

32nd NZ National Bridge Congress

Distinction Hotel, Hamilton

September 29th to October 7th 2017

Editor: Brian Senior

Bulletin 5 Wednesday October 4th



The Winners of the Back to the Future Teams

Denis Humphries, Tim Schumacher, John Davidson, Susan Humphries

Website Workshop

Wednesday 7 pm

This will be held at the end of the dining room where the AGM was held. Time to show you features on Tournaments, Club admin and Masterpoints. Bring a beer (or two) and your questions for Alister Stuck and Karen Martelletti.

Today's Schedule

New Zealand Teams – Swiss, Stage One

09-30 am

14-00 pm



Coup of the Day 5 Merrimac Coup

The Merrimac Coup is, I believe, named after one of the early ironclad military ships from the American Civil War.

Dealer South. None Vul.

<p>♠ J 10 9 8 7 ♥ K 10 7 6 ♦ 9 8 4 ♣ 6</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4CAF50; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="margin: 0;">N W E S</p> </div>	<p>♠ 4 3 ♥ 5 4 2 ♦ A 3 ♣ K Q J 10 9 3</p>	<p>♠ A 5 2 ♥ Q 9 8 ♦ K 10 7 2 ♣ A 5 4</p>
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West	North	East	South
–	–	–	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When South opens a weak no trump (12-14 High Card Points), an immediate raise to 3NT is a reasonable gamble with the North cards. True, North has only 10 HCP, but the club suit will usually provide several winners, and the fast auction gives West a blind opening lead, which may prove to be to declarer's advantage.

West leads the jack of spades to East's ace. An automatic spade return, the choice of many players, will allow the contract home. Declarer wins the spade and knocks out the ace of clubs while the ace of diamonds sits in dummy as an entry to the established club winners.

The killing defence is for East to switch to the king of diamonds at trick two to knock out the dummy entry. East can then duck two rounds of clubs to restrict declarer to just two tricks from that suit. Though declarer gets three diamond winners, if the full deal is as shown, she is held to only eight tricks in all.

This spectacular play is a Merrimac Coup – the deliberate sacrifice of a high honour card with the object of knocking out a vital entry to either declarer's or, more commonly, dummy's hand.

If you find this play at the table you will be entitled to congratulation. Just yawn and say, 'Oh, it was just a Merrimac Coup', as though they are an every day occurrence for you.

Damned if You Do, Damned if You Don't

by Arthur Bennett

NZ Pairs Semi-Final 1

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

<p>♠ K J 3 ♥ 6 2 ♦ 9 8 6 2 ♣ K Q 8 6</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4CAF50; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="margin: 0;">N W E S</p> </div>	<p>♠ Q 8 2 ♥ A 8 7 3 ♦ A J 4 3 ♣ 9 3</p>	<p>♠ 7 6 ♥ Q 9 5 4 ♦ K 7 ♣ J 7 5 4 2</p>
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♠ A 10 9 5 4
♥ K J 10
♦ Q 10 5
♣ A 10

These are the actual North-South hands, but the East/West hands are what they could have been before the Devil re-arranged them.

Sadly I write about bridge hands better than I bid or play them, as any tale I have to tell is generally about disaster. My wife, Gillian and I are now quite accustomed to the fact that we are cursed at the bridge table. Look how the Devil operates with these playing cards.

Firstly he deals North/South two relatively balanced hands with a decent spade fit and a combined 25 point count, all the prerequisites for game in spades. We have however to bid the contract, and aware of the pechvogel on our shoulders and fully aware that disaster could strike out of a blue sky, we bid very carefully indeed. Gillian, as South, opens 1S and I as North am not displeased with my hand. I bid 2D, which in our system, means a hand that is prepared to support spades to the 3 level if needs be, and Gillian redefines her hand. Being of a cautious nature, bearing the scars of previous demonic encounters in her frown lines and occasional grey hair, despite her healthy 14 HCP, she devalues her hand a trifle because of its balanced shape and rebids 2S which shows that shape and strength. I could pass, but in deference to my own 11 HCP, I feel I ought to have another bite at the poisoned apple and raise to 3S, just in case Gillian is better than a mere 11 or 12 HCP. Gillian looks over her shoulder for malign spirits, takes the bait and correctly bids 4S.

His Dark Eminence now has his victims exactly where he wants them and now takes the East-West cards and deftly re-deals them into the most diabolical distribution he can dream up in the depths of his dark soul. This then is the actual Board 23 as we all remember it.

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

♠ A 10 9 5 4	♠ 7
♥ K J 10	♥ Q 6 5 4 2
♦ Q 10 5	♦ –
♣ A 10	♣ K Q J 8 7 5 4

IMPs v MPs

Teams and Pairs, IMPs and MPs, as different as are test and one-day cricket. At IMPs, it is generally the size of gain or loss that matters, while at MPs it is more the frequency of gain or loss. This difference manifests itself very clearly in one's tactics as declarer.

Things get more complicated if the auction leaves us in an unusual contract, one that we cannot assume will have been reached at most other tables, but for the purposes of this article let us assume that dummy goes down and we are reasonably confident that all or most of the rest of the room will have reached the same spot. How should we play these two contracts at the two forms of the game?

The innocents now have two benign balanced hands and the Imps have the distribution from hell.

East leads the 9 of diamonds. Gillian, sure that the King must be on her right, rises with her Ace ready to tackle the trump suit. West however, ruffs the Ace with his singleton trump, the candles flicker, there is a satanic snicker from the evil kibitzer. The contract can no longer be made and Gillian's hopes collapse like, well actually like a pack of cards.

"Okay," says the Devil, "that was perhaps just a bit mean, even of me, so I will allow you to take your Ace back and play a small diamond." Gillian, whose hand was hovering over the Ace, changes her mind and plays the 3. East still ruffs and plays the King of Clubs, which Gillian performs has to win.

There is of course now a way to make 4S, but to do so, you must get rid of your losing club before tackling trumps and the only way to do so is by setting up the diamonds for a discard, that is leading the very suit that East has just ruffed. How diabolical is that?

"Yes, I thought you'd enjoy the delicious irony of that," said his Unholiness, "But, there is of course an even greater irony. You were both blessed with relatively balanced hands, and you, North, knew that, so why didn't you choose 3NT as your contract? Provided you guess that West has KJ63 of spades, (and he gave a satanic leer), you can actually make 11 tricks!"

Brainteaser 5

Which of the world's currencies is worth the most. In other words, trades at greater than 1.00 to 1.00 to every other currency?

Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ 9 8 3
♥ A 10
♦ K 9 4 3
♣ K Q J 7

♠ Q J 10
♥ K Q 6 3
♦ 8 6 2
♣ A 5 4

West	North	East	South
–	–	–	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West leads the four of spades to the three, seven and jack. The opposition are playing standard leads and signals.

Unless East is playing a very deep game, West has led from ace-king to five spades and East has started a peter to show a doubleton. At IMPs, we would take our best shot at making the contract, which is to lead a heart to dummy's ten. There is almost no other significant prospect of finding a ninth trick. If the finesse loses, we will go down at least two and, if the ace of diamonds is offside, three or more.

At IMPs the odds are clear – if we make a non-vulnerable game rather than go down one, we gain 10 IMPs (+400 against –50), while cashing out for down one when playing to make results in going down by more than one costs 2 IMPs (–100 against –50) for down two, 3 IMPs (–150 against –50) for down three, and 4 IMPs (–200 against –50) for down four. We make a big profit when we succeed, and a relatively small loss when we fail. At IMPs, that is good business.

At MPs, we make a long-term profit by only trying to make normal games that are better than 50-50 to succeed. This heart finesse is less than 50-50, because we know that West has five spades to East's two, and therefore East

has 11 non-spades to West's eight. The heart finesse will fail 11 times out of 19, when cashing out is the winning option. Roughly, we gain 58% of the time if we cash out, 42% if we take the finesse. And if we played this deal on all 26 boards of a session, we could expect to score around 58% in the session by always cashing out, 42% by always taking the finesse, given that very other declarer takes the finesse.

At MPs, the size of the gain or loss doesn't matter, only how many other pairs you beat or tie with on the deal. Minus 50 beats -100 just as surely as does +400. Sometimes it is correct at MPs to settle for going down even when there is a decent shot available at making the contract.

Dealer South. Non Vul.

♠ 3 2
♥ K 10 5 4
♦ A K 9 3
♣ A 6 4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A 6 4
♥ Q 7 2
♦ Q
♣ K Q 9 7 6 4

West	North	East	South
–	–	–	1♣
1♠	Dble	2♠	3♣
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West leads the queen of spades. We may as well duck a couple of rounds of spades, just in case, but we know in our hearts that the ace of hearts is with the long spades so that this is really a case of going through the motions. We pitch a heart on the third spade and now have to decide how to play.

At MPs this would be easy. We would unblock the queen of diamonds, cross to the ace of clubs, and cash the ♦ AK then run the clubs. That line runs the risk that clubs might be four-zero, when we will go down. Should we therefore play differently at IMPs?

We can pick up a four-nil club break so long as it is East who holds the length, but that requires that the first club play is low to the ace, then we lead back to the ten and queen. But we need a second entry to dummy to take the club finesse against the jack. If we have cashed the queen of diamonds earlier, that entry will not exist. If, however, we did not cash the diamond, we could now overtake it, cash the second diamond and finesse in clubs, making nine tricks and our contract.

At IMPs, where the size of gain or loss is important, most experienced players would give up on the overtrick to give themselves the best possible chance of making

their game, so here they would not cash the ♦ Q early, just in case they needed the extra dummy entry. When this careful play is required it gains 10 IMPs (+400 against -50). When the play is unnecessary because clubs were not four-nil, the safety play has cost 1 IMP (+400 against +430).

But at MPs +400 will lose the board against everyone who makes +430, and the four-nil club split will only occur one time in ten. Even worse, the safety play only gains when clubs are four-nil with East holding the length – we can never pick up all four with West. So the safety play costs us a trick roughly 90% of the time, gains 5% of the time, and breaks even 5% of the time. In other words, for every time that it wins us the board, it loses it 18 times. If we played this board over and over again for an entire session, playing safe while everyone else 'gambled' would leave us with a record low single-digit percentage session score.

Sometimes it is correct at MPs to risk the contract in search of an overtrick, where at IMPs it would be correct to play safe.

Incidentally, while experienced IMP players would play safe on the second deal, it is because we only play relatively short matches, where a big swing out could be decisive. If we were playing a million-board match, it would actually be correct in the long run to play this contract as we would at MPs. Why? Because we gain 1 IMP 18 times for every once that we lose 10 IMPs. The risky play gains in the long run.



BridgenZ Congress Shop

Special congress prices mean some lines are already selling out.

Be in quick in the playing room nearest the carpark.

**Wednesday ONLY special – 2017 LAW BOOK
\$25 \$18**

Open before each session and for a short time after each session.

Brainteaser Solution

The Kuwaiti Dinar, which is currently worth approximately US\$3.32.



New Zealand Teams – Team List

Number

1	EMMS	DIANE EMMS - EDWARD ROGGEVEEN - JANE STEARNS - JENA ROBINSON
2	MUNTZ	KITTY MUNTZ - LEIGH GOLD - VANESSA BROWN - WILLIAM JENNER-O'SHEA
3	TEMPLE	FIONA TEMPLE - JOHN KRUIINIGER - MICHAEL JOHNSTONE - PAULA GREGORY
4	GEARE	ALAN GEARE - DEBBIE COOPER - PAUL TOMLINSON - TONY WINTERS
5	BROOKES	ADRIENNE KELLY - GEOFF OLSEN - STEPHEN BROOKES - VERNA BROOKES
6	HUTTON	ANTHONY HUTTON - KEVIN STEFFENSEN - MALCOLM CARTER - NEVILLE FRANCIS
7	GLASS	BRETT GLASS - GARY FOIDL - MARK ROBERTSON - SYLVESTER RIDDELL
8	GROVER	BOB GROVER - EILEEN HORSMAN - MURRAY WOOD - RACHELLE PELKMAN
9	CRAIG	BRIAN CRAIG - JOEY CHANG - JULIAN GLYN - PAMELA GLYN
10	COOK	DAVID COOK - JANE WORTHINGTON - SITA MONAGHAN - VICKI RUSSELL
11	O'SHAUGHNESSY	DAVID O'SHAUGHNESSY - LYNETTE O'SHAUGHNESSY - MARTIN REISS - MICHAEL STUCKEY
12	STOUT	GRAEME STOUT - JEFF MILLER - JEFF THOMPSON - PETER MCCASKILL
13	PRICE	ALISON PRICE - JEFF MEYER - JOANNE PATERSON - RICHARD CROSS
14	BREWER	DAVID BREWER - LYNNE FEGAN - MEREANA CULLEN - ZHENG ZHANG
15	MACKAY	DOROTHY MACKAY - JULIA WATSON - MARGARET CLARKE - PETER WATSON
16	HEMMES	HERMANNA HEMMES - JOHN DRISCOLL - LAURIE BELFIELD - RONA DRISCOLL
17	HANGARTNER	MARK HANGARTNER - PAUL HANGARTNER - ROSEMARY MATSKOWS - TRUDY LANGE
18	BARNARD	JANET BARNARD - JO CLARK - NOLA CLARK - RUSSELL WATT
19	DORMER	JOHANNA PERFECT - ALAN DORMER - ANTHONY HOPKINS - HAMISH BROWN
20	SMITH	ANN SMITH - CHRIS SUTTON - LAURA GRIFFIN - WAYNE SMITH
21	BRAITHWAITE	ANDREW BRAITHWAITE - DUNCAN BADLEY - PAULA BOUGHEY - SUZIE BRAITHWAITE
22	JANISZ	ANDREW JANISZ - LYNNE GEURSEN - SUE INGHAM - TERRY BROWN - TREVOR ROBB
23	WALTERS	LEE WALTERS - NEIL RUDELL - PATSY WALTERS - TANIA BROWN
24	MCGREGOR	ANNE M MCGREGOR - ERNIE SUTTON - FRANCES SHEEHY - MARILYN JACKSON - PHILLIP HENSMAN
25	LEI	JUNE LEI - WATSON ZHOU - XIAO PING BAO - ZU QIANG TAN
26	STACEY	BEVERLEY STACEY - GYTIS DANTA - JOHN STACEY - LIZ HAVAS
27	SOMERVILLE	ANNE SOMERVILLE - JOHN PATTERSON - KATE DAVIES - MARGARET YUILL - MURAT GENÇ - SERHAT OZENIR
28	MCRAE	DAVID MCRAE - DORIS CHAPMAN - FERN MCRAE - GEOFF NORRIS
29	COUTTS	JAMES COUTTS - LIAM MILNE - MICHAEL COURTNEY - NICK JACOB - ROSIE DON - TONY NUNN
30	MORRISON	MAX MORRISON - NEIL HAWKINS - PAVLA FENWICK - RICHARD LAPTHORNE
31	BOULTON	ANGELA BOULTON - EVA SHAND - LES VARADI - PETER BOULTON
32	STUCK	ALISTER STUCK - CAROL RICHARDSON - RUSSELL WILSON - STEVE BOUGHEY
33	DAVIS	ESTELLE DAVIS - GARTH ROBINSON - GRAEME DUHS - ROSEMARY RITCHIE
34	BACH	ASHLEY BACH - GEO TISLEVOLL - MARTIN REID - MICHAEL CORNELL - MICHAEL WARE - PETER NEWELL
35	HANNA	GARY HANNA - HEATHER JARED - REX BENSON - WARREN JOHNSON
36	COLES	BRAD COLES - FRASER REW - MARTIN BLOOM - PETER GILL
37	MOREL	ELEANOR MOREL - LORRAINE MCARTHUR - LUCIE ARMSTRONG - RODNEY HARRIS
38	PARKER	CAROLYN PARKER - DENNIS APPERLEY - NICK COMBER - RANALD DUCAT
39	WILSON	CHRISTINE WILSON - MARUTA BOYD - PEER BACH - SETSUKO LICHTNECKER - TRACEY LEWIS - WENDY MCENTEGART
40	NICHOLAS	KAY NICHOLAS - LESLEY ANDREW - MARY BUCKLAND - TRISH DOWNWARD
41	PALMER	BARRY PALMER - GLENIS PALMER - LINDA CARTNER - NEIL STUCKEY
42	MORRIS	ALLAN MORRIS - BEVERLEY MORRIS - HELEN HEALY - TIMOTHY HEALY - DEAN SOLE
43	KALMA	ANNA KALMA - LESLEY J QUILTY - TOM HENWOOD - TOM WINIATA
44	NASH	BILL NASH - DAVID MCLEISH - JIM WALLIS - PAULA MCLEISH
45	GRANT	ALAN GRANT - GEORGE MASTERS - JOHN DAVIDSON - TIMOTHY SCHUMACHER
46	MIAO	CLAIR MIAO - PAMELA LIVINGSTON - REBECCA WOOD - STEPH JACOB - SUSAN HUMPHRIES - WAYNE BURROWS
47	SPENCER	DAVID SPENCER - JANICE WILLOUGHBY - JULIE BUNNELL - TERESA PHILLIPS
48	HANNAH	BROWN NAOMI HANNAH BROWN - PHIL RUTHERFORD - PRISCILLA BLOY - RAY CURNOW
49	PARKES	ALAN PARKES - GRAHAM STERN - JUDY PLIMMER - LORRAINE INGLIS
50	WINSOR	CHERYL WINSOR - NEIL BECKETT - RICHARD ANDREW - SUSAN ROWE
51	FISHER	BLAIR FISHER - ELIZABETH FISHER - JENNA GIBBONS - JULIAN FOSTER - MICHAEL CURRY - PAMELA CANNING
52	NICOL	JUDITH NICOL - LYNN HALL - PAM TIBBLE - SARAH GARLAND
53	JARVIS	GRANT JARVIS - JONATHAN WESTOBY - KATHY YULE - KENNETH YULE
54	HUMPHREY	BILL HUMPHREY - PAUL CARSON-WENMOTH - PETER GOFFIN - RACHAEL GOFFIN



55	KHAN	HAFIZUR KHAN - JULIA ZHU - PREM SOUNDNANAYAGAM - TONY JIANG
56	BROWN	SUE BROWN - BOB BROWN - PETER HIRZEL - ROGER TOPLIS
57	BECK	ALASDAIR BECK - BOB HURLEY - EVELYN HURLEY - TOM KISS
58	NORMAN	GRAEME NORMAN - LYNDA RIGLER - PATRICK D'ARCY - PETER DELAHUNTY
59	ABRAHAM	ADRIAN ABRAHAM - BRUCE BATCHELOR - MAURICE CARTER - TONY OBERDRIES
60	GUY	LINDSEY GUY - PAMELA DRAVITZKI - REBECCA OSBORNE - STEVE GRAY
61	CARR	JENNY CARR - KELVIN TIBBLE - MARTIN OYSTON - PAT OYSTON
62	DICK	ALAN DICK - HEINI LUX - MALCOLM SMITH - MICHAEL NEELS
63	HAYWARD	DON HAYWARD - JILL CHURCH - RHONDDA SWEETMAN - RICHARD PARKINSON
64	MINCHIN	CAROL MINCHIN - CHRIS ACKERLEY - DOUGLAS RUSSELL - ROGER MINCHIN
65	WOOD	CAROLYN WOOD - JANE MORRIS - ROBIN YOUNG - TOBY GORDON
66	MELVILLE	HEATHER MELVILLE - JUDY MCLEOD - NORM SILCOCK - PAT RUTHERFORD
67	BOLLAND	CHRIS BOLLAND - DAVID MACDONALD - LUKE KELLY - NOEL GRIGG
68	MICHL	JEREMY FRASER-HOSKIN - JOHN O'CONNOR - ANDREW MICHL - JACOB KALMA
69	NIGHTINGALE	DON NIGHTINGALE - NOEL WOODHALL - ROBYN NIGHTINGALE - STEVE BARON
70	BARROWCLOUGH	ANNE BARROWCLOUGH - DEBORAH TANGNEY - JOY WATKINSON - NICKY BOWERS
71	CLEAVER	BRIAN CLEAVER - GARY DUNCAN - PETER BENHAM - RUSSELL DIVE
72	INGLIS	BRUCE INGLIS - JOHN KHOURI - PETER HENSMAN - STEPHEN GOODMAN
73	CHOWCHUVECH	CHRISTINE CHOWCHUVECH - CHRISTINE YUKICH - SUE GIBBONS - VERA VERHAEGH
74	DAGG	DALLAS DAGG - ELLA GRAY - MARION KELLY - MARY-ELLEN NEWTON
75	BUZZARD	GREG BUZZARD - HARRY SHEPHERD - JAMES YANG - MOSS WYLIE - YUZHONG CHEN
76	MARR	BRUCE MARR - IAN CLAYTON - IAN MOORE - PAM MOORE
77	SUN	GEORGE SUN - JETER LIU - JOHN WANG - WILLIAM LIU
78	TURNER	ALAN TURNER - AMANDA SMITH - MICHELLE ENGLAND - STEPHEN FRANCKS
79	KER	ANTHONY KER - CHARLES KER - KATHY KER - MURRAY MCMILLAN
80	HAMILTON	ALAN HAMILTON - JUNE GLENN - PAM HANCOX - PHIL MERCHANT
81	JONES	BARRY JONES - JENNY MILLINGTON - JULIE ATKINSON - PATRICK CARTER
82	CURRIE	ALAN CURRIE - ALICE YOUNG - GINA HSU - JOHN MCINTOSH
83	THOMPSON	JAMIE THOMPSON - MATT BROWN - MICHAEL WHIBLEY - SHANE HARRISON
84	ASHWELL	BRIAN ASHWELL - LESLIE WATT - OLIVER HOFFMANN - WAYNE GYDE
85	PAWSON	KATE TERRY - JUDY PAWSON - JULIE SHERIDAN - KAREN MARTELLETTI
86	DOLBELDAVID	DOLBEL - DENIS HUMPHRIES - GARY CHEN - RICHARD SOLOMON
87	BENNETT	ARTHUR BENNETT - GILLIAN BENNETT - PETER RAMSEY - ROBERT POULGRAIN
88	WANG	BOB WANG - DONG GAO BI - JAMIE ZHU - JERRY CHEN
89	LIU	ANDREW LIU - HERMAN YUAN - JUN CHEN - LINLIN HU - SHIYU HUO
90	CARRYER	COLIN CARRYER - LORRAINE STACHURSKI - MINDY WU - SANDRA CALVERT
91	BUCHANAN	ALISTER BUCHANAN - CHERIE BARTON - DIANA LEES - KAREN HARRIS
92	SHAMI	ANISIA SHAMI - ANNE GELB - MIKE DUNN - OWEN CAMP
93	DENT	ANTHONY WILSON - KAREN SMITH - LEN DENT - OLIVE DENT
94	GALLIE	EFFIE GALLIE - JOAN MCCARTHY - JOAN WALDVOGEL - SARAH GREEN
95	DODDRIDGE	ALAN DODDRIDGE - CAROLYN YEOMANS - JAN WHYTE - JENNY WILSON
96	BLACKIE	ALAN BLACKIE - ANN BLACKIE - JENNY COOPER - JENNY POMEROY
97	PELLEGRINI	CARLOS PELLEGRINI - DAVID SKIPPER - JOHN SKIPPER - VAL GARDINER
98	BAKER	ANN BAKER - COLIN BAKER - HELENA DAWSON - KIERAN CROWE-MAI
99	SEBESFI	BOB SEBESFI - DEE HARLEY - RICHARD DOUGLAS - ROBBIE VAN RIEL
100	WOODHEAD	ANN WOODHEAD - BOB LAWRENCE - KEN MCMAHON - MAX ROBB
101	WEBBER	CHARMAINE HANBURY WEBBER - PAM WHITEHEAD - STUART GRANT - TERI SONAL
102	PATTISON	BILL PATTISON - DAVE GARDINER - N RUSSELL THOMSON - ROBIN WEBCKE
103	MCGRATH	CESCA MCGRATH - CHARLES MCMAHON - ELLA PATTISON - JOHN MCMAHON
104	JOHNSTON	BRADLEY JOHNSTON - GLENN COUTTS - SAM BAILEY - SAMUEL COUTTS - VICTORIA BOUTON
105	GUILFORD	BEV GUILFORD - BEV HENTON - CAROL DE LUCA - SUE SPENCER
106	DEAN	GLENYS DEAN - GWEN COWIE - LIZ WILCOX - MICHAEL WILCOX
107	TURNER	CHRIS TURNER - IAN BRASH - GWYNETH HOPKINS - DARRYL DOWTHWAITE
108	GORDON	SHERRYN MALTHUS - BARBARA GORDON - BARBARA CAMPBELL - ANNE SHEARER
109	BURDETT	BETH BURDETT - ALAN DAWKINS - BRIAN GALLAHER - BRIAN SULLIVAN
110	HOUSE	JUDY BUTLER - RICHARD FLETCHER - RANALD DUCAT - DENNIS APPERLEY

New Zealand Teams – Swiss Round 2

To start off our coverage of the New Zealand Teams, I chose to watch the winners of the NZ Open pairs, Julie Atkinson and Pat Carter, playing for Team Jones. They play an aggressive opening system in which 1♣ is strong, but only 15+, while 1♦/♥/♠ are all 9-14, with 1♦ always unbalanced with at least one minor.

Julie and Pat would be scoring up with Barry Jones and Jenny Millington. Their opponents, Pam Tibble and Sarah Garland, would score up with Judith Nicol and Lynn Hall for Team Nicol.

Jones picked up 3 IMPs on the first board when Nicol were down one in partscore at both tables. Then came something rather more substantial.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ Q 9 8 5 4 ♥ – ♦ 10 6 5 ♣ A K Q 3 2</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ A 10 ♥ K Q 10 9 5 2 ♦ 2 ♣ J 8 7 4</p>																				
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	S																														
<p>♠ K J 7 6 ♥ 4 3 ♦ A Q J 7 3 ♣ 10 9</p>		<p>♠ 3 2 ♥ A J 8 7 6 ♦ K 9 8 4 ♣ 6 5</p>																													
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">West</th> <th style="text-align: left;">North</th> <th style="text-align: left;">East</th> <th style="text-align: left;">South</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>Tibble</i></td> <td><i>Atkinson</i></td> <td><i>Garland</i></td> <td><i>Carter</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>–</td> <td>–</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2NT</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Dble</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	West	North	East	South	<i>Tibble</i>	<i>Atkinson</i>	<i>Garland</i>	<i>Carter</i>	–	–	1♥	Pass	2♦	2♥	Pass	2♠	2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass						
West	North	East	South																												
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4♥	Pass	Pass	Dble																												
All Pass																															

Julie's 2♥ was apparently undiscussed but it looked likely to be showing a black two-suiter and that is how Pat took it, giving preference with 2♠. N/S were potentially in trouble now, had Pam been able to make a penalty double, but she bid a natural and limited 2NT and Sarah went back to the perceived safety of her good six-card suit. When Pam guessed to raise to game, Pat must have thought that Christmas had come early and he doubled.

Pat led a club so Julie won the king and queen then continued with a low club, Pat ruffing with the six. He returned a diamond and Sarah went up with the ace to lead a heart to her king, getting confirmation of the bad news. Pat won the ace of hearts and played a spade to the queen and ace so Sarah overtook the ♠ 10 and pitched her last club on the jack of spades. Pat ruffed and still had the jack of hearts to come so the contract was down three for –500.

At the other table, Team Jones stopped in 3♥, down two for –100 but worth +9 IMPs.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ J 7 5 3 ♥ 7 6 ♦ Q 6 ♣ A J 10 4 3</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ K 4 ♥ 10 9 8 5 ♦ A K 8 7 5 ♣ 9 5</p>	<p>♠ 10 9 ♥ K Q 2 ♦ J 9 2 ♣ K Q 8 7 6</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		<p>♠ A Q 8 6 2 ♥ A J 4 3 ♦ 10 4 3 ♣ 2</p>										

West	North	East	South
<i>Tibble</i>	<i>Atkinson</i>	<i>Garland</i>	<i>Carter</i>
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

Pat's 1♠ opening showed 9-14 with at least five spades and 2♦ was natural, constructive, but not forcing (a 1NT response would have been a game-forcing relay). I would have thought that, if partner did not have three spades and might occasionally have only four diamonds, there was a significant possibility that she might have four hearts, so I was surprised when Pat raised to 3♦ rather than try 2♥ – he could have bid 2♥ then gone on with 3♦ to bid out his shape had Julie given preference to 2♠. Anyway, 3♦ was his choice and it ended the auction. After a club lead and trump switch, Julie had 10 tricks for +130.

That looked like a swing to Team Nicol, but in the other room 4♥ was reached but went down a trick for –50, so 5 IMPs to Team Jones rather than 7 IMPs the other way.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ A Q 8 7 5 ♥ Q 10 9 7 2 ♦ A 3 ♣ 3</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ K 9 3 2 ♥ 8 ♦ 7 4 ♣ Q 10 8 6 5 2</p>	<p>♠ 10 6 ♥ A K J 3 ♦ K Q 10 ♣ A K 9 4</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		<p>♠ J 4 ♥ 6 5 4 ♦ J 9 8 6 5 2 ♣ J 7</p>										

West	North	East	South
<i>Tibble</i>	<i>Atkinson</i>	<i>Garland</i>	<i>Carter</i>
1♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Club players around the world might bid the way Sarah did on this one but, as the outcome of this deal showed, it is better to go slowly and be sure that there is no trump fit before committing yourself to no trump. Sarah asked for key cards, found two plus the ♠ Q, and jumped to 6NT. It wasn't a bad contract, just there was a whole lot better one available.

Pat led a heart. Sarah won the jack and led the ten of spades to the jack, queen and king, won the club return and ran the six of spades. Had either the ♠ K or the ♠ J9 been onside, the slam would have been made. On the actual lay-out it was down one for -100.

Not everyone is an expert on squeezes, but had the second spade finesse been working at trick four, it would still have been working at trick 12. There was no hurry to take it. See what happens if declarer takes the first spade finesse, wins the club return and rattles off all the hearts. The defenders both have to make some discards. Those will be two diamonds from South and three clubs and a spade from North. Now cash the diamonds, and North shows out on the third round and is squeezed out of one of her black-suit stoppers. Even better, declarer can now count out the hand and knows that the second spade finesse cannot succeed. Why? Because South is known to have started with six diamonds and three hearts and will follow to the second club, so could only ever have started with two spades. Declarer therefore leads the six of spades to the ace and down comes the nine – contract made! And if North decides to keep two spades, then she is forced down to only one club, and declarer's nine of clubs is established as the twelfth trick. Of course, declarer needs to count the clubs to know this but, at least in theory, the defenders are powerless. The two six-two minor-suit splits were fortuitous, as they made it impossible for the defence to conceal the actual distribution.

In the other room, Barry and Jenny bid to 6♥ for +1430 and a huge 17 IMPs to Team Jones.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ A Q 8 ♥ J 5 3 ♦ A 7 5 4 2 ♣ 8 4	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #e0f0e0;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 10 9 ♥ 9 8 4 ♦ K 10 9 6 ♣ A 6 5 2	♠ 7 5 2 ♥ 10 7 2 ♦ J 8 3 ♣ K 9 7 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Tibble	Atkinson	Garland	Carter
–	1NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Julie's 1NT was 11-14 and Pam's double a normal suggestion to try to take a penalty. Julie ran to her five-card diamond suit and now double would have been for take-out so Sarah had to pass and hope for a reopening double from partner. No such luck. Pam instead bid 2♠ and played there.

Julie led the eight of clubs and Pam erred by putting up the ace – the lead was very unlikely to be a singleton in light of the 1NT opening. She ran the ten of spades to the queen and now Julie could lead her remaining club and Pat could win the king and lead a third round for her to ruff.

Julie cashed the ace of diamonds then tried a heart but there was only the ace of spades to come for the defence and the contract was just made for +110 – the careless play at trick one, keeping open the defensive communications, had cost only an overtrick.

In the other room the contract was 2♦ doubled by North and it was down three for -800 and 12 IMPs to Team Jones, who were heading for a big win unless something dramatic happened.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A 8 6 4 ♥ Q 5 ♦ K Q J 7 6 4 3 ♣ –	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #e0f0e0;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J 10 7 5 ♥ 10 8 2 ♦ – ♣ A K J 10 9 2	♠ 9 2 ♥ A J 9 7 4 3 ♦ 10 2 ♣ Q 4 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											


West	North	East	South
Tibble	Atkinson	Garland	Carter
–	–	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

Sarah opened a weak 2♥ and when that ran round to Julie she overcalled. Pat gave his partner a lot of leeway to have balanced on quite a light hand when he now passed with 12 HCP. Pam competed with 3♥, and now Pat in turn competed to 4♣.

With the heart ace favourite to be onside on the auction, 5♣ is a pretty good contract on the N/S cards, so they can be said to have been a little lucky to find that there was a trump loser and that 4♣ was the limit on the board; +130.

At the other table, the contract was 3NT by South, going down one for -50 and a further 5 IMPs to Team Jones.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ J 10 8 7 3 ♥ K 9 7 3 2 ♦ K 2 ♣ J		♠ 4 ♥ Q 10 4 ♦ J 8 5 3 ♣ K Q 9 8 7	♠ A K 9 6 ♥ A J 6 ♦ 10 7 6 ♣ 10 6 4
		♠ Q 5 2 ♥ 8 5 ♦ A Q 9 4 ♣ A 5 3 2	


West	North	East	South
<i>Tibble</i>	<i>Atkinson</i>	<i>Garland</i>	<i>Carter</i>
–	–	–	1NT
2♣	3♣	3♠	All Pass

Pat opened an 11-14 no trump and Pam overcalled 2♣, both majors. Julie could bid 3♣ as purely competitive and now there was no room for Sarah to make an invitational bid. She guessed low, bidding only 3♠, and of course was left to play there.

Pat cashed the ace of clubs then switched to ace and another diamond. Sarah won the king, cashed the top spades and ruffed her last diamond then led a heart to the jack. When that held she had 10 tricks for +170.

Barry and Jenny bid the spade game at the other table and made 10 tricks for +620 and 10 IMPs to Team Jones.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 5 3 2 ♥ A K J 8 6 2 ♦ J 9 7 ♣ 10		♠ Q 10 6 4 ♥ – ♦ A 10 3 2 ♣ A 9 8 7 4	♠ A J ♥ Q 10 9 7 5 3 ♦ 8 6 5 4 ♣ J
		♠ K 9 8 7 ♥ 4 ♦ K Q ♣ K Q 6 5 3 2	

West	North	East	South
<i>Tibble</i>	<i>Atkinson</i>	<i>Garland</i>	<i>Carter</i>
2♥	Pass	4♥	Dble
Pass	4♠	5♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

When Pam opened a weak 2♥, Julie thought she was just short of having enough to double so passed, and Sarah raised to 4♥. Pat doubled for take-out and Julie responded 4♠, and Sarah, with exceptional heart support, took the push to 5♥, which Julie doubled.

Julie led the ace of clubs then switched to a spade, Pam

rising with dummy's ace and drawing the missing trump before exiting with a spade. Pat won that and cashed queen then king of diamonds, playing them in reverse order to show that he had only the two cards. After taking the diamonds he got out with a spade and Julie had to come to the ace of diamonds at the end for down three and –500.

At the other table 5♥ was not doubled and it was also down only two for –100, so Team Jones added another 9 IMPs to their tally. There were a few more IMPs to come over the final few quiet deals but they had sufficient for a maximum 20-0 VP win. The final IMP score was 78-0 in favour of Team Jones.

Divorce Looms Large...

by Michael Courtney

I used to have a standing bet at the double bay bridge centre. If ever a player was screaming at their partner about the conduct of a deal, you could be certain that the screamer had done something wrong.

There was such a deal in the second-last round of the New Zealand pairs in 2016...


Rosie said nothing. I said “if you bid 3♥ over 3♦, it leaves me room to bid 3♠ with length and 3NT with club stoppers”

“But” she protested “I had AKQxx spade and Ace empty fifth heart”

“Hmm” said I “well the least you could have done was take the ten top tricks”

So I ask you, was I being reasonable or was I feeling guilty about my choice of opening bid?

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ A K Q 7 5 ♥ A 10 8 7 4 ♦ 3 ♣ 6 4		♠ 3 2 ♥ K Q 9 6 2 ♦ A 9 7 ♣ J 7 3	♠ J 4 ♥ 3 ♦ Q J 8 6 5 2 ♣ A Q 10 2
		♠ 10 9 8 6 ♥ J 5 ♦ K 10 4 ♣ K 9 8 5	

West	North	East	South
<i>Rose</i>		<i>MC</i>	
–	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Rose won the heart ace and counted; five trumps in hand (hopefully) the heart ace was six, two heart ruffs eight and therefore needed two club tricks for ten. So at

trick two she finessed the ♣Q, had that held she intended to crossruff hearts and clubs for ten tricks.

If I had passed, bid 2♦ over 1♠; 2♠ over 2♥ and 4♠ over 3♥, I would probably have applauded that (apparently only) line and said bad luck. But having opened 3♦ at unfavourable on that unlikely collection I felt responsible for the poor score and naturally wished to place the blame elsewhere..

“The least you could have done was take the ten top tricks!” said I.

“Which are they?” said Rose.

“Well, you win the heart and play a diamond – always set up up dummy's long suit! South wins and plays a trump. You win the jack and ruff a diamond, HIGH. You ruff a heart and spy that jack. Great! You ruff another diamond high and play king and another spade. South can win his two trumps but then leads into the club tenace and dummy takes the rest”

“Well, yes” said Rose “ I would have, but what if South keeps his spade six to underplay the seven”

“Surely I don't have to tell you that we threw the seven under the jack? I wouldn't have opened 3♦ if I knew you were a beginner!”

“Well, yes” she said “perhaps you shouldn't have...”
Women, honestly! They're always ...

Story of the Day

After suitable deliberation the committee, Richard Solomon and myself, award the first **Story of the Day** prize to **Barbara Gordon**, star of ‘You don't have to be mad to play here, but it helps’, which appeared on page 5 of Tuesday's Bulletin.

If Barbara would like to come to the Bulletin Room, next door to the main office, she can collect her bottle of Babich fine wine.



The Leading Veteran Pair in the New Zealand Open Pairs Plate:

Maurice Carter & Tony Oberdries

with Chairman Alan Dormer

The Winners of the New Zealand Pairs Plate:

Jeff Miller & Graeme Stout

with Chairman Alan Dormer



New Zealand Teams – Rankings After 5 Rounds

Place Cat.	Team (click here to show names)	Imps	VPs	W-D-L	Next Opp.
1	COUTTS (29)	164	84.77	5-0-0	53
2	JARVIS (53)	114	78.56	5-0-0	29
3	JANISZ (22)	137	75.60	4-0-1	83
4	THOMPSON (83)	108	74.39	4-0-1	22
5	LIU (89)	102	73.38	4-1-0	103
6	MCGRATH (103)	96	72.60	4-0-1	89
7	MORRISON (30)	90	71.09	4-0-1	104
8	JOHNSTON (104)	129	70.73	3-0-2	30
9	SUN (77)	136	70.50	3-1-1	36
10	COLES (36)	90	68.78	4-0-1	77
11	DOLBEL (86)	82	68.67	4-0-1	79
12	KER (79)	97	68.49	3-0-2	86
13	GROVER (8)	74	65.64	4-0-1	19
14	DORMER (19)	61	65.50	4-0-1	8
15	BACH (34)	88	65.27	3-0-2	81
16	JONES (81)	97	63.72	3-0-2	34
17	MARR (76)	59	63.02	3-0-2	1
18	EMMS (1)	65	62.87	3-0-2	76
19	FISHER (51)	54	62.71	3-0-2	88
20	WANG (88)	42	61.97	4-0-1	51
21	CARRYER (90)	47	61.53	3-0-2	25
22	LEI (25)	49	60.42	3-0-2	90
23	HUTTON (6)	38	59.91	4-0-1	41
24	PALMER (41)	38	59.76	4-0-1	6
25	STOUT (12)	45	59.61	3-0-2	65
26	WOOD (65)	40	58.90	3-0-2	12
27	MUNTZ (2)	32	58.50	4-0-1	98
28	BAKER (98)	34	57.63	3-0-2	2
29	WILSON (39)	25	57.56	4-0-1	17
30	HANGARTNER (17)	31	57.11	3-0-2	39
31	PELLEGRINI (97)	26	56.69	3-0-2	99
32	SEBESFI (99)	19	55.64	4-0-1	97
33	CLEAVER (71)	17	55.53	3-0-2	69
34	NIGHTINGALE (69)	17	55.51	4-0-1	71
35	KALMA (43)	32	55.41	3-0-2	60
36	GUY (60)	24	54.70	3-0-2	43
37	CURRIE (82)	18	54.07	2-0-3	24
38	MCGREGOR (24)	21	54.05	3-0-2	82
39	NASH (44)	24	54.01	2-0-3	38
40	PARKER (38)	19	53.73	3-0-2	44
41	BOLLAND (67)	7	53.28	3-0-2	85
42	PAWSON (85)	15	52.99	3-0-2	67
43	BUZZARD (75)	12	52.49	3-0-2	18
44	GRANT (45)	7	52.27	3-0-2	78
44=	BARNARD (18)	5	52.27	3-0-2	75
46	TURNER (78)	-27	51.85	2-1-2	45
47	HUMPHREY (54)	7	51.59	3-0-2	3
48	TEMPLE (3)	-2	50.46	3-0-2	54
49	NORMAN (58)	-8	49.87	3-0-2	9
50	CRAIG (9)	-24	49.43	4-0-1	58
51	HANNA (35)	-6	49.05	2-0-3	80
52	HAMILTON (80)	-13	48.68	3-0-2	35
53	MINCHIN (64)	-2	48.63	3-0-2	91
54	BUCHANAN (91)	2	48.62	2-0-3	64



Place Cat.	Team (click here to show names)	Imps	VPs	W-D-L	Next Opp.
55	SOMERVILLE (27)	-6	48.58	2-1-2	13
56	PRICE (13)	-5	48.57	2-0-3	27
57	COOK (10)	-9	48.46	3-0-2	15
58	MACKAY (15)	-1	48.43	2-0-3	10
59	HEMMES (16)	-18	48.00	3-0-2	32
60	STUCK (32)	12	47.85	2-0-3	16
61	ABRAHAM (59)	-6	47.70	1-0-4	5
62	BROOKES (5)	25	47.31	2-0-3	59
63	DEAN (106)	-18	46.89	3-0-2	21
64	BRAITHWAITE (21)	-24	46.79	3-0-2	106
65	STACEY (26)	-27	46.66	3-0-2	46
66	MIAO (46)	-18	46.50	2-0-3	26
67	DODDRIDGE (95)	-45	45.63	3-0-2	62
68	DICK (62)	-42	45.58	3-0-2	95
69	A TURNER (107)	-15	45.50	2-0-3	72
70	INGLIS (72)	-18	45.27	2-0-3	107
71	HANNAH BROWN (48)	-28	45.09	2-0-3	109
72	A BURDETT (109)	-12	45.00	2-0-3	48
73	WOODHEAD (100)	-33	44.92	3-0-2	52
74	NICOL (52)	-60	44.70	2-0-3	100
75	GALLIE (94)	8	43.91	1-0-4	40
76	NICHOLAS (40)	-28	43.63	2-0-3	94
77	CARR (61)	-29	43.55	2-0-3	63
78	HAYWARD (63)	-35	43.50	2-0-3	61
79	GLASS (7)	-24	42.71	1-0-4	31
80	BOULTON (31)	-24	42.70	1-0-4	7
81	BARROWCLOUGH (70)	-17	42.63	1-0-4	73
82	CHOWCHUVECH (73)	-36	42.61	2-0-3	70
83	BECK (57)	-33	42.47	2-0-3	66
84	MELVILLE (66)	-31	42.29	2-0-3	57
85	MORRIS (42)	-35	42.23	3-0-2	37
86	MOREL (37)	-36	41.78	2-0-3	42
87	SHAMI (92)	-32	40.46	1-0-4	33
88	DAVIS (33)	-47	40.33	2-0-3	92
89	GUILFORD (105)	-38	39.94	1-0-4	49
90	PARKES (49)	-44	39.60	1-0-4	105
91	DAGG (74)	-46	38.80	2-0-3	84
92	ASHWELL (84)	-78	38.76	2-1-2	74
93	O'SHAUGHNESSY (11)	-43	38.58	1-1-3	110
94	MICHL (68)	-54	38.12	0-1-4	47
95	A HOUSE (110)	-43	38.03	1-0-4	11
96	SPENCER (47)	-45	37.70	1-0-4	68
97	GEARE (4)	-69	37.51	3-0-2	93
98	DENT (93)	-76	36.29	2-0-3	4
99	WINSOR (50)	-90	36.22	2-0-3	108
100	A GORDON (108)	-51	36.18	0-1-4	50
101	BENNETT (87)	-66	34.41	1-0-4	101
102	WEBBER (101)	-72	32.72	1-0-4	87
103	MCRAE (28)	-85	31.54	1-0-4	23
104	WALTERS (23)	-76	31.26	0-0-5	28
105	BREWER (14)	-99	28.47	1-0-4	56
106	BROWN (56)	-101	27.12	1-0-4	14
107	SMITH (20)	-110	25.88	0-0-5	55
108	KHAN (55)	-104	25.71	0-1-4	20
109	PATTISON (102)	-161	21.88	0-1-4	96
110	BLACKIE (96)	-156	17.04	0-0-5	102