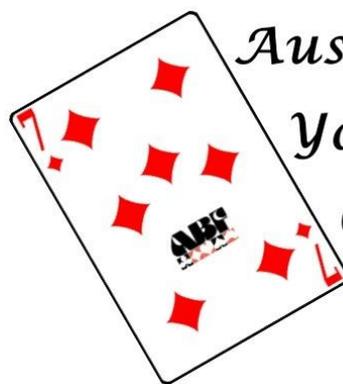


Bulletin 6

Tuesday 8th January



Australian Youth Bridge Championships

Session Times Today

Butler 9am-6:30pm
 Coaching 9:30am-10:15am
 Consolation 10:30am-6:30pm
 Crazy Pairs Bridge After Dinner

Session Times Tomorrow

Butler 9am-6pm
 Coaching 9:30am-10:15am
 Side Events @ Rex 10:30am-6pm
 BBQ @ Park 6pm



The field is still very close after day 1 of 3 in the Butler (Stage 1) of the Australian Junior selection:

| Current Standings after Round 6 of 18 | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------|-------|-------|
| Rank | Pair | Imps | VPs | W-D-L |
| 1 | ALEX GOSS / BERTIE MORGAN | 110.75 | 87.45 | 5-0-1 |
| 2 | AADHI HARIHARAN / ADRIAN LE | 59.25 | 74.47 | 3-1-2 |
| 3 | MATTHEW SIEREDZINSKI / HEATH WATKINS | 62.25 | 73.00 | 4-0-2 |
| 4 | JACK LUKE-PAREDI / GEORGE BARTLEY | 20.00 | 65.07 | 3-0-3 |
| 5 | ZAC ROSS / KATE MACDONALD | 13.50 | 64.92 | 2-0-4 |
| 6 | SEB WRIGHT / JEREMY REID | -39.00 | 56.28 | 4-0-2 |
| 7 | LAUREN MORGAN / PADDY TAYLOR | -31.75 | 52.91 | 3-0-3 |
| 8 | SEB LANGDON MACMILLAN / TOM LANGDON MACMILLAN | -23.00 | 52.61 | 2-1-3 |
| 9 | ANNE DAVEY / FLETCHER DAVEY | -21.50 | 52.56 | 1-2-3 |
| 10 | MAXWELL ASHURST / ALEXIS WILSMORE | -150.50 | 20.73 | 1-0-5 |

Trans-Tasman Challenge is back!

4 teams of Australian and New Zealand players will compete in the Trans-Tasman Challenge. The teams are:

| Australia 1 (Team 1) | New Zealand 1 (Team 2) | Australia 2 (Team 3) | New Zealand 2 (Team 4) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ellena Black | Tamati Greig | Mitch Dowling | Molly Meek |
| Darren Brake | Kat Holmes | Grace Gissing | Mackenzie Rhodes |
| Edmond Lee | Leon Meier | Duncan Lai | Zarias Werder |
| Alan Stoneham | Tim Omvig | Seb Redin | Gordon Zhong |

Event format:

There will be a double round robin, Followed by a final between the two highest ranking teams.

(*note: format subject to timing of other youth week activities)

Suit Combinations Quiz

♦ AJ103

♦ 2

How do you play the above suits for 3 tricks?

How do you play the above suits for 2 tricks?

Answers later in the Bulletin.

Eclectic Individual

Here's a few hands featuring Ashley Matheson (7-years old) from yesterday's Individual event:

N/S Vul ♠ K3
 Dlr: North ♥ 10952
 ♦ K109
Ashley ♣ 10962
 ♠ A106542  ♠ J987
 ♥ 4 ♥ J863
 ♦ 2 ♦ AQ86
 ♣ A8754 ♣ K

Lead: ♥4 ♠ Q
 ♥ AKQ7
 ♦ J7543
 ♣ QJ3

| | | | |
|-------|------|-------|----------|
| South | West | North | East |
| — | — | Pass | Pass |
| 1 ♦ | Pass | 1 NT | Pass |
| 2 ♥ | Pass | 3 ♥ | All Pass |

After South reversed into hearts, showing 5+ diamonds (rarely 4) and 4 hearts with a big hand, North invited game.

Ashley has recently learnt not to cash aces. Unfortunately he has not yet learnt how to lead singletons.

Ashley (West) led a trump and declarer won the 10. A spade went to the SQ and SA. West returned a diamond to the DQ. East cashed the CK and got off lead with a heart. Thinking the diamonds would easily run, declarer then drew trumps and led a diamond to the DK in this layout:

♠ K
 ♥ —
 ♦ K10
 ♣ 1096

♠ 106  ♠ J98
 ♥ — ♥ —
 ♦ — ♦ A86
 ♣ A875 ♣ —

Lead: ♥4 ♠ —
 ♥ —
 ♦ J754
 ♣ QJ

Declarer now saw how to make the contract: draw trumps and play a diamond to the DK

and DA – win East's return, run diamonds and exit with a club. The defence will have to concede the last trick to the SK or the CQ.

The problem was, East allowed the DK to hold, won the second diamond and played a spade, using dummy as a stepping stone to partner's hand, and simultaneously establishing the suit. Dummy's forced club return went to West's CA, and the S10 (now singleton) was overtaken by East to defeat the contract.

Ashley has learnt that he needs 12 points to open and 6 to respond. After getting this wrong a few times it was reiterated to him that "if you have 6 points you must respond"...

E/W Vul ♠ QJ964
 Dlr: North ♥ K76
 ♦ 75
 ♣ 874

♠ AK1052  ♠ 87
 ♥ J83 ♥ Q10542
 ♦ KQ9 ♦ 10863
 ♣ 65 ♣ J10

♠ 3
 ♥ A9
 ♦ AJ42
 ♣ AKQ932

After 2 passes, South opened 1C and West overcalled 1S. So far so good. But Ashley hasn't learnt to bid notrumps yet. Knowing that with 6 points he must respond, Ashley did just that by bidding a natural 2S!

After the laughter subsided, Alan Stoneham, as South, had no trouble realising that the partnership had a spade stopper and he bid 3NT. This right-sided the contract, allowing him to make an overtrick.

Director!

There was confusion at the start of session 2 in the individual when several players insisted that they had already played the hands before, during session 1. Daryl, our amazing director, managed to solve this case. It turns out the hands were very similar but still very much different hands:

♠ Q1086 ♠ K1097
♥ K ♥ K
♦ KJ7542 ♦ KJ8432
♣ K8 ♣ 53

Results:

| Eclectic Individual 2025 | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------------|
| Place | Result | % | Name |
| 1 | 186.5 | 62.15% | TAMATI GREIG |
| 2 | 180 | 60.00% | MITCH DOWLING |
| 3 | 175 | 58.33% | MOLLY MEEK |
| 4 | 167.7 | 55.90% | ELLENA BLACK |
| 5 | 164.6 | 54.86% | JASSY CARTHEW |
| 6 | 163.3 | 54.44% | GORDON ZHONG |
| 7 | 162.5 | 54.17% | JEREMY LIN |
| 8 | 161.5 | 53.82% | DYLAN WATKINS |
| 9 | 160.4 | 53.47% | DUNCAN LAI |
| 9 | 160.4 | 53.47% | DARREN BRAKE |
| 11 | 159.4 | 53.12% | LEON MEIER |
| 11 | 159.4 | 53.12% | ALAN STONEHAM |
| 13 | 156.2 | 52.08% | SAMUEL GOSS |
| 14 | 154.2 | 51.39% | SEBASTIAN REDIN |
| 15 | 153.1 | 51.04% | ZARIAS WERDER |
| 16 | 151 | 50.35% | LEIGH MATHESON |
| 17 | 150.8 | 50.28% | MACKENZIE RHODES |
| 18 | 150 | 50.00% | SAM ANGOVE |
| 19 | 147.9 | 49.31% | GRACE GISSING |
| 20 | 145.8 | 48.61% | NOAH KLUGMAN |
| 21 | 143.8 | 47.92% | RICKY CARTHEW |
| 22 | 138.5 | 46.18% | KAT HOLMES |
| 23 | 138.5 | 46.18% | ASHLEY MATHESON |
| 24 | 137.5 | 45.83% | CHARLI-ROSE COOTE |
| 25 | 135.4 | 45.14% | EDMOND LEE |
| 25 | 135.4 | 45.14% | ALEXANDER WILKINSON |
| 27 | 133.3 | 44.44% | EMMA LANGFORD |
| 27 | 133.3 | 44.44% | ALEXANDRA MILLS |
| 29 | 131.3 | 43.75% | MOLLY LANGDON MACMILLAN |
| 29 | 131.3 | 43.75% | ANTHONY MILLS |
| 31 | 129.2 | 43.06% | LIZZY BRAYSHAW |
| 32 | 124 | 41.32% | OLIVER BRAYSHAW |

Interview with Grace Gissing, Jeremy Reid & Seb Wright

"What's your names"

G: Grace

J: Jeremy

S: Seb

"Last names?"

G: Gissing

J: Reid

S: Wright

"Read and write?"

J: Right

... conversations continues similar to Abbott and Costello's "Who's on first" skit. Eventually it subsides...

"Where are you from?"

G: Brisbane

J: Hobart

S: Bendigo, Victoria

"What do you do for school or work?"

G: I recently graduated from school.

J: ICT support for the education department.

S: I work full time at a retail shop (like a mini-Bunnings)

"What's your favourite subject?"

G: Lunch time. Actually, home time.

"How long have you been playing bridge?"

G: I should know how to answer that question... about 2 years. My mother kinda taught me and then I went to youth bridge, but I never had lessons.

J: 5 years. I didn't have lessons either. Actually, that's a lie, I had lessons with Sue squared.

S: 7 years.

"What is your favourite thing about bridge?"

G:

J:

S: I love system stuff. When you're coming across a problem and you can find a system thing to overcome it.

G: Fun problem solving. You can always learn something from it.

J: It's the people. The fact that you get to meet people that I never would interact with if I didn't play bridge. I get to meet 90 year old people and share stories with them. I would never have had an opportunity to talk to them otherwise.

"Scissors, Paper, Rock. I'm going paper."

All: "scissors, paper, rock"

*I show paper, so does Grace/Jeremy, Seb shows rock

"Why did you go scissors?"

S: I trusted you were going to go paper.

"Why did you go paper?"

G: I thought you were trying to bluff.

J: Because it's funny.

"Do you have a favourite bridge hand or type of play?"

J: A grand trump coup. It's where you ruff a winner to shorten your trumps so that you play after your opponent in the ending instead of having to lead to them.

S: I like defence more than I like declaring.

G: I like declaring.

S: Reverse Smith echo, which I finally nailed after like 6 months of practicing. In a notrump contract when you lead 4th highest. When declarer plays to trick 2 you can tell your partner if he made a good lead (low like) or if it was a crap lead (high hate).

"Did you have any cool hands today?"

J/S: We were defending 1NT with an 11-card diamond fit. This was the layout:

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| ♦ — | ♦ QJ10952 |
| ♦ AK876 | |
| ♦ 43 | |

Somehow we blocked the suit. I was left with ♦J105. I realised that on partner's last diamond I could use those 3 cards as suit-preference. As I had the CA in my hand, I played the D5. Partner worked out that's what I was doing and we were able to beat the contract 2 tricks.



Seb Wright, Jeremy Reid and Grace Gissing

This article was submitted by Paul Brayshaw during Youth Week 1999 for the NOT NEWS

Tales from the Youth

Partner opens 1NT (12-14) at Nil Vulnerable and you sit comfortably in the North seat holding:

♠ K84
♥ 5
♦ AQ73
♣ Q8543

RHO doubles, explained as penalty! OK, so you pass. Lefty bids 3S, pass from partner, 4NT on your right!! Double, you say, testing opponents' methods and also expressing your doubts as to whether this will make. 5D on your left, pass from partner, 5H on your right. Double, you say, which is penalties. 5S from LHO!!!! Partner finds the double this time. 6H from righty!! Licking your lips, you axe this with pleasure. It's your lead. You choose DA to look at table. At about trick three you write -1210 on your scoresheet and, in shock, move on to the next board. The full deal was:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| ♠ 2 ♥ AKJ987642 ♦ 2 ♣ A2 | ♠ K84 ♥ 5 ♦ AQ73 ♣ Q8543 |  | ♠ A10765 ♥ 103 ♦ J8654 ♣ 7 |
| Lead: ♦ A | ♠ QJ93 ♥ Q ♦ K109 ♣ KJ1096 | | |

At the time, Eric Ramshaw also gave the NOT NEWS an article on this hand. He expressed some sympathy for one East-West pair who contracted for 4H and wrote down +480 only to find out the reason why the butler average was so strange was that the other scores on this board were +1210, +790, +750, +480 and +750!

Crazy Bridge

Tonight's after dinner event is Crazy Pairs bridge – a novelty event where each bridge hand also has a special rule. I played the 2024 Crazy Pairs with Ashley.

Our first board saw some big action for the little kid. I read out the novelty rule for the board: “You are not allowed to pass the hand out undoubled. If the contract isn't doubled and you are in the passout seat, you are not allowed to pass.”

“What's a double?” Ashley asks. O dear, this is going to be a long night.

| | | | |
|---------------|------------|--|-------------|
| N/S Vul | ♠ AK865432 | | |
| Dlr: North | ♥ 73 | | |
| | ♦ Q7 | | |
| <i>Ashley</i> | ♣ K | | <i>Me</i> |
| ♠ 10 | |  | ♠ Q7 |
| ♥ J10986 | | | ♥ K2 |
| ♦ AK932 | | | ♦ 6 |
| ♣ 86 | | | ♣ AQJ107543 |
| | ♠ J9 | | |
| | ♥ AQ54 | | |
| | ♦ J10854 | | |
| | ♣ 92 | | |

| | | | |
|-------|--------|----------|------|
| South | West | North | East |
| — | — | 1 ♠ | 3 NT |
| 4 ♠ | Dble | Redble | 4 ♣ |
| Dble | Redble | All Pass | |

North opened a normal 1S. Rather than bid 4C, I decided to bid 3NT first (which can't get passed out) and then try to get doubled in 4C. South did not want to defend 3NTX if I had my bid and chose to sacrifice in 4S. Ashley (in direct seat!) doubled, testing out this new bidding tool I'd just told him about. North, with 3 extra trumps, decided this was an ideal time to redouble.

“What's that?” Ashley asks. “It's a redouble,” I explain, “It ups the stakes further.”

With my 8-card suit, I removed this to 5C, which immediately gets doubled. Ashley, having now learnt yet another bidding tool, is keen to try it out and redoubles, which ends the auction.

We all laugh and tell Ashley he made a terrible redouble.

The defence don't cash out, so I get rid of a heart loser on the top diamonds. When the clubs fall in I make this redoubled contract, scoring +800.

We all laugh and tell Ashley he made a brilliant redouble.

Ashley is always asking his partner to make him dummy. There was one hand where our opponents bid 6H and before the auction ends, Ashley asks me if I can make him dummy. "Sorry Buddy, not on this hand." Just before I make my opening lead it's time to read the novelty rule: "On this hand declarer's RHO will be dummy and their partner will tell them what to play. The other 2 players will play their own cards". Wow, Ashley you get to be dummy after all.

Ashley and I both had the same favourite board. The rule was: "All players reveal their hand as dummy and play their own cards". Ashley liked it because there were 4 dummies. I liked it because my South opponent, Alex Goss, demonstrated superb technique with every card played:

| | | |
|---------------|---|-----------|
| N/S Vul | <i>George Bartley</i> | |
| Dlr: West | ♠ 107 | |
| | ♥ 9843 | |
| | ♦ Q97 | |
| <i>Ashley</i> | ♣ Q1062 | <i>Me</i> |
| ♠ AQ3 |  | ♠ 9642 |
| ♥ KQJ | | ♥ A72 |
| ♦ J652 | | ♦ 1083 |
| ♣ 854 | | ♣ KJ7 |
| | <i>Alex Goss</i> | |
| | ♠ KJ85 | |
| | ♥ 1065 | |
| | ♦ AK4 | |
| | ♣ A93 | |

South played in 1NT. Ashley led a natural looking HK. I saw immediately that we would not be beating this contract after that opening lead. If we could take 5 tricks in the Major suits, I'd be able to wait to score a club, holding the opponents to 7 tricks.

Rather than sit around and wait for Ashley to play SA and another spade, I decided to win the first trick and return a spade myself. South followed low and Ashley surveyed the 48 remaining face up cards on the table. He put his finger on the SA and the said "Wait, no". The opponents were nice enough to let him try again. This time Ashley decided the SA was a good card to play after all. Ugh. Ashley switched to a diamond. North/South accurately arranged for South to win and he played back a heart. On lead with the HJ, Ashley now led the SQ (face palms all round). South won and knocked out Ashley's last heart. These cards remained:

| | | |
|---------------|--|-----------|
| | <i>George Bartley</i> | |
| | ♠ — | |
| | ♥ 9 | |
| | ♦ Q9 | |
| | ♣ Q1062 | <i>Me</i> |
| <i>Ashley</i> |  | ♠ 96 |
| ♠ 3 | | ♥ — |
| ♥ — | | ♦ 103 |
| ♦ J65 | | ♣ KJ7 |
| ♣ 854 | | |
| | <i>Alex Goss</i> | |
| | ♠ J8 | |
| | ♥ — | |
| | ♦ A4 | |
| | ♣ A93 | |

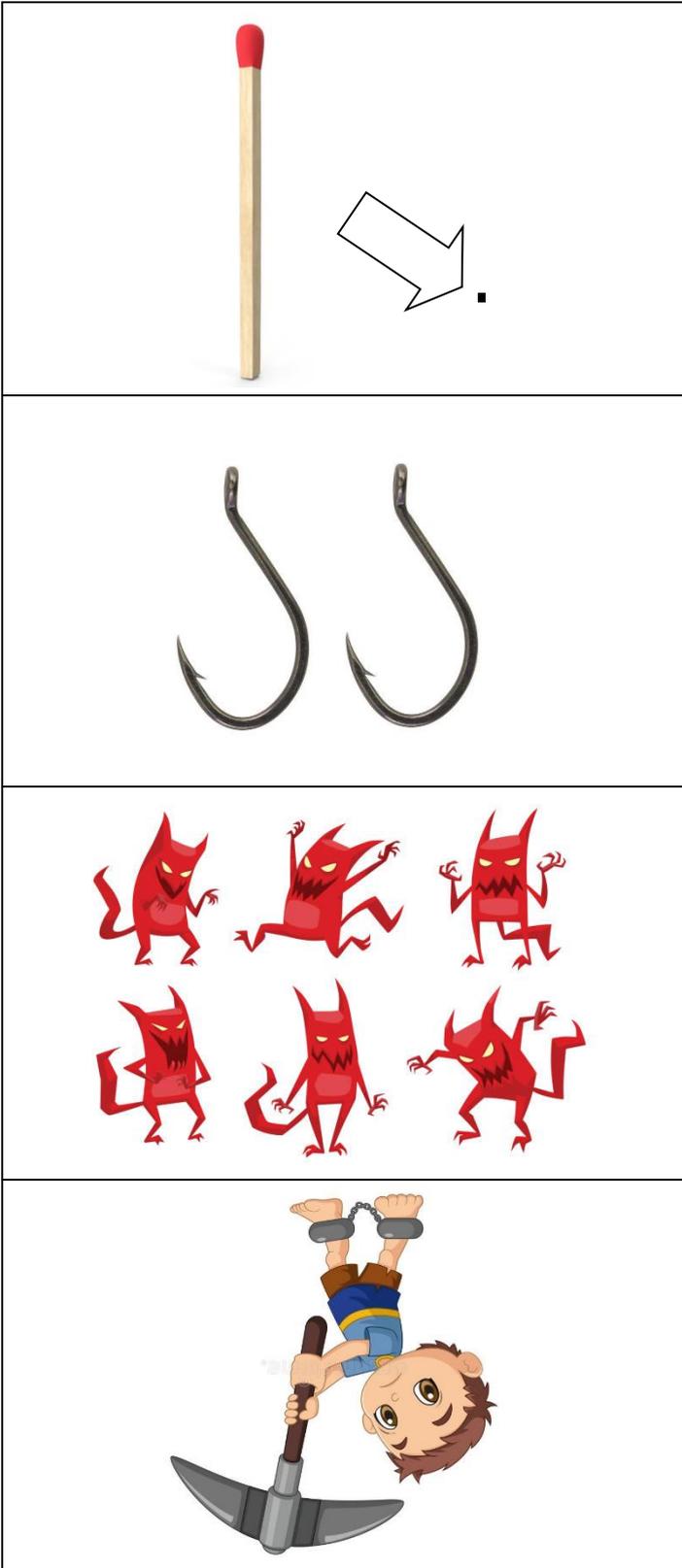
Ashley decided it was about time someone played a club. North played low, I put in the CJ and South completed his master class by ducking the trick! North complimented South, I wrote -120 on my scoresheet and we played out the hand for Ashley's sake:

I returned a diamond (anything else gives away the overtrick immediately), South won and returned a diamond to North, who cashed the last heart to squeeze me. Whichever suit I discarded, South would discard the other suit and make the rest of the tricks.

I've made a point to review the hand records with Ashley after any regular bridge tournament. I didn't bother doing this with the Crazy Pairs. Nevertheless we were back in Sydney a full 9 days after this board was played and one day out of the blue Ashley asks me: "Why did you overtake my king with your ace?"p

Puzzle Corner

Can you work out the following puzzles (solutions tomorrow):



Answers to yesterday's puzzles:

- Robin Hood
- Time to go
- Love at first sight
- Double agent

Suit Combinations

by Leigh Matheson

In today's layout:

♦ AJ103

♦ 2

If we need 3 tricks, we can only make with KQ doubleton (a 0.6% chance). Play the Ace or the 3 from dummy and pray.

If we only need 2 tricks from the suit, finessing the 10 (or J) is much better. This makes when West has ♦Hx(x), or both missing honours. This is roughly a 43% chance. You will still require some luck, but you won't require a miracle.



Butler Day 1 in action