

Bulletin 4

STAGE TWO BUTLER STANDINGS AFTER NINE MATCHES

OPEN

GROUP A			GROUP B		
1	Van Riel R - Richman R	157	1.	Lazer W - Gumby P	158
2	Newman P - Thomson M	156	2	Bailey G - Bailey K	153
3	Courtney M - Courtney M	155	3	Hunt J - Hoffman D	152
4	Clark A - Rogers P	152	4	Fordham P - Prescott M	152
5	Christie H - Sherman P	145	5	Gue P - Brown T	148
6	Peake A - Evans R	144	6	Chadwick M - Morrison K	144
7	Gallus R - Lyngsjø H	141	7	Sawicki H - Doran M	143
8	Hills R - Ali H	132	8	Mayer M - Fruewirth R	140
9	Daws K - Schwabegger C	130	9	Markey P - Horton D	141
10	Dalley R - Lavings P	128	10	Francis N - Mayers A	117
11	Hooykas P - Dutton N	124	11	Gold L - Ebery J	115
12	Browne S - Del'Monte I	123	12	Gaspar G - Gold L	114
13	Hutton T - Rule H	122	13	Kochmanski J.- Pol A	104
14	Howley P Miller K	98	14	Fuller R - Allen D	92

WOMEN

GROUP A			GROUP B		
1	Shilbury S - Touyz J	155	1	Beech L - Bourke M	167
2	Powell A - Jamieson R	152	2	Folkard B - Moses K	155
3	Coombes C - Garbutt T	145	3	Biltoft V - Kessler G	154
4	Robb M - Robb K	143	4	Lusk S - Tully T	145
5	Vincent L - Butts J	141	5	Driscoll W - Greenfeld D	140
6	Thompson J - Evans P	139	6	Tobin R - Tobin J	135
7	Brookes V - Whebell B	136	7	Booth A - Shiells L	133
8	Hoffman J - Church N	134	8	Farthing A Carmichael B	131
9	Frankel D - Hansen R	134	9	McNamara P - Futaesaku S	129
10	Hammond P - Moses S	134	10	Coleman S - Collins J	127
11	Kaplan R - Brown M	1275	11	Urbach E - Kalmin L	125
12	Brook K - Tishler S	125	12	Young S - Paterson R	118
13	Roberts J - Waugh E	119	13	Eddie J - Mitchell V	114
14	Garrett P - Priestley B	105	14	Phillips S - Smyth J	109

THE LIGHTNER DOUBLE

Definition: A lead-directing double of a slam contract.

Inception: That suggested by Theodore Lightner in 1929 as normal penalty doubles of freely bid slams are not usually productive.

Application: Excludes the lead of a trump, a suit bid by defenders and an unbid suit.

Most readers are aware of all this but opportunities often slip by. Here is one that did not slip by from the selection event for the W.A. Senior's Team this year.

	AK753	
	AKJ2	
	6	
	K105	
98		J64
986543		107
AQ1098		K752
-		9742
	Q102	
	Q	
	J43	
	AQJ863	

Debbie and Maurie Frankel had bid smoothly to 6S after South had opened a club, brushing aside a feeble 1D overcall from West. However West doubled and Toby Manford in the East seat, easily recognised Mr. Lightner's invention to duly lead a club for her partner to ruff and cash the diamond A for a 12 imp gain.

Here is another hand on this theme

From Stage 1 of the Butler, Round 9,

Board 2. Here's one that got away.

	108542	
	A	
	106	
	AJ942	
Q63		AKJ
104		75
KJ742		Q9853
Q105		873
	97	
	KQJ98632	
	A	
	K6	

The bidding is not for the purists. South bid 2C (Acol 8 playing tricks any suit), North 3C (positive suit) then 3H, 3S, 6H! All pass.

South had blasted in the expectation of a diamond lead which duly arrived and the club finesse was taken for a 12 imp gain to NS. Had East found a Lightner Double, West would have at least a 50/50 chance of a spade lead for a huge swing to EW.

Josh Hawthorn

'Josh' is the nom de plume of a well known senior Perth bridge identity

DOUBLE TROUBLE

by Richard Webb

Board 21

Stage 1

Dealer: N

Session 2

Vul: N/S

764
109643
9
J1073
Q10985 A32
7 AQ
K1054 Q832
AQ4 K986
KJ
KJ852
AJ76
52

BIDDING

N	E	S	W
	1C ¹	X ²	XX ³
2H ⁴	3NT	X	P
P	XX ⁵	all pass	

- 1 Acol.
2. Not best; conventions are available to show 5-4 two suiters; 2H is preferable to double on this hand
3. 10+ pts
4. 4H is plausible instead of pass
5. Why not!

Sometimes indifferent bidding can be costly as this hand from session 2 demonstrates.

Les Calcraft was the declarer in 3NTXX. The contract is virtually cold but once South led D6, Les took full advantage. Winning the DQ he played a club to the queen and ran S10. In with the jack, South pushed a heart through to the queen. Now Les played SA dropping the king and continued with a low diamond. When South rose with the ace that was the end of the defence and Les had 11 tricks for +1200 !

Ed Richard Webb runs the "Post Free" bridge book and merchandise shop just outside the ballroom .playing room. He is very knowledgeable about bridge and if you are interested in bridge on computers, he will let you "test drive" the computer installed on the shop's display table.

▲▲▲▲

ERRATUM!

In Daily Bulletin 3

When 1Club was defeated by 6 tricks. Sathi Moses was North and the passer of 1Club was Pauline Hammond

♣♣♣♣

MORE ANAGRAMS FROM THE NET

Slot Machines	Cash Lost in 'em
Animosity	Is No Amity
Mother-in-law	Woman Hitler
Snooze Alarms	Alas! No more Z's
Alec Guinness	Genuine Class

Heard at the end of round seven

"Talk about 'bikini bridge' we have had nothing but tops and bottoms with nothing in between.

ABF ALERT REGULATIONS

Some excerpts and comments by Peter Jamieson

As you all know, the current regulations have been in force since May 1 1998. Because of all the chopping and changing in the last 10 years or so with alert procedures in Australia, some players have lost track of what exactly should be alerted or otherwise.

The current regulations run to almost five A4 pages. This may seem intimidating but in my opinion the regulations are clear concise and well written. If you are serious about bridge you should read them. For the benefit of Daily Bulletin readers here are some selected excerpts which I feel are of high importance. Direct quotes of ABF text are included in inverted commas.

Players are expected to employ Active Ethics - defined as "the principle that says you should always make sure the opponents know, upon request, as much about your actions (bids, passes or carding signals) as your partner knows, including what you know from the experience of playing with the same partner regularly over a period of time"

A Self Alerting Call is "a call that, because it may have many possible meanings, will usually not be natural-these are doubles, redoubles, cue bids of opponents' suits (including skip cue bids) and all calls above 3NT. During the course of an auction, these bids are not to be alerted (ie do not say 'Alert', and do not circle the bid on the bidding pad)."

Skip bids are bids "that jump one or more levels of the auction. For example, all two and higher level opening bids are skip bids. Skip cue bids, and all skip bids beyond the level of 3NT are self alerting calls. The following skip bids below 3NT are natural and therefore not alertable: (a) Any skip bids below 3NT which show 5+ cards in the suit named by the bid and do not promise a second suit (b) Any skip raises (3+ card support) of partner's suit, except when the supporting hand may have fewer than 8 High Card Points (c) 2NT and 3NT skip bids which, by agreement, suggest a willingness to play the contract in no trumps. All other skip bids from 2C to 3NT-including (but not limited to) transfer skip bids, skip bids which promise a second suit, or conventional bids which specify quantitative support for partner- must be alerted in the normal way."

"Alerts are compulsory - you cannot ask the opponents not to alert. The requirement to alert applies even though the convention, treatment or other agreement may be listed on the system card. **Alerts are made by audibly saying "Alert" and circling the bidding pad or using the alert card.** No explanations should be given unless there is an inquiry from an opponent".

"If a player fails to ask at his/her turn to call about the latest alerted or self alerting call of either opponent, he/she must no longer ask about that specific call, but should instead request an explanation of the entire auction. At the conclusion of any of its auctions that included self alerting calls, the declaring side should offer to give a full explanation of the auction. The defenders are under no such obligation, since by doing so they may convey unauthorised information. Note that declarer may ask about the meaning of any of the opponent's calls whenever it is declarer or dummy's turn to play. Declarers who fail to ask about the meaning of any of the defenders' alerted or self alerting calls shall have no redress."

"If an inquiry is made, a full explanation of the call must be given. This includes any conventional or partnership agreement, whether the agreement is explicit or based on partnership experience. Explanations may well include distributions and point ranges specifically excluded by a call, as well as those shown directly. If there is no partnership agreement as to the meaning of the call, players must say so (by saying 'Undiscussed' for example), and not try to offer a possible explanation. When, however, as a result of partnership experience and style, players are able to form a cogent view of the likely meaning of a undiscussed call, that information shall be given to opponents on request".

"Players should not divulge knowledge or conclusions they have reached based on their own card holdings, or

as a consequence of their general bridge knowledge. Merely to name a convention (e.g. Michaels, Lebensohl, etc.) is not an acceptable explanation. Similarly, the use of “Standard” or “Natural” to describe calls, signals or leads is not acceptable - nor are the terms “Weak”, “Strong” or “Intermediate” - without appropriate qualification”.

“At the start of a round or match, players have a responsibility to inform their opponents of the following information:

- Basic system, including the minimum suit length and strength of one level opening(s);
- Strength and style of the 1NT opening;
- Any unusual two and higher level opening bids. “

Ed. In preparing this article I read the full 5 page regulations and found there was a lot I did not know or had forgotten. ALL the ABF alert regulations are important and should be read. I hope the sections printed above have refreshed your memory or clarified some points.



Fitting the Idea to the Deal

by Michael Courtney

Bridge impressario Zia Mahmood once submitted an imaginative BOLS tip “Whenever an honour is not covered, consider playing for the drop”. Margaret Courtney considered an interesting extension of that idea here:

Board 30, Match 8, Stage 1:

Dealer E Nil Vul

North

Margaret
A96
J53
A964
973

West

Goodall
Q72
64
QT3
KT864

East

Goodall
J10854
KQ2
6
AJ52

South

Michael
K3
A10987
KJ752
Q

West	North	East	South
Goodall	Margaret	Goodall	Michael
		1S	3D(1)
Pass	3S(2)	Pass	3NT
Pass	4H	All Pass	

- (1) A Roman Jump Overcall promising both red suits. Specific two suiters are superior to Michaels cues – responder can judge all their cards. These are usually 5-5, but it is also the practical call in my opinion on a robust 3451,3541.
- (2) All cues in competitive auctions suggest doubt about strain, unless a responsive double is available. Here South’s

sequence – cue then 4H said “perhaps 5D “ rather than “perhaps 6H”

East led a diamond, clearly a singleton. Margaret won the ace over the ten and tried the HJ. This was covered and declarer directly lost a trump a club and a diamond for +420.

Fascinating tale?

Not yet. But Margaret remarked afterwards that if East played low on the JH she was tempted to rise Ace! Fearing losing to the HQ; D ruff; club underlead to the King; D ruff; for one down. Asserting that East would split here with both honours and had not led a top club (therefore did not hold AK) she suggests that playing West for a bare heart honour is the only chance.

It just adds up. East has QJ10xxx, Kxxx, x, AJ for his opener then West with xx, Q, Q10x, Kxxxxxx never really had a convenient call.

I really liked the general idea; With Jxx opposite A109xx play for the drop after a failure to cover if that player is threatening to take ruffs – bare honour offside is probably your only chance. Needless to say I couldn't wait for a hand where these conditions really obtained to try it, but something similar occurred here:

Board 6 Match 9 Stage 1

North

Margaret
AJ9763
A2
85
1065

East

Q4
QJ96
J62
Q732

West

K52
875
Q109743
A

South

Michael
108
K1043
AK
KJ984

West	North	East	South
-	Margaret		Michael
-	-	2D(weak)	2NT
Pass	3H(1)	Pass	3S
Pass	4S	All Pass	

(1) transfer

I won the diamond lead with the ace. Now the problem with the double spade finesses is the club ruffs. Maybe I misguess and either player gets a ruff with clubs 3-2; Maybe East has a singleton and they'll beat me straight away. Besides if East has a stiff club and Kxx trump (indeed whenever he has such trumps) he may rise on the second trump.

So following my wife's suggestion I advanced the S10 at trick two, when West failed to cover (he must with KQx in case partner holds doubleton nine) I rose ace and continued with a low trump. East rose king so I was safe. It only remained to demonstrate that I had not just jettisoned a laydown game to test a novel idea.

Having won the trump king, East cashed the CA, then tried vainly to get partner in with DK. I won, crossed to the heart king and cashed all the trumps but one, discarding my clubs (except K):

J
X

10X

---	---
QJx	xx
---	10x
Qx	---

K10X	

K	

Poor West, yet to discard on the penultimate trump was squeezed. He chose to part with a heart. I ruffed out the hearts and my hand was high. Had he instead discarded a club I would cash the club king to establish dummy. Still it is not quite true that the new trump play had not permitted defeat – If East ducks the second spade, West must find the heart shift to prevail.

PS:
What's Good?

- For tourists – Kings Park, right next to the city is breath taking.
- In bridge books – Everything by Phil King and his dad, all the Abbot series by David Bird (and sometimes Terence Reese).

Michael Courtney

Ed: *For those of you who do not know, Michael Courtney is one of Australia's top rated Bridge players. He and his wife Margaret are presently domiciled in London with their baby daughter, Anna. Michael (who was originally from Perth), Margaret and Anna are presently visiting Perth.*



BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY!

At the conclusion of play a N/S pair were discussing a hand with the caddy standing nearby. North asked South whether it was a good slam. South responded "No, we're missing two Aces". A moment later, they realised the caddy was on her knees searching for the missing cards.



HAND FROM THE PAST

Dealer :S Nil Vul

KQ852
983
A52
J3

J
AQJ7
Q964
AQ76

W	N	E	S
-	-	-	1H
2D	2S	P	2NT
P	3NT	All pass	

West led C10, covered by the jack, king and ace. The SJ was led and ducked. The HQ followed to West's king and dummy's nine. Persisting with clubs, West led the nine which South won with the queen.

What is your plan?

Answer page 6.



Action in Match 3 Butler Stage 2

At favourable vulnerability in fourth seat you hold:

J7 109853 Q86 K65

Your partner opens 1D in second seat and RHO bids 4H. What action should you take?

Some partnerships play negative doubles to 4S (or even higher) but your partnership can double for penalties.

A penalty double is very tempting with five trumps. Leading partner's suit, diamonds, should set the defence rolling with a forcing defence.

On the other hand, it seems likely that partner is void in hearts. If he has, say, a two suiter in the minors, 4H may be making or go one off and 5D could be cold (or down one against a making 4H). If you pass, partner may re-open with 4NT, 5C, 5D or even a double.

Helena Rule was sitting North and elected to double.

Why don't I recognise this hand you say?

Read on.

The bidding continued Pass, Pass and West now bid 4S!? This was passed back to Tony Hutton who, holding

9 AQJ6 A954 10983

smelt a rat.

He correctly diagnosed that West, Leigh Gold (VIC) was 'operating' and had a long spade suit angling to be doubled in 4S.

Tony now bid 5H and everyone passed. The result was down 2 (-100) which was expensive for Leigh Gold and Jamie Ebery as the Butler average was 590 to East/West.

This was Board 22, Match 3

	J7	
	109853	
	Q86	
	K65	
AKQ10653		842
74		K2
-		KJ10732
AJ74		Q2
	9	
	AQJ6	
	A954	
	10983	

CONGRESS RESULTS

MONDAY JULY 12th

Monday Walk - In Pairs

1st J Blight & M Merven
2nd D. Davis & B. Howe
3rd S. Klofa & J. Rasmussen

RICOH SWISS PAIRS

1st D. Sculley & D. Appleton
2nd R. Grund & A. Harris
3rd E. Bennett & C. Ross

=4th C. Matthews & E. Purnell
=4th F. Budia & M. Wilkinson

4th. M. Hopper & V. Vahala
5th. S. Kloffa & D. White

HAND FROM THE PAST SOLUTION

Contract 3NT by North
Lead: Club 10

The full hand was

KQ852
983
A52
J3

A104	9763
K4	10652
KJ1083	7
1094	K852

J
AQJ7
Q964
AQ76

B. J. Becker, one of America's all time great players' was the only declarer to make 3NT.

The play to the first three tricks was C10 to the jack, king and ace. The SJ was allowed to hold and then the HQ lost to the king, the nine being played from dummy.

At trick four declarer won the C9 with the queen and now came the key play - the HA on which declarer threw dummy's eight, unblocking.

The C7 came next. East won with the eight and returned the D7. B. J. played the nine and when West put on the ten he was allowed to hold the trick.

Observe how far-seeing had been declarer's play of the HA for now West had no suitable exit card. He chose to lead the DJ, won by the queen. A diamond to the ace now provided the entry to lead the H3 and finesse the seven for nine tricks.

But for the unblocking plays in hearts, declarer would have been locked in dummy

This hand was played in the USA Master's Individual in 1946

