

Pre-Event Bulletin

Friday October 16th

2026 Spring Nationals

Welcome to SN26 — We're Back!

*The year has absolutely flown. Since last Spring Nationals, I've levelled up and am officially **out of Restricted** — exciting, terrifying, and very real. I hope your bridge year has been just as rewarding.*

A huge welcome back to all our regulars, and an equally big welcome to the fresh faces joining us for the first time. We're so glad you're here.

*We've got a **big program of events** ahead — plus a few puzzles sprinkled throughout the week for you to try your hand at.*

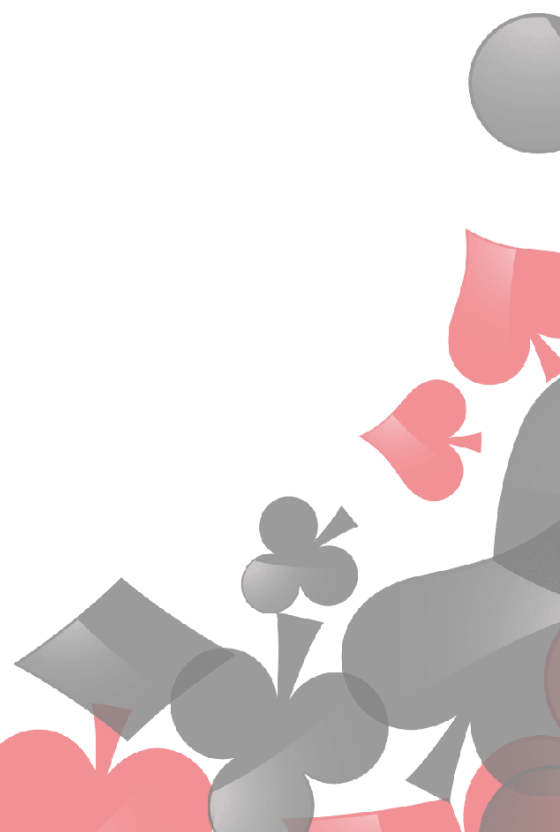
*If you need a little **bridge-free downtime**, wander into the **Zen Zone**. It's strictly no bridge, no bidding, no boards... just a quiet reset space.*

*We also have a **Feedback Wall** this year. Fill in a comment card or read what others have posted — we want to hear the good, the bad, and the funny. Your thoughts help shape future Spring Nationals.*

While You're Here...

*Take a moment to browse our **vendor tables**, catch up with old friends, and make some new ones. Whether you're here for the competition, the community, or the chaos... Welcome to SN26.*

Shannon
Queree



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Welcome from the ABF

Welcome to the Spring Nationals

On behalf of the Australian Bridge Federation, welcome to Sydney and the Spring Nationals—one of the major events on our annual bridge calendar. We wish you all good luck and an enjoyable tournament.

Please treat your partners and opponents with respect at all times. A little patience, courtesy and good humour will help make the event a pleasant experience for everyone, including yourself.

Our sincere thanks go to convener Shannon Queree, who has worked tirelessly over the past 12 months to help everything run smoothly and to make sure there is some fun to be had when we are not concentrating on the cards.

We will both be participating in the event so please seek us out if you have any questions or suggestions about bridge administration across Australia. We would welcome the chance to hear your thoughts.

Enjoy your bridge and your time in Sydney!

Stephen Fischer (ABF President) & David Fryda (Executive Director)



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Some Details

This year there will be a Bulletin published every day.

If you have any interesting stories or hands that you want to pass on, see Will Jenner-O'Shea (or text 0415 181 901)

There are 18 different events, for players of all levels. Entries are still open for the events later in the week, or contact the organisers to enter or offer to be a fill-in.

 Free Parking Onsite

 Canterbury Railway Station is a 15 minute (1km) walk from the venue.

 The 413, 491, 482 and 415 are the main bus routes that stop at the racecourse. Check Transport NSW for the latest public transportation details. The 491 bus runs between Hurstville Station and Ashfield Station and stops at Canterbury railway stations.

If you are staying at the Comfort Inn & Suites at Burwood they operate a free shuttle bus service.

 This venue is cash free.

  Free self-serve tea and coffee facility will be available in the playing area. Free water fountains also in the playing area

 Lunch may be ordered, with three menu options rotating daily. In addition, a cafeteria will be open for the purchase of pies, sausage rolls, cakes and espresso coffee. You are also able to bring your own.

 Play will finish around 5:30pm on the first Saturday and Sunday (18th & 19th) and around 6pm on each other day.

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The Events, Formats and Times

Saturday 17 Oct and Sunday 18 Oct (These are all 2 day events)

- **10am & 2pm Gumby-Lazer Mixed Teams Qualifying**
- **10am & 2pm: Swiss Teams 300+ MPs (u750 & Over 750 MPs)**
- **10am & 2pm: Restricted (u300) and Novice (u100) Teams**

*Anticipated
Finish
5:30pm*

Monday 19 Oct

Different Start Time Mon-Fri

- **9am: Mini Monday**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Gumby-Lazer Mixed Teams Semi-Final**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Gerda Stern Mixed Pairs (Day 1 of 2)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Swiss Matchpoint Pairs 300+MPs**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Swiss Matchpoint Pairs Restricted (u300)**

*Anticipated
Finish
6pm*

Tuesday 20 Oct

- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Gumby-Lazer Mixed Teams Final**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Gerda Stern Mixed Pairs (Day 2 of 2)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Raceday Swiss IMP Pairs (all MP levels)**

Wednesday 21 Oct

- **10:30am & 2:30pm: TBIB Open Teams Qualifying (Day 1 of 3)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Matchpoint Pairs under 1500 MPs**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Matchpoint Pairs Restricted (u300)**

Thursday 22 Oct

- **10:30am & 2:30pm: TBIB Open Teams Championship (Day 2 of 3)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: TBIB Open Teams Plate (Day 2 of 3)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Butler Swiss Pairs under 1500 MPs (Pairs Day 1 of 2)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Avi Kanetkar Butler Swiss Pairs – Restricted (u300)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Avi Kanetkar Butler Swiss Pairs – Novice (u100)**

Friday 23 Oct

- **10:30am & 2:30pm: TBIB Open Teams Championship (Day 3 of 3)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: TBIB Open Teams Plate (Day 3 of 3)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Butler Swiss Pairs under 1500 MPs (Pairs Day 2 of 2)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Avi Kanetkar Butler Swiss Pairs – Restricted (u300)**
- **10:30am & 2:30pm: Avi Kanetkar Butler Swiss Pairs – Novice (u100)**

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The Events, Formats and Times

Saturday 24 Oct

Earlier Start Time Saturday

- **9:30am** & 2pm: TBIB Open Championship Teams - Semi-Final
- **10am** & 2pm: Dick Cummings Open Pairs (Day 1 of 2)
- 10am & 2pm: Intermediate Swiss Pairs (Day 1 of 2)
- **10am & 2pm: Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs (Day 1 of 2)**
- **10am & 2pm: Novice Swiss Pairs (Day 1 of 2)**

Anticipated
Finish
6pm

Sunday 25 Oct

Even earlier Start Time Sunday

- **9:00am** & 1.30pm: TBIB Open Championship Teams -Final
- **9:30am** & 1.30pm: Dick Cummings Open Pairs (Day 2 of 2)
- 9:30am & 1.30pm: Intermediate Swiss Pairs (Day 2 of 2)
- **9.30am & 1.30pm: Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs (Day 2 of 2)**
- **9.30am & 1.30pm: Novice Swiss Pairs (Day 2 of 2)**

Anticipated
Finish
5:30pm

	17 Oct	18 Oct	19 Oct	20 Oct	21 Oct	22 Oct	23 Oct	24 Oct	25 Oct
Open Any MP level	GUMBY LAZER MIXED TEAMS PQP [2d+sf+f] Allow late entries to GSMP by 6PM FRI		GLMT SEMI FINAL	GLMT FINAL (T)	OPEN TEAMS C'SHIP PQP [3d+sf+f] Incl Bobby Evans Seniors (T), Linda Stern Womens (T)			OT C'SHIP SEMI	OT C'SHIP FINAL (T)
	Separate fields min 16 tables per section or will be rolled up		GERDA STERN MIXED PAIRS PQP (T)			OT PLATE [2d+f] (T)			
				RACE DAY IMP Swiss PAIRS [1d]	UNDER 1500 One day MP Pairs [1d]	UNDER 1500 BUTLER IMP Pairs [2d]		DCOP PQP (T) [2d]	
INTERMEDIATE UNDER 750	SWISS TEAMS 300+ [2d]		One day MP Swiss Pairs [1d]			BUTLER IMP Pairs [2d]		INT SPRING PAIRS (T) [2d]	
RESTRICTED UNDER 300	SWISS TEAMS [2d]		One day MP Swiss Pairs [1d]		One day MP Pairs [1d]	AVI Butler IMP Pairs (P) [2d]		TED CHADWICK SWISS PAIRS (T) [2d]	
Novice UNDER 100						AVI Butler IMP Pairs (P) [2d]		NOVICE SWISS PAIRS (T) [2d]	
New to Congress			MINI MONDAY IMP Pairs (red point)						

Notes: (P) prize (T) trophy

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Last Years Results (2025)



TBIB Open Teams Championship: David Wiltshire - James Coutts - Jessica Brake - Shane Harrison - Liam Milne - Susan Humphries

TBIB Open Teams – Plate: Zachary Yan - Lysandra Zheng - Leon Meier - Nick Jacob - Ella Jacob

TBIB Open Teams – Shield: David Appleton - Brad Coles - Stephen Fischer - Michael Wilkinson

Linda Stern Women's Teams: Nazife Bashar - Kinga Moses - Marcia Scudder - Judy Mott

Bobby Evans Seniors' Teams: Axel Johannsson - Peter Gill - Kate McCallum - David Hudson - Peter Buchen - Bruce Neill

Intermediate Teams: Michael Young - Mary Poynten - Tony White - Martin Clear

Restricted Teams: Cia Benecke - Kim Dalling - Merle Payne - Anthony Smuts

Novice Teams: Anne-Marie Kelly - Andy Sunter - Melissa Iverach - John Fitzpatrick

Gumby-Lazer Mixed Teams: Lauren Morgan - Liam Milne - Sophie Ashton - James Coutts

Mini-Monday: Lillian Clark - Susan Emmett

Monday Matchpoints: Peter Wong - Richard Carter

Tuesday Matchpoints: Subhash Gupta - Bal Krishan

Wednesday Matchpoints: Ludo Onstein - Robyn Noach

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John McMahon



Charles McMahon

Open Butler Pairs: John McMahon - Charles McMahon

Intermediate Butler Pairs: Roy Bentley - Harish Patney

Avi Kanetkar Restricted Butler Pairs: Oleg Glushchenko - Elena Rochtchina

Avi Kanetkar Novice Butler Pairs: Tim Jackson - Shane Grogan

Dick Cummings Open Pairs: Matt Mullamphy - Ian Thomson

Intermediate Pairs: Christine Hanley - Craig Mietzke

Ted Chadwick Restricted Pairs: Louise Cowan - Susan Bezette

Novice Pairs: Denise Reid - Judy King



Gerda Stern Mixed Pairs: Maurits van der Vlugt - Dagmar Neumann

(Pictured with Gerda Stern's grand-daughter Danielle Stern & convenor Shannon)



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Mini Monday

The **Mini Monday** event is back. After a successful debut in 2025, there are a few extra pairs entered for this year. This is a great event for players new to Congresses.

It features a talk by Joan Butts, 28 boards of matches, lunch and expert review of play with John McIlrath – all for \$0 a head. That mad convenor just giving this away for free....

Vugraph

There will be a RealBridge Vugraph of the **Gumby-Lazer Mixed Teams Semi Final** and **Final** on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th.

There will also be Vugraph of the **Semi Final**, and the **Final** of the **Open Teams**. These will be played on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th.

We are looking for Vugraph operators for those days, if you are interested or know anyone who would be, let us know.

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The Team

Tournament Organiser: Shannon Queree

Chief Tournament Director: Matthew McManus

Floor Manager: John McIlrath

Directors: Ronnie Ng, John McIlrath, Jeff Carberry, Alan Bustany

Trainee Directors: Dave Havyatt, Kevin Hughes

Board Dealer: Ian Lisle

Mini Monday Speaker: Joan Butts

Bulletin: Will Jenner-O'Shea (prefer text 0415 181 901)

Reviewer: Laurie Kelso

Review Consultants: Shane Harrison, Jodi Tutty

On-site Rep: Liam Milne

Recorders: Pele Rankin, Bob Sebesfi

Vugraph operators: **Needed on Mon 19, Sat 24**

House Teams / Pairs and subs: **Are you free?**

Any days/session, let us know.

**Could this
be you?**

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Bridge
NSW



PLAY YOUR CARDS **RIGHT**

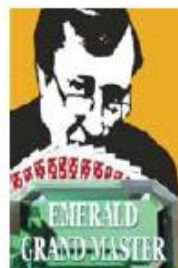
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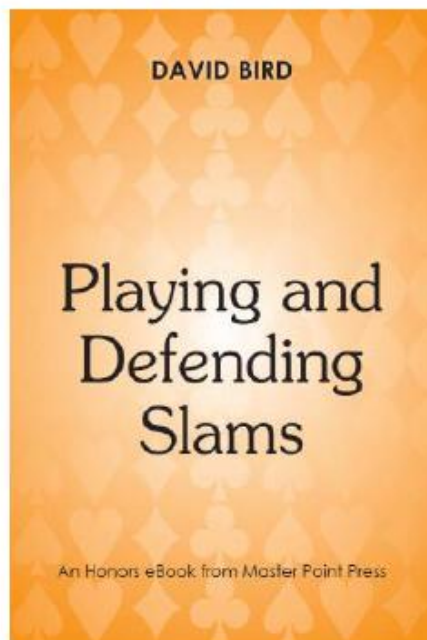
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2 GREAT NEW BOOKS



Playing and Defending Slams by David Bird

Slam contracts are among the most enjoyable and rewarding parts of the game we all love. They are also a splendid setting for instructive writing. The teacher and reader can quickly reach the instructive part of the play.

Your level of performance will surely rise after mastering the many techniques clearly explained in this book.

**\$29.95 from Paul
Lavings stall.**



Improve Your Slam Bidding by Marc Smith

Whether you learned to play last year or half a century ago, successfully bidding and making a slam is still one of the most thrilling things that happens at the bridge table.

Going down in bad slams is even more expensive than missing a good slam.

**\$29.95 from Paul
Lavings stall.**