



Spring Nationals on Real Bridge

14-24 October 2021

5 Wednesday 20 October

Editor: Nick Hughes



Hiatus

A brief pause in the Festival before the midweek Swiss Pairs events on Wednesday.

This issue features the Cummings Pairs results and the final of the TBIB Open Teams.

DC Pairs 4, Bd 34

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Carson	Milne	Thomas	Coutts
		no	
1NT		2♣	
2♦		2♥	
2NT		no	

Bad luck with Garbage Stayman this time, though opener is supposed to correct to 2♠ with that holding.

The defence started with two rounds of spades – not great, but okay.

Left alone, declarer can come to eight tricks via two spades, three clubs and three red suit tricks.

North needs to do something fancy while the spade suit is blocked. There is one card – the ♥Q!

DC Pairs 5, Bd 8

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

Jim Wallis started with ♥A-another against Matthew Brown's 2♠.

Declarer pitched a club on the ♥Q, cashed a top trump, then started a cross ruff. South overruffed a diamond to return a trump:

♠ —			
♥ —			
♦ Q J			
♣ Q 6			
♠ 10 8		♠ K 6	
♥ —		♥ —	
♦ 10 6		♦ —	
♣ —		♣ 10 9	
	♠ 4		
	♥ 10 5		
	♦ —		
	♣ K		

South has just led the ♠4-♠8. What does North discard? If a diamond, declarer plays the ♠6 and ruffs a diamond. If a club, East **overtakes** to bring down the club honours. +170 via the entry-shifting squeeze was worth 81%.

Open & Novice Swiss Prs

Wed	10.30	3 x 8 bds
20	2pm	3 x 8 bds

Mixed Teams

Fri	10.30	2 x 12 bds
22	2.15	2 x 12 bds
Sat	10.30	2 x 12 bds
23	2.15	2 x 12 bds

Penline Swiss Pairs & Two Men & a Truck Pairs

Sat	10.30	3 x 8 bds
23	2pm	3 x 8 bds

NSWBA Jacaranda Tms

Sun	10.30	3 x 8 bds
24	2.15	3 x 8 bds

DC Pairs 7, Bd 19

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Neumann	Dobes	v d Vlugt	Prescott
			3♦

3♠ end

Dagmar won the ♦K lead and advanced the ♠Q, keen to leave dummy with a trump to take care of heart leads.

When North erred by ducking, it was all over. ♠A and a club finesse allowed declarer to pitch two red cards for +170.

If North wins the ♠K at trick two, 3♠ can be held to seven tricks, via three red suit tricks and a trump promotion.

Dick Cummings Pairs

1	James COUTTS - Liam MILNE	146.96
2	Chris DEPASQUALE - Michael COURTNEY	137.65
3	Daniel MAO - Ming ZHANG	129.31
4	Lakshmi SUNDERASAN - Fraser REW	127.85

(Cash prizes and Playoff Points – if eligible – to these players)

Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs

1	Patrick JIANG - Hui LI	140.73
2	Tim LEGGE - Alexander JONES	140.56

(Cash prizes, Bridgegear vouchers and AB subs to these)

Some hands from the Final

I haven't had the chance to look closely. What follows are most of the big boards.

JOHANNSSON won the quiet first set to take a small lead.

Here are the swing hands from the pivotal second set.

Final 2, Bd 13

South was on lead against 3NT with these cards:

♠ Q732 ♥ Q84 ♦ A952 ♣ 86

Nick Jacob led a spade for +200. Avril Zets led a diamond for -600.

A lot of top pairs are playing **transfer responses in competition**.

Given a free run, transfers are just okay. They come into their own when somebody overcalls. The refrain is "Put the overcaller on lead."

Final 2, Bd 18

E/NS ♠ A7
♥ Q65432
♦ 105
♣ A102

♠ K9863 ♥ J102
♥ K10 ♥ 97
♦ QJ943 ♦ AK6
♣ 6 ♣ J8743

♠ Q54
♥ AJ8
♦ 872
♣ KQ95

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Grewcock	Tislevoll	Sylvester	Jacob
1♠	2♦ ^{tfr}	no	1♣
no	4♥	2♥	3♥
		end	

Maybe Les should have led a diamond anyway. When he chose a spade instead, it was all over.

4♥ by North has no chance.

At the other table, 4♠ made on a heart lead via the trump finesse.

14 IMPs. (It takes a club lead to shoot 4♠)

Then came a grand slam ...

Final 2, Bd 21

♠ KQ964 ♠ A10753
♥ 4 ♥ A762
♦ 85 ♦ A2
♣ QJ643 ♣ AK

Hans	Ashton
1♠	1♣ ¹⁶⁺
3♣ ⁵⁻⁵	1NT ^{relay}
4♥ ^{cue}	3♠
5♣ ^{1 or 4}	4NT
	7♠

Two boards later the trailing team missed a chance:

Final 2, Bd 23

S/Both ♠ 4
♥ AK8
♦ K7632
♣ J732

♠ — ♠ 87632
♥ J93 ♥ 10754
♦ Q854 ♦ AJ9
♣ K109864 ♣ Q

♠ AKQJ1095
♥ Q62
♦ 10
♣ A5

Tislevoll - Jacob bid these cards to 6♠, with South showing chunky spades plus a diamond shortage.

West led the ♦4. I'd have shrugged and called for dummy's king but Nick Jacob played low from dummy.

Hoping one diamond trick would be enough, East grabbed the ace and that was that. 13 out instead of 13 in. Sigh.

ASHTON won that set by 53 IMPs.

JOHANNSSON won the third set, partly thanks to this:

Final 3, Bd 26

E/Both ♠ QJ643
♥ AQ97
♦ J
♣ K107

♠ AK97 ♠ 8
♥ J8 ♥ 64
♦ AK854 ♦ 10962
♣ Q8 ♣ AJ9543

♠ 1052
♥ K10532
♦ Q73
♣ 62

Grewcock played 3NT/W after North-South had bid a raised spades.

First he escaped a heart led, then the ♦J appeared, then the club finesse worked. Declarer remembered what to do in diamonds for +600 and 10 IMPs.

Not much in the final set. ASHTON ended up winning by 59 IMPs, mostly from that second set.

Convener

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TBIB Open Teams final (48 boards)

Team	C/F	Set 1	Total	Set 2	Total	Set 3	Total	Set 4	Total
ASHTON	6.3	21	27.3	64	91.3	19	110.3	24	134.3
JOHANNSSON		33	33	11	44	24	68	7	75

Sophie Ashton - Sartaj Hans - Andy Hung - Geo Tislevoll - Nick Jacob - Geeske Joel
Axel Johannsson - Avril Zets - Liz Sylvester - Les Grewcock.

Cash prizes and Playoff Points to the four semi-finalists.