

Margaret Bourke Invitational Online Teams ebulletin 2





Webpage: Results

Submissions for bulletins to sleksix@gmail.com

Teams who fail to qualify for the semi finals will be automatically transferred to Sundays Ted Chadwick Cup. Substitutions will be permitted.

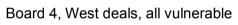
Semi finals and Ted Chadwick Cup tomorrow

Thompson, Ben Thompson, Renee Cooper, Phil Markey, Jo Haffer vs. NZ Mixed, Barry Jones, Jenny Millington, Blair Fisher, Liz Fisher, Sam Simpson, Jo Simpson

Ashton, Sophie Ashton, Sartaj Hans, Maurits Van der Vlugt, Avi Kanetkar, Dave Wiltshire, Ellena Moskovsky vs. Cornell, Michael Cornell, Ashley Bach, Peter Newell, Martin Reid

Those Deceptive Kiwis

Ed: Editors love to receive submissions from the players. Talented player and bridge author Sartaj Hans had the grace to compliment his opponents for their incisive defence on the following deal:





7 10 7 3

♦ KJ 10 7

♣ A J 8 2

Q754

♥ Q J 9

4 3 2

♣ K Q 3

♠ 9 8

Y A 8 5 4

Q 8 6 5

♣ 10 9 4

♠ A K 10 6 3

♥ K 6 2

A 9

♣ 765

West North East South Martin Sartaj Peter Avi 1 🖤 pass pass pass 1NT pass all pass

Martin Reid and Peter Newell, longtime NZ Open Team representatives, defended very well, taking me one down in 1NT.

After ♥5 lead, ducked to Martin's jack, he switched to a deceptive $ext{-}Q$ (the pair usually overlead when



switching to an honour), and Peter played an equally tricky ♣9 from ♣1094.

When Martin continued a club, I was convinced the layout was ♣Q10xx



in Martin's hand, and ♣K9 doubleton in Peter's hand. So I got clubs wrong.

When Peter continued a heart, I got that wrong too!

In hindsight, with ♣Q10xx, Martin would probably switch to ♣10 and not the gueen. But a stronger inference is that if East had led from ♥Qxxx, he would have likely have continued with ♥Q (when in with $\clubsuit 10$), trying to pin my $\blacktriangledown 107$.

I should get the hand right, but full marks for a changing defence.

Just another flat board, with the Kiwi North going one down in 3NT!

Simple but effective

Bert Polii from the Indonesian Seniors' Team was amused when Tim Bourke overcalled 6♠ holding ♠KQJ109862, ♥AKQ3, ♦J, ♣— after his RHO opened the bidding 14.

He found partner with ♠A7, ♥A5, ♦108652, **♣**Q1096.

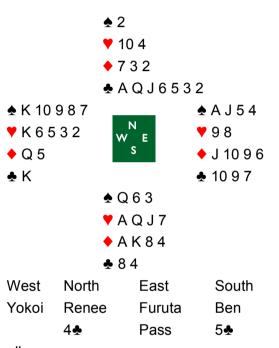
Just the right cards!

Preempt with Renee

by Bill Jacobs

Renee Cooper is a rising star from Western Australia, partnered in this event with Ben Thompson (with whom she recently played in the Australian Mixed Team). Match 3 against the Japan Open Team gave us a glimpse into her pre-emptive strategy:

Board 25, North deals, EW vulnerable



all pass

Most of the field opened 3♣. I'm with Renee on this one: at favourable vulnerability and with that pure club suit, her 4♣ opening hits the spot.

When one of the two key finesses worked, 5♣ rolled home.

Many of the 3♣ openers landed in 3NT by South, which didn't survive the spades.

At the other table in this match ...

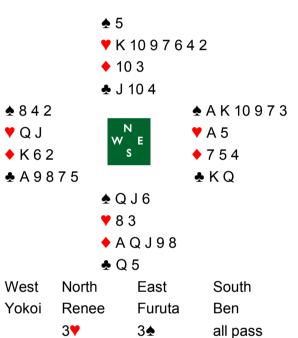
West	North	East	South
Markey	Teramoto	Haffer	Kaku
	Pass!	2♦	2NT
3♠	3NT	all pass	

2. showed diamonds and spades, a Markey-Haffer special. Normally I would suggest North had some clubs mixed in with his spades, but that excuse doesn't work here. A misclick perhaps? Anyway, that was 10 IMPs to Thompson.



Next, we have:

Board 33, North deals, nil vulnerable



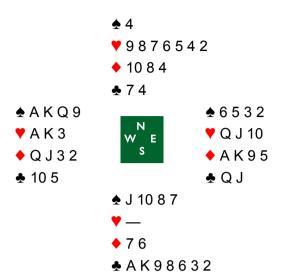
Again Renee bid it to the max (as did about half the field: the others either opened a weak two or passed)... And again it worked just fine, EW finding it difficult to reach their decent spade game.

vvest	North	East	South
Markey	Teramoto	Haffer	Kaku
	2♥	dbl	pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	all pass		

. . .

One last example:

Board 32, West deals, EW vulnerable



West	North	East	South		
Yokoi	Renee	Furuta	Ben		
1♦	3♥(!!)	dbl	pass		
4♥	pass	5♦	dbl		
5 ♠ p	ass	pass	dbl		
all pass					

This time Renee bid three more than the rest of the field. Whatever happened to two of the top three honours? Or any honour? Anywhere!

But it set the cat amongst the pigeons. EW bid up to 5♠, doubled by South, and it's hard to blame them, holding 32 HCP.

A heart lead would lead to the first three tricks for the defence, but Renee led a club. Ben took ♣AK and played ♣9. The world stood still as Hiroki decided what to do with this. It was by no means clear Ben had four spades, and he eventually ruffed with ♠9, which would at least make the contract if Ben held ♠J10x. (Renee discarded ♥9 on this trick: what a shame declarer didn't do the beautiful thing and throw ♦9.)

West	North	East	South
Markey	Teramoto	Haffer	Kaku
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠ ¹	2♣
dbl	all pass		

1.8+ HCP or diamonds

Phil Markey's takeout double exploded on the launchpad (this is a situation that all pairs would do well to clarify).

West led a top spade and wisely switched to a trump: declarer took eight tricks for a score of +180, one of the more interesting 1 IMP swings you will see.

The bottom line: the field will do well to beware of Renee Cooper.

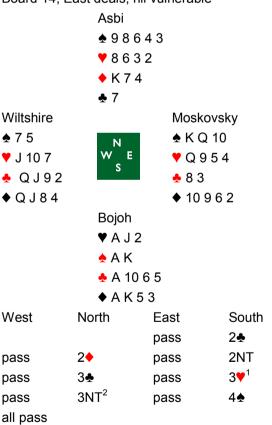
Match of the Day

Qualifying Round 6: JKT (Indonesia) vs Ashton

By Bill Jacobs

This was 3rd versus 5th, vying for a top four finish. The match started quietly, before exploding in a flurry of double-digit swings. The quiet before the storm:

Board 14, East deals, nil vulnerable



- 1: no 4 or 5 card major
- 2: 5 spades, 4 hearts

5-spades/4-hearts is a bugbear of strong 2NT openings, requiring some special technology to resolve. Transfers and Puppet Stayman isn't sufficient. The Indonesians used Muppet Stayman, where 3♥ denied any major and 3NT showed the problem 5-4 hand. (To get to 3NT after 3♥, responder puppets with 3♠.) 11 tricks were there.

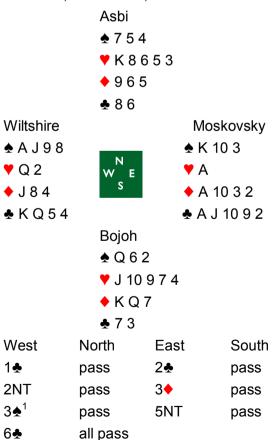
At the other table, Kanetkar-Hans reached 3NT, playing simpler methods, as did much of the field. West led ♥J, so declarer had no difficulty in setting up and reaching the spades, for nine tricks, 2 IMPs to JKT.

It takes fine defence to defeat 3NT, found at only one table. Leigh Gold, West, led ◆Q, and declarer Therese Tully did very well to let it hold. Now a diamond continuation won't work: declarer wins in hand and plays on spades. East doesn't have another diamond to dislodge dummy's entry.

But Leigh, having won the setting trick at trick 1, switched accurately to ♥J, to generate two hearts to go with the two spades coming their way.

On board 15, the Indonesians bid a decent slam, needing one of two finesses to work, plus a bit of added good fortune. They got one of the finesses working, but not the bit of added good fortune: 13 IMPs to Ashton.

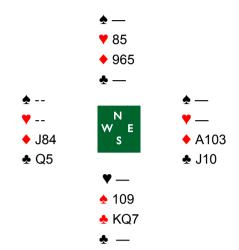
Board 16, West deals, E/W vulnerable



1. spade values

The bidding was enterprising, but alas 6♣ is not a very good contract. It did have the advantage of being makeable.

North led a heart. David Wiltshire, declarer, won, drew trumps, ruffed a heart, and then took four spade tricks with the help of a finesse. This left:



Now Wiltshire led a diamond from West to ◆10 and ◆K. South played back ◆7, ◆8, ◆9, down one. Darned ◆8: if only declarer didn't have it. But of course David played it correctly, on restricted choice principles, winning if South started with ◆ K9x or ◆Q9x, as against the single option of ◆KQx. 12 IMPs to JKT.

You hold at nil-vunerability:

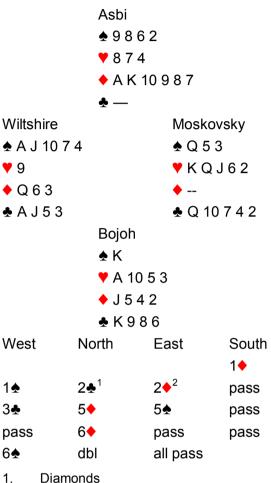


Partner deals and opens 1♣ (2+), RHO overcalls 1♠: would you make a negative double? Lusje Bojoh did, and regretted it. Partner held:

- **♣** K 10 7 2 ♥ A 8 3 **♦** 8 **♣** A K Q J 6

Ashton was now well in the lead, and pulled further ahead when they made a big partscore at both tables. But the last two boards changed the complexion of the match:

Board 23, South deals, all vulnerable



2. Hearts

The other table bid to 5♦ doubled, down 1: the par result. West must be careful not to clatter up with ♣A when one is led off dummy.

At our featured table, South's revolting opening bid changed everything, as the auction clambered higher and higher. One could certainly take aim at the decisions made at the end, including the passes of East and South, but I can see a reason for all those decisions ... if the layout had been a bit different.

In the end, it was the Ashton team left holding the baby: down two in 6♠x, for a 12 IMP loss. And 11 more IMPs went to JKT on the final board, when a misdefence let through 3NT, resulting in a 11.7 to 8.3 VP Indonesian win.



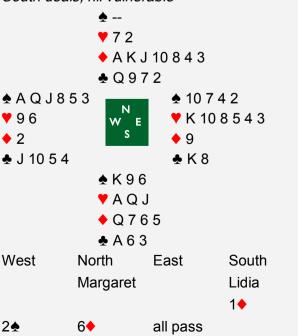
The long game

by Tim Bourke

Dr. Lidia Beech's partnership with Margaret was long (27 years) and fruitful. They represented Australia in 1988 and 1993 through 2000. Lidia was a multiple winner of every Australian women's title, a great person and a wonderful medical practitioner. Margaret would be happy for us to report a hand she played, rather than focus only on Margaret's achievements. Lidia succumbed to breast cancer in 2001 at the age of 51, after nearly five years of battle with the disease. She is survived by three children.

Tim Bourke writes: Lidia played under the pseudonym of "shifty" on OKBridge, her son Trevor's little joke when he set up her account. David Bird wrote up this hand featuring Lidia.

South deals, nil vulnerable



The deal arose on *OKBridge*, one of several internet programs that allow you to play bridge online. It features Australia's top ladies' pair, Lidia Beech and Margaret Bourke.

Many players would have bid the North hand more scientifically, starting with a cuebid in spades. It is equally good, on such a freak hand, to blast straight into slam. This way you give little information to the defenders.

How would you play 6♦ when West leads ♥9 to your jack?

A discard from dummy on the third heart is worthless, and it seems that the slam may depend on finding West with ♣K. Beech set out to play the deal on elimination lines, giving her a chance when East had started with a doubleton ♣K.

She ruffed a spade at trick two, led ◆J to her queen, and ruffed a second spade with the ace. A trump to the seven drew the defenders' last trump and permitted a third spade ruff, eliminating that suit. Beech cashed ♥A and ruffed ♥Q. This suit, too, had now been eliminated.

Finally, she played A and a club to the queen. East won with the king (oh no!) but had started with only two clubs (yes!) He was forced to give a ruff and discard and away went South's club loser. 12 tricks resulted.

(Ed: Lidia was sure of East's exact shape, so it was a no cost line to play $\clubsuit Q$).

2018 Gidwani Family Trust Defence of the Year

Ed: The article below, featuring KIWI team members GeO Tislevoll and Liam Milne, appeared in the IBPA Bulletin in April 2018. Journalist Liam wrote the article about GeO's fine reading of a defensive problem posed.

Unwanted Gift

by Liam Milne, Sydney

When one must give declarer something eventually, it is often right to make that gift as soon as possible. Sometimes an early concession will come at an inconvenient moment for your opponent.



Board 19, South deals, nil vulnerable **♠** K 10 9 7 6 5 2 ♦ J 6 4 ♣ K J **♠** Q **♦** J 8 3 **7** 5 4 A K Q 10 7 3 2 ♦ K Q 10 9 3 A ♣ Q 10 4 3 2 ♣ 9 8 ♠ A 4 **9**86 8752 ♣ A 7 6 5 West North East South

The deal is from the 2018 North Island Teams in New Zealand. South, Michael Ware led ♠A. With a singleton of the suit led in dummy, NS play suit preference at trick one, so North, GeO Tislevoll played ♠2 to signal for clubs.

3♠

pass

pass

all pass

Ware duly played ♣A, followed by ♣5 to the king.

With three tricks in the bag, Tislevoll paused to consider the situation. Let's walk with him through what we know as North, followed by what we must

assume to beat the contract. Partner is a passed hand, and has already shown up with two aces. He can't hold •A as well, and if he has a natural trump trick, declarer will go down whatever we play.

How many clubs do partner and declarer have? It looks like partner has four clubs and declarer has two, but it's possible that partner is the one with the doubleton. If so, we'll have to hope partner turns up with a trump trick. So, we can safely assume declarer has no more clubs left. What about the spade suit? With four spades, partner would definitely have bid four spades, and with three he would often have pushed on to four spades anyway, knowing that there looked to be a ten-card fit. Besides, if declarer has only one spade left, it's hard to see what we can do to create another trick.

Given the lack of prospects in the minors, is there any chance of promoting a trump trick for partner? Yes: if partner has no spades left, we can simply play a spade, and partner will be able to ruff in front of dummy with a heart higher than the five.

But is there any real rush to do this? Not really. If declarer has 4=6=1=2 shape, we can afford to play anything. Declarer can't run the diamonds, as they are blocked, and he will have to play spades himself. Partner can ruff in front of dummy and return a trump, and we shall make two more spades later.

How can we beat the contract if declarer has only three spades? A trump shift would appeal to many, given dummy's spade shortness and lack of long trumps. Projecting the play, however, the trump shift can't really work. Declarer will win the switch and either draw trumps and run the diamonds, or ruff a spade over to dummy and play off dummy's myriad minor-suit winners. Denying declarer two ruffs doesn't do anything because he was never going to take two ruffs. If declarer can run a minor suit, we aren't likely to beat this contract. The focus must be on declarer holding good trumps, the bare •A, no more clubs, and three spades.

On the critical layouts, therefore, declarer most likely has 3=7=1=2 shape. Declarer's key problem is where to park the two spade losers. The 3=7=1=2 shape is one of the many layouts where a trump shift does nothing good for us, and likewise a diamond shift won't work. Declarer will win the diamond, take one round of trumps and then play as if we had switched to trumps.

Assuming our play matters, neither a diamond nor a heart is doing anything good, so it has to be a spade and it has to be now, counter-intuitively giving declarer a chance for a ruff in the dummy immediately. Which spade – the king or a low one?

If partner has ♠J, both plays are the same, so assume declarer started with three spades to the jack. Playing the king, ruffed in the dummy, sets up declarer's jack. He will draw trumps and claim, still assuming the trumps are solid.

So, Tislevoll played a low spade at trick four. The full deal was exactly as he had imagined it to be, and this time his play mattered a lot!

Declarer won with the jack, but this unwanted gift came too early to be useful. If declarer drew trumps, he'd be left with a losing spade. If declarer instead tried to ruff his last spade, South would have ruffed in front of dummy to beat the contract.

This deal was aesthetically appealing, not only because of the nice play and unusual theme, but

Here is the link for Sunday - the Ted Chadwick Cup

https://oceania.realbridge.online/dc.html?p=211003222938&g=SundayChadwick

If your team does not intend to play on Sunday, please let me know as soon as possible so I can organise a replacement team. Don't forget daylight savings begins in Australia tomorrow morning.

Best wishes, Matt

Chief Tournament Director.