



# New South Wales Bridge Association

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## ♠ ♥ Bulletin ♦ ♣

Editor: Peter Jamieson

### Chairman's Corner

Begging the indulgence of the many NSW bridge players who never set foot in our premises, I propose to devote this column to what is (literally) the hottest topic on the minds of those who do, namely air-conditioning. This problem has plagued the NSWBA ever since it bought its Goulburn Street premises, back in 1992, and stems from the fact that the premises were never designed to cater for the use that they are being put to. The NSWBA clubrooms comprise one floor of a commercial building and when the building was originally strata titled the air-conditioning specifications that had to be met were those applying to standard office premises, to wit., enough capacity to handle a heat loading of one person per 10 square metres. Given that the playing area is 450 sq metres, that translates into a maximum load of 45 people. Little wonder then that on a Monday night when we have forty tables (160 people) or at a weekend event such as the GNOT Metropolitan Final where we might have as many as sixty tables (240 people), the place becomes unbearably hot. And it's not just a question of temperature, there's also the issue of air quality. The fetid atmosphere that players complain of is due in no small part to a steady build up of carbon dioxide, not to mention the depletion of oxygen.

As you'd appreciate, overcoming these problems will involve a major upgrade to the air-conditioning plant the capacity of which will need to be boosted to the extent where it can not only handle the heat load generated by 250 people over the course of a day, but also, to cool down a steady flow of fresh air drawn from outside where the ambient temperature might well be 10 to 15 degrees higher.

Council is obtaining a number of competitive quotes for the work involved. Early indications are that these will be of the order of \$75,000, not including two major extraneous items. The first is that the scale of the work is such that the premises will be unusable for a period of weeks. As it would be unthinkable to

cancel all bridge sessions for that length of time, we will need to rent suitable space nearby to accommodate displaced sessions. The second is that local council approval will be required, which could potentially expose us to additional costs. The Building Code has been tightened considerably since 1992 and it is unlikely that council will restrict its attention to just the air-conditioning issue. The question of whether the premises comply with the fire code (i.e. can 250 people be evacuated within the prescribed time), the adequacy of toilet facilities, and even the permissible floor loading may be revisited. Should this scrutiny produce an adverse finding, the resultant costs could be substantial.

Local council is not the only obstacle we have to clear, there is also the Body Corporate. In the past they have been less than accommodating and, despite putting a great deal of effort into rehabilitating that relationship, I don't expect an easy passage for any proposal we submit. The bottom line, then, is that all of this is going to take some time to play out and I would ask your forbearance in the interim. Importantly, for those of you who don't frequent NSWBA's premises, let me give you this assurance – not a single penny of affiliation fees or any other 'state' impost will be channelled towards fixing the air-conditioning. While the details of how the rectification cost will be met are yet to be worked out, the guiding principle will be one of 'user pays'. In other words only those who utilise the premises, now and in the future, will bear the cost.

**Dr Alex Yezerksi**

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### OPENING LEAD Problem

Dealer N	South ( You)
NS Vul	♠ A 10 9 3
IMPs	♥ J 7 3 2
	♦ 9
	♣ K Q 4 3

Partner passes as dealer, East opens the bidding 1NT ( 13-15) and West raises to 3NT. What do you lead and what is your reasoning? Answer on page 6.

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## Handling Their Anti 1NT bidding:

This article, written by leading USA player Marinesa Letizia, in the Bridge Bulletin published November 1997, presents a common sense and logical defense approach. The article is posted at **The Bridge Guys** web site and is titled : "Opponents Disturbing Your 1 No Trump Openers ; Here's How to Cope "

Letizia writes : "Modern bidding methods make it more and more difficult to cope with interference after you have opened or overcalled 1 No Trump. Since new conventions seem to be born every day, I suggest a set of guidelines to deal with the possible calls the opponents may make against 1 No Trump.

These guidelines should be followed no matter what defensive method opponents may have chosen to throw at you: DONT, HELLO, SUCTION, CAPPELLETTI \* ( \*Ed in Australia known better as HAMILTON) and so on. This counter-method should be used whether you open or overcall 1 No Trump.

Normal Lebensohl is a cornerstone in these methods, so here is a quick review of the Lebensohl convention. When the opponents interfere naturally, the following applies:

- Two-level bids, except over 2C , are natural and non-forcing.
- 2 No Trump is a relay and forces 3C - - - then:
  - a. Pass if you have less than game-forcing values and want to play 3C .
  - b. Bid a suit that you could not have bid at the two-level. The bid is to play and is not constructive.
  - c. Bid a suit that you could have bid at the two-level. The bid invites game, usually in the suit you bid.
  - d. Bid the opponent's suit. The bid is Stayman with a stopper, for No Trump, in the opponent's suit.
  - e. Bid 3 No Trump. The bid shows the values for 3 No Trump with a stopper (for No Trump) in the opponent's suit.
- 3. Three-level bids are natural and forcing to game.
- 4. Cue- bidding the opponent's suit directly - ie no 2NT relay - is Stayman, as in 2.d. above, without a stopper in the opponent's suit.

5. Three No Trump is to play but denies a stopper in the opponent's suit.

This method of playing Lebensohl is referred to as "fast denies" and "slow shows" because when you do not have a stopper in the opponent's suit you cuebid or bid 3 No Trump, whichever is appropriate, directly over the opponent's bid. When you have a stopper in the opponent's suit, you first bid 2 No Trump and then cuebid or bid 3 No Trump over your partner's 3C bid. Some players (by agreement) reverse this process and play "slow denies" and "fast shows".

### Defensive Guidelines:

Now here are some general guidelines for defending against an opponent's interference after you open or overcall 1 No Trump.

1. When an opponent Doubles:
  - a. If the Double is for penalty, all bids are natural; you can play at the two-level in any suit.
  - b. If the Double has a meaning other than penalty, ignore it and play the system you play had the opponent passed. Over this type of Double, you play what is termed "**system on**".
2. When the opponents interfere with a bid showing two specific suits:
  - a. A Double is for penalty. It shows a desire to penalize at least one of the suits shown by the opponent and is forcing to penalty or 2 NT.
  - b. A cuebid of the lower of the two suits shown indicates a *weak Takeout for the other two suits*. If you cuebid the higher of the opponent's suits, it shows a *game-forcing Takeout for the other two suits*. Example: 1 No Trump - 2 C showing the Major suits. A 2H bid shows a weak Takeout with the Minor suits. A 2S bid shows a game-forcing hand with the Minor suits.
  - c. 2 No Trump is still Lebensohl. Opener is required to bid 3C .
  - d. Three-level bids are natural and forcing.
3. When an opponent bids 2C , unless it shows two specific suits as above, ignore the bid. You don't have to worry about what it shows.

Its meaning is not material to the meaning of whatever call you select:

- a. Double is Stayman.
  - b. Other calls have the same meaning they would have had, had the 2C bid been a Pass. **System On** applies.
4. When an opponent bids 2D , 2 H or 2S :
- a. If the bid has multiple meanings - this will apply mostly over 2D - **Double is Stayman**.
  - b. Two-level bids are natural and non-forcing.
  - c. 2 No Trump forces partner to bid 3C . Lebensohl rules (as above) apply.
  - d. Three-level bids are natural and forcing.
  - e. If you play Texas Transfers, or other four-level transfers, they apply. This part of your normal system is on.
5. If an opponent interferes at the three-level, it is usually with a long suit. In that case, play Negative Doubles. A double over a three-level bid shows enough values for game and is a Takeout of the preempted suit.
6. Since 2 No Trump is used as Lebensohl, it is necessary to give up penalty doubles at the two-level. So double of a two-level bid shows a raise to 2 No Trump or better - more when you have a 4-card Major. Opener always treats the double as Stayman with at least values for 2 No Trump. Opener should have good trumps to pass the double for penalty.

It is important to remember that the only direct double that is penalty over two-or three-level interference, is when the opponents show two specific suits.

If you and your partner adopt and follow the above guidelines, you should be able to cope with whatever methods the opponents throw at you. Regardless of the meaning, bizarre or not, of an opponent's call, you and your partner will bid in comfort because you know the meaning of your calls."

( Ed- *All regular tournament partnerships need to be organised -and confident- about handling all the different anti 1NT gadgets. Marinesa Letizia has won 3 World Championships and her recommendations as set out above make a lot of sense.* )

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## Declarer Play Problem #1

### From Gold Coast Congress 2007

<b>Dealer S</b>	<b>North</b>
E/W Vul	♠ K 5 4
	♥ Q 9 8 4
	♦ K 10 8 2
	♣ K 3
	<b>South</b>
	♠ A 7
	♥ A J 5
	♦ A J 5
	♣ J 10 8 4 2

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1NT 12-14
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦**
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

North's simple Stayman 2♣ received a 2♦ no major reply. West leads ♠10 and, as recommended by all teachers and textbooks, you pause to examine your situation before playing from dummy.

Lots of options on this hand - - - if you find super friendly layouts in the red suits you could notch up 10 tricks. The opponents have led their best suit and are threatening to scupper you –especially if spades are 5-3 (length with West). You would like East to have ♥K but that is incidental to your need to develop the club suit. So you complete trick one by playing low in dummy and winning East's jack with your ace. At trick two you play ♣ 2 towards dummy and West produces the ace. Interesting ! - - -West's ♠Q exit is ducked by you and the spade exit is won perforce in dummy with ♠K as East follows with ♠2 and you pitch a heart from your hand. Next you play ♣K from dummy and your hopes for doubleton A Q of clubs are dashed as West pitches ♥2.

What now ? Answer Page 4

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## Bridge on Saturdays in Petersham

A bridge game has started up on Saturday afternoons at Petersham RSL club. The club is located at 7 Regent St, Petersham. There is plenty of parking and good facilities generally - visit <http://www.petershamrsl.com.au/> .

For more information on the bridge game please contact Helen Sharwood on 9560 991.

(Helen is the proprietor of Inner West Bridge Club located in Rozelle.)

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## Congress Results

### North Shore Bridge Club

Two Men and a Truck Swiss Teams ( held at their Cove venue on Sunday March 11) 29 teams.

- 1 Marlene Watts, Gabby Feiler, Tony Nunn and Phaik Yao
- 2 Warren Dobes, Ben Chosid, Martin Bloom, Steven Bock
- 3 Liz Adams, Kieran Dyke, Tania Lloyd and Jane Dawson

### North Shore Bridge Club

Charity Day ( held at their Willoughby venue on Tuesday March 13) 20 teams.

- 1 David Beauchamp, Helen Hurwitz, Ted Chadwick, Jeanette Reitzer
- 2 Ruth and Peter Jamieson, Liz Quittner, John Mottram
- 3 Kitty Biro, Neta Phillips, Val Mace, Judy McGeary

### ARMIDALE PAIRS CONGRESS

March 10 and 11

#### CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1 Ann Pettigrew - Adrienne Stephens
- 2 Robert Stewart- Edward Hahn
- 3 Lorraine Harkness - Jack Lindsay

#### CONSOLATION 1

- 1 Sharon Mayo - Greg Mayo
- 2 Frank Campbell- Heather Grant
- 3 Rosemary Johnstone - Wendy Roberts

#### CONSOLATION 2

- 1 Chris Snook - Joanne Todd
- 2 Ian Walker - Bernie Adcock
- 3 Syd Pickering - Gerald Dawson

(Tournament Director: Trevor Strickland )

### CENTRAL COAST CONGRESS

March 16-18 ( 66 pairs )

#### Swiss pairs

- 1 Daniel Krochmalik - Paul Gosney
- 2 Keith Mitchell - Lesley Mitchell
- 3 Wieslaw Podworski - Ryszard Waszyrowski

#### TEAMS

- 1 S Hans, T Nunn, P Gill, P Gosney
- 2 A Edgton, N Edgton, N Rodwell, and D Krochmalik
- 3 D Monahan, H Palmer, H Dawson, and C Williams

(43 teams)

### North Shore Bridge Club

Anzac Day Swiss Teams held Sunday April 22

- 1 Andrew Peake, Warren Lazer, Paul Gosney, Warren Dobes
- 2 Tony and Helena Hutton, Tony Burke and Michael Courtney
- 3 Ruth Jamieson, Al Loomis, David McDonald and Peter Jamieson  
( 23 teams -- Director : John McIlrath)

### Maitland Teams April 22

- 1 Elizabeth Fanos George Finikiotis Jim Fitz-gerald Ellie Fitz-gerald
- 2 Julie Gleeson, Chris Dibley, Paul McGrath, Robyn Fletcher
- 3 Christine Hadaway, Sylvia Foster, Garry Clarke, Sally Clarke  
(45 Teams Director: Nick Hughes )

### North Shore Bridge Club

Anzac Day Swiss Pairs

Held Wednesday April 25

- 1 Greg Quittner – Robert Case
- 2 Gabby Feiler – Paul Gosney
- 3 Paul Chalmers – Nabil Edgton  
( 54 pairs – Director John McIlrath)

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Since its beginnings this family business has emerged as a major player in the Australian accessory market. Principal items sold are fashion handbags, luggage, wallets, and jewelry. Their products are widely available in retail stores. They have a showroom in Sydney but it is for trade only. However you can view the product range in their catalogue at their web site (PDF format). Go to [Hwww.manzoni.com.au](http://www.manzoni.com.au)H  
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Manzoni Accessories are one of NSWBA's sponsors.

### Declarer Play Problem #2 Answer

<b>Dealer E</b> All Vul	<b>North</b> ♠ A 6 3 2 ♥ Q 10 5 2 ♦ K 6 2 ♣ 7 3	
<b>West</b> ♠ J 8 7 5 ♥ K J 7 3 ♦ Q J 4 ♣ A 8	<b>South</b> ♠ K 10 ♥ A 4 ♦ A 9 7 3 ♣ K Q 10 9 4	<b>East</b> ♠ Q 9 4 ♥ 9 8 6 ♦ 10 8 5 ♣ J 6 5 2

You must now play a **low club from hand** and hope West began with ♣ A 8 doubleton – BINGO ! This deal shows how useful the defender's bidding can be in guiding you in the declarer play. Note that if South had opened 1NT (15-17) there would be only passes from E/W as you go to 3NT. Now the winning line is less apparent – though still findable.

(This was board 20 match 6 Gold Coast Teams. *Deep Finesse computer analysis shows there are other lines of play that can succeed eg play [ A at trick two and then another heart but the suggested line has merit)*

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### Australian Open Team Trials Winners

The winning team was an all Sydney based team :  
Ted Chadwick ( Non playing Captain)  
Pauline Gumby, Warren Lazer , Bruce Neill ,  
Richard Jedrychowsky, Andrew Peake and  
Murray Green. Match reports of the Open and  
Women's National Team Trials will appear in the  
National Bridge press.

### NSW Individual Championship

Held April 1 at NSWBA

1st: Andrew Peake

2nd: Kevin Hume

=3rd: Michael Draper and Liz Fanos

The Best Restricted prize of a \$25 book voucher donated by Paul Lavings of Postfree Bridge Books was won by Geoff Bartlett.

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### OPENING LEAD Problem Answer

<b>Dealer E</b> Nil Vul	<b>North</b> ♠ J 6 ♥ 6 5 4 ♦ J 10 8 3 ♣ J 9 8 7	
<b>West</b> ♠ Q 8 5 2 ♥ K 10 8 ♦ K 7 6 ♣ A 10 5	<b>South</b> ♠ A 10 9 3 ♥ J 7 3 2 ♦ 9 ♣ K Q 4 3	<b>East</b> ♠ K 7 4 ♥ A Q 9 ♦ A Q 5 4 2 ♣ 6 2

For some readers this hand is not a problem – just look for your longest and strongest suit and lead it. At the table South 'decided' that since West had not looked for a major suit fit then he must be well heeled in the minors – and led a spade with unhappy results. The low club lead is correct because it is obvious on this bidding that partner has very few high card points. But if partner has ♣ J then the defence will have a decent chance of defeating 3NT. This hand comes from a NSWBA event in February 2007.

### The Ultimate Non-Event

*Reported by Rakesh Kumar of Sydney*

On 22 April I played with Steven Bock, Julian Abel and Peter Jeffery in the Anzac Teams at Willoughby. The most interesting thing that happened to us was in round 5, when nothing happened. No one in the room had ever seen a score sheet like this in an 8-board teams match at a weekend congress – have you?

Board	Our table		Other table		Difference	IMPs
	Contract	Score	Contract	Score		
9	3NT/S	-460	3NT/S	+460	0	0
10	5C/W	-100	5C/W	+100	0	0
11	4S/E	+480	4S/E	-480	0	0
12	1S/E	-50	1S/E	+50	0	0
13	3NT/N	-630	3NT/N	+630	0	0
14	1NT/E	-100	2H/S	+110	+10	0
15	2C/E	+110	2C/E	-110	0	0
16	1NT/S	-120	3C/S	+130	+10	0

We claimed a moral victory for the two +10s our way .....

## BIDDING BOXES –

Many bridge players seem to be unaware of the NSWBA rules and put the bidding cards back into the boxes as soon as possible after the bidding concludes. This is incorrect. Some players also seem unsure of how to use the ALERT cards. To refresh your memory - Here is the relevant NSWBA regulation on Bidding Boxes ( NB full Tournament Regulations can be found at our web site – select “Regulations” then select NSWBA Tournament Regulations (updated Feb 4, 2006)

### Section 6.1. Bidding boxes

6.1.1 Bidding boxes must be used:

(a) for all State Championship events, or

(b) when specified by the Supplementary Regulations of the tournament, or

(c) when specified by the Director of the session.

6.1.2 When the use of bidding boxes is not obligatory, they may be used when agreed to by all four players at the table.

6.1.3 When used, bidding boxes must be used by all four players at the table.

6.1.4 All players make their first call by placing the appropriate bidding card on the table immediately in front of them, slightly to their left. Each player’s bidding cards should be orientated so that the large print is upside-down from that player’s perspective.

6.1.5 Each player’s subsequent calls should be placed on top of the previous ones so that the bidding cards partly overlap and every call in the sequence is visible.

6.1.6 Players should refrain from touching any bidding cards until they have determined their call. A call is considered to have been made when the bidding card is removed from the bidding box with apparent intent (but Law 25 may apply).

6.1.7 To alert, a player should say “alert” and place one of the “ALERT” cards next to partner’s alertable call, with the “A” tab directly below the alerted call. See the diagram (*look at the diagram in these regs at our web site*) where partner’s 2H bid has been alerted.

6.1.8 At the end of the auction, the opening leader places his lead face down on the table. At this point, with the auction still on the table, the leader’s partner and Declarer may request an explanation of the opponents’ auction.

6.1.9 **After all explanations have been completed, the opening lead is faced**, then all players return their bidding cards to their respective bidding boxes.

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## Harmony Park

Visitors to NSWBA in recent months will have noticed that a pleasantly grassed and landscaped park has replaced the ugly temporary car park opposite the 162 Goulburn St building. City of Sydney Council purchased the land from NSW Police in 2001 and work began on a new park in 2005. The park covers 7000 square metres and has an in-ground water storage tank that collects rainwater from the adjacent Energy Australia building. The water is treated and purified and used for irrigation of the park.

Drought resistant Kikuyu grass covers most of the land and native trees and shrubs have been planted in some areas. The large jacaranda tree near Goulburn St was retained and the deciduous plane trees in Goulburn St give a leafy feel most of the year.

The Council information brochure said “the name Harmony Park reflects the rich multicultural heritage of Sydney and the eclectic suburb of Surry Hills in particular, with its strong ties to the gay, lesbian and Chinese community.”

The park was officially opened on 18 November 2006 by Sydney’ Lord Mayor Clover Moore.

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## Be a Good Sport

Tell the opponents what they need to know about your system. Your opponents are entitled to know as much about your system and style as your partner does. Make every effort through alerts and explanations to tell your opponents what they need to know about your system.

**Why not take a few minutes to re-read the ABF ALERT regulations at our web site.**

There are three stages of the alerting process. All are important.

- The pre-alert before bidding starts
- Alerts during the auction
- Delayed alerts by the declaring side before the opening lead.

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## DIARY OF UPCOMING CONGRESSES IN NSW

NOTE: visit NSWBA web site and select *Congresses in NSW*, to send email to the convenor or enter the Congress online or, where available, view PDF brochure.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Phone</b>
May 19-20	Coffs Harbour	Teams	Robyn Bingham	6651 7845
May 20	Strathfield	Teams	Peter Bardos	9809 1073
May 25-27	Mudgee	Fri: Walk In Pairs Sat : Congress Pairs Sun : Congress Teams	Val Heferen	6372 3383
May 25	North Shore	Swiss Pairs	John McIlrath	1300 772337
May 26-27	Leeton Soldiers	Sat: Congress Pairs Sun : Congress Teams	Pam Lonnie	6959 2259
May 27	NSWBA	Swiss IMPs Pairs	Office	9264 8111
June 3	NSWBA	Teams of Three	Office	9264 8111
June 16-17	Newcastle	Sat : Congress Pairs Sun: CongressTeams	Graham Rummey	4969 3932
June 17	Illawarra Master Builders	Congress Swiss Pairs	Chris Diment	42272799
June 17	Wollstonecraft	Teams	West Savery	0403195282
June 22,23,24	North Shore  <b>Super Congress</b>	Friday : Swiss Teams Friday Evening : Pairs Saturday : Swiss Pairs Sunday: Swiss Teams	John McIlrath	1300 772337
June 24	Tweed	Wintersun Teams	June Cross	5576 2005
June 30-July 1st	Tamworth	Swiss Pairs	Michael Johnson	6762 2079
July 1	Trumps	Winter Teams	Derrick Browne	9969 5959
July 8	North Shore	Northern Suburbs Open Teams	John McIlrath	1300 772337