

2024 National Open Teams winners B THOMPSON



Matthew Thomson, Ben Thompson, Renee Cooper and Peter Newman

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Congratulations to B THOMPSON, 2024 NOT winners

National Open Teams Final

Results after 4 of 4 stanzas

| Team | C/Fwd | Stanza 1 | Stanza 2 | Stanza 3 | Stanza 4 | Total | Gold Pts |
|----------------|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|
| ASHTON (1) | 0.1 | 17 | 43 | 37 | 19 | 116.1 | |
| B THOMPSON (2) | 0 | 47 | 31 | 12 | 44 | 134 | |

Ed: This story was in today's earlier bulletin - but without the hand! Sorry Bob!

Miracle on Northbourne

by Bob Geyer

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|--------|------|-------|
| | George | | 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).

♥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 ♣Q, although East pointed out that ♣8 could have won! I played a club to my ace and ruffed a heart.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| BD: 16 | ♠ T85 ♥ 4 ♦ AKQJ2 ♣ QJ82 | Dir: W Vul: EW |
| ♠ K943 ♥ QT2 ♦ T876 ♣ 54 | | ♠ A2 ♥ KJ987 ♦ 9 ♣ KT976 |
| | ♠ QJ76 ♥ A653 ♦ 543 ♣ A3 | |



George and Bob

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."

| | | | |
|------|-------|------|-----------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| | 1♦ | pass | 3♦ ¹ |
| dbl | 5♦ | pass | pass |
| dbl | pass | ? | |

1. Weak, four-card support

♠843, ♥107542, ♦7, ♣8762

What is your bid?

Beaver away

That’s all you can do when everybody at the table is a good player. Of course you try to minimise your errors, playing carefully - but with luck and flair also required.

The first three boards of the NOT final were instructive and interesting, and ASHTON did well to recover from an ugly result on Board 1.

4♦ is the limit NS, while the three-level is also the limit for EW (in spades).

However the auction above saw Peter Newman - Matthew Thomson reap 100 from 5♦X, while at the other table, EW “saved” in 5♠.

I use the word save, as in reality the four-level would be a save over 4♦.

5 IMPs to THOMPSON, who with a few boards to go over the long day were only a whisker ahead of ASHTON.

Fair for one, fair for all

Questions for the ABF Management Committee and the ABF Tournament Committee

from Ron Klinger

2. Why are there up to eight teams for the Open and Mixed Playoffs, but only four for the Women's and Seniors?
3. Why are the matches for the Open and Mixed Playoffs over 120 boards, but over 96 boards for the Women's and Seniors?
4. Why are non-contending teams allowed in the qualifying events for the Australian Women's and Seniors Selection when they are not permitted to play in the Australian Open and Mixed Selection?

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|
| BD: 1 | ♠ K | Dir: N |
| | ♥ K863 | Vul: None |
| | ♦ AKQT632 | |
| | ♣ 9 | |
| ♠ AQT965 | | ♠ 843 |
| ♥ A9 | | ♥ T7542 |
| ♦ 9 | | ♦ 7 |
| ♣ AK53 | | ♣ 8762 |
| | ♠ J72 | |
| | ♥ QJ | |
| | ♦ J854 | |
| | ♣ QJT4 | |

What is your bid?

In situations like this when you have a very weak hand, you must pass and hope partner has enough strength to take the contract down in his own hand.

While partner’s first bid is primarily takeout, the second is saying “let’s take the money.”

When you do “takeout”, here to 5♥, you should be thinking that 5♥ may be a make - certainly not your thought with this hand. That way, partner with a huge hand can bid six (sage advice from David B at left).



Sage advice from David Beauchamp



Winners Matchpoint Mixed Pairs Nicoleta Giura and Nick Hughes



Runners up Matchpoint Mixed Pairs Mimi Packer and Jon Free



DIRECTOR GET TOGETHER

Meet & Greet
Q & A
General Discussion
All Directors & Players
Welcome



8.30 am - 9:30 am

MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY

Enquiries:

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Hobart Waterfront courtesy of Kathryn Leahy

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Thu 14th - Sun 17th March 2024

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



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