

Bulletin number 1 SABF Trials 2025

The 1st day of the Women's trials has been completed and 3 of 5 matches (16 boards each) have been played. The Bernstein team has a sizeable lead but with 2 matches to go, anything can happen. On completion of the round robin tomorrow, the team lying last will be eliminated and the remaining 4 teams will play a semi-final knockout. There will be a carry-over based on the round robin results, so everyone has something to play for.

All the results, hand records, entrants, convention cards, bulletins and match schedules can be seen on the SABF website.

♠♥♣♦ SABF Women's Teams Trials 2025 ♠♥♣♦

Round Robin (16 board matches) 23 - 24 February

| Team #: | Name | Total VPs | Pen | Pos. | Match 1 | | | | Match 2 | | | | Match 3 | | | |
|---------|------------|-----------|-----|------|---------|------|------------|-------|---------|------|------------|-------|---------|------|------------|------|
| | | | | | vs. | IMPs | IMP diff | VPs | vs. | IMPs | IMP diff | VPs | vs. | IMPs | IMP diff | VPs |
| 2 | Bernstein | 45.75 | | 1 | 4 | 61 | <u>46</u> | 18.77 | 5 | 52 | <u>16</u> | 14.18 | 3 | 25 | <u>10</u> | 12.8 |
| 4 | Foaden | 30.68 | | 2 | 2 | 15 | <u>-46</u> | 1.23 | 3 | 58 | <u>35</u> | 17.45 | 6 | | | 12 |
| 1 | Nestoridis | 29.87 | | 3 | 3 | 13 | <u>-30</u> | 3.27 | 6 | | | 12 | 5 | 33 | <u>18</u> | 14.6 |
| 3 | Hewit | 26.48 | | 4 | 1 | 43 | <u>30</u> | 16.73 | 4 | 23 | <u>-35</u> | 2.55 | 2 | 15 | <u>-10</u> | 7.2 |
| 5 | Zimet | 23.22 | | 5 | 6 | | | 12 | 2 | 36 | <u>-16</u> | 5.82 | 1 | 15 | <u>-18</u> | 5.4 |
| 6 | Bye | | | | 5 | | | | 1 | | | | 4 | | | |

Schedules for 24 February

Women's Schedule

| Match 4 | Match 5 |
|--|---|
| 16 | 16 |
| 24-Feb | 24-Feb |
| 09h30-11h30 | 11h45-13h45 |
| 4. Foaden vs Nestoridis 2. Bernstein - Bye 5. Zimet vs Hewit | 2. Bernstein 1. Nestoridis 3. Hewit - Bye 4. Foaden vs 5. Zimet |

Open Schedule

The Open teams are playing a double round robin (20 board matches) with lots of byes to eliminate 1 team. This will be followed by a final knockout. The schedule for tomorrow is below.

| | RR1 Match 1 | RR1 Match 2 | RR1 Match 3 |
|---------|--|--|--|
| Boards | 20 | 20 | 20 |
| Date | 24-Feb | 24-Feb | 24-Feb |
| Time | 09h30-12h00 | 12h00-14h30 | 15h30-18h00 |
| Matches | 2. Grant vs 3. Cruise 1. Eber - bye | 1. Eber vs 2. Grant 2. Cruise - Bye | 1. Eber vs 3. Cruise 2. Grant - Bye |

Pre-empt

| | |
|---|----------|
| ♠ | J9 |
| ♥ | 76 |
| ♦ | AQJ86542 |
| ♣ | 6 |

With both sides vulnerable, and you to open. What is your choice?

1 pair opened 5♦, 1 pair 4♦, 1 pair 3♦ and 1 pair 1♦.

It is interesting to see how each action worked out.

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| 10 ^D | N foaden ♠ 3 ♥ KQJ103 ♦ 109 ♣ K10983 | W N E S P P 5♦ P | 10 ^D | N microz ♠ 3 ♥ KQJ103 ♦ 109 ♣ K10983 | W N E S 2♣ 1♦ 2♣ P X P P P |
| W deebee2 ♠ AQ10642 ♥ 9854 ♦ K3 ♣ J | E Shai007 ♠ J9 ♥ 76 ♦ AQJ86542 ♣ 6 | W peta_b ♠ AQ10642 ♥ 9854 ♦ K3 ♣ J | E FRANKIEJ ♠ J9 ♥ 76 ♦ AQJ86542 ♣ 6 | S kangy ♠ K875 ♥ A2 ♦ 7 ♣ AQ7542 | S sharrie ♠ K875 ♥ A2 ♦ 7 ♣ AQ7542 |
| 5♦ E NS: 0 EW: 0 | | 5♦x E NS: 0 EW: 0 | | | |

In the Bernstein vs Foaden match, the full-blooded 5♦ opening worked well when South led the A♥ and continued. North decided to play a third round of hearts which was not successful when East ruffed high, drew trumps and threw away her club loser. It looks better to hope that declarer does not have 2 aces for her pre-empt and switch to a club. In the other room, the correct defence was found when North switched to a club after winning the first 2 heart tricks.

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | N hewey7 ♠ 3 ♥ KQJ103 ♦ 109 ♣ K10983 | W N E S P 4♦ P P P P P | | N symigirl ♠ 3 ♥ KQJ103 ♦ 109 ♣ K10983 | W N E S P P 3♦ P |
| | W carol2007 ♠ AQ10642 ♥ 9854 ♦ K3 ♣ J | E Supervan ♠ J9 ♥ 76 ♦ AQJ86542 ♣ 6 | | W Tan 18 ♠ AQ10642 ♥ 9854 ♦ K3 ♣ J | E sweetpea50 ♠ J9 ♥ 76 ♦ AQJ86542 ♣ 6 |
| | S trishc ♠ K875 ♥ A2 ♦ 7 ♣ AQ7542 | S lvsrn ♠ K875 ♥ A2 ♦ 7 ♣ AQ7542 | | 5♠ S NS: 0 EW: 0 | 3♦ E NS: 0 EW: 0 |

In the Hewitt versus Nestoridis match, in the 1st room East elected to open 4♦ which was passed round to North who made a strange bid of 4NT indicating 2 places to play. Why strange? With only 9 high card points it looks unusual to commit to the 5 level particularly if partner prefers Hearts. If you are going to bid, it looks like a better bet to bid 4♥ and hope that partner has some support. Even more strange was South's decision to bid only 5♣. If partner is willing to go to 5 level, surely there must be some play for slam. 5♣ was the limit of the hand. I can only say 'well done'.

In the other room, we see the opposite evaluation of the North hand. Here the 3♦ pre-empt worked very well making 9 tricks. North decided with only 9 high card points that game was unlikely. Why didn't South bid over 3♦? N/S were playing a convention called non-leaping Michaels and 4♣ would have shown at least 5-5 in Clubs and a major. Maybe South should have made a takeout double over 3♦.

Double or Overcall

| | |
|---|-------|
| ♠ | AJ97 |
| ♥ | AKJ52 |
| ♦ | |
| ♣ | K432 |

Not vul vs vul, your right-hand opponent opens 1♦. Do you overcall 1♥ or make a takeout double?

Overcalling 1♥ has the advantage that if opponents compete in diamonds (which you expect) you can then make a takeout double. This gets across your 5-card major and if the bidding permits,

you will be able to show support for the other suits. It is more likely that partner has 3 Hearts than 4 or more spades. If you double first and opponents compete in diamonds, you will have to double again and may miss your 5-3 fit.

| | |
|---|--------|
| ♠ | 632 |
| ♥ | 964 |
| ♦ | K10654 |
| ♣ | J5 |

Only 1 player doubled and this gave her partner a problem with the adjacent hand when the next hand passed. She elected to pass the double. This did not paralyze declarer who wrapped up 1DX with 2 vulnerable overtricks to score +540.

To pass a 1 level contract in this position, you need to have an excellent holding in opponent's suit (diamonds), preferably with no holes. For example, QJ109XX would be a suitable holding. The above hand should take its medicine and bid 1♥.

Penalty Doubles of Partscores

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| 12 W Tan 18 ♠ 8 ♥ AKQ87 ♦ 9743 ♣ 1065 | N foaden ♠ KQ9762 ♥ 63 ♦ ♣ K8432 | W N E S I have hearts 2♦ P 2♥ X 2♠ X P P P | 12 W nicolap ♠ 8 ♥ AKQ87 ♦ 9743 ♣ 1065 | N rixi181 ♠ KQ9762 ♥ 63 ♦ ♣ K8432 | W N E S P 2♠ P P 3♥ P P 3♠ P P X P P P |
| | S kangy ♠ J3 ♥ 1095 ♦ QJ105 ♣ AQ97 | E sweetpea50 ♠ A1054 ♥ J42 ♦ AK862 ♣ J | | S swentzel ♠ J3 ♥ 1095 ♦ QJ105 ♣ AQ97 | |
| | 2x N NS: 0 EW: 0 | | | 3x N NS: 0 EW: 0 | |
| | | | | | |

2 pairs came a cropper when they disobeyed a very important principle. Always bid to the limit in your own suit before doubling opponents in their suit. In the first auction, West's double of South's pass or correct 2♥ bid showed hearts. When North corrected to 2♠, East decided to double when she should have bid

some number of hearts. In the second auction, East doubled 3♠ when it should have been clear to bid 4♥. Spade contracts made 9 tricks with loss of many imps when East/West could make 4♥.

| <table border="1"> <tr> <td>♠ 12</td> <td> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>N</th> <td>hewey7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>KQ9762</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>K8432</td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table> | | ♠ 12 | <table border="1"> <tr> <th>N</th> <td>hewey7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>KQ9762</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>K8432</td> </tr> </table> | N | hewey7 | ♠ | KQ9762 | ♥ | 63 | ♦ | | ♣ | K8432 | <table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♥</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | | W | N | E | S | P | 1♠ | 2♦ | P | 2♥ | 2♠ | P | P | 5♦ | P | P | X | P | P | P | | <table border="1"> <tr> <th>E</th> <td>FRANKIEJ</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>A1054</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>J42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td>AK862</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>J</td> </tr> </table> | E | FRANKIEJ | ♠ | A1054 | ♥ | J42 | ♦ | AK862 | ♣ | J |
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| N | hewey7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ | KQ9762 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ | 63 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ | K8432 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| W | N | E | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P | 1♠ | 2♦ | P | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2♥ | 2♠ | P | P | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5♦ | P | P | X | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P | P | P | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | FRANKIEJ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ | A1054 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ | J42 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ | AK862 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ | J | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <td>peta_b</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>AKQ87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td>9743</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>1065</td> </tr> </table> | | W | peta_b | ♠ | 8 | ♥ | AKQ87 | ♦ | 9743 | ♣ | 1065 | <table border="1"> <tr> <th>S</th> <td>trishc</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♠</td> <td>J3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♥</td> <td>1095</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♦</td> <td>QJ105</td> </tr> <tr> <td>♣</td> <td>AQ97</td> </tr> </table> | S | trishc | ♠ | J3 | ♥ | 1095 | ♦ | QJ105 | ♣ | AQ97 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| W | peta_b | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ | AKQ87 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ | 9743 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ | 1065 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | trishc | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ | J3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ | 1095 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ | QJ105 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ | AQ97 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 5♦x E NS: 0 EW: 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

On the same hand, Peta Balderson and Jenny Gautschi got to 5♦ doubled as E/W. South must have been licking her lips seeing that she has 3 tricks in her own hand and partner has opened the bidding. Can you blame her for not leading the A♣? It was fatal as declarer ended up losing only 2 diamond

tricks. East's club was discarded on the hearts when South had to follow to 3 rounds of that suit.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------|----------|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| D | 8 | N hewey7 | W | N | E | S |
| | | ♠ 862 | P | P | 1NT | P |
| | | ♥ 543 | 2♦ | P | 2♥ | P |
| | | ♦ Q632 | 2NT | P | P | P |
| | | ♣ Q63 | | | | |
| W | microz | | E | sharrie | | |
| | ♠ A3 | | | ♠ 9754 | | |
| | ♥ A9876 | | | ♥ KJ | | |
| | ♦ 754 | | | ♦ KJ8 | | |
| | ♣ J104 | | | ♣ AK52 | | |
| | | S trishc | | | | |
| | | ♠ KQJ10 | | | | |
| | | ♥ Q102 | | | | |
| | | ♦ A109 | | | | |
| | | ♣ 987 | | | | |
| | | | 2NT E | | NS: 0 | EW: 0 |

Roz Bernstein and Sharon Lang were the only pair to stay out of this poor 3NT contract. Yes, West has a very good 9 count with a 5-card suit opposite a strong NT, but if partner does not have 3 hearts, game is unlikely to be a good bet unless partner is maximum. All the other pairs transferred to hearts and then bid 3NT which could not make. I think Roz judged well especially as this was a non-vulnerable game. It was worth 6 imps to her side when she made 8 tricks.

Good luck to everyone tomorrow!

We are hoping to broadcast the Open and Women's final on BBO on 25 and 26 February. Please support our pairs by logging into BBO and watching VuGraph.

Bernard Donde