

ABF YOUTH



BULLETIN

Youth Week 2003

Youth Week 2003 was conducted at Fenner Hall, 210 Northbourne Ave, Canberra from the 11th January. The new venue was well received by the players and is scheduled for use for the same event in 2004.

RESULTS

International Challenge:

Round-Robin

Australia B

110 VPs

Daniel Geromboux-Griff Ware,
Oliver Mailes-Peter Wilshire.

Australia A

94 VPs

Mark Abraham-Michael Wilkinson,
Nic Croft-Arian Lasocki, Tony Nunn- Kylie Robb.

Southland/Otago

94 VPs

Mike Dollan-Christiaan Prent,
Jeremy Kennard-Fraser Rew.

Oceania

57 VPs

Fiona Brown-Paul Gosney,
David Gillanders-Sharon Ladyman,
William Jenner O'Shea-Matt Porter.

Australia A proceeded to the final on a count-back from Southland/Otago.

Final:

Australia A overcame a 10 IMP carry-forward to defeat **Australia B**, 79-35.

In the play-off for 3rd/4th, Oceania also overcame a 10 IMP deficit on carry-over to defeat Southland/Otago, 86-46.

The International Challenge provided some tough bridge to start the week and also gave visiting players a chance to meet many of their Australian rivals. The event was, as always, played in good spirit.

◆ Issue 03/1

April 2003

♣
Edited by David Lusk

Australian Youth Pairs

Qualifying -- Leading Pairs:

N-S

D. Geromboux-G.Ware
C. Baker-F.Brown
W. J-O'Shea-M. Porter

E-W

H. Lyngiso-D. Molloy
O. Mailes-P.Wilshire
D. Wiltshire-G. Feiler

Final:

1. Mark Abraham-Michael Wilkinson
2. Haken Lyngiso-Darius Molloy
3. Vincent Demuy-Gavin Wolpert

Consolation:

1. Mike Doecke-Paul Gosney
2. Mike Dollan-Christiaan Prent
3. Daniel Krochmalik-Joshua Wyner

Australian Youth Teams:

1. Nic Croft-Arian Lasocki, Tony Nunn-Kylie Robb.
2. Colin Baker-Kieran Dyke, Sartaj Hans-Robert Meakins.
3. Daniel Krochmalik-Joshua Wyner, Gabby Feiler-David Wiltshire.

Australian Youth Team Selection -- Butler:

1. Gabby Feiler-David Wiltshire*
 2. Tony Nunn-Kylie Robb
 3. Daniel Krochmalik-Joshua Wyner
 4. Nic Croft-Arian Lasocki
 5. Mark Abraham-Michael Wilkinson
- * Automatic selection

Australian Youth Team Play-off:

Mark Abraham-Michael Wilkinson,
Daniel Krochmalik-Joshua Wyner **171**
Defeated:
Nic Croft-Arian Lasocki, Tony Nunn-Kylie Robb **89**

Winners to join Feiler-Wiltshire as the Australian Youth team in 2003. The team will compete in the World Youth Teams in Paris but has agreed not to play in the PABFC in Manila due to security concerns.

Under 16s Youth Camp

Although the Under 16s were represented by only 3 tables, there was a lot to enjoy in the event. 'Pro-Am' Pairs and Teams were a big feature of the Youth Camp in 2003. featuring partnerships with top players and (we hope) top future players.

Under 16 Individual:

1. Laura Ginnan
2. Robert Meakins
3. Nabil Edgtton

Under 16 Pairs

1. Adam Edgtton-Nabil Edgtton
2. Robert Meakins-Vanessa Ng
3. George Bloomfield-Laura Ginnan

Under 16 Teams:

1. Adam Edgtton-Nabil Edgtton, Robert Meakins-Vanessa Ng.
2. Laura Ginnan-George Bloomfield
Mirjam Haffer-Sarah Plush

Pairs with an Expert:

N-S

1. V. Demuy-L. Stevenson
2. S. Hans-A. Edgtton
3. D. Lusk-F. Rew

E-W

1. R. Meakins-C. Prent
2. D. Molloy-P. Wilsmore
3. M. Dollan-S. Dixon

Pro-Am Teams:

1. K. Dyke - Vanessa Ng, Adam & Nabil Edgtton
2. D. Lusk, R. Meakins, J. Ascione, A. Lockwood



Michael Wilkinson and Mark Abraham

Youth Awards

Awards are given to youth players showing outstanding achievement over the year.

Helman-Klinger Awards

The Helman-Klinger award, donated by Rabbi Leonard Helman of the United States, honours Ron Klinger's contributions to bridge in Australia and, as one of the most prolific of bridge authors, throughout the world.

Masterpoint Achievement Award

The youth player who earns the most masterpoints over the calendar year automatically wins this award with the proviso that a given player may only receive the award once.

General Achievement Award

This award is made to the youth player who the panel feel has made significant contributions to youth bridge both at the table and away from it. Not only is the recipient expected to perform well as a player, he/she must have made contributions to bridge in general and youth bridge in particular. Other aspects such as table demeanor and appropriate modelling for younger players is also taken into account. As with the MP Achievement award, no player may win this award more than once.

Hills-Hurley Trophy

This award, donated by Richard Hills from the ACT, honours a pair who have shown evidence of working on the partnership game. Long-standing partnerships who have impressed with their systemic understanding and their general acumen at the table are considered. A pair may only win the Hills-Hurley trophy once, although an individual in a new partnership may still be eligible.

Past Winners

HK Award (MPs)

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 1999 | Leigh Gold (Vic) |
| 2000 | Tony Nunn (NSW) |
| 2001 | Paul Brayshaw (WA) |

2002 **Justin Williams (SA)**

HK Award, General Achievement

1999 Mark Abraham (Tas)
2000 Kylie Robb (NSW)
2001 Paul Brayshaw (WA)

2002 Michael Wilkinson

HH Award

1999 Nic Croft-Luke Matthews (SA)
2000 Tony Nunn-Kylie Robb (NSW)
2001 Paul Brayshaw-Simon Brayshaw (WA)

2002 Mark Abraham-Michael Wilkinson

ABF Youth Committee, 2003

The ABF Youth Committee currently stands as:

Chairman and Convenor: David Stern

National Youth Coordinator: David Lusk

Committee Members:

Mark Abraham (ACT)

Leigh Gold (Vic)

Keiran Crowe-Mai (NSW)

Michael Wilkinson (NSW)

Using Youth OKB Accounts

The ABF Youth Committee is grateful to OKBridge for the ongoing use of three accounts which are made available to youth players in Australia.

- The accounts are exclusively for youth players and should not be used by players who do not fall into this category.

Many young players use the accounts with some frequency and the Youth Committee have no problem with getting as much from the facility as possible.

The ABF Youth Committee would like it to be known that all young players should have access to this facility. The following rules apply to all users:

- Players must not alter the password for the purpose of gaining exclusive use of an account, unless they have been granted such exclusive use in response to a request. Players who change passwords for casual use are required to change back immediately the session of play is concluded.
- The ABF Youth Committee would prefer that the passwords are not altered for casual use. When exclusive use is granted, a change of password is acceptable for the duration.
- Players who are in need of practice in preparation for international or national level tournaments and have geographical barriers which prevent face-to-face play will have priority in the granting of exclusive use
- Any opportunity to use one account exclusively will have limited tenure, usually of one month. Extensions may be granted if the accounts are not in demand for this purpose.
- When a log-on attempt fails for the apparent reason that the account is already in use, players are advised not to continue to attempt to log on at frequent intervals. Instead, wait for a reasonable time (40 minutes +) before trying again. Note that it will not always be obvious even from the lobby that the account is already in use.
- Players using OKBridge accounts should accept that this is a privilege which is extended equally to all young ABF members.
- Players can request exclusive use by emailing David Lusk, lusk@internode.on.net . Priority will be given to players practicing for national and international events.

Cardplay Tip

How to Use Your Short Trumps for Control

David Lusk

There is a common situation which is often overlooked by players who should know better. The elements to consider are that you hold the ace of a suit led by the opponents and a doubleton with relatively short trumps. In such situations it is almost always better technique to hold up the ace on the first round. Here are two examples:

1.

North

♠ 6
♥ 84
♦ AKJ9
♣ QJ9543

South

♠ AQJ1097
♥ A63
♦ Q74
♣ 6

Let's say you reach 4♠ from the South hand with no opposition bidding and West leads the ♥ Queen. You play low from dummy and East plays the King. What should you play?

Let's say that you take your Ace of hearts. What next? If you choose to play trumps, the defenders have two hearts, a trump and a top club to take and you are down. If you attempt to play a second heart, the defenders will win and remove dummy's trump. Unless South can avoid a spade loser, the defenders will still get four tricks.

If you hold up the heart at trick one, what will the defenders do? If they lead a second heart, you will win, ruff a heart in dummy and lead a club to clear a safe way to hand. You should now keep your losers to three on most reasonable breaks.

2.

North

♠ A5
♥ 62
♦ AJ106
♣ A9854

South

♠ 943
♥ KQJ1083
♦ 95
♣ K7

Once again you reach game, this time in hearts. West leads the ♠ King. Do you win or do you hold up? If you win, what is your next move? If you play hearts, the defenders will make sure that they remove the last heart from dummy as soon as possible. Unless the clubs break 3-3 you are unlikely to make the contract.

Let's try holding up instead. The opponents will be on lead and will have to make the running. If they play Ace and another trump, and the trumps have divided 3-2 or 4-1, you can draw the last trump and establish the clubs even if they are 4-2. If the trumps are breaking 5-0, you can run the ♦ 9 and leave yourself the option of coming home on the second diamond finesse.

If the opponents choose to continue spades at trick two, you can win, cross to hand with the ♣ King and ruff a spade in dummy before tackling trumps. That should make ten tricks an easier task and give you some chance at eleven.

New E-mail Address

David Lusk's old email address is no longer valid. Any email contact should be made on:

lusk@internode.on.net

Handling The Freaks

David Lusk

If there is one given in bridge it is that you would prefer that the freak hands turn up against players with lesser experience. Judgement on the truly bizarre hands tends to be in favour of good players who have been around for a while.

I remember when Tim Seres was hosting a column in Australian Bridge and someone sent him a wild hand, asking him what would constitute a good decision in the middle of a rapidly escalating auction. Tim was happy to provide a recommendation but it came with a disclaimer which went along the lines of: "You'll never have this problem again."

That is the point. Freak hands have similarities but the wild auctions diverge to the extent that it is hard to provide a formula for getting the right answers with any consistency. Take the following hands which occurred almost back to back in a duplicate.

You hold as South:-

♠ -- ♥ — ♦ QJxxxx ♣ KQ10xxx

All vul, LHO opens 1♠ and, to your surprise, partner chips in with a 2♣ overcall. East bids 2♥ and LHO bids 5♥ over your bid of 5♣. North doubles. When RHO redoubles, should you be panicking?

West	North	East	South
1♠	2♣	2♥	5♣
5♥	X	Pass	??

Should you bid 6♣? It is quite possible that partner has some need for a spade lead but you can't oblige. Your defensive strength doesn't amount to much...

If you do bid 6♣ and the bidding now proceeds: Pass - Pass - 6♥, are you any happier?

5♥XX made 11 tricks but declarer has a way to manage 12 tricks in 6♥. Here is the whole catastrophe:

Dealer: W	North	
Vul: All	♠ AQxxxx	
	♥ --	
	♦ 10x	
	West	East
	♠ KJ10xx	♠ xx
	♥ AKxx	♥ QJ109xxxx
	♦ xxx	♦ AK
	♣ x	♣ —
	South	
	♠ —	
	♥ —	
	♦ Q109xxxx	
	♣ KQxxxx	

If you push declarer to 6♥, you may suffer badly for East can make 6♥. He wins the opening lead (a diamond, say) and takes two top diamonds. He then plays to dummy and ruffs a club in hand. If declarer has any idea of the distribution of the unseen hands, he can cross to dummy with a trump and play dummy's last diamond. When North pitches, East can pitch a spade hoping for an endplay on West. West must lead a club or a diamond for a ruff and discard.

Two hands later, you have as South:-

♠ — ♥ — ♦ 65432 ♣ AKJ1086532

Vulnerability is favourable and LHO opens 1♠, pass, 2♦. Your turn.

At the table South bid 6♣ at once. This was doubled by West and the auction ended.

West	North	East	South
1♠	Pass	2♦	6♣
X	All Pass		

Here was the full deal:

(Turn over)

Dealer: W **North**
 Vul: EW ♠ J9xxxxx
 ♥ AQ10xxx
 ♦ -
 ♣ -

West	East
♠ AKQ10xx	♠ —
♥ KJ	♥ xxxxx
♦ —	♦ AKQJ10987
♣ Q9754	♣ —

South

♠ —
 ♥ —
 ♦ 65432
 ♣ AKJ108632

Calendar of Events

Australian Events

2003

July 20-26 ANC
 Youth Pairs and Teams
Darwin

September 27-29
 Australian Youth Triathlon
Adelaide

2004

January 11-19
International Challenge
 Australian Youth Championships
 Under 16 events and Youth Camp
Canberra

International Events

April 26-27
 OK Bridge Inter-Collegiate Championships
On-Line

July 4-14
 World Junior Pairs Championship
 World Junior Bridge Camp
Tata, Hungary

July 12
 NZ vs Australia Youth Test
Hamilton

August 18-24
 World Youth Teams Championships
Paris

South had to play well to escape for 3 light. East did well to pass but 6♦ is a make if declarer can get to dummy with a heart. When he can't, the contract is held to 8 tricks. In any contract at anything above the three level, this hand is a nightmare. Pick the primary denomination for any player and look at the nasty things that will happen to them ... a good way to while away an hour or two!

6♣ is not a bad bid. After all, dummy could have been a lot better. Nonetheless, East's pass was excellent.

OKB Inter-Collegiate

The OKBridge Inter-collegiate Championships will be conducted on April 26-27. Teams may be made up of players from as many as three tertiary institutions. (By implication, two must be from the same institution.)

The hours are fairly irregular as match times are set to accommodate North American and European participants.

It's not too late to get a team together for this challenging on-line event. OKB extends free access to players for the duration.

For further information, get to the ABF site (youth link) and follow the prompts to OKB. Or go to www.fifthchair.org .