**61**<sup>ST</sup> International

# **2023 GOLD COAST**BRIDGE CONGRESS

**BULLETIN 4** 

**Monday 20 February** 



**Stephen Lester and Barry Rigal** 

**Stolen Focus: Why You can't Pay Attention** by Johann Hari does not contain any advice on bridge and yet it is essential reading. Isn't 'focus' and 'attention' vital for us bridge players? (Ron Klinger)

Copies available at Paul Lavings Book Stand

#### **Rookies Rule**

Mary and Jennie, back in 2023 to defend their Sunday Rookie Pairs title, had to be content with joint second place, after runaway winners, Stella Jansen and Daria Dalley, who had never played together before, snatched the title.

Stella was very excited to be playing with Daria, saying she had strong natural talent. Stella played in a Novice Pairs event I directed at Torquay Bridge Club on the Surf Coast, Victoria. Then she played with Jessamy del Papa, daughter of local identity and a driving force behind Ocean Grove Bridge Club, George del Papa. Ocean Grove is a coastal suburb situated on the beautiful Bellarine Peninsula.

The Torquay Novice Matchpoint Pairs saw a surprisingly large turnout of 12 tables, an encouraging sign in these uncertain times.

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**1634** 

1006 in 2022

Daria is Paul Dalley's wife, and obviously she has watched and learned from her illustrious husband.

I went to see how the two women looking to defend their Sunday Rookie Pairs title were going and watched the following deal:

Board 6, East deals, EW vulnerable

♠ Q J 10

**Y** A 10 9 2

♦ Q

**♣**KJ975

**★** A K 9 5

♥ Q

**\*** 863

♣ A Q 10 6 2

N W E **★**8432

**♥** J 4 3

♦ KJ 10 2

**♣** 4 3

**★** 7 6

**Y** K 8 7 6 5

A 9 7 5 4

**8** 

West opened 1♣ in third seat and Mary made an enterprising double with the North hand. East tried 1♠, Jennie bid 2♥, West 2♠, Mary 3♥, pass by East and Jennie bid 4♥!

West's bidding

West's 4♠ ended the bidding.

After this contentious auction, all that was missing was the final double. West was obviously worried that her 2 bid understated her hand (she took a while



to bid 2♠), but coming back in with 4♠ was asking for trouble, especially when East had passed the 3♥ bid.

Mary and Jennie made quick work of the defence. On ♣8 lead, East hopefully inserted ♣Q, won by Mary's king. She carefully came back a low club, ruffed by Jennie, who unerringly cashed ◆A and gave Mary a diamond ruff.

Mary cashed ♥A, followed by another club. Declarer, demoralised, threw a heart as Jennie ruffed, and after a second diamond ruff, 4♠ was four down, +400 and a 99% score.

When Dalia and Stella held the EW cards, West played 1♠ and scored +170 for a 99% score.

- 1. Stella Jansen Daria Dalley, 63.27%
- 2=. Pauline McEntee Julie Randall, 60.20%
- 2=. Jennie Tucker Mary Doneley







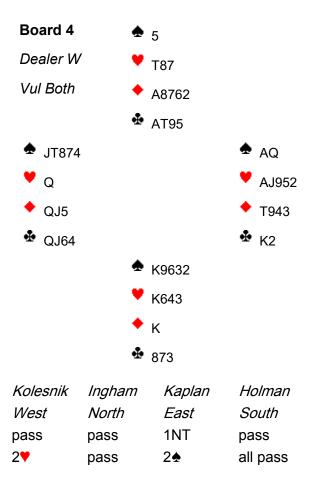
#### **Gold Coast Finals 3**

#### by Barry Rigal

The finals settled down into a three-horse race.

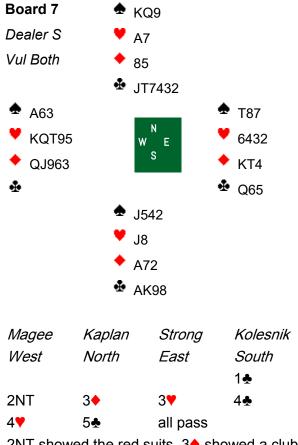
Adam Kaplan and Finn Kolesnik took an early lead in the third set, with GeO Tislevoll - Liam Milne and Adam Spooner - Phil Markey consistently about a top behind them.

The following deal did the leaders' chances no harm at all.



Purists may look on the 1NT opener with more than mild distaste, and I'm not saying I don't. But it got Kaplan to a fine spot, jeopardized by the series of foul breaks. South led ♣7 to North's ace and back came a club. Kaplan won to play ♠A then ♠Q, when it might have been better for South to duck. But he won and compounded that error by shifting to the ♥K. Kaplan won and deviously switched to a diamond – hoping south would win and play a second heart to try to tap the dummy. that was what happened. Kaplan pitched dummy's diamonds on the hearts and lost just the long spade to South for an impressive +140 and a 73% result.

Kaplan and Kolesnik did even better on the next round.



2NT showed the red suits, 3♦ showed a club limit raise or better, and the key to the successful auction was Kolesnik's competing to 4♣, which let Kaplan take the two way shot that either game might be making or close to that.

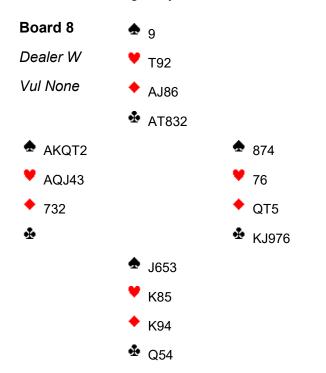
Against 4♥ the defenders need to get spades going to defeat the contract, but in 5♣ the defenders faced the dilemma that they could set up a slow heart winner or diamond winner but not both.

West led a top heart; declarer won and led a trump to hand, a spade to the queen, a club to the nine and a spade up.

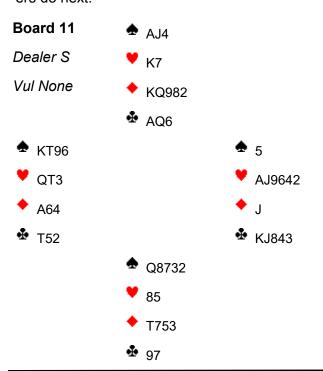
West won and cashed the heart then played a diamond. Declarer won and drew the trump, unblocked spades, then crossed back to the fourth trump to pitch the diamond on the established spade. That was a 92% board – but saving in 5♥ for 500 would have been little better for EW.

Michael Prescott was kicking himself here for his play in 4♠. I appreciate his generosity in telling me about it! You bid unopposed to 4♠ after

partner raises, and you conceal your hand by simply bidding game. On the welcome sight of the ▼10 lead, things get even better when your RHO contributes the king. Play on.



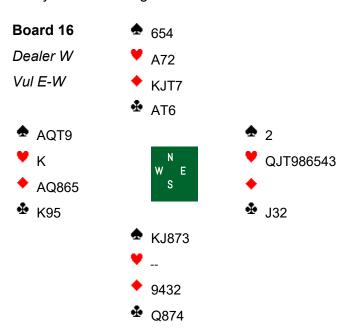
Prescott tested trumps then tried to run hearts pitching diamonds, but this was doomed to failure. Instead, after the first two rounds of trumps disclose the break, lead a diamond to the 10 and king. If the defenders shift to a club you can pitch a heart, or even ruff (but not pitch a diamond). You will eventually lead a diamond to dummy and take the spade finesse no matter what the defenders do next.



Adam Kaplan followed a remarkably restrained approach here, I thought. He opened 2NT (19-20) in third seat and when his LHO overcalled 3♥, that was passed back to him and he sold out. Dummy on the lead of ♣9 seemed remarkably healthy.

How would you defend? Kaplan gave it mature consideration but eventually ducked. Declarer won and crossed to the ◆A to run the trump ten, which held, then led a trump to the king and ace.

Next came a spade to the 10; that lost to the jack and Kaplan played a top diamond, ruffed. When declarer led the next club from hand, she had held herself to just 10 tricks – good for a 70% result for NS, since where North had opened at the one-level many had reached game with the EW cards.



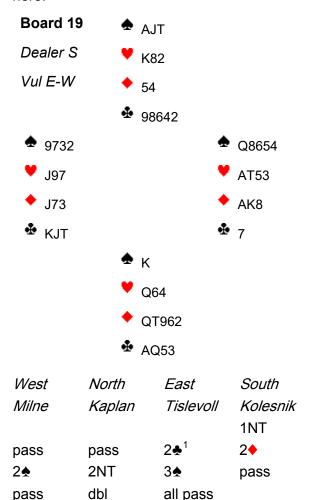
When the Fates deal you a nine-card suit, don't the other players at the table understand they HAVE to let you declare the hand? Liam Milne obviously wasn't clued in to this:

Markey	<i>GeO</i>	Spooner	Milne
West	North	East	South
1♣	dbl	4♥	4♠
dbl	all pass	3	

Markey no doubt fancied his chances on defence. He led the ♥K. Milne won, pitching the club seven and played a trump to the seven and two. Markey was very awkwardly placed now, and while a low diamond may be best, he tried a low club to the

jack and queen. After that, Milne lost just four spades and the ◆A for down 300. But even -500 was beating all the pairs defending 4♥ for -650.

Board 19 saw Kaplan - Kolesnik getting a rare zero – but both defenders had their chances here.



#### 1. Majors

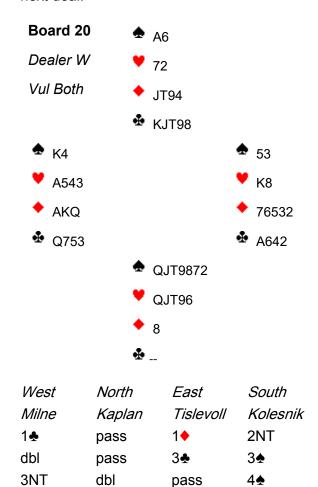
Kaplan led a diamond. Milne won and played a club to Kolesnik's ace. The easy way to set the contract is to find partner with the trump ace and a heart card.

Return a diamond and give partner the ruff and eventually you will manage +100. Kolesnik tried for something different when he led the ♠K at trick three. Now Kaplan could have gone for the extremely elegant line of overtaking the spade! A diamond shift then sets the hand as declarer cannot get to hand for the discard he needs.

When Kaplan played low on the spade, maybe the best defence is to lead the ◆Q to lock declarer in dummy, after which he must lose the setting

trick in one major or the other. In fact, Kolesnik played a heart, and now when the king lost to the ace, declarer could reach his hand in hearts to pitch the diamond on AK.

It was Liam Milne's turn in the hot seat on the next deal:



3NTx would have gone down a trick but Kolesnik hadn't come all the way to Australia to defend with a 7-5 hand.

all pass

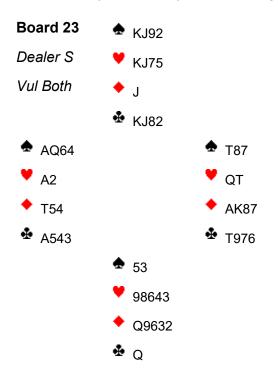
dbl

Milne led a top diamond and got count, then took considerable time determining what to do next. Eventually, he played a second diamond and a few seconds later the 2-2 trump break saw him collect -790. Only a low heart defeats the game, as the third heart leads to the defenders scoring a trump trick whatever declarer does. +790 was only a 65% result – the field found this defence too hard.

Only Michael Prescott and Marlene Watts found the way to defeat the game.

With two rounds to go first place met second when Kaplan - Kolesnik took on Markey - Spooner. The first of the three deals was a washout (Spooner - Markey declared 5♦ rather than 4♥ on a hand where some of the field missed game – both sides getting 50%).

The next board was the perfect example of Goldwater's Rule... you don't know what Goldwater's Rule is? If they lead out of turn, accept it! If they don't know enough to know it is their lead, they've probably led the wrong thing.



Adam Kaplan was East here, and after 1♣ - pass-1NT- all pass Markey led the heart five out of turn.

Worried that a spade lead would be more damaging if he barred the heart lead, Kaplan decided he wanted a heart lead – then to add insult to injury he made South lead the suit, not North!!

The defenders cleared hearts, and Kaplan led a low club from dummy. Markey went up with the king and cashed out the hearts, (West reducing to three spades, a diamond and three clubs, declarer to two spades, two diamonds and a club) letting Spooner shift to a spade. Kaplan played low from dummy and then gave up a club for down one. That was half a point below average for declarer.

Remarkably, on the third deal the two pairs fought it out to another dead average result when Markey - Spooner played the normal partscore. With one round to go Kaplan - Kolesnik were exactly one top ahead of two pairs, Markey - Spooner and Tislevoll - Milne.

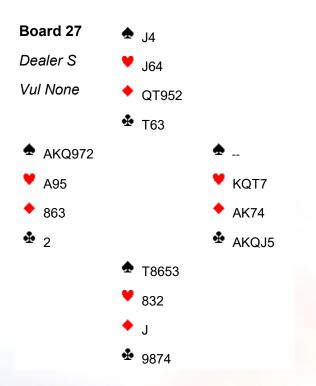
All three pairs would be sitting in the same compass direction (good for the trailing pairs).

All three EW pairs played a partscore at the two-level. Markey declared 2♥ and allowed himself to get forced for down 200, while Milne escaped for down one. Kaplan declared 2♠ on three rounds of trumps, and won in hand and led a club to the ten, then ran the ◆J. Watson won this and played a top heart. Kaplan ruffed, led a club to the king, a diamond to the ace, and cleared diamonds. The defenders could cash two hearts for down one, and a dead average. That put Tislevoll - Milne 10 matchpoints ahead of Markey - Spooner but still 28 MP behind the leaders.

Spooner opened the East hand a Multi 2♠. Neither of the other Easts did. At Spooner's table

North jumped to 4♥ at his first turn, a quiet one down. Where Kolesnik opened 1♣ Fordham overcalled 1♥, received a dubious raise from Watson and bid game: down one. Where Milne opened 1♣ as West, Alan Bailey doubled and then competed over 2♣ to 2♥. Jette Bailey elected to take the low road and passed for 140 and a 62% result. Each of the other two pairs had a tie for top – so with one deal to go the Americans had a lock on first place and the other two were fighting it out for the minor honours.





With 7NT an excellent spot Tislevoll - Milne didn't locate the key honours in the West hand and played 6NT.

Markey - Spooner made it look easy. After 1 - 2 ♣ Markey's jump to 3 - 2 showed a maximum hand not worth a strong opener (13-16) and six good spades. Key Card and an ask for the trump queen let spooner bid 7NT. Problem – what problem?

It was much harder for Kolesnik - Kaplan, but they bid: 1♠ - 2♠ - 2♠ - 2NT - 3♠ - 6NT...and Kolesnik took a little time but eventually decided he had enough to bid the grand slam, and offered a choice of contracts with a 7♥ bid. Kaplan bid 7NT of course, and after a spade lead he won pitching a diamond and tested clubs. When they broke he had 13 tricks. If they hadn't he would have been able to fall back on the hearts, but with so many double-squeeze threats he would have been heavy favourite to succeed. Only four pairs bid the grand slam.

This left Kaplan - Kolesnik well clear in the lead, with Markey - Spooner 10 MP in front of Tislevoll - Milne.

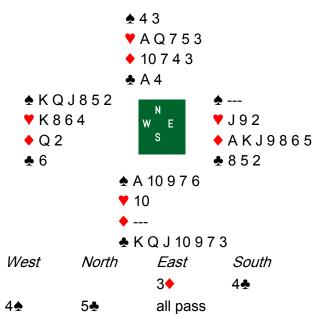


#### **Gold Coast Team 2013**

#### Pablo on the spot!

Pablo Lambardi gave me a great declarer play problem from the first day of the teams:

East deals, nil vulnerable



Any decent self-respecting West would lead ♠K and give you an easy task. Pablo was faced with the lead of ♠Q, overtaken by East and ruffed. Lambardi knew spades strongly rated to be 6-0; he had four spades to dispose of and no easy place to put them. He took the heart finesse and then cashed ♥A; one down, three to go!

He played a spade from dummy; East defended strongly by ruffing and returning a trump.

Lambardi now had a choice as to how to get rid of one of his two losing spades; if East had started



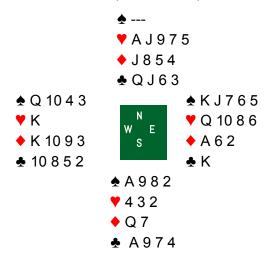
life with a doubleton club the play was easy, he could win the club ace and lead a spade to the ace and ruff a spade. But if East had three clubs he would discard when the second spade was led, then overruff dummy.

Lambardi decided correctly that East rated to be 0-3-7-3. How should he play now?

The answer is simple --when you think of it!

Lambardi won the club shift in hand and led a low spade. If West won he could not prevent declarer ruffing his remaining spade with ♣A, and if East ruffed in he would have no trump left to lead any more so declarer could take the ruff in peace and comfort.

Round 4 Board 24, West deals, nil vulnerable



At the two tables where I was watching both Easts played 4♠. Hoffman had opened the North cards, Weston had not (and Bourke did not double 4♠ either: she must have seen a few of these openings before!)

Both Souths led a low heart to the ace; what should North return? Weston played back a high club, Hoffman a low club, which looks like a better idea (notwithstanding the fact that Wilson still went down in 4♠).

At trick three Bourke returned her low club to the eight and jack, and declarer had to lose a diamond and a spade for down one; down one.

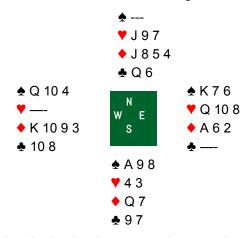
'Had to' you say? Let's shift to Del'Monte's table, where Ishmael was declaring 4♠ after this auction:

West	North	East	South
pass	1♥	1♠	2♥
2NT <sup>1</sup>	pass	4♠	all pass

#### 1. four card constructive raise.

The defenders led a heart to the king and ace and a low club back to the king and ace. You can forgive South for playing back ♣4, but maybe the nine is actually the best technical play, in case the suit looks like this.

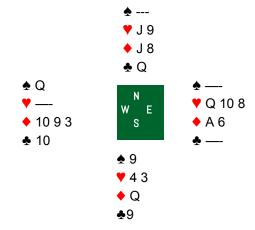
When Del'Monte received the low club continuation he found the pressure play of ducking in dummy. North put up the jack, and Del'Monte ruffed, and led the spade jack, ducked all round. This was the ending:



Now look what happens when another trump is led. If South ducks, declarer wins in dummy, cashes the diamond king and ace and ♥Q, then cross-ruffs clubs and hearts and scores the last trump in dummy en passant, with the diamond and spade winner falling together.

So South won the second spade and played a third spade, won in dummy leaving North to find two discards. One diamond was easy but what would the next discard be?

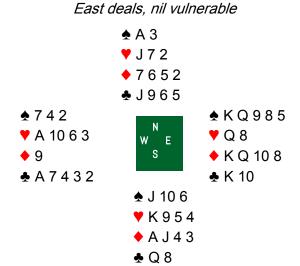
A heart might look safe but declarer ruffs another club, goes to the diamond king, and has an extremely unusual triple squeeze for two tricks as the spade queen is led.



Declarer has only three winners but North cannot pitch either red suit without conceding two tricks and a club simply allows declarer to cash the last club and repeat the squeeze.

For the record, South needed to shift to trumps (or a somewhat unlikely  $\mathbf{Q}$ !) at trick three to break up the position.

The seeding book ran spectacularly true to form as the six qualifying teams for the 'round of eight' (teams 1 and 2 get byes to the semi-finals) were all from the original eight top seeds.



This was submitted by Sue Lusk. It demonstrated nice technique by her brother Bruce Neill in the second last round of the Teams Qualifying.

East declared 4♠ on the ♠J lead, which seems to be helpful for declarer. North won the ♠A and noting the singleton diamond in dummy, continued with spades.

It seems that declarer could try and cross to dummy and play a diamond to the ten and hope for something good in either diamonds (\*J doubleton

or tripleton in the North hand) or the less than likely chance that the defence would not be able to play a third trump.

Declarer however had a seemingly better plan. He played K, a club to the ace and a club ruff. It was at this point that Neill found the best defence by not accepting the 'Greek gift" of an over-ruff but simply discarding a heart – a diamond would have been fatal.

This left East without recourse, as a diamond play would allow the defence to cash the third trump leaving declarer with one spade loser one heart loser and two diamond losers.

By overruffing, you endplay yourself to lead hearts or diamonds both of which give declarer a trick. Declarer will allow a heart switch by South to run around to his queen while an overruff and diamond shift will allow declarer to score two diamond tricks a diamond ruff and pitch his losing heart on the long club which will be established by ruffing another club in hand.

#### **Teams Quarter-finals**

With one deal to go in the quarter-finals Burke were 1 IMP in front of Tan, while Cornell had booked their place comfortably. This was that last deal:

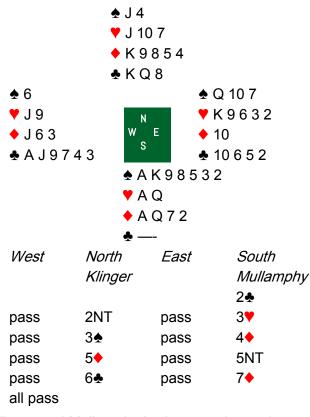
East deals, nil vulnerable 98543 AQ6432 **♣** J 9 **♦** J 7 6 **A** K Q **Y** J 9 **Y** K 7 5 Ε 109742 ♦ A Q 8 ♣ Q 6 4 ♣ A K 10 7 **★** 10 2 **7** 10 8 KJ653 ♣ 8 5 3 2 East West North South **1 Pass** dbl pass 2 2 pass pass 3 pass 3 pass 3♠ 5 all pass pass

We would all admire Peake's restraint in not doubling 5♦ if it had made...but it would certainly appear Peake was playing his partner for a hand of this strength when he passed out 5♦, don't you think? Not to worry, with 3NT taking 10 tricks in the other room, the failure to double cost only an IMP. Burke had won by 11 IMPs, and would face McGann in the semi-finals, with Travis playing Cornell.

McGann had their way with Burke, the latter conceding after three sets when trailing 103-26 IMPs.

Cornell came back strongly to trail by only one going into the fourth set.

Open Teams Semi Set 4
Board 19, South deals, EW vulnerable



Klinger and Mullamphy had a smooth auction to the grand slam. There was nothing to the play with spades breaking 3-1. That was + 1440.

At the other table, Appleton and Reynolds didn't get past game:

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

Plus 480 cost the team 14 IMPs and the match out of reach at 100-74 IMPs. Had they pushed the board to keep the margin the same at 86-74, Travis would have won based on the result of the final deal, in which 6♣ vulnerable by North was allowed to make (the lead of ♠A would have defeated it) while the contract at the other table was 5♣ making.

That would have produced a 13 IMP swing for Travis (plus 1370 compared to minus 600), enough for a 1 IMP victory.

In the finals Cornell leapt out to an early lead but had their share of good fortune when this deal came up.

South deals, EW vulnerable **★**843 **♥** K J 8 **♦** 742 ♣ J 10 9 7 **♠** A 10 2 **♦** K 9 N **Y** A 9 7 **Y** Q 10 8 6 s ♦ A K 5 3 ◆ Q 7 ♣ K Q 6 ♣ A 8 5 4 3 ♠ QJ765 **7** 5 3 ♦ J 10 9 8 **4** 2 West North East South 2♠ dbl 3♠ pass pass 4NT pass 5♣ pass 5♠ **6** all pass pass

Clearly Cornell—Bach did not know precisely what was going on, but to land in 6♣ would have been both pardonable and unlucky. To land in 6♥ by contrast....on a club lead declarer played the heart ace and another heart, and Dyke saw his partner follow up the line in trumps.

Was that suit preference or denying an interest in a ruff? Dyke could simply have played a second club to find out but led a third heart instead (which might have been right if declarer had five trumps?). As it was declarer won and cashed his heart and club winners and squeezed South in diamonds and spades. That 13 IMPs made it

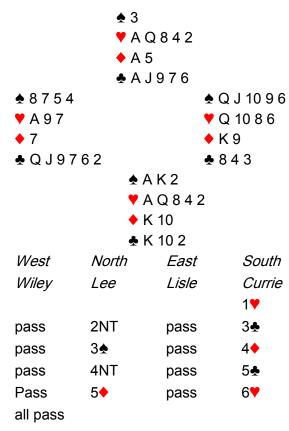
70 -16 IMPs instead of 57-29 IMPs and the match seemed to be getting away from McGann.

They came back strongly in the second set to make it 72—40 IMPs.

The winners of the intermediate teams were Lee, Alan Currie, Patrick Bugler and Yolanda Carter. Lisle's teammates were partner Vicky Wiley, Lee Weldon and Biljana Novakovic.

The most interesting deal:

Board 3, South deals, EW vulnerable



The auction from the other table was not available, but the contract was the same − 6♥ by South. The play record indicates the opening lead was a club, solving that suit for declarer. The trump finesse was off, but the result was + 980 for the Lisle team.

Against Alan Currie, the opening lead was ♠Q. Currie won the ♠A, played the ♥J from dummy, going up with his ace. He then played the ♠A and a diamond to the king, followed by the ♠K and a spade ruff. He exited with a heart and claimed, not caring which opponent won the trick. No matter whether it was East or West, that person would have to play a club.

#### **2023** Bridge Companions Programme

Hello and a huge welcome back to our 2023 Bridge Companions programme

We look forward to meeting you all – having a little fun – and visiting spots along our famous Gold Coast. Below, please find the organised activities for the week. Here's to a fun week, Sue, and Lana

Location	Dates		Meeting	Depart	Costs
	Tuesday 21st	Get together for Non-Bridge Partners	Apartment 3005 Air on Broadbeach	09:45am- 10:30am	
	Tuesday 21st Curtis Falls https://www.aussiebushwalking.com/qld/se-qld/tamborine- https://witcheschasecheese.com/our-story/	The Curtis Falls track at Mt Tamborine National Park is a lush waterfall hike that is easily accessible and features arguably the most beautiful waterfall in the area. Lunch at Witches Chase Cheese	Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach	Leave 10:30 am Bus to be back by 17:00 latest	\$25 bus, Lunch at own cost. The owner will put a cheese board menu together for us in the new year.
	Wednesday 22nd David Fleay Wildlife Park https://www.npsr.qld.gov.au/parks/david-fleay/	David Fleay Wildlife Park is a wildlife park with a difference! You can stroll through natural habitats and visit a nocturnal house to see some of Australia's most iconic wildlife. You will meet crocodiles, koalas, emus, brolgas, dingoes, dunnarts, bilbies, and kangaroos, as well as platypus	Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach	10:45am - 4:30pm.	\$15 bus, Adult \$26.15 Senior \$17.20
	Thursday 23rd Burleigh Heads National Park. Walking trails. Map below https://parks.des.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0017/162 512/burleigh-head-webmap.pdf The Paddock bakery for tea/lunch https://www.paddockbakery.com/	Burleigh Heads National Park offers perfect views of the Gold Coast City skyline, access to remote beaches and creeks, native rainforest, and several unique viewpoints. Please see map for different trails  Paddock Bakery  Delicious food, with great atmosphere, set in an old weatherboard home with a leafy garden. Renowned for their award-winning breakfasts, lunches, and delicious treats such as the crème brulee donut.	Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach	10.45am - 4:30pm Approx.	\$15 bus Lunches at own expense.

Cha	lay 24th Impagne and Nibbles		where you will receive a 10% discount on certain items.	Meeting at In- Her Shoes Oasis Shopping Centre, 8.15am		No cost
	24th iaduck s://www.aquaduck.com.au/gold-coast-river-crui	ise <u>/</u>	Surfers Paradise on Cavill Avenue. From	Ground Floor Air on Broadbeach	Bus leaves at 11:30am for a tour start time of 12:15pm	\$10 for bus Lunch at own expense \$36.55 (RPP \$43)
	er Options Harbour Town		Visits are also available to Harbour Town, one of Australia's largest outlet shopping centres with over 240 stores, as well as providing alfresco dining.  Harbour Town have their own shuttle buses to and from the Convention Centre at 9.15am & 10.30am, returning 2pm & 5pm.  VIP invitations to Harbour Town are available at the get together at apartment 3005, Air on Broadbeach.			
	Point Observation Deck s://www.skypoint.com.au/		SkyPoint Observation Deck offers panoramic views of the Gold Coast, 230m above sea level, located atop the iconic Q1 building in Surfers Paradise. SkyPoint's unique vantage point lets you take in the entire city from the 77 floor.			\$29 pp one time entry
Any expressions of interest or pre-bookings wou very welcome.	Contacts: Sue (m) 0424 830158 Lana (m) 0481187578 lan (m) 0417194347	gcchospitality@qldbrid	ge.com.au	Bridge Compa Bridge Compa Golf Only		

#### Additional Prizes - collect from Office

Best Womens pair in the Bobby Richman Open - Pamela Nisbet - Jan Cormack

Best Queensland pair in the Bobby Richman Open – Terry Strong and Jill Magee

Best Queensland pair in the Bobby Richman Intermediate - John Churchett -Trevor Henderson

Best Queensland pair in the Bobby Richman Restricted - Jenny McGowan - Vanessa Brewis

Best Queensland pair in the Bobby Richman Novice - Zac Ross - Kate Macdonald

Note: we give prizes to first, second and third in all sections in the finals of the Bobby Richman Pairs



Zac Ross & Kate Macdonald, 1st Novice Pairs A





#### **AVAILABLE FROM OUR STALL**

#### **CLASSIC BOOKS REDUCED TO \$12 EACH**

#### Larry Cohen's Bidding Challenge

Practise bidding with your partner with tear out strips of hands to bid. Then read all about the hands.

#### Following the Law by Larry Cohen

The sequel to the best-selling 'To Bid or Not to Bid'. Invaluable.

## The Bridge Magicians by Horton & Kielbasinski

Profiles, photos, stories and hands from the Polish stars.

#### Breaking the Bridge Rules by Barry Rigal

How do you play AK32 opposite 10876? If you had read Barry's book as I had, you would lead the 10. The only case that matters is when your RHO has bare 9. Instructive and informative.

Helgemo's World of Bridge by Geo Tislevoll Lots of photos, lots of stories, lots of hands about the young star (from 2000).



Paul & Sa Smith, 2nd Novice Pairs A

#### **61st Gold Coast Congress**

# Question 4 What do you do? by Ron Klinger

South deals, nil vulnerable



		East
N W E	♠	5 4
W E	<b>Y</b>	K 9 8 5
	•	Q 10 6 5 3
	<b>♣</b>	9 7
louth	Coot	Couth

West	North	East	South
			1♣
pass	1♥	pass	2♣
pass	2 (1)	pass	2♠ (2)
pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
all pass			

- (1) Artificial, game-forcing
- (2) Shows values in spades

West leads ◆K. From A-K doubleton, partner would lead ace-then-king. If partner has ◆A as well as ◆K, partner will have at least three diamonds.

Your agreements are high-encourage, low discourage. Which card would you play as East? Solution overleaf

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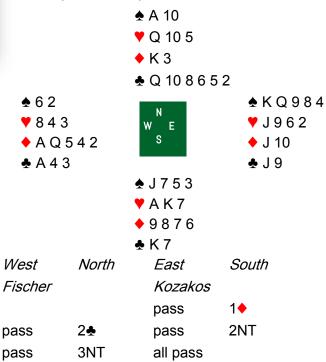
with Ron Klinger

5 Bridge Questions (bidding, leads, declarer play, defence) and their solutions per week. By subscription. For details, please go to the <a href="https://www.ronklingerbridge.com">www.ronklingerbridge.com</a> website.

#### Hoodwinked

#### by George Kozakos

Final 2, Bobby Richman Pairs Board 10, East deals, all vulnerable



Stephen Fischer led ◆4 to the king, jack and six.

Declarer led a club to the king and Stephen ducked smoothly! At the next trick a club was played to the 10 and my jack.

I cashed ◆10 and played ♠K, and we took three more diamonds and a spade when Stephen was in with ♣A for down three.

#### **And Dave Wilshire reported:**

As South I played 2NT after an unopposed auction when my partner opened in fourth seat: 1♣-1♠:
2♣ - 2NT. I won the diamond lead in dummy as
East contributed the jack, then led a club to the king. When it held I played one back to the ten.
East took his jack and shifted to a top spade.
When I won and cleared clubs the defenders could cash out for two down.

In retrospect I was kicking myself for two reasons. First it was Ron Klinger to his left, who was clearly good enough to duck, and Matt Mullamphy might well have risen with the club ace from ace doubleton to protect his partner's entry and set up diamonds. still – all credit to the Old Master!

#### **Solution to Question 4** What do you do? Come on

Playing high-encourage, East signalled 'I like it' with ◆10 on West's lead of ◆K. West continued with ♦A, followed by ♦J. Suddenly ♦10 at trick 1 had created a problem at trick 3. Did West begin with three diamonds or with four?

The deal arose in the final of the 1996 USA selection tournament to choose its Women's Team for the World Championships in Rhodes. The deal was reported by the late Dick Cummings in October, 1996. Cummings: 'Should East overtake the jack (correct if partner started with three diamonds) or let it win (correct opposite A-K-J-9)?'

After some anguish, East decided to overtake ♦J. This was the complete deal:

South deals, nil vulnerable

- **A** A Q 2
- ♥AQJ764
- 8 4
- ♣ 3 2
- 109863
- **7** 10 2
- ♦ A K J
- ♣ J 10 6
- **♦** 54
- K985

Q 10653

- ◆ 9 7
- ♠KJ7
- **7** 3
- 972
- **♣** AKQ854

East had made the right decision. She cashed two more diamonds to take 3NT one down.

Cummings: 'In my partnership, ♦6 would be the recommended come-on signal at trick one.'

Of course, there is no problem at all if the partnership plays low-like, high-hate. East would then signal with ◆3 to encourage a diamond continuation.

USA (Gail Greenberg - Lynn Deas, Juanita Chambers - Shawn Quinn, Irina Levitina - Jill Blanchard who is Greenberg's daughter) went on to win the Women's Teams in Rhodes.



Sue Hunt & Sue Skarupsky, 1st Bobby Richman Restricted C



Margaret Wayland & Mark Schwartz



Bruce Tier - Ian Price, 1st Bobby Richman Pairs C

#### **61st Gold Coast Congress**

#### La Cormack

Jan Cormack has been a force in women's bridge – both in New Zealand and Australia - since the early 1970s.

Taken under her wing by Eileen Taylor, at the time the most experienced and successful women's player in Auckland, NZ, Jan was soon the grande dame herself. Eileen had so much confidence in Jan's innate ability that she pushed her into representing her country when most of her peers were still rookies.

Jan is a natural card player, and her instincts are second to none. She has evolved from an Acol player in the 70s through to a Standard or Two Over One player today, and never forgets any of the gadgets she has in her toolbox.

A famous Jan story centres around a hand she bid with the late Margaret Tapper, one of Jan's dear friends. Jan had taught Margi the 'Big Club', as written by Howard Schenken. The system included the notorious 2. Demand bid, by which a pair could discover controls right down to a queen in a particular suit. Jan had Margi sweating, fearful of making the wrong response, as the final series of asking bids (I think Margi had shown •Q) culminated in a confident 7. bid. One of the opponents, holding ace-king values in the suits not of relevance to Jan, doubled, and she triumphantly redoubled. Of course the contract was cold.

Jan could succeed at anything she put her hand to: she was a thespian early in life (famous daughter Danielle, talented stage and screen actress probably owes her talent to her mother). She played tennis to a high standard, she has a mellow and attractive voice that has treated bridge players at the Surfers Congress to many a song (or haka), she makes the best Caesar Salad on the planet, and has kept age and infirmity at bay.

Her bridge career has mainly focussed on women's bridge, both in WBF and Asia Pacific Bridge Federation events since 1977. Her first appearance was in Manila, but after that she played (or



was npc) almost every year up until 2013 (my rough calculation is either 39 or 40 outings. She also played for Australia when she lived here, representing her new country with Melbourne legend the late Carole Rothfield.

Nowadays Jan enjoys a more sedate lifestyle, walking her little bichon frise and entertaining in her beautiful city home in Auckland. Jan has written for magazines, NZ Bridge as well as donating the Cormack Cup for the best women's teams at the NZ National Congress.

She was sixth in the Bobby Richman A section, winning the Best Women's Pair category with fellow Kiwi Pam Nisbet.

Jan is a loyal and loving friend, and I miss seeing her every day.

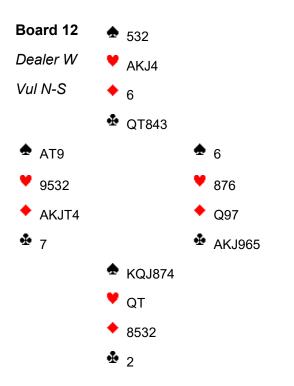


#### Gold Coast 2023

#### Finals 2

Triumph and disaster are never far apart at the bridge table.

Put yourself in Andre Korenhof's position as declarer in an enterprising 5♦ contract – and yes you would rather be in 3NT?



Korenhof	Bird	v d Vlugt	Hunt
1♦	pass	2♣	pass
2♦	pass	3♦	pass
3♠	pass	5♦	all pass

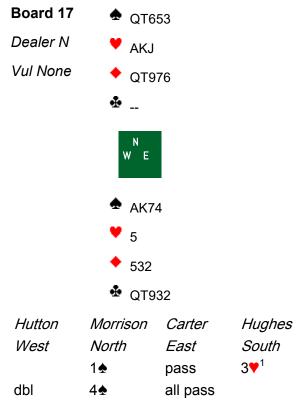
Once Maurits van der Vlugt forced to game it was going to be hard to get to 3NT. Korenhof did not want to probe with 3♥ over 3♦ since short hearts was the last thing he wanted to find (with 3NT going down and 6♦ playable). The opening lead was ♥A and the reverse attitude ten was unreadable.

North shifted to a spade and declarer had a reprieve. With his heart in his mouth, he finessed the club jack! Success! Now all he needed was either clubs or diamonds to break. When he played the top club and South ruffed in, he was back to two down and there was no joy in Muddville.

I sat behind Kim Morrison and noted another example of how sometimes the euphoria of some-

thing good having happened can lead to your taking your eye off the ball.

Consider just the NS cards here. You are playing 4♠ as North:



#### 1. Three-card limit raise

You play 4♠ on the disappointing lead of ♠A.

Your opponents play upside down carding and

West contributes the eight, you the nine. Slightly
surprisingly, that seems enough to persuade East
to shift - to the ♥6. You aren't complaining: plan
the play.

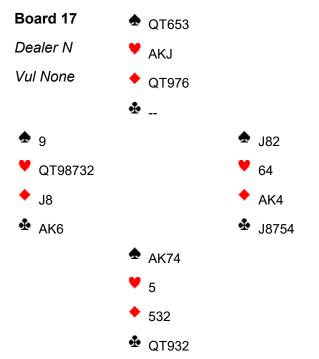
At the table Morrison did what most of us would have done, I'm sure. He tried to cash three hearts to pitch all of dummy's diamonds. East ruffed in so Morrison overruffed and drew trumps then led the •Q and gave up a diamond.

I wonder whether the combination of the shift to the ♥6 and the double on queen-high suit might have persuaded Morrison that hearts were 7-2.

Draw the trumps first with the ace and king. if they split, come to hand with a club ruff and take your discards, then ruff out the diamonds. When they do not, come to the ♠Q and take the discards then run the ♠Q. Because ♠J falls you only need

one ruff and can take the second overtrick (worth a third of a board). As declarer you KNOW the opening leader doesn't have the doubleton AK or he would play for a ruff, and he must have the four else West's ◆8 makes no sense.

So either diamonds are 4-1, when you will need to draw trump to prevent an overruff or the jack is falling when you only need one ruff and can thus afford to draw trumps.

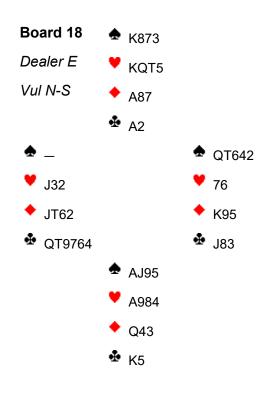


The following deal proves that bridge players know nothing. They can never tell whether they've done the right thing or the wrong thing until it's too late.

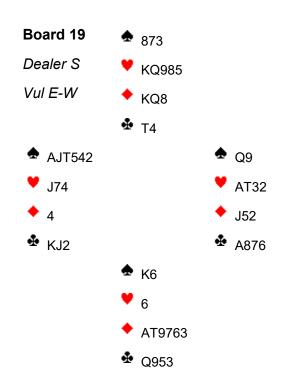
Put yourself in Kim Morrison's shoes.

You hold **★**K873, **∀**KQ105, **♦**A87, **♣**A2

You hear partner open a nebulous 1♣ in second seat and you transfer to hearts. After a 1♠ overcall partner bids 2♥ and you suddenly realize your stupid transfer methods have got hearts played the wrong way up, with a lead coming through your king. There is nothing you can do. You bid 4♥ and morosely wait to put dummy down. But...wonders will never cease as this is the full deal:



It was Chris Hughes' chance to shine when Tony Hutton led ◆J. To avoid the spade ruff he rose with the ◆A, drew trump and took the double spade finesse and diamond finesse to come to 12 tricks. 4♥ the other way up is held to no more than 11 after a spade lead and might do worse.



Sometimes your best efforts seem fated to leave you with egg all over your face. Liam Milne found himself in 4♠ on the lead of ♠K and a low diamond to the ace.

Milne	Peake	Tislevoll	Mundell
West	North	East	South
			3♦
3♠	4♦	4♠	all pass

Milne ruffed the second trick and had a pretty good idea that with all the diamonds to his right, almost all the finesses were losing. With the spade finesse sure to lose, why bother to take it? So Milne smartly led a low spade to the queen...and king.

Ugh! Back came a third diamond and Milne ruffed high as North followed with the ♦Q, drew a second trump and led a low heart from the board to the jack and king. Peake returned a heart and Milne put in the ten, Mundell pitching a diamond.

Now North was known to be 3-5-3-2, and all declarer had to do was find the ♣Q. The simple line is to finesse, draw trumps and claim. The alternative approach is to cross to ♣K, draw trumps, and eventually lead a club to the ace, dropping the queen from North.

Milne took his time – after all, anyone can take a finesse. In the end, though, he settled for the mundane line and wrapped up his 620 for a 73% result.



Kim Morrison



#### **Solution to Deep Finesse Problem 3**

- **A** A 7 3 **Y** A K Q ♦ A Q 7 3 ♣ A 6 3
- **Q96 7** 10 8 4
- **♦** J 4
- ♣ KQJ102
  - **7** 7 3 2
  - **108**
  - ◆ 985

- **♦** J 8
- ♥J965
- ♦ K 9 6 5 2
- **♣** 7 2
- **★** K 10 5 4 2

South declares 4♠. Try it on the ♠K lead.

To make 4♠ South must first duck the club and win the second. Losers appear to be a spade, a diamond, and two clubs. Take A, ◆A-K-Q, ♠K, and lead ◆8. West cannot afford ♦J, so East wins ♦9 and must concede the 10<sup>th</sup> trick.



Finn & Kevin

#### What would you do?

#### by Ron Klinger

An indiscretion



#### **Question 1**

West deals, NS vulnerable

West	North	East	South
2♠ (1)	pass	4♠	4NT (2)
nass	2		

- (1). Weak two
- (2). Freak two-suiter
  What would you do as North with:

**♠**Q53, ♥9876, **♦**AK76, **♣**K8

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Debbie Carroll & Jacinta Lee, 1st Bobby Richman Pairs Novice B

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Jenny McGowan & Vanessa Brewis, 1st Bobby Richman Pairs Restricted A

#### What would you do? by Ron Klinger

#### **Pessimist or optimist?**

#### **Solution to Question 2**

The deal arose in the final of the 2013 Gold Coast Teams:

West deals, NS vulnerable

- ♠ Q 5 3
- **9**876
- A K 7 6
- **♣** K 8
- **A** 9 8 6 4 2
- **7** 5 3 2
- **1**0
- **♣** 10 7 2

- **★** K J 10 7
- **♥** K
- ♦ J98543
- **♣** A 3
- **♠** ----
- ♥ A Q J 10 4
- ♦ Q 2
- ♣ QJ9654

North has a great hand as North might have had almost nothing. As South is prepared to play at the five-level opposite a possibly useless hand, North is far too good to settle just for game.

At one table, North bid 5NT! (two places to play), double by East, 6♣ by South, 6♦ North, 6

▼ South, all pass.

Declarer made 12 tricks, +1430.

At the other table West opened 2♦ multi, East bid 2♥, pass or correct, then 3♣ by South, 3NT North, 4♥ South, 5♥ North, all pass, 13 IMPs away.

It is true that ♥K could have been offside and that 6♥ might have failed, but on the bidding East was more likely to have ♥K. Pessimists are unlucky, optimists are lucky. For both, ♥K should be with East.

#### **Followers of Fashion**













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Tuesday 21st 1.30-2.15pm Andy Hung The Art of Bidding with Bad Hands

Ever pick up a near-yarborough hand and find yourself yawning? I hope not, as you can sometimes get creative! Andy will give you the expert insight of when to bid with them, and when to pass.

**Andy Hung** is a professional bridge player and teacher who has represented Australia Open competitions. He has won several Australian National titles and placed third in two

previous US Nationals. When he's not competing in tournaments, you will find him teaching at the WABC in Perth, or running bridge holidays in Australia, or overseas - contact him for his holidays this year!

Wednesday 22nd 9.00am – 9.45am Paul Marston Fit matters – do not hide your minors



l will do my best to convince you about one convention you should play, and one you should avoid.

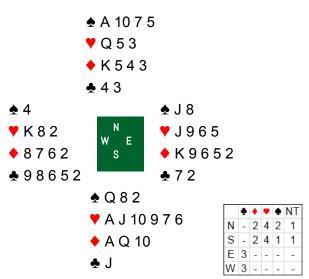
**Paul Marston** has won more than 50 open national titles and his books have sold more than 500,000 copies.





There are many great problems if you care to go over the hand records when you play, often via the deep finesse analysis box.

#### **Deep Finesse Problem 4**



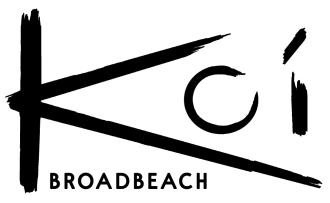
South plays 4♥, and must lose a spade, a heart and a club. But on ♠4 lead there is also a ruff. How does South cope?

Answer tomorrow in bulletin 4.

To go to Paul Lavings website with thousands of books not only on bridge, click <u>here</u>.

For giftware with postage capped at \$9, click here.



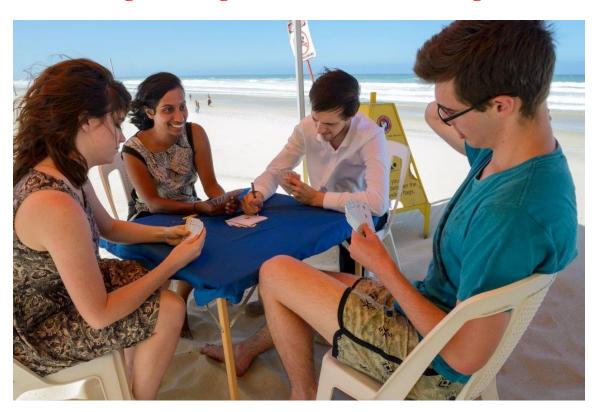








### Youth Bridge Fun Night at the Gold Coast Congress



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Date: Wednesday 22 February 2022.

*Time*: 7 pm (food), 7.30 pm to 9:30 pm (bridge). Note this is after the congress bridge has finished for that day.

Venue: Gold Coast Bridge Club (1.2 km, or 15 minutes' walk, north of the GC Convention Centre).

Format: Some standard bridge, some "party game" bridge

Age Limit: Youth & youth-ish players (up to 35 years) are welcome.

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Mention the Bridge Festival when booking because rooms are limited. Email: desertpalms@desertpalms.com.au PH: 08 89525977 Email: reservations@crowneplazaalicesprings.com.au or PH: (08) 89507777

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**Enquiries to the Tournament Organiser: Eileen Boocock** Ph: (08) 89524061 Mob: 0409 677 356 tgbf@abf.com.au