



# 2022 Summer Festival of Bridge

Felicity Smyth - Justin Williams take out Mixed Pairs  
Ewart plays Jeffery, Thomson plays de Luca in Seniors semifinals  
Friday, January 14

## Results

## Submissions to Editor, Stephen Lester

2022 Summer Festival of Bridge entries are closing

Entries close for the SWPT at midday on Monday 17th January

### Mixed Pairs, Thursday

#### Grand Designs

Board 31, South deals, Nil vulnerable

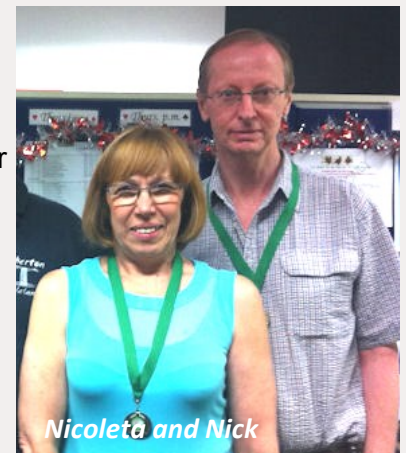
♠ 9 8 7		♠ Q 3 2									
♥ 6		♥ K 10 8									
♦ A K Q 10 9 5		♦ 4									
♣ A K J		♣ Q 10 9 8 6 3									
♠ 5											
♥ J 7 5 4 3 2											
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	N										
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		♠ A K J 10 6 4									
		♥ A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

We found ourselves in another dubious grand slam after a Key Card Blackwood accident. (We forgot to use it, so ♠Q remained a mystery.)

Anyway, 7NT from South seems better than 7♠, because there is a chance of taking 11 tricks outside spades if the queen doesn't fall. On a safe club lead from West, you win ♣A, cash ♦A then the top spades. Bad news there might persuade you to take the diamond finesse. If so, you can make. Run the diamonds then take the necessary heart finesse to squeeze East in the blacks, assuming you pick it.

Partner might have done that, but I was playing 7NT from the North seat. What will East lead? Everything looks bad. On a heart lead, declarer can still make by hopping ace and making a

correct guess in spades or diamonds. Patrick Carter led ♠3. Not so easy now. After the top diamonds reveal the 4-1 break, it might still be right to hook spades. I didn't, not prepared to look too stupid.



Nicoleta and Nick

Nick Hughes, Sydney

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Ed: Note Kiwi Patrick Carter's devilish lead - on a second round of spades from dummy, ♠2 would appear, looking like a 'safe' small doubleton lead.

Kim Frazer, one of the forces behind this drive has written a detailed description of the Pro-Am event's aims, to be published in tomorrow's bulletin.

1 Friday, January 14

## A simple squeeze? Who, me?

Many club players look blankly when an expert tells them there was an 'automatic' squeeze on a deal. They may have noticed that sometimes defenders seem to have discarded badly, allowing them to make extra tricks. That may be the case, but sometimes it's because they have squeezed one or both of their opponents without knowing it.

There are many squeezes, but the most common is the simple squeeze (against one opponent) and the double squeeze (against both opponents).

Take this deal:

Board 11, South deals, nil vulnerable

<p>♠ 10 9 8 7 3 ♥ Q 10 7 ♦ 5 ♣ Q 9 6 2</p>	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> <span>S</span> </div>	<p>♠ 6 5 ♥ 9 8 5 ♦ K Q 10 9 7 6 ♣ 7 4</p>	<p>♠ A K J 4 2 ♥ A J 4 ♦ A 3 ♣ 8 5 3</p>
		<p>♠ Q ♥ K 6 3 2 ♦ J 8 4 2 ♣ A K J 10</p>	

After a sequence in which North had shown a strong hand with five spades exactly, and South had denied a spade fit, opening 1♦ and then showing a heart suit, West chose to lead a low club.

Declarer won the lead with ♣10, played a heart to the jack, a spade to hand, a heart to the ace, followed by two top spades. He then crossed back to hand with ♥K, leaving this ending:

<p>♠ 10 9 ♥ --- ♦ 5 ♣ Q 9 6</p>	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> <span>S</span> </div>	<p>♠ --- ♥ --- ♦ K Q 10 9 7 ♣ 7</p>	<p>♠ J 4 ♥ --- ♦ A 3 ♣ 8 5</p>
		<p>♠ --- ♥ 6 ♦ J 8 ♣ A K J</p>	

When declarer cashed ♥6, West was momentarily off the hook, able to discard a diamond.

But now declarer cashes a top club, before playing a diamond to dummy's ace, squeezing West in the black suits for 13 tricks.

## Letting the pips tell the story

I stepped into the Mixed Pairs room during Friday's first session, settling behind overnight leaders Paul Collins - Sue O'Brien, who faced second-placed pair, Arlene Dalley – Ashley Bach. I was impressed by the steady pressure Arlene imposed on the table in bidding, play and defence.

This pretty defence deserved to gain an extra trick:

Board 11, South deals, nil vulnerable

<p>♠ A K ♥ 3 ♦ 10 7 6 3 2 ♣ J 10 9 8 5</p>	<div style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <span>N</span> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> <span>S</span> </div>	<p>♠ 9 5 4 3 2 ♥ K 8 6 ♦ 4 ♣ K 6 4 2</p>	<p>♠ 10 8 6 ♥ A Q 10 9 4 2 ♦ A 5 ♣ 7 3</p>
		<p>♠ Q J 7 ♥ J 7 5 ♦ K Q J 9 8 ♣ A Q</p>	

West	North	East	South
<i>A Dalley</i>	<i>O'Brien</i>	<i>Bach</i>	<i>Collins</i>
			1♦
pass	1♥	pass	1NT
Pass	3♥	pass	4♥
all pass			

Ashley led his singleton diamond against 4♥, booking defeat for the contract. When in with ♥K he would make the logical shift to a spade for a diamond ruff.

Declarer put ♦8 on the trick and won the first trick with the ace when Arlene covered with ♦10.

This was Arlene's first signal - she didn't have to contribute ♦10, so it was a clear signal for a spade shift.





Ashley and Arlene, runners up Mixed Pairs

It was perhaps a little naive to continue with a diamond at trick two, but the contract was booked for defeat in any case.

Ashley ruffed and duly shifted to a spade. Arlene won ♠A, cashed ♠K and played ♦7, her highest remaining diamond. Declarer ruffed with ♥Q, over-ruffed by Ashley's king. This should have led to a two-trick defeat. Arlene's play in spades and her highest diamond back combined to make it crystal-clear she had two spades only.



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Should Ashley and Arlene have lost by 1 IMP, she could have referred to Ashley's low club back ad infinitum...

Ed: The deal offers a potent message why a strong 1NT is now preferred over the weak notrump (played here by Sue and Paul). Played by South, the heart game was a near certainty - West might cash a top spade honour, hoping to cash the other honour and get a ruff, but as we can see, that is a futile hope.

A diamond switch after a top spade defeats the contract as long as West persists with a diamond when in with the second spade, but there is no knowledge of a diamond suit in declarer's hand after a simple 1NT and transfer sequence.



## What's on offer for 2022? Upcoming ABF Licensed Events

Despite Covid19's grip, the ABF are planning on serving up all your favourite events, taking you around the country to some of our most exciting cities.

First up is the Gold Coast Congress at Broadbeach on the Gold Coast, February 18-26

Then it's the Tasmanian Festival of Bridge in Launceston, March 24-27

The Autumn Nationals, Adelaide take us into the next season, from April 28-May 2

Make sure you are part of the return to your face-to-face bridge family!



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