



THE ALL AFRICAN National Congress

Kaprey, Apteker well clear of the field

With two rounds of the Swiss to play, the Kaprey team (Imtiaz Kaprey, Martin Grunder, Chris Castelein and Kevin Smith) and the Apteker team (Alon Apteker, Craig Gower, Robert Stevens and Sven Bjerregaard) are well clear of the rest and look certain of their place in the Championship. They play each other this morning.

Teams Ward, Narunski, Pincus and Cruise are all lying handy, with Beinart and Der Kinderen chasing hot on their heels. In fact teams down to 11th may still harbour hopes, if they have a big morning. The fight to make the Congress section looks equally intense with as many as five teams hoping they can pull up into that crucial 12th spot. Good luck.

Team	S. 01		S. 02		S. 03		S. 04		S. 05		S. 06		Total		PEN.	R.
	IMP	V/P	IMP	V/P	IMP	V/P	IMP	V/P	IMP	V/P	IMP	V/P	IMP	V/P		
Kaprey	18	15.37	00	20	21	17.56	02	13.18	00	00	00	126	66.11	0	1	
Apteker	29	17.24	14	14.22	22	15.99	31	17.56	00	00	00	96	65.01	0	2	
Ward	26	18.28	23	20	21	2.44	22	16.91	00	00	00	105	57.63	0	3	
Narunsky	1	11.05	26	20	28	17.24	18	6.82	00	00	00	78	55.11	0	4	
Pincus	2	9.29	15	14.46	25	16.55	8	12.9	00	00	00	47	53.20	0	5	
Cruise	31	17.56	1	11.38	29	2.76	47	19.54	00	00	00	53	51.24	0	6	
Beinart	2	10.71	14	14.22	15	5.54	14	18	00	00	00	35	48.47	0	7	
Der Kinderen	3	11.05	14	5.78	20	15.58	18	15.15	00	00	00	27	47.56	0	8	
Donde	20	15.58	20	17.08	22	4.01	9	7.1	00	00	00	17	43.77	0	9	
Thomas	33	17.86	1	8.62	15	14.46	21	2.44	00	00	00	13	43.38	0	10	
Bernstein	11	20	23	0	1	9.64	12	13.71	00	00	00	-1	43.35	0	11	
Bradley	21	2.44	6	10	6	12.01	11	16.18	00	00	00	-2	40.63	0	12	
Collinge	22	15.99	28	2.92	24	18	27	3.09	00	00	00	1	40.00	0	13	
Keet	24	3.63	1	8.95	6	7.99	41	18.9	00	00	00	8	39.47	0	14	
Esmail	24	16.37	14	5.78	1	10.36	18	4.85	00	00	00	-7	37.36	0	15	
Van Vught	23	2.14	6	10	20	13.18	6	12.01	00	00	00	-17	37.33	0	16	
Leigh	29	2.76	1	11.05	18	15.15	6	7.99	00	00	00	-14	36.95	0	17	
Grunder	3	7.99	22	17.71	25	3.45	12	6.29	00	00	00	-11	35.44	0	18	
Grant	4	12.01	26	0	10	6.82	18	15.37	00	00	00	-41	34.20	0	19	
Balderson	12	13.71	26	0	25	3.45	22	15.99	00	00	00	-57	33.15	0	20	
Shepard	20	4.42	10	6.82	18	18.54	24	2	00	00	00	-26	31.78	0	21	
Foaden	2	8.95	15	5.54	25	16.55	17	0.46	00	00	00	-40	31.50	0	22	
Nick	11	0	1	10.36	10	6.82	1	12.31	00	00	00	-63	29.49	0	23	
Bryant	2	8.95	20	2.29	23	13.18	21	3.82	00	00	00	-48	28.24	0	24	
Teaman	12	6.29	11	6.55	18	4.85	7	7.69	00	00	00	-48	25.38	0	25	
Francis	18	4.63	11	13.45	24	2	12	4.63	00	00	00	-61	24.71	0	26	

Play links for Friday

Find the play links for today on the SABF website. There will be three separate links for today's play. One for this morning's final two rounds of the Swiss, and new links for the round robin: one for the A & B sections and one for the C & D sections who are playing different numbers of boards.

In addition, for results, bulletins, and all important notices, see <https://www.sabf.co.za/all-african-national-congress>

Find the Kibitzers website at <https://kibitz.realbridge.online/>

For conditions of contest, see https://www.sabf.co.za/_files/ugd/81ad55_aa0d139b6dd74e0a-831f4a375d93b85b.pdf

Drop me a hand either by email at frank.chemaly@inl.co.za or by WhatsApp on 083 230 5629

Swiss Qualifications - Round 5 draw

Match = 12 Boards in 90 min

Apteker	Vs	Kaprey
Donde	Vs	Thomas
Grant	Vs	Balderson
Narunsky	Vs	Ward
Cruise	Vs	Beinart
Pincus	Vs	Der Kinderen
Bernstein	Vs	Bradley
Keet	Vs	Collinge
Hingle	Vs	Solovei
Leigh	Vs	Grunder
Shepard	Vs	Foaden
Francis	Vs	Nick
Van Vught	Vs	Esmail
Bryant	Vs	Teaman

Player Profile



Bruce Wang

How did you start playing? I started to learn in 1985 in my first year in university. One of my roommates bought a book from library on how to play bridge and we started to learn and play. I guess at that time the fact that China's leader Deng Xiaoping played bridge is another reason .

What do you enjoy most about the game? As an engineering graduate, I like minds sport. The game has a good balance between intelligence and luck, the most importantly, you need calm down and have the right attitude.

How long have you been playing? 37 years, but from 1992- 2004 I played very little.

Result you're most proud of?

I played for Guizhou province of China in 2015.

First success? In 1986, as beginner we won the university championship.

Bridge in the family? I taught my son and played bridge together. I taught him lead the smallest of three or five. Once he led small from Axx and it worked, but now he always does this. Most time it was a bad score.

Any tips that have served you well? Thinking for 30 seconds then start.

Which bridge book really inspired you? How to Read Your Opponents' Cards by Mike Lawrence.

Other interests? Mathematics. For 5 years I tutored maths at a training institute on weekends as a second job.

Your favourite colour? Black

Your favourite food/drink? Fish and tea

Your favourite book/movie? Tao Te Ching (by Lao Tzu) / Lifetimes Living by Zhang Yimou

Besides bridge, your favourite sport?

Table tennis now and soccer before that.

Anything you'd like to add? I am very happy to play online and meet old friends in South Africa. I left Johannesburg in 2015, I miss you all.

Carol's Corner

Drawing trumps for one loser



By Carol Stanton

North/South, land up in a 6♣ contract on Board 20. On our table, South opened 1♣ as we play a 14-16 NT. North bids 1♦ which shows 4+♥ and South now bids 1NT which shows 17-18. North bids 2♠, which for us is game force checkback asking partner to describe their major suit holding.

When South bids 2♠ showing 4 cards in spades and a doubleton heart, North started to hear the slam bells, there is a chance depending on which cards South holds. North now bids 3♠ which is a stronger bid than just jumping to 4♠, slow bidding always shows more values than just jumping to game.

This 3♠ bid indicates that North is interested in slam and cue bidding should continue and South obliges by bidding 4♣, South's first available cue bid. North doesn't have a diamond cue but does have a heart cue so she bids 4♥. South takes control and asks for key cards. After hearing 1 key card many a North/South landed up in 6♣.

West of course listened carefully to the bidding and heard North denying a diamond cue and so from QJT led the Q.

All good declarers after an opening lead take some time to evaluate the lead and they all soon realised that there is 1 loser in the diamond suit and a slight problem with the spade suit as the King and the Ten are missing. South can't afford to duck the diamond as the lack of the King of spades is a serious concern.

You do, however, have chances to get rid of it. The best option is to ditch a diamond from the North hand on a club. Most declarers did this, after 3 rounds of clubs the diamond is gone and fortunately, no one ruffed a club.

Things are looking good. This is teams after all so you can afford 1 loser in spades. The question is, how do you play the spades?

Missing the King and the Ten, can you afford to finesse a spade? Finessing the spade loses every time the spades break 4-1 or the King and the 10 are together in the East hand.

N	North
♠	A754
♥	KQJ107
♦	74
♣	K9
S	South
♠	QJ96
♥	A6
♦	A63
♣	AQ53

There is a sure-fire way to play this hand. You have to plop the Ace of spades on the table. In fact, it is probably best to do this before you play the clubs. Find out what is going on in the spade suit and then discard the diamond on the clubs. If you play the ace of spades and then lead low to your QJ you will be able to cater for a 4-1 break if East has 4♣, you will land up only losing 1 ♠ if East has KTx, and if the king is a singleton and there are 4 spades in the West hand you are still protected, this was the case.

The pairs who plopped that Ace of spades on the table were all rewarded with the death of the singleton King in the East hand. QJ could now be played and the hearts run to make 6♣.

Declarers who tried to finesse for the king lost two spades and went down 1. The lesson being Axxx opposite QJ9x should be played for 1 loser by playing the Ace first and then low to the QJ.

<p>♠ J1064 ♥ KQJ95 ♦ J6 ♣ J3</p> <p>♠ K8532 ♥ – ♦ AQ32 ♣ K854</p> <p>♠ Q7 ♥ 1087632 ♦ 87 ♣ Q107</p>	<p>♠ A9 ♥ A4 ♦ K10954 ♣ A962</p>	<p>Board 26 Dealer E All Vul</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>NT</td> <td>♠</td> <td>♥</td> <td>♦</td> <td>♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>6</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>6</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>7</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>7</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </table> <p>Par -1370 6♦=EW</p> <p>NS: 9 + 4 = 13 HCP EW: 15 + 12 = 27 HCP</p>		NT	♠	♥	♦	♣	N	2	2	6	1	1	S	2	2	6	1	1	E	10	11	7	12	12	W	10	11	7	12	12
	NT	♠	♥	♦	♣																											
N	2	2	6	1	1																											
S	2	2	6	1	1																											
E	10	11	7	12	12																											
W	10	11	7	12	12																											

Playing with a 30-point deck

By Robert Stevens

There were so many different results on Board 26 and it all comes down to partnership understanding.

In most cases East opened 1nt either 15-17 pr 14-16 pass and West made a transfer to spades and North doubled. This is where partnership agreement needs to come in. Typically in the most common agreement, pass shows a doubleton spade while completing the transfer or breaking as usual would show three etc. If it goes pass and south passes have a few options as West - some might bid diamonds, some might bid clubs, some might make some cue bid of three hearts.

In one room East completed the transfer with 2s and West went beserk assuming there was a spade fit. So it's important to establish that partner's got a doubleton spade here.

Some of the rooms South now bid 3h and West doubled for take out and was left there and East West collected their 800.

At our table they bid 4H, I again doubled which Sven could have left in and we could have collected 1100, but Sven arrived with 4nt, a scramble basically implying both minors in this case. My hand, I felt, was too big for just five clubs or five diamonds, so I bid 5nt as a further pick-a-slam scramble. After which Sven bid 6D

I think the West hand is stronger than

it would be normally once the hearts get doubled, as those are obviously values that partner won't have for the 1nt opening. In a sense you are almost dealing with a 30-point pack. Partner could have something wasted in hearts, but even in this case, with the ace of hearts completely wasted, it's a pretty good slam.

Also your spades with King to five looks pretty good if partner's got a doubleton queen or ace. So it's just a matter of finding a fit in a minor and you should have pretty good ambitions

I think if it goes 2h, double, pass, pass you should redouble to reinstate system. Partner now bids 2s and you're back to normal and a new suit by you is forcing. If you don't redouble then 3c or 3d is non forcing, probably five spades and five of a minor. Knowing partner has a doubleton space, you can work out you've probably got a fit in a minor and it may play better there. This would be a weak hand with five spades and five diamonds or five spades and five clubs.

If West does introduce diamonds after the transfer, some Easts might have bid 3nt, but east is certainly worth 4d. Also partner with only a single heart stopper should be looking to avoid 3nt here.

On the actual hand, the West hand may only be a 12 count opposite a strong no trump, but as soon as there's a fit in any suit, the hand is pretty powerful and you should be considering looking for slam.

Player Profile



Alison Puggia

I started playing about 12 years ago, after being encouraged by my mother, who said I should learn to play while I was still 'young'. The reference to age was soon put into context when I joined the club. I was indeed one of the youngest.

Des Duckitt was my teacher and his patience and encouragement paid off.

I love bridge because it's filled a gap in my life. I've met some amazing people and had loads of fun competing in tournaments in small towns, like Bedford, Hankey and St Francis Bay. These are always well supported and while fiercely competitive there's, as much emphasis on having a good time.

I've enjoyed online bridge playing with people in different provinces and making new acquaintances.

When I'm not playing bridge I enjoy being outside. The sea, sun, tennis, cycling, hiking are my favourites.

My favourite holiday destination is Kruger National Park for the birds, the trees, the wildlife, and unforgettable sunrises and sunsets.

Favourite book is Don't let's go to the Dogs Tonight by Alexandra Fuller. Most books set in Africa appeal to me but I love Fuller's style.

Food? I Love good food and wine. Curries, prawns and steaks tick all the boxes.

Current bridge objective: We are working really hard to attract new players to the game. Through our club we have introduced a beginners programme and 22 prospective players have joined. The majority have embarked on their third set of lessons. They are so enthusiastic. It's a privilege to be a part of their journey. We hope to grow this.

Lastly ... My mother once lent me a bridge book which was literally falling apart and I don't recall the title or the author but there was one line that is etched in memory - Cherish your partner.

How much is your hand really worth?

By Glen Holman

There were three hands today that I found interesting. The first was a valuation question.

On board 8 as North you hold AK6, AJ97642, K9, 9. Before we go any further it should be noted that with K9 your holding in diamonds really is a dog. But how big is the North hand? Only 15 points, but clearly that is an underestimate. If you count your long suit points, then 1 for the 5th heart and 2 (or more) for the each of the next 2 gets this hand up to 20. If I count my short suit points, then I am only up to 18.



Bd 8, Dir W 6♥+1 N		N ROZ BERNSTEIN Other table 4♥+2 N	
♠ AK6 ♥ AJ97642 ♦ K9 ♣ 9	♠ 743 ♥ 853 ♦ AQ82 ♣ 753	♠ 52 ♥ Q ♦ J654 ♣ K108642	W N E S P 1♥ P 1♠ P 4♥ P 4NT P 5♥ P 6♥ P P P
W Wendy Praetorius	♠ QJ1098 ♥ K10 ♦ 1073 ♣ AQJ	Sharon Lang S	

When partner bids 1 spade, this did not hurt your hand at all. There is no perfect follow up bid. If you bid 4 hearts it is pretty unilateral and effectively rules out a spade contract. 3 hearts seems to understate the value of the hand and all spade raises could see you playing in a bad 4-3 fit. I have to admit I am a 4 heart bidder.

At many of the tables North rebid 2 hearts and at many of the others, South did not offer a cuebid after partner's 3 hearts.

A number of Easts tried a weak 3 club jump overcall. Not for the faint of hearted. This would go down 800. However, it is notoriously difficult to penalize these actions.

Only 4 of the 28 tables got to 6 hearts and another 3 got to 6 spades, one aided by the 3 club jump overcall. The auction I liked the best was Roz Bernstein and Sharon Lang. Sharon opened 1 heart and jumped to 4. Roz keycarded and slam was reached.

On board 13 there were surprisingly 9 pairs that could not find their way to the icy slam. However, the hard luck case was

Bd 13, Dir N 7♠-1 E		N Carol Grunder Other table 6♠= W	
♠ AK1063 ♥ KQ97 ♦ AK8 ♣ A	♠ J2 ♥ 4 ♦ Q7654 ♣ KQ1083	♠ Q854 ♥ A853 ♦ 103 ♣ J97	W N E S P P P P 2♣ P 2♠ P 4NT P 5♣ P 5♦* P 5NT P 7♠ P P P
W John Bryant	♠ 97 ♥ J1062 ♦ J92 ♣ 6542	Erica Zimet S	

John Bryant and Mark Kenyon bidding the wonderful 7 spades and going down 1 when hearts did not split.

On board 37 there were 9 pairs who did not bid 3nt. The question is reasonably straightforward. You pass. The hand on your left bids 1 diamond and partner overcalls 1 spade. Do you bid 1 nt with the opener's suit over your KJxx? Atimps I think you must. This however was not as straightforward as one would think. 5 Souths decided to double instead of bidding 1 spade. They were never missing a game.

One pair got there when North passed the overcall and East balanced. The auction that I expected to be had at almost all tables was P, 1D, 1S, P, 1NT, P, 3NT all pass. This only happened at 10 of our 28 tables. Maybe this is why we all keep coming back.

Bd 37, Dir N 3NT+2 N		N Val Bloom Other table 3NT= N	
♠ 83 ♥ 1098652 ♦ 86 ♣ 1086	♠ 94 ♥ KJ73 ♦ KJ52 ♣ J32	♠ K762 ♥ 4 ♦ A10943 ♣ AK4	W N E S P P 1♦ 1♠ P 1NT P 3NT P P P
W Brian Pincus	♠ AQJ105 ♥ AQ ♦ Q7 ♣ Q975	jeff sapire E neville eber S	