

2023 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Bulletin 12

Friday 21 July

BUTLER RESULTS

OPEN WINNERS

Chris Depasquale - Michael Courtney





Second Phil Markey- Lauren Travis



Third Liam Milne - James Coutts

	<i>Pair</i>	<i>Names</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>MPs</i>
1	<u>11</u>	<u>Chris DEPASQUALE - Michael COURTNEY</u>	11.32	238.37	59.48
2	<u>2</u>	<u>Lauren TRAVIS - Philip MARKEY</u>	14.29	232.47	46.32
3	<u>7</u>	<u>Liam MILNE - James COUTTS</u>	6.37	230.40	37.30

MIXED WINNERS

Jonathan Free - Mimi Packer





Second Stephen Fischer - Marianne Bookallil Third George Kozakos- Elizabeth Havas

Rank	Pair	Names	Score	Total	MPs
1	<u>6</u>	<u>Jonathan FREE - Mimi PACKER</u>	16.60	125.51	24.36
2	<u>10</u>	<u>Marianne BOOKALLIL - Stephen FISCHER</u>	8.35	112.01	18.46
3	<u>4</u>	<u>Elizabeth HAVAS - George KOZAKOS</u>	3.40	103.53	13.26

Congratulations to all place getters.

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One of the most interesting things about bridge is how different hands/boards can be viewed so differently by players. With the technology available these days every hand, every result and often every lead is stored somewhere in the cloud. One of the better ways to improve your game is to have a look at the results and see how different players reached successful making contracts when perhaps you didn't. I don't know any well respected ranked player in WA who wouldn't be happy to share their experience.

Today's hand comes from the 25 table two day Swiss Pairs at the recent WABC Super Congress. Twenty five tables managed to produce 14 different results ranging from 6C (+1370) to 5Dx (-500) with a total IMP difference of 28; plus 15 to -13. Nine contracts were played by N/S and the remainder inexplicably played by E/W. If you were sitting N/S on this board and you were defending then you need to get your bidding boots re-soled perhaps even replaced.

DEALER:	♠ J107	
NORTH. VUL:	♥ 98	
NORTH-	♦ A2.	
SOUTH.	♣ AQ7543	

♠ AQ654 ♥ 1076 ♦ KQ95 ♣ 8	N W E S	♠ K9832. ♥ J543 ♦ 7 ♣ 1092
	♠ VOID ♥ AKQ2. ♦ J108643 ♣ KJ10	

Let us examine some bidding and hand evaluation options before looking at how you should really do it. Firstly north, do you open the bidding? In two words yes and yes; seriously if you are not opening this hand then off to the cobbler for you. You have a good suit and a perfectly sound rebid, if you don't open this hand then your next bid may well be at the 5 level. As a number of E/W pairs were allowed to play in spades I suspect north passed east opened a weak 2S, south doubled and west very happily bids 4S. Now north will never recover from their timid, "I only had 11 points partner", pass.

Does east have a really aggressive 2S over north's 1C? I suspect no, the vulnerability is right but really it's anti-percentage to be bidding here. Nevertheless, should choose to then fine, nobody could accuse you of being a shrinking violet. West however, over south's likely 1D response, certainly has spade overall. Hopefully east will have the 4S card on the table at the next opportunity.

One of the skills of the game is to recognise problems partner may have and help solve them. Given in many systems north's 1C could be anywhere between 1 and 4 clubs it is imperative that north bids again even if west is interfering. No need to go stupid but rebidding clubs at the cheapest level over west's interference is vital. Certainly the interference makes slam a far more difficult proposition; another reason you should bid when it's your turn. However, the interference should not prevent N/S reaching a good solid 5C.

Only two pairs managed to reach 6C; one with a very elegant auction. Viv Wood and Kim Morrison started with a 1C opening and a 1S response from south. Kim and Viv are playing transfer responses to 1C so 1S showed diamonds or a balanced 6-9. I like a double now from west but Viv and Kim had no interference. 2C from north showing 5+ clubs and not keen on playing 1NT. Now Viv comes to life with 2H reversing with hearts and diamonds; 3C from Kim and now 4S from Viv. This jump bid is Exclusion Keycard that asks for keycards outside of spades. This is a fairly advanced convention which should probably not be used by inexperienced pairs and certainly not by children at home. On hearing two and the queen Viv had no problem finding 6C. Well done.

Fiske Warren and Kaiping Chen started the auction the same way but west did find the double. Fiske now made what he and I think is the key bid, 2C; showing 5/6+. This is critical even with a minimum hand. East upped the ante with 4S. Kaiping, who has never be accused of under bidding tried 4NT, keycard in clubs. Satisfied the two plus the queen response didn't include the spade ace he bid a percentage 6C. Well done also.

Now to the other results; seven pairs reached 5C with just six of those pairs gaining 8 IMP by making, oops. There were a few 4C contracts along with some less than successful red suit contracts. Four very lucky E/W pairs got to play spade contracts. How does south, with this monster hand, let this happen? I suspect partner didn't open; remember bridge is a bidders' game; when it's your turn to bid – bid.

Many thanks to all who attended our ANC you made it a great event for the West. See you

all next year in **ORANGE!**



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