

Not the NOT *by Derrick Browne*

The South-West Pacific Teams in Canberra in late January was won by Andy Hung, Adam Edgton, Alex Smirnov, Nabil Edgton, Liam Milne and Michael Whibley (pictured).



This qualified them for the following knockout event, the National Open Teams, where they were defeated in the grand final by Arjuna De Livera, Ian Robinson, Ian Thomson, Richard Brightling, Matthew McManus and Michael Ware, who thus became Australian National Open Teams Champions for 2010.

In the second last segment of the final, the De Livera team gained a pickup at both tables on the following deal:

Board 2. Dealer East, NS vul.

NORTH			
S QT97			
H A82			
D QT95			
C J8			
WEST		EAST	
S 3		S KJ8652	
H QT9		H 763	
D 3		D A876	
C AQT76543		C —	
SOUTH			
S A4			
H KJ54			
D KJ42			
C K92			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Milne</i>	<i>Brightling</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Thomson</i>
		Pass	1NT
5C	Dble	All pass	

Tempted by the favourable vulnerability, Milne ventured 5C. This time he was unfortunate to strike a void in dummy, while North with a balanced hand and values opposite a 1NT opener was happy to double. The contract went three down for 500 points.

At the other table, De Livera chose to open a multi 2D on the East cards, indicating a weak two in either major. South doubled, West bid 3C, and North doubled for takeout, eliciting 3H from South. This went three down for 300 points, making a total swing on the deal of 800 points.

De Livera and his partner had another Multi 2D auction on the following deal from an earlier match:

	NORTH	
	S K75432	
	H 94	
	D 53	
	C KQ9	
WEST		EAST
S T9		S J
H Q8		H AJ7632
D AKJT98		D Q62
C A54		C J87
	SOUTH	
	S AQ86	
	H KT5	
	D 74	
	C T632	

East was dealer and opened with a Multi 2D. Although this showed a weak two in a major, West liked his diamonds and opted to pass, and North-South finished up in 4S, one off. As the cards lie, East-West could have made 4H, thanks to the decent heart fit and superb diamond fit on the side.