



Spring Nationals on Real Bridge

14-24 October 2021



6 Friday 22 October

Editor: Nick Hughes

Home stretch

Mixed Teams today and tomorrow, with two one-day congress-style events on the weekend.

The mid-week Swiss Pairs was won by a pair of Kiwis – Paul Carson & Jeremy Fraser-Hoskin – who were well below average at half time.

This started their run:

Swiss Pairs 4, Bd 26

E/Both ♠ K 10 3 2
♥ A Q 10 7 4
♦ —
♣ A J 8 2

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

♠ A 8
♥ 6 3
♦ A K Q J 7
♣ 9 6 4 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Fraser-H		Carson
		no	1NT
no	2♣		2♦
	3♣ Smolen		3NT
	4♣		4♥
	6♣		end

6♣ needed a fair bit, ♠HTx onside for starters. Nigh impossible on a spade lead but East led a diamond.

A gift in the next match helped:

Swiss Pairs 5, Bd 34

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

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

♠ 8 3
♥ K 10 5 4
♦ K Q 7
♣ Q 9 6 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Fraser-H		Carson
		1NT ¹²⁻¹⁴	no
2♥	no	2♠	dbl
3♠	4♥	no	no
4♠	dbl	end	

4♥ would have been -500 and 4♠x is cold, so what happened?

The heart lead felt bad but didn't cost. Declarer pitched a club on the ♥A, then played ♠A-K. No good, there was no way back to take a diamond finesse. ♠K-A instead.

Here are some hands from the pair who led at half time:

Swiss Pairs 3, Bd 24

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

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

North-South reached 6♦/N, which is about 40%. There is a case for leading low to the king, picking up the actual layout or stiff queen with East.

Declarer had no real chance because Helene Pitt led the ♦8 at trick one!



Spring National Butler Swiss Pairs (6 x 8 bds)

1	Jeremy FRASER-HOSKIN - Paul CARSON	85.18
2	Geoffrey JOHNSON - Alan RACE	83.59
3	Lavy LIBMAN - Tomer LIBMAN	82.87
4	Marina DARLING - Hugh GROSVENOR	80.90

\$300 / \$180 / \$120 / \$60

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

They too got some help:

Swiss Pairs 3, Bd 22

E/EW ♠ 10 9
♥ K 8 4 2
♦ K Q 9 8 6
♣ K 2

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

♠ Q 8
♥ A Q 10 7
♦ 10 7 3
♣ A Q 9 5

How do you play 4♥/S on a trump lead? One line is to draw trumps, pitch a spade on the ♣Q, then play a diamond to the

King? Not so good, is it? This declarer drew only two trumps before playing clubs. Lorna Ichilcik ruffed as dummy pitched a spade.

Dummy soon had to ruff a club to lead the ♦K. West simply ducked this for one off.