



# Trumps Update

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## The Bermuda Bowl by Derrick Browne

The flagship event of the World Bridge Federation is the Bermuda Bowl world championship, normally held every two years. It has usually been won by USA or Italy.

In 2005, Italy narrowly defeated defending champions the USA in the final, notching up their 14<sup>th</sup> win – although, surprisingly, their previous time had been 30 years earlier.

Perhaps the most talked-about deal was the freak one below, from the quarter-finals. Argentina reached the making grand slam after the South player made the unusual (unprecedented?) decision not to bid an almost-solid 9-card major!

### NORTH

♠ —  
♥ A 6 4 3  
♦ A K 9 8 3 2  
♣ Q J 2

### WEST

♠ —  
♥ K J 10 9 7  
♦ J 10  
♣ 9 7 6 5 4 3

### EAST

♠ Q 7 5 4  
♥ Q 8 5 2  
♦ 6 4  
♣ K 10 8

### SOUTH

♠ A K J 10 9 8 6 3 2  
♥ —  
♦ Q 7 5  
♣ A

East passed and the Argentinian South opened 2♣. North bid 3♦, a positive response with diamonds, and South bid 5NT, the Grand Slam Force, which in its most basic form asks partner to bid grand slam with two of the top three honours. North did as requested, and 7♦ was the final contract.

(As an aside, it is worth noting that advanced players nowadays commonly use 5NT as “pick a slam”, asking partner to choose what small slam to play in, but that was not the meaning here.)

While a bad spade break defeats 7♠, the diamond grand is an excellent one. East led a trump: against a grand slam it is best to lead passively, so avoid a dangerous lead away from an honour.

North wins this, then plays a diamond to the ♦Q. When both opponents follow, declarer can claim: two rounds of spades can be ruffed to set up the long suit, while the ♣A and a trump are available as entries back to the South hand. The Argentinians scored up +2140 but their American opponents reached the same spot at the other table, so there was no swing.

The players in the victorious Italian team were Fulvio Fantoni-Claudio Nunes; Alfredo Versace-Lorenzo Lauria; Giorgio Duboin-Norberto Bocchi. The runners-up USA1 were Nick Nickell-Dick Freeman; Bob Hamman-Paul Soloway; Jeff Meckstroth-Eric Rodwell.

Much has happened in the years since then. Paul Soloway, the top masterpoint holder till that time, died in 2007 and was cremated with bridge cards in his hand. Fantoni and Nunes replaced Hamman as the world's top-rated players, before being ousted for cheating. Hamman focused on his sports insurance company, most famously fighting Lance Armstrong in court, as portrayed in the movie *The Program* (Hamman's role was played by Dustin Hoffman). And “Meckwell”, arguably the world's leading bridge pairing, broke up when Rodwell refused to play face-to-face bridge due to COVID vaccination requirements.



Thanks for all the messages of love and support following the passing of our dear Gabbie, who helped



run Trumps for so many years, till her "stalker, Mr Parky" (Parkinson's) got the better of her. She passed away 8 October, aged 73.

**Cup Day Tuesday 1 November** will follow the same format as last time: instead of one long session, we will have the regular morning intermediate game (9.50am, \$12/\$15) but an afternoon Cup function (1.20pm, \$20/\$25) with champagne, juice, bbq, sweeps, hats, TVs for the race, etc (please book).



**The Trumps Spring Teams** is to be held Sunday 13 November, and we have reduced the prize that attracts the sharks, and are increasing the refreshments while still having good bridge and congress red points.

Please book in and support this event!



## Masterpoint Promotions (September)

Lydia Gibbs	Bronze Life
Sue Robinson	National
Sally Morton	Bronze State
Merle Payne	State
Rupert Hill	Bronze Regional
Susan Wilkes	Bronze Regional
Graham Blackman	Regional
Carole Vildzius	Silver Local
Nurhan Parker	Silver Local
Thea Whitehouse	Silver Local
Jennifer Rosenthal	Bronze Local
Pamela McGaw	Local
Hanna Lewandowska	Club
Robyn Peutherer	Club
Shane Kelly	Graduate
Janette Stewart	Graduate



***Congratulations!*** See us when you are at Trumps to collect your promotion certificate and token.



**Out now! \$9.95 ea**

# Bidding Forum moderated by Alex Kemeny

You're South with the hand shown. Choose a call then compare with the experts. Trumps Standard bidding. On our panel, Derrick Browne and leading world bridge authorities Barry Rigal and Ron Klinger are joined by Nick Fahrre from The Bridge Shop and NSW representatives Tina Zines, Nick Hughes and Nicoleta Giura.

## East Deals, EW Vulnerable, Pairs Scoring

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		1♥	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	?
	♠ Q10 3		
	♥ Q 7		
	♦ A10 9 3		
	♣ Q 5 3 2		

Votes by our panellists	
CALL	VOTES
2♥	3
1NT	2
2♦	1
2♣	1

**Giura:** 1NT. Time for me to break the rules. My doubleton heart queen will become a stopper if partner has J-x-x, or even a double stopper if they have A-x-x. Many good things might happen, like a non-heart lead. We're not vulnerable (-50 or -100 can even be a good score if they can make 2♥). If this is not the end of the auction, we can even find a better spot.

**Fahrer:** 1NT. Positionally, the *[almost]* stopper is OK and I don't want to bid too high, which might punish partner for "balancing".

*Unlike a non-jump suit bid, 1NT in reply to a double should have some values, about 6 to 10 points, so the hand qualifies, if one can accept the doubleton queen of hearts as a hopeful heart stopper.*

**Rigal:** 2♣. Yes at matchpoints the 1NT call is very attractive but if we can make game partner will act again. So unless partner should have bid 1NT and forgot, I'll settle for bidding my cheapest suit. I am well short of a 3♣ call facing a balancing double and if they bid 2♥ I can try 2NT for the minors.

*I think partner has other ways to balance. Many double in partner's position to show "12+, any shape, but unable to balance with 1NT (11 to 14 points) or 2NT (19 to 20) or a jump new suit bid".*

**Browne:** 2♦. So I can compete to 3♣ later without reversing. This hand has enough HCP to jump, but that risks being too high in what will often be only a 4-3 fit.

*Another possibility is that your next action will be to select dummy's first card in a contract of 2♦!, partner picturing a hand similar to this one but with the diamond ace replaced with a little one.*

*Finally, to those who, maybe, have greater things in mind.*

**Hughes:** 2♥, then probably double-cross partner by passing next round. This cue is normally "forcing to suit agreement" but I'm a passed hand.

**Zines:** 2♥, to show no clear-cut bid and at least moderate values. Will pass partner's rebid.

*On a similar wavelength is:*

**Klinger:** 2♥. Good hand, no clear direction.

*Unfortunately the full hand record has been lost to the mists of time. But, that said, partner will need a very good hand to make the most likely game contract, 3NT. They will need something like S:A-K-x-x, H:A-x-x, D:K-x-x-x, C:K-x to make 3NT viable.*



## Player of the Month

Each month, we take the average of your best **SIX** scores in **Open** matchpoint sessions to decide the month's top achiever

**Kerry Boytell 62%**

*Congratulations!*

## Lessons & events

### Beginner Lessons

10.30am Monday from 17 Oct **or**  
7.30pm Monday from 17 Oct.

### Beginners' training

10am Wednesdays

### Improvers' training

10am Fridays

**Tip (highlighting the 2-over1 system)** then duplicate 7pm Thurs

## Red Points

Usually held 1.20 for 1.30pm  
Wednesdays and Fridays

Also some other times e.g. 7pm  
some Fridays and Sunday teams  
and Xmas Festival (per schedule)



### Trumps publishing:

Check our full range of books, pamphlets, software and other bridge merchandise.

[www.trumps.net.au/about-trumps/trumps-shop](http://www.trumps.net.au/about-trumps/trumps-shop)

## Month winners

To work this out, we take the best three scores by member pairs from the 4 or 5 matchpoint sessions that make up each monthly event. (**Seven pairs** need to have played three or more times for meaningful results)

### Bridge at Manly club (Tuesday morning)

- Dawn Manners and Joan Wheatley

### Tuesday morning

- Charles Thorburn & Shirley Ferrier

### Tuesday afternoon

- Eric Lippey & Kerry Boytell

### Tuesday night

- Sue Craig & Bob Fletcher

### Wednesday afternoon reds (September)

- Eric Lippey & Kerry Boytell

### Wednesday afternoon intermediate

- Graham Blackman & Usha Modi

### Wednesday night

- Anthony Pearce & Gillian Pearce

### Thursday morning

- John Green & David Hutchinson

### Thursday afternoon

- Inge Legge & Marjorie Thomas

### Thursday @ Warringah bowling

- Lindy Smyth & Nigel Bishop

### Saturday afternoon

- Barbara Tootill & Bill Tootill

## Most improved Rating

	Name	Old	New	Gain
1	Suzie Mandelberg	43.83	45.00	1.17
2	Ingrid Fear	46.17	47.33	1.16
3	Elaine Healy	50.81	51.90	1.09
4	John Rendle	57.08	58.12	1.04
5	Marcel Weyland	49.63	50.65	1.02
6	Barbara Huber	54.72	55.61	0.89
7	Alex Matthews	48.95	49.84	0.89
8	Barbara Tootill	55.89	56.74	0.85
9	Pamela Veillard	42.39	43.24	0.85
10	Yvonne Bartels	56.72	57.51	0.79

### Bridge at other venues:

Did you know beside our regular games at Trumps (66 Spit Rd) we also run weekly games at following venues:

#### Social duplicate at RAC, Circular Quay

10.30am Tuesdays

#### Bridge @ The Manly Club

11am Tuesdays

#### Duplicate at Monash, Ingleside

9.30am Thursdays

#### Bridge @ Warringah bowling

1pm Thursdays

#### Balmoral (members only)

## Fill in

Are you available to be called in as a fill-in guest to fill a table? Email or call us with possible days/times/venue(s).

## Online Bridge Funbridge

Search for Trumps under exclusive tournaments.  
Password Trumps

## For members who like classic books:

A player has donated a range of books that belonged to her husband. Trumps members who subscribe to this newsletter are invited to take one. (They are in two boxes in the foyer near the car park)

## Top Rated

	Name	Ratings
1	Kerry Boytell	66.89
2	Alessandro Gado	66.79
3	Eric Lippey	66.58
4	Alex Kemeny	65.54
5	Neil Williams	64.20
6	Kevin Murray	63.89
7	Fay Cooney	63.23
8	Rob Holgate	63.00
9	Tina Strickland	62.69
10	Sue Robinson	62.24

(Members with ABF number who have played 13 times in the last six months are rated).

## What to bid?

Choose your call then compare with the experts (published in next month's edition). Standard bidding and Pairs scoring.

### South Deals, NS Vulnerable, Pairs Scoring

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			Pass
Pass	1♦	3♣	?

♠ K 5  
♥ A 7 6 3 2  
♦ K 8  
♣ 9 8 7 4



# Timetable

## Open Duplicates

	Morning	Afternoon	Night
Mon	9.50* (New format)	1.20*	
Tues	<i>join other game</i>	1.20*	7pm*
Wed		1.15*	7pm*
Thurs	9.50*	1.20*	7pm*
Fri	9.50*	1.20*	7pm*
Sat		1.30	

\*These games start with a short talk.

**Red/gold points** usually 1.20pm Wed & Fridays.

## Supervised

Mon		1.20*	7pm*
Tues	9.50*		
Wed	(lessons)		
Thurs			7pm
Fri	<i>see p5 lessons</i>		
Sat	10am*		

\*Supervised games start with a talk.

(Check bridge at other venues on the previous page for other session times)

# Benefits

## Of Trumps membership

- A monthly update of news, views and tips
- Save \$3 on duplicate sessions at and lessons at Trumps
- Discount on prepaid game vouchers.
- Reciprocal membership rights at Warringah Bowls Mosman Bridge Group, Bridge @ The Manly Club, Social Bridge, Turramurra, Killara & Narrabeen
- Special events for members
- Members' phone book
- We pay your ABF fees if we are your home club (\$10 extra).

## Rights and duties

- We cater for players of all levels
- Use the suggestion box in the main foyer
- Greet your opponents
- Let us know if you are available as a "fill-in" player, to be called in at the last moment (as our guest) if we are short
- Post mortems should never hold up play
- Support those who support bridge! *Australian Bridge* magazine (also in novice edition) and the Bridge Shop. We recommend: Warringah bowling club, The Manly Club, Trans Restaurant, Thai Kanteen, Hotel Mosman, Lok Lok Dumpling Bar, Fourth Village, and Baytree Greenwich.



♠♥ Happy Trumping! ♦♣