



Trumps Update

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Youthful exuberance by Derrick Browne

The 2022 World Bridge Series concluded recently with a win in the major teams event (Rosenblum) to the Americans Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Ralph Katz, Bobby Levin, Nick Nickell and Steve Weinstein; their nation has won almost a third of all world bridge championship gold medals. Italy are second highest in gold medals, although the overall medal count has France second, Poland third and China fourth.

Australia is placed 17th in the overall medal tally (none gold), and added a medal with silver in the Open Pairs, from Aussie Nabil Edgtton partnering Kiwi Michael Whibley. Nabil and his brother Adam first played at Trumps over two decades ago when they were aged 7 and 8, at which time they had invented their own bidding system leading their dad to remark that they could “talk the talk”; they quickly learnt to also “walk the walk”!

The deal in this article comes from the World Youth Bridge Team Championships held at Sydney Olympic Park in 2005, which had a thrilling finish, with an exact tie at the end of the 96-board final between Poland and the USA.

An extra eight boards were played to break the tie and when the cards settled, USA came out on top as World Youth Champions.

Following is the first deal from the second half of the finals. USA trailed heavily (77-122), but in just a few deals they halved that deficit, starting with this handy pick-up.

You open 1♦, next player overcalls 1♠, partner makes a negative double showing four hearts, and the other opponent bids 2♠. Where does that leave you?

SOUTH (*you*)

♠ A 8 7 2

♥ 10

♦ A K Q J 5 4 2

♣ 9

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♦
1♠	dbl	2♠	?

With the opponents bidding and raising spades, you expect partner to have a singleton. That means you should be able to ruff at least some of your spade losers. You are also missing two aces. Justin Lall for the USA came out with an exuberant 4NT and, when North showed an ace, he bid 6♦.

How should you play after West leads a spade to East’s queen and your ace?

NORTH (*partner*)

♠ 10

♥ A 9 4 2

♦ 9 3

♣ K J 8 7 6 5

SOUTH (*you*)

♠ A 8 7 2

♥ 10

♦ A K Q J 5 4 2

♣ 9

Declarer has a club loser and three potential spade losers, of which only two can be ruffed. It is necessary to set up at least one club trick and this should be done immediately, while there are entries to dummy. Accordingly, Lall led a club towards dummy's honours and, when West played low, he guessed correctly to rise with the ♣K. Now he could ruff a couple of spades and claim the slam.

NORTH (*partner*)

♠ 10
♥ A 9 4 2
♦ 9 3
♣ K J 8 7 6 5

WEST
♠ K J 9 6 5
♥ Q 8 3
♦ 8 6
♣ A 10 3

EAST
♠ Q 4 3
♥ K J 7 6 5
♦ 10 7
♣ Q 4 2

SOUTH (*you*)

♠ A 8 7 2
♥ 10
♦ A K Q J 5 4 2
♣ 9

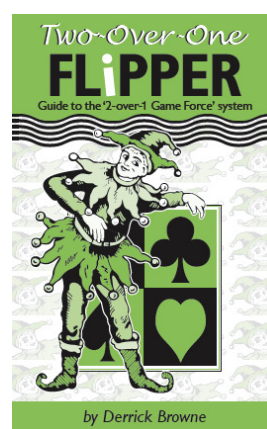
The Polish West did well to play low when a club was led from South – declarer was then forced to guess whether to rise with the ♣K or to try the ♣J (the winning play if West had the ♣Q instead of ♣A).

Imagine West had instead played the ♣A on South's lead. He could then have switched to a trump to reduce dummy's ruffs, but declarer would then have set up the clubs. Alternatively he could have led a heart, knocking out dummy's ♥A, but then dummy's trumps would be intact to ruff two spade losers (while the third would be parked on the ♣K).

Only an initial red suit lead beats the contract. When you have strength in all suits other than trumps, a trump lead often works well as declarer will not have a running side suit and is likely to need to make tricks by ruffing. The spade lead was perhaps a little naive – while it could be right, chances are declarer is prepared for that lead as it is the defenders' bid suit. Even 5♦ would have been defeated on a trump lead.



Justin Lall, 1986-2020, aged 33



Out now! \$9.95 ea



Masterpoint Promotions (August)

Barry Feyder	Bronze State
Odette Saltoon	Regional
Pauline McMahon	Bronze Local
Lindy Smyth	Club
Hanna Lewandowska	Graduate
Madeleine Gulliver	Graduate

Congratulations! See us when you are at *Trumps* to collect your promotion certificate and token.

Bidding Forum moderated by Alex Kemeny

You're South with the hand shown. Choose a call then compare with the experts. Trumps Standard bidding. On our panel, Derrick Browne and leading world bridge authorities Barry Rigal and Ron Klinger are joined by Nick Fahrer from The Bridge Shop and NSW representatives Tina Zines, Nick Hughes and Nicoleta Giura.

South Deals, Nil Vulnerable, Pairs Scoring

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			Pass
1♠	Dbl	Pass	?
	♠ 7 5 3		
	♥ J 10 5		
	♦ Q 7 3		
	♣ AK 8 7		

Votes by our panellists	
CALL	VOTES
3♣	4
2♠	2
2♣	1

An uninspiring, totally balanced collection. At least we have no wasted values in LHO's spades.

Fahrer: 2♣ (for now) with such a balanced hand. If partner passes 2♣ then we are high enough, and if I get another chance to bid then I will do so.

Zines: 2♠. A bit strong for 2♣, not clubby enough for 3♣. I'll try 2♠ and pass partner's 3-level rebid.

Klinger: 2♠. Almost as good as I can be for a passed hand. Hate the shape, but the high-card values are there.

I know there's no spade stopper, but 4333 does suggest no-trumps. 1NT would show about 7 to 10 HCP. It's only 1NT, even if partner has no spade honour, how many spades can the enemy cash? The other panellists all jump to show at least 8 points, and they bid their best suit, as requested.

Giura: 3♣. As much as I don't like my hand, I have to show my maximum pass.

Hughes: 3♣. Not 1NT or 2♣. The only other vaguely possible call is 2♠ but I can't see a follow up.

Browne: 3♣. Showing the strength, though hating it with only a four-card club suit lacking in fillers.

Rigal: 3♣. One bids what one thinks one can make. Second choice? None. 2♣ is for wimps.

This came from an Online Pairs Tournament played last March (we are North). Here's the full deal:

17	♠ 753	Dir: N
	♥ JT5	Vul: None
	♦ Q73	
	♣ AK87	
♠ QT6	♠ A9842	
♥ 762	♥ Q98	
♦ 82	♦ AK9	
♣ T6532	♣ J9	
	♠ KJ	
	♥ AK43	
	♦ JT654	
	♣ Q4	
		♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT
10		N 2 4 3 - 2
2 14		S 2 4 3 - 2
14		E - - - 1 -
		W - - - 1 -

As shown in the diagram at bottom right, NS can make 4♦ or 3♥, but not 3♣; 3NT (which South may bid over 3♣) will surely go down as the opponents will attack spades. Does this prove the 3♣ bid is wrong? No, just unlucky. Maybe South was a bit naughty to double with only two clubs, a suit partner might well pick. But a 2♦ overcall with those anaemic diamonds isn't warranted. ♠♥♦♣

Player of the Month

Each month, we take the average of your best **SIX** scores in **Open** matchpoint sessions to decide the month's top achiever

Kerry Boytell **68%**

Congratulations!

Lessons & events

Beginner Lessons

10.30am Monday from 17 Oct **or**
7.30pm Monday from 17 Oct.

Beginner play lessons

10am Wednesdays

Improvers' play

10am Fridays till 23 September

Learn 2-over1 then duplicate

7pm Thursdays

Improvers' bridge

Let us know if you are interested in this, perhaps 6pm (or 7.30) Thursdays 20 (or 13) Oct

Red Points

1.15pm Wednesdays (September)

1.20 for 1.30pm Fridays

7pm some Fridays (per schedule)



Trumps publishing:

Check our full range of books, pamphlets, software and other bridge merchandise.

www.trumps.net.au/about-trumps/trumps-shop

Month winners

To work this out, we take the best three scores by member pairs from the 4 or 5 matchpoint sessions that make up each monthly event. (**Seven pairs** need to have played three or more times for meaningful results)

Monday afternoon

- Barbara Huber & Lilly Wilson

Tuesday morning

- Mary McDonald & Lilly Wilson

Tuesday afternoon

- Gay Suters & Sally Morton

Tuesday night

- Nurhan Parker & Timothy Bestelink

Wednesday afternoon reds (August)

- Eric Lippey & Kerry Boytell

Wednesday afternoon intermediate

- Graham Blackman & Usha Modi

Thursday morning

- Diana Price & Paddy Mullin

Thursday afternoon

- Inge Legge & Marjorie Thomas

Thursday @ Warringah bowling

- Angela Mullighan & Carol Vildzius

Saturday afternoon

- Marjorie Thomas & Pieter Kliffen

Most improved Rating

	Name	Old	New	Gain
1	Alex Matthews	47.08	48.95	1.87
2	Christine Meagher	38.75	39.96	1.21
3	Pamela Terry	43.16	44.31	1.15
4	Ceiny Maybury	60.83	61.91	1.08
5	Anthony Pearce	56.26	57.32	1.06
6	Anthea Piddington	50.69	51.72	1.03
7	Wendy Bagot	43.86	44.89	1.03
8	Timothy Bestelink	59.00	60.00	1.00
9	Sally Morton	57.67	58.65	0.98
10	Colleen Kelly	58.23	59.20	0.97

Bridge at other venues:

Did you know beside our regular games at Trumps (66 Spit Rd) we also run weekly games at following venues:

Social duplicate at RAC, Circular Quay

10.30am Tuesdays

Bridge @ The Manly Club

11am Tuesdays

Duplicate at Monash, Ingleside

9.30am Thursdays

Bridge @ Warringah bowling

1pm Thursdays

Balmoral (members only)

Top Rated

	Name	Ratings
1	Kerry Boytell	67.49
2	Eric Lippey	66.83
3	Alessandro Gado	66.79
4	Alex Kemeny	66.04
5	Kevin Murray	64.28
6	Neil Williams	64.01
7	Fay Cooney	63.17
8	Rob Holgate	63.09
9	Tina Strickland	63.06
10	Sue Robinson	62.55

(Members with ABF number who have played 13 times in the last six months are rated).

Fill in

Are you available to be called in as a fill-in guest to fill a table? Email or call us with possible days/times/venue(s).

Online Bridge

Funbridge

Search for Trumps under exclusive tournaments.

Password Trumps

For members who like classic books:

A player has donated a range of books that belonged to her husband. Trumps members who subscribe to this newsletter are invited to take one. (They are in two boxes in the foyer near the car park)

What to bid?

Choose your call then compare with the experts (published in next month's edition). Standard bidding and Pairs scoring.

East Deals, EW Vulnerable, Pairs Scoring

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♥	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	?
	♠	Q 10 3	
	♥	Q 7	
	♦	A 10 9 3	
	♣	Q 5 3 2	

Timetable

Open Duplicates

	Morning	Afternoon	Night
Mon	9.50* (New format)	1.20*	
Tues	<i>join other game</i>	1.20*	7pm*
Wed		1.15*	7pm*
Thurs	9.50*	1.20*	7pm*
Fri	9.50*	1.20*	7pm*
Sat		1.30	

*These games start with a short talk.

Red/gold points 1.20pm Fridays.

Supervised

Mon		1.20*	7pm*
Tues	9.50*		
Wed	(lessons)		
Thurs			7pm
Fri	<i>see p5 lessons</i>		
Sat	10am*		

*Supervised games start with a talk.

(Check bridge at other venues on the previous page for other session times)

Benefits

Of Trumps membership

- A monthly update of news, views and tips
- Save \$3 on duplicate sessions at and lessons at Trumps
- Discount on prepaid game vouchers.
- Reciprocal membership rights at Warringah Bowls Mosman Bridge Group, Bridge @ The Manly Club, Social Bridge, Turramurra, Killara & Narrabeen
- Special events for members
- Members' phone book
- We pay your ABF fees if we are your home club (\$10 extra).

Rights and duties

- We cater for players of all levels
- Use the suggestion box in the main foyer
- Greet your opponents
- Let us know if you are available as a "fill-in" player, to be called in at the last moment (as our guest) if we are short
- Post mortems should never hold up play
- Support those who support bridge! *Australian Bridge* magazine (also in novice edition) and the Bridge Shop. We recommend: Warringah bowling club, The Manly Club, Trans Restaurant, Thai Kanteen, Hotel Mosman, Lok Lok Dumpling Bar, Fourth Village, and Baytree Greenwich.



♠♥ Happy Trumping! ♦♣