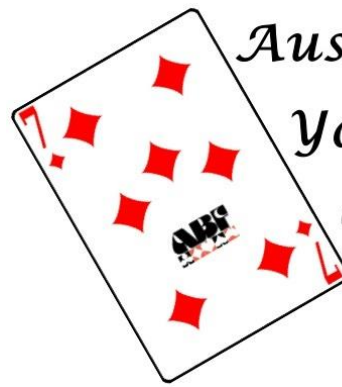


Bulletin 5

Tuesday 7th January



Australian Youth Bridge Championships

Session Times Today

Butler	9am-6:30pm
Coaching	9:30am-10:15am
Consolation	10:30am-6:30pm
Dinner Out & Games/Trivia & Hopscotch	

Session Times Tomorrow

Butler	9am-6:30pm
Coaching	9:30am-10:15am
Consolation	10:30am-6:30pm
Crazy Pairs Bridge	After Dinner



Congratulations to team Flicker (Damon Flicker – Tomer Libman, George Bartley – Jack Luke-Paredi), winning the Youth Teams. And team Reid (Jeremy Reid – Seb Wright, Bertie Morgan – Alex Goss), runners up.

See later in the Bulletin for results of how the winning team went in the Cliff Wake Challenge.

Final standings of the Youth Teams:

Youth Teams – Final Results				
Rank	Team	Imps	VPs	W-D-L
1	Flicker	440	231.07	12-0-1
2	Reid	270	191.76	10-1-2
3	Morgan	212	188.20	11-0-2
4	Werder	152	170.91	9-0-4
5	Davey	113	159.91	8-1-4
6	Le	50	143.27	8-0-5
7	Minogue	39	137.39	7-0-6
8	Gold	-11	134.32	7-0-6
9	Lai	-116	104.66	5-1-3
10	Rhodes	-88	103.49	3-1-9
11	Langford	-200	82.73	4-0-9
12	Brayshaw	-150	80.82	2-1-10
13	Carthew	-317	56.99	2-1-10
14	Millar	-394	34.48	0-0-13

The successful pairs qualifying to Stage 1 of the Australian Junior Selection:

- *GEORGE BARTLEY / JACK LUKE-PAREDI
- *ALEX GOSS / BERTIE MORGAN
- *LAUREN MORGAN / PADDY TAYLOR
- *HEATH WATKINS / MATTHEW SIEREDZINSKI
- *JEREMY REID / SEB WRIGHT
- *ANNE DAVEY / FLETCHER DAVEY
- *ADRIAN LE / AADHI HARIHARAN
- *ZAC ROSS / KATE MACDONALD
- *MAXWELL ASHURST / ALEXIS WILSMORE
- *TOM LANGDON MACMILLAN / SEB LANGDON MACMILLAN

Suit Combinations Quiz

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| ♠ AQ1032 | ♥ AQ1032 |
| ♠ 987 | ♥ 9876 |

How do you play the above suits for 5 tricks?
How do you play the above suits for 4 tricks?
What is the best play at Matchpoint scoring?

Answers later in the Bulletin.

Note to all: At the conclusion of play today we will all walk to Hopscotch. The buddy system applies: Everyone will be responsible for their buddy until they return.

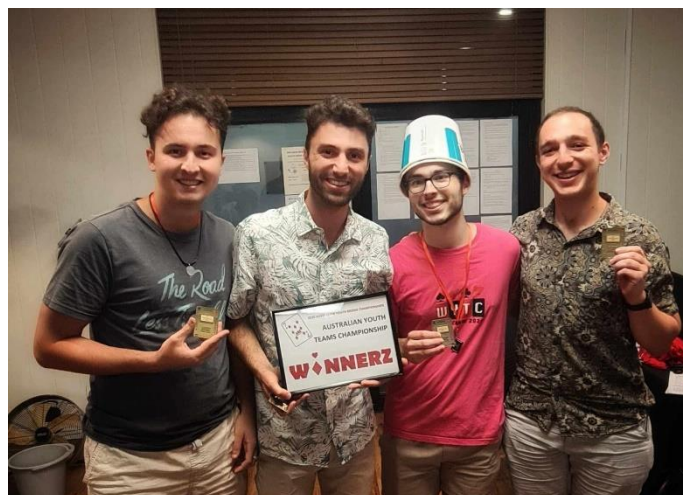
Speedball Results

North/South

Rank	Pair	Score
1	JACK JAMES - LEON MEIER	69.70%
2	ANDREW SPOONER - FLETCHER DAVEY	61.59%
3	ANNE DAVEY - MATTHEW SIEREDZINSKI	52.05%
4	AADHI HARIHARAN - ADRIAN LE	51.36%
5	JUDY AMPT - JUDY AMPT	51.14%
6	JACK LUKE-PAREDI - SAMUEL GOSS	49.77%
7	ZAC ROSS - TOMER LIBMAN	49.39%
8	ASHLEY MATHESON - LEIGH MATHESON	43.86%
9	RICKY CARTHEW - JASSY CARTHEW	41.39%
10	ANTHONY MILLS - ALEXANDRA MILLS	41.14%
11	TAYDON GOLD - SEBASTIAN REDIN	38.61%

East/West

1	HEATH WATKINS - ALEX GOSS	58.41%
2	ZARIAS WERDER - JEREMY FRASER-HOSKIN	56.59%
3	DARREN BRAKE - TAMATI GREIG	56.59%
4	EMMA LANGFORD - DAMON FLICKER	52.27%
5	JEREMY LIN - MOLLY MEEK	51.75%
6	ELLA JACOB - GRACE GISSING	50.02%
7	KAT HOLMES - MACKENZIE RHODES	48.64%
8	LIZZY BRAYSHAW - NOAH KLUGMAN	45.98%
9	JADE WILKINSON - ALEXIS WILSMORE	45.89%
10	TOM LANGDON MACMILLAN - BERTIE MORGAN	44.77%
11	SAM ANGOVE - DUNCAN LAI	39.09%



Winners of the Youth Teams



Runners Up of the Youth Teams



Giant Jenga!

Ashley would like to thank everybody who attended his demolition of the giant Jenga construction.

Cliff Wake Challenge

The name Cliff Wake was first seen at the last congress ever held in Tumut (a country town in NSW). This was so long ago that entries were submitted by hand! Griff Ware (ex-youth player and long-time convenor of Youth week) sent in a badly scrawled physical entry form, which was interpreted as the name “Cliff Wake”.

The Cliff Wake Playoff was first envisaged during the 2008 Youth Teams, in which there was a tie between the leading teams at the end of the event and the regulations called for a four-board playoff. This was extremely exciting and it became clear that we ought to have a tied event every year! The inaugural Cliff Wake Playoff occurred in 2011. The winners of the Youth Teams compete in a 4-board playoff against a team of all star players. The winners get their names engraved (misspelled) on the trophy, in “Cliff Wake” style.

The scoring of this event is Board-a-match (effectively 2-table Matchpoints). You get 2 points if you beat the other table on the board, 1 point each for a draw and no points for a loss.



Cliff Wake Challenge 2025 – Table 1



Cliff Wake Challenge 2025 – Table 2

This year the teams are:

Cliff Wake Challengers (winners of Youth Teams): Damon Flicker – Tomer Libman, George Bartley – Jack Luke-Paredi

Cliff Wake All Stars: Ella Jacob – Jamie Thompson, Hugh Grovener – Leigh Matheson

The line ups of the two tables were:

Table 1



	Tomer	
Hugh		Leigh
	Damo	

Table 2

	Ella	
Jack		George
	Jamie	

Here’s what happened, starting with table 1:

Board 1 ♠ QJ72

Nil Vul ♥ Q9

Dlr: North ♦ KJ3

♣ 6532

♠ 983

♥ A10

♦ A64

♣ QJ1097



♠ 106

♥ KJ742

♦ Q1075

♣ AK

♠ AK54

♥ 8653

♦ 982

♣ 84

South —

Pass

2 ♠

West —

1 NT

3 ♣

North Pass

Dble

All Pass

East 1 ♥

Pass

North, as a passed hand, made a takeout double of 1NT. This shows about 9-11 points, but this hand is a bit pushy. This enabled East to pass, showing a minimum hand. South and West competed in the black suits and 3♣ was passed out.

The defence started with the ♠Q, cashing 2 spade tricks and when the hearts were friendly they could only get one more trick. Making 10 tricks for +130.

Table 2:

South	West	North	East
—	—	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 NT	All Pass	

The defence cashed 4 spades and played a club. Jack had to guess which was to finesse hearts and played a heart to the H10, going one down for -50.

Score Check

Team	Scores	Total
Cliff Wake Challengers	0	0
Cliff Wake All Stars	2	2

Board 2 ♠ AK1083
 N/S Vul ♥ AJ8
 Dlr: East ♦ KJ87
 ♣ 9

♠ 62		♠ QJ9754
♥ 9743		♥ 62
♦ 10962		♦ 5
♣ 753		♣ Q864
	♠ —	
	♥ KQ105	
	♦ AQ43	
	♣ AKJ102	


Table 1:

South	West	North	East
—	—	—	2 ♠
Dble	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Despite the favourable vulnerability, Leigh elected to open just 2♠, as this was the first time East/West were playing together.

Damo thought for a considerable amount of time before passing Tomer's 3NT. South has a monster hand, but the partnership could easily be missing two tricks. The problem is that North has extras, but not quite enough extras (or bidding spade) to do much other than 3NT. This is a great advertisement for how well pre-empts can work.

The play was very nice too. Declarer won the ♠Q lead, cashed hearts, diamonds and top spade ending in (the North) hand with effectively these cards left:

♠ —	♠ 108	♠ J
♥ —	♥ —	♥ —
♦ 10	♦ J	♦ —
♣ 753	♣ 9	♣ Q86
		
	♠ —	
	♥ —	
	♦ 4	
	♣ AKJ	

East must keep the ♠J. Once the last diamond is cashed if the ♠10 isn't high, declarer can just play clubs from the top, knowing that if the ♣Q is inside it will fall anyway.

This play is called a show-up squeeze. It allows you to make when there is a doubleton ♣Q offside, in addition to any time the ♣Q is inside.

Table 2:

South	West	North	East
—	—	—	4 ♠
Dble	All Pass		

The defence was relentless, cashing their one million tricks. When the smoke cleared declarer was 7 down for -1700.

This is a great advertisement for how over-preempting doesn't work in general. If this 4♠ opening looks too aggressive to you, please need to consider the form of scoring. At Imp scoring this result would be a disaster. At board-a-match scoring it's not the end of the world – you can cancel it out by making an overtrick on the next board.

Score Check

Team	Scores	Total
Cliff Wake Challengers	0 0	0
Cliff Wake All Stars	2 2	4

Board 3 ♠ 972
 E/W Vul ♥ 1085
 Dlr: South ♦ Q743

♠ K
 ♥ AKQ64
 ♦ AJ108
 ♣ 632



♣ K87
 ♠ 8643
 ♥ J93
 ♦ 2
 ♣ AQ1095

♠ AQJ105
 ♥ 72
 ♦ K965
 ♣ J4

Table 1:

South	West	North	East
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 ♣
Dbl	Pass	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
All Pass			

Leigh bid 3C as an artificial game force. Damo seized the opportunity to make a lead directing double. Hugh and Leigh accurately chose to play in a 7-card fit, instead of 3NT which has no play on a club lead.

The defence cashed the first two club tricks and when trumps behaved declarer had the rest for +650.

Table 2:

South	West	North	East
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♣	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	All Pass	

Here Jamie took some lead directing action, this time at the 2-level. West is rather stuck for a bid after this and 3♦ looks like the best available option. George and Jack accurately chose to play in a 7-card fit, instead of 3NT which has no play on a club lead.

Here Jamie was on lead with the South hand. Not wanting to lead away from an Ace, he chose to lead a trump. Declarer proceeded to take the top 12 tricks for +680.

Score Check

Team	Scores	Total
Cliff Wake Challengers	0 0 2	2
Cliff Wake All Stars	2 2 0	4

Board 4 ♠ 8764
 All Vul ♥ AKQJ6
 Dlr: West ♦ —

♠ 5
 ♥ 3
 ♦ QJ9762
 ♣ AQ854



♣ KJ93
 ♠ KJ109
 ♥ 72
 ♦ AK83
 ♣ 1076

♠ AQ32
 ♥ 109854
 ♦ 1054
 ♣ 2

Table 1:

South	West	North	East
—	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 ♠	All Pass		

North's 2♦ was Flannery, showing an opening hand with exactly 4 spades and 5-6 hearts.

South's 3♦ was an artificial inquiry and North accepted game (pass/correct).

Damo won the opening heart lead and played a trump to the ♠J. He then ruffed a diamond and led another spade from dummy. Leigh rose with the ♠A and the defence collected a club ruff. Leigh (East) was now on lead with these cards remaining:

Board 4 ♠ 8
 All Vul ♥ AKQ6
 Dlr: West ♦ —

♣ KJ
 ♠ —
 ♥ —
 ♦ QJ976
 ♣ Q8



♣ KJ
 ♠ K10
 ♥ 7
 ♦ AK8
 ♣ 10

♠ Q
 ♥ 10985
 ♦ 105
 ♣ —

After a long think, Damo eventually interrupted to claim, saying: "I'll win whatever you return, draw trumps and discard my winners on dummy's hearts".

At this point Leigh pointed out that after a heart switch, declarer would have to win in dummy and play a trump to hand, losing two tricks. 2 down for -100.

Table 2:

South	West	North	East
—	1 ♦	1 ♥	Dble
1 NT	2 ♣	2 ♥	Pass
Pass	3 ♣	Dble	3 ♦
Dble	All Pass		

The defence cashed 2 top hearts and then declarer cross ruffed the hand, making 9 tricks for +670.

Score Check

Team	Scores	Total
Cliff Wake Challengers	0 0 2 2	4
Cliff Wake All Stars	2 2 0 0	4

IT'S A TIE!

With the scores locked, the organisers dealt up one more board to break the deadlock...

Board 5 ♠ K8
 Nil Vul ♥ 63
 Dlr: North ♦ K108762
 ♣ K106

♠ AJ73
 ♥ 1094
 ♦ 4
 ♣ 97543



♠ Q9654
 ♥ QJ
 ♦ A93
 ♣ AJ2

♠ 102
 ♥ AK8752
 ♦ QJ5
 ♣ Q8

Table 1:

South	West	North	East
—	—	Pass	1 ♥
1 ♠	2 ♥	3 ♦	3 ♥
All Pass			

North competed to 3♦ (non-forcing as he is a passed hand), which pushed East-West to the 3-level – usually a good idea.

The defence started by cashing the ♦A and switching to the ♠5. This was ducked to the ♠K. North returned a trump to the ♥A, South following with the ♥J. The ♠10 was now ducked all round, followed by a diamond ruff. The ♠A was now ruffed and overruffed, but declarer was able to ruff out the diamond losers and return to hand to draw trumps, making 9 tricks for +140.

Table 2:

South	West	North	East
—	—	Pass	1 ♥
1 ♠	2 ♥	Dble	Pass
2 ♠	Dble	Pass	Pass
3 ♣	Dble	All Pass	

The defence started with a trump. The ♣3 went to the ♣Q and ♣A. A spade was ducked to the ♠K and a diamond returned to the ♦A. South led back another diamond and West discarded a heart, as the ♦K won in dummy. Declarer exited with a heart and East won the top two cards before returning a trump. A diamond to the ♦Q followed by a spade to the ♠A allowed West to claim. Declarer was 3 down for -500.

Final Score

Team	Scores	Total
Cliff Wake Challengers	0 0 2 2 2	6
Cliff Wake All Stars	2 2 0 0 0	4

Congratulations to the Cliff Wake Challengers Team of Damon Flicker – Tomer Libman, George Bartley – Jack Luke-Paredi.



Interview with Aadhi Hariharan



"Where are you from?"

A: Sydney

"What year are you in at school?"

A: Year 9

"What's your favourite subject?"

A: maths

"When did you start playing bridge?"

A: I don't even remember. Pretty sure I started in 2020, but then Covid hit. So 2021 when I was living in New Zealand. I moved here 1 ½ years ago.

"What is your favourite thing about bridge?"

A: The probabilities.

"Scissors, Paper, Rock. I'm going paper."

Both: "scissors, paper, rock"

*I show paper, Aadhi shows rock

"Why did you go rock?"

A: Is this bridge related? Because if it is, I never really trust what my opponent says.

"Do you have a favourite bridge hand or type of play?"

A: No.

A bunch of tricks on defence

Tomer Libman (West) – Damien Flicker (East) produced a neat defence on the following hand:

Nil Vul	♠ Q10543	
Dlr: East	♥ Q632	
	♦ K7	
Tomer	♣ Q9	Damo
♠ J2		♠ AK76
♥ AJ10		♥ K9
♦ AQ53		♦ 1086
♣ A1087		♣ K432
	♠ 98	
4♥X, North	♥ 8754	
Lead: 3	♦ J942	
	♣ J65	

We won't talk about the bidding, except to say that declarer found themselves in 4♥X.

West led the ♣A and switched to the ♠J, covered by the ♠Q and ♠K. East cashed the ♠A and continued another spade, on which declarer discarded a diamond and West ruffed. The defence then cashed the ♦A, ♣K and continued another spade, declarer again discarding a diamond and West again ruffing. West cashed the ♥A, East claimed the ♥K and they wrote down +1400.

By ruffing twice, West shortened his trumps to less cards than partner, allowing the defence to score that extra trick.

Bucket Heads!

We've had bucket-heads at the bridge table for every board of the Youth Teams event! And I'm awarding them many style points.



Team Morgan: Zac Ross, Lauren Morgan, Kate Macdonald, Paddy Taylor

Puzzle Corner

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

HOROBOD



GO
GO

LOVE

SIGHT
SIGHT
SIGHT

AGENT
AGENT

Answers to yesterday's puzzles:

- Foreign language
- Missing you
- See saw
- Up to you

Suit Combinations

by Leigh Matheson

If we need all the tricks in the following layout with an 8-card fit:

♠ AQ1032

♠ 987

The solution is to run the 9 and continue finessing, hoping West has the K and J.

If we can afford one loser, we do the exact same thing (sorry if you got this one wrong).

What about when we have a 9-card fit:

♥ AQ1032

♥ 9876

This time we finesse the Q if we need all the tricks. This gains against this layout:

♥Kx ♥Jx

Which is more likely than the following layout that it loses to:

♥KJx ♥x

This is also the play for the maximum number of tricks.

But if we can afford one loser, we can improve our chances of scoring 4 tricks: lay down the A first, cross back to hand in another suit and then finesse. This keeps things to one loser against KJ doubleton offside without risking the contract in other layouts.

For all of you out there who thought bridge was a simple game (anyone?) try working out the best line at Matchpoint scoring.

Curiously, the best Matchpoint play is neither of these lines! In this case the odds favour finessing the 10 on the first round, like we did with an 8-card fit.