



**CANBERRA
ANC 2026**



4th to 16th July 2026
Bulletin No 6: 17 July 2026



Looking back: Photograph: Chris Lokan

Today's Bulletin

In this final bulletin, we wind up with some really interesting Butler hands and commentary from Nick Hughes, the final winners and place getters in the Butler and the two Swiss Teams Events and a photo or two. Thanks to all who have participated and helped to make this a great event in a Canberra winter.

Notes from the Butler

By Nick Hughes

Stage 2: Match 6: Bd 3

BD: 3	♠ A962	Dir: S
	♥ 64	Vul: EW
	♦ KJ865	
	♣ 84	
♠ JT83		♠ KQ5
♥ 52		♥ KT97
♦ AQ		♦ 732
♣ AJT32		♣ KQ5
	♠ 74	
	♥ AQJ83	
	♦ T94	
	♣ 976	

Normal auction, North choosing not to overcall: 1C – 1H; 1S – 2D; 2N – 3N.

People will say that South might / should / must double 3NT for a heart lead. Pass is – 630 when North leads a diamond. Double is +800.

Or should north lead a heart anyway?

Stage 2: Match 6: Bd 7

BD: 7	♠ AQJ932	Dir: S
	♥ Q86	Vul: ALL
	♦ AT98	
	♣	
♠ KT5		♠ 764
♥ JT72		♥ K95
♦ 7		♦ K43
♣ AK872		♣ Q965
	♠ 8	
	♥ A43	
	♦ QJ652	
	♣ JT43	

P - P – 1S - P - 1N - ?

Too good for 2S so some tried 3S, which South rates to pass.

2D is better, keeping 3 suits in play.

Stage 2: Match 7: Board 22

BD: 22	♠ 2	Dlr: E
	♥ 652	Vul: EW
	♦ JT876	
	♣ AJ95	
♠ K9		♠ AJ8
♥ A973		♥ KQJ4
♦ AQ532		♦ K9
♣ KT		♣ Q763
	♠ QT76543	
	♥ T8	
	♦ 4	
	♣ 842	

Half those in 6H/E made it.

Stephen Fischer won the singleton diamond lead in hand to cash ♥KQ.

Now what? Not good to draw a third round, since the spade hook fails.

The appearance of the ♥10 swings it.

♦A, Diamond ruff, ♠K, Diamond ruff, ♣Q for +1430.

(Actually, you CAN draw a third trump then squeeze North in the minors. Not so easy unless South pre-empted.)

Stage 2, Match 9, Bd 22

BD: 22	♠ 85	Dlr: E
	♥ T65	Vul: EW
	♦ AJ95	
	♣ AK73	
♠ KQJT432		♠ A
♥ A7		♥ KQJ84
♦ T32		♦ Q874
♣ 5		♣ T62
	♠ 976	
	♥ 932	
	♦ K6	
	♣ QJ984	

Nearly everyone made 4S here.

Say North doubles the 1S response and South bids 2C/3C. ♣A lead (or King for count).

Is it so hard to switch to DJ for +100?

Stage 3: Match 1:. Bd 12

BD: 12	♠ Q7654	Dir: W Vul: NS
	♥ T	
	♦ KQ632	
	♣ T3	
♠ AJT9		♠ K83
♥ 8		♥ K763
♦ AT984		♦ 75
♣ 542		♣ AKQ9
	♠ 2	
	♥ AQJ9542	
	♦ J	
	♣ J876	

3NT by East. A club lead is best but most Souths started with the ♥Q. No tricks for South!

Declarer can win the ♥K and plays with North, conceding ♠Q, a long spade and ♦KQ.

Dummy ends up winning trick 13 with the ♦10.

Stage 3: Match 2:. Bd 17

BD: 17	♠ Q95	Dir: N Vul: None
	♥ A65	
	♦ AKQ	
	♣ Q876	
♠ A8742		♠ J3
♥ T984		♥ QJ732
♦ 642		♦ 53
♣ 4		♣ J932
	♠ KT6	
	♥ K	
	♦ JT987	
	♣ AKT5	

6NT and 6D are best but many played 6C.

You win the ♥K and cash a top club. East should (must) play ♣9 to give declarer a losing option.

Even after getting clubs right, declarer has to get to dummy. Luckily the ♠J appears.

Stage 3, Match 2. Bd 22

BD: 22	♠ T986	Dir: E
	♥ Q973	Vul: EW
	♦ K62	
	♣ K9	
♠ 53		♠ AKQJ72
♥ K2		♥ AT8
♦ Q73		♦ 954
♣ AJ8743		♣ T
	♠ 4	
	♥ J654	
	♦ AJT8	
	♣ Q652	

Board 22 again!

Some tables missed game. I'm guessing after 1S – 1NT (forcing) and then 2S – no bid (or 3C, ending in 3S)

2-over-1 will do that to you sometimes.

A thought is 1S – 3C intermediate with six clubs. East is worth 3S over 1NT

anyway so perhaps it's more judgement than system-related

Stage 3, Match 2. Bd 24

BD: 24	♠ QJ86	Dir: W
	♥ QJ	Vul: None
	♦ JT8643	
	♣ 2	
♠ 94		♠ AKT5
♥ T87543		♥ AK62
♦ Q7		♦ AK
♣ T94		♣ AKQ
	♠ 732	
	♥ 9	
	♦ 952	
	♣ J87653	

30-counts are rare.

Some Wests I know would open 2H and regret it for a while.

It's good if East can set up a game force.

Not so easy in some methods.

2C – 2D -4N makes sense. West will transfer and get a super-accept.

Open Butler Winners and Placegetters

Stage Two: N-S

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Liam Milne – Sophie Ashton	167.72
2	Tania Lloyd – Hugh Grosvenor	120.67
3	Joachim Haffer – Ron Cooper	117.39
4	Nigel Rosendorff – Phil Gue	104.4
5	Carmel Martin – Abby Wanigaratne	102.31

Stage Two: E-W

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Tony Nunn – Paul Dalley	138.14
2	Warren Lazer – Pauline Gumby	134.91
3	Alex Johansson / Kate McCallum	116.55
4	Chris Depasquale / Michael Courtney	103.52
5	Adam Robinson – Jaques Cherbuin	90.79

Stage Three

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Tony Nunn – Paul Dalley	117.38
2	Sophie Ashton – Liam Milne	112.1
3	Warren Lazer – Pauline Gumby	108.9
4	Nigel Rosendorff – Phil Gue	108.3
5	Joachim Haffer – Ron Cooper	107.55



Mixed Butler Winners and Placegetters

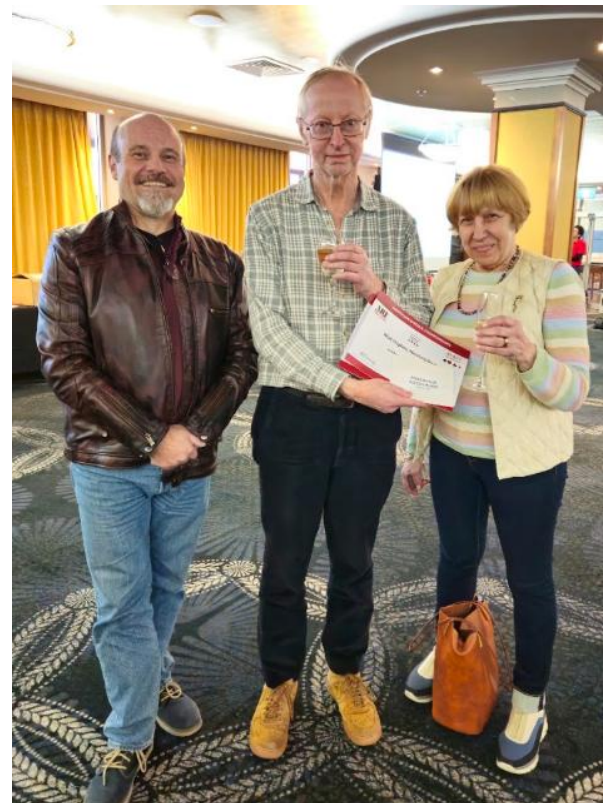
Stage One

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Nicoleta Giura - Nick Hughes	138.39
2	Stephen Williams - Ella Jacob	123.82
3	Paula McLeish - David McLeish	117.82
4	Jane Reynolds – Peter Reynolds	112.72
5	Paul Hookyaas – Pele Rankin	111.53
6	Jade Wilkinson – Stephen Fischer	107.08
7	Chris Cullen – Mimi Packer	105.83
8	Vanessa Brown – Will Jenner O’Shea	105.63
9	Sachiko Cathcart – Hans Van Weeren	105.44
10	Trevor Fuller – Leonie Fuller*	101.85
11	David Taylor – Jane Lennon	101.54

*Not competing in Stage 2.

Stage Two

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Jane Reynolds – Peter Reynolds	114.89
2	Nicoleta Giura - Nick Hughes	114.81
3	Chris Cullen – Mimi Packer	111.23
4	Stephen Williams - Ella Jacob	100.43
5	Paula McLeish - David McLeish	99.97



Swiss Pairs A

Overall

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Andrew Braithwaite – Ian Robinson	141.38
2	Bob Sebesfi – Richard Douglas	122.22
3	Tony Abbott – Neil Williams	119.92
4	Elizabeth Nelson – Diane Bridgeman	119.91
5	Bas Bolt – Rob Hurst	113.64

Restricted

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Elizabeth Nelson – Diane Bridgeman	119.91
2	Andrew Shaw – Tracey Gieck	86.44
3	Julie Geromboux – Nicola Meares	74.26
4	Chris Curren – Jody Burchall	70.37
5	George McLean – Tim Mather	44.58

Swiss Pairs B

Overall /Open

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Bas Bolt – Rob Hurst	119.42
2	Dee Harley – Stephen Weisz	118.03
3	Jamie Thompson – Matthew Vadas	114.96
4	Tim Wright – Vinod Nasta	108.81
5	Liz Van Der Hor – Adrienne Stephens	101.0

Intermediate

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Phil Halloran – Frank Hardiman	100.42
2	Lynleigh Evans – Fiona Fawcett	94.16
3	Elizabeth Yoo – Anita Delorenzo	87.92
4	Ken Trolland – Raman Jagatheesan	87.9
5	Morag Lokan – Chris Lokan	84.39

Restricted

Place	Pair Names	Total
1	Craig Becconsall – Nicola Meares	92.63
2	Elizabeth Nelson – Diane Bridgeman	91.19
3	Byron French – Michael French	90.59
4	Chris Curreen – Jody Burchall	75.04
5	Andrew Shaw – Tracey Gieck	52.72



Youth Fundraising

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the youth bridge raffle or bought mugs to help the international teams get to China. Thanks also to the youth players who managed the youth tables while competing in the ANC. See you next year!





Canberra in Bloom 2026

Bridge Federation of the ACT



Held in conjunction with Australia's largest floral festival, Floriade, Canberra in Bloom is a national, gold points congress for players of all abilities. Pairs and teams events are held in novice, restricted and open categories, with a rookies pairs event catering for players with less than 5 masterpoints.

- Restricted: Under 300 Masterpoints
- Novice: Under 100 Masterpoints
- Rookie: Under 5 Masterpoints
- Masterpoint cut off is 30 June 2026

Early bird prices for most events are available until 15 August.

Entries close 18 September (late entries may be accepted at Convenors' discretion)

Register through myABF

Date: 2nd to 5th October 2026

Location: Belconnen Labor Club

Organiser: Roger Brake

Email: rbrakebridge@gmail.com



BRISBANE GOLD CONGRESS

VOCO
BRISBANE CITY CENTRE
85-87 NORTH QUAY
BRISBANE QLD

30th January 2027
- 6th February 2027



- ♥ 3-Days Matchpoint Pairs Championship
- ♥ 3-Days Teams Championship + Finals
- ♥ 1½-Days Cross-Imp Pairs
- ♥ Open & Under 500 Fields
- ♥ Category Prizes
- ♥ PQP
- ♥ Walk In Pairs Friday 29th January
- ♥ More Information on MYABF



Chief Director: Laurie Kelso

Chief Scorer: Peter Busch

Tournament Organisers: Jan Peach janpeach8@bigpond.com 0487 466 109

Tony Treloar brisbanegoldto.tony@qldbridge.com.au 0468 398 843



2027 AUTUMN NATIONALS

WEDNESDAY 28TH APRIL – SUNDAY 2ND MAY 2027

Ridley Centre, Adelaide Showground, Wayville

TBIB AUTUMN NATIONAL TEAMS AND THE AUSTRALIAN BLUE RIBBON PAIRS:

Wednesday 28th April
Thursday 29th April

SWISSTEAMS:

Open, Under Grand, Under Life categories
(Open Teams Final: Friday 30th April)

Friday 30th April

ONE-DAY SWISS BUTLER PAIRS

Under Grand, Under Life, Novice, Rookie

and

BLUE RIBBON PAIRS: Open (Qual)

Saturday 1st May

BLUE RIBBON PAIRS: Open (SF),

Under Grand and Life (Qual)

Sunday 2nd May

BLUE RIBBON PAIRS: All Finals

and consolations

PQPs in Open Teams and Blue Ribbon Pairs (Open)



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