

2022 Australian National Championships



Restricted Butler finishes, Stage 2 Butler starts

eBulletin 10

Monday 11 July

For bulletin contributions email editor at sleksix@gmail.com

What's coming up tomorrow:

Tuesday, 12 July

TBIB Open and Mixed Butler, Butler Swiss Pairs A

10.00am

Ordeal over

Hovering around the bar area at the end of the Restricted Butler, I heard a player (on his way to the bar) exclaim: "The ordeal's over!" When he had finished his order, I asked whether I had heard right, introduced myself as the Bulletin Editor and asked if could do a mini interview. "Oh yes, he said, I'm Allan, and you heard right, but not in a bad way,



Colin and Allan, 1st Restricted Butler

it's just that two days of solid play is exhausting".

He went on to explain that the organisers must be happy with the way things had gone.

He complimented the calm director, Simon Edler, and the efficient caddies. He noted that he had not

heard one cry for a caddie the entire tournament.

I asked Allan how he thought he had gone. "I'm not sure", he replied, but his last opponent was quick to tell me he had gone very well.

In fact, Colin and Alan had scored 33 IMPs in the last round to overtake the leaders.

Colin Jasper—Allan Hardie	122.63
Ian Clark—Robert Kirkberger	120.15
Gial Leslie—Joanne Morgan	116.7
David de Bellis—Anthony Gibbs	110.82



Robert Kirkberger - Ian Clark, 2nd Restricted



Outrageous bidding leads to a great result

Board 22, East deals, EW vulnerable

♠ K 5	♠ A J 10 9 6
♥ A K J 9 6 5 4	♥ 7 3
♦ 7 3	♦ A 6 2
♣ Q J	♣ 8 4 3
<i>West</i>	<i>East</i>

I'm not privy to the whole auction, but Ella Jacob was declarer in 4♥ after LHO had bid 2NT over her 1♥ opening to show the minors.

The lead was a diamond, which Ella won in dummy. She played a heart to the king and North's 10.

It was likely LHO would lead a singleton spade if he had it, so Ella figured his shape to be 1-2-5-5.

She confidently played a spade to dummy to take the marked heart finesse—but North won ♥Q and the contract was one down.

The full deal:

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

Favourable vulnerability often leads to liberties being taken, but this was a bit much for Ella when she realized she had been duped.

One bright beacon of success

Pim Birss and Alan Cransberg thought Round 3 of the Open Butler had been their best session thus far, but bridge can be a cruel and unfair master, doling out IMPs to the undeserving regularly.

The pair play at South Perth Bridge Club. Alan played in the 1980s, but took 40 years off to raise a family, forge a career and do all the other things that interrupt a bridge player's life.

Bridge with a Twist by Simon Cocheme \$29.95 (191 pages)

by Paul Lavings



A witty and informative look at the world of bridge – its language, history and some of its techniques

- Are pigeons more intelligent than some bridge players?
- What do a wooden man, a grandfather, a daydreamer and a donkey have in common?

Did Zia really go nine down in 3NT?

Interesting, Educational and Amusing suggests the modest author

Brilliant, Fascinating and Hilarious! writes the seasoned publicist

Destined to be ranked as a classic, alongside its prequel, Oliver Twist

RUNNER-UP 2021 Master Point Press IBPA Book of the Year



Pim and Alan

From 1976 - 1983, he played for Swan Districts, and he is currently chairman of the West Coast Eagles. Many of my Melbourne friends will be impressed with that fact.

Alan and Pimm play an Acol-based system with five-card majors and a Multi 2♦.

In a disappointing session, there was only one decent positive swing to the two men:

Italy in August. Lara has just started at UNSW, studying data science. Jacob is taking a gap year after school to do some travelling.

Stephen Guo played in the ANC in 2013 and 2021, played bridge starting in high school—they simply learned the play rules and had no concept of game or conventions, so would be very excited bidding 4NT and making exactly 10 tricks.

He started off playing “real” bridge with Precision, so even the most basic standard bidding concepts are often bewildering . . . He currently works at UNSW and plays bridge socially.

Patrick Chen works in insurance (unfortunately) *JF: His words, not mine* as an Account Executive, and he also does some judo.

He played bridge in high school at an after school bridge group. He has only attended one bridge event before—a youth competition at the NSWBA.

Julian Foster, npc



Unflappable

Director Simon Edler made the players in the Restricted Butler comfortable and at ease.

Famous bridge partnerships



Grant Kilvington and Wally Scott were true characters of Australian bridge, as were Margaret Bourke and Lidia Beech (at one point Lidia Kilvington).

All four players started their bridge lives in Melbourne, but Margaret moved to Canberra, where she and husband Tim were icons of the ACT bridge scene.

I am inviting personal memories.

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Margaret, in particular, made attending the ANC one of her primary annual goals.

Whether it was as a player or a npc, in the Women's, the Seniors or the Open, Margaret invariably managed to snag a place on a team.

2018 was to be her last ANC (Hobart, Tasmania, where despite facing illness and pain, she was a playing member of the ACT Women's Team