



# New South Wales Bridge Association

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## ♠ ♥ Bulletin ♦ ♣

Editor: Peter Jamieson

### Chairman's Corner

#### A New Home for the Spring Festival

This year the Sydney Spring Bridge Festival in October will have a fabulous new home at Royal Randwick Racecourse. With free parking and easy access from all directions I think this will be a brilliant move! Mark it on your calendar.

#### The Interstate Stage

The process of selecting teams to represent NSW at the Australian National Championships is nearly complete. As I write, the Open and Women's teams selection events are complete and Youth and Senior teams will be selected soon.

The selection events themselves are some of the best in the local calendar, but I notice that other States are experimenting with formats such as playoffs between the winners of a pairs event and a teams event. It is worth thinking whether we can do even better, without losing the good features of the current events.

The team trial results are listed below and also on the NSWBA web site. I wish all our representatives the best of luck and hope to see them bring home some titles.

**Bruce Neill**

[chairman@nswba.com.au](mailto:chairman@nswba.com.au)

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

#### NSW OPEN TEAM TRIALS

- 1 Tom Snow – Michael Courtney
- 2 Andrew Peake – Orlando Wu
- 3 Seamus Browne – Tony Burke

#### NSW WOMEN'S TEAM TRIALS

- 1 Linda King – Kim Neale
- 2 Helen Lowry – Berri Folkard
- 3 Lynn Kalmin – Lorna Ichilik

### Bidding Decision for South

All Vul, Dealer East, IMPs

♠ 10 7 5 4 3 2  
 ♥ 6 5  
 ♦ 8 3 2  
 ♣ Q 3

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	Dble	Pass	?

Continued on page 4.

### Defence Tester for West

Dealer N ; Nil Vul

♠ J 9 8 7 3  
 ♥ K 8 2  
 ♦ J 6 4  
 ♣ 5 4

#### West

♠ A Q 6 4  
 ♥ A 5  
 ♦ K 10 9 7 5 2  
 ♣ 2

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
3♦ <sup>#</sup>	Pass	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

<sup>#</sup> Intermediate jump overcall

You decide to lead ♣2 and it goes ♣4, ♣9, ♣Q  
 Declarer now plays ♥3 and you jump up with ♥A as partner follows with ♥10. What do you play at trick 3 and why. Answer page 7.

# Bidding Theory

by Ed Barnes

I've just given the old "responding to takeout doubles" lesson for the umpteenth time and something from the "standard textbook" in my memory has struck me as perverse:

Here's what 3 different responses in spades apparently show:

- (1H) – Dbl – (Pass) - **1S**                    **0-8 pts, 3-5 spades**
- (1H) – Dbl – (Pass) - **2S**                    **8-11 pts 4-5spades**
- (1H) – Dbl – (Pass) - **3S**                    **pre-emptive:**  
**0-5 pts, 6 spades**

Here are three hands that "fit the bill" respectively:

Hand A:            RESPOND 1S

♠ Q J x x  
♥ x x x x  
♦ Q x x  
♣ x x

HAND B:            RESPOND 2S

♠ K Q 10 x  
♥ x x x  
♦ A x x x  
♣ x x

and

HAND C:            RESPOND 3S

♠ Q J x x x x  
♥ x x x  
♦ x x  
♣ x x

Now I'm just a junior theorist, but what irks me is this:

The double ranges from

- 1) Classic shape x x x x – x (x) – x x x – x x x x and "12+ pts" through -
- 2) Big balanced A K – K Q x – A Q J x – Q x x x to
- 3) Single suited monster K x – A x – A Q J 10 x x x – A x

Let's put double1 opposite Hand A and assume the opponents do not contest further in the auction:

♠ A x x x  
♥ x x  
♦ A x x x  
♣ A x x            ... makes takeout double of their 1H

♠ Q J x x  
♥ x x x x  
♦ Q x x  
♣ x x            ....responder to the double bids 1S

..... and there the matter rests - lovely. But if the takeout doubler has:

♠ A K x x  
♥ x x  
♦ A K x x  
♣ K x x            ... they must raise 1S in order to find the cold game, yet when they do raise, they may find:

♠ x x x  
♥ x x x x  
♦ x x x  
♣ x x x            .... and now they are trying to cut down on undertricks in 2S

Dble #1 with response 2 (2S) is not a problem - it's easy to get to the right spot.

Dble #1 with response 3 (3S) is very irksome:

♠ A K x x  
♥ x x  
♦ A K x x  
♣ K x x            ..... is a club finesse for 420 opposite:

♠ x x x x x x  
♥ x x x x  
♦ x  
♣ x x            ....but no play opposite:

♠ Q J x x x x  
♥ x x  
♦ x x  
♣ x x x            .....the point being that 3S removes the chance to find this out.

Dble#2 (big balanced) and Dble#3 (single suiter) fare no better- in fact worse opposite a jump to 3S. What's more, the 3S pre-empt is so rare that to use it should **guarantee**imps for our side whereas I'm not sure it can do so.

In this scheme, there is pressure on the 1S response in order to "make room" for a 3S pre-empt. I have a scheme for my beginners which I chose due to simplicity. **The longer I look at it, however, the more sense it makes in an expert context.** Here's how it goes.

When partner doubles for takeout, **you choose the trump suit.**

Let's say the auction starts as above:  
(1H) – Dble – (Pass) - ?

Let's say you're going to bid spades. How many ways do you have of doing so below or including game? Counting them, we have:

- 1: 1S
- 2: 2S
- 3: 3S
- 4: 4S (or in the expert's case, 2H - cue - followed by spades)

That's 4 ways to show 0-13 points. dividing that range sensibly into 4 'chunks', we get the following four bids:

- 1S: 0-5pts
- 2S: 6-10pts
- 3S: 11-12pts
- 4S: 13+pts

Here are two objections to this scheme which you have no doubt considered already:

- 1) "choosing trumps" is premature if you have only a 4-card suit
- 2) 3S is too high when you are balanced with 10-12pts opposite what might be a 3 card suit.

Here are the rebuttals:

- 1) There are 2 cases where it might be considered "premature" for responder to choose trumps with only a 4 card suit.
  - a) When doubler has the classic Take Out double shape but only 3 card support.
  - b) When doubler has dble#2 (big balanced) or dble#3 (single suited 'monster').

Rebuttal a) doubler must have shortage in the opening bid suit. This is ideal for playing a 4-3 (Moysian) suit combination - ruffs in the short hand. Rebuttal b) opener will "correct" and the side will not be too high as responder has jumped only with sufficient high card strength. ... which leads to objection number 2...

- 2) (1H) - Dbl - (Pass) - 3S should be reserved for unbalanced hands. Balanced invitations with the other major should go via the cue-bid. EG, (1H) - Dble - ( Pass) - 2H is traditionally game forcing but should also include 11-12 point balanced hands with 4 cards in the other major. This approach also negates the hereto unstated objection that competitive auctions will be trickier after 3S and 2H responses to the double. 3S must be **unbalanced**.

Heck, here's a third objection:

- 3) I want to shunt the heavier load on the lowest bid as there is more room to discuss after a lower bid. In

other words, make the 1S response about 0-9 (big range - heavy load) and the 2S response 10-12 (small range - light load).

...and here's the rebuttal.

That means that 16 opposite zero with no fit **MUST** reach the 2-level as doubler is obliged to raise. To make matters worse, an axe may await you in this case. Why else are the opponents silent with 22-24pts? The "gain" of the "shunting" manoeuvre is 11pts (Dble) opposite 8pts (1S) stays in 1S. I can't speak for all, but I want to get to 2S FAST with 7 or 8 spades and 18-22pts. Shunting makes that hard.

That's pretty much it, but the principles of dividing up the possible strengths of responder ('advancer') to sensible and playable chunks, according to the available bids, applies to all auctions that begin ("opening bid") - Double - ( Pass) - ?

For example:

(1S) - Dble - (Pass) - ?.

2H = 0-6

3H = 7-10

2S = 11-12 bal with 4 hearts or 13+other

4H = 11+ unbal, 4+ hearts

Here, the weighty load is shared between the four available bids, rather than uselessly loading 2H with the bulk (0-10) as traditionally has been the case. If you doubt that assertion (about the traditional approach)... take a look at this hand I recently gave to six experts:

(1S) - Dble - Pass) - ?

♠ 8 7 4 3

♥ J 9 6 3

♦ A Q 9

♣ Q10

Six out of six bid 2H and all of those with whom I enquired further as to their reasons stated that partner is likely to give them a nudge if game was on.

Is it not absurd to "give partner a nudge" with your balanced 17 count in this auction? Responder could be broke, and when they are, someone is waiting with an axe!

**Ed Barnes**

( Ed Barnes is a professional bridge player, teacher and director. At present he is the NSWBA's bridge teacher)

**Bidding Decision for South No.1 –**  
*continued from page 1*

All Vul, Dealer East, IMPs

♠ A Q 6  
 ♥ A K 8 7 2  
 ♦ Q 10  
 ♣ A K 5

**West**

♠ K J 8  
 ♥ 9  
 ♦ A K J 9 5 4  
 ♣ J 10 4

**East**

♠ 9  
 ♥ Q J 10 4 3  
 ♦ 7 6  
 ♣ 9 8 7 6 2

**South**

♠ 10 7 5 4 3 2  
 ♥ 6 5  
 ♦ 8 3 2  
 ♣ Q 3

This was board 36 from segment 4 of the final of the recent prestigious Vanderbilt Knock Out Teams. At one table (rotated for convenience):

West	North	East	South
R Levin	G Helgemo	H Weinstein	T Helness
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	Dble*	Pass	1♠
2♦	Dble*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

\* take out

Helgemo-Helness are one of the best and most successful partnerships of recent years in International Bridge. Note that Helness did not leap to 3♠ as some players might do. If he had done so then Helgemo would raise to 4♠ and be -100. As it was after West played three rounds of diamonds, ruffed in dummy at trick 3 with ♠ 6 and over ruffed with ♠ 9, Helness had to come to hand to finesse ♠ Q to make his contract. At the other table Marty Fleischer doubled 1♦ and then cue bid 2♦ over Michael Kamil's 1♠. When Kamil could only bid 2♠, Fleischer passed for +110

If you adopt Ed Barnes advice on page 2 & 3 of this Bulletin then you too would bid 1♠ as South (not 3♠ which many bridge books recommend for this type of hand).

If you wish to go through some of the boards from the Vanderbilt final visit:  
<http://usbf.org/docs/vugraphs/Vanderbilt2010/Bracket.php?stage=Finals>

This will show you the bidding, lead *and play* at both tables and the results.

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥



**Do you have fewer than 300 Masterpoints?**  
 Then you are eligible to play in the **2010 Spring National Restricted Teams** which is part of the **Sydney Spring National Festival**.

Over two days you will play 6 matches in a Swiss format – top teams play against top teams, lower teams play against lower teams etc. You will earn **GOLD** Masterpoints for every match that you win.

**When:** 20-21<sup>st</sup> October 2010

**Where:** Derby Room, AJC Function Centre, Randwick Racecourse.

**How:** Make up a team of 4, 5 or 6 players with your friends and enter

**Other events:**

- 20-22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010 **Open Teams**
- 23-24<sup>th</sup> October 2010 **Dick Cummings Open Pairs**
- 25-27<sup>th</sup> October 2010 **Manzoni Women's Teams**
- 25-27<sup>th</sup> October 2010 **Bobby Evans Seniors Teams**

(Each teams event has a final to follow the qualifying rounds shown above)

This year we have a **new venue** – in the **AJC Function Centre at Randwick Racecourse**. This stunning room overlooks the racecourse with breakout area for lunch (or smoking) in the grandstand. Access is easy – buses from the City or Central. If you wish to drive from the North or West, simply use the Eastern Distributor leaving at the Randwick exit. The racecourse is about 2km south and there is **free parking** available.

**Argy's cafe** will allow purchase of coffee, ordering of lunch etc and is located directly below the playing area.

More information, including the entry form will be available later at the website:  
[www.abf.com.au/events/spnot](http://www.abf.com.au/events/spnot)



## **PORT MACQUARIE BRIDGE CLUB – FIRST ON THE COAST.**

The Port Macquarie Bridge Club was the first to be formed on the Mid North Coast when a few dedicated bridge players decided to form a Club in 1974 - hence the slogan "First on the Coast". From those humble beginnings the Club has gone from strength to strength giving local bridge players a chance to 'shine' in a friendly atmosphere – sometimes a little too noisy perhaps because of the "how are you" etc. but generally the director of the day manages to achieve quietness during the play of the best game in the world.

We are lucky to have a great venue at the Port City Bowling Club for our games – overlooking tennis courts and the sea – we do try to ignore this whilst we are playing a hand. 35 years later (well just a little bit over!!!).

The club has more than 130 current members. The current committee consists of -

Mrs Hazel Sellers - President

Mr James Hannah - Vice President

Ms Valerie Connor - Secretary

Mrs Mavis D'Este - Treasurer

Committee Members - Barbara Conroy and Sue-Ellen Deacon

Masterpoint secretary - Sue-Ellen Deacon

Tournament Directors - Mrs Irene Harvey (who is also our only Life Member of the club), Roslyn McKenzie, Bernard Salkind and Hazel Sellers.

On April 17 more than 60 members celebrated the ongoing success of this Bridge Club, enjoying each other's friendship and company with lunch and an afternoon session playing an individual tournament that certainly caused heaps of hilarity. A great way to celebrate!



## Recent Congress Results

### Great Lakes Teams

- 1 Sharon Mayo, Greg Mayo,  
Ken Wilks, Ian Walker
- 2 Barbara Griffiths, Anne Rutter,  
Chris Manser, Carol Briscoe
- 3 Don Scown, Judy Scown,  
Jackie Polack, Daphne Yarnold

Best Local team not winning a prize was awarded to;  
E Pulling, V McCabe, S Stephens, A McGregor

Best Restricted team;

- 1<sup>st</sup> C Sinclair, J Kolder, F Sommerton, K Hilder
- 2nd M Carney, J Bretnall, M Brady, R Millar

### Central Coast Super Congress

#### Swiss Pairs

- 1 Ross Stuart – Stephan Winkler
- 2 Milan Durovic – Witold Chylewski
- 3 C Williams – I Lincoln

#### Restricted Swiss Pairs

- 1 Cheryl Barrett – Sally Graham
- 2 Ann Gurner – Ronald Moran

#### Swiss Teams

- 1 Michael Wilkinson, Fraser Rew,  
Jamie Ebery, Nevena Djurovic
- 2 Barbara Grant, Louis Koolen,  
Lorraine Harkness, Jack Lindsay
- 3 Eva Kowalczyk, Gheorghi Belonogov,  
Linden Raymond, Michael Courtney

#### Restricted Swiss Teams

- 1 Jack Carson - Colleen Wilson - Anne  
Reilly - Andrew Toyne
- 2 Ian McNab - Helen McNab - Myra  
Watharow - Ronda Young

### Tamworth Swiss Teams Congress

- 1 M. Ingold, C. Vanwyck, F. Lewin, P. Lewin
- 2 G. Mayo, S. Mayo, I. Price, D. Weston
- 3 I. Campbell, E. Campbell, M. Smith, O. Tilly

Best Restricted Team:

M. Barger, M. Junge, B. Webster, K. Willcocks

### Tilligerry Swiss Pairs

- 1 Sylvia Mallinson – Edward Mallinson
- 2 Bernie Adcock – Janet Hill
- 3 Jim Thatcher – Trish Thatcher

### Trumps Good Friday Pairs

- 1 George Finikiotis - Steven Bock
- 2 Andy Hirst - Bill Hirst
- 3 Frank Budai - Les Varadi

#### Pairs Plate

- 1 Paul Lavings - Vita Winestock
- 2 Catherine Zhang - Cevat Emul

### Trumps Easter Teams

- 1 Mike Wu, William Zhang,  
Jin Li , Michael Chen
- 2 Jamie Ebery, Nevena Djurovic,  
Fraser Rew, Michael Wilkinson
- 3 Toni Sharp, Ted Chadwick,  
Kieran Dyke, Jane Douglass

### Hawkesbury Congress 18-19 April-Pairs

- 1 Julie Guthrie – Mark Guthrie
- 2 George Finikiotis – Liz Fanos
- 3 Matt Blackham – Michele Tredinnick

#### Teams

- 1 Daniel Braun, Andrew Peake,  
Ellena Moskovsky, Kieran Dyke
- 2 John Redfearn, Norma Berger  
Kevin Dougall, Angela Dougall
- 3 Warren Lazer, Pauline Gumby  
Peter Gill, Merrilee Robb

### North Shore B C – Anzac Swiss Pairs

- 1 Julie Guthrie – Mark Guthrie
- 2 Arthur Ramer – Axel Johannsson
- 3 Stephan Winkler – Maurits Van der Vlugt

#### – Anzac Teams

- 1 Hymie Osie – Judy Osie  
Witold Chylewski, Peter Ciszak
- 2 Ted Chadwick, Marlene Watts  
Jennifer Rothwell, George Bilski
- 3 George Finikiotis , Steven Bock  
Rakesh Kumar, Gary lane

### Maitland Congress

#### Swiss Pairs

- 1 Ellie Fitz-Gerald – Jim Fitz-Gerald
- 2 Sally Clarke – Garry Clarke
- 3 Robyn Fletcher – Paul McGrath

#### Swiss Teams

- 1 Ken Wilks , Paul McGrath  
Rosalie Broughton, Robyn Fletcher
- 2 Dasha Brandt, David Bowerman, Camilla  
Barlow, Kaylee Lemon
- 3 Louis Koolen, Barbara Grant, Edward & Sylvia  
Mallinson

## Batemans Bay Congress

### Swiss Pairs

- 1 Anne Powell – Margaret Bourke
- 2 Helen Canaris – Peter Gill
- 3 Bev Crossman – Bruce Crossman

### Swiss Teams

- 1 Paul Daynes , Kevin Tant  
Kevin Douglas, Graham Evans
- 2 Peter Gill, Sean Shen  
Griff Ware, Dylan Ma
- 3 Arjuna Delivera, Myong Campbell  
Hashmat Ali, Richard Hills

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

## Nationwide Pairs

This ABF event has been running since 2003. Initially only small number of clubs participated but now there are 18 clubs taking part. The deals are computer dealt and are replicated into the boards by each participating club. The event is run fortnightly.

This is a great opportunity for players to pit their skills against players in other states and territories while still enjoying the familiarity of playing in their own club.

To participate in an event a club must first be registered. This registration is free and will enable the club to enter any event that may be run by ABF. When a club is registered the nominated club representative, normally the person who will direct events, will be given an identification code and password that will enable access to a page that will enable them to declare their intention to run an event, set up the event seating and input the results.

The format of the event and all other relevant details can be found at:-

<http://www.nationwidepairs.com.au/>

At this web site you can also see which clubs are presently participating as well as view past results. Only ABF members can enter. Results from the event are regularly printed in the ABF Newsletter.

These will be Red Point events, with Green Points also being allocated by each club.

The fee for entry will be \$1 per player. Clubs will be billed monthly for players who have participated in events under their auspices.

## Answer to Defence Tester

Continued from page 1:- This was board 29 in the last round of the 2010 Central Coast Super Congress Swiss Teams.

Dealer N ; Nil Vul

♠ J 9 8 7 3  
♥ K 8 2  
♦ J 6 4  
♣ 5 4

### West

♠ A Q 6 4  
♥ A 5  
♦ K 10 9 7 5 2  
♣ 2

### East

♠ K 2  
♥ J 10 6  
♦ Q 8 3  
♣ 9 8 7 6 3

### South

♠ 10 5  
♥ Q 9 7 4 3  
♦ A  
♣ A K Q J 10

Leslie Gunson (West) and Keith Mitchell (East) from South Canberra Bridge Club combined well to defeat Ruth Jamieson's four heart contract.

Gunson led her singleton club which, based on the bidding, was obviously a singleton. This is an uncommon but fairly standard suit preference situation. If East had ♦A he would contribute his lowest club at trick 1. So the ♣9 had to show a likely spade entry. Mitchell's play in 4<sup>th</sup> seat of ♥10 at trick 2 served to reinforce the spade message (suit preference in their trump suit is a recognized but rare defence play).

At trick 3 Gunson played ♠4 to Mitchell's king who then gave her the desired club ruff. Gunson cashed ♠A and exited a low spade. This sharp defence was worth +12 IMPs to the Gunson team when Keith Huggan and Lesley Gallagher were allowed to make four hearts at the other table.

The Director for the congress, Matthew McManus uses an excellent scoring program that he developed himself. Go to Central Coast Bridge Club's web site (just Google that club name to quickly get there) and select 'Results Super Congress', then go to R7 of the Open Teams. Click on any team number and their match scores for R 7 show. Then select Bd 29 and peruse the results. You will see that 24 South's succeeded in their four heart contracts. There were 49 teams contesting the Open Teams. Twelve N/S pairs were -100 so I assume their E/W pairs also found the winning defence to 4 H.

♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠ ♥

## 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 of advertising brochure.



Date	Club	Event	Contact	Phone
May 15-16	Coffs Harbour	Teams	Robyn Bingham	6652 3951
May 16	Strathfield	Teams	Peter Bardos	0415 896 436
May 23	Trumps	Autumn Teams	Derrick Browne	9969 5959
May 23	Tweed	May Madness Butler Pairs	Robert Noble	07 5576 1186
May 29	NSWBA	Swiss Pairs	Office	9264 8111
May 29-30	Leeton	Swiss Pairs Sat & Sun	Pam Lonnie	6959 2259
June 6	NSWBA	Teams of Three	Office	9264 8111
June 19-20	Newcastle	Sat : Swiss Pairs Sun: Teams	Graham Rummey	4961 3633
June 19-20	Illawarra Master Builders	Sat : Open Pairs Sun: Open Teams	Chris Diment	0417 232 846
June 20	Wollstonecraft	Teams	West Savery	9436 2191
June 25,26,27	North Shore <b>Super Congress</b>	Fri : Swiss Teams Sat : Swiss Pairs Sun: Swiss Teams	John McIlrath	0437 274 343
June 26-28	Orange	Sat : Pairs Sun: Teams	Margaret Robinson	6362 8241
June 26-27	Tamworth	Pairs both days	Cath Stevenson	67659498
June 27	Tweed	Wintersun Pairs	Robert Noble	5576 1186
July 4	Trumps	Winter Teams	Derrick Browne	9969 5959
July 9.10.11	Brisbane Waters <b>Super Congress</b>	Fri: Match Pt Pairs Sat : Swiss Pairs Sun: Swiss Teams	Carolyn Molloy	4360 2806
July 18	Twin Towns Services	Birthday Teams	Jan O'Grady J. Verdict	6674 3675 07 5535 5649