



# THE QBA BULLETIN

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## From the President



**Richard Ward**

THE highlight of the past few months has been the selection of Queensland youth players, Paddy Taylor, Kate Macdonald and Jasmine Skeate into Australian Youth teams for 2026. They have achieved this honour up against some very competitive players from other states and are to be congratulated on their achievements. Others also featured in podium finishes in the Australian Youth Teams Championship 1st Remco Spencer, Zac Ross, Paddy Taylor, Bertie Morgan; 2nd Kate Macdonald, Heath Watkins, Leon Meier, George Bartley. All credit to Queensland's thriving youth program under the leadership of Youth Co-ordinator, Michael Gearing.

The extensive and complicated search for a 2027 replacement for the Gold Coast Congress has reached an end with the VOCO Brisbane City Centre at North Quay now contracted from 30 January to 6 February. The QBA has appointed joint Tournament Organisers, Jan Peach and Tony Treloar, who will be working with Chief Tournament Director Laurie Kelso and

## ANC Queensland Open Team



*Jim Evans, Pamela Evans, Kim Morrison, Rachel Langdon, Lech Kaszubski and Nadya Tuxworth. Reserves absent: Ken Dawson and Alison Dawson*

Chief Scorer, Peter Busch. Entries will open on 1 July and, with space limited to around 180 tables, it is possible that those who delay will miss out. It is also worth noting that the cost of parking anywhere in the Brisbane CBD is prohibitive and scarce, so players are advised to take advantage of the 50 cent fares on buses, trains and ferries to arrive within a block or so of the venue instead.

The Online Gold Coast Congress in February was a great success with over 200 pairs around Australia and internationally playing each day. This was a one-off event for the QBA courtesy of the ABF in view of the GCC cancellation. The funds raised will help us to at least break even again this year. The hard-working team behind this initiative included

Chris Snook, Gary Barwick, Ronnie Ng, Kim and Ray Ellaway plus a group of generous volunteers, most notably from the Mills family, willing to fill in at a moment's notice to replace players whose computers had inadvertently shut down mid-session.

The Australian Masterpoint Centre has been working efficiently for many decades but, with the program which underpins this complex operation no longer supported and dangerously out-dated, the ABF is moving as quickly as possible to avoid a catastrophic shut-down by moving to an entirely new system which will be integrated into MYABF. This will take some time to achieve and it is not cheap, but, when it happens, all players will need to be registered within MYABF (at no cost) if they are to continue to receive their masterpoints.

Thanks to the timely agreement from all State/Territory Associations to a three-year staged increase in capitation and masterpoint fees, it seems likely that the ABF budget will be breaking even this year. For those interested in how the ABF spends these fees, see page 17 for the balance sheet from 2025.

With best wishes to all. ■

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# Summer Festival of Bridge

## National Senior Teams

THE opening events of the 2026 Summer Festival of Bridge included the Women's Teams (11 tables), the Seniors Teams (24), Matchpoint Swiss Pairs (35) and Novice Pairs(26)

The Seniors Teams always boasts a strong field with very few easy matches available and, as the saying goes, old age is not for sissies. It can feel a bit weird being the same age as old people. In the playing area there are many examples of kindness, heroism, crankiness, medications and the inability to last for an entire twenty - board match without a rest room break! Here are some hands of interest.

You are West in 2nd seat holding  
 ♠Q6 ♥J43 ♦AK62 ♣AKQ10, Nil vul.

Dir S	♠ J3
Vul None	♥ AQ109
	♦ 1093
	♣ 9754
♠ Q6	♠ 975
♥ J43	♥ 8752
♦ AK62	♦ Q8
♣ AKQ10	♣ J863
	♠ AK10842
	♥ K6
	♦ J754
	♣ 2

W	N	E	S
X	1NT	P	1S
?			2S

Most West's with a 19-count felt compelled to bid again with a second takeout double. Partner responded with 3♥ which North doubled for penalties collecting +800.

Thirteen EW pairs played in 3♥ or 4♥ (yes!) but only three of those were doubled.

Only five of the 24 pairs reached the slam on these cards:

A player who can't defend accurately should try to become declarer (or dummy)

♠ 943                      ♠ AK7652  
 ♥ —                        ♥ Q1062  
 ♦ AKJ95                 ♦ Q6  
 ♣ AJ873                 ♣ Q

W	N	E	S
1D	P	1S	P
2C	P	2H <sup>1</sup>	P
3S <sup>2</sup>	P	4NT	P
5H <sup>3</sup>	P	5S	P
6S <sup>4</sup>	All pass		

- <sup>1</sup>4th suit game force
- <sup>2</sup>extras
- <sup>3</sup>2 key cards, no Q
- <sup>4</sup>a small gamble

West could have chosen to bid one level higher as a response to the keycard ask as a 6♥ response would show two keycards plus a void. Given that this response would force to slam anyway, West took the plunge – successfully.

You are West holding  
 ♠QJ10 ♥62 ♦K5 ♣KJ6543 EW vul.

Dir W	♠ 9862
Vul EW	♥ 54
	♦ AJ10
	♣ AQ98
♠ QJ10	♠ A75
♥ 62	♥ AKQ9
♦ K5	♦ Q987
♣ KJ6543	♣ 102
	♠ K43
	♥ J10873
	♦ 6432
	♣ 7

W	N	E	S
P	1C	X	P
?			

Despite your club honours sitting under the opener, now seems as good a time as any to pass for penalties and everybody passes. One-level penalty doubles are rare and risky beasts but at least, if it makes the score is 'only' -180. Partner follows standard procedure by leading a trump, the ten.

Declarer makes one spade, one diamond and three clubs for five tricks and -300. The room tended to be in 3NT EW which has no play.

This hand was a potential disaster for North-South but converted to a serendipitous 10 IMP swing.

You hold  
 ♠QJ743 ♥AKJ ♦107 ♣1093  
 in 4th position, all vulnerable.

A cautious North would have passed three clubs, but not this senior lady.

Dir E	♠ QJ743
Vul Both	♥ AKJ
	♦ 107
	♣ 1093
♠ 98	♠ AK10652
♥ 7632	♥ 1095
♦ KQ852	♦ AJ
♣ K5	♣ 82
	♠ —
	♥ Q84
	♦ 9643
	♣ AQJ764

W	N	E	S
X	2NT	1S	2C
P	3NT	P	3C
		All pass	

East led the ♠6 - ♥4 - ♠8 - ♠J. Next came the ♣10 which won as a courageous West bared the ♣K only to win it at the next trick. Thinking that North was expecting more spade leads, he tried a surprise diamond attack won by East's jack who could have, at this point, have cashed out for down one. But, inspired by partner's double which showed hearts, next tried the ♥10. Declarer made one spade, three hearts and five clubs. Phew!

This hand illustrates that we seniors have still got it.

Dir S	♠ 943
Vul NS	♥ AQ104
	♦ J62
	♣ 754
♠ KQ752	♠ J1086
♥ 732	♥ KJ865
♦ 3	♦ 1084
♣ Q986	♣ J
	♠ A
	♥ 9
	♦ AKQ975
	♣ AK1032

Canberra's David Hoffman found himself at the helm of a 6♦ contract played by South on the lead of the ♠K won perforce with the ace. He drew two rounds of trumps noting the 3-1 break. Next came the ♣A felling East's jack so he crossed to the ♥A

to lead a club. East was stuck. If he ruffed, declarer would play low and still have dummy's trump to take care of the club loser. If he did not ruff, the ♣K would win and the ♦J would also take care of the remaining loser. Well played.

There were no Queenslanders in these finals which contained all of the usual suspects. DEPAS-QUALE (Michael Courtney, Chris Depasquale, Peter Gill, David Hudson) defeated KOZAKOS (George Kozakos, Hugh Grosvenor, Ian Thomson, Terry Brown, Maurits Van Der Vlugt, David Beauchamp) by 8 IMPs. ■

## Club News

No bridge club was successful in the Super Round of Gambling Community Benefit Fund – please keep trying.

Looking at congresses coming up in the next 3 to 4 months I find them already full so if you wish to play in a particular congress, you will need to get in early.

# TBIB

We all know TBIB through the ABF Travel Insurance policies they provide, but it is also interesting to learn of the many other ways TBIB can assist. These include:

- Club Insurance
- Home & Contents insurance
- Investment Property Insurance
- Motor Vehicle Insurance
- Commercial Building and Business Insurance

As a broker, TBIB works for you the client, not the insurance companies.

If you haven't yet spoken to them, contact either Steve Weil or Josh Dejun at TBIB on **07 3252 5254** and see how they might assist you.

## QBA March Pairs



1st: Magnus Moren Justin Mill



4th: Vanessa Brewis and Greg Lee



1st C: Emma Langford and Robert Cumming



3rd: Patrick Bugler and Tim Runting



1st B: Kate Macdonald and Alexandra Mills



2nd: Tony Hutton and David Smith

## IBPA Column Service



Tim Bourke

Dir S	♠ AK97		
Vul EW	♥ K7		
	♦ 86		
	♣ KJ652		
♠ 6532		♠ Q4	
♥ 64		♥ 853	
♦ AJ953		♦ Q742	
♣ 84		♣ Q1093	
		♠ J108	
		♥ AQJ1092	
		♦ K10	
		♣ A7	

W	N	E	S
P	2C	P	1H
P	3S	P	3NT
P	5H	P	6H
All pass			

In this fairly straightforward auction, the jump to 5♥ asked for a diamond control. South judged that the king of diamonds was a sound enough reason to bid the slam.

West led a trump. When dummy appeared, declarer counted ten winners with chances for extra tricks in each of the side suits. Declarer won the trump lead with dummy's king and then drew two more rounds of trumps, discarding a diamond from dummy. Next, declarer cashed the ace and king of clubs and ruffed a club. As the suit was not 3-3 and the queen had not appeared, declarer now had to get an extra trick from either spades or diamonds.

This was a classic case of combining chances, rather than relying on a simple finesse in either spades or diamonds. Declarer realised that the only extra chance available was to drop a singleton or doubleton queen of spades. If the latter was the case, declarer saw that he could make an overtrick by cashing the nine and seven of spades. So, declarer led the

jack of spades to dummy's king and ruffed a club, thereby establishing his eleventh trick, the long club. After that, declarer led the ten of spades to dummy's ace, felling East's queen. Declarer immediately claimed the rest of the tricks.

Of course, if the queen of spades had not appeared under the ace of spades, declarer would throw his remaining spade on dummy's club winner before leading a diamond towards his king.

Dir N	♠ A975		
Vul EW	♥ KJ74		
	♦ A3		
	♣ KQJ		
♠ KQJ10642		♠ —	
♥ 6		♥ 985	
♦ 952		♦ KQJ876	
♣ 82		♣ A1065	
		♠ 83	
		♥ AQ1032	
		♦ 104	
		♣ 9743	

W	N	E	S
2S	1C	P	1H
	4H	All pass	

This deal came up in a team game and both West players noted the unfavourable vulnerability and were content with a preemptive jump to 2♠ rather than 3♠. Both North players bid the game in hearts, not notrump – a good decision, as 3NT by North fails on the obvious lead of a high diamond.

At the first table, West led the king of spades. This declarer was one of those players who is more known for speed of play rather than depth. As soon as dummy went down, he called for dummy's ace of spades. East ruffed and shifted to the king of diamonds. All that declarer could do now was to concede another trick in all three side suits for down one.

At the second table, declarer received the same lead against 4♥. Unlike the rush to play at the first table, this declarer paused to make a plan. After counting ten tricks (a spade, five trumps, a diamond and two clubs), declarer turned his mind to what could go wrong. As West had not led a minor-suit, he judged that the chance of a defensive ruff

was small. So, the main danger was that West had started with seven spades. Consequently, declarer called for a low spade from dummy at trick one. After East discarded a diamond, declarer allowed himself a metaphorical pat on the back for withholding the ace of spades instead of playing it.

West continued with the queen of spades, which was allowed to hold. After ruffing the third round of spades, declarer drew trumps in three rounds with the ace, king and queen. Next, he played a club to dummy's jack. East won the ace and exited with the king of diamonds to dummy's ace. Declarer now claimed the rest for his contract.

Dir S	♠ AJ2		
Vul Both	♥ AQ97		
	♦ A86		
	♣ 764		
♠ KQ10865		♠ 743	
♥ —		♥ 10865	
♦ 954		♦ 1073	
♣ KJ52		♣ 1098	
		♠ 9	
		♥ KJ432	
		♦ KQJ2	
		♣ AQ3	

W	N	E	S
2S	3S	P	1H
P	4NT	P	4C
P	6H	All pass	5H

North's cue of 3♠ promised a sound raise to 4♥. As he had a little extra, South cued his ace of clubs. North then checked on keycards before bidding the slam.

West led the king of spades. After dummy appeared, declarer paused to make a plan. After noting that he had eleven tricks, declarer saw that if trumps were no worse than 3-1 then he would draw trumps, cross to dummy with the ace of diamonds and play a club to his queen. Whether that won or lost, he would discard a club on a good diamond and cash the ace of clubs before ruffing his low club in dummy. Either way, he was sure of at least twelve tricks.

So, declarer then paused to consider what he could do if the trumps proved to be 4-0. Of course he saw

that, while he could fall back on the club finesse, a better chance was to ruff two spades in hand, yielding the twelfth trick with the second ruff. Accordingly, declarer ruffed the two of spades at trick two. Then declarer cashed the king of trumps and led a low trump to dummy's queen. After ruffing the jack of spades low, declarer cashed the jack of trumps. All that remained was to cross to dummy with a low diamond to the ace and draw East's last trump with the ace.

Declarer now claimed his contract on the basis of his four winners in the minors – he deliberately avoided the club finesse as it looked likely to fail.

If declarer fails to ruff a spade at trick two on the above layout, the contract is unmakeable.

Suppose he cashes the ace of trumps at trick two. As a result, declarer then lacks the entries to ruff two spades. One chance is to ruff the two of spades then cash three diamonds ending in dummy before throwing West with the jack of spades. However, West counters this by exiting with a spade. This ruff and discard is useless because East will overruff the seven or nine of trumps – forcing declarer to fall back on the losing club finesse for his contract.

Dir S	♠ Q1074
Vul Both	♥ 82
	♦ A74
	♣ KJ73
♠ 6	♠ J98
♥ AKQJ65	♥ 107
♦ Q105	♦ 9632
♣ 1052	♣ Q986
	♠ AK532
	♥ 943
	♦ KJ8
	♣ A4

W	N	E	S
2H	3H	P	1S
All pass			4S

As usual, North's cue bid of 3♥ promised a limit raise or better of spades. South had an easy raise to game.

West began with the king, ace and queen of hearts. Declarer ruffed with

dummy's ten of trumps. Alas, East overruffed with the jack and exited with a trump. Declarer took the ace-king of trumps and then turned his attention to the considering the best way to tackle the minor suits.

A finesse in one suit or the other was basically a 50-50 guess. So, declarer decided to test for a short queen of clubs by cashing the ace and king of clubs, then ruffed the seven of clubs in hand. As the queen did not appear, declarer played the eight of diamonds to dummy's ace and a diamond back to his jack. Alas, West produced the queen of diamonds and declarer was down one.

"That was unlucky" moaned South.

"Yes it was," agreed North. "Your line had perhaps slightly more than an 80% chance of bringing in a tenth trick. However, I think you were possibly distracted by the jack of diamonds. If you held, say, the two rather than the jack, you would probably have found the best play at trick three: the discard of dummy's low diamond on the third heart. This succeeds, essentially, as long as spades are not 0-4, perhaps a 10% chance given that West started with six hearts. As the cards lay, this was the only way to take ten tricks." ■

## Q B A

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## Manager's Travels



**Kim Ellaway**

**A**PPROVAL has been given for me to visit every club in Queensland over the next 18 months which is very exciting so no doubt will have lots to say as I intend to play in every club.

I had the honour of playing with good friends Jacqui Dudurovic and Andy Slater in the Kenmore Graded Teams.

In Round 3 we played against Margaret Millar and Raelene Clark.

Dir W	♠ 8652
Vul None	♥ Q10976
	♦ 754
	♣ 7
♠ AQJ7	♠ 1043
♥ AK43	♥ —
♦ 102	♦ AKQ93
♣ K54	♣ A9632
	♠ K9
	♥ J852
	♦ J86
	♣ QJ108

Raelene sitting West opened 1NT, Margaret sitting East bid 4♦. Margaret meant it as Minorwood so Raylene answered as if it was but was not 100% sure and bid 4NT so Margaret bid 6♦.

Some were in 6NT and some were in 6♣ which has no chance. Well done Margaret who turned 90 at the end of 2025. ■



Need help with any aspects of myABF including the Club Administration module?

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## 25 Years Ago



Richard Ward

## Tablelands

"YOU must *never* open a weak-2 with three cards in the other major, said The Matriarch forcefully. There we were, entertaining the Tablelands players with yet another 'intellectual discussion' (translated as 'family brawl'). We had just completed a messy bidding sequence which saw us land in 4D - in an uncontested auction.

Dlr W	♠ 975		
Vul None	♥ AJ1082		
	♦ J103		
	♣ QJ		
♠ —		♠ AK1043	
♥ KQ73		♥ 9654	
♦ Q97		♦ 65	
♣ 1087532		♣ K6	
	♠ QJ862		
	♥ —		
	♦ AK842		
	♣ A94		

W	N	E	S
	Me		The Matriach
P	2H	P	2NT
P	3C	P	3D
P	4D	All pass	

2H (the BIG error) - 2NT (inquiry); 3C (5-card minimum) - 3D (forcing); 4D - all pass. What a great system we play!!

Down one and 5 IMPs away when teammates, Di Jones and Elsie Stubbs, suffered mightily in a reasonable heart contract EW. "4D is my favourite contract," said I brightly. "We missed our 5-3 spade fit because of you," reinforced TM unnecessarily, ignoring the probable consequences of a NS spade contract.

Fortunately, Jones-Stubbs were keeping the ship afloat picking up 8 IMPs with this nice defence against 3NT played by North.

Dlr S	♠ 92		
Vul EW	♥ AQ3		
	♦ AKQ76		
	♣ 973		
♠ Q3		♠ 865	
♥ 106		♥ KJ974	
♦ 10854		♦ J3	
♣ K10842		♣ AQJ	
	♠ AKJ1074		
	♥ 852		
	♦ 92		
	♣ 65		

Di Jones sitting East led a middle spade which declarer, unable to pick the position, naturally finessed. Back came a club and, before declarer knew what had hit him, he was down two. Since we had managed to stop in 2S (a bidding misunderstanding which has caused TM to rewrite her will - again) this was a good board.

The next morning, Klinger's Weekend Australian column gave two hands extolling the virtues of not opening pre-emptive hands with support for the other major. "See. I told you so," she trumpeted, shoving the paper under my nose. "Even Ron agrees with me."

Her resolve was sorely tested on this one.

♠ AKJ842
♥ J32
♦ KJ96
♣ —
♠ —
♥ K8754
♦ —
♣ KQJ98753

What would you open as South with EW vul?

TM found the obvious pass. The bidding proceeded (again without interference - players know better than to interfere with TM's bidding!)

W	N	E	S
	Me		TM
			P
P	1S	P	2C
P	2D	P	3H
P	3NT	P	4H
All pass			

Impressive eh? And she made 10 tricks - so there. 11 IMPs to us when Di and Elsie took them down three in a spade contract at the other table.

"That's how it's done," glints TM, knowing that her miserable offspring would have opened 5C and gone down one.

The Matriarch and I just play basic bridge. Vienna coups and compound squeezes are for other people. TM believes that 'isolating the menace' means persuading her regular partner to play with someone else. Whenever we are lucky enough to win anything, I am reminded of Bob Hamman's comment that 'the best play badly and the rest play worse'.

With two matches to go in the teams we met the current leaders which included the Townsville pair of Geoff and Pat Allan.

"You'll enjoy playing Geoff and Pat," said TM. "He's highly adventurous," (translated as 'barking mad'). And so it proved.

In the 14-board match, mainly partscores, every hand was played in game or higher regardless of point count. IMPs flew everywhere.

Pat Allan and I spent the match sitting there like two hypnotised chooks while Geoff and TM slugged it out, proving without a doubt that they were both completely deranged.

After two passes TM (South) opened 4S and the Allans bid boldly to 5H.

Dlr N	♠ J1064		
Vul EW	♥ 52		
	♦ K1042		
	♣ J63		
♠ K		♠ 7	
♥ Q1073		♥ J864	
♦ AQJ65		♦ 97	
♣ AK7		♣ 1098542	
	♠ AQ98532		
	♥ AK9		
	♦ 83		
	♣ Q		

Down three undoubled. "It's my job to push them too high, and it's your job to double them," snorted TM ignoring my gutless inability to bid the luckily making 5S. She's right *Somebody* should have doubled, but they looked so confident about it all. Oh well, next hand.

We had a partnership misunderstanding. I assumed my partner knew what he was doing.

Dir W     ♠ A73  
 Vul NS     ♥ 10965  
               ♦ A104  
               ♣ Q53

♠ J84     ♠ Q1062  
 ♥ QJ     ♥ —  
 ♦ K83     ♦ QJ976  
 ♣ 98743     ♣ AKJ10

♠ K95  
 ♥ AK87432  
 ♦ 52  
 ♣ 6

Dir W     ♠ Q98742  
 Vul Both   ♥ 5  
               ♦ —  
               ♣ AQ5432

♠ K10     ♠ 53  
 ♥ Q86     ♥ K732  
 ♦ AKQJ108     ♦ 765432  
 ♣ K10     ♣ 7

♠ AJ6  
 ♥ AJ1094  
 ♦ 9  
 ♣ J986

W	N	E	S
Pat	Me	Geoff	TM
P	P	1D	3H
P	4H	5C	All pass

Geoff opened 1D, TM bid 3H and I raised to 4H - looks good, doesn't it? However, Geoff was still there (as always) and tried 5C. Pat must have been quietly pleased about this development. And yes, I should have doubled 5C but how was I to know about our two spade tricks? "You're a wimp," said TM sternly.

This was the first time that I had played in this congress and I was most impressed with the friendliness and hospitality of the Tablelands Club. Michael Suthers was a tower of strength and it all ran quite smoothly. All in all, a great way to spend the New Year. ■

## Caloundra Cross-IMP Pairs



Nikolas Moore

**N**ORMALLY in May there is a weekend with Caloundra Pairs and Teams. This year it was moved to February 21-22. There were sixty pairs playing on the Saturday. I partnered Richard Fox in this event and we won by 9.3 VPs ahead of Michael Gearing and Kate MacDonald who beat us in Round 4. Kate Courts and Jackie Hendrix placed third.

This board was very unusual in that we had a 12-card fit that we were not even playing in.

Sitting West, I chose to open 2NT (20-21) instead of the more normal 1D for three reasons: (1) to protect my black kings, (2) the long solid diamond suit provides my hand with additional value and (3) it is much more difficult for the opponents to bid over 2NT than 1D. This was passed out and North led a club to my king. I ran the diamonds, played a heart to the king and ace, and as the opponents had discarded too many clubs, I scored a heart and spade at the end for +150 and a gain of 10 IMPs, as due to North's shape, the opponents can make 12 tricks in either black suit while we can be held to 9 tricks in our huge diamond fit.

Dir N     ♠ 8742  
 Vul NS     ♥ J8  
               ♦ AJ543  
               ♣ 97

♠ K10     ♠ AQJ96  
 ♥ K1052     ♥ 9743  
 ♦ KQ9     ♦ 108  
 ♣ AJ54     ♣ 108

♠ 53  
 ♥ AQ6  
 ♦ 762  
 ♣ KQ632

W	N	E	S
	P	2S	P
2NT	P	3D	P
3NT	All pass		

Richard chose to open a weak 2S, which in theory shows six spades, with 5-4 in the majors and I had enough points to enquire with 2NT. His 3D showed a good spade suit towards the bottom end of the range and I opted for 3NT as I could count 6 spades and a club with good prospects in the other suits,

ending up in the only unbeatable game, because 4♥ has four losers as long as the defence sets up their club trick. 3NT by East is beatable if South leads a diamond, and when declarer plays the K or Q, North ducks the ace. 3NT by West is still a lucky make with both club honours and the ace of hearts onside.

I won the diamond lead in dummy, ran my spades and had little choice but to try a heart to the king, which held and I had 9 tricks after knocking out the ♦A.

Dir E     ♠ AQJ10  
 Vul Both   ♥ AQJ5  
               ♦ KJ72  
               ♣ 8

♠ K87     ♠ 9652  
 ♥ K10974     ♥ 8  
 ♦ A95     ♦ 84  
 ♣ 42     ♣ AQJ1053

♠ 43  
 ♥ 632  
 ♦ Q1063  
 ♣ K976

W	N	E	S
P	1D	P	P
1H	1NT	2C	3NT
All pass			

I did not want to pass 1♥ with such a strong opening and bid 1NT, showing 18-19, despite my singleton, and vulnerable at IMPs with strong minor-suit holdings, Richard bid the vulnerable game.

East found the best lead of the ♣Q and I ducked the king, sacrificing a trick to prevent East from running the entire suit. East tried a heart to the king and ace, so I could knock out the ♦A and finesse spades twice for +630 and 9.5 IMPs in with only four other pairs in 3NT. This is another lucky layout, as if East has an outside ace or king then 3NT will go two or three down for a loss of about 7 IMPs, which would have come very close to costing us first place. ■

Years ago there were only two acceptable reasons for not leading partner's suit: (1) having no cards in the suit; (2) a death wish.



# QUEENSLAND WOMEN'S & SENIORS' TEAM SELECTION TRIALS 2026

to be held at

BRISBANE BRIDGE CENTRE (Please Note Different Venue)

for the

ANC INTERSTATE TEAMS held Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026 during the  
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (CANBERRA) 4<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2026

**\$45 per player per day**  
**(50% entry fee for youth players to the Women's Trials)**

**9.30 am start on first day**

The Women's and Seniors' Team Selection Trials are two separate fields.  
A player must have been born before 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1962 to be eligible for the Seniors.

Dates:	More than 5 tables	28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> March; 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> April, 2026
	3.5 to 5 tables	28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> March; 19 <sup>th</sup> April, 2026
	Up to 3 tables	28 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> March, 2026

All ENTRIES and PAYMENTS on



**ENTRIES CLOSE**  
**5 pm Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

**Director: Chris Snook**

**Tournament Organiser: Kim Ellaway**  
**manager@qldbridge.com.au 0412 064 903**

Pay \$360 per pair (4 days) by 5 pm Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2026. Surplus funds will be refunded promptly via myABF credits should only two or three days be required.

- Each player entering this event, is required to provide a written statement (by email is sufficient) before the closing date of entries acknowledging that s/he agrees to be bound by the QBA Regulations and any supplementary regulations made by the tournament organisers as:
  - posted on the QBA or MYABF website prior to the start of the event; or
  - appearing on the entry form/flyer or
  - announced before the start of the event.

**Systems:** All systems permitted. Yellow systems must be in the hands of the QBA Tournament Committee chairman by 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2026

**Scoring Method:** Cross-IMPs converted to VPs following the principle of the ANC VP scale

**Current QBA Regulations:**

**[QBA Tournament Regulations - Queensland Bridge Association \(qldbridge.com.au\)](http://qldbridge.com.au)**

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# BRISBANE GOLD CONGRESS

30th January 2027  
- 6<sup>th</sup> February 2027

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## South West Pacific Teams – Round 8

Markey (5<sup>th</sup>) played van der Vlugt (6<sup>th</sup>) in round 8 and I was there to see David Appleton – Phil Markey vs Fraser Rew – Maurits van der Vlugt.

On board 1, Fraser and Maurits sneakily/unintentionally right-sided 3NT:

Board 1      ♠ 1096

Dealer N      ♥ Q6

Vul Nil      ♦ J732

♣ 8762

♠ QJ8

♠ K743

♥ J32

♥ 9754

♦ 94

♦ 1086

♣ KJ954

♣ A3

♠ A52

♥ AK108

♦ AKQ5

♣ Q10

West

North

East

South

Appleton

van der Vlugt

Markey

Rew

Pass

2♥\*

X

Pass

2NT\*

Pass

3NT

All Pass



Maurits van der Vlugt

2♥ showed 4+ hearts, 4+ spades and 0-8 points. I'm confident Maurits wasn't intending to declare 3NT when he bid 2NT Lebensohl to show a weak hand, but Fraser was pretty sure it was the right spot.

A few years ago, playing with Phil Markey against Michael Courtney, Michael contrived to be declarer in 3NT after Phil (on his left) had opened the same 2♥. About a month later, he started telling me the story of the hand, only to realise halfway through that I had in fact been his opponent. I'm glad I listened, though: his point was that when one player has shown two suits and the other player might not have had the chance to give a real preference, it's best to keep the bidder on lead as they don't know what their partner has. If you have the bidder's partner on lead, they can usually tell what the right suit is to lead.

Maurits and Fraser applied that advice on this hand (again, unintentionally). Phil was on lead and all he knew was that his partner had passed hearts so obviously didn't mind them too much. He led the 7, covered by the 8 and ducked by David, and Maurits claimed 9 tricks immediately. This is not to say for sure that David would have led a club here – he might have picked ♠Q instead – but he had a lot more of a chance of finding the right lead on this hand.

Phil was the beneficiary of some pressure that was self-inflicted by the defenders on board 4:

Board 4      ♠ Q109  
 Dealer W    ♥ 95  
 Vul All      ♦ KJ6  
               ♣ 108764

♠ J75432  
 ♥ 76  
 ♦ Q10753  
 ♣ --

♠ A  
 ♥ A1082  
 ♦ 92  
 ♣ AKQJ32

♠ K86  
 ♥ KQJ43  
 ♦ A84  
 ♣ 95

West	North	East	South
Appleton	van der Vlugt	Markey	Rew
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass



Fraser Rew

For those unfamiliar with Outback Acol, yes, this is a normal vulnerable 3♣ opening – it might even be considered on the high end of the range since it has some shape.

Fraser led ♥K to 3NT, ducked all around, and continued ♥J which Phil won after seeing the 9 from Maurits. He played another heart back to Fraser, and Maurits had to discard early and without much information. He chose an ill-advised club (his own words).

Now that Phil's clubs were all set up, Fraser had to play a diamond immediately or it was all over. He spent a long time considering his options then switched to a low spade. After winning and playing two rounds of clubs Phil claimed nine tricks, winning 13 IMPs for his efforts.

Much is said about Phil's pre-empting exploits but he does have some tools to help put the brakes on when he feels it's necessary:

Board 15      ♠ AQ  
 Dealer S      ♥ AJ975  
 Vul NS        ♦ Q62  
               ♣ 954

♠ 95432  
 ♥ 10864  
 ♦ 43  
 ♣ J6

♠ KJ76  
 ♥ K  
 ♦ J105  
 ♣ AKQ103

♠ 108  
 ♥ Q32  
 ♦ AK987  
 ♣ 872



Phil Markey

West	North	East	South
Appleton	van der Vlugt	Markey	Rew
2♥*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♣	All Pass

2♥ showed the majors again, and 2NT asked what kind of hand David had. He said 'bad' which means about 0-4 HCP, and Phil knew to stop in part-score after that.

Nine tricks were cold, ten were impossible, so it was very well judged by the Outback Acol boys on this one.

## South West Pacific Teams - Round 9

Inevitably, the time comes for a bulletin writer to watch a pair play a yellow system that the writer barely understands and is worried about trying to explain to the readers in a way that makes any sense at all. For me, that time was match 9. I suppose I didn't have to watch Matt McManus and Mike Ware playing Crunch against Mike Doecke and Dave Wiltshire, but it seemed like a good idea at the time.

Matt and Mike bid a great slam on board 2 with a spicy redouble thrown in for good measure:

Board 2	♠ AK95	
Dealer E	♥ AK973	
Vul NS	♦ 8	
	♣ 863	
♠ Q7432		♠ J108
♥ 5		♥ 64
♦ A104		♦ K92
♣ KQ75		♣ J10942
	♠ 6	
	♥ QJ1082	
	♦ QJ7653	
	♣ A	

West	North	East	South
Wiltshire	McManus	Doecke	Ware
1♣	2NT*	Pass	1♣*
Pass	4♦*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	5♦*	X	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	XX
All Pass			6♥



Mike Ware

1♠ showed 11-20 HCP and 4+ hearts and 2NT was a game-forcing heart raise. 3♣ was a shortage, 4♦ a cue, and 4NT keycard. Mike Doecke poked his nose in with a cheeky lead-directing double with ♦K92 and Mike Ware tried to have a piece of him. Unfortunately, 5♦ doesn't make, so Matt judged well to get his partnership to 6♥ instead.

Dave led ♦A and switched a spade. Mike played a club to the Ace, ruffed a diamond, drew a round of trumps and ruffed another diamond high. When the ♦K fell, he claimed his contract.

On board 13 Dave and Mike demonstrated how to defend against the Crunch 'fert' opening bid:

Board 13      ♠ K6  
 Dealer N      ♥ 98  
 Vul All        ♦ K64  
                  ♣ J108754

♠ J103                      ♠ AQ875  
 ♥ QJ10753                ♥ AK6  
 ♦ ---                        ♦ 973  
 ♣ AK32                    ♣ 96

♠ 942  
 ♥ 42  
 ♦ AQJ10852  
 ♣ Q

West	North	East	South
Wiltshire	McManus	Doecke	Ware
	1♥*	1NT	2♦*
3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		



Dave Wiltshire

In Crunch, 1♥ shows 7-10 HCP and any hand that's not suitable for another bid (e.g. 2M, pre-empt, etc). Dave and Mike had agreed that a 1NT 'overcall' would actually just be their 1NT opening bid – 14-16 HCP and a balanced hand – so Mike Doecke did just that. Mike Ware bid 2♦ showing one major and Dave figured system would be on here so used 3♦ to show a good hand with 5+ hearts, getting to 4♥ easily when his partner was on the same page.

Mike Ware's explanation of his 2♦ bid was "I know your system better than I know mine." With South having shown a major, it's a bit hard to get to the cold slam as E-W can't construct their partner's hand anywhere close to accurately.

With the spade finesse working and both major suits breaking, it's a piece of cake to take all the tricks in hearts.

Mike Doecke faced a problem which I strongly suspect was unique in the field:



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Board 15	♠ 942		
Dealer S	♥ J5		
Vul NS	♦ A9854		
	♣ Q87		
♠ KJ1065		♠ AQ87	
♥ 3		♥ AKQ864	
♦ Q32		♦ 106	
♣ 10653		♣ A	
	♠ 3		
	♥ 10972		
	♦ KJ7		
	♣ KJ942		
West	North	East	South
Wiltshire	McManus	Doecke	Ware
			1♥*
Pass	Pass	???	



Mike Doecke

Poor Mike had to decide whether to defend 1♥ or try to bid 3NT or 4♠ with his partner! 1♥ didn't promise any hearts – just 7-10 points – and Matt's pass also didn't promise any hearts, just no 5-card suit that he wanted to bid. At favourable vulnerability, Mike was persuaded to defend. His side can make 4♥: in other words, they took 10 defensive tricks for +400, but they lost IMPs because 4♠ is cold for 11. How unfair!

Summer Festival of Bridge, Bulletin Editor, Lauren Travis - printed with permission from the Australian Bridge Federation.

## Directors' Corner



Chris Snook

### QBA Director Training and Accreditation

There are various Director accreditation levels that ensure that the Director meets the requisite standard for the events that they run, and players tend to respond better to a Director with a recognised qualification.

Law 80B.2(a) states that "if there is no appointed Director the players should designate a person to perform his duties". This allows club sessions to continue when there is

no Director available, such as when the who's-who from your club are all away at a major event.

[1. **Director Proficiency**] Aspiring Directors can complete the Director Proficiency assessment on the QBA website (QBA -> Directors -> Accreditation -> Director Proficiency). Successful completion of this online open-book assessment allows you to demonstrate the skills and **knowledge to run a single club session** (possibly under the keen eye of a more experienced Director or senior player). This exam is often taken by people at the start of their development and Directing journey.

[2. **QBA Club Director Accreditation**] Successful candidates for QBA Club Director Accreditation will be able to demonstrate:

1. a good understanding of the commonly used laws and the ability to interpret the less common laws

2. knowledge of the more common Mitchell movements: odd, even, twinned, 1½ appendix, appendix & rover

3. knowledge of Howells and three quarter Howells

4. the ability to add late pairs or tables to a movement

5. knowledge of American Whist, New England and Round Robin movements for teams

6. an understanding of double matchpointing including adjusted scores

7. an understanding of the principles of factoring.

This repertoire allows the Director to run most club sessions, multi-session events and club events with large fields and to advise newer Directors and players on all manner of directing issues.

There will be two Club Director

exams this year: 20th June and 7th November. An open-book do at home paper on Movements and Scoring and an exam on Laws and Regulations. Experience has shown that candidates are better prepared for this exam if they have some “on the floor” experience and are able to demonstrate the basic skills of Directing. A pass in the Director Proficiency exam is required before sitting the QBA Club Director exam.

[3. **Congress Director**] It is at this stage that Director accreditation becomes compulsory. The ABF Masterpoint Manual requires formal accreditation as a Congress Director to direct a congress event. The Congress Director requires a thorough understanding of all laws (including more difficult areas such as unauthorised information, misinformation, and misunderstandings) and regulations. They need to demonstrate an ability to run more complex movements and those with a larger field than encountered in club sessions. We would normally expect a candidate to have at least twelve months experience as an active QBA Club Accredited Director before applying.

[3a. **Congress Director (Country)**] This is a new qualification that a clubs management committee can apply for on behalf of a candidate. It is reserved for remote locations that have great difficulty in running a congress because of a QBA Congress Director is not available. It is awarded on a case-by-case basis as needed. We don't want to see events being cancelled.

There is also a State Director level appointed by the QBA and three levels of National Director which are appointed by the ABF.

In Queensland there are approximately 145 QBA Club level accredited Directors, 14 Congress Directors, 1 State Director and 5 National Directors. All are in short supply, and it would be wonderful if a few more players put their hand up to take on these essential roles.

### Training

- Training/Workshops for the **New Director**: Wednesday mornings 8th, 15th & 22nd April 9:00-11:30

online via Zoom. Repeated later in the year.

Suited for players wishing to learn more about the laws; and Club Directors who run the many club sessions around the state. The focus will be on the most common laws and on movements and scoring. Successful completion of this workshop will bring candidates to the standard of the QBA Director Proficiency assessment which is focused on the Director running a single club session.

- Training for the developing **Club Director**: Saturday 9th May 9:00-12:00 & 1:00-4:00pm hosted by QCBC. Repeated later in the year (around July for northern clubs).

Suited for club Directors who wish to update their skills and knowledge, and new Director's planning to sit the QBA Club Directors exam and take on greater responsibilities within their club.

### Another view of movements

Our bridge world continues to evolve, and, in this article, I touch on duplicate movements. This article is to help Directors focus on the reasons for their choice of movements and is a plug for a particular movement when the number of tables exceeds the number of rounds to be played.

The choice of movements in a regular club session is a compromise between conflicting requirements. Some of these are based on technical issues, some on convenience issues and some on player perception. I will focus on Mitchell-type movements where the NS players remain NS and the EW players remain EW. These are also called “two-winner” movements because there are a NS winner and an EW winner.

The main factors that guide the choice of a bridge movement (at the imaginary Happy Valley Bridge Club) are:

1. The **time available** – Suppose our afternoon sessions run from 12:30pm to about 4:30pm. If a session finishes early one week and late the next, then some players may not be happy (they might have an

appointment after bridge) and want to “leave early”.

2. The **total number of boards** to be played – HVBC allow six minutes to play a board and then two extra minutes for the move between rounds, and then some time for afternoon tea. For our afternoon sessions we aim for around 32-33 boards, although this can be heavily influenced by other factors. With 3-board rounds, each round takes about 20-minutes, so 11 rounds is 220-minutes, plus about 10-minutes for afternoon tea give 230 minutes for the session. Then allowing for contingencies (every extra minute has to come from somewhere) give a finish time around 4:30-4:35.

3. **Number of tables** – With about 2-6 tables a Howell or Reduced Howell suits, with about 6-12 tables, a Mitchell works for an odd number of tables and a Share&Bye or a Skip Mitchell for an even number of tables. For 12 tables and above we need a different approach.

4. **Is there a sitout?** – If there is a sitout then we try to have no more than three board sit outs (which is about 20-minutes). Two board sitouts feel nice, four is tolerable and most players find a 5-board sit out abhorrent.

5. **Preferred number of boards per round** – Three board rounds are the most common around the world, although if you have 8-tables and want to play about 30-32 boards then a 4-board round works perfectly. Two boards are technically feasible but are generally unpopular with some players because of the inconvenience and additional time lost moving so often and because there are more opportunities for slow play delaying the move.

6. **Director and player familiarity with the movement** – There are some lovely exotic movements that would be ideal for some situations, but with playing Directors it is better for consistency of movements from week to week.

7. **Stationary Pairs** – We need to have sufficient stationary pairs to accommodate those who cannot easily move. Mitchell-type movements provide this.

8. **Balance** – If the two fields are entirely separate (eg NS is always NS; and EW is always EW) then it is better if there is an even spread of player strength in both fields and spread around the room – not all the strong NS sitting in a row like a damnation alley (the complete opposite of Roger Zelanzy’s novel). The best way to encourage balance is for players to start at a table with players of similar strength to themselves, otherwise the Director may have to move people after they are all settled.

9. **Play all the boards** – Each contestant is being compared to all the other people who sat in the same compass direction and held the same hands. If pair A play a set of boards and pair B don’t then the number of comparisons with these direct opponents is reduced. If pair B play a set and pair A doesn’t you quickly get to a situation where some contestants might only be compared with their opponents on less than 70% of the boards – how can this be fair???. We should strive to get players to play the same boards as much as possible.

10. **Play all the same opponents** – an ideal movement will let pairs play against all the people sitting in the opposite compass direction. If pair A is NS and they only miss one EW pair, then they might be lucky and miss the strongest EW or unlucky and miss the weakest. As the number of pairs that they miss increases the player strength tends to even out (provided the field was balanced).

Items 2, 9 and 10 are often in conflict.

### Options for big movements?

In our example we have 15 tables.

There are many approaches, some of which are:

- **Mitchell** – one way to do this is to have one big field with (say) 15-tables, and everyone playing 15x2-board rounds. This is fair, but not always popular. It is also a bit tougher on Directors and players because of the time lost with so many moves.
- **Two separate sections** – another approach is to divide the players into two groups and play separate movements. For our 15-table example this could be a 6-table and a 9-table; or a 7-table and an 8-table. You then have 2 NS winners and 2EW winners but it can be potluck that determines which section pair A plays in and thus who they are being compared with and who they are playing against. There can also be issues with the different length of each round and different finish times. For competitions it is usual to play the same boards and then compare the scores “across the field” to determine one NS and one EW winner. Missed boards and missed opponents then becomes more significant. If we start with exactly 16-tables then dividing into two 8-table sections is quite good except for the time lost in moving players at the last minute and the lack of a single winner.
- **Web Mitchell.** This is best explained by an overall description and then an example.

A Web Mitchell is a variation on a standard Mitchell except that the layout of the boards is different. These movements are named after

its creator, John Harris (whose nickname was ‘spider’ – get it?), who created them for major multi-session single winner movements. Twenty years ago, these movements were rare because they needed multiple sets of identical boards, so old bridge movement books have little information on them. The advent and widespread use of dealing machines now mean that the multiple sets of boards are easy to produce.

Webs are commonly used in walk-in pairs at many ABF gold masterpoint events. They are also used in many of the large clubs around Australia.

Web Mitchells are used when there are more tables than there will be rounds to be played, and they allow everyone to play the same boards and thus the number of comparisons is maximised. Good numbers for a Web Mitchell are 9 rounds and 11 rounds (although with a bit of trickery other choices are available).

Pairs move up one table like a regular Mitchell. The boards are put out differently and this is where the magic happens. A Web is comprised of two segments. If we start with 14 tables and plan to play 9-rounds, then the Web is divided into a lower 7-table segment and a higher 7-table segment. One box of boards is put out in the regular fashion for the lower segment (boards 1-3 on table 1, boards 4-6 on table 2, ..., boards 19-21 on table 7 and the remaining boards sit on a bye table and the next set 22-24 feed into table 7 when move is called). The second box of boards get handled differently, the **highest boards** 25-27 are put on the **highest numbered table** 14, 1-3 goes on table 13, 4-6 goes on table 12, ..., 16-18 on table 8. The excess

Round	Table 1	Table 2	Table 3	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9	Table 10	Table 11	Table 12	Table 13	Table 14
1	1 v 1 Bds 1-3	2 v 2 Bds 4-6	3 v 3 Bds 7-9	4 v 4 Bds 10-12	5 v 5 Bds 13-15	6 v 6 Bds 16-18	7 v 7 Bds 19-21	8 v 8 Bds 16-18	9 v 9 Bds 13-15	10 v 10 Bds 10-12	11 v 11 Bds 7-9	12 v 12 Bds 4-6	13 v 13 Bds 1-3	14 v 14 Bds 25-27
2	1 v 14 Bds 4-6	2 v 1 Bds 7-9	3 v 2 Bds 10-12	4 v 3 Bds 13-15	5 v 4 Bds 16-18	6 v 5 Bds 19-21	7 v 6 Bds 22-24	8 v 7 Bds 13-15	9 v 8 Bds 10-12	10 v 9 Bds 7-9	11 v 10 Bds 4-6	12 v 11 Bds 1-3	13 v 12 Bds 25-27	14 v 13 Bds 22-24
3	1 v 13 Bds 7-9	2 v 14 Bds 10-12	3 v 1 Bds 13-15	4 v 2 Bds 16-18	5 v 3 Bds 19-21	6 v 4 Bds 22-24	7 v 5 Bds 25-27	8 v 6 Bds 10-12	9 v 7 Bds 7-9	10 v 8 Bds 4-6	11 v 9 Bds 1-3	12 v 10 Bds 25-27	13 v 11 Bds 22-24	14 v 12 Bds 19-21
4	1 v 12 Bds 10-12	2 v 13 Bds 13-15	3 v 14 Bds 16-18	4 v 1 Bds 19-21	5 v 2 Bds 22-24	6 v 3 Bds 25-27	7 v 4 Bds 1-3	8 v 5 Bds 7-9	9 v 6 Bds 4-6	10 v 7 Bds 1-3	11 v 8 Bds 25-27	12 v 9 Bds 22-24	13 v 10 Bds 19-21	14 v 11 Bds 16-18
5	1 v 11 Bds 13-15	2 v 12 Bds 16-18	3 v 13 Bds 19-21	4 v 14 Bds 22-24	5 v 1 Bds 25-27	6 v 2 Bds 1-3	7 v 3 Bds 4-6	8 v 4 Bds 7-9	9 v 5 Bds 10-12	10 v 6 Bds 13-15	11 v 7 Bds 16-18	12 v 8 Bds 19-21	13 v 9 Bds 22-24	14 v 10 Bds 25-27
6	1 v 10 Bds 16-18	2 v 11 Bds 19-21	3 v 12 Bds 22-24	4 v 13 Bds 25-27	5 v 14 Bds 1-3	6 v 1 Bds 4-6	7 v 2 Bds 7-9	8 v 3 Bds 10-12	9 v 4 Bds 13-15	10 v 5 Bds 16-18	11 v 6 Bds 19-21	12 v 7 Bds 22-24	13 v 8 Bds 25-27	14 v 9 Bds 10-12
7	1 v 9 Bds 19-21	2 v 10 Bds 22-24	3 v 11 Bds 25-27	4 v 12 Bds 1-3	5 v 13 Bds 4-6	6 v 14 Bds 7-9	7 v 1 Bds 10-12	8 v 2 Bds 13-15	9 v 3 Bds 16-18	10 v 4 Bds 19-21	11 v 5 Bds 22-24	12 v 6 Bds 25-27	13 v 7 Bds 10-12	14 v 8 Bds 7-9
8	1 v 8 Bds 22-24	2 v 9 Bds 25-27	3 v 10 Bds 1-3	4 v 11 Bds 4-6	5 v 12 Bds 7-9	6 v 13 Bds 10-12	7 v 14 Bds 13-15	8 v 1 Bds 16-18	9 v 2 Bds 19-21	10 v 3 Bds 22-24	11 v 4 Bds 25-27	12 v 5 Bds 10-12	13 v 6 Bds 7-9	14 v 7 Bds 4-6
9	1 v 7 Bds 25-27	2 v 8 Bds 1-3	3 v 9 Bds 4-6	4 v 10 Bds 7-9	5 v 11 Bds 10-12	6 v 12 Bds 13-15	7 v 13 Bds 16-18	8 v 14 Bds 19-21	9 v 1 Bds 22-24	10 v 2 Bds 25-27	11 v 3 Bds 10-12	12 v 4 Bds 7-9	13 v 5 Bds 4-6	14 v 6 Bds 1-3

boards go next to table 14. On each round boards move down one table but only inside their segment. Some Directors might choose to juggle the table layout so 1\_&\_7 and 8\_&\_14 are next to each other, so board movement is easy. I generally prefer tables to be in rows because there are less opportunities for players to get lost. It is what your players are used to.

(See diagram on the previous page.) You'll see that you play the same boards as all your direct opponents and play against 9 of the 14 pairs sitting in the opposite direction. This is not a problem unless all the strong pairs sit in adjacent tables (or weak pairs). If a club uses 9x3 as its default number of boards then this session always finishes at the same time.

**Variations**

- If there is an odd number of tables, eg 15, then three boxes of boards are used, the 15 tables are divided into a 9-table section as usual, and the remaining 6 are divided into a mini-web with 3 tables in each of the lower and upper segments. Boards move down as usual and EW players move up throughout the section.
- If 9x3-board rounds is not long

enough, then a Web Mitchell with 11x3-boards works well.

- With a bit of thought, even number of rounds can be accommodated, and arrow-switches can be introduced to turn the Web into a one-winner movement.

**Good Reasons for Web Mitchells**

- Everyone plays the same boards so there is fair comparison.
- Boards are played the same number of times so a 'top' is worth the same on each board.
- You meet a cross-section of those sitting in the opposite seats. If there are 15 tables and we play eleven 3-board rounds then, if you are NS, you will always be compared against the other 14 NS pairs on every board and will play against 11 of the 15 EW pairs. If instead we divided the session into a 7 and an 8-table section then in the 7-table section you are only playing against 7 of the 15 EW opponents and being compared with only 6 of the remaining NS people.
- The preferred movement can occur whenever there are many tables and so the session will always finish at a regular time.

- Board and player movement are familiar to all players.

**Problems with Web Mitchells**

- They are less forgiving if there is an attempted late change to the movement (adding a table is particularly difficult). This puts pressure on Directors which is why we beg players to be seated well before start time.
- Putting out the boards is more complex than a regular Michell – again, more pressure on Directors.
- Some players have the misconception that missing some players is more critical than missing some boards.
- Players don't like change.

Web Mitchells provide for a good and fair game. My view, and the view of many Directors, is that the advantages outweigh the disadvantages. ■

**D E A D**

**JUN 15 (noon)**

Contributions to:  
Ph: 0490 456 575

Email: philipsquire@tpg.com.au

**L I N E**



## RESULTS – JANUARY-MARCH

### JANUARY

**GOLD COAST TEAMS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Jenny Michael / Edward Hahn / Alan Race / Pat Beattie; 2 Ann Liu / Usher Zeng / Eva & Tony Berger; **B** 1 Erin Waterhouse / Paul Jenkins / John Rivers / Peter Lyons; 2 Heather Reid / Lorraine De Nett / Trevor Fletcher / Dot Piddington; **C** 1 Beverly Jarvis / Lindell Day / Darren Drake / John Glennie; 2 Jan Rees / Anne Cosgrave / Annette Ryan / Sew Yoon Yap.

#### 2025 Queensland Masterpoint Awards by category:

**SILVER GRAND** Tony Hutton; **GRAND** Rachel Langdon; **GOLD** Eugene Pereira; **SILVER** Richard Spelman; **BRONZE** Raelene Clark; **LIFE** Kate Macdonald; **SILVER** Peter Schmidt; **BRONZE** Peter Lyons; **NATIONAL** Lauren Morgan; **BRONZE** Mark Harnack; **STATE** Julie Pigdon; **BRONZE REGIONAL** Jackie Hendrix; **REGIONAL** Mary Hinves; **SILVER LOCAL** Brian Clark; **BRONZE LOCAL** Peter Grinlaubs; **LOCAL** Kit Duncan; **CLUB** Remco Spencer; **GRADUATE** Ada Sun; **NIL** Arthur Ter Hofstede.

**QUEENSLAND CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB PAIRS** [Director – Jan Peach]: 1 Peter Evans / Tony Treloar; 2 Maha Hoenig / Greer Tucker; **B** 1 Barry Coster / John Morris; 2 Annette Corkhill / Wendy Gibson; **NOVICE**: 1 Sue Sherrell / Joshua Davis; 2 Vina & Naren Shah.

**NORTHERN SUBURBS TEAMS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Natalie Bloch / David Lehmann / Bert Luchjenbroers / Richard McLauchlan; 2 Carmel Martin / Gary Malinas / Kuldip Bedi / Abby Wanigaratne; **B** Carmel Wikman / Lesleigh Egan / Margie Knox / Narelle McIver; **C** Michelle Lewis / Deanne Gaskill / Sandra Mulcahy / Inta Devine; **TOOWOOMBA PAIRS** [Director – Sue Holbert]: **UNDER 500** 1 Shanaal & Hema De Zoyza; 2 Trevor Henderson / Dennis Lincoln; **NOVICE** 1 Debra & Bruce Coward; 2 Alison Banks / Teena Haslam

**KENMORE CONGRESS** [Directors – Chris Snook, Sue Holbert]: **PAIRS A** 1 Patrick Bugler / Tim Runting; 2 Eileen Li / Charlie Lu; **B** 1 Maria Mills / Grey Renwick; 2 Jo Neary / Wendy Casey; **C** Lois Munro / Ryan Stevens; **TEAMS A** 1 Therese Tully / Paul Hooykaas / Patrick Bugler / Tim Runting; 2 Ewa Kowalczyk / Michelle Radke / Connie Schoutrop / Bronwyn McLeod; **B** 1 Kathleen Clifford / Oliver Goodman / Sue & Andrew Sharp; 2 Diane McClintock / Margaret Mobbs / Heather Whitely / Chris Williams; **C** Anthony Mills / Stephen Mills / Maria Mills / Alexandra Mills; **TOWNSVILLE AUSTRALIA DAY CONGRESS** [Directors – Bill Bishop, Jan Smith, Leigh Owens]: **PAIRS A** 1 Phil Rains / Bill Redhead; 2 Janelle Conroy / Tex Sheedy; **B** 1 Lydie Martin / Renate Feige; 2 Ian Leach / John Larkin; **C** Jan Nettle / Michelle Joans; **D** Mary Overell / Toni Barrell; **TEAMS A** 1 Janelle Conroy / Tex Sheedy / Diane & Max Holewa; 2 Betty Hobdell / Joan Elliott / Robyn Nolan / Ian Patterson; **B** 1 Kenn Winter / Audrey Ledbrook / Jane Lake; 2 Anto Wilson / Sam Bishop / Ian Leach / Nina Doyle; **C** Garry Bolton / Greg Lawler / Bill Pickering / Jana Zrno.

### FEBRUARY

**TOOWONG PAIRS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Rachel Langdon / Kim Morrison; 2 David Smith / Tony Hutton; **B** 1 Lyn Tracey / Richard Spelman; 2 Vesna & Voyco Markovic; **C** 1 Robyn Stevens / Simon Fleming; 2 Bill Thomson / Bernardo Gama Silva; **NOVICE** 1 Jill Duffield

/ Michelle Lewis; 2 Helen Klieve / Christine Bolger; 3 Anne Cosgrave / Annette Ryan; **B** 1 Kath Armstrong / Peter Grinlaubs; 2 Karen & Andrew Hay; 3 Debbie & Ian Paltridge.

**ARANA TEAMS** [Director – Julie Jeffries]: 1 Therese Tully / Paul Hooykaas / Pele Rankin / Kim Morrison; 2 Pamela & Jim Evans / Vanessa Brewis / Peter Evans; **B** 1 Jan Jones / Sarah Huntington-Wynne / Keith Cohen / Peter Gruythuysen; 2 Julie Cutmore / Tony Agar / Budi Maher / Carol Bellis; **C** 1 Tom Murphy / Ross Mangano / Brian Clark / Brooke Anderson; 2 Kelvin Wheeler / Nat Kay / Jane Geutjes / Sue Norton; **REDLANDS UNDER 50 TEAMS** [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Bob Ren / Davis Zhang / Alice Edwards / Jenny Andrews; 2 Lynette Crookall / June McNamara / Lee Pitt / Robyn Chippindall; **B** 1 Timothy Freeman / Annie Henderson / Turgut Manli / Robyn Esdale; 2 Sue Sherrell / Joshua Davis / Cathy Mathieson / Shirley Burgess.

**CALOUNDRA CONGRESS** [Director – Bob Davies]: **PAIRS** 1 Richard Fox / Nikolas Moore; 2 Kate Macdonald / Michael Gearing; **B** 1 Joyanne Gissing / Raelene Clark; 2 Upasana Shanti / Glenda Vincent; **C** 1 Myles Kapatan / Peter Zanki; 2 Kim Mikolic / Margo Solomon; **TEAMS** 1 Ivy & John Luck / Sue O'Brien / Paul Collins; 2 Kate Courts / Jackie Hendrix / Mark Harnack / Fay Stanton; **B** 1 Di Jones / Debbie & Gary Gibbards / Gary Petterson; 2 Frances Price / Upasana Shanti / Glenda Vincent / Peter Keys; **NORTHERN SUBURBS PAIRS** [Director – Alan Gibson]: 1 Martin Qin / Charlie Lu; 2 Rachel Langdon / Kim Morrison; **B** 1 Chris Woolley / Wendy Gibson; 2 Daria Williams / Ross Murtagh; **C** 1 Jacinta Lee / Jenny Thompson; 2 Mike Martin / Barry Williams.

### MARCH

**QUEENSLAND BRIDGE ASSOCIATION MIXED TEAMS** [Director – Peter Busch]: 1 Ken Dawson / Janeen Solomon / Ian Afflick / Alison Dawson; 2 Ann Liu / Usher Zeng / Nikolas Moore / Rachel Langdon; 3 Adrian Lohmann / David Harris / Tim Ridley / Maureen Jakes; **B** 1 Kerry Rutter / Margaret & Don Robertson / Julie Caldwell; 2 Debbie & Gary Gibbards / Elizabeth Van Vugt / Julie Scott; 3 Joan & Simon Reeve / Lindley & Trevor Stafford.

**QUEENSLAND BRIDGE ASSOCIATION MARCH PAIRS** [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Magnus Moran / Justin Mill; 2 David Smith / Tony Hutton; 3 Patrick Bugler / Tim Runting; **B** 1 Alexandra Mills / Kate Macdonald; 2 Janelle & Jim Williamson; 3 Chris Woolley / Wendy Gibson; **C** 1 Emma Langford / Robert Cumming; 2 Inta Devine / Peter Grinlaubs; 3 Matthew Page-Hanify / Peter Lang.

**QUEENSLAND OPEN TEAM TRIALS** [Director – Chris Snook]: 1 Pamela & Jim Evans; 2 Rachel Langdon / Kim Morrison; 3 Nadya Tuxworth / Lech Kaszubski; 4 Alison Dawson / Ken Dawson; **ROCKHAMPTON CONGRESS** [Director – Les Bonnick]: **PAIRS** 1 Karin Le Roux / Adrian Lohmann; 2 Annie Shotter / Paul Jansen; **B** 1 Ann McGhee / Glenys Tipler; 2 Alanna Waugh / Veronica Cullen; **C** 1 Sue Asher / James Honek; 2 Michele Rau / Cathy McKenzie; **SUNSHINE COAST GRADED TEAMS** [Director – Peter Busch]: 1 Fay Stanton / Susie Warren / Di Rogers / Shirley Phillips; 2 Davis Zhang / Lilly Jia / Lyn Tracey / Richard Spelman; **B** 1 Kate Courts / Jackie Hendrix / Margo Solomon / Kerry Thorp; 2 Upasana Shanti / Glenda Vincent / Cathy Clarke / Peter Keys.