

2023 CONGRESS BULLETIN

Bulletin 5, September 26, Mercury Baypark

Submissions to sleksix@gmail.com



NZ Open Pairs winners Ashley Bach - Mike Cornell

We're a weird mob

Yes, I mean all of us, bridge players!

Having kibitzed more than played over the last couple of years, I keep noticing some of the habits we have - and some I have noticed for years in some of my friends and foes have only become more exaggerated over time.



NZ Open Pairs Plate winners Gary Chen - John Wang with Owen Camp

Look at the way of displaying your cards at left - the young man pictured vows he can't hold the cards any other way or he would be revoking all the time. It's not just a ploy so I can't see his hand, it's just the way he likes it. Another good friend jiggles his cards from left to right incessantly - but it seems to work! He rarely makes a wrong decision.

I kibitzed the Cornell v. Davies match as my last task for the day. Michael and Ashley play a fairly normal system with transfers over 1♣, and a lot of things people would understand. Teammates for this round, Peter Newell - Martin Reid, on the other hand play a highly artificial system, which can lead to auctions becoming difficult to handle.

BOARD 15		
BD: 15	♠ 76 ♥ AQT9 ♦ 864 ♣ AK83	Dir: S Vul: NS
♠ AJ953 ♥ KJ7 ♦ Q932 ♣ 6		♠ 842 ♥ 542 ♦ KJT ♣ JT72
	♠ KQT ♥ 863 ♦ A75 ♣ Q954	

I thought Cantabrians Max Morrison, in partnership with Jane Lennon showed courage in pushing to game after this auction:

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			Pass
1♠	dbl	2♠	2NT ¹
3♣	pass	3NT	all pass

1.Lebensohl

2NT was ostensibly Lebensohl, but when Lennon bid 3♣, Morrison decided to go for the vulnerable game. With hearts in the pocket, he soon scored 10 tricks on a spade lead.

This was necessary, as it was squared at the other table.

BOARD 25		
BD: 25	♠ AKJ76 ♥ 43 ♦ A2 ♣ QT65	Dir: N Vul: EW
♠ T84 ♥ AQ875 ♦ Q54 ♣ 93		♠ 52 ♥ T2 ♦ KT983 ♣ A842
	♠ Q93 ♥ KJ96 ♦ J76 ♣ KJ7	

Both EW pairs had the chance to defeat game contracts on this deal. Cornell - Bach were defending 4♠, and when Cornell led ♥10, covered by the jack



Kate Terry presenting the Martelletti Cup for best women's pair in the NZ Teams to Kathy Yule - Liz Fisher.

and queen, Bach had to reject the impulse to promote a trump trick for Cornell and instead shift to a diamond. This was perhaps due to the fact that being late in the match, and with time pressures looming, Bach uncharacteristically played too quickly.

On the third heart, Jane Lennon ruffed high, drew trumps ending in dummy. When they broke, she could discard her losing diamond on the established heart, force out ♣A and claim 10 tricks.

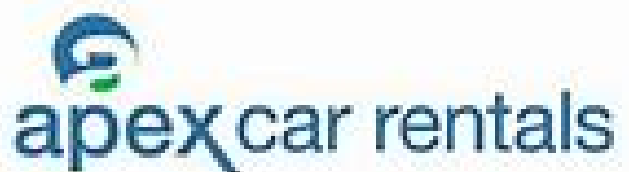
3NT, the contract at the other table, is beaten easily on a diamond lead, but the auction probably made it difficult for the West hand in particular to lead a diamond.

Bidding question

How do you approach this bidding problem?

Partner opens 1♠ in second seat, and after RHO passes it is your turn with

♠A54, ♥AKQJ6432, ♦---, ♣A8





Charles Ker, who played the Matchpoint Swiss

Board 16	♠ KQ1062 ♥ 8 ♦ A98 ♣ K1092	Dir: West Vul: EW
♠ 3 ♥ 975 ♦ Q75 ♣ QJ7643		♠ J987 ♥ 10 ♦ KJ106432 ♣ 5
	♠ A54 ♥ AKQJ6432 ♦ --- ♣ A8	

Pairs showed me Board 16 from Round 2. His partner was Ken Yule and their auction was swift and accurate.

West	North	East	South
	Ker		Yule
pass	1♠	pass	4NT
pass	5♠	pass	7NT
all pass			

Charles thought the bid was logical - South can count 13 tricks when North shows 3 Key Cards plus ♠Q.

BOARD 28		
BD: 28	♠ QJT2 ♥ A764 ♦ Q52 ♣ 84	Dir: W Vul: N-S
♠ 76 ♥ T98 ♦ T93 ♣ JT973		♠ A8543 ♥ Q5 ♦ 874 ♣ AK5
	♠ K9 ♥ KJ32 ♦ AKJ6 ♣ Q62	

You can't do that!

In the last round of the NZ Pairs Final, Max Morrison declared 3NT from the South seat after Adam Kaplan opened 3♣ first in hand, passed around to Max. Note the vulnerability.

Max asked Mike Doecke questions about the style at this vulnerability. Mike replied that it could be aggressive, but that Adam is a "matchpoint fiend", and is unlikely to do anything too rash.

Max had a chuckle and said "Yes, well some of our youth players do it on five-card suits and 2 points". Mike assured Max that he hadn't experienced him doing anything like that, lol.

Adam led ♠7, which was won by Mike's ♦A, Max unblocking the king.

After a bit of thought, Mike returned ♣5, which was won by Adam's ♠9. Adam now returned ♥10 for 11 tricks. It was quite funny.

Jane Lennon





Aengus Moore, Briar Coleman, Zarias Werder and Alex Shan

I noted a young team scoring up after the first match of the NZ Teams. COLEMAN have a combined age of 62. Two are from Auckland, one is from Hawera and one town of residence escapes me. Three of the four have bridge-playing parents.

Aengus and Zarias sat NS, and had the lion's share of the points on the first round. Aengus was bemoaning the fact that he forgot they had agreed to play Gerber, so they had an accident on one of the boards. After the first day, they had three wins and are in fifth place.

Describe your hand

You hold ♠2, ♥AK8, ♦KJ1094, ♣AKQJ

What's the best way to describe this hand after RHO opens 2♠, may be a five-card suit at favourable vulnerability for them?

Many would double, but Geo Tislevoll has seen this action go wrong before, so he bid 4NT.

He found partner with a suitable hand (not too big, not too small, just right, as in Goldilocks.)

It could have been a fizzer if partner had had a weak hand with six hearts, but the odds perhaps favour a minor in partner's hand?

The full hand:

BOARD 25		
BD: 25	♠ KQ943 ♥ T973 ♦ 3 ♣ 754	Dir: N Vul: EW
♠ 87 ♥ 65 ♦ Q8765 ♣ T983		♠ 2 ♥ AK8 ♦ KJT94 ♣ AKQJ
	♠ AJT65 ♥ QJ42 ♦ A2 ♣ 62	



Restricted Open Pairs winners Lysandra Zheng -
Tim Pan



Restricted Open Pairs Plate winners Guy Kalma -
Joy Williams



Junior Pairs winners, Mark Wilson -Tash Lundin



National Congress Matchpoint Swiss Pairs
winners Annette and Stephen Henry

NZ Junior Teams

Results after 4 of 8 matches		Match Imps (click to show VPs)				Totals		
Place	Team	M1	M2	M3	M4	Imps	VPs	WDL
1	MCDONALD (7)	26	40	3	21	90	61.22	4-0-0
2	LUNDIN (9)	43	19	47	-12	97	59.52	3-0-1
3	ZHANG (1)	16	23	26	-21	44	51.19	3-0-1
4	BRANTON (8)	-1	22	-3	12	30	47.84	2-0-2
5	COLEMAN (3)	1	-23	3	26	7	41.83	3-0-1
6	WILLIAMS (10)	-16	18	-3	-7	-8	37.3	1-0-3
7	ARDERN (2)	-43	-18	4	10	-47	30.64	2-0-2
8	YOUNG (4)	-26	-19	-4	7	-42	29.44	1-0-3
9	SOMERVILLE (6)	11	-40	-47	-10	-86	22.67	1-0-3
10	KARL (5)	-11	-22	-26	-26	-85	18.35	0-0-4

NZ Restricted Open Teams

Results after 4 of 8 matches		Match Imps (click to show VPs)				Totals			Next
Place	Team	M1	M2	M3	M4	Imps	VPs	WDL	Opp.
1	QUINLIVAN (25)	57	-2	32	15	102	60.9	3-0-1	5
2	KEAY (5)	28	1	14	18	61	55.9	4-0-0	25
3	CHUA (24)	32	-1	-6	47	72	54.3	2-0-2	8
4	K ANDERSON (8)	-4	35	-14	78	95	52.5	2-0-2	24
5	HODGE (20)	18	13	-32	77	76	51.2	3-0-1	9
6	PAN (9)	26	20	9	-15	40	50.2	3-0-1	20
7	YANAGISAWA (7)	14	22	13	-18	31	48.5	3-0-1	11
8	O'BRIEN (14)	13	24	-13	3	27	47	3-0-1	23
9	YOUNG (11)	62	2	-9	-3	52	47	2-0-2	7
10	EDGINTON (23)	21	-13	6	10	24	46.6	3-0-1	14
11	BOWERS (18)	-14	-10	14	39	29	45.3	2-0-2	6
12	MAXWELL (6)	-32	9	36	1	14	43.6	3-0-1	18
13	BALL (3)	-8	5	15	-1	11	43	2-0-2	2
14	TAYLOR (2)	27	-20	8	-10	5	40.8	2-0-2	3

15	WALKER (15)	14	-22	30	-47	-25	36.2	2-0-2	1
16	WEEDN (1)	-18	-9	-14	31	-10	35.7	1-0-3	15
17	BORREN (4)	-13	10	-15	-1	-19	34.7	1-0-3	12
18	KALMA (12)	-21	9	-20	6	-26	33.9	2-0-2	4
19	WHITEHEAD (17)	-26	-13	9	1	-29	32.9	2-0-2	21
20	HOUSE (26)	-27	13	20	-78	-72	32.4	2-0-2	16
21	FITZSIMONS (21)	13	-24	-30	-6	-47	28.8	1-0-3	17
22	BENNETT (16)	-28	-9	-9	-1	-47	27.5	0-0-4	26
23	HOLLINGWORTH (10)	-57	18	-36	1	-74	27.3	2-0-2	13
24	SCOTT (22)	4	-5	-8	-77	-86	27.3	1-0-3	19
25	BAKER (13)	-13	-35	22	-39	-65	25.9	1-0-3	10
26	CHRISTENSEN (19)	-62	-18	-22	-31	-133	12.3	0-0-4	22

NZ Open Teams Intermediate

Results after 4 of 8 matches

Place	Team	Match Imps				Imps	VPs	Totals WDL	Next Opp.
		M1	M2	M3	M4				
1	SIMPSON (12)	46	27	1	29	103	62.84	4-0-0	14
2	HILTON (10)	37	68	-1	6	110	59.58	3-0-1	8
3	COLEMAN (14)	4	18	37	-6	53	52.3	3-0-1	12
4	PEDERSEN (8)	8	-20	35	31	54	52.14	3-0-1	10
5	PENNY (7)	8	20	5	8	41	51.72	4-0-0	6
6	SARGISSON (6)	-28	5	23	41	41	49.24	3-0-1	7
7	GUNN (22)	-12	-3	27	22	34	47.76	2-0-2	5
8	GRUNDY (5)	27	10	-5	-1	31	47.61	2-0-2	22
9	POWELL (9)	8	5	-13	25	25	46.51	3-0-1	21
10	CHRISTENSEN (21)	-8	16	12	1	21	45.79	3-0-1	9
11	GROUNDSTURNER (26)	28	1	18	-29	18	45.02	3-0-1	19
12	CLIFFIN (19)	-4	18	13	-8	19	44.85	2-0-2	26
13	STIMSON (4)	36	-1	-37	14	12	43.5	2-0-2	23
14	CRAWSHAW (23)	-8	-18	34	4	12	41.62	2-0-2	4
15	CORSON (25)	-37	-32	54	30	15	41.49	2-0-2	2
16	HEARN (2)	14	-7	-1	-4	2	40.19	1-0-3	25
17	CURREEN (17)	42	-27	-12	4	7	39.9	2-0-2	13
18	LEE (13)	-40	32	19	-31	-20	36.8	2-0-2	17
19	CAMERON (24)	16	-10	1	-22	-15	36.12	2-0-2	18
20	BAILIE (18)	-8	-16	25	-14	-13	35.39	1-0-3	24
21	FITZGERALD (3)	12	7	-18	-25	-24	34.58	2-0-2	20
22	HARGREAVES (20)	-27	3	-7	6	-25	34.13	2-0-2	3
23	VELING (11)	-42	6	-25	14	-47	30.97	2-0-2	16
24	SIGNAL (16)	-14	3	-23	-4	-38	29.88	1-0-3	11
25	ORTON (29)	40	-68	-35	-6	-69	28.77	1-0-3	27
26	MOIR (27)	-6	-18	7	-30	-47	28.4	1-0-3	29
27	HONEYBONE (28)	-36	-5	-34	20	-55	28.14	1-0-3	1
28	JONES (1)	6	-5	-19	-41	-59	26.7	1-0-3	28
29	MURRAY (15)	-16	-3	-27	-14	-60	24.1	0-0-4	30
30	ROBINSON (30)	-46	-6	-54	-20	-126	13.96	0-0-4	15

NZ Open Teams Qualifying

Results after 4 of 8 matches

Place	Team					Imps	Totals		Next Opp.
		M1	M2	M3	M4		VPs	WDL	
1	SHEPHERD (10)	22	48	25	27	122	67.7	4-0-0	16
2	PELKMAN (16)	16	45	26	16	103	64.2	4-0-0	10
3	COUTTS (18)	36	30	10	22	98	63.58	4-0-0	40
4	CORNELL (17)	86	19	-10	34	129	59.72	3-0-1	14
5	CAMP (40)	41	39	26	-27	79	56.65	3-0-1	18
6	CARTER (14)	14	25	40	-16	63	54.16	3-0-1	17
7	DIVE (54)	29	19	-26	34	56	53.19	3-0-1	35
8	BOUGHEY (35)	37	-39	20	36	54	52.92	3-0-1	54
9	YUAN (27)	-50	37	20	35	42	51.6	3-0-1	50
10	TISLEVOLL (50)	37	-30	40	2	49	50.07	3-0-1	27
11	GIBBONS (34)	42	-30	29	4	45	49.77	3-0-1	4
12	HANGARTNER (4)	31	29	-25	4	39	49.14	3-0-1	34
13	SOLOMON (31)	-22	-1	33	33	43	48.99	2-0-2	56
14	YOUNG (37)	6	10	-15	34	35	48.28	3-0-1	19
15	WATSON (56)	-4	8	5	20	29	48	3-0-1	31
16	BROWN (44)	-2	10	25	-2	31	47.86	2-0-2	41
17	BIRD (41)	50	-19	14	-4	41	47.09	2-0-2	44
18	JARVIS (19)	11	5	12	-4	24	47.01	3-0-1	37
19	JACOB (45)	28	-7	-12	23	32	46.93	2-0-2	13
20	HEALY (52)	24	7	-40	23	14	45.63	3-0-1	5
21	DOWNWARD (5)	-28	38	-5	17	22	44.51	2-0-2	52
22	BERRINGTON (13)	2	20	15	-22	15	44.45	3-0-1	45
23	LLOYD (30)	-1	1	-20	45	25	43.72	2-0-2	36
24	KER (11)	1	12	-25	22	10	43.26	3-0-1	48
25	DAVIES (36)	46	30	-26	-34	16	42.11	2-0-2	30
26	TIBBLE (48)	-11	-26	17	25	5	41.24	2-0-2	11
27	FISHER (38)	34	-29	24	-34	-5	39.15	2-0-2	26
28	SOMERVILLE (26)	-3	-10	-16	29	0	38.52	1-0-3	38
29	HAMILTON (39)	-16	13	15	-20	-8	38.23	2-0-2	6
30	RUSSELL (6)	22	-48	-8	11	-23	37.17	2-0-2	39
31	FRASER-HOSKIN (49)	-36	-7	-3	37	-9	37	1-0-3	21
32	PALMER (21)	4	-10	25	-36	-17	36.61	2-0-2	49
33	BOND (24)	-37	18	33	-35	-21	36.53	2-0-2	29

34	RUDELL (29)	13	-25	-25	18	-19	36.15	2-0-2	24
35	ROGGEVEEN (42)	3	-20	-8	9	-16	35.98	2-0-2	8
36	INGLIS (8)	-18	-13	45	-17	-3	35.77	1-0-3	42
37	SCOTT (15)	-6	-8	30	-33	-17	35.24	1-0-3	43
38	HAJMASI (43)	-28	9	16	-23	-26	34.56	2-0-2	15
39	MCLEOD (32)	-9	26	-14	-23	-20	33.86	1-0-3	1
40	GAO BI (1)	-41	-18	3	24	-32	33.62	2-0-2	32
41	TEMPLE (51)	18	-45	8	-22	-41	32.65	2-0-2	23
42	CRAIG (23)	-42	21	8	-34	-47	31.62	2-0-2	51
43	MCMILLAN (12)	28	-19	-29	-11	-31	31.55	1-0-3	46
44	TOPLIS (46)	-31	24	-20	-9	-36	30.87	1-0-3	12
45	GLASS (9)	-29	-38	-4	29	-42	30.55	1-0-3	20
46	CURNOW (53)	-86	-37	4	26	-93	29.62	2-0-2	28
47	SPENCER (20)	-1	-1	-15	-25	-42	28.94	0-0-4	9
48	GORDON (28)	-37	7	-33	2	-61	27.29	2-0-2	53
49	GODFREY (22)	-24	-9	-17	-2	-52	25.96	0-0-4	3
50	PURVES (3)	-13	17	-24	-45	-65	25.91	1-0-3	22
51	DICK (2)	-46	-21	20	-18	-65	25.87	1-0-3	25
52	SHERIDAN (25)	9	-5	-40	-29	-65	25.84	1-0-3	2
53	BARTOLI (47)	-22	1	-30	-24	-75	21.6	1-0-3	33
54	MURRAY_WHITE (33)	1	-12	-33	-37	-81	21.32	1-0-3	47
55	SUTTON (55)	-14	-17	-45	-29	-105	15.54	0-0-4	7
56	GRAY (7)	-34	-24	-20	-26	-104	14.7	0-0-4	55