

THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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BULLETIN

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The IBPA Annual General Meeting and Awards Meeting will be held in Bali. The date is likely to be the Monday or Tuesday of the second week, i.e. October 29th or 30th. The proposed agenda is:

1. **Choice of Chairman;** homage to deceased members.
2. **President's Report** including ratification of actions taken by the Executive over the preceding year.
3. **Officers' Reports:** (a) Secretary; (b) Treasurer, including report on the year ending 31st December 2000, the budgets for the year 2001 and 2002; proposals regarding subscriptions for the year 2002; and the election of auditor; (c) Other officers.

4. Appointees reports.

(a) Membership Secretary; (b) Editor; (c) Other appointees.

5. Election of three members of the executive for the three year term to the AGM in 2004. Concluding their three-year term, available for re-election and nominated by the Nominations committee: Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands), Chris Diment (Australia); Panos Gerontopoulos (Greece).

Notes:

Already elected with term expiring at 2002 AGM: Julius Butkow (South Africa); Fred Gitelman (Canada); Barry Rigal (USA).

Already elected with term expiring at 2003 AGM: Dilip Gidwani (Ghana); Patrick Jourdain (Wales); Peter Lund (Denmark).

Officers elected with terms expiring at the AGM in Montreal in 2002:

President: Henry Francis (USA); Exec Vice-President: Jean-Paul Meyer (France); Organisational Vice-President: Per Jannersten (Sweden); Treasurer: Christer Andersson (Sweden); Secretary: Maureen Dennison (England); Chairman: Alan Truscott (USA); Honorary Counsel: Bill Pencharz (England). Presidents Emeriti: Alan Truscott (USA) and Tommy Sandsmark (Norway).

The Awards Ceremony, conducted by Awards Chairman, Barry Rigal (USA): The IBPA Personality of the Year; The IBPA Hand of the Year; The Romex Award for Auction of the Year; The Carey Limousine Award for Defence of the Year; The OKBridge Award for a Junior.

* * * * *

Members are reminded that the Clippings Competition for e-bridge closes next month. All clippings mentioning e-bridge are eligible. Please send them to our Clippings Secretary, Maureen Dennison or by e-mail to Eric Kokish., Give date and name of publication with approx circulation.

* * * * *

A letter (unaddressed) has been received from David Rex-Taylor resigning as Managing Editor of IBPA. David worked reliably for IBPA for twenty years and we wish him all the best in his retirement, including better health. Anna Gudge has taken on the post pending an appointment by the Executive.

Patrick Jourdain - Editor

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USA, Israel, Denmark take medals in World Junior Team Championships

Mangaratiba, Brazil near Rio de Janeiro From Bulletins edited by Mark Horton & Stefan Back

In the final **USA1** (Brad Campbell, Joe Grue, John Hurd, John Kranyak, Kent Mignocchi, Joel Wooldridge, npc Robert Rosen, coach Dennis McGarry) beat **Israel** (Asaf Amit, Yaniv Vax, Aran Warzawsky, Inon Liran, Ranny Schneider, Yossi Roll, npc Michael Barel) 262-157.

In the play-off for the bronze medal **Denmark** (Martin Schaltz-Andreas Marquardsen, Gregers Bjarnarson-Michael Askgaard, Kåre Gjaldbæk-Jonas Houmøller; Coach: Bettina Kalkerup NPC: Hans Kristian Sørensen) beat Thailand 191-123.5

In the **semifinals** USA1 beat Thailand 284-94.7 and Israel beat Denmark 217-108 (the carry-over from the round robin was 2.7 IMPs to Thailand and 1 IMP to Denmark).

Round robin results: 1. USA1 324; 2. Thailand 290; 3. Denmark 282.5; 4. Israel 282; 5. China 275; 6. Norway 271; 7= Canada, Holland 270; 9. Argentina 266; 10. France 256.8; 11. Australia 256; 12. Brazil 251.5; 13. USA2 235.2; 14. Egypt 223; 15. Chinese Taipei 208; 16. Central America & Caribbean 190; 17. New Zealand 159.

The Swiss Pairs (held during the knockouts) was won by **Pablo Ravenna & Augustin Madala** of Argentina.

Mark Horton reports on the final:

Everyone expected the final to be close but the Americans, who started with a 6 IMP-carry over, had a flying start, when the grand slam-overture of the final required very careful play.

Dealer: North ♠ A 6 5 2
Love all ♥ J 9 7 5 4
 ♦ K 8 3
 ♣ 7

♠ 3 ♥ Q 8 3 ♦ Q J 7 6 5 ♣ Q 8 5 4	♠ J 10 8 ♥ A K 10 6 2 ♦ 10 9 4 ♣ J 2 ♠ K Q 9 7 4 ♥ — ♦ A 2 ♣ A K 10 9 6 3
--	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Amit</i>	<i>Grue</i>	<i>Vax</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

In the Open Room USA 1 settled for Six Spades.

It took South less than ten seconds to win the ♦Q lead with the king, play club to the ace and ruff a club. He then cashed three rounds of trumps and conceded one club trick to West, to come up with twelve tricks - USA 1 +980.

Israel was more ambitious:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Campbell</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Schneider</i>
Pass	2♦ (1)	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	7♠

(1) both majors, 5-10 HCP

East led ♥A against North's 7♠. The play revolves around the club suit. If trumps are 2-2 then only a dreadful club distribution will defeat you, so declarer's first move should be to cash the ♠A in case spades are 4-0 in East. If everyone follows you should draw a second round with the king and start on the clubs, cashing the ace and king. If an honour appears from East, as here, the theory of restricted choice suggests that declarer should draw the last trump and then rely on the ruffing finesse. If it is West who produces an honour declarer continues by ruffing a club. Finally, if no honour appears then declarer must decide if clubs are 3-3 or 4-2.

IBPA Editor: If East with three trumps has ♣ QJxx he should drop a club honour on the second round to encourage declarer to draw the third trump. That affects the odds.

When the Israeli declarer ruffed a small club at trick three, cashed two rounds of trumps and tried to ruff another club, East was able to overruff - USA 1 +50. This was 14 IMPs and an early 20-0 lead for the USA.

The run continued to the last board of the set. First of all, the American East/West pair in the Closed Room completed their flawless set by reaching another unbeatable game:

Board 16 ♠ J 9 8 6 4 2
 Dealer: West ♥ 9 5 3 2
 E/W Game ♦ 7
 ♣ 7 4

♠ 5 3 ♥ K J 8 6 4 ♦ A Q J 4 ♣ K 8	♠ 7 ♥ Q ♦ 10 9 8 6 3 2 ♣ A J 10 9 5
--	--

♠ A K Q 10
 ♥ A 10 7
 ♦ K 5
 ♣ Q 6 3 2

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Campbell</i>	<i>Roll</i>	<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Schneider</i>
1♥	Pass	1NT	Double
2♦	2♠	4♠	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♠
Pass	Pass	Dble All Pass	

When South trusted his opponents' bidding and sacrificed, USA did not score their game bonus but collected five tricks to put declarer three down. USA 1 +500.

In the Open Room East in a moment of absence missed his cue:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Amit</i>	<i>Grue</i>	<i>Vax</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
1♥	2♠!	Pass!	3NT
All Pass			

After North's hyper-weak jump overcall East did not make a negative double, so to everybody's surprise South became declarer in 3NT. The rest of the story is told very quickly. West led a diamond, South won and cashed seven more winners for one down. Israel +50, but once again 10 IMPs to USA 1 who went into the next session with a 68-2 lead.

Barry Rigal reports on the Round Robin:

Mangaratiba, a small town on the outskirts of Rio (a 1 1/2 hour drive away), was a good choice as venue, since we arrived in Brazil in the middle of winter – and thus were treated to delightful temperatures in the mid-60s and very low humidity. The luxury hotel had excellent facilities and a very helpful staff, as did the event run by Ernesto Dorsi, a former WBF President. The meals were taken buffet style, and at the end of the day the players could sit around and talk and play cards while the adults sampled the delight of the Caipirinha, the local drink made from cane sugar and limes.

The format was a Round Robin for the 17 teams present (Pakistan had been unable to attend at short notice, thereby resulting in each team having a bye) over seven days, followed by the knockouts and Butler Pairs.

North America had three teams competing: USAI, USAII and Canada. Most of the Canadian players are well known in the USA but they had also produced a star who was not known to me (principally, I think, because Vincent Demuy is a French-speaker and thus had not been at the ACBL camp activities or many of the National events). Here is Vincent at work on this deal from an early match against Denmark. This board turned a small loss for Canada into a 16-14 win. (This report is garnered from my own coverage and the excellent Daily Bulletin produced by Mark Horton and Stefan Back. The deal is credited to Ib Lundby)

Dealer: South

♠ J 3 ♥ A 9 4 3 2 ♦ 7 3 ♣ A K Q 5	♠ 2 ♥ 8 7 6 5 ♦ 10 9 8 5 ♣ 10 8 7 3
--	--

♠ A K 9 8 7 6
 ♥ K J 10
 ♦ Q
 ♣ J 9 6

♠ Q 10 5 4
 ♥ Q
 ♦ A K J 6 4 2
 ♣ 4 2

West	North	East	South
	<i>Heller</i>		<i>Demuy</i>
1♠	2♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♦
All Pass			3NT

West	North	East	South
	<i>Schaltz</i>		<i>Marquardsen</i>
1♠	2♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♠
All Pass			3NT

Both Canada and Denmark reached 3NT from the South seat after facing a spade overcall from West, and both tables received a low spade lead won in hand. For Denmark, Marquardsen won the spade lead in hand and crossed to dummy with a club to lead a diamond to the jack. Unlucky! West won and cashed a top spade to find the split, then tried the king of hearts, and declarer could only make six tricks.

In the other room Demuy won his ten of spades at trick one and realized that he only needed four diamond tricks, but that entries to hand were going to be a problem, so he ducked the first diamond, leading a low card from hand. He knew that if the defense won this trick and returned a spade he would get an inferential count on both black suits before having to guess whether to play for diamonds to be 3-2 or 4-1. As the cards lay, when the ♦Q appeared, he had ten top tricks whatever the defense did next.

Another pre-tournament favorite, Argentina, had started terribly but when their line-up was changed to bring together Pablo Ravenna and Agustin Madala (who will be playing together in the Argentine Open Team in Bali!) they produced a spectacular run of form. It came just a little too late to allow them to contend for a semi-final place.

The following deal showed off both Ravenna's card-play in a neat 3NT in the match against the Netherlands and the analytical powers of Demuy of Canada.

Dealer: East ♠ Q 9 3
 Love all ♥ K J 6 4 3
 ♦ 7
 ♣ K 10 9 8

♠ 10 4 ♥ A 10 8 ♦ K Q 10 5 4 2 ♣ J 4	♠ A 7 6 2 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ A J 8 ♣ A 6 5	♠ K J 8 5 ♥ 9 5 ♦ 9 6 3 ♣ Q 7 3 2	
---	--	--	--

West	North	East	South
2♣#	3♦###	Pass	1NT
All Pass		Pass	3NT

Diamonds or majors

Hearts

Pablo wanted to protect his ♦AJ8 and his flat hand looked unsuitable for ruffing, so he avoided the 5 3 fit in hearts to end up in 3NT. West led ♦K, on which East produced a discouraging ♦9 and declarer ducked. West now tried ♥10 rather than a spade, and the king in dummy won. A second heart went to the queen and ace, and West finally played the ♠10 to queen and king. Declarer found an excellent play when he ducked the ♠K. East played back a diamond to the jack and king and West continued spades to the ♠8 and the ace. Declarer took his ♦A and crossed to the ♣K to cash two heart tricks squeezing East in the process and scoring the ♣5 as his ninth trick. 10 IMPs to Argentina, when 4♥ was one down at the other table.

Demuy spotted a chance for declarer in 4♥. West leads ♦K. Declarer should take ♦A and ruff a diamond, then lead the ♥K, which holds the trick. When he tries ♥J, West takes the ace and switches to ♠10. Dummy puts up the queen, East covers and declarer ducks. East exits with a diamond, declarer ruffs and plays a heart to the queen to squeeze East in this beautiful ending:

immaterial	♠ 9 3 ♥ 6 ♦ — ♣ K 10 9 8 ♠ J 8 5 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ Q 7 3 2 ♠ A 7 6 ♥ Q ♦ — ♣ A 6 5
------------	---

What should East throw when declarer leads the ♥6 to the queen? If he pitches a club declarer plays three rounds of clubs and throws East in to lead into his split ♠A9 tenace. If East pitches a spade instead, declarer throws him in with a spade to collect the rest after the inevitable club return; in essence, this is a two-trick endplay.

Note declarer has to strip off the diamonds from East to cut the defensive communications.

Demuy was responsible for all this analysis. He was unhappy that he had failed to find the solution at the table – his sole excuse being time pressure as he explained afterwards! But no one else found the winning line.

The surprise showing of the event was Thailand, who had never previously competed at the latter stages of any major bridge event. The team was refreshing in many ways. Even by junior standards they bid the spots off the cards. They played remarkably simple methods, and did not like to pass whenever it was their turn to call. Their strength was an excellent team harmony, and they were the most cheerful and courteous of opponents, leaving a great impression with everyone. When the wind was behind them, they could beat anyone – as the following deal illustrates. At the tail end of their match against Norway, Thailand looked to be on their way to a heavy defeat; then along came this deal. (Session 7. Board 19).

Dealer: South ♠ 7 5
 E/W Game ♥ K J 2
 ♦ A K 10 5 2
 ♣ J 9 2

♠ Q 10 8 3 ♥ 5 ♦ 8 6 ♣ A K Q 6 4 3	♠ A K J 9 2 ♥ A 7 4 ♦ J 9 7 ♣ 8 7	♠ 6 4 ♥ Q 10 9 8 6 3 ♦ Q 4 3 ♣ 10 5	
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Chitngamkusol</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Trimankha</i>	<i>Harr</i>
2♣	2♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	2♠
All Pass			4♠

Declarer did well to avoid 3NT to reach a game with theoretical play, but he needed to find the cards lying moderately well, but that was emphatically not the case today, and he was soon two down, 200. Not so terrible, since all games seemed doomed for at least that large a penalty.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ellestad</i>	<i>Sasibut</i>	<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Limsinsopon</i>
2♣	Dble	All Pass	1♠

The late Terence Reese used to advocate making low level penalty doubles with the type of hand North held here, but this approach has gone sadly out of fashion these days. However, it worked like a charm here! North led the ace of diamonds and although it looks as if declarer must come to seven tricks, the defenders simply take three red suit tricks, a top spade and then exit with a trump. Declarer has no way to avoid the loss of three more spades for two down, 500 and 12 very useful IMPs for Thailand.

As the final day of qualifying started, USAI were sure to win the Round Robin, with Thailand secure to qualify. The other two places were up for grabs. Canada beat Norway, by the maximum. This was the most exciting, and the most expensive from Norway's perspective. As board 7 appeared they trailed by 31-0.

Dealer: South
Game all

♠ A Q 9 7 3	♠ 10 4
♥ 9 4 2	♥ A 10 8 3
♦ 8	♦ K J 2
♣ K 9 6 3	♣ A Q J 7
♠ K J 6	♠ 8 5 2
♥ K 6	♥ Q J 7 5
♦ A 10 9 7 6 5 4	♦ Q 3
♣ 4	♣ 10 8 5 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Grainger</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Harr</i>
1♦	1♠	Dble	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ellestad</i>	<i>Heller</i>	<i>Charlsen</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
1♦	1♠	Dble	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass

In the Open Room declarer made eleven tricks, for +660, on a low spade lead. So the key was whether at the other table West could make Six diamonds.

Say North leads a heart. Declarer wins, draws trumps, cashes the other top heart and then runs trumps to produce a four-card ending. Dummy will be down to ♣AQJ and a spade. North will have to keep ♠A and ♣K96. Declarer takes a club finesse and then throws North in with a spade to force a lead back into the club tenace. However, Josh Heller as North was having none of this, and led the nine of clubs! Declarer went up with the ace of clubs, and tried for the minor miracle of finding the queen of spades onside: one down.

Declarer can succeed even on the club lead, by taking the finesse, and, without cashing the ace of clubs, playing off all his trumps followed by the top hearts ending in dummy. North is still caught in the strip-squeeze throw-in. A huge blow for Canada, ahead by 44 IMPs instead of just 18 had the slam been made.

The match ended with Canada having obtained their maximum victory points, and with high hopes of qualifying, even though they were playing a fellow-contender. Alas for Canada, they lost 25-3 to China in the final match, when as it turned out a 16-14 win would have seen them advance to the semi-finals. Israel crept into the top four places and would meet Denmark there.

Ib Lundby was one of the few journalists to make the trip to Rio and he reported on a number of sparkling plays by members of the Danish team.

We have seen lots of ambitious 3NT contracts in Mangaratiba. On this hand from round 11 the Australian declarer in the Open Room went one down in 1NT. In the Closed Room 17 years old Martin Schaltz (IBPA Ed: And IBPA member) from the "Schaltz-dynasty" (both his grand mother, father and mother have won

New Zealand Championships (contd)

By Ron Klinger (Australia) in the Weekend Australian

14th July

The New Zealand Championships were held last week.

The Pairs was won narrowly by Deborah Moir - Scott Smith, less than one matchpoint ahead of Ishmael Del'Monte - Paul Marston. Smith is a Kiwi while the others are ex-Kiwis, now residing in Sydney.

Unlike recent years, the final of the NZ Teams was an all-Kiwi affair, with CORNELL (Michael Cornell - Malcolm Mayer, Peter Newell - Martin Red, Tom Jacob - Richard Jedrychowski) winning the final by 228-154 against WESTOBY (Denis Humphries - Jonathan Westoby, Richard Solomon). In the quarter-finals CORNELL defeated NOBLE (Barry Noble, Terry Brown, Phil Gue, Michael Prescott, Michael Ware) by 134-105. Except for Michael Ware, the NOBLE team, with Peter Fordham and George Bilski added, will represent Australia at the Bermuda Bowl, the World Open teams championship, in Bali this October.

Several Australian teams reached the final stages, but all were eliminated before the semi-finals except for Siegfried Konig - Jim Wallis, Stephen Burgess - Bob Richman, Ashley Bach - Kieran Dyke, who lost 108-128 to WESTOBY.

Moir-Smith scored a shared top from the Pairs Final here:

<p>♠ A J 8 5 3 2 ♥ 8 6 4 ♦ 6 5 4 3 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ Q 7 4 ♥ A 3 ♦ A Q 10 8 2 ♣ K 5 4</p>	<p>♠ K ♥ K J 10 9 5 ♦ K J 9 ♣ A 8 7 6</p>
<p>♠ 10 9 6 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ 7 ♣ Q J 10 9 3 2</p>	

North opened 2♠, weak. Moir, East, doubled. South bid 3♣ and Smith, West, 3♠, artificial and forcing to game. Moir naturally tried 4♥ and Smith removed to 5♦. This sequence showed a stronger hand than an immediate jump to five diamonds over three clubs and so Moir raised to six diamonds.

Only two other pairs reached the slam. As the cards lay, the play presented no problems.

21st July

Tom Jacob - Richard Jedrychowski, who won the Gold Coast Pairs earlier this year, were also members of the winning team at the New Zealand Open Teams a fortnight ago. Here is one of their triumphs from the NZOT. You are in 4♠ and the trump lead means that the defence can prevent your scoring a diamond ruff in dummy. How would you plan the play?

<p>♠ J 8 ♥ 8 6 5 3 2 ♦ A 3 ♣ 7 6 5 2</p> <p>♠ 5 4 ♥ A J 10 9 7 4 ♦ Q 8 4 ♣ J 10</p>	<p>♠ 10 9 7 6 ♥ K ♦ K 9 6 5 2 ♣ Q 8 4</p> <p>♠ A K Q 3 2 ♥ Q ♦ J 10 7 ♣ A K 9 3</p>
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Jacob, South, won in hand and led the heart queen. West took the ace and played a second spade, won in dummy. After ruffing a heart, Jacobs cashed the king and queen of spades. This drew East's trumps and left declarer without any trumps as well.

Next came the club ace, club king and a third club, leaving this ending with East on lead:

<p>♠ — ♥ 8 ♦ A 3 ♣ 7</p> <p>♠ — ♥ J ♦ Q 8 4 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ — ♦ K 9 6 5 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ — ♥ — ♦ J 10 7 ♣ 3</p>
---	--

East played a low diamond, ten, queen, ace. The club winner was cashed, followed by another diamond to give declarer his tenth trick.

To defeat four hearts, West can lead a diamond at trick three and East return a trump on winning with the diamond king. Alternatively East can exit with the diamond king, not a low diamond in the end diagram.

Shanghai Wins Hong Kong Inter-Cities

By Henry Francis (USA)

Rong was right!

Shanghai, captained by Zhu Ming Rong, came from behind in the final quarter to win the annual Hong Kong Inter-City Championship in August. In the final Rong defeated a multi-national team captained by Brigitte Mavromichalis containing three Hacketts and Fu Zhong.

The event drew 45 teams – 27 in the Open, seven in the Women’s and 11 in the Juniors. The Inter-City has been a regular Hong Kong feature since 1980. The Hong Kong Bridge Association also hosted a gala party to celebrate its 50th anniversary during the tournament, so the event was named the Golden Jubilee.

The most exciting hand for the Chinese occurred in their semifinal match against a Japanese team captained by Tadashi Teramoto.

Dealer: North ♠ A 3
 Vul: Both ♥ K Q J 6 5
 ♦ Q 10 8
 ♣ 10 7 3

♠ K 8 5 4 ♥ A 3 2 ♦ K 9 5 3 ♣ 9 5	♠ J 10 9 7 6 2 ♥ 9 8 4 ♦ J 2 ♣ K 4
--	---

♠ Q
 ♥ 10 7
 ♦ A 7 6 4
 ♣ A Q J 8 6 2

West	North	East	South
	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Rong was right on this deal. Sitting West, he made the killing lead of the king of spades! That pickled the queen of spades while forcing out the ace. Even though declarer was able to run the entire club suit after a successful finesse, he had only eight tricks before the defense got in to cash their spades.

What happened at the other table? Well, South feared the spade situation and chose four hearts, even though he had only a doubleton. Gao Cong Cong won the diamond lead of the jack with the ace, led a spade to his ace and ruffed his other spade. The ♥10 was allowed to hold, and Cong switched his attention to diamonds. West rose with the king and gave his partner a diamond

ruff. East switched to a club, but Cong finessed, drove out the ace of trumps and claimed for a gain of 12 IMPs.

The other members of the Shanghai team were Dai Jian Ming and Fe Xiu Ming. Also playing on the runner-up Mavromichalis team were Fu Zhong of China and Paul, Justin and Jason Hackett of England.

Victors in the women’s event were Zhang Yalan, Jiang Hong, Wu ShooHong and Fang Lei of China. The Junior winners were Michael Lam, Charmian Koo, Andy K.O. Leung, Wong Kon, C.C. Mok and K.F. Mak of China.

Strange, startling things can happen when partners forget what conventions they’re playing. Case in point – this deal from the Open Teams round-robin.

Dealer: South ♠ A 10 7
 Vul: None ♥ 4 3
 ♦ K Q J 10 6 4 2
 ♣ 5

♠ J 9 4 3 ♥ A 8 7 5 2 ♦ 3 ♣ Q 9 7	♠ K Q 5 ♥ Q J 10 9 ♦ — ♣ A K 6 4 3 2	♠ 8 6 2 ♥ K 6 ♦ A 9 8 7 5 ♣ J 10 8
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In an earlier match, Sherman Ng had opened with a bid of four spades. Afterwards he told partner Robert Zajac that he would have opened four diamonds but was afraid that Zajac would have forgotten they were playing *Namyats*.

West	North	East	South
<i>Mavromichalis Ng</i>		<i>P. Hackett</i>	<i>Zajac</i>
Pass	4♦	Dble	Redbl
Pass	Pass	5♣	6♣
Dble	6♦	Dble	6♠
Dble	All Pass		

Zajac didn’t forget – he knew partner had long spades when he opened four diamonds. He redoubled Paul Hackett’s double to show some spades and some high-card values. He couldn’t quite understand why his partner passed the redouble, but he decided to force to at least a small slam by cuebidding clubs. Not surprisingly Ng ran to six diamonds. “Aha! Second-round control of diamonds,” thought Zajac. However, he thought he had bid his all to this point, so he signed

off in six spades.

This was a deal where everyone had regrets afterwards. Ng was unhappy that he had forgotten they were using Namyats. Zajac wondered why he didn't get the message when partner passed the redouble and later bid six diamonds. Brigitte Mavromichalis and Paul Hackett were displeased when they set the contract "only" eight tricks for plus 2000.

"We were cold for plus 2900," said Hackett. "All we had to do was lead trumps." Sure enough – trump leads would have held Zajac to just one trick – the spade ace. As it was, Zajac managed to score a couple of ruffs before the sky fell.

How did this hand come to light? When interviewed for a Daily Bulletin feature, Zajac chose this deal when asked for his most interesting board of the tournament.

Just about everyone who played Board 12 of Round 7 in six hearts went down, but Fu Zhong made this contract — with an overtrick

Board 12	♠ K Q 8 7 5 2	
Dealer: West	♥ —	
Vul: N-S	♦ 10 9 7 6 4 3	
	♣ 8	
	♠ —	♠ A 9 6 4 3
	♥ A K Q 9 3 2	♥ 7 6 5
	♦ K	♦ A 8
	♣ A K 10 6 5 2	♣ 7 4 3
	♠ J 10	
	♥ J 10 8 4	
	♦ Q J 5 2	
	♣ Q J 9	

Fu of course opened the West hand 2♣, and North made a preemptive jump to 3♠ with his 6-6. This came back to Fu, who ventured 4♥. Paul Hackett, who was playing with Fu for the first time, liked his two aces and leaped to the heart slam.

North led the spade king, which actually helped Fu — it gave him an extra entry to dummy. He put up the ace and led a club. When South played the 9, Fu covered with the 10! When North followed with the 8, all of Fu's clubs were good. Next he led his king of diamonds and overtook with the ace to lead a trump. When South played small, Fu finessed the 9! Now he had all 13 tricks! You wouldn't think the overtrick would make a difference, but it did. Since six hearts went down a trick at the other table, the Hackett team was plus 1110 for 15 IMPs. If Fu had made only six, they would have been plus 1080 for 14 IMPs.

If South had split his honors on the club lead, Fu would have been limited to 12 tricks. He could cash

three top hearts and then get to dummy with the ace of diamonds. A club finesse then would bring home the suit and the contract. The only loser would be a trump.

Because of North's preempt and the diamond situation, Fu felt the hand was likely to be extremely distributional. He and his partner had only three diamonds between them, so the chances were good that North had at least four diamonds - maybe even five or six.

When South followed with the 9 on the first club lead, Fu noticed that the 8 was missing and decided to play for a 3-1 break. He was right. Once the clubs were good, Fu didn't really need to pick up the whole heart suit, but he did it anyway.

What if North had led a diamond? Declarer would have a choice — win the ace or let the lead run to his king. Winning the ace does no good — South can split his honors with impunity if declarer leads a club. Declarer has no way back to the board to lead a second club for the marked finesse. If declarer lets the diamond run to the king, he can cash three top hearts and then throw South in with the fourth heart. But South can lead a club honor - again declarer can't get back to dummy to finesse.

Or South can lead a spade or a diamond, putting declarer in dummy. But South can split his honors when the club lead comes through, and once again declarer is foiled.

IBPA WEBSITE NOTICE

To access a Bulletin on the IBPA website, enter the website address www.IBPA.com followed by a forward slash, then the Bulletin code, immediately followed by .pdf

The Bulletin number for this Bulletin was given in last month's Bulletin by mistake as 439 instead of 440, so it is shown under both numbers e.g.:

<http://www.IBPA.com/439dx.pdf> (or 440)

The October Bulletin will have code 441hz

West	North	East	South
<i>You</i>		<i>Partner</i>	
Pass	4NT	Pass	1♠
Pass	7♠	Dble	5♥
			All Pass

Lou Finkel as West hit on the diamond lead, his longest suit, figuring that his partner's double was Lightner. This worked, but not for the reason he had expected. Bernie Miller was East in this nerve wracking scenario, and he figured correctly that the reason his opponents had played the Grand Slam was that North had had some problem counting key cards. However, he could also see that cashing the ace might not be so easy. After all, his partner in this auction would not normally be trying to find him with an ace!

So Miller doubled the grand slam in the hope that partner would read it as Lightner, and assume that Miller was void somewhere; therefore he would lead the suit in which he had the greatest length. By thus eliminating trumps † the Lightner double says do not lead a trump † and clubs, Miller improved the chance of a diamond lead significantly. And for once, shifting the odds in his favour worked out as he had hoped. Of course if the lead is anything but a diamond, thirteen tricks are very easy.

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The match between Israel and USAII at the World Junior Teams Championships in Fort Lauderdale saw Chris Willenken of the American team find a nice play to pick up a game swing.

Dlr: West	♠ A J 10 5 3
Vul: Both	♥ Q 9 8
	♦ 8 5 4
	♣ 10 8

♠ 8 6	♠ K Q 7 2
♥ K 10 7 6 2	♥ 5 4 3
♦ 10 6	♦ K 7 2
♣ 9 6 3 2	♣ K Q 7

♠ 9 4
♥ A J
♦ A Q J 9 3
♣ A J 5 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1♣	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Both tables declared 3NT from the South seat on a transfer auction, after East had opened One Club, and both Wests untrustingly led a heart rather than a club. The Israeli declarer tried to maximize his chances in hearts; he ducked in dummy and won the heart cheaply in hand. Then he used his entry to table by taking the ace of spades to finesse diamonds, and pressed on with that suit. But East could win his king of diamonds to set up the hearts, with plenty of ways to regain the lead, and he still had a heart left to reach his partner, to set the

hand by a trick.

By contrast, at his table Chris Willenken as South focused correctly on the problem of entries to dummy. He was prepared to sacrifice the slim chance of an extra heart trick in return for maximizing his chances of getting to dummy twice. He put up the queen of hearts at the first trick, and when it held, he now had two entries to dummy to play diamonds for five tricks. That was enough for the contract.

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A common defensive manoeuvre is to "follow with the card that you are known to hold" i.e. when declarer's earlier play has been to take a successful finesse against you, consider dropping the marked honour as soon as you can afford it.

Dlr: East	♠ A J 9	
Vul: Both	♥ K Q J	
	♦ 9 5 3	
	♣ K J 8 4	
	♠ Q 10 4	♠ 7 3 2
	♥ 8 7 2	♥ 9
	♦ K Q 2	♦ A 10 8 4
	♣ Q 7 6 3	♣ A 10 9 5 2
	♠ K 8 6 5	
	♥ A 10 6 5 4 3	
	♦ J 7 6	
	♣ —	

West	North	East	South
Pass	1NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
All Pass		Pass	4♥

When North opens a strong no-trump in fourth seat, South should use Stayman and then jump to 4♥ on discovering no fit opposite. On the lead of three rounds of diamonds and a trump shift, ten tricks look easy. Not so fast; assume declarer wins the trump in hand and finesses the ♠J early. When the finesse succeeds, South draws a second round of trumps and cashes the ♠A. (*IBPA Editor: No! See later*)

If West contributes the ♠Q — the card he is known to hold on the second round, might not South contemplate drawing trumps ending in dummy, then passing the ♠9? *IBPA Editor:* Declarer can do much better. He should begin with a low club off dummy, setting East a problem. Suppose, after analysis, East gets it right and plays low. The position of ♣A is now known (also West passed in third seat and has already shown up with 7 points). If East has ♣A and four spades he can be squeezed so there is no need to guess the suit. The case for playing spades next rests on *West*, the player with three trumps, also having four spades. Even then South could succeed by pinning *West*'s ♣Q. South can ruff another club, draw the third trump and finesse ♠J. In the 4-card ending a defender guarding spades must have a bare club honour, so the game can still be made.

Justin Hackett and Barbara Stawowy Wed

By Patrick Jourdain (Wales)

Magazines Hello! and OK! missed out. Wedding of the Year took place in Manchester on the first day of September. Justin Hackett, 31, the England international, married Barbara Stawowy of the German Ladies bridge team in the presence of bridge stars from around the world.

The weekend had a rousing start when a hundred of the guests went, literally, to the dogs. By that I mean the greyhound races at Bellevue Stadium, Manchester. My betting syndicate had a poor start. Our first four selections all brought up the rear. We enquired how one could place a bet on which dog would finish last, but found this was not one of the options permitted. Fortunately our luck turned, to the point where the evening ended in profit.

On Saturday morning there was just time for a round of golf before the wedding at St. Catherine's Church in Manchester. Best man was Danny Davies, and chief usher a resplendent Jason Hackett accompanied by Barbara's brother, Peter. Bridesmaids were Katrin Farwig and Tanja Ratzeburg.

Two hundred guests attended the reception, an 18-course banquet at Manchester's leading Chinese restaurant, Yang Sing. The meal co-incident with the World Cup Qualifying match between England and Germany. Master of Ceremonies, Ross Harper, kept the company informed of the score. With bride and groom representing the harmony between these countries one wondered whether the applause for the scoreline was unsettling for some of the guests.

The dinner-party game was to count those present who had world titles to their name. The Hackett twins were part of the British Junior team that won the 1995 World Junior title in Bali. Six of that team were there. The same year Germany had won the Venice Cup in Beijing. Four players from that team were present. Other Venice Cup champions were three from Britain and one from the USA. Throw in World Individual champion Geir Helgemo of Norway (though it might be easier to throw in someone else), and Roland Rohowsky, the only player to have won a World Open title (the

1990 Rosenblum) *before* he won the World Juniors (oh yes, Klaus Reps was in that team as well) and I made the total 17. Incidentally, Rohowsky was credited with introducing Justin to Barbara.

Add in those with Zonal titles, such as members of the England Ladies team, Fu Zhong of China, P-O Sundelin of Sweden, Jens Auken of Denmark and national representatives from Japan and the four Home countries, and the Federation tally came to at least fifteen. One could certainly have had a decent six-table world championship after dinner, but instead it was on with the dancing to the early hours.

A nice touch was the gathering next day at Manchester Bridge Club to give guests a chance to say goodbye and wish the new Mr & Mrs Hackett well. Parents Paul, an IBPA member, and Olivia must have been pleased with the way things had gone. The new couple will be based in Manchester, but Barbara intends to retain her eligibility for Germany. No worry, most Mixed events are Transnational!

Picture courtesy of Kevin Comrie

The X-Files (contd)

By Knut Kjaernsrod (Norway)

Regular readers of the Bulletin will probably remember John Løkeberg, a friend of mine who spends a fair amount of his time in Poland. A couple of months ago he reported these two boards where the main point was to jettison cards we normally cling on to.

Dealer: North ♠ Q J 10 6 4 2
 Love all ♥ Q 9
 ♦ 4
 ♣ K 9 8 2

♠ A K ♠ 8 7 5 3
 ♥ A K 8 3 ♥ 7 4
 ♦ A 8 6 3 2 ♦ J 7
 ♣ 5 4 ♣ A Q J 10 3

♠ 9
 ♥ J 10 6 5 2
 ♦ K Q 10 9 5
 ♣ 7 6

John was in the West seat, no one was vulnerable, and the bidding went:

North	East	South	West
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All pass			

2♠ was weak, and 3♣ was natural with values (2NT would have been Lebensohl). North led the spade queen to John's king, and he played a club to the queen. When this held he cashed the ace, king of hearts and the ace of diamonds. A club to the knave left this position:

♠ J 10 6 4 2
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ K 9

♠ A ♠ 8 7 5
 ♥ 8 3 ♥ —
 ♦ 8 6 3 2 ♦ J
 ♣ — ♣ A 10 3

♠ —
 ♥ J 10 6
 ♦ K Q 10 9
 ♣ —

The ace of clubs revealed the distribution, and John made his masterstroke by throwing his ace of spades. North made his king of clubs and two spade tricks but dummy's eight of spades proved entrance to the good club.

A few days later this board came up:

♠ 7 3
 ♥ J 10 3
 ♦ K J 10 9 7 3 2
 ♣ 6

♠ A Q 10 9 8 5 ♠ K J
 ♥ — ♥ A K 7 6 5 2
 ♦ A 3 ♦ Q 6
 ♣ A Q 4 3 2 ♣ 8 7 5

♠ 6 4 2
 ♥ Q 9 8 4
 ♦ 8 5
 ♣ K J 10 9

West	North	East	South
3♠	3♦	3♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	4♠	Pass
5NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass	6♥	Pass

North opened a pre-emptive 3♦, and John ended up in 6♠ as West (4N was RKCB and 6♥ denied a minor suit king). North led his singleton club to the nine and queen, and at first glance it look rather difficult to come to more than 11 tricks. John, however, found the line to success. He played a spade to the knave, and on the ace of hearts he jettisoned his ace of diamonds! He ruffed a heart, a spade to the king and ruffed another heart. After pulling South's last trump, the situation was:

♠ —
 ♥ —
 ♦ K J 10 9 7 3
 ♣ —

♠ Q ♠ —
 ♥ — ♥ K 7 6
 ♦ 4 ♦ Q 6
 ♣ A 4 3 2 ♣ 8

♠ —
 ♥ Q
 ♦ 8 5
 ♣ K J 10

When John led a diamond, North got his king, but then he had to put dummy on play.

IBPA Editor: This deal has a familiar theme. The last deal reported from the same source (see Bulletin 436, May, page 13) was given a title by Knut that seemed appropriate: The X-files, so I have used it again. Knut says Lokeborg reports the hands were dealt at his club in Bydgosz, Poland this Spring.

Contact: knut@baglervik.net

... /continued from Page 16

* The Senior Swiss Teams at the EBU's Summer Meeting in Brighton, part of the EBL-approved European Seniors circuit, was a clear win for the team led by John Collings. His team-mates were David Jones, Wally Scott and Ken Forsyth. The runners-up were the team containing the European silver medallists Keith Stanley and Derek Rue, closely followed by the team containing the IBPA Editor. The team containing the current world senior teams champion, Nissan Rand, with the European gold medallists Goran Mattson and Hans Humburg, and Shayu Levitt were fourth.

The Senior Pairs was won by European Ladies Team gold medallist Rhona Goldenfield, partnering her husband Bernard, with John Collings and David Jones as runners-up. Martin Hoffman, partnering Ross Harper came third.

The main Pairs event, with 602 pairs competing over three days, was won by IBPA member David Burn partnering Heather Dhondy of London. The next day Burn, on his return to London, was mugged by a group of youths who wanted his wallet.

Burn returned to Brighton for the second-weekend Teams event (270 teams) in crutches. "I see you have come out in sympathy," said Andrew Robson, who was returning to British tournament bridge following his remarkable recovery from the horrific climbing accident suffered earlier this year. Robson's team (Espen Erichsen, Rune Hauge, Jan Pettersvendsen) won the "B" Final. The "A" Final results were: 1. Tony Waterlow, Ian Panto, Ken Ford, Ian Swanson. 136; 2. R. Probst 82; 3. B. Cornelius 76.

Here is a deal featuring Burn reported by Brian Senior from the Mixed Pairs where Burn was partnering Diane Sloan, the Northern Ireland international:

Dealer: West	♠ A K 9 6 5	
N/S Game	♥ 4	
	♦ A Q 8	
	♣ A Q 5 2	
	♠ 10 4	♠ None
	♥ Q J 9 7 5 3	♥ 8 6 2
	♦ 6 3	♦ K 10 9 7 4 2
	♣ K 8 7	♣ 9 6 4 3
	♠ Q J 8 7 3 2	
	♥ A K 10	
	♦ J 5	
	♣ J 10	

Sloan (North) and Burn (South) bid unopposed:

1♠-2♦!-3♣-3♠-4♦-4NT-5♦-5NT-6♣-6NT-Pass

They had not discussed whether 2NT was a game-forcing major suit raise, hence Burn's 2♦ invention. The response

to 4NT showed 1 or 4 keycards, then no extra kings. The decision to try for 6NT struck Senior as "slightly dubious".

After West led ♥Q it was obvious to try the club finesse as even if it lost declarer would make his slam. When ♣10 slipped through Burn decided to assume the king was onside. He played the Vienna Coup of a low diamond to the ace, followed by all the spades and ♥K. Declarer was left with ♥10, ♦J and ♣J, dummy with three clubs. As West had to keep ♥J and East ♦K the clubs were sure to come in. It was actually East who was squeezed.

* *Hans-Olof Hallen spots this error in the last Bulletin:* Column service hand 176 last paragraph: ♣10 should be ♣9. He answered the Editor's footnote query, page 14 on Maureen Hiron's hand: No, ♣Q does *not* work as declarer might duck, then later fell East's king to obtain a heart discard on ♣J, before taking the heart finesse. Conclusion: Fenn's switch was the only one to beat the contract.

Boye Brogeland also noted that ♣Q switch does not work and added that on the actual switch of ♣10 declarer would have reached this interesting ending had he run all his trumps (spades). Here it is, with one to go:

	♠ None	
	♥ Q 9	
	♦ None	
	♣ J 2	
♠ None		♠ None
♥ 3		♥ K 10
♦ None		♦ 9
♣ Q 8 7		♣ K
	♠ 6	
	♥ A 6	
	♦ None	
	♣ 9	

East has had to hang on ♣K in case South cashes ♥A and leads a club forcing West to concede a club to dummy.

It looks as if East may get endplayed, but the last trump squeezes dummy. If dummy throws a heart East throws his diamond. If dummy throws a club, East jettisons his ♣K. *IBPA Editor:* A similar ending arises if declarer, when taking the heart finesse starts with the queen, covered by king and ace.

* *Zhou Qi of Flushing New York* says that the recent Bols Book of Bridge Tips contains his Tip "Play your honour earlier if it is of no use" but drops one of the examples. "Do you think this is proper?" he asks.

IBPA Editor: The example dropped was the famous 7♣ hand from the end of the Italy v. USA 1975 Bermuda Bowl Final where the defender on lead is happily looking at ♣K10 until he sees ♣AQ in dummy. Had he played the king on the first round of trumps declarer, Belladonna, might well have tried for an unsuccessful trump coup against the other defender.

The Editor may have dropped this because the hand is so well-known or to fit the space. The exclusion does not change the nature of the Tip so, in my opinion, that is acceptable Editorial licence.

* *Ron Klinger says:* In the Youth Test Match, New Zealand (Martijn Prent, Jonathan West, Christiaan Prent, Mike Dollan, Jillian Hay, Michelle Murphy) defeated Australia (Arian Lasocki, Daniel Krochmalik, Michael Delivera, Robin Stevenson) by 176 - 159. Captain of NZ: Scott Smith. Captain of Australia: Deborah Moir.

* *Villy Dam of Denmark says:* As to the August Bulletin page 8, first hand of Column Service: The contract will also fail, if East at trick 3 returns ♦A followed by a small diamond; club-ruff and new diamond! This kills one of the discards on the diamonds.

* *Harold Schogger of London* reports that on Microsoft Gaming Zone some players don't bother to play out 1-level contracts. "This goes against the whole spirit of the game." This is contrary to the Laws of the Game and players should know it.

* *Kauko Koistinen says:* The Tenerife Butler Rankings report in July had a small error. Most boards were not played by the Slovenians (660), but by Osmo Kiema and I (Finland). We played all 680 boards (except one misboarded). We didn't play too well in Tenerife, but we played a lot!

* *Anna Gudge says:* The European Simultaneous Pairs will be held in November on Monday 26th, Tues 27th, Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th.

The format will be the same as it was last year – National Bridge Organisations (NBOs) need to put their clubs in touch with me.

If you need me to send you scoring CDs, please let me know.

The entry fee is SFR 6 per player (SFR 12 per pair), and this will be invoiced to the NBO after the event. Of this, 2 SFR per pair will be credited to the NBO and can be used to pay the NBO's EBL dues at the beginning of 2002. So the more participants the NBO has the better.

I will be emailing everything in Acrobat format, which means that the clubs will require Adobe Acrobat Reader in order to read the files. This can be obtained free from www.adobe.com and is a very useful program. The travellers will have the hands printed on them, and I will also email a simple copy of the commentary should the clubs wish to print this out for their members.

The commentary will be on the website at:
www.eblsims.org

both as web pages and also as an Acrobat (and possibly a Word) file, so that the players can download it and print it or read it offline if they wish.

The scoring will be done in the same way as the World Simultaneous Pairs, and the results displayed as they were for that event (have a look at www.worldbridge.org).

* *Christine Duckworth says:* the date of this year's Lederer Memorial Trophy has been changed to avoid a problem for players returning from Bali. Instead of 3 - 4 November 2001, it will be on 10 - 11 November, still at the Young Chelsea BC in London.

* *Jude Goodwin-Hanson of Canada says:*

There is a page on Great Bridge Links that might interest IBPA members:

The Vugraph Controversy A matter of data ...

<http://www.greatbridgelinks.com/GBLArchives/GBL010803.html>

* *More wedding bells! Anna Gudge reports:*

We have news of two more "bridge weddings"

Sidney Lazard and Betsey Wolff tied the knot on 29th June and Richard Grenside married Sue Surman last weekend!

I am sure all IBPA members will want to join us in wishing each of the happy couples a great future together.

POINTS FROM THE POSTBAG

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

LETTERS ...

Email: patrickjourdain@compuserve.com (or 100430.2021@compuserve.com)

* The Australian Bridge Federation has signed an agreement with the British-based International Online Bridge Club to provide online bridge for members of the ABF, *announces IOBC*. The contract covers two years with an introductory period of six months during which ABF members will use the British server. IOBC is already the service provider for the English Bridge Union. Masterpoints will awarded on both EBU and ABF scales with the restriction that at most one-third of a player's points may be won online.

The agreement with the ABF will allow IOBC to improve its 24-hour coverage. Currently times unsuitable to European bridge-players are poorly supported.

Contact: www.ebuonline.co.uk and info@bridgeplayer.com and, for the ABF's Keith McDonald: Keith@uqp.uq.edu.au

* The First World University Bridge Championships are to be held from 02 - 11 August 2002 in Bruges, Belgium under the auspices of The World Bridge Federation and FISU (Fédération Internationale du sport Universitaire - the International University Sports Federation).

The WBF urges Federations to send a University team to this event. It is extremely important that such Championships are well supported to demonstrate the commitment of all bridge playing nations to the Sport of Bridge in this type of environment.

Contact: Anna Gudge: anna@ecats.co.uk

* *John Wignall* sends this deal from the NZ National Congress. It is a candidate for our *Carey Limousine* Defence of the Year Award

In view of the strong overseas presence at the national bridge congress this year it was pleasing to see two New Zealand teams contesting the final of the Open teams competition.

Many of the Australian visitors were in fact Kiwis who learned their in NZ but who now live in Australia. Two of these were Seamus Browne (East) and Ishmael DelMonte (West) when this deal appeared in the later stages of the Teams.

Dealer: South ♠ Q 4 2
Game All ♥ 10 5 3 2
♦ K 10 3 2
♣ 6 5

♠ J 5	♠ 7 6
♥ K 4	♥ A Q 9 8 7
♦ Q J 9 6 4	♦ A 8 7 5
♣ Q J 10 3	♣ 9 4
	♠ A K 10 9 8 3
	♥ J 6
	♦ None
	♣ A K 8 7 2

Playing Precision, South opened 1♠, West Passed, and North raised to 2♠. East passed, South jumped to 4♠, and everyone was satisfied.

The ♣Q was led and won by the declarer's ace. He cashed ♠A and ♣K and ruffed a club with the queen of trumps. A diamond was ruffed in South's hand after which he ruffed his fourth club with dummy's last trump.

Seamus Browne over-ruffed and played the ace of hearts. If Delmonte, West, had followed with his small heart he will win the third trick for the defence with ♥K, but then will be powerless to do anything to beat the contract. But Delmonte was sure South held ♠K and could therefore count 14 points with South who would have opened 1♣ with 16. So East had to have ♥Q. The killing defence became clear.

Under ♥A, West dropped his king. Browne now cashed the queen and followed with a third heart, promoting West's jack of trumps into the setting trick.

IBPA Editor: Wignall adds that the same inference was available to East who could deduce his partner held ♥K, and therefore underlead his ace. However, that does not detract from West's unblock that saved the defence. Declarer could have survived, after ruffing the third club high, by simply drawing trumps, and giving up a club and two hearts, but this line would fail if the jack of trumps did not fall.

* *Liz McGowan* has a new e-mail address:

liz.mcgowan@blueyonder.co.uk

"Points from the Postbag" continues on page 14 ...