

New Zealand National Bridge Congress

Kingsgate Hotel, Hamilton

July 1st to 8th 2006

Daily Bulletin



Monday July 3rd



Congress Noticeboard Monday

Session Times For Monday

Session 1 : 10 am

Session 2 : 2.15 pm

Session 3: 8 pm

Today's Events

NZ Pairs, NZ Plate - sessions 1 & 2

The *Cock & Bull* Back to the Future Teams - sessions 1 & 2, final in session 3

NZ Rubber Final - session 3

Continuous Pairs (walk-in) - all sessions

Scoring Corrections

The Duty Director will be at the desk between 8.30 and 9 am to consider scoring corrections. Scores become final at 9 am

Final & Plate Draw

will be posted after scores become final

***Cock & Bull* Back To The Future Teams**

Entries close at the desk at 9.15 am. If you want team-mates please see Nola or Gwyn at the Congress Desk. Remember that you must play each session with a different partner. It may be tactically advisable to play your most practised partnerships in order to qualify or to save them for the finalyou decide. Teams containing contestants in the Rubber final CANNOT qualify for the final of this event. Only 26 teams qualify for the final

Cellphones

Please ensure that all cellphones are switched off in playing rooms

System Cards

As all Congress events are A pointed, the carrying of system cards is mandatory

New Zealand Teams

Entries close at 9.00 am on Tuesday. This is also the deadline for registering HUM's and providing copies of such systems. System regulations for the Teams will be published tomorrow

Minibus Shuttle

This runs to the Ulster Street Motels each night at the end of play. However, it does not run continuous shuttles until the bar is empty. If you want the shuttle, you must be outside as soon as possible after the end of play.

Good Trumps, Partner!

Normally, it is disappointing (if not, for some of us, a new experience) when the opponents manage to take two trump tricks against your freely bid slam. Ralph Parker and Andrew Mill managed this with a bit to spare in the second round of Pairs qualifying.

NZ Pairs Q2/3
Dealer : S

Vul : EW

♠ A Q 9 6
♥ 10 9
♦ J 7 3
♣ A J 9 7

♠ J 10 7 2
♥ K Q 7
♦ A 10 9 6 4
♣ 8



♠ 5 4 3
♥ A 5 4 3
♦ K Q 8 5 2
♣ K

♠ K 8
♥ J 8 6 2
♦
♣ Q 10 6 5 4 3 2

South opened 1D and Andrew passed. North responded 1S which inspired Ralph to try his luck with 4C. South was in a bit of a quandary which was resolved by a 4S bid. North liked this and decided that slam might be on. Keycard got a 1 or 4 response from South and, assured that 4 controls would be ample, North closed proceedings in 6S. Dummy was a disappointment after Ralph had led the 2 of clubs.

Andrew took this and, reading the 2 accurately, he returned a diamond for Ralph to ruff. (Defensive trump trick #1). Ralph exited a heart and North marked time by cashing a second high heart before playing a third round to dummy's Ace and Andrew's ruff. (Dtt#2).

Another diamond from Andrew saw Ralph's King of spades become Dtt#3.

At this point, Andrew was still admiring ♠A K 9 and declarer had no way to prevent those from becoming Dtt#'s 4, 5 and 6. (Not forgetting the seventh defensive trick - the Ace of clubs.

1♠, one away.



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*****MONDAY SPECIAL*****

Jack and Bridge Baron \$89 each

Babich WINES

PLAY OF THE DAY

Debs Smith was impressed by partner Sartaj Hans performance on this one which features some spectacularly accurate card placing.

NZ Pairs Q2/7

Dealer : S

Vul : All

♠ 6
♥ A 6 5
♦ K 7 5 4
♣ K 8 7 3 2

♠ 8 5
♥ 9 8 7 4 3
♦ A J 10 8
♣ A 6



♠ A K 10 7 4 3
♥ 2
♦ Q 6 3 2
♣ Q 4

♠ Q J 9 2
♥ K Q J 10
♦ 9
♣ J 10 9 5

Sartaj was playing 2S after Debs had competed briefly in clubs. The King of hearts was led, taken on table. Sartaj played a club to the Queen and then a second round of the suit, ducking in dummy and crashing North's now bare Ace. North switched back to hearts for Sartaj to ruff. He cashed the two top spades and ran the Queen of diamonds which North ducked. A second diamond was played to dummy's 5 and North's 10. North persisted with hearts for Sartaj to ruff again and produce

NZ Pairs Q2/7

Dealer : S

Vul : All

♠
♥
♦ K 7
♣ K 8

♠
♥ 9 8
♦ A J
♣



♠ 10 7
♥
♦ 6 3
♣

♠ Q J
♥
♦
♣ J 10 9 5

Sartaj now exited with a trump, using South as a stepping stone to dummy's King of clubs. A beautifully read hand which wins for Sartaj a bottle of Babich's excellent wine.

The Only Chance

Michael Ware was impressed by declarer's effort on this one although partner, David Wiltshire, was somewhat less impressed by Michael's own effort.

NZ Pairs Q2/21

Dealer : N

Vul : NS

♠ J 9 8 7 5 3

♥ A 2

♦ K 9 8 5

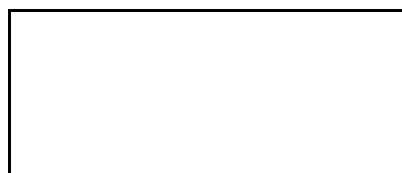
♣ Q

♠ A 6 4

♥ J 9 8

♦ J 7 4

♣ J 10 4 2



♠ Q 10

♥ Q 10 5 3

♦ 6 2

♣ A 9 8 6 3

♠ K 2

♥ K 7 6 4

♦ A Q 10 3

♣ K 7 5

Cynthia Clayton was playing 2S from West. The defence started well with 2 rounds of trumps and a diamond to the Ace. This seems to leave Cynthia with 3 diamond losers to go with the two trumps and a heart which makes one too many.

Cynthia took her only chance - a defensive error from Michael! She crossed to the Ace of clubs and pulled out the Queen of hearts. At this point Michael has close to a 100% count on the hand but he fell from grace by failing to cover. The Chinese finesse strikes again! 2S making.

In fairness, I must point out that Michael auto-nominated for Homer. A nomination which has been gratefully accepted.

Michael isn't the only nominee today. Others to be drawn to the attention of the Selection Committee are Jim Wallis, Andy Braithwaite and Tom Jacob

The nominations of Andy and Michael do create a problem. The Even Homer Nods Award is made each year by a selection committee of three.

Me - it was my idea and I thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to deride my bridge betters in public.

Andy - the inaugural Homer who was elevated to the committee *emeritus*

Michael - he has more experience of bizarre bridge situations than any 5 normal players.

Now two of the three committee members will have to "declare an interest". That leaves me to make the decision on my own.

What a shame.

View Tom's creation as a lead problem for his partner, David Beauchamp.

The auction

West Tom	North	East David	South
1S P P x	2D 2NT 3NT	P P P	1C 2S 3D 6NT

You hold

♠ 8 7 3 ♥ 9 8 7 6 2 ♦ 8 ♣ 7 6 5 4

You lead? Do I hear you suggest that this is the first example in "The Young Child's Big Picture Book of Lightner Doubles" and that your heart lead would be on the table before Tom had put his pen down?

David thought so. But..

NZ Pairs SF1/22

Dealer : E

Vul : EW

♠ A K 9 5 4
♥ Q J 10
♦ J 7 5
♣ 10 8

♠ Q J 10 2
♥ 5 3
♦ A Q 10 6 3 2
♣ 3



♠ 8 7 3
♥ 9 8 7 6 2
♦ 8
♣ 7 6 5 4

♠ 6
♥ A K 4
♦ K 9 4
♣ A K Q J 9 2

Declarer was not extended to make 13 tricks on a heart lead.

Andy's adventure was on board 17 which caused considerable *angst* around the room.

NZ Pairs SF1/17

Dealer : N

Vul : nil

♠ K 9
♥ A Q 10 7 6 5 2
♦ A 5
♣ A 5

♠ J 10 8 5 4 3 2

♥ 9 3

♦ 9 8 7

♣ 4



♠ A Q 7 6
♥ J 8
♦ Q J 3 2
♣ Q 10 7

♠
♥ K 4
♦ K 10 6 4
♣ K J 9 8 6 3 2

Andy opened 1NT as East and South overcalled 2C to show any single suited hand. 3D from David Appleton was a transfer which Andy gracefully accepted with 3H. David now bid slam.

The 8 of clubs was led. Now, at this moment in time, Andy has available 2 club tricks, 3 spades, seven hearts and 2 diamonds - a total of 14 tricks....but wait! It's the Great Andrewino and His Incredible Vanishing Tricks..

Up with the Ace of clubs (down to 13) and "cash" the King of spades (bugger, South ruffed - down to 12). A club from South (double bugger, North ruffed - down to 11) followed by another spade (and we all know why triple bugger appeared next - down to 10).

It's nice to welcome Andy back to the Homer Honours Board which he initiated all those years ago.

Active Ethics

John Evitt and Tony Thompson have been around the highest echelon of New Zealand bridge for more years than either of them cares to remember. Both Life Members of the Association, they are impeccably ethical players themselves, of course. They were delighted by an opponents understanding of her ethical obligations and her immediate response to them in the Pairs qualifying.

Tony led a spade towards dummy's K J x. Next player hitched, had a wee fumble and played small. Tony finessed the Jack and the Queen scored.

The defender then muttered about her ethical position and switched to another suit. Tony was able to take a pitch and the Ace of spades didn't take a trick.

Stand up and take a bow please - Patricia Haden

Penn and Teller Play Bridge

If you thought that Andy Braithwaite's vanishing trick trick was good, wait and watch Australian stars, Andrew Mill and Ralph Parker, do their Penn and Teller impersonation. (For those of you who haven't seen them, Penn and Teller are described on the net as "eccentric magicians with a psychotic twist".)

First up, Andrew with a fairly low key effort.

NZ Pairs SF1/7

Dealer : S

Vul : All

♠ 4 3
♥ K Q J 6 2
♦ 2
♣ K J 7 6 5

♠ A K J 9 8

♥ 10 8 4

♦ K J 4

♣ 9 2



♠ 10 7 6 5 2
♥ 5
♦ Q 9 7 6
♣ 10 8 4

♠ Q
♥ A 9 7 3
♦ A 10 8 5 3
♣ A Q 3

Andrew opened 1D as South and West overcalled 1H. Ralph bid 1S which drew 2C from Andrew. West now asked about their minor suit requirements and checked the system card. Reassured that Andrew's diamonds were real, she bid 2D. Ralph asked for a heart stop with 2H and Andrew closed matters with 3NT.

Now count Andrew's tricks - 4 spades, a heart, 4 or five diamonds and a club. Add to that an endplay against West for the Queen of hearts and a finesse against East in diamonds for a very wholesome 12 tricks.

But wait...

Having taken the Ace of hearts, Andrew immediately ran the 10 of diamonds. This is a real gem. Not only has he finessed the wrong way but he has also not unblocked the spades **and** blocked the diamonds with one amazing twitch of his magic wand.

Escaping for one off, when he had 4 overs available a moment earlier was almost a relief.

And then Ralph took the spotlight.

Board 5

This one caused a few problems for players on lead. Australia's Ted Chadwick put aside a life time's prejudices and lived to regret it.

NZ Pairs SF 1/5

Dealer : N

Vul : NS

♠ K J 5 4
♥ A Q 6 5
♦ 9 8 7 3
♣ Q

♠ 8 3
♥
♦ A K Q J 10
♣ J 10 8 6 4 3



♠ A 10 9 6 2
♥ 10 9 8 4 2
♦ 4 2
♣ K

♠ Q 7
♥ K J 7 3
♦ 6 5
♣ A 9 7 5 2

Ted's partner, Martin Bloom, has recently been extolling the virtues of leading an Ace to have a look when the opps bid slam. Ted had poo-pooed this vigorously but on this one he found himself on lead after a somewhat tenuous auction to 6C. Casting his predispositions to the wind, he led the Ace of hearts...oh dear!

Jims Jessep and Murray made life difficult for David Wiltshire and Michael Ware on the same board.

Jim J opened 1D from North and David tried 2D for the majors. Jim M found a natural 3C bid and Michael tried 3D - you choose the major, please partner. Jim J went to 5C which went back to Michael and he tried again with 5D. Jim J raised clubs again and Michael hit this.

He confidently banged down his Ace of hearts and so created a Super - Bilcliffe Coup.

The Bilcliffe Coup was immortalised by David Bird in the "Monastery" books. In its original form, you have the opportunity to pass the opponents out in partial, you back in instead and they bid game. You double this and they make it.

Michael could have sold out to game, he didn't, he doubled and -1740 was the result.

Min d you not all four figure numbers are a disaster. John Evitt was delighted by his extremely accurate numbering on this on:

NZ Pairs SF 1/ 26

Dealer : E

Vul : All

♠ A K J 10 6 5

♥ A 9 8 4

♦ Q

♣ 8 4

♠ 3

♥ 10 3

♦ A J 9 8 7 4

♣ J 7 3 2



♠ Q

♥ K Q 6 2

♦ K 6 2

♣ A K Q 10 5

♠ 9 8 7 4 2

♥ J 7 5

♦ 10 5 3

♣ 9 6

East opened 1C and West replied 1S. John intervened with 1NT for the minors. East doubled and Tony Thompson showed impeccable judgement by opting for diamonds. West put in a Gerber. John assessed his assets, such as they were, and couldn't find them. He gave the opps a losing choice by bidding 5D and they grabbed it with a double.

John's impeccable judgement saw this concede ONLY 1400 against the 1430 available in 6H or 6S. Isn't pairs a fun game?

When Dummy Was Also Dummy

John Kearns

NZ Pairs Q1/25

Dealer : N

Vul : EW

♠ 4

♥ 8 5

♦ A J 7 5 3 2

♣ A 10 9 7

♠ K Q 7 3

♥ K 10 6 2

♦ K Q 10

♣ 6 3



♠ A 10 9 8 2

♥ Q 4

♦ 9 6 4

♣ Q 8 5

♠ J 6 5

♥ A J 9 7 3

♦ 8

♣ K J 4 2

Liz Robertson opened 1NT as North and Judy Johnson passed. Blair Fisher bid a 2D transfer which Phil Beale doubled. Liz accepted the transfer with 2H and Judy happily bid 2S after Phil's double. Blair tried 3NT but Liz corrected to 4H. Athirst for information to assist him in his upcoming role as dummy, Blair now asked what the double had meant and was told that it was takeout. Blair then asked what West would do if he wanted a diamond lead. The next sound heard was a penny dropping out East and the contract now goes one off.

Clang!

NZ Pairs SF1/ 15

Dealer : S

Vul : NS

♠ A 10 5 3

♥ Q 4

♦ K 9 7 6

♣ A 10 3

♠ Q 9 7

♥ K J 10 7

♦ A

♣ K J 8 4 2



♠ 6 4

♥ A 8 3

♦ J 8 4 3 2

♣ 9 7 5

♠ K J 8 2

♥ 9 6 5 2

♦ Q 10 5

♣ Q 6

Auckland international Tom Jacob opened 1D as West. North doubled and Daqvid Beauchamp made a pe-emptive raise to 3D. South hit this and Tom faced the “bricks without straw” dilemma.

North had no particularly attractive lead and tried the effect of the Jack of hearts. Tom was in a restricted choice situation. The number of ways he could make tricks was very restricted and he had few choices available. He ran the heart to his Queen and returned a heart to dummy’s Ace.

He pulled the Jack of trumps off dummy and South covered. Tom didn’t and was rewarded by a gratifying clang from the North as the Ace of trumps beat up South’s Queen.

Happy Hour

Nine o’clock tomorrow evening in the bar. Special drink prices and Peter McTaggart at the piano. Rumour has it that Jan and Siggy may be persuaded to sing.

Why not come along and join in?

