



SOUTH PERTH DECLARER

April 2023

South Perth Easter Congress

A huge thank you to everyone that provided yummy food for the Easter Congress. The spread was rather impressive and everyone had plenty to consume over the four days.

An even bigger thank you to Rachel McRae, House Manager, who was at the club all day every day to keep the food moving, as well as all the other members that helped out.



Monday – Swiss Teams



1st – Trevor Fuller, Marnie Leybourne, Viv Wood and Tom Lemann



2nd – Stella and James Steer, Gwyneira Brahma and Dave Munro



3rd – Christine Jenkins, Beata Bieganski, Tuyu Cooke and Lilia Male



4th – Marie-France Merven, Rajit el-Hoss, Marie-Christine el-Hoss and Nigel Dutton



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5th – John Beddow, Tad Bieganski, Egmont Melton
And (missing) Andrew Swider

Sunday – Swiss Pairs



1st – Ron Cooper and Jonathan Free



2nd – Leone and Trevor Fuller (with Tony McKinnon)



3rd - Cynthia Belonogoff and
Vinod Nasta



4th – Richard and Sue Grenside



5th – Dave Munro and Gwyneira
Brahma



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Best Under 300MP:
Sheila Bishop and Jenny Walkden

Saturday – Open Pairs



Final:
 1st – Pauline Collett and Martin Doran
 (pictured left with President, Tony McKinnon)
 2nd – David Schokman and Geoff Yeo
 3rd – Jenny Dawson (absent) and Murray Webber, seen below left with Tony McKinnon and convenor Wendy Harman



Plate:
 1st – Joan Valentine and Wendy Harman
 2nd- Danny and Jeannie Ravn
 3rd – Kate Pinniger and Carla Sullivan
 4th- Erik Moller and Gabrielle Bastow





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Qualifying winners:

Cynthia Belonogoff and Val Bilstoft
 And
 John Rigg and Lauren Shiels (left)

Latest Promotions

Bronze National Master:	Hilary Stilling
Regional Master:	David Baccarini
Local Master:	Dominic McKinnon
Club Master:	Rhonda Hulshoff
Graduate Master:	Marie Heavens and Dale Nelligan

Final word

Please make an effort to help clean up at morning and/or afternoon tea and the evening break if it is your turn. You will be on duty only one month a year. Thank you!

Improving your bridge

One of the “fun” hands during the congress cropped up during the Saturday qualifying round:

Dealer: S ♠ -
 Vul: none ♥ Q 4 3
 ♦ A K 9 4
 ♣ A J T 8 4 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ AKQJ8763
 ♥ A 6
 ♦ -
 ♣ K 9 5

Most pairs bid a slam in spades (six in 7S, seven in 6S), making 12 or 13 tricks. Those making only 12 (fortunately for the grand slam bidders, it didn't happen to them) were struck down by that seldom-used gadget called the “Lightener double”. East was void in clubs, so got a ruff and it is surprising that not one defender against 7S found the Lightener double.

Assuming a relatively normal bidding sequence of a Game Force 2C opening by South, followed by a natural and positive bid of 3C by South, once slam was reached, several Easts made a Lightener double, which requires partner to lead something unusual, normally dummy's first bid suit, in this case clubs.

One pair was in 6C (making), which is a terrible score in pairs, however it scored better than the hapless pair in 4S.

The remaining three pairs bid NT. One pair, playing a relay system, knew precise shape and controls, so could count eight spade tricks, three aces and two kings. This added up to 13, so bid the winning 7NT grand slam. They had a fall-back if the spades were 5-0 with the known large club fit.

The results on this board demonstrate the need for many partnerships to learn to collectively count to 13. Surely after a GF opening and a positive response, in any bidding system South can find out that North has two aces and a king, and so can count 13 tricks?! And, in pairs, NT scores better than a suit contract.