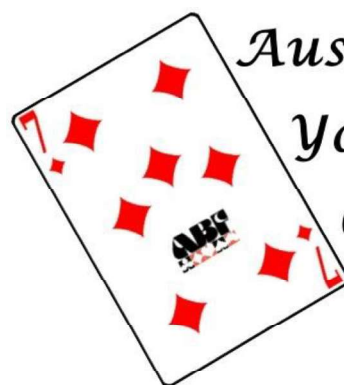


# Bulletin 2

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January



## Australian Youth Bridge Championships

**Session Times** **Today**  
**Pairs Final/Consolation 10:30am-6:30pm**  
**Scavenger Hunt After dinner**

**Session Times** **Tomorrow**  
**Youth Teams 10:30am-6:30pm**  
**Emma's Bridge After dinner**



**Congratulations to the winners of the Pairs Qualifying: Alex Goss – Bertie Morgan (North/South) and Duncan Lai – Aadhi Hariharan (East/West).**

### Pairs Qualifying Scores

North / South		
Rank	Name	Score
1	ALEX GOSS - BERTIE MORGAN	61.57%
2	ZARA CHOWDHURY - LIAM MINOGUE	58.95%
3	HEATH WATKINS - MATTHEW SIEREDZINSKI	57.80%
4	ZAC ROSS - KATE MACDONALD	57.54%
5	DARREN BRAKE - ANDREW SPOONER	57.25%
6	ZARIAS WERDER - LEON MEIER	54.88%
7	NOAH KLUGMAN - SEBASTIAN REDIN	51.46%
8	LAUREN MORGAN - PADDY TAYLOR	51.09%
9	MOLLY MEEK - TIMOTHY OMVIG	48.04%
10	GRACE GISSING - EMMA LANGFORD	47.41%
11	MAISIE GOLD - TAYDON GOLD	43.12%
12	RICKY CARTHEW - DYLAN WATKINS	40.40%
13	JEREMY LIN - MOLLY LANGDON MACMILLAN	36.22%
14	OLIVER BRAYSHAW - LIZZY BRAYSHAW	34.27%
East/West		
Rank	Name	Total
1	DUNCAN LAI - AADHI HARIHARAN	61.10%
2	TOMER LIBMAN - DAMON FLICKER	58.25%
3	JEREMY REID - SEB WRIGHT	57.91%
4	EDMOND LEE - ALAN STONEHAM	57.19%
5	ADRIAN LE - JADE WILKINSON	53.42%
6	TOM LANGDON - MACMILLAN - SEB LANGDON - MACMILLAN	51.84%
7	ANNE DAVEY - FLETCHER DAVEY	50.62%
8	TAMATI GREIG - KAT HOLMES	49.84%
9	MAXWELL ASHURST - ALEXIS WILSMORE	49.06%
10	MACKENZIE RHODES - GORDON ZHONG	48.68%
11	SAM ANGOVE - SAMUEL GOSS	45.31%
12	JASSY CARTHEW - ELLENA BLACK	43.90%
13	ALEXANDER WILKINSON - JAMIE THOMPSON	43.54%
14	CHARLI-ROSE COOTE - CAMPBELL MILLAR	39.85%
15	ANTHONY MILLS - ALEXANDRA MILLS	38.38%

### Happy 2025

For the mathematically inclined, you might find it interesting to note that our current calendar year is pretty amazing for a bunch of reasons:

- 2025 itself is a square number:  
 $45 \times 45 = 2025$
- 2025 is a product of two square numbers:  
 $5^2 \times 9^2 = 2025$
- 2025 is the sum of three square numbers:  
 $5^2 + 20^2 + 40^2 = 2025$
- And finally, it is the sum of the cube of all the single digit numbers:

$$1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3 + 5^3 + 6^3 + 7^3 + 8^3 + 9^3 = 2025$$



### Suit Combinations Quiz

The lead is in dummy. What is the best play for one trick in this suit?

- ♦ Q43
- ♦ J95

If:

- Dummy has one outside entry?
- Dummy has no outside entry (the lead is in dummy for the last time right now)?

Answers later in the Bulletin.



## Puzzle Corner

Can you work out the following puzzles (solutions tomorrow):

MY1111LIFE

DECI                  SION

ROWHENME

SLIGHTLY  
CAST

## Suit Combinations

*by Leigh Matheson*

A (single dummy) suit combination is simply a layout of two players' cards. This is often accompanied by a challenge to find the best line of play to win a certain number of tricks.

There are so many possible suit combinations in bridge that it is impossible to encounter them all in one lifetime, let alone memorise them all. What's more, bridge hands often require combining chances in multiple suits to maximise your chance of making your contract. Not to mention the auction often dictates that certain layouts are more likely than others.

So how do we know how to play a bridge hand? And is studying single suit combinations helpful at all?

Take this combination, for example:

♠ Q106543

♠ A2

You cash the ♠A and lead the ♠2, seeing only small cards from the opponents. With no hints from the auction, should you play the ♠Q or the ♠10?

If you spent half an hour at the bridge table working out the answer, you'd be a little embarrassed to find out that they both win the same percentage of the time.

At first you might conclude that it's a fools errand to analyse these combinations, but it's exactly these combinations that reveals what our approach should be: You don't need to find the best line of play always. Often the second-best line of play is just as good, or almost as good. So you want to find a way to choose a reasonable line of play and avoid all the silly ones.

When a difficult combination like this comes up, what I recommend you do is pick what look to be the two best lines, just on gut feel. Then do the calculation and work out which of the two is better and go with that one.

