



Tuesday 10 - Sunday 22 January, 2023

TBIB Swiss Pairs

Finals of playoffs for Seniors and Women



Bulletin 6

Sunday January 15

Results

Submissions to Editor, Stephen Lester

A grand start

For once I picked the right session to kibitz! The first board proved exciting as I watched GUE NS, George Kozakos – Phil Gue take on LORENTZ EW, Avi Kanetkar – David Beauchamp.

I would not have had the fortitude (or imagination, I have to add) to bid as well as David and Avi on the first board:

Women's and Seniors playoff semi finals, Set 5

Board 1, North deals, nil vulnerable

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kanetkar</i>	<i>Kozakos</i>	<i>Beauchamp</i>	<i>Gue</i>
	pass	1♣	3♦
3♥	pass	5♦ ¹	pass
6♣	pass	6♥	pass
7♥	all pass		

1. Exclusion Blackwood



David Beauchamp

I was wondering what David Beauchamp was going to bid as he started thinking after Avi Kanetkar's 3♥ bid.

Looking at his hand, I would be worrying about wasted values in diamonds and a hole in spades, but David showed it pays to be positive. After the Exclusion Key Card 5♦ bid, 6♣ showed two and a half controls, a concept I am still to come to terms with.

After the 6♥ bid, Avi pictured

David's hand – he imagined a void in diamonds, and thus at least a five-card suit with four hearts and a source of tricks.



Avi Kanetkar

How right he was. He bid 7♥, and was soon chalking up +1510, 19 IMPs when NS doubled 3♦ at the other table and it made 10 tricks for another +570 to LORENTZ.

6♥ making 13 tricks was a flat board in the other match.

In the Women's field, Elizabeth Havas opened 2♠ with the thin North hand, and EW failed to reach slam, so that was a slam swing to TRAVIS.

Women's and Seniors playoff semi finals, Set 5 Board 8, West deals, nil vulnerable

<p>♠ A 6 3 2 ♥ A K J 7 6 2 ♦ 10 8 4 ♣ ---</p>	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ J 8 ♥ Q 4 ♦ Q J 6 3 2 ♣ Q 5 4 3</p>	<p>♠ 7 ♥ 8 5 ♦ A K 9 5 ♣ A K 9 8 6 2</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		<p>♠ K Q 10 9 5 4 ♥ 10 9 3 ♦ 7 ♣ J 10 7</p>										

On this deal, the play is the thing. You are declaring 6♥ from the West hand on ♦Q lead. What's the problem, you ask? I have four diamond tricks, they haven't attacked my ♠A entry, and a 3-2 heart break will see me home.

However, you think, how likely is it that North has led from a diamond sequence headed by ♦QJ6?

Avi won ♦K, played a spade to the ace, ruffed a spade and threw his two losing spades on ♣A,K. Worried about a 4-2 trump break, he now finessed ♥J. North won ♥Q and gave South a diamond ruff.

Unlucky, but with ♦7 appearing at trick one, a singleton in the South hand was the thing to be worried about. 14 IMPs to GUE.

At the other table in the playoff semi finals, one pair bid game, making 11 tricks, while the other was in 6♥ making 13 tricks, 11 IMPs to BUCHEN.

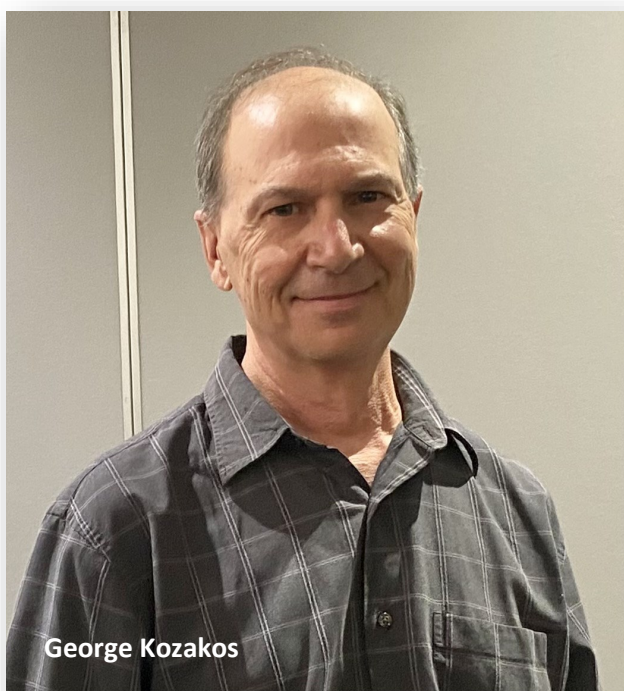
In the Women's neither pair bid slam in the TRAVIS – THOMPSON encounter, while only the DAWSON EW pair reached slam in their match against PACKER.

TBIB Technique

I watched Justin Mill – Nabil Edgtton in their match against two guys who looked familiar. At the end of the match, I had a closer look, and said to South "I know you, how do I know you?"

I don't know,' South replied. "There won't be any other players in Australia with the same surname" said North.

I looked at their score card for the previous round: "Mark Jappe! I remember you, it's Stephen Lester."



George Kozakos



Mark Jappe

**Tim Bourke's daily
Test Your Play problems
Solutions overleaf**



6. PREPARATION

South deals, all vulnerable

NORTH

♠ J 6
♥ J 7
♦ Q J 7 3
♣ A 9 8 7 6

SOUTH

♠ A K 5 4 3
♥ A Q 3
♦ A K
♣ Q J 10

West	North	East	South
			2♣
pass	2♦	pass	2NT
pass	4NT	Pass	6NT
all pass			

West leads ♦10. What is the best play to make 12 tricks?

His memory took him back to the days when he played with Ben Nagy, Zolli Nagy's son. He recalls me telling Ben that Mark looked more manly than him, an insult Ben never forgot nor forgave .

I told Mark I've said a lot worse things to people.

TBIB Swiss Pairs

Match 6, Board 12, West deals, EW vulnerable

♠ 8 6		♠ K J 9 7 5 3													
♥ A 10 9 8 2		♥ Q 3													
♦ A Q J		♦ 10 8 3 2													
♣ Q 8 6		♣ 7													
	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<table border="0"> <tr> <td>♠ A 10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥ K J 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦ 9 7 5 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣ A 9 5 3</td> </tr> </table>	♠ A 10	♥ K J 5	♦ 9 7 5 4	♣ A 9 5 3
	N														
W		E													
	S														
♠ A 10															
♥ K J 5															
♦ 9 7 5 4															
♣ A 9 5 3															
		♠ Q 4 2													
		♥ 7 6 4													
		♦ K 6													
		♣ K J 10 4 2													

Nabil, at the helm in 3NT after the bidding had gone 1NT: 3NT, needing to bring in the heart suit.



Nabil Edgton



Phil Gallasch

Nabil won ♠A at trick one, noting Mark's ♠2. North was likely to hold the spade length on the play to the first trick, so he cashed ♥K at trick two and advanced ♥J. Phil Gallasch won ♥Q and laid down ♠K, on which Mark, South unblocked ♠Q. 3NT down two was -100, 10 IMPs to NS.

SOLUTION to *Tim Bourke's Test Your Play*

Suppose the full deal is:

♠ J 6
♥ J 7
♦ Q J 7 3
♣ A 9 8 7 6

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

♠ A K 5 4 3
♥ A Q 3
♦ A K
♣ Q J 10

What will happen if you win the first diamond trick and play ♣Q? When West covers this with ♣K, you will be unable to make 12 tricks.

Your best bet then is to win the trick with ♣A and then cross back to hand by cashing ♣Q and ♣J. Then after playing your ♦A, lead a low spade towards dummy's jack. Alas, East has ♠Q and as a result you will finish a number of tricks short of your contract.

The way to avoid this embarrassment when West has ♣K doubleton or third is to cash ♦A at trick two. Now when West covers ♣Q with ♣K you capture it with dummy's ♣A. Now you play ♦Q, ♦J, discarding the blocking ♣J and ♣10 from hand. 12 tricks are now certain: you take two spades, a heart, four diamonds and five clubs with the heart finesse in reserve for a possible overtrick.

If East has ♣K then you will need the heart finesse to win if you are to make a twelfth trick.

TBIB Swiss Pairs

Match 6, Board 11, South deals, nil vulnerable

♠ A 10 8
♥ A 9 5
♦ Q J 6 5 4
♣ J 9

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

♠ K J 5 4
♥ Q 7
♦ 10 8 3
♣ A K 8 7

West	North	East	South
Edgton	Gallasch	Mill	Jappe
			1♦ ¹
1♠	2♦	pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	all pass	

1. Precision, 11-15

This deal provides interesting points for both declarer play and defensive play. On a low heart lead, ♥Q wins, but with two diamond honours to knock out, it looks as if the defence will be ahead in the race to establish their suit before yours.

East is sure to have a singleton spade, so are there any other lines that will bring in nine tricks?



Juzz Howard



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4 Sunday, January 16

How would you defend?

Problem 5 solution

East deals, NS vulnerable

♠ A Q 5
♥ K 8 6 2
♦ A Q J 9 3
♣ Q

♠ 6
♥ 5
♦ 8 7 5 4
♣ K J 10 8 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
		4♣	pass
5♣	dbl ¹	pass	5♠
all pass			

1. Primarily for takeout

West leads ♣A. Which club would you play as East?

We must plan on cashing three spade tricks with the aid of the spade finesse, two heart tricks and four club tricks.

We have all the spots surrounding East's ♣Q10, and we need an entry back to dummy to cash the rest of the club suit after running ♣Q and ♣9, so ♠K needs to remain as an entry.

On defence, West needs to rise ♦A on a heart lead and continue hearts, conserving East's entry to the hearts. All this happened quickly in the match, with Nabil rising ♦A without hesitation when declarer played on diamonds.

After a full day's play, leaders in the **TBIB Swiss Pairs** are Matthew McManus—Michael Ware from Ben Thompson—Renee Cooper and Jim Wallis—Bill Nash.

The **Novice Pairs** was won by Margaret and Dave Havyatt from Jaynew Francis—Kate Ward and Marie Gin—Henry McMahan.

Blast from the past

Researching the history of play before the advent of electronic data storage is fraught with difficulty. Browsing through biographies of one of the greats of early 20th century Australian bridge, I came across the following deal, featuring Norman Mussen, a Melbourne institution in the 1930s and Ian McCance and Ailsa Tandy's famous mother Dorothy McCance.

“Unfortunately for such a great player, hardly any hands have been passed down to us. Les Parker recalled the following hand played in 1936 between Victor Champion's Kallara team and the McCance's Brompton team, perhaps the most spectacular hand ever played in Australia, possibly in the world, between two leading Teams-of-Four.”

Board 19, West deals, EW vulnerable

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

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

	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	
N					
W E					
S					

Table 1

West	North	East	South
<i>Champion</i>	<i>N Mussen</i>	<i>Oddie</i>	<i>McCance</i>
pass	1♥	2♠	4♥
4♠	5♥	5♠	6♥
pass	pass	6♠	pass
pass	7♥	dbl	all pass

Lead; ♦6, 13 tricks. Score to Mrs McCance +1330



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PLAYING BRIDGE TOGETHER

How would you defend?

Problem 5 solution

If you followed yesterday's Defensive Play Question, you should not have had any trouble with this one. The deal arose in the World Men's Elite Tour, held in Beijing in 2011.

<p>♠ A Q 5 ♥ K 8 6 2 ♦ A Q J 9 3 ♣ Q</p> <p>♠ J 10 8 ♥ A 10 9 7 ♦ K 10 ♣ A 6 4 2</p>	<p>♠ 6 ♥ 5 ♦ 8 7 5 4 ♣ K J 10 8 7 5 3</p> <p>♠ K 9 7 4 3 2 ♥ Q J 4 3 ♦ 6 2 ♣ 9</p>
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At both tables the auction was the one given. Both Wests led ♣A. One East played ♣K!, suit preference for hearts. West switched to ♥A and another heart. East ruffed and 5♠ was one down.

At the other table, East followed to trick 1 with ♣8, a strange card. East can see that the only hope to beat 5♠ is a heart ruff and so should play ♣K.

After long thought West continued with ♣2 and 5♠ made. With ♦K-10, West might also have judged, after one look at dummy, that there was no hope other than the heart ruff and played ♥A and another heart despite East's ♣8.

No doubt he was wondering why East had not played ♣K, a card which he surely had on the bidding and which would clearly ask for the heart switch.

Table 2

West	North	East	South
<i>E Mussen</i>	<i>Parker</i>	<i>Watson</i>	<i>Goldberg</i>
1♦	1♥	1♠	4♥
pass	pass	5♦	5♥
pass	pass	6♦	pass
pass	6♥	pass	pass
7♦	dbl	all pass	

all pass

Lead: ♥K. 13 tricks. Score to McCance Team +1970.


Total swing on the hand 3,300 points




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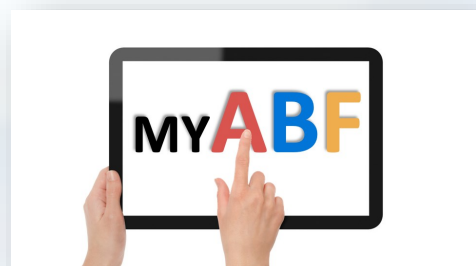


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Would You Bid (or wouldn't you?)

by Joan Butts

From the ABF Mixed Team Playoff, December 2022

You're first to bid. Do you pass or does your system have a bid for this hand?



What happened:

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



Example 3

Board 27, Set 2, quarter finals

South deals, nil vulnerable

♠ K
♥ J 2
♦ A K Q 9
♣ 9 7 6 4 3 2

You open 1♣, wondering whether this could be a hand to open 1♦ and distort your shape. West makes a weak jump overcall in hearts, partner bids a forcing 2♠, pass to you.

What the hell do you do now (I thought).

West	North	East	South
2♥	2♠	pass	1♣
			?

Your turn again...do you come into the auction now or stay out? After all you only have the minors, but you're at favourable vulnerability.

West	North	East	South
2♥	2♠	pass	1♣
pass	4NT	pass	3♣
6♣	all pass		5♦ ¹

1. 1 or 4 Key Cards

I was hating my 1♣ opening, let alone my rebid of 3♣, and certainly not relishing the final contract of 6♣! Until I saw dummy, that was...

The playoff results were:

4♠ (N) + 450
4♠ (N) + 450
6♣ (S) +920
3♠(N) +200

My view: Michael had such a marvellous hand, especially when I rebid 3♣ (as it turned out).

6♣ made easily with only one trump loser.

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At another table, East raised the heart preempt to 3♥, making it harder for South to find a bid. At two other tables, the spade game was played, and at one table, game was missed entirely.

What do you think?

Please send your opinion to me (Joan Butts) via the editor at sleksix@gmail.com



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