New South Wales Bridge Association

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♠ ♡ Bulletin ◇ ♣

Editor: Peter Jamieson

Chairmans Corner

There's not a great deal to report at the moment. NSW did not do as well this year as it usually does at the ANC. This can be partly attributed to the fact that other states are consistently producing stronger teams. Congratulations to our players that did well and in particular the women's' team for winning. Let's hope that next year's can come back with a little more silverware.

The NSWBA council recently met with the FABC to see how the two bodies may work more closely together. It was a very productive meeting with many possible initiatives raised. One tangible result from the meeting was the approval of a proposal re the NSWBA's spare library books. The NSWBA will be breaking these books up into groups of about 50 and they will be rotated around the varying regions of NSW for clubs to borrow. Please contact your region's FABC representative if your club is interested.

Probably, at about the time this bulletin comes out the Sydney Bridge festival will be commencing. If you read this before the event starts, I encourage you to play the event. The festival has over $5000 in prizes, a Seniors event, Gold masterpoints in all events and Playoff Qualifying Points. In short, it has something for everyone. You can enter via our website or simply calling the NSWBA on 92648111.

Until next time, happy bridging.

Keiran Crowe-Mai
Chairman NSBWA

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Bridge For Brain Research Challenge

NSWBA, Federation of Affiliated Bridge Clubs and Prince of Wales Research Unit all wish to congratulate the winners and to thank all who participated in the tournament.

This inaugural fundraiser was a great success. A total of 711 pairs entered the event, which raised just over $20,000. The highest individual fundraiser was Judith Wenban of Nelson Bay who won a 4 night Captain Cook Cruise for 2 people exploring the Great Barrier Reef.

Highest Fundraising Bridge Club: Dubbo. This club receives one year's worth of morning tea supplies from *Starbucks Coffee*.

Overall Winning Pair:
A Thompson & V Leeton who each received a *Nokia* mobile phone, bridge climb voucher and personally autographed copy of Colleen McCullough's book *The Touch*

Highest score from a pair aged 70-80 years:
J Johnson & J Goldsworthy of Nelson Bay

Highest score from a pair aged 80+ years:
M Hedderman - M Leafe of Balgowlah who each received a $100 gift pack from The Bridge Shop and a selection of books from Random House

Please note that this event is going "national" in 2005 (with Australian Bridge Federation involvement) and will be run May1-7. Further details to come in future bulletins.

Prince of Wales Medical Research Institute
The Institute is one of the largest centres of research on the brain and nervous system in Australia. Officially opened on 8 November 1993 the Institute is an accredited National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) independent research institute. You can visit their web site at:
www.powmri.edu.au

Good Bye Penny Crittle (1945 –2004)

Penny passed away 4th August. She was for many years the Ombudsman for the NSWBA. She convened the NSWBA's Teams of Three for several years and was on the bridge directing team at Lindfield Bridge Club. With 2221 masterpoints Penny's rating was Grand Master. She had numerous important results in bridge tournaments.

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Amazing But True

Dealer North	**North**	
Nil Vul	♠ 10	
IMPs	♡ 9 3	
	◇ K J 10 5 2	
	♣ 9 6 5 3	
West		**East**
♠ A J 9 8		♠ K 7 6 5
♡ J 8 6 4 2		♡ 7 5
◇ 6		◇ A 9 3
♣ K 10 2		♣ J 8 7 4
	South	
	♠ Q 4 3 2	
	♡ A K Q 10	
	◇ Q 8 7	
	♣ A Q	

This deal was played in England in May this year. The scene was the final of the Spring Foursomes, England's major weekend tournament held in Strathford-upon-Avon. The Price team (favourites) were 6 IMPs behind with one board to play. At one table their opponents had bid the North South cards to 5 diamonds – a good contract needing the club finesse to work. That was plus 50 to the Price team who now needed to bid and make game on the NS cards at the other table. David Price (N) and Colin Simpson (S) did not know the exact IMP's situation of course though they knew the match was close.
North opened the bidding with 2◇ (weak) and South's 3NT bid won the auction. West led a low heart which South won with his 10. The ◇Q was advanced and allowed to hold. Ditto the ◇K (on which West pitched a heart) and things looked very bleak indeed for declarer but not hopeless as it turned out.
At trick 4 South called for ♠10 from dummy which was ducked to West's jack. The defence had been taken in by this ploy. East assumed that South had good spades had not covered ♠10. West was unsure of the situation (although he knew who had ◇A) and chose to exit ♠8 at trick 5. East continued with his ♠K protection plan and played low allowing South to win ♠Q ! South now cashed his three top hearts and exited ♠3, won by West's ♠9. West now cashed ♠A collecting partner's king (ouch!). With only clubs left, West had to lead around into South's A Q. That was +400 and 10 IMPs and the winners title to PRICE.
(Ed Playing on a weak suit when things are desperate is uncommon but often successful. Italian star Belladonna once used this ploy successfully in a World Championship years ago. One day it may save your bacon, so don't overlook it when circumstances are suitable)

Defence Problem for East

Dealer: W	**North**	
Vul: Nil	♠ K 7 5	
Teams	♡ Q 9 5	
	◇ Q 8 5 3	
	♣ A K 4	
West		**East**
Partner		♠ 9 6
		♡ 10 7
		◇ A J 10 7 6
		♣ Q 10 7 5
	South	
	Declarer	

The bidding

West	North	East	South
Pass	1◇	Pass	1♠
2♡	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Partner's opening lead is ◇2. Declarer plays low from dummy. Plan your defence. Answer Page 5.
Clue: you need to construct hypothetical hands for West and South in order to solve this problem which comes from recent tournament play.
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Match Point Pairs

Your Score When You Have a Sit Out

A few players have asked me how is the scoring done when you have a sit out. Let's say that due to a half table you sit out two boards. Lets also assume that you scored 56.4% on the actual boards you played. To compare your score with the players who did not have a sit out, you will "receive" 56.4% on the sit out round. Your total score is then comparable to the players who played a full round. ***PBJ***

♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡

Valuable Bridge Advice

The June-July 2003 Lindfield Bridge Club Inc Club Bulletin carried a full-page interview with Tony Howes their Director for Thursday nights (Club championships night).
Tony said he took up bridge in 1977 and has been directing bridge since 1984. Tony also directs at national bridge events such as the Summer Festival of Bridge. Asked "what bridge tip can you give" , Tony answered :
Bridge is a game of avoiding mistakes. More games are lost by making mistakes such as bidding misunderstandings than are won by the brilliant bids and plays written up in the papers.

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Christian Dior,
Smith,
Burberry (London),
Gianfanco Ferre,
Sunjet,
Polo-Ralph Lauren *and several others*

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Congress Results

NB Congress Convenors/Directors – *please forward results via post, email or fax to Bulletin Editor at NSWBA –see top page 1 for contact information.*

Illawarra Swiss Pairs July 4

1. George Czubala - Wally Malczynski
2. Don Evans - Leiv Bornecrantz
3. Jeff Carberry - Jan Deveski

Western Suburbs Congress July 4

=1st Warren Lazer, Andrew Peake, Leigh Gold Jamie Ebery
= 1st Graeme Corin, Elizabeth Chadwick, Steven Bock, Les Grewcock
3rd Peter Bayliss, Judy McGeary, Peter Boulton Angie Boulton

Bayside Winter Teams July 11

1st Al Simpson, John Newman, Anthony Newman and Derrick Browne
2nd Andrew Peake, Warren Lazer, Jamie Ebery Leigh Gold
3rd Christine Boylson, Tony Ong, Joe Quittner, Liz Quittner

Sapphire Coast Bridge Club 3rd Annual Congress July 9-11

Welcome Pairs
N/S 1st Lorraine O'Brien & Robin Whalley
E/W 1st Helen Bruce & Beata Denkiewicz
Championship Pairs Final
1st Richard Hills & Andrew Struik
2nd Alison Farthing & Richard Lock
3rd Kay Black & Perelle Scales
Plate 1st Helen Bruce & Beata Denkiewicz
2nd Di Woolford & John Bentley
3rd Ken Colbert & Peter Sheppard
Championship Teams
1st George Stockham, Noel Bugeia, Ken Colbert, Peter Sheppard
2nd Bea & Alan Duncan, Helga & Donald Leslie
3rd Perelle Scales, Kay Black, Anka Kuzmanovic, Peter Saundry
Best Local Team 4th Norma Gowing, Nancye & Ron Apps, Shirley Dixon

Lindfield Bridge Club Autumn Swiss Pairs July 18

1 Christine Boylson – Tony Ong.. ..
2 Robert Case – Wendy Ashton ..
3 Richard Jedrychowski & A. Burza

Hunters Hill Congress Swiss Teams

1st Martin Bloom, Peter Gill, William Zhang and Michael Chen
2nd Les Lowe, Tony Skinner, David Smee, Gary Lane
=3rd Sue Ingham, Terry Brown, Paul Lavings, Ed Barnes
=3rd Mary Anne Brifman, Richard Jedrychowski, Zibi Zeb, William Westwood
(40 teams - Director Matthew McManus)

2004 Brisbane Water Super Congress

Brisbane Water Pairs - Final
1 Walker I - Wilks K
2 Lehane J & J
3 Harkness L - Joss N
Brisbane Water Pairs - Plate
1 Barnes E/Wiltshire D
2 Robinson G & S
Brisbane Water Swiss Pairs
1 Peter Gill & Merrilee Robb
2 Pauline Gumby & Warren Lazer
3 Witold Chylewski & Milan Durovic
Brisbane Water Restricted Swiss Pairs
1 Thomas Fischer & Barbara Temple
2 Patricia Dennis & Trish Harrigan
Brisbane Water Swiss Teams
1 Michael Chen, Jin Li, Xiao Yang, William Zhang
2 David Boga, Angela Dougall, Kevin Dougall, Tarik Seckin
3 Michael Covill, Peter Peterson, Gwyn Robertson, Pat Walker
(*Directed by David Anderson*)

COFFS HARBOUR BRIDGE CLUB
Super Congress Teams
1st M.Brifman, R.Jedryckowski, P.Gill, Z.Zeb
2nd T.Nunn, M.Courtney, S.Hans, P.Wyer
3rd L.Power, C.Miller, P.Jones, G.Cooper
2004 *Quality Resort Nautilus* **Swiss Pairs**
1st Betty Lee- Mike Robson
2nd Barbara McDonald - Alan Walsh
3rd Michael Courtney & Tony Nunn
4th Jamie Mcfall & Nigel Mcivor
5th Richard Jedrychowski & Zibi Zeb
(74 pairs) *Director: Tony Howes*
♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡

De Bortoli

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De Bortoli Wines was founded in 1928 at Bilbul, a tiny village in the Riverina region of New South Wales. This district is famous for its quality table and dessert wines, and in particular, the spectacular Botrytis influenced sweet white wines. The ***De Bortoli*** Noble One Botrytis Semillon is consistently acclaimed as one of the best of its style in the world.

In 1987, ***De Bortoli*** purchased a vineyard and winery complex in the prestigious Yarra Valley region of Victoria, which now produces some of Australia's finest table wines.

At the forefront of modern viticultural practices and winemaking techniques, ***De Bortoli*** focus on excellence using state of the art technology without sacrificing tradition.

De Bortoli dedication to quality was awarded with one of the highest accolades in 1997, the Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy for the best one year old red, at the Melbourne Wine Show. This was a true testament of the high standards and award winning wine produced by ***De Bortoli***.

Enjoy ***De Bortoli*** wines and be part of one of Australia's largest and fastest growing family owned wine companies.

De Bortoli are sponsors of NSWBA

WDO

By Rakesh Kumar

Those who play bridge on the internet will recognise the title as shorthand for "well done opponents" and here is a hand which led me to say just that.

	♠54 ♥Q4 ♦AJ932 ♣AQ82	
♠KQ1086 ♥1093 ♦Q1065 ♣6		♠A2 ♥J876 ♦84 ♣K10973
	♠J973 ♥AK52 ♦K7 ♣J54	

This hand (directions reversed for clarity) was elegantly played by Dagmar Neumann during a recent GNOT Qualifying event. South opened 1NT (12-14) and was raised to 3NT. West led the king of spades (if only one could find a low spade lead – unfortunately this wins in the post-mortem but often loses otherwise!) overtaken by the ace and a spade returned to the 7, 8 and 5. West now exited with ♥10 to the 4, 6 and A. The ♦K was cashed and the ♦9 finessed successfully. Then the ♥Q was cashed and a low club led from table, East inserting ♣10, and South won with ♣J. When declarer now led a club, West showed out, so ♣8 was played from dummy and East, winning with the ♣9, exited with ♥8 as ♦3 was pitched from dummy. The position was:

	♠ ♥ ♦AJ ♣AQ	
♠Q10 ♥ ♦Q10 ♣		♠ ♥J ♦ ♣ K73
	♠J9 ♥5 ♦ ♣5	

And Dagmar, having read the position accurately, endplayed me with a heart as she discarded ♦J from dummy …..

Rakesh Kumar

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Bridge Teaching Seminars (Tours)

*Provided by Greg Quittner**

* Examiner, Australian Bridge Teachers Association

The following options are presented as possibilities for seminars to assist members of your club in the development of the game.

Option1: A 30 minute presentation followed by 12 set hands on a specific topic. The hands are bid, played & analysed with hand records available. A rare chance to discuss hands straight after playing them. This format can also be used with a duplicate of 24 boards whereby the hands are played in groups of 8 with Barometer scoring.

Option 2: A lesson on any topic chosen by the members including 4 practice hands.

Option3: A bidding or opening leads competition with 20 questions set beforehand for you to answer. Answers are discussed in detail and points given out of 100. Prizes awarded to the 3 best scores.

10% of the profit from any teaching tour by Greg goes to the Children's Medical Research Foundation at Westmead Hospital.

For further enquiries please contact Greg on (02) 9975 2708 or email to gregquittner@hotmail.com

Answer - Defence Problem for East (from p 2)

Dealer: W
Vul: Nil
Teams

	North	
	♠ K 7 5 ♡ Q 9 5 ◇ Q 8 5 3 ♣ A K 4	
West		**East**
♠ A 8 3 ♡ K J 8 4 3 ◇ 2 ♣ J 9 6 3		♠ 9 6 ♡ 10 7 ◇ A J 10 7 6 ♣ Q 10 7 5
	♠ Q J 10 4 2 ♡ A 6 2 ◇ K 9 4 ♣ 8 2	

Partner probably does not have the two top heart honours else he would have led one. Declarer needs about 10 points to make a try for game and is thus 'marked' with one top heart honour, ◇K and a probably ♠Q. Partner probably has ♠A to justify his heart overcall. So partner's ◇2 lead is almost certainly a singleton.You actually ***need*** partner to have ♠A . The defence needs four tricks and these should be ◇A, ♠A, a heart ruff and a diamond ruff. Having worked all this out you must *win } A at trick 1 and switch to hearts*. Now whatever declarer does the contract is defeated.(*This deal comes from NSWBA in June 2004*).

Adelaide National Youth Triathlon

September 24 – 26th, 2004

At the SABA Clubrooms, 243 Young St, Unley S.A.

Proposed Programme *(Assumes 6 teams)

Fri, September 24 8:00, 9:30 Teams, 2 Sessions

Sat, September 25 10:30 am, 12:00 Teams, 2 Sessions

1:30 pm Long Lunch and AFL and Grand Final
5:00 pm Teams, 1 session
7:45 pm Pairs, 1 session
Sun, September 26
10:00am Pairs, 1 session
2:00 pm Individual, 1 Session

Event format may be modified to suit numbers of entries

Entry fees: $50 per player, covers all play and Saturday lunch. Teams only, $20 per player. Other events, $15 per player. (20% discount applies for full time students).
Eligibility: Open to all players born on or after 25/9/74
Players must initially enter as teams of 4.

Entries to David Lusk
6 Vincent Crt. Campbelltown SA 5074

Please note that you can alternatively enter via the ABF's website (Youth Link)

BEATING THE JINX – NSW AT THE ANC
By Neville Moses

NSW has been by far the most successful State in teams events at the ANC over the past 30 years – except when Melbourne has hosted the event. Our last team to succeed there was the 1974 Women's team, and for a long time 2004 seemed likely to be more of the same.

As usual NSW players featured in the Butler with Ron Klinger and Bruce Neill winning the open with Avi Kanetkar one of the runners-up and Pauline Gumby and Warren Lazer in third place. Jillian Hay and Helen Lowry were second in the women's Butler with Rena Kaplan one of the third place-getters.

The pairs were also dominated by NSW with Pauline and Warren winning the open, Rena and Ishmael Del'Monte the mixed and Inez Glanger and Marcia Scudder completing a spectacular hat trick by scoring in the women's for the third year in a row.

But the teams were a disappointment. The highly credentialled open team were part of the closest finish in the round-robin in living memory with five teams within a few imps fighting for two places in the final. Unfortunately when the smoke cleared NSW was in fifth place leaving the ACT to record its first victory in 20 years with an easy win over Victoria in the final.

The youth team started with a bang but faded to a distant third, SA beating ACT to take the title, while the seniors despite Tina Zines' untiring efforts as captain, simply failed to fire and finished fourth; Victoria had a win over SA in the final.

That left the women who were severely depressed by the sad passing of Penny Crittle. Captained by Tina Zines, the team fell victim to the NSW syndrome of failing to score big wins against the weaker teams and with one round to go needed a good win against SA and a favourable result in the ACT- WA match to make the final. Spurred on by Tina 's never-say-die approach the women did the business against SA and when the other match ended in a tie it was NSW v WA (with a significant carry-forward) in the final. NSW knocked off the carry-forward early but WA had a 2 imp lead with 2 sets to go. Fortunately the boards turned swingy and the aggressive NSW style paid off leading to a comfortable 43 imp win for our girls. A dogged team effort and inspiring captaincy from Tina had broken the jinx! For Marlene Watts and Nicoletta Giura this was a win at their first attempt in the event and Wendi Halvorsen has a win and a second from 2 starts. Their partners however are more experienced: Rena Kaplan has 4 wins (two partnering Marilyn Chadwick) Berri Folkard has 5 wins (with 5 different partners) and Kinga Moses – who was in the 1974 team- six wins with 6 different partners!

They still have a long way to go however, to equal the record of the late Mary McMahon who won the women's teams 9 times and the open twice!
NJM

♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡

Madge Davies, 105½, a highly regarded Bridge player in the Hunter Valley, passed away on Thursday, August 12 2004. Madge Davies was a competitive player even after her 100th birthday. She represented the Hunter Region in the GNOT in her 98th year. For the past thirty years she played with her son John. Her last game of bridge was played in 2003 in Scone at the age of 104 years.

♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡

Brown Sticker Conventions, Multi Twos and Associated Issues

Many readers of this Bulletin would not be aware of Brown Sticker Conventions (BSCs) which have been a fairly 'hot' issue in international bridge circles in recent years. People who play bridge on the Internet will know that BSCs are banned at most sites. For example the following is taken from the Microsoft Game Zone Bridge site:

Brown Sticker Conventions. The following conventions or treatments are categorized as "Brown Sticker" : Any opening bid of 2C through 3S that could be weak AND does not promise at least 4 cards in a known suit (Excepted from this rule is Multi 2D showing a weak 2 in a major). An overcall of a natural opening bid of one of a suit that does not promise at least 4 cards in a known suit. Any weak two-suited bids at the two or three level that may by agreement be made with three cards or fewer in one of the suits. Psychic bids protected by system or required by system. (BSCs are not allowed to be played at this Bridge site).

My interest in BSCs was whetted when I noticed several mentions of them in the April 2004 issue of World Bridge News (the official medium of the World Bridge Federation). To find out more, I decided (in the modern vernacular) to 'google' these four words: **brown sticker conventions bridge**. In a few seconds the Google search engine came up with numerous results. The WBF web site has precise details of what constitutes a BSC - essentially just an expanded version of the definition shown above.

There is a wide body of expert opinion that BSCs are not good for Bridge especially with the increased exposure of bridge as a spectator sport on the Internet as well as the planned linkage of bridge web broadcasts to televised programs (B-Sky- B in particular).

In the 5th PABF bridge congress held July 2004 in Taipei, BSCs were not permitted in pairs events or the Swiss qualifying. In their teams finals BSCs were only permitted if filed before the start of the final. No

HUM methods (known as Yellow Systems in Australia) are permitted in any events. In the just completed 47th International Balaton Bridge Festival (a major weekend event in Hungary) both HUM methods and BSC's were prohibited.
One of the most interesting items I found from my Google search was the transcript of a lengthy (equates to approx 50 A 4 size pages) online debate in December 2003 on BSC's (with contributions from many well known international bridge players including Australians Paul Marston and Kieran Dyke). If you are interested go to
www.cavendish.demon.co.uk/ bridge/debates/brown-sticker

The most forthright comments noted in this debate were by Fred Gitelman (a top international player and President of leading internet bridge site ***Bridge Base Online***) who said :
"I have played against BSCs many times. I see these conventions as being akin to germ warfare and I strongly believe that they should be barred. Some reasons:
1) Nowadays it is all but impossible for a team to properly prepare themselves to play in a tournament in which they rate to encounter BSCs. This is Eric Kokish's main complaint about BSCs.
2) The "stranger" the bidding gets, the harder it becomes to interest "average players" in watching high-level bridge.
3) In my experience a significant % of BSC partnerships do not do a proper job of disclosing everything they know about how they use a particular BSC. I am not claiming that this is done intentionally - it is more a function of "the nature of the beast" (the beast being BSCs, not the people who use them).
4) The game of bridge has more than enough beauty to be appealing without BSCs being allowed. In my view these conventions add nothing to the fascination of the game.
5) In my opinion most BSCs randomize the results, but the players that use them have an edge (especially when they play against weak teams) due to their opponents' unfamiliarity with the methods (and due also to points 1 and 3 above). This just doesn't seem fair to me.
Only my opinions - I am sure plenty of r.g.b regulars do not agree. *Fred Gitelman*"

As you would expect there were a number of participants in this debate who didn't agree with Gitelman and were against over regulating bridge systems. My own views on BSC's are fairly similar to Gitelman's.

In Australia the ABF System Regulations (as amended in 1998) do not mention BSC's but their colour coding definitions do cover them. One first needs to read the section on Green Systems:

"1.3 GREEN SYSTEMS (Natural Openings)
A system satisfies the GREEN classification if it complies with all of the following:
GREEN System General Requirements
(1) One level Bids must show no less than 18 Opening Points*, two level Bids must show no less than 15 Opening Points and 5+ cards in the suit bid, and three level suit bids must show no less than 15 Opening Points, or no less than 12 Opening Points and a suit of at least seven cards in the suit bid.
(2) Suit Bids must be Natural, showing no less than four cards in the suit bid."

** "Opening Points" means the sum of the high card points (Ace=4, K = 3, Q =2 and J=1) together with the number of cards in the two longest suits in the hand.*

The ABF system regulations go on to say that the *European Multi 2D* (this is most commonly a weak 2 in either major) is designated as **Blue** System category (see **section 1.4.7**).
If the partnership is playing more complex multi twos (ie typically 'unanchored' such as RCO's) then it becomes a Red System. The following is another extract from the ABF system regulations:
1.5 RED SYSTEMS (Artificial Openings)
A system satisfies the RED classification if all of its bids which fail to satisfy the BLUE classification fall within the distributions allowances set out below:
Subject to Clause 1.3 (1):
(1) Suit Bids at the one level are not subject to any distribution restriction provided they show no less than four cards in a specific suit.
(2) Bids from one no trump to three spades are not subject to any distribution restriction.

Coming back to the Australian Tournament scene, I observed in July 2004 at the start of a 14 board Swiss Teams match (round 8 of 10 qualifying matches) the following scene: the visiting pair arrived with their system cards. Their system was complex (included artificial BSC type 2 bids) and the home team's pair, needing time to discuss some bidding countermeasures, excused themselves from the table taking the opponents system cards with them. After discussion away from the immediate playing area, they returned 4-5 minutes later to commence the match. A sensible move by the home team pair but potentially disruptive to the tournament schedule and it compressed the match time available for those two teams.
Australia has always had a reputation for allowing non standard bridge methods in tournaments and usually the only 'prohibited' systems nominated by Congress organisers are Yellow Systems. In consequence, competitors on the Australian tournament scene are certain to encounter all sorts of different multi two bids that would be prohibited in many overseas countries. Using Red System Multi Two bids can be a lot of fun especially with the

frequent distibutional deals delivered by computer dealing. And the fact that if your partner fails to open the bidding with a Red System Multi you are better placed to evaluate the deal than pairs playing a Green System. But defending against the more exotic types of Multis can be hard work –even for top gun tournament players.
In serious Australian Tournament circles, most regular pairs have pre-discussed defence (often generic) to all the most common HUM and RED systems going around. But if your partnership is not 'regular' (and a good many partnerships are not) then you are at a definite disadvantage. Here is a passing thought – wouldn't it be interesting if some tournaments and or Congresses in Australia were designated Green and Blue Systems only. I'm sure there would still be plenty of entries from both expert and non expert bridge players.

In USA there is a strong anti BSC ethos. Consider this extract from Minutes of the ACBL Board of Governors New Orleans, LA Sunday, November 23, 2003 "Moved by Ralph Cohen, District 10 that Board of Governors recommends to the ACBL's WBF representatives that greater restrictions be placed on the use of "brown sticker" conventions in WBF events". Result of motion : "Carried"
If you check out the system regulations for the forthcoming Bridge Olympiad in Turkey this coming November, you will see that BSCs are prohibited in some events. To view those regulations visit **www.ecatsbridge.com** – and then follow the link to the Olympiad . HUM systems are totally prohibited at the Olympiad. BSCs are prohibited in the qualifying stages (round robin) at the Olympiad. They are permitted in the knock-out phase but pairs playing them are required to pre-lodge both BSC system bids as well as a viable recommended defence.
If Brown Sticker Conventions are (broadly) prohibited in USA, UK, and Europe as well as by the WBF then Australian Bridge authorities will be under pressure to revise their system regulations in this regard.

Peter Jamieson

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ALERTING PROCESS REMINDER

All tournament bridge players are reminded of the need to speak the word 'ALERT" as well as effecting the manual alert action be it bidding box (Alert card) or written bidding (circle the relevant bid)

♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡ ♣ ◇ ♠ ♡

Upcoming Weekend Congresses in NSW

See NSWBA web site for more information

Date & Club	Details
Sept 11-12 Port Macquarie Hastings	Teams Elaine Moss 6583 9495
Sept 18-19 Glen Bridge (Pairs)	Ken Greenwood 6732 1179
Sept 19 Trumps	*Friendly Pairs* Phone 9969 5959
Sept 26 Trumps	Derrick Browne 9969 5959
Sept 26 Illawarra B A	*Restricted Pairs* Phone 4284 4271
Oct 1-4 Lindfield	Angie Boulton 9416 2500
Oct 3 Brunswick Valley	Barbara Powell 6680 5948
Oct 8-10 Commercial B C Albury	Eileen Ferris 6025 3008
Oct 9-10 Taree	Maureen McAlister 6551 0091
Oct 10 NSWBA Swiss pairs	Noella Smith 9264 8111
Oct 10 Cowra	Gwyn Reid 6341 2665
Oct 15-17 Muswellbrook	E Battista 6543 3331
Oct 16-17 Tenterfield (Pairs)	Betty Inglis 6736 1164
Oct 17 Pennant Hills	Anna Thomas 9484 7161
Oct 18-22 Strathavon Bridge Week	Kristy Wells 4352 1161
Oct 23-24 Hakoah	Paul Marston 9365 9934
Oct 31 Parramatta	Marienne Vawser 9639 9367
Nov 6-7 Southern Highlands	Ina Smith 4862 4076
Nov 6-7 Tumbarumba	Alison Farthing 6948 3158
Nov 7 Lindfield	Angie Boulton 9416 2400