



Central West Festival of Bridge and 84th ANC in Orange NSW — 6-19 July 2024

Bulletin 1 Saturday 6 July



Stephen Lester is unwell at the moment, with a longish convalescence predicted, so I will be editing this Bulletin. I'm in Sydney till the 12th and playing in everything here thereafter, so I'll need plenty of material from players.

shevek3@gmail.com is best,
or you can text to 0414 601 175.

Nick Hughes

Meanwhile in Europe

We are down to the final eight in the European Championships - held in Germany - with the quarter finals to be held next week.

Well, that's the football.

Concurrently, the European Bridge Championships are being held in Denmark, with the usual Open, Women's and Senior Categories. (*Will we see a Mixed Interstate Teams at a future ANC? Asking for a friend*)

The 30 Open teams in Europe have played a complete Round Robin of 16 board matches. That's 464 boards over the 11 days.

Norway, Switzerland, Italy England, Israel, Belgium, Sweden and France have made it through to the next round, which for them is next year's Bermuda Bowl.

Shortly after the Euros, Australia will be represented in the World Youth (U26) Championships, to be held in Wroclaw Poland from 13 July. Lauren Travis – a member of the South Australian team that won the Open Interstate last year – will be there, as an npc.

A Mariana tweet

I'm giving up drinking for a month.

Sorry, bad punctuation.

I'm giving up. Drinking for a month.

ANC Timetable

Sat 6	Captains' briefing	6pm
Sun 7	Interstate teams 1-4	9.30am
Mon 8	Teams 5-8	9.30
Tue 9	Teams 9-12	9.30
Wed 10	Teams 13-14	9.30
	Teams final 1	5pm
	Quiz night	7.30
Thu 11	Finals 2 to 5	9.30
	ANC Pairs 1	10 & 2
	Victory Dinner	7pm
Fri 12	ANC Pairs 2	10 & 2
Sat 13	TBIB Butlers start	10am
	Open	Sat - Thu
	then Mixed or	Mon - Thu
	Paul Lavings Butlers	Mon - Thu

Central West Festival Timetable

Sat 6	Welcome Swiss Prs	10am & 2pm
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*Orange City Council
sponsor of Saturday's
Welcome Pairs*

Sun 7	Mudgee BC Swiss Prs	10 & 2
Mon 8	Dubbo BC Swiss Prs	10 & 2
Tue 9	Bathurst BC Swiss Prs	10 & 2
Wed 10	Cowra BC Pairs	10am
	Parkes BC Pairs	2pm
	Quiz night	7.30
Thu 11	Orange BC Swiss Prs	10 & 2
Fri 12	Orange BC Teams	10 & 2
	CWF Celebration	5pm

(These events run in conjunction with **Stepbridge**, with Open, Restricted and Novice categories)



StepBridge is an online bridge club based in Australia. You can earn masterpoints while you play against your usual local opponents.



Welcome from
ABF Executive Director
David Fryda

How wonderful it is for the ANC to finally be happening here in Orange. It is a coincidence that I now live in Orange. At the **time** the NSWBA decided to host the championships here I was still living in Sydney and had not even contemplated taking on the role of ABF Executive Director!

The organising "Gang of Three" of Rob Ward, Anne Tonna and Murray Paterson, plus other Orange Bridge Club volunteers have worked tirelessly for several years to put together what is shaping up to be the best attended ANC in many years.

I first attended an ANC way back in the mid-1980s when it was one of just a few annual national bridge events. In those days the main events (Interstate Teams and Butler Pairs) were of course the status events but the side events were also very popular. It is great to see that, here in Orange, we are seeing the side events return to these historic levels of popularity.

One aspect of my role at the ABF is to grow the popularity of bridge in Australia so I am very grateful to see you all embracing the opportunity that this year's ANC is offering.

On the same topic, I would like to highlight a couple of other things. Firstly, we recently ran a series of online beginners for under-25 year olds. We had over 100 enrolments and we did not charge them for the first four lessons. The attendees will now either progress with the online lesson program or join their local youth bridge group or both. If you know one of the attendees can I please ask you to encourage them to continue their bridge playing journey and hopefully become a fan of the game!

The other area in which I would like your help is to get lapsed players back to the game. We all know someone who used to play bridge but hasn't done so for several months or even years. Please help us to encourage them to come back to bridge by reaching out to them and asking

them for a game. Hopefully they will rekindle their enjoyment and return to become a regular player and member of your club again.

I wish you all a very enjoyable ANC and it would be great to speak to you if you have any questions or suggestions for me.

And by the way, yes Orange is cold in winter! Here's a photo taken in beautiful Cook Park in June 2021, the week after my wife and I moved here:



A winter's day in Orange



Note the date!

This stylish artwork was produced for the 2021 ANC, scheduled for Orange before being moved online due to Covid..

From last year's ANC in Perth

South Australia nearly managed the **quadfecta**, winning the Open, Women's and Seniors plus runners up in the Youth!

Phil Markey from their winning Open team wrote an article for **Australian Bridge**: Here are a few hands:

E/NS	♠ K 10 8		
	♥ A K 9 8		
	♦ 10		
	♣ A 8 6 5 3		
♠ J 9 3		♠ A Q 5 4	
♥ Q 10 4 3		♥ 6 2	
♦ K J 9 2		♦ A 7 3	
♣ K 2		♣ Q 10 9 4	
	♠ 7 6 2		
	♥ J 7 5		
	♦ Q 8 6 5 4		
	♣ J 7		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Travis	Appleton	Markey	Coles
no ^A	2♣ ^A	1NT	no
no	no	X	2♥
			end

West's pass was alerted because it showed values, since 0-7 counts would either transfer or wriggle via Stayman. Undeterred, North tried 2♣ Aspro which got them to 2♥, whereupon West has happy to pass East's takeout double for +800.

E/Both	♠ Q 10 9 8 7		
	♥ K 9 8 5 3		
	♦ Q 6		
	♣ 5		
♠ A 5 4 3		♠ K J 2	
♥ Q 7 6		♥ J 4	
♦ 10		♦ A K J 4 3	
♣ Q J 9 3 2		♣ K 10 8	
	♠ 6		
	♥ A 10 2		
	♦ 9 8 7 5 2		
	♣ A 7 6 4		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1NT	
2♣		2♦	
3♣		3♦	
3NT		end	

Most South's led a pedestrian diamond against 3NT for -600 but Nic Croft led ♥A-T for +100.

One North-South pair went for -2300 in 5♣x, which we all know is the postcode for Newcastle. This fortnight, there should be a prize for anyone who goes five down in a redoubled vulnerable contract.

(OK, or six down redoubled, not vulnerable)



Here's a hand from the 2005 ANC at the Masonic Centre in Sydney:

Saved by the Screens

S/EW	♠ A 7 4		
	♥ A K J 10 8		
	♦ J 8 7		
	♣ 10 8		
♠ Q 10 9 3		♠ J 8 6 5	
♥ 9 6 5		♥ Q 7 3 2	
♦ 10 6 4		♦ Q 3	
♣ K 7 3		♣ J 4 2	
	♠ K 2		
	♥ 4		
	♦ A K 9 5 2		
	♣ A Q 9 6 5		
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Moses		Bock
no	1♥	no	1♦
no	4♥!	no	3♣
no	5♠	no	5♣
no	6♦	end	6♣

3♣ was systemically a mini-splinter – four hearts and club singleton – which Steven forgot.

When Neville jumped straight to game in the known fit, Bock remembered. He tried 5♣, taken as a cue bid, hence 5♠, looking for 7♥.

When 6♣ appeared, Neville worked out to give grudging preference to 6♦. When the ♦Q fell doubleton, that was 10 IMPs in.

Without screens, Bock would have seen partner alert his 3♣. Then he would have an awkward legal issue over 4♥. Over his strong jump shift, that sounds like ♥KQJxxxx and out. The *Unauthorised Information* from the alert would make that less likely.

ANC Facts and Figures

Paul Lavings, Figtree, NSW

A match between NSW and Victoria in 1933 created such interest that in 1934 the first ANC was played in Melbourne in both Open and Women's. Victoria won the first six Open contest and three of the first five Women's.

There was a 7-year break for WW2 and in 1946 with the great Victor Champion at the helm Victoria won again. In 1948 Tim Seres played and NSW dominated until Tim played his last ANC in Darwin in 1995.

In 2020 there was no ANC due to Covid and in 2021 an official ANC was played online.

A list of winners by state:

Open

NSW	45	Vic	15
SA	13	ACT	6
WA	3	Qld	1

Note that since 2000 SA has won nine to NSW's eight..

Women's

NSW	34	Vic	22
Qld	8	SA	7
ACT	7	WA	5

Since 2000 NSW has won 10, QLD 5, ACT 3, WA 3, VIC 2, SA 1

Seniors

NSW	12	ACT	6
SA	5	Vic	5
QLD	3		

The Senior event began in 1993

Youth

Vic	12	NSW	12
SA	9	ACT	5
WA	2	NZ	1

The Youth event began in 1982. New Zealand was invited to play in 1992, won handsomely by their team of Anthony & Charles Ker, Ishmael Del'Monte - Ashley Bach, Michael Ware - Michael Prescott, Dwayne Crombie (npc).

In 1968 a New Zealand team played in the ANC in Sydney.



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