

## Card Combination

### Awesome 8

Holding the 8 often has a big effect on how you should play tenuous suit combinations. Here's a typically surprising example.

Let's say you want to play A5 opposite J10432 for 3 tricks. The right play is to cash the A then duck one all round. If the suit breaks 3-3, a goldfish makes 3 tricks. If it's 4-2, you're looking for someone to hold Kx or Qx so that their honour beats up a couple of low cards. Then we drive out the other honour with the J10.

Now try it with A8 opposite J10432. The right play for 3 tricks is low to the 8! You still make your 3 tricks against all the 3-3 and Hx holdings but now you pick up KQ9x in front of the A8 as well.

And now try it with A4 opposite J10832. The right play for 3 tricks here is to cash the A and then play low to the 8 – picking up the bonus KQ9x on your left instead. If you need 4 tricks, you have a small chance too - lead the J and hope for the squashable 9xx on your left (KQx on your right).

There are far too many combos with an 8 to memorise. Just remember this - if you hold the awesome 8 somewhere in a scrappy suit combination, start thinking about whether you can do something nifty to finesse or squash a higher card. Other lines only make 4 or 5 tricks 77% of the time but it's worth the risk at matchpoints to try to get that 5th trick.

Tricky, isn't it?

### Board-a-Match Teams Monday August 3rd and 10th

Board-A-Match is the easiest way to score a teams match. If your team scores more than your opponents on a board, even by just 10 points, you win that board. For every board you win, you get 2 Victory Points. For every board you tie, you get 1 Victory Point. No IMPs, no decimal points. Easy!

The fun thing about BAM is that you always feel like you're in the game. Finding the right lead against 2D can win the board for your team just as easily as bidding a tricky 7S. Sometimes at IMPs, your opponents bid a tight slam and make a lucky game and that's pretty much it. At BAM you can get it all back on a couple of partscores!



### Hot August Nights

Play on Thursday Evenings and Enjoy Supper

Thursday Night duplicate is back and recommences on 6<sup>th</sup> August  
Every Thursday evening there will be a supper break where you can socialise with your friends and enjoy a lovely supper  
Great value and a fun time

Table Fees \$10 Members, \$12 Visitors



Golden Days Radio has a music format that has broad appeal for people of any age who have an affection for and appreciation for the nostalgic sound of radio as it used to be from the 1930s into the

1960s.

Golden days is giving the VBA a 30 minute segment where it will provide information about the club and also give us the opportunity to nominate 10 tracks for play during the segment. Members can send me an email with a track (Song and Artist) they would like to nominate. Let me know why you chose this particular track. We will try to get it played for you and will advise all members when the segment will be on. Golden Days radio broadcasts on 97.5FM or you can stream live at [http://mgmt.firststreaming.com/listen/player.php?callsign=GNDR\\_FM](http://mgmt.firststreaming.com/listen/player.php?callsign=GNDR_FM)



### Have you Tried Pianola yet?

The VBA has completed its trial of Pianola and has decided to proceed with its full implementation. Pianola will now be the membership database for members and members now can edit their own details online once you have registered online.

To register and login you do need an "invite". Every member with an email address would have received one of these but if you have lost it drop me an email and I can resend the invite.

## Upcoming Events

**Monday nights from July 13th**  
Fred Habgood MP Swiss Pairs (3 weeks)

**August 3rd and 10th**  
Board-a-Match Teams

**VBA Open Pairs**  
August 17th, 24th, 31st, Sept 7th

**Wednesday Nights from 29th June**  
Victorian Swiss Pairs (4 weeks)

### Congresses and National Events

**Phillip Island Congress**  
25th-26th July

**Knox Congress**  
1st - 2nd August

**Yarrowonga Congress**  
15th-16th August

**Dendy Park Winter Congress**  
30th August

**VBA Nationwide Pairs**  
August 1st and 15th

### Need a partner or team mates?

If you would like to play in one of our VBA events but don't have a partner, contact Cathie Lachman at the VBA, and we will try to help.

Pianola also has a partnership module where you can ask for partners and load system preferences etc.

<https://app.pianola.net/PartnerFinder>

# VBA Member Results

## Competitions and Congresses

### Masters Teams

#### Red Section

1st Ben Thompson, Bill Jacobs, Leigh Gold, Jamie Ebery, Peter Hollands, Justin Howard  
2nd Serhat Ozenir, Margaret Yuill, Mary Allison, George Gaspar, Boris Tencer

#### Blue section

1st Margaret Tildesley, Erica Windmiller, Val Daly, Michael Adams  
2nd Ralph Berlinski, Helen Snashall, Thea Cowie, Nicole McManamny

### VBA GNOT Heat

1st Felicity Beale, Robbie van Riel, Same Arber, Henri de Jong  
2nd Alf Branicki, Michael Gurfinkel, Helen Snashall, Ralph Berlinski

### Winter Swiss Pairs

1st David Beckett, Neil Ewart  
2nd Sylvia Gluck, Ben Kingham 2nd  
3rd Robert Stewart, Phil Fent

### Herzl Club July Congress Swiss Pairs

2nd Max Henbest & Genie Harband

### Grand Prix Congress Swiss Pairs

3rd Rex Livingstone & Paul Hill

### Grand Prix Congress Swiss Teams

1st Meredith Wood, Shirley Collins, Jill Magee, Jeannette Collins  
2nd Kitty Muntz, Leigh Gold, David Beckett, Neil Ewart

### Geelong Congress Swiss Teams

1st Alex Czapnik, Chris Hughes, Dee Harley, Stephen Weisz 1st  
2nd= Steven White, Christina Macquarrie, Penny Corrigan, Lyndy Hickman  
2nd= Neil Ewart, David Beckett, Lucy Henbest, Simon Henbest

### Geelong Congress Swiss Pairs

3rd Eva Samuel, Peter Hollands

## Duplicate Stars

### Best 3 Session Average Winners June (average score over the month of the best 3 sessions a player competed in)

1st Philip Nankin Average 60.1%  
2nd Ralph Berlinski Average 58.9%  
3rd Nafty van der Hoek Average 58.4%

## Hot Duplicate Scores

Robert Geschke & Tim Blizzard 72.9%  
Alison Bennett & Lyn Lutchner 68.9%  
Bella Edelman & Margot Slonim 66.7%  
Robert Geschke & Tim Blizzard 66.5%

## VBA Session Times

### Duplicate

Monday\* 11:30am  
Monday\* 7:30pm  
Tuesday 7:15pm  
Thursday\* 11:30am  
Thursday 7:30pm  
Saturday 1:00pm

### Supervised

Wednesday 10:30am  
Thursday 7:30pm  
Saturday 1:30pm

### Tournament

Monday\* 7:30pm  
Wednesday\* 7:30pm

\*Cafe Open

## Hurry Hurry Hurry!!!

### Unravel the Mysteries of Two over One Game Force

with Joan Butts

This Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 pm  
at the VBA

Lunch provided. Cost \$45 includes notes.

### Want to upgrade you own bridge skills and learn how to be a better bridge teacher?

Come along to the Continuing Professional Development Day for BRIDGE TEACHERS with Joan Butts

This Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July – 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. at the VBA

Free – sponsored by the ABF with assistance from the VBA  
Includes Lunch.

Joan Butts has represented Australia in world championships but her passion is teaching bridge, and for the past 25 years she has owned and operated a club in Brisbane.

Since 2011 she has been the ABF Teaching Coordinator and in this capacity has run training programs to introduce bridge