



South African Bridge Federation

National Congress Teams 2017

Daily Bulletin # 1

Wednesday 17 May

After a really gruelling All Africa Pairs' Championship, the National Congress Teams got underway on Wednesday 17 May. Here are some photographic mementoes of the first day.

Photo Gallery



The Storm before the Calm – Teams' contestants mill around in the main hall at the Kelvin Grove Club in Newlands, waiting for the seating lists to be posted!



Opi Moedi and Stix Mafa of the Botswana team in a struggle with Carol Grunder (ex-RSA, now resident DRC) and Denise Nordegen of KZN.



Craig Gower and Alon Apteker of Johannesburg, winners of the All Africa Pairs' Championship and soon to be in Lyon as part of the South African team, came up against the ever-smiling Mignon Leigh and Jenny ten Bokum of KZN.



A real international match-up – Swede Paul Welland and his German partner Sabine Auken (both now resident in Copenhagen) against Jean Reitzer (originally Namibia and South Africa (now living in Oz) and Australian Terry Brown.

**We have made changes to Friday's time-table;
see page 4 for details.**

Who's Who

Peter Bircher



Peter started his career in Auditing, then switched to teaching accountancy in the eighties and worked in computers in the nineties'. In 1999 Peter decided to go it alone starting up his consultancy business called AutomatExcel, providing solutions in IT using Excel programming to the corporate world.

He was introduced to bridge in the early 70's and played at the top Durban Clubs from the eighties. He started writing computer programs, first in Lotus and then in Excel (VBA) to grade the members based on their finishing positions for each club session. This developed into a full scoring program, still used by many clubs in Durban and Margate This program was extended to tournament use and after Peter Jackson (national scorer at the time) fell ill, he was brought in to score the Schweppes with 99 tables! And this was before the advent of BridgeMates. Slips were collected and scores for each round were entered.

In 2009 he was asked to score the National Pairs at the Wilderness and has scored a number of Congresses, including the Swiss Teams in Durban in 2015 putting his own program to the test. He currently resides in Margate and is Chairman of the Bridge section of the Margate C.C.



“Tata ma Chance”

Due to printing dead-lines, we can't yet include a hand played in this Teams' event, but here is a hand, contributed by Chris Bosenberg, *pictured here*, that was played during the Zonals". An alert, and very brave, defender really had to "take a chance" to stop declarer making his contract!

Here is the hand:

South in 4 Hearts West leads 5D	9 KJ6 AQ63 KJT32	
J873 5 K8652 A87		AK654 832 J Q954
	QT2 AQT974 T97 6	

West leads the 5D, taken in dummy with the Ace, East dropping his singleton Jack. Declarer calls for the 9S from dummy. What does East do? He *plays low* hoping his partner has the Queen! And declarer also ducks! Wouldn't you?! West finds himself in with the JS and promptly returns a diamond for East to ruff. Then a club to the Ace and another diamond ruff. At this stage, EW run out of steam, but they have already garnered two diamond ruffs, a spade and the AC to defeat the contract by one, for a very good result!

This Bulletin is available in full colour on www.sabf.co.za

Teams' Prelims – Matches 1 and 2

Morning 16 May 2017

Although we can't yet bring you any detailed analyses of hands from Tuesday's play, these three caught my attention.

What is it with Hearts?

Board 12

Dir: W Vul: NS	AJ873 T942 T6 K7	
K952 Q AQJ J9642		T64 - 97543 AQ853
	Q AKJ87653 K82 T	

The dealing wizard says NS can make 4H, but EW can also make 5C – not a sacrifice, but makeable. In your games, how many EW pairs went to 5C? And then, could you resist going to 5H?

Board 17

Dir: e Vul: NS	AQT5 J5 43 QJ874	
J92 4 KQJ765 652		7643 T A98 AKT93
	K8 AKQ987632 T2 -	

5H is a laydown, so I'd imagine that this was a very flat board. But how often do you see a 9-card suit? I'm not sure what the odds are of being dealt this hand. Perhaps someone could enlighten us?

Loki Rules – OK?

Loki, the Norse god of Mischief, sometimes gets up to his tricks with the dealing of boards for tournaments, and here he was at it with Board 16 yesterday!



Dir: W Vul: EW	A32 QJ94 A95 T87	
T8 K52 Q8764 AJ2		K6 AT86 KT KQ643
	QJ9754 73 J32 95	

After 2 passes, East opens 1NT. South passes, and how many Wests do you know who would not bid 3NT holding ten high-card points and long diamonds over the strong (15-17) 1NT opening? The four or five strong players I canvassed all agreed that it's the right bid. Down 1 (-100) is just Loki's way of showing us that while mortals propose, the gods dispose! Did anyone out there get to 5C (+600), a very logical contract looking at the cards? Or, even better, the table-topping 4H (+620)! We'd love to hear from you about your experiences with this hand from Loki's armoury!

Thursday's time-table is unchanged from that in your handbooks!

Friday 19 May Revised Timetable

SECTIONS B, C, D and E FINALS		CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL	
SESSION 1 – START	0930	SESSION 1 – START	0930
SESSION 1 – END	1100	SESSION 1 – END	1105
TEA/COFFEE	1100-1115	TEA/COFFEE	1105-1120
SESSION 2 – START	1115	SESSION 2 – START	1120
SESSION 2 – END	1245	SESSION 2 – END	1300
LUNCH	1245-1415	LUNCH	1300-1415
SESSION 3 – START	1415	SESSION 3 – START	1415
SESSION 3 – END	1545	SESSION 3 – END	1550
TEA/COFFEE	1545-1600	TEA/COFFEE	1550-1605
SESSION 4 – START	1600	SESSION 4 – START	1605
SESSION 4 – END	1730	SESSION 4 – END	1745

The Teams' Prelims Top 26 Leader Board

as at Tuesday 16 May at 1900
after the first 56 boards

#	TEAM	IMPS
1	Minwalla	66.17
2	Eber	62.67
3	Welland	59.24
4	Bernstein	58.89
5	Bjeregaard	56.89
6	Levin	56.14
7	Stabell	54.90
8	Brooke	54.61
9	Omar	54.15
10	Der Kinderen	54.59
11	Brown	49.92
12	Cruise	49.11
13	Grant	48.84
14	Apteker	47.93
15	Mutch	47.80
16	Hewitt	47.63
17	Child	45.74
18	Dornon	45.35
19	Donde	44.62
20	Wilson	44.34
21	Bunker	43.24
22	Rosenberg	43.13
23	Mestern	40.64
24	Curzon	40.10
25	Grotepass	38.72
26	Shepard	38.35

More detailed results can be found
on the S A B F website, www.sabf.co.za

Round 5 Table Assignment

No	Team	Tbl	H/A	Vs
1	Apteker	15	A	41
2	Armstrong	22	H	44
3	Bjerregaard	7	H	22
4	Ashberg	18	A	6
5	Stabell	2	A	9
6	Nick	18	H	4
7	Welland	1	H	21
8	Solovei	23	A	39
9	Eber	2	H	5
10	Gubb	25	A	40
11	Grant	4	H	13
12	Omar	6	A	42
13	Der Kinderen	4	A	11
14	Wilensky	21	A	50
15	Donde	16	H	32
16	Hendler	17	A	46
17	Wilson	8	A	27
18	Mcleod	24	A	33
19	Van Vught	14	H	35
20	Bunker	13	H	52
21	Minwalla	1	A	7
22	Cohn	7	A	3
23	Boreanaz	11	H	31
24	Strydom	19	H	30
25	Brooke	3	H	43
26	Mason	20	A	48

