



Bulletin

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In this Bulletin ...

The **day-time results rankings** individuals (this page) and session partnerships (pp4-5)

The old rugged cross. Do you double too much or too little? Some useful advice from Richard Hills (p2).

A special egalitarian “**everybody makes**” edition with some freak hands, including one in which every hand can make three no trumps against best defence (pp3 & 7).

And a lateral thinking puzzle (below)

Puzzle 1: The 5th Dimension

You, South, in a pairs match, have already won eight tricks in 3NT. You are now on lead. Only one card will give you the best possible result on the hand. What is it?

♠ A	
♥ -	
♦ 72	
♣ -	
♠ -	♠ Irrelevant
♥ A	♥
♦ A6	♦
♣ -	♣
♠ 2	
♥ 2	
♦ 3	
♣ -	

Answer on p 6

Daytime Individual Scores—April-June 2006

1st	Jim Murray	67
2nd	Neil Naughton	56
3rd	Malcolm Aldons	43
4th=	Connie Treloar	38
4th=	Ann Preece	38
4th=	Alex Preece	38
7th	Rasma Bandle	37
8th	Ronnie Carlsson	32
9th	Betty Lewis	31
10th	Brian Treloar	29
11th	Sheila Murray	28
12th=	Colleen Perriman	26
12th=	Colleen Price	26
12th=	Lillian Tidey	26
12th=	Ashok Tulpule	26
16th=	Tom Coogan	24
16th=	Harold McCormick	24
16th=	Lance McDougal	24
19th=	Geoff Koltz	23
19th=	Jane Lindsay	23
21st	Alison Hancock	21
22nd	Flo Gray	20
23rd=	Frances McCoull	19
23rd=	Sasha Nekvapil	19
23rd=	Richard Johnston	19

Scores for each session and an explanation of the scoring system are on pages 2-3.

Double or Not?

by Richard Hills

Pairs or teams

The method of scoring affects the decision whether or not to double for penalties. A penalty double which is mandatory at imps (teams) scoring could be ridiculous at matchpoints (pairs) scoring. And a penalty double which is mandatory at matchpoints scoring could be ridiculous at imps scoring.

A case in point is penalty doubling a partscore by the opponents when you expect them to fail by only one trick. This is ridiculous at imps because:

- When opponents are not vulnerable success earns +100 instead of +50 = net of +50, a 2 imp gain. Failure costs -530 instead of -140 = net of -390, a 9 imp loss. So the non-vul double is 9 to 2 odds against.
- When opponents are vulnerable, success earns +200 instead of +100 = net of +100, a 3 imp gain. Failure costs -730 instead of -140 = net of -590, an 11 imp loss. So the vul double is 11 to 3 odds against.

However, penalty doubling a partscore by the opponents when you expect them to fail by one trick is not necessarily mandatory at matchpoints. Vulnerability can make a big difference at matchpoints.

Matchpoints case study

For example, suppose that, in a matchpoint pairs, you and your partner bid to a partscore of 2S. Suppose that you confidently expect the rest of the field to reach the same partscore of 2S, and suppose that you confidently expect 2S to make eight tricks or nine tricks (depending on whether a 50/50 finesse is successful).

However, your opponents are the only bold bidders in the field, and they compete to 3H over your 2S. You confidently expect 3H to make exactly eight tricks. If the opponents are vulnerable, a penalty double is clear cut at matchpoints. A score of +200 will be a top,

since the field are scoring either +110 or +140 in 2S (depending on whether the 50/50 finesse is successful). This is why a penalty of 200 after a matchpoints competitive partscore auction is known as the "kiss of death", since it outranks the scores for successful partscores the other way.

But if the opponents are not vulnerable, then a double merely increases the score for defending 3H from +50 to +100. This score of +100 is still a bottom if the field is getting a better score of +110 or +140. So, the only hope when you confidently expect the non-vulnerable opponents to make exactly eight tricks in hearts is to bid 3S, salvaging an average when the 50/50 finesse results in 3S scoring +140.

Implications for matchpoints bidding

The above case study has implications for when you should bid and when you should pass when competing for the partscore at matchpoints.

1. Neither side vulnerable

Bid a lot, hardly ever pass. Defending against the opponents for a mere +100 is likely to be a rotten score for you, while likewise if you go one off doubled or two off undoubled for -100 that is likely to be a rotten score for the opponents.

2. Only the opponents vulnerable, or only your side vulnerable

Pass sometimes. It is embarrassing to triumphantly bid to 3S, score +140, but find that a "kiss of death" +200 was available when the opponents vulnerable 3H partscore fails by two *undoubled* undertricks. Likewise, it is embarrassing when your vulnerable partscore fails by two *undoubled* undertricks.

3. Both sides vulnerable

Pass lots of the time. With both sides vulnerable to a "kiss of death" 200 penalty, defending is very much more attractive.

Everybody Makes

This symmetric deal is taken from Thomas Andrews's web site—bridge.thomasoandrews.com. All declarers can make 3NT. The deal was first published by John Beasley in the Games and Puzzles Journal in 1988.

♠ QT9
♥ A8765432
♦ KJ
♣ -

♠ -	♠ KJ
♥ KJ	♥ -
♦ QT9	♦ A8765432
♣ A8765432	♣ QT9

♠ A8765432
♥ QT9
♦ -
♣ KJ

If we assume that South is declarer, the problem for the defence is that even though they can set up either diamonds or clubs with one lead of the suit, both suits are blocked, and there is no immediate entry to the hand that is set up.

It might seem as if declarer is similarly blocked but when West leads a low club, South discards a spade from dummy, wins in his hand and then leads a spade to East's jack. The hand now looks like this:

♠ Q
♥ A8765432
♦ KJ
♣ -

♠ -	♠ K
♥ KJ	♥ -
♦ QT	♦ A8765432
♣ A876543	♣ T9

♠ A876543
♥ QT9
♦ -
♣ J

East/West's clubs are blocked, and West at the moment has no entry. What does East lead here? When North/South get back in, they have seven spades and the ♥ A, along with the ♣ K from the first trick. But at this point the defense can only take two clubs and the ♦ A before surrendering the lead.

If West leads a diamond, North covers, and, whatever East does, South pitches a heart. Now, South only needs to lose one heart to take seven heart tricks, plus a diamond and a spade.

Finally, if West leads a heart, he lets East pitch a club to begin an unblock, but he does nothing to set up any of his own suits. Instead, he has blown his heart stop. Declarer just wins three hearts (the hearts are still blocked) and plays a low spade to the ten, and East is forced to win, leading to this position:

♠ QT
♥ 87654
♦ KJ
♣ -

♠ A876543
♥
♦ -
♣ KJ

Whatever East/West pitch on the three hearts and a spade, all they can take when East gets in is their diamond and club aces, and then when declarer gets back in, he takes the ace and queen of spade and five hearts, along with the first three hearts [if the defence takes the ♣ A, North must pitch a heart, but then South's ♣ K becomes good.]

April—June 2006 Daytime Rankings

How It Works

You are given three points for a first, two for a second and one for a third. If regular night competition players participated in the movement, they were excluded from the calculation. Day-time players playing with a competition player were also excluded from that movement. So if the movement was won by a night-time player, the day time player coming second was allocated the three points. (The two Monday sessions were combined as so many switch between movements over the period). To avoid a bias in favour of smaller movements, you needed to get a score of at least 50 per cent to pick up points.

Monday

1st	Lillian Tidey	Ashok Tulpule	18
2nd=	Peter Waight	Geoff Hutchins	14
2nd=	Rasma Bandle	Inesmarie Hodgkinson	14
4th	Kath Griffiths	Alison Hancock	13
5th=	Roma Kennedy	Ronnie Carlsson	11
5th=	Ros Grant	Peg Carron	11
7th	Sheila Murray	Jim Murray	10
8th=	Alex Preece	Anne Preece	9
8th=	Maria Targ	Lidia Vidovic	9
10=	Pauline Lynga	Gosta Lynga	8
10=	Marie Whalan	Ruth Mackey	8
10=	Neil Naughton	Stella Jorgensen	8

Wednesday

1st	Connie Treloar	Brian Treloar	24
2nd=	Alex Preece	Anne Preece	12
2nd=	Philip Slater	Jack Dwyer	12
4th	Neil Naughton	Sasha Nekvapil	11
5th=	Eileen Diprose	Sue Hume	9
5th=	Sheila Murray	Jim Murray	9
7th=	Colleen Price	Anne Baldwin	8
7th=	Malcolm Aldons	Andrew Leslie	8
9th=	Ann Ng	Ian Dalziell	7
9th=	Elainne Leach	Geoff Hutchins	7

Tuesday

1st	Geoff Koltz	Jane Lindsay	15
2nd	Neil Naughton	Peter Forgie	13
3rd	John Worsley	Anita Lyons	11
4th=	Ailsa Cleaver	Kay Booth	8
4th=	Alex Preece	Anne Preece	8
4th=	Frances McCoull	Richard Johnston	8
4th=	Helen Draper	Pam Brodie	8
4th=	Val Matters	Francyne Broughton	8
9th	Sue Welbourne	Roy Quill	7
10th	Shirley Coulthard	Jan Johnston	6

Thursday

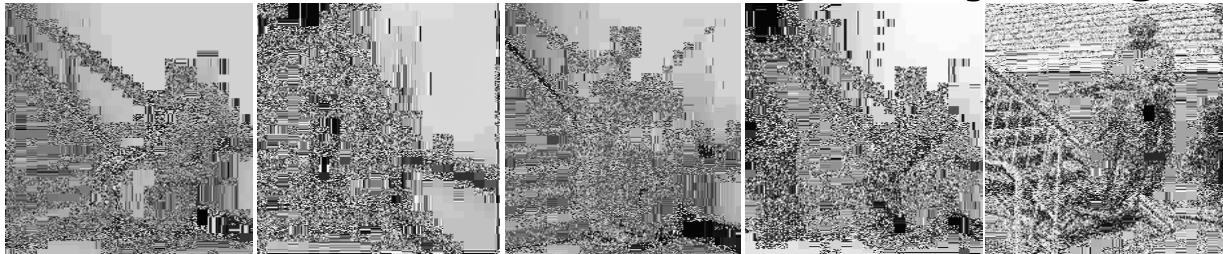
1st	Robin Erskine	Jim Murray	29
2nd	Colleen Price	Ronnie Carlsson	18
3rd	Rasma Bandle	Ruth Landau	16
4th	Trevor Berenger	Ian Dalziell	11
5th=	Anne Gratton	Jan Davis	9
5th=	Helen Draper	Gillian Parsons	9
5th=	Jill Cromer	Kaye Campbell	9
8th=	Di Hawke	Alison Hancock	8
8th=	Lilian Tidey	Asok Tulpule	8
10th	Shirley Kelly	Ray Murray	7

Friday

1st=	David Luck	Kaye Campbell	11
1st=	Harold McCormick	Lance McDougal	11
1st=	Jan Johnston	Richard Johnston	11
4th	Nancy Hitchcock	Betty Lews	10
5th	Alex Preece	Anne Preece	9
6th	Geoff Koltz	Jane Lindsay	8
7th=	Barbara Silverstone	Helen van Gelder	7
7th=	Malcolm Aldons	Tom Coogan	7
9th=	Betty Lewis	Terri Henderson	6
9th=	Jim Murray	Sheila Murray	6
9th=	Shirley Coulthard	Jan Munro	6

Saturday

1st=	Malcolm Aldons	Tom Coogan	13
1st=	Ruth Gallagher	Jim Murray	13
3rd	Neil Naughton	Gillian Parsona	12
4th	Chris Sheen	Mark Sheen	10
5th	Jean Wilson	David Luck	7
6th=	Don Beer	Ella Beer	6
6th=	Eileen Diprose	Flo Gray	6
6th=	Jean Jarvie	Sue Hume	6
9th=	Alan Scerri	Susan Scerri	5
9th=	Connie Treloar	Brian Treloar	5
9th=	Frances McCoull	Judy Ryan	5

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Most successful partnerships

1st	Anne & Alex Preece	38
2nd=	Connie & Brian Treloar	29
2nd=	Jim Murray & Robin Erskine	29
4th	Lillian Tidey & Ashok Tulpule	26
5th=	Harold McCormick & Lance McDougal	24
5th=	Malcolm Aldons & Tom Coogan	24
7th	Geoff Koltz & Jane Lindsay	23
8th=	Neil Naughton & Sasha Nekvapil	19
8th=	Sheila Murray & Jim Murray	19
10th=	Colleen Perriman & Ronnie Carlsson	18

The 5th Dimension – Beer

♠ A
 ♥ -
 ♦ 72
 ♣ -
 ♠ - ♠ Irrelevant
 ♥ A ♥
 ♦ A6 ♦
 ♣ - ♣
 ♠ 2
 ♥ 2
 ♦ 3
 ♣ -

I found this hand and analysis by Frazer Morgan at www.poorbridge.com—a site devoted to publicising the worst of British bridge! At first sight, it may seem as it does not matter—whatever South leads, he will get one trick and West will get two. However, this ignores the presence of the ♦7—“the beer card” featured before in the Bulletin (if you win the last trick with the ♦7, the opponents have to buy you a beer). Frazer gives this hand as an example of a squeeze using more than just the four suits—the “beer card squeeze”.

On the lead of the ♦3 by South, West is faced with a terrible dilemma. If he rises with the ♦A in order to cash the ♠A, South will then win the last trick with the ♦7 and he will be up for beers. However, if he ducks so that the beer card has to take the next trick, he will only gain one more trick instead of two.

Frazer then goes on to give an example of a “double beer squeeze”.

♠ QJT
 ♥ -
 ♦ 75
 ♣ 2
 ♠ A2 ♠ K43
 ♥ Q32 ♥ -
 ♦ - ♦ 62
 ♣ A ♣ 3
 ♠
 ♥ AKJT9
 ♦
 ♣ K

South is on lead after having taken the previous seven tricks in a 3NT contract. The lead of the ♣K will lead to a double beer card squeeze. West, after winning with the ♣A, to avoid an endplay must play the ♠A and then play a small spade. East wins with the ♠K is then squeezed.

If West leads another spade, he will win another trick in diamonds—but South will win the last trick with the beer card (South at trick 12 will lead the ♦5 to throw East in).

West can prevent the beer card from winning the last trick by leading the ♦6 after winning with the ♠K—but then he loses all the remaining tricks.

Calling all bowerbirds



Do you have any old bulletins or club memorabilia from the seventies to nineties stored away?

I am currently copying as many old bulletins and other interesting documents into the computer. The aim is to create a fairly complete electronic archive that would be more widely accessible to members.

If you have any documents from the last century that you would be able to lend briefly for copying, please let me know what you have at keith@ogborn.com.au.

You are not the only one who can make

Thomas Andrew also reports a hand where **two** declarers can make 7NT.

	♠AKQJT98	
	♥AKQJT9	
	♦-	
	♣-	
♠-		♠765432
♥-		♥8765432
♦AKQJT98		♦-
♣AKQJT9		♣-
	♠-	
	♥-	
	♦765432	
	♣8765432	

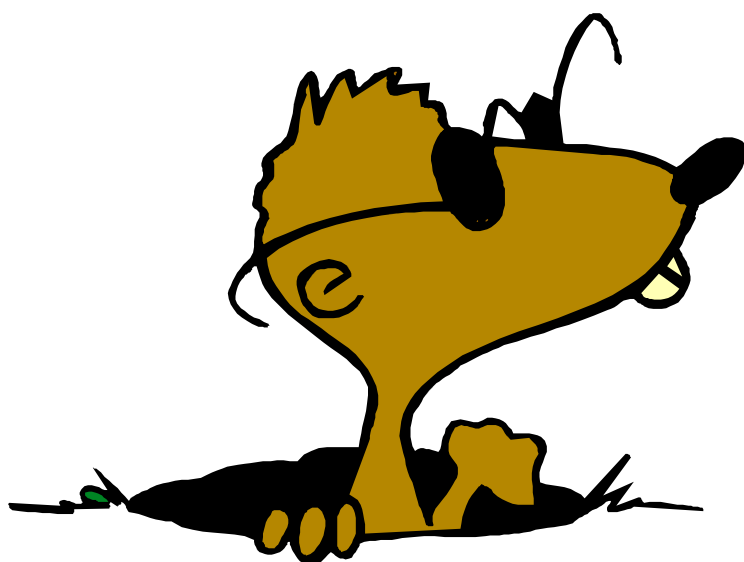
7NT will make by either North or East against any defence.

Finally Thomas reports a deal from Richard Pavlicek where **both sides can make 9 tricks in the same suit and it is the last making contract for both sides.**

	♠9	
	♥JT9	
	♦AQ432	
	♣AKQ2	
♠-		♠AKQ8
♥-		♥AKQ87
♦JT98765		♦K
♣876543		♣JT9
	♠JT765432	
	♥65432	
	♦-	
	♣-	

Both East and South can make 3♠ and no higher contract makes.

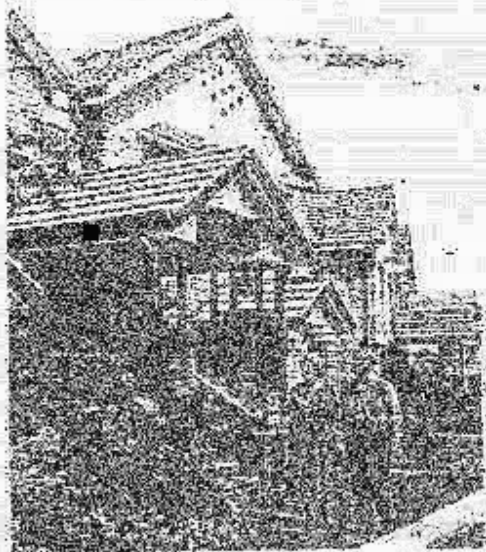
Help fill this hole!



Please send in contributions. The next Bulletin will come out in November and I would love to see your name in print.

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