

Newman in, look out for Flynn *by Derrick Browne*

The 2009 National Seniors' Teams was won by NEWMAN (John Newman, Peter Buchen, Peter Chan, Henry Christie, Chris Hughes, David Lusk), who came from behind with a big third quarter result to defeat HOFFMAN (David Hoffman, Ron Klinger, George Gaspar, Bob Richman).

Whenever he is in Sydney, Newman is a panellist at the Wednesday night Swiss Pairs at Trumps in Mosman, giving a commentary between rounds. His defence picked up a few IMPs on the following hand from his first Wednesday night after returning from the nationals:

Dealer West, EW vul.

	NORTH	
	S KQ9	
	H A3	
	D KQ97643	
	C 2	
WEST		EAST
S T6		S 75432
H KQ965		H 84
D T52		D AJ
C 965		C AT83
	SOUTH	
	S AJ8	
	H JT72	
	D 8	
	C KQJ74	
NORTH	SOUTH	
1D	1H	
2D	3NT	
All pass		

Over North's 1D opening, South was strong enough to respond 2C but opted to ignore the minor. North rebid a quiet 2D but the obvious 3NT contract was reached.

Deterred from a heart lead by South's bid of the suit, West chose to lead a club, but chose the C9 to show lack of interest in the suit (the lead of a lower club might have looked like "low from an honour"). Newman, sitting East, ducked.

Declarer won the CK and played the long suit, diamonds, with the DK driving out Newman's DA. Realising that partner's C9 lead denied an honour in the suit, Newman switched to the H8, covered by the HJ, HQ and HA.

The DQ was now cashed, followed by another diamond. Newman discarded a discouraging S2 so West, in with the D10, played another club, so Newman was able to win the CA and return a heart for West to cash two tricks there, taking the contract one light.

The winners of this particular Wednesday night Swiss were Patrick Flynn and Shirley Gorman, whose aggressive style paid off on this, the second last board of the event:

Dealer South, both vul.

	NORTH	
	S -	
	H AKQT	
	D 8	
	C AJT98632	
WEST		EAST
S Q9		S AK87542
H J742		H 8
D AQT754		D J93
C K		C Q4
	SOUTH	
	S JT63	
	H 9653	
	D K62	
	C 75	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
<i>Gorman</i>		<i>Flynn</i>	
1D	Dble	4S	Pass
Pass	5C	Pass	Pass
5S	6C	Double	All pass

There are many ways to bid these cards. Although the North hand has only 14 HCP, it could make slam opposite as little as a few small clubs or the CK in partner's hand, which is why North doubled then bid (power double), then took another push. This time, 5S and 6C both go one light.