O'Shea</p> <p>Overcall more to be a Nuisance.</p>		<p>Knowing when to overcall to spice up competitive auctions is where experts thrive, learn some tips and tricks from Will to be a more competitive player to help improve your game.</p> <p><i>Will Jenner-O'Shea has represented Australia in several bridge events, including the World Mind Sports Games in Beijing in 2008. Will has also built a successful career teaching.</i></p>
<p>Tuesday 20th 9.00am – 9.45am</p> <p>Paul Dalley</p> <p>Fresh bidding ideas for 2024</p>		<p>Paul will take you on a journey of discovery with some fresh ideas from his workshop on latest bidding theory to help your partnership in 2024.</p> <p><i>Paul Dalley has won the Gold Coast Open teams for the last two years. In 2022 he also won the Gold Coast Open Pairs. Paul has won numerous other national events in Australia and New Zealand and was a member of the Australian Open team in 2023.</i></p>

<p>Tuesday 20th 1.30-2.15pm</p> <p>Andy Hung</p> <p>How to Defend Against Common and Strange Conventions</p>		<p>How do expert players deal against common conventions such as the Multi 2D, or the Unusual 2NT? Or what about those intimidating 2-opening bids which may have 6 different meanings? Come along and Andy will share the secrets with you. <i>Andy Hung is a professional bridge player and teacher who has represented Australia in Open competitions. He has won several Australian National titles and placed third in two previous US Nationals. When he's not competing in tournaments, you will find him teaching at the WABC in Perth, or running bridge holidays in Australia, or overseas - contact him for his holidays this year!</i></p>
<p>Wednesday 21st 9.00am – 9.45am</p> <p>Paul Marston</p> <p>Competitive bidding (when both sides have 18 – 22 HCP)</p>		<p>The aim of this lesson is to give you a winning strategy when the opponents bid over you and the points are shared.</p> <p>The strategy is not difficult or complicated, yet many people still find it hard to grasp. The reason is that it involves a change of thinking. During the lesson Paul will lay down the groundwork for that change of thinking.</p> <p>Paul Marston has long been Australia's number one bridge teacher. His classes are very popular, both face-to-face and online. He has a special interest in teaching beginners where his retention rate is greater than 80% face-to-face and 95% online.</p>
<p>Thursday 22nd 1.30pm -2.15pm</p> <p>Nick Jacob</p> <p>Demystifying auctions after a takeout double</p>		<p>Takeout doubles are one of the first and best competitive conventions we learn playing bridge. Despite this, everyone - from beginners to experts - struggles at times to work out what exactly we show when we respond to partner's takeout doubles. Join Nick to learn some skills for responding and rebidding after takeout doubles in a variety of common auctions.</p> <p>Nick Jacob played in New Zealand youth and Open team events and has represented Victoria in the Australian National Championships. He has won numerous National Teams and Pairs events.</p>

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Championships and Butler

Including the inaugural
Central West Festival of Bridge

6th – 18th July 2024
Orange NSW