

2013 State Wide Pairs Roll of Honour

Session One

Board 18, Dealer East, Vul: N-S

	♠ AJ1092	
	♥ K98	
	♦ 654	
	♣ AJ	
♠ Q8		♠ 654
♥ A654		♥ Q72
♦ KQJ3		♦ 72
♣ 954		♣ Q10876
	♠ K73	
	♥ J103	
	♦ A1098	
	♣ K32	

Our experts in session one were: Ron Klinger (North), Nick Fahrer (South), Matthew Thomson (East) and Avi Kanetkar (West). Their auction:

West	North	East	South
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	All pass	

“Nick's 2D was a cue-raise, showing 10+ and spade support. Matt led a diamond, ducked, and Avi returned a low heart, won by Matt's queen. Matt played another diamond and Ron swiftly raised the white flag by taking the ace and drawing trumps. The temptation to finesse a club, pitching a diamond on the third round, was overcome, in Ron's words, by the "terrible score" which he would get if the finesse lost. 9 tricks and +140 looked very good at this stage, beating the pairs who played in game and went down. 3NT, the magic contract, will be rewarded with a mention on the Roll of Honour if you bid and make it.”

Not surprisingly, there were only a handful of pairs who achieved the Roll of Honour result. And even then they didn't get a top. There were half a dozen pairs who bid to 4♠ which the defence let make. If you got the result obtained at the experts' table, NS +140, you scored exactly 50% of the matchpoints on the board.

The Roll of Honour recipients were:

Bryan O'Meara and Bruce Griffin from Bega Valley Bridge Club
Alan Watkins and Judy Kingston from Illawarra Bridge Association
Kerrie Crothers and Sandra McBain from Glen Bridge Club
Jenni Fagan and Moreton Harrison from Cowra Bridge Club
Jill Beith and Bettyanne McFarland from Dubbo Bridge Club

Session Two

Board 10, Dealer East, Vul: All

<p>♠ KQJ10984 ♥ AQ ♦ Q2 ♣ A10</p>	<p>♠ 6 ♥ 8654 ♦ KJ7 ♣ KJ963</p>
<p>♠ 53 ♥ 92 ♦ 109853 ♣ Q872</p>	<p>♠ A72 ♥ KJ1073 ♦ A64 ♣ 54</p>

The session two experts were: Matthew McManus (North), Ed Barnes (South), Fraser Rew (East) and Dave Wiltshire (West). Their auction on this board:

West	North	East	South
		1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♥	Pass
7NT	All pass		

“Dave's 4D was an improvised "splinter", feigning a singleton diamond. When Fraser showed three keycards - 2 aces and the king of trumps - Dave could count 12 top tricks and reasoned that the thirteenth might come from partner holding the jack of hearts, a 3-3 break in hearts, some useful minor suit cards so he could take a finesse or maybe a squeeze. Fortune favours the bold and 7NT is the boldest spot of all. Finding your way to this top scoring contract, despite the 10 card spade fit, will earn you a mention on our Roll of Honour.”

This was difficult and the three pairs who shared the State Wide top can be very proud of their bidding judgement:

Jennifer Hector and Liz Scorer from Bathurst Bridge Club
Patricia Bourke and Guy Milson from Goulburn Bridge Club
Patricia Matheson and Marcia Sawyer from Trumps Bridge Centre

(A curiosity was that for Jennifer, Liz, Patricia and Guy, this was their very first board of session 2 – what a way to start!)

Session Three

Board 15, Dealer South, Vul: N-S

♠ 762	
♥ 63	
♦ 65	
♣ AKQ743	
♠ KQ95	♠ AJ10843
♥ AQJ854	♥ 9
♦ K73	♦ AQ94
♣ ---	♣ J6
♠ ---	
♥ K1072	
♦ J1082	
♣ 109852	

The session three experts were: Sartaj Hans (North), Tony Nunn (South), David Beauchamp (East) and Derrick Browne (West). The expert auction:

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1♥	2♣	2♠	5♣
6♣	Pass	6♦	Pass
6♠	Pass	7♠	All pass

“When Tony and Sartaj expressed an interest in playing 5C with very few points, Derrick's club void took on extra significance. His 6C and David's 6D both guaranteed first round control. Derrick chose not to cue his ace of hearts as he felt he'd done enough already. David rightly surmised that Derrick wouldn't bid so strongly without an ace and bid the grand. He ruffed the club lead and set about establishing dummy's hearts. This took four rounds but David had enough trumps and entries to dummy with SKQ9 and DK to get it done. Any pairs finding this 27HCP grand slam definitely earn a spot on our Roll of Honour.”

This one was just *too* tough, and none of our State Wide Pairs participants were able to match the experts in bidding and making the grand slam. In fact, just getting to the small slam and making all 13 tricks was enough to get you a 93% score on the board, so bidding the extra one would not have been worth much more. Therefore, we will give a very honourable mention to the 13 pairs who achieved this:

Barbara Edwards and Pat Manion from Ballina Seniors Bridge Club

Jennifer Hector and Liz Scorer from Bathurst Bridge Club

Martin Sims and Alison Sandwith from Bega Valley Bridge Club

Ann Long and Andrew Thomson from Bega Valley Bridge Club

Jennifer Kozman and Helen Crisp from Goulburn Bridge Club

Noel Athea and Annemarie Athea from Goulburn Bridge Club

Pam Whitehead and Val Bloem from Leeton Soldiers Bridge Club

Margaret Draper and Michael Draper from Manly Leagues Bridge Club

Ted Hayman and Frank Trent from Mudgee Bridge Club

Elaine Mcrae and Jean Carney from Orange Bridge Club

Elizabeth Remond and Marie Delaney from Cowra Bridge Club

Pam Harvey and Nancy Peacocke from Dubbo Bridge Club

Barbara Oates and John Blunt from the NSWBA