



South African Trials

Bulletin: Number 2
Editor: Deirdre Ingersent

Day 1 and 4 out of 11 matches have been completed. There were lots of swingy boards which will be discussed below.

Front runners in the open are Eber/Fick, Apteker/Stephens and Apteker/Gower

In the women the leaders are Bateman/Bloom, Balkin/Izerel and Foaden /Kenny

Bateman/Bloom and Balkin/Izerel will be facing each other in the third match tomorrow and it will be interesting to see their results.

There is still a long way to go and remember that to qualify for the final, coming 8th or better will suffice. It's important to remember that there will be a 75% carryover from the 1st round robin, so every match counts.

Results after 4 rounds

OPEN QUALIFIERS – RESULTS BY ROUND

Players	Rank	TOTAL VPs	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4	
			IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs
Neville Eber & Hennie Fick	1	56.38	2	10.71	13	13.97	18	15.15	25	16.55
Noah Apteker & Rob Stephens	2	52.08	BYE	12.00	6	12.01	24	16.37	5	11.70
Alon Apteker & Craig Gower	3	46.60	27	16.91	-6	7.99	12	13.71	-6	7.99
Kevin Smith & Chris Castelein	4	40.75	-13	6.03	BYE	12.00	2	10.71	6	12.01
James Grant & Larry Chemaly	5	40.56	13	13.97	-5	8.30	-12	6.29	BYE	12.00
Duncan Keet & Jude Apteker	6	40.03	7	12.31	-5	8.30	-24	3.63	21	15.79
Andrew Cruise & Saul Burman	7	39.52	-18	4.85	-19	4.63	20	15.58	15	14.46
Michael Alexander & Anton Der Kinderen	8	38.53	-2	9.29	5	11.70	BYE	12.00	-15	5.54
Imtiaz Kaprey & Paul Reynolds	9	34.68	18	15.15	-13	6.03	-2	9.29	-21	4.21
Glen Holman & David Beinart	10	31.61	-27	3.09	19	15.37	-18	4.85	-5	8.30
Brian Pincus & Diniar Minwalla	11	27.26	-7	7.69	5	11.70	-20	4.42	-25	3.45

WOMEN QUALIFIERS - RESULTS BY ROUND

Players	Rank	TOTAL VPs	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4	
			IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs	IMPS	VPs
Nicola Bateman & Val Bloom	1	57.94	BYE	12.00	17	14.93	31	17.56	11	13.45
Diana Balkin & Sharon Izerel	2	55.26	1	10.36	9	12.90	61	20.00	BYE	12.00
Jennifer Foaden & Renee Kenny	3	46.76	12	13.71	2	10.71	-11	6.55	21	15.79
Dianne Penlington & Glynis Dornon	4	44.30	11	13.45	-2	9.29	8	12.61	-3	8.95
Carol Grunder & Jill Rabie	5	42.19	-1	9.64	BYE	12.00	11	13.45	-9	7.10
Sharon Lang & Lotte Sorensen	6	41.09	-13	6.03	-9	7.10	27	16.91	3	11.05
Mary Mutch & Erica Zimet	7	35.64	-11	6.55	18	15.15	-8	7.39	-11	6.55
Janne Masojada & Tanya Rawson	8	34.07	13	13.97	11	13.45	-31	2.44	-21	4.21
Bev Hewitt & Trish Crosse	9	31.42	11	13.45	-17	5.07	-61	0.00	9	12.90
Zela Stern & Carol Stanton	10	29.81	-12	6.29	-18	4.85	-27	3.09	20	15.58
Peta Balderson & Jennifer Gautschi	11	29.52	-11	6.55	-11	6.55	BYE	12.00	-20	4.42

Fixtures for 15 April

OPEN TRIALS

Mon 15-Apr 11:30	5	BYE		KEET, Duncan	APTEKER, Jude	
		1	CRUISE, Andrew	BURMAN, Saul	APTEKER, Alon	GOWER, Craig
		2	SMITH, Kevin	CASTELEIN, Chris	EBER, Neville	FICK, Hennie
		3	GRANT, James	CHEMALY, Larry	HOLMAN, Glen	BEINART, David
		4	ALEXANDER, Michael	DER KINDEREN, Anton	KAPREY, Imtiaz	REYNOLDS, Paul
		5	PINCUS, Brian	MINWALLA, Diniar	APTEKER, Noah	STEPHENS, Rob
Mon 15-Apr 14:30	6	BYE		APTEKER, Alon	GOWER, Craig	
		1	HOLMAN, Glen	BEINART, David	KAPREY, Imtiaz	REYNOLDS, Paul
		2	ALEXANDER, Michael	DER KINDEREN, Anton	PINCUS, Brian	MINWALLA, Diniar
		3	KEET, Duncan	APTEKER, Jude	EBER, Neville	FICK, Hennie
		4	GRANT, James	CHEMALY, Larry	CRUISE, Andrew	BURMAN, Saul
		5	APTEKER, Noah	STEPHENS, Rob	SMITH, Kevin	CASTELEIN, Chris
Mon 15-Apr 16:00	7	BYE		KAPREY, Imtiaz	REYNOLDS, Paul	
		1	EBER, Neville	FICK, Hennie	CRUISE, Andrew	BURMAN, Saul
		2	GRANT, James	CHEMALY, Larry	APTEKER, Noah	STEPHENS, Rob
		3	APTEKER, Alon	GOWER, Craig	PINCUS, Brian	MINWALLA, Diniar
		4	KEET, Duncan	APTEKER, Jude	HOLMAN, Glen	BEINART, David
		5	SMITH, Kevin	CASTELEIN, Chris	ALEXANDER, Michael	DER KINDEREN, Anton

Fixtures for 15 April

WOMEN'S TRIALS

Mon 15-Apr 11:30	5	BYE		MASOJADA, Janne	RAWSON, Tanya	
		1	STERN, Zela	STANTON, Carol	HEWITT, Bev	CROSSE, Trish
		2	GRUNDER, Carol	RABIE, Jill	PENLINGTON, Dianne	DORNON, Glynis
		3	BALKIN, Diana	IZEREL, Sharon	MUTCH, Mary	ZIMET, Erica
		4	BALDERSON, Peta	GAUTSCHI, Jennifer	FOADEN, Jennifer	KENNY, Renee
5	LANG, Sharon	SORENSEN, Lotte	BATEMAN, Nicola	BLOOM, Val		
Mon 15-Apr 14:30	6	BYE		HEWITT, Bev	CROSSE, Trish	
		1	MUTCH, Mary	ZIMET, Erica	FOADEN, Jennifer	KENNY, Renee
		2	BALDERSON, Peta	GAUTSCHI, Jennifer	LANG, Sharon	SORENSEN, Lotte
		3	MASOJADA, Janne	RAWSON, Tanya	PENLINGTON, Dianne	DORNON, Glynis
		4	BALKIN, Diana	IZEREL, Sharon	STERN, Zela	STANTON, Carol
5	BATEMAN, Nicola	BLOOM, Val	GRUNDER, Carol	RABIE, Jill		
Mon 15-Apr 16:00	7	BYE		FOADEN, Jennifer	KENNY, Renee	
		1	PENLINGTON, Dianne	DORNON, Glynis	STERN, Zela	STANTON, Carol
		2	BALKIN, Diana	IZEREL, Sharon	BATEMAN, Nicola	BLOOM, Val
		3	HEWITT, Bev	CROSSE, Trish	LANG, Sharon	SORENSEN, Lotte
		4	MASOJADA, Janne	RAWSON, Tanya	MUTCH, Mary	ZIMET, Erica
5	GRUNDER, Carol	RABIE, Jill	BALDERSON, Peta	GAUTSCHI, Jennifer		

MATCH 1

Forcing of not forcing?

	N		W	N	E	S
	♠ 2		1♠	P	2♥	P
	♥ 852		2♠	P	3♣	P
	♦ 9532		3♦	P	3♠	P
♣ 86542		P	P			
W		E				
♠ KJ10975		♠ AQ				
♥ A		♥ QJ763				
♦ Q874		♦ AJ				
♣ 97		♣ AKQ3				
	S					
	♠ 8643					
	♥ K1094					
	♦ K106					
	♣ J10					
			3♠ W		NS: 0 EW: 0	

Most pairs in both the open and women's managed to reach the good slam in spades or NT when West opened 1S or 2S (showing a good pre-empt in spades).

There was 1 accident in the open event which is quite instructive.

Look at the auction at this table. Who was to blame for stopping in 3S?

A simple rule to follow is that a reverse by responder (here responder East has made a high reverse) is game forcing. Therefore, 3S by East should be played as 100% forcing.

What about the next board?

		N		W N E S			
		♠ 2	♥ KQ975	1♠	2♥	P	1♦
W		♦ 109	♣ AJ987	P	3♣	P	P
		E		P			
♠ AKJ74		S		♠ Q93	NS: 0 EW: 0		
♥ 632				♥ J1084			
♦ QJ3		♠ 10865	♦ AK862	♦ 754			
♣ K4		♥ A	♣ 1062	♣ Q53			
		♦ AK862					
		♣ 1062					

I believe most pairs would play that 3C by North on the auction above is a game forcing reverse by responder. To play it as non-forcing covers a very narrow range of hands where North has shown 10+ HCP with the 2H bid but now wants make a non-forcing bid at the 3 level. The auction above was duplicated once in the open event and three times in the Women's. I wonder what North must bid if it has a game forcing hand. Perhaps a takeout double can cover these hands.

Those players who thought 3C was game forcing, elected to pass 2S and this went 1 or 2 down.

1 pair in the open bid a forcing 3C with the North hand and reached the good contract of 5C which made easily as the hands fitted very well and there were no distributional surprises.

Bidding in the pass out seat

	N goldbar ♠ J6 ♥ KJ1085 ♦ AQ6 ♣ A107	W N E S P 2♥ 1♠ P P P P 3♥
	W castelein ♠ 73 ♥ 72 ♦ J8432 ♣ Q984	E kgsmith ♠ KQ9854 ♥ A4 ♦ K9 ♣ J63
	S larryc777 ♠ A102 ♥ Q963 ♦ 1075 ♣ K52	3♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0

James Grant (North) made an excellent decision to overcall a simple 2H with his 15 count after it went 1S P P. This allowed the pair to stop in 3H. Most pairs doubled with the North hand and then could not stop below 4H which had no play losing 1 spade, 1H, 1D and 1C. Most play that an overcall at the 2 level in 2nd position shows 10+ to 17 High card points (HCP). In 4th position, I believe it is reasonable to play it shows 10-15 HCP. The North hand has the worst shape for a 2 level overcall (5332) making this a reasonable action. Of course, doubling is a little safer when partner has heart shortage.

James Grant played 3H well to land the contract. He received the King of spades lead which he won and played a trump to East's ace. East accurately continued with the Queen of spades and third round that was ruffed and over-ruffed. James then drew the last trump leaving the following position (greyed out cards have been played).

	N goldbar ♠ J6 ♥ KJ1085 ♦ AQ6 ♣ A107	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>3♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S			1♠	P	P	2♥	2♠	3♥	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S														
		1♠	P															
P	2♥	2♠	3♥															
P	P	P																
W castelein ♠ 73 ♥ 72 ♦ J8432 ♣ Q984	♥ J ♦ 2 ♥ 4 ♥ 6	E kgsmith ♠ KQ9854 ♥ A4 ♦ K9 ♣ J63																
	S larryc777 ♠ A102 ♥ Q963 ♦ 1075 ♣ K52	3♥ N NS: 3 EW: 2																


He now played Ace and King of clubs and a third club and whoever won this trick was endplayed and forced to open the diamond suit limiting the losers in that suit to 1.

3H making was worth 6.5 imps as all the other pairs in the open reached 4H going 1 or 2 down after making a takeout double in the pass out seat.

	N foaden ♠ J6 ♥ KJ1085 ♦ AQ6 ♣ A107	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>3NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S			1♠	P	P	X	P	2♥	P	3♥	P	3NT	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S																		
		1♠	P																			
P	X	P	2♥																			
P	3♥	P	3NT																			
P	P	P																				
W carol2007 ♠ 73 ♥ 72 ♦ J8432 ♣ Q984		E sternz ♠ KQ9854 ♥ A4 ♦ K9 ♣ J63																				
	S kangy ♠ A102 ♥ Q963 ♦ 1075 ♣ K52	3NT S NS: 0 EW: 0																				

The best result on this hand was achieved by Jenny Foaden (North) and Renee Kenny (South) who reached 3NT on the auction shown. This made easily on a spade lead (2S, 4H, 1D and 2C). Very well done as it is always difficult to get to 3NT when you have a 9-card major suit fit. Bidding and making 3NT was worth 11.5 imps.

MATCH 2

	N cruisey ♠ Q10 ♥ 98743 ♦ A8 ♣ KQ52	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> <td>1♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>4♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>5♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S			P	1♦	P	1♥	P	1♠	P	2NT	P	3♣	P	4♣	P	5♣	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S																						
		P	1♦																							
P	1♥	P	1♠																							
P	2NT	P	3♣																							
P	4♣	P	5♣																							
P	P	P																								
W fatcat4399 ♠ K9872 ♥ K10652 ♦ Q ♣ J4	E glensa ♠ 63 ♥ AQJ ♦ 96532 ♣ 1096																									
	S KingZlot ♠ AJ54 ♥ ♦ KJ1074 ♣ A873	5♣ S NS: 0 EW: 0																								

Only 3 pairs in the open and 1 pair in the Women's managed to reach this good 5C game. The key bid on the auction above was 3C by South (Saul Burman) after North (Andrew Cruise) made an invitational 2NT bid. North could then visualise that partner had at most 1 heart which fitted his hand perfectly. This hand demonstrates that bids showing shape are often essential to reach the best contracts.

Bidding 5C making 11 tricks in the Open was worth 5.25 imps. In the Women's it was worth 8.75 imps.

MATCH 3

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">3</div> <div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; width: 40px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">D</div> </div>	N dip53 ♠ J6 ♥ 83 ♦ K8743 ♣ AQ86	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">W</th> <th style="background-color: #0000ff; color: white;">N</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">E</th> <th style="background-color: #0000ff; color: white;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>4♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>5♣</td> <td>5♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5♥</td> <td>5♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>▼</td> <td>►</td> <td>►</td> <td>►</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S				1♠	P	2♦	2♥	4♠	P	P	5♣	5♦	5♥	5♠	P	P	▼	►	►	►
	W	N	E	S																						
			1♠																							
P	2♦	2♥	4♠																							
P	P	5♣	5♦																							
5♥	5♠	P	P																							
▼	►	►	►																							
W kangy ♠ Q73 ♥ QJ107 ♦ 10962 ♣ 73	S glynisd ♠ AK108542 ♥ 6 ♦ AQJ5 ♣ 10	E foaden ♠ 9 ♥ AK9542 ♦ ♣ KJ9542																								

5♠x S NS: 0 EW: 0

Listening to the bidding paid huge dividends on the above hand when South played 5S. West (Renee Kenny) led the queen of heart which held the trick. Jenny Foaden correctly played the 9 of hearts on the queen which was discouraging. Renee realised that if any club tricks were available for the defence, these would make later. The bidding suggested that partner might be void in diamonds and she therefore, smartly switched to a diamond leading to 1 down. This was worth 5 imps when 3 pairs made at least 11 tricks in spades. One pair in the women's made 5H with the East west hands. Only a club ruff beats 5H. Making 5H was worth a whopping 15.25 imps in the women's.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 3 D </div>	N bkpsc ♠ J6 ♥ 83 ♦ K8743 ♣ AQ86	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>2♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♥</td> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>6♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S				2♣	P	2♦	2♥	2♠	3♥	X	P	4♦	P	6♦	P	P
	W	N	E	S																		
			2♣																			
P	2♦	2♥	2♠																			
3♥	X	P	4♦																			
P	6♦	P	P																			
W ♠ Q73 ♥ QJ107 ♦ 10962 ♣ 73		E ♠ 9 ♥ AK9542 ♦ ♣ KJ9542																				
	S diniar ♠ AK108542 ♥ 6 ♦ AQJ5 ♣ 10	6♦ N NS: 0 EW: 0																				

The best result on this swingy hand was achieved by Diniar Minwalla (South) and Brian Pincus (North) in the open when they bid as shown above to reach the excellent 6D contract. This was unbeatable despite the poor breaks in both diamonds and spades and was worth 11 imps. Had East bid 4H over North's double, I suspect N/S would have reached an unmakeable 6S.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 4 D </div>	N sharrie ♠ 6 ♥ K1054 ♦ A10876 ♣ 1073	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>1♠</td> <td>X</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>4♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	1♣	P	1♠	X	2♠	3♥	3♠	P	P	4♦	P	4♥	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S																		
1♣	P	1♠	X																			
2♠	3♥	3♠	P																			
P	4♦	P	4♥																			
P	P	P																				
W carol2007 ♠ J982 ♥ Q83 ♦ KJ ♣ KQ82		E sternz ♠ Q1053 ♥ J2 ♦ 42 ♣ AJ954																				
	S lvsrn ♠ AK74 ♥ A976 ♦ Q953 ♣ 6	4♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0																				

Aggressive bidding by North (Sharon Lang) and South (Lotte Sorensen) led to the reasonable 4H game on a combined 20 high card points. The play was easy on a spade lead when both the red suits behaved. Getting to 4H and making was worth 10.5 imps. They were the only pair in the both the open and women's to reach 4H making.

MATCH 4

D 5	N NoahApteke ♠ KQ3 ♥ AQ5 ♦ 105 ♣ KQ1083	W N E S 1NT P 2NT P 3♣ P 3♠ P 3NT P 4NT P P P
	W fatcat4399 ♠ J10974 ♥ 8742 ♦ 4 ♣ 752	E glensa ♠ A652 ♥ K10 ♦ J873 ♣ J94
	S drowzee ♠ 8 ♥ J963 ♦ AKQ962 ♣ A6	4NT N NS: 0 EW: 0

Noah Apteker and Robert Stephens (South) got a bit lucky on this hand when they avoided the doomed 6D or 6NT. 6D played by North is a good slam making a high percentage of the time when diamonds break 3-2 and also making sometimes when diamonds break 4-1 and the defence fails to the lead spades. On the hand given a spade lead was obvious against 6 diamonds by either West or East and 4 pairs in the open went 1 or 2 down.

Robert decided to sensibly ignore his weak 4 card heart suit and transferred to diamonds and then showed a spade shortage. Retrospectively he felt that his 4NT bid was suboptimal as partner will always be reluctant to bid the slam holding no help in Diamonds. He felt a 4C cue bid would be a better slam try. So it came to pass that Noah passed the invitational 4NT bid. This was worth 13 imps to North South.

Results for Board 5 in the open

1	2024-04-14 16:28	NoahApteke	drowzee	glensa	fatcat4399	4NN+1	660	13.00	Movie or Lin
2	2024-04-14 16:32	imtiazi1	horace1	Dunx	judeap	6♦N-1	-100	-1.00	Movie or Lin
3	2024-04-14 16:39	Treetops38	banditos	cruisey	KingZlot	6♦N-2	-200	-4.00	Movie or Lin
4	2024-04-14 16:29	eeps	Hcbfick	bkpsc	diniar	6♦N-2	-200	-4.00	Movie or Lin
5	2024-04-14 16:38	kgsmith	castelein	alonap	craigy52	6♦N-2	-200	-4.00	Movie or Lin

Results for Board 5 in the Women's

1	2024-04-14 16:29	peta_b	FRANKIEJ	sternz	carol2007	3NN+1	630	9.25	Movie or Lin
2	2024-04-14 16:37	nicolap	valfb	Marykins	rix181	5♦N+1	620	9.25	Movie or Lin
3	2024-04-14 16:37	foaden	kangy	sweetpea50	Tan 18	6♦N-1	-100	-5.25	Movie or Lin
4	2024-04-14 16:37	dip53	glynisd	sharrie	lvsrn	6♦S-1	-100	-5.25	Movie or Lin
5	2024-04-14 16:30	cassandrax	JillyRabz	hewey7	trishc	6NN-2	-200	-8.00	Movie or Lin

Bernard Donde