## NOT final B THOMPSON vs. ASHTON

## National Open Teams Semi Final

| Results after 4 of 4 stanzas |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Team | C/Fwd | Stanza 1 | Stanza 2 | Stanza 3 | Stanza 4 | Total |
| LAZER (1) | 0.1 | 32 | 41 | 37 | 35 | 145.1 |
| ASHTON (2) | 0 | 36 | 46 | 42 | 42 | 166 |
| TRAVIS (3) | 0.1 | 18 | 1 | 26 | 78 | 123.1 |
| B THOMPSON (4) | 0 | 28 | 46 | 38 | 66 | 178 |

Testing play and defence


Andrew Spooner North was on lead against 5 by West on $\vee 10$ lead. The deal is from Round 4 of the NOT quarter finals.

Declarer won $\vee \mathrm{A}$ and ran $\$ 9$, followed by a diamond to the 10 and two more rounds of trumps, exhausting South of trumps.

Next declarer played 8 , low from dummy. Matt Mullamphy ducked (winning would allow the contract home), and now declarer cashed A.

Diagnosing the club layout, declarer ran $\downarrow$.
Andrew won $\uparrow$ K and forced declarer's last trump by cashing $¥ K$ and then playing $\upharpoonright 9$ in this end position:


With spades blocked, declarer was forced to cash spades from the top, losing a third trick to Spooner's $\uparrow 8$.

Miracle on Northbourne
by Bob Geyer

| West | North <br> George | East | South <br> Bob |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Pass | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 2 | pass | 4 |
| all pass |  |  |  |

Bob: "Hi Stevie, got internet in Goulburn. Just seen the Archibald paintings.

I thought we were allowed to bid with four cards in this situation, so believed George had four spades as well).

マ2 was led to the king and ace. I played a diamond to dummy's ace and led 10 Both opponents ducked. I led a small spade, as East's ace beat air. East kindly led a club, won in dummy by although East pointed out that could have won! I played a club to my ace and ruffed a heart.

Like lots of bridge books, my only hope was that the player with four diamonds also had the remaining trumps. This miracle occurred, so my only losers were ace, king and a small trump, thanks to some kind defence."


## NOT semi finals

The players were treated to many interesting deals, with the tighter of the two matches being LAZER - ASHTON.

ASHTON has been the winning NOT team for the last two years, this year in an all-new formation, with Sophie Ashton playing with either David Beauchamp, Andrew Spooner or Maurits van der Vlugt.

David Beauchamp declared 3NT from the West seat above on the lead of $>J$, here an interior sequence.


South, looking at $\$ 9$ was worried that unblocking $\downarrow$, the normal technical play would be incorrect if the lead was from $a>J 10$ sequence.

The failure to unblock became fatal when North continued a second diamond to the queen and David's king. Now he could win and duck a heart to the South hand, scoring 2 spades, 3 hearts a diamond and 3 clubs for +600 and 12 IMPs.

## What could have been

I chatted to Deana Wilson - Hamish McCracken, the last pair after play's end on the first day of the Mixed Matchpoint Pairs to be going through their session.

Deana was cross with Simon Hinge, who opened a weak $2 \checkmark$ on these cards third in hand:
----, MJ543, - J10654, eKK752
It stopped Hamish and her from getting to 74, and with seven pairs bidding the grand, getting to 6 was only $38 \%$ (tough field!)


I asked them what system they were playing, and when they told me Precision, I queried why Hamish hadn't opened $2 \star$, often a short diamond hand in the system.

Horrified, Hamish looked at his hand in horror, realising that's just what he should have done.

They constructed their likely sequence:

| West | North | East <br> pass | South <br> $2 \downarrow^{1}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| pass! | $2 \mathrm{NT}^{2}$ | pass | $3 \mathrm{NT}^{3}$ |
| pass | $4 \boldsymbol{\omega}^{4}$ | pass | $5 \boldsymbol{\varphi}^{6}$ |
| pass | $7 \boldsymbol{~}$ | all pass |  |

1. Short diamond
2. Strong enquiry
3. 4-4-0-5
4. Key Card for hearts (a thoughtful bid)
5. Two with $\vee Q$

Too easy! But not if you forget to open (Hamish admitted 2 had not crossed his mind).





Mixed Matchpoints Qualifying - Accumulative

| Mixed Matchpoints Qualifying - Accumulative |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Place | Result | \% | Cat. | Pair Name |
|  | 2,104.0 | 58.71\% | A | JONATHAN FREE - MIMI PACKER (103) |
| 2 | 2,094.0 | 58.43\% | B | NICOLETA GIURA - NICK HUGHES (119) |
| 3 | 2,011.0 | 56.11\% | A | CHRISTY GEROMBOUX - SEBASTIAN YUEN (101) |
| 4 | 1,989.0 | 55.50\% | C | ANNE SOMERVILLE - MURAT GENC (128) |
| 5 | 1,946.0 | 54.30\% | B | KATE DAVIES - JOHN PATTERSON (134) |
| 6 | 1,936.0 | 54.02\% | D | ELLA JACOB - NICK JACOB (110) |
| 7 | 1,933.0 | 53.93\% | A | CAROLYN MILLER - PAUL LAVINGS (102) |
| 8 | 1,920.0 | 53.57\% | D | HELEN LAVINGS - IAN LISLE (114) |
| 9 | 1,892.0 | 52.79\% | C | AXEL JOHANNSSON - KATE MCCALLUM (126) |
| 10 | 1,883.0 | 52.54\% | A | JENNY THOMPSON - DAMON FLICKER (105) |
| 10 | 1,883.0 | 52.54\% | D | LIZ SYLVESTER - PETER GILL (111) |
| 12 | 1,880.0 | 52.46\% | B | TANIA LLOYD - HUGH GROSVENOR (118) |
| 13 | 1,847.0 | 51.53\% | C | ZE YING LAM - STEPHEN ROBINSON (131) |
| 14 | 1,836.0 | 51.23\% | C | JANE LENNON - SIMON HINGE (127) |
| 15 | 1,833.0 | 51.14\% | D | MARNIE LEYBOURNE - TREVOR FULLER (112) |
| 16 | 1,831.0 | 51.09\% | B | JANE REYNOLDS - PETER REYNOLDS (120) |
| 17 | 1,827.0 | 50.98\% | D | NIKOLAS MOORE - RACHEL LANGDON (115) |
| 18 | 1,824.0 | 50.89\% | C | LYN CARTER - MALCOLM CARTER (129) |
| 19 | 1,794.0 | 50.06\% | B | LINDSAY SCANDRETT - DONNA CROSSAN-PEACOCK (124) |
| 20 | 1,733.0 | 48.35\% | C | ZARA CHOWDHURY - MITCH DOWLING (133) |
| 21 | 1,722.0 | 48.05\% | A | JENNIFER CARTER - RUITIAN LANG (109) |
| 22 | 1,711.0 | 47.74\% | B | MARK FAIRLAMB - MARGARET WALTERS (122) |
| 23 | 1,707.0 | 47.63\% | A | KIMBERLEY ZHAO - ALAN CRANSBERG (107) |
| 24 | 1,692.0 | 47.21\% | B | TOM LANGDON MACMILLAN - KATE MACDONALD (125) |
| 25 | 1,672.0 | 46.65\% | A | JACQUELINE ADCOCK - DESMOND MANDERSON (108) |
| 26 | 1,667.0 | 46.51\% | D | GWYNEIRA BRAHMA - DAVE MUNRO (113) |
| 27 | 1,664.0 | 46.43\% | D | ALAN STONEHAM - WING ROBERTS (117) |
| 28 | 1,663.0 | 46.40\% | C | CATHY GILTRAP - RICHARD HARMAN (132) |
| 29 | 1,649.0 | 46.01\% | B | VICKY LISLE - NIEK VAN VUCHT (121) |
| 30 | 1,604.0 | 44.75\% | A | HAMISH MCCRACKEN - DEANA WILSON (104) |
| 31 | 1,600.0 | 44.64\% | C | MARGARET KYBURZ - ROY NIXON (130) |
| 32 | 1,598.0 | 44.59\% | B | ANTOINETTE REES - SIDNEY REYNOLDS (123) |
| 33 | 1,590.0 | 44.36\% | A | GREG LEWIN - ALLISON STRALOW (106) |
| 34 | 1,393.0 | 38.87\% | D | MING TING - DAVID TING (116) |

# Play like Legends Live like Locals 

## 2024 Australian National Bridge Championships and Butler

Including the inaugural<br>Central West Festival of Bridge

$6^{\text {th }}-18^{\text {th }}$ July 2024
Orange NSW


## News for 2024

- Continuing for 2024: The VCC has successfully moved to the Moonee Valley Racecourse. A spacious and bright playing space, good disabled access and great parking. Walking distance to trams, trains, accommodation and restaurants and only 15 mins from Tullamarine airport.
- Accommodation Options: Quest Apartments are a mere 5-minute walk from the venue. But hurry - it fills quickly. The Sebel is about a 12-minute walk and is surrounding by shops, restaurants and services. Details of several venues will be placed on to the MyABF website.
- Using the MyABF Website. The VCC will use the MyABF website. It requires all players to register on the site and pay by credit card. Contact us for assistance if needed.
- Covid-Safe Plans. The usual health support initiatives will be in place.
- Mixed Pairs and Restricted Events. In line with many tournaments around the world, we are continuing with this event, introduced in 2022. The event carries PQPs for the first six places. We are combining the Restricted events unless there are sufficient entries.
- Women's and Seniors' Events. A reminder that we are no longer holding these events. The ABF has withdrawn PQPs from these events. We hope this doesn't disappoint too many people.
- Partnership Desk. Please call Belinda Lindsay on 0409853769.
- Parking on Site: Parking is free to players in the centre of the Racecourse as usual.
- Start time for Pairs and Teams: All events commence at 10.am
- Presentations \& Hospitality: for all players will be held subject to sufficient entries:
- After the conclusion of the last match on Friday at around 6:00 pm
- A short session after the conclusion of the last match on Monday at around 1:30 pm
- We will be opening the bar after play on Thursday and Saturday for you to purchase drink. An all-day tea station will be available this year.


## TASMANIAN FESTIVAL of BRIDGE



Hobart Waterfront courtesy of Kathryn Leahy

## MyState Bank Arena, Brooker Hwy, Glenorchy

## Thu $14^{\text {th }}-$ Sun $17^{\text {th }}$ March 2024

| Wednesday | ONLINE Real Bridge warm-up pairs 7.15 pm |
| :--- | :--- |
| Thursday/Friday | TFoB Restricted Swiss Pairs |
|  | Australian Mixed Swiss Pairs <br> Roger Penny Senior Swiss Pairs |
| Saturday/Sunday | TBIB Australian Swiss Pairs <br> Saturday evening dinner (bookings essential) |
| Sunday only | TFoB Rookie Swiss Pairs <br> for players with $<25 \mathrm{MPs}$ |

Tasmanian Bridge Association ABN 66038130967
www.tasbridge.com.au
Australian Bridge Federation ABN 7005365166


BRIDGE CONGRESS

- 2024


## February

 Sunday $\mathbf{1 8}^{\text {th }}$ to Saturday $\mathbf{2 4}^{\text {th }}$GOLD COAST CONVENTION CENTRE, BROADBEACH

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