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THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: JOHN CARRUTHERS

This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 500 members of the International Bridge Press Association comprising the world's leading journalists, authors and editors of news, books and articles about contract bridge, with an estimated readership of some 200 million people who enjoy the most widely played of all card games

N° 465 Year 2003 Date October 10

Editorial

The opinions expressed here are solely those of the Editor, and do not necessarily represent those of the IBPA Executive or its members.

The Bermuda Bowl is the oldest extant World Bridge Championship. Has it lost a little of its lustre over the years? When the Bermuda Bowl began in 1950, it was the only World Championship (there had been a couple of unofficial world championships in the 1930s), and remained so for a decade, at which time the first Olympiad Teams was organized. In 1978, the current scheme began to emerge with the introduction of the Rosenblum Knock-out Team Championship.

The current structure of World Team Championships is excellent – the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup in every odd-numbered year, the Olympiad every four years in the same years as the IOC holds the Summer Olympics, and the Rosenblum and McConnell in the other even-numbered years.

The Olympiad is a one-team-per-country event and the Rosenblum is open to all. The Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup are somewhere in between, and are now billed as the World Interzonal Teams Championships. They are organized much like the World Cup of Football, with each zone sending one or more teams.

So what is the problem, you might ask? The problem, to my mind, is that with the proliferation of events, and of the expanding number of teams in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, some of the prestige of winning one of them has been lost, and with it some of the interest. Does something drastic need to be done? Probably not, but something could be done to increase interest in the events. One such change would be to return to a more truly zonal event, like the early ones pitting Europe against North America. I'm not suggesting we go back to that very elitist event, but to a real zonal tournament.

The most interesting aspect of the first Rosenblum in New Orleans to many of us was how the knockout brackets were set up (no round robins). There were three brackets: Europe, North America and the Rest of the World. The winner of each bracket gained a spot in the semifinals. The fourth semifinal berth was made up by the winner of the Repêchage. What this meant was that, once knocked out of your bracket, you went into a Swiss teams, joined each day by all the knockout losers. The top eight from that event played a mini-knockout, the winner of which was the fourth team in the semifinals. Indeed, the victorious mini-knockout team from Poland emerged to win it all.

So, would it not be more interesting to set up the Zonal Teams in this fashion? There could be four brackets: Europe, the Americas, Asia, and Africa & Oceania. The teams in these four brackets would play amongst themselves to produce a winner for the semifinals. Each bracket could, for example, play a round robin with the top four reaching an intra-bracket semifinal. This could either be done at a zonal site, or it could all be done at one location. Then the semifinals and finals could be two-day matches, for example, or longer.

(Editorial concluded on page 15.)

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Deter's Coup

By Ib Lundby, Fredensborg, Denmark

(These deals may be used by members without attribution.)

In April, teams from the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway and Denmark competed as training for the Open European Championships. I enjoyed this hand from the match where Denmark played Sweden:

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Johan Hammelev	Magnus Lindqvist	Nils Mønsted	Peter Fredin
—	—	—	1 NT ¹
2 ♦ ²	Double	3 ♥	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass

1. 15-17
2. Multi

The opening lead was the six of hearts, won by the ace. When Fredin next played a trump towards dummy and noticed West's heart discard, he whispered to his screen-mate on the left: "I will not make this one!"

Anyway, he won the trick with the spade queen and asked for a sneaky low diamond from dummy. East played the nine in tempo, and it was "game over"! West ducked the ten, but it didn't matter. A low diamond went to the king, swallowing the queen, and when South handled the club suit the right way (the jack from dummy), he made ten tricks and apologised to West for his earlier remark.

East should have read the situation a little better. South had already shown the heart ace and the spade ace, king, and for sure he has a club honour (with the ace, king of clubs, West would have had a natural club lead). So there was no room for the diamond ace in the South hand.

My guess is that Knut Blakset had read about "Peter's Coup" when he partnered Peter Fredin recently in the AVIS Copenhagen Open, played in Blaksets Bridgecenter, Copenhagen. This deal came up in the Open Pairs, with players from four nations (USA, Sweden, Germany and Denmark) as actors. (See top of next column.)

In three no trumps, Declarer, Blakset, ducked the spade king lead, and West continued with the queen and jack, the ace winning the third trick as South discarded a club. Now came the kill point: a low heart from dummy!

Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Barry Goren	Peter Fredin	Sabine Auken	Knut Blakset
1 ♣	Double	2 ♦	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	Double	2 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

South's plan was excellent. If East had ducked, South would have been able to make three tricks each in hearts and clubs as well as one in both of the other suits, just making his two no trumps. But this time Knut Blakset had a world champion on his right - Sabine Auken was East, and she had carefully noted the order of West's play of the spade honours - upside down from normal. Therefore she had no problem in rising with the heart queen, because partner must have the ace. Thus, the defence made six tricks - one off.

A nice AVIS deal ("avis" means newspaper in Danish).

He Who Bids Blindly Must Play Precisely

By Marek Wójcicki, Przemysl, Poland

This board from the selection trials for the Polish team to go to the 2003 Bermuda Bowl shows that a poor bidder must demonstrate excellent skill as declarer...

Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Krupowicz	Gawrys	Zawislak	Jassem
—	1 ♣	2 ♥ ¹	3 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Tutti-Frutti - weak two in spades or weak two-suiter in hearts and a minor

After the bidding, which cannot be shown to juniors as an example of a precision auction, Krupowicz led the nine of spades (Polish leads – second best). Krzysztof Jassem saw that six hearts would have been much easier, but he still had to collect twelve tricks at no trumps.

Declarer discarded a club from dummy (the first important move in the right direction - discarding a club, not a heart, to maintain transportation), and North ducked with the spade two. How would you play?

Jassem realized that even four diamond tricks gave him only eleven in total...he stopped hoping to find the club queen singleton when he was a young boy. Still, it cost nothing to get some news about the opponents' distribution. Jassem cashed the queen of hearts and played to the ace - North discarded the three of spades on the second heart. When the heart singleton in the East hand was disclosed, a singleton queen of clubs was practically impossible.

So, the only chance to make the slam was a throw-in squeeze against East - to execute it East had to have four clubs to the queen together with the spade ace. (If the queen was third, the squeeze would not be possible – in the projected four-card ending North would keep two spades and two clubs, and the three clubs in the West hand would give the defenders a club stopper.)

Jassem thus assumed ten black cards in the East hand. Then, making the next key play, he took the right view in diamonds – he cashed the king (Zawislak throwing the eight!) and finessed the nine, which held the trick.

After the fall of the diamond eight, declarer had the option of finessing the diamond jack (winning against ten-eight in the East hand), or playing the ace (successful against queen-eight). Nevertheless, he finessed the nine, spurning the rule of restricted choice. Playing at the highest level, you must assume that the defenders' plays make your life as difficult as possible, so it is usually better to go with the a priori odds than with the rule of restricted choice.

A six-one-two-four distribution of the East hand became more and more probable. Declarer came to the hand with the heart ten (spade six from East). One more diamond finesse, this time with the jack, East discarding another spade, the seven. Then the ace of diamonds, East discarding the club five and declarer the spade five from his hand.

In the following ending...

```

♠ —
♥ J
♦ —
♣ A K 6 3

♠ Q 8
♥ A
♦ —
♣ J 4

```

...Jassem could be fairly certain that East had two spades and three clubs. When the last heart was played, East's position was hopeless - he discarded a spade, baring the ace. He was then thrown in with the spade eight. Zawislak tried the queen of clubs, hoping for partner to have the spade queen or the club jack, but that was not the case. Here is the complete deal:

```

♠ —
♥ Q J 7 4
♦ A J 9 4
♣ A K 6 3 2

♠ 10 9 4
♥ 8 6 3 2
♦ Q 10 7 3
♣ 8 7

♠ A J 7 6 3 2
♥ 9
♦ 8 5
♣ Q 10 9 5

♠ K Q 8 5
♥ A K 10 5
♦ K 6 2
♣ J 4

```

Both pairs involved in the board qualified for the Polish national team for the 2003 Bermuda Bowl in Monaco.

Biarritz

By Hervé Pacault, Bordeaux

The 18th Biarritz International Festival was held at the beginning of July, with close to a thousand participants representing more than 25 countries. Five events were offered: IMP Pairs, Open Pairs, Mixed Pairs, Individual and Teams. Each summer Maria-Teresa Lavazza and the World Champion Italian team, Zia Mahmood, Paul Chemla and others put in an appearance.

The Open Pairs (280 pairs) was won by Norberto Bocchi and Georgio Duboin, with close to a 69% average over the three sessions. The Teams (108 teams) was won by Lavazza-Duboin and Buratti-Lanzarotti; the IMP Pairs (124 pairs) by Abecassis-Lasserre; the Mixed (200 pairs) by the Vives; and the Individual by Pujol.

The next edition of the Festival will be held from June 29 to July 11, 2004. Information can be found at www.biarriz-bridge.com.

Here is an interesting deal from this year's tournament, featuring an injudicious double.

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

```

♠ A K J 4
♥ A Q 10 9 5
♦ 9 5
♣ K 4

♠ Q 9 8 7 5
♥ 4 2
♦ A 10 6
♣ 10 5 2

♠ 10 6 2
♥ K J 8 7 6
♦ J 8 4
♣ J 6

♠ 3
♥ 3
♦ K Q 7 3 2
♣ A Q 9 8 7 3

```

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4 ♥	Double	Pass
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

This deal occurred at the table of the Indian pair, Rajeev and Himani Khandelwal. After the double of four hearts, Himani knew that hearts would not be a source of tricks for declarer; so led a potentially devastating trump, then followed with another trump when in with the ace of diamonds. Nevertheless, declarer still made his slam. Do you see how?

South took the trump lead with the king and led a diamond to the king and ace. West persisted with clubs to prevent declarer from ruffing a diamond to establish the suit. Declarer had only ten tricks now and two more looked to be a major obstacle. Moreover, the double of four hearts discouraged any line of play involving setting up the hearts. Declarer needed to look for another way.

The solution consisted of setting up a double squeeze, first on LHO in spades and diamonds, then on RHO in hearts and diamonds. However, the timing needed was delicate. It was necessary to take the ace of hearts before running the trumps or taking the spade finesse.

South drew a third round of trumps, cashed the ace of hearts, followed by the queen, just in case an (admittedly improbable) doubleton jack was on his left, trumping the heart king. Then, he ran all his trumps to arrive at this position:

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

The last trump obliged West to throw a diamond, lest South run the spades, and North and East both subsequently discarded spades. Three rounds of spades with the aid of the finesse now squeezed East between diamonds and hearts.

Note that if West ducks the diamond king smoothly (difficult to do without seeing the queen), the double squeeze would be nullified. Declarer, however, continues with a small diamond, forcing the defenders to play a trump. This time, declarer is successful by squeezing West in diamonds and spades (after having cashed the ace of hearts along the way).

All the same, a duck in tempo may induce declarer to re-enter dummy with the heart ace to play another diamond, going down if he puts up the queen.

The contract of six clubs was made easily on a non-trump lead at every other table at which it was bid, the declarers being able to set up the diamonds with a ruff.

Long Beach

By Barry Rigal, New York City

David Berkowitz found the key to this puzzle... In their Spingold quarterfinal match, Berkowitz saw that he probably would be unable to use the club

suit because dummy's entry was destroyed by the opening spade lead. But the clubs still played a key role in the play.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Buratti	Cohen	Lanzarotti	Berkowitz
—	—	—	1 NT
Pass	2 ♠ ¹	Pass	2 NT ²
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥ ³
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	3 NT ⁴
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Clubs
2. Poor hand for clubs
3. Better hand for diamonds
4. But not that good

Andrea Buratti led the spade queen to dummy's ace, and Berkowitz took the diamond finesse, losing to the king. Buratti switched to the club queen and Berkowitz ducked!

Buratti tried a diamond to declarer's ten, and Berkowitz led a low heart. Buratti took this and led another diamond. Berkowitz cashed his last diamond, and Massimo Lanzarotti was feeling the pinch. He was forced to save three hearts and the king, six of clubs. So Berkowitz cashed his two high hearts and the spade king and tucked Lanzarotti in with his heart ten. Lanzarotti had to give Berkowitz the last two tricks by leading away from his king of clubs. Well played, indeed!

The defence in the other room was equally sparkling though. Declarer, Gerry Sosler, also played three no trumps after Kay Schulle had showed clubs. The spade queen lead was won in dummy and Peter Boyd discouraged. Declarer played a diamond to the queen, which Steve Robinson ducked smoothly. Now came a club, and Sosler ducked the queen.

Robinson carefully exited with a low heart to dummy's queen, and Sosler played a diamond to the ten and Robinson's king. When Robinson returned a diamond all declarer could do was cash his diamonds. In this ending:

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

Sosler, who had five tricks in, led the heart king, and Robinson ducked again! Now although Robinson could be endplayed in spades he would have one too many defensive winners to cash. So Sosler led to his club ace, but now had only a club exit from dummy. Robinson could shake his last heart loser and a spade through Sosler settled his hash. Despite all of that, Sosler had the last laugh, winning through to the semi-finals comfortably enough.

Those Swedish guys sure know how to bid...

Sweden's Peter Fredin made an excellent decision on the following hand from the fourth round of the Spingold. Fredin was a member of the squad captained by Lou Ann O'Rourke; they were battling the number two seed led by Nick Nickell. Take Fredin's cards and see how well you do.

With East the dealer and no one vulnerable, as North, you hold:

♠ A K 5
♥ K 10 9 7 6
♦ 10 3
♣ A J 10

On your left, Bob Hamman deals and opens three diamonds. Your partner, Magnus Lindkvist, bids three no trumps, and your right-hand-opponent, Paul Soloway, bids four diamonds. What now?

Without agreements, this is certainly a challenging hand to describe, but the Swedes play that a double in this situation shows values without a clear direction. Without this understanding, you would probably be forced into a five diamond cuebid. That itself isn't bad, but given the choice, you would probably want to convey the same information at a lower level, hence the double is more flexible.

Assuming you have cleared that hurdle, partner now bids five clubs, natural. Your next call is obvious: the five diamond cuebid is cheap and tortures partner for one more round, always a desirable goal. Partner responds five hearts, no doubt confirming ownership of the heart ace. What next?

Partner could have signed off in six clubs, so five hearts has to be taken as encouraging. The strain of your eventual contract could be in hearts or clubs (or even no trumps), but clubs is no doubt safest which is paramount at IMPs.

What's going on in the diamond suit? Partner bid three no trumps over three diamonds so he certainly has some diamond control. Is it the ace or is it king, small? The opponents preempted at the three level and raised the suit. The auction suggests, therefore, that they have a ten-card fit. If that's the case, partner is looking at a singleton diamond. True, the opponents could be messing about and actually have a nine-card fit, but that would mean partner had king doubleton and he might well have decided to sign off over the five diamond cuebid with that holding.

Additionally, the opponents might not have preempted on a six-card suit to the ace – a king, queen or king, jack holding is more likely. So you back your judgment and leap to seven clubs, and you are rewarded with this layout:

♠ A K 5
♥ K 10 9 7 6
♦ 10 3
♣ A J 10

♠ 10 8 6 4 3 2
♥ 3
♦ 7 5 4
♣ 9 8 3

♠ 9 7
♥ Q 5 4 2
♦ K Q J 9 8 6 2
♣ —

♠ Q J
♥ A J 8
♦ A
♣ K Q 7 6 5 4 2

The grand slam in clubs is laydown and was worth a ten-IMP pick-up for O'Rourke.

Cohen, Cohen, Gone!

On the deal that follows, our opponents had done the best they could, so we were rather nervous.

North Dealer. EW Vul.

♠ A J 8 5
♥ 5
♦ J 9 6 5
♣ A Q J 8

♠ 9 6 4
♥ A Q J 9 7
♦ —
♣ 10 9 6 5 2

♠ K 7
♥ 6 4 3
♦ K 10 7 4 3 2
♣ 4 3

♠ Q 10 3 2
♥ K 10 8 2
♦ A Q 8
♣ K 7

At our table, Rebecca Gough had opened one diamond as North and had saved in five diamonds. We led a heart to the ace and shifted to a club. Declarer guessed the diamonds for down one.

Since four hearts by West figures to make - except on the impossible low spade lead - we were in some jeopardy with our plus 100. However, at the other table, where Ralph Cohen was playing with Marvin Shapiro, this was their auction:

West	North	East	South
—	Shapiro		Cohen
3 ♥	1 ♣	Double	2 ♦
Pass	5 ♦	Double	Pass
	Pass		

Can you blame West for leading the four of spades? Cohen played low from dummy, and won the ten with his king. He gave up a heart and won the club shift with the ace. Next came the spade ace and the spade jack, pinning West's nine. East covered the jack with the queen, so Cohen ruffed, trumped a heart and cashed the eight of spades to pitch his club loser. When the three-zero trump break came to light, Cohen could not misguess trumps. Plus 550 and a 12-IMP pickup.

A mole's eye view...

When you play Nick Nickell's team, you don't have just Meckwell and Hamman-Soloway to contend

with. Nickell and Dick Freeman are also a formidable pair. On our next deal we got a little too high – and the issue was which nice thing to play for:

Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ A 10 7 6
♥ 10
♦ Q J 9 7 6
♣ A 9 8

♠ —
♥ A Q 8 5
♦ A 8 4 3 2
♣ K 7 6 5

West	North	East	South
Nickell	Aker	Freeman	Rigal
--	--	Pass	1 ♦
1 ♥	Double	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	6 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

On the lead of the jack of clubs, Nickell, a very sound overcaller, rated to be four-five-two-two, three-six-two-two, or four-six-two-one.

I won the club king, crossed to the club ace as Nickell produced the ten, ruffed a spade, then played the ace of hearts and ruffed a heart. The ace of spades and a spade ruff followed. When Nickell followed low and then produced the spade queen, I decided my last chance was to find him with the three-six-two-two shape or the bare king of diamonds.

My plan was to cash the diamond ace and exit with a diamond. Nickell would be down to king, jack, fourth of hearts and would be forced to lead the heart king. I'd ruff, ruff a spade back to hand, pitch dummy's club on the queen of hearts, and win the Best Hand of the Year Award...

Well, the diamond ace dropped the king, so I settled for my 13 IMP gain. This was the full deal:

♠ A 10 7 6
♥ 10
♦ Q J 9 7 6
♣ A 9 8

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

♠ —
♥ A Q 8 5
♦ A 8 4 3 2
♣ K 7 6 5

12th BFAME Championships

By Raju Tolani, Mumbai

The National Bridge Organisations of Asia and the Middle East sent their representatives to Amman in early August to contest the Zonal Championships

and decide their representatives to the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, and Seniors Bowl.

The first match of the first day in the pit was between neighbours Syria and Jordan. To them it was like a local match and it was played in a very friendly atmosphere. Jordan picked up a swing of 10 IMPs on Board 1.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

♠ K 10 7 6
♥ Q 4 2
♦ 5 2
♣ J 7 6 3

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

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

After an initial spade six lead, declarer, Ghassan for Jordan, put up the jack, taking note of the nine on his right. At this stage, eight top tricks were there, and there was plenty of scope for nine. He cashed the ace and king of diamonds, followed by the king and queen of clubs, and the first bad news was revealed.

However, declarer, had observed a slight urge by South to double three no trumps, and therefore rightly inferred that his RHO was more likely to have four diamonds, and finessed the ten of diamonds to bring home the contract.

In another match, the same hand was played equally well by Subhash Gupta of India, who had a similar inference after a huddle by South to the bid of three no trumps. He cashed only one round of clubs, observing the fall of the nine from RHO. Then he went on to cash three rounds of diamonds, noting that LHO had only two diamonds. Gupta then finessed the clubs to bring home the contract!

Club games are not so easy.

Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ —
♥ K Q 5 4 3
♦ Q 7 2
♣ A 10 7 6 3

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

♠ A K 8 2
♥ 7 6
♦ A 10 9 6
♣ Q 9 8

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

On the lead of the spade jack, Sireen, the Jordanian declarer, discarded a diamond on the spade ace and led a heart to the king, smoothly ducked by East. She then led a diamond to the ace and discarded another diamond on her king of spades. Now she played another heart to the queen, taken by East's ace. East returned yet another spade, which declarer ruffed.

Declarer ruffed a small heart with the eight of clubs. She then played a diamond from the dummy, ruffing. The last five-card position was this:

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

North was on play and led a heart at this point, and East discarded a spade and declarer comfortably ruffed with the club nine and ruffed the diamond on his way back. One more heart and East was helpless.

The following wild hand from Round 9 of the Round Robin produced varied results, the most popular of which were five and six hearts doubled. On the diagrammed bidding, what do you think Subhash Gupta, sitting West, should lead?

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♥	3 ♦	Pass	4 NT
5 ♥	5 NT	Pass	6 ♦
6 ♥	Double	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

On the auction, South was marked with at least a second round heart control. Don't you think the opponents were unlucky that Gupta did not underlead his hearts to get a diamond ruff?

For reasons best known to himself, Gupta, who has the world record for underleading honours to get a ruff, found the ace of hearts lead and went on to cash another heart as well. Bad luck for the opponents!

Round 11 in the Open Teams saw Pakistan facing the hosts, Jordan, in the pit match. Pakistan was well-placed in second, while Jordan was fighting a pitched battle to make the semi-finals. The first board was a disaster for Jordan.

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♣	Double	3 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Fazli for Pakistan bid up to six spades on the given auction, and one has sympathy for Marwan for having led the ace of clubs when holding the queen of hearts, especially in view of the four no trumps bid by North. It is impossible for North to manoeuvre twelve tricks without that lead. In the other room on a different auction Sarfaraz led his singleton diamond and gained 14 IMPs for Pakistan.

See if you can spot the defence on this deal from the India-Jordan semifinal match.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the Open Room, Jordan's Marwan led the eight of spades to partner Sireen's six and declarer, Rajeshwar's ace. Declarer played the king and queen of clubs, followed by the diamond queen. Do you take your diamond king?

Of course, the declarer here played the hand very competently, not revealing his ace of clubs. Partner cannot have both ace of hearts and the ace of clubs, and from the carding, it looks like the declarer has it. Why hasn't he cashed the club ace then? It looks like he has a singleton spade ace, and intends to unblock it on the spade king.

Ominously, the club suit is set up in dummy with the spade king providing the entry for it. The silver lining is that there cannot be a diamond entry to the dummy. Yes! You are coming to the right answer. The only suit which can provide you with four tricks is hearts.

For you to beat this contract, partner must have a five-card heart suit headed by the ace, ten, nine, eight, almost too much to ask for, but it is there. Go up with the diamond king and return the three of hearts, and when your partner wins his ace and returns a heart, win your jack and return a diamond and your partner can claim one down.

If you had ducked the diamond, it would be too late because declarer can prevail by playing either ace and another diamond or a heart. Work it out for yourself. We think the bridge gods have given you enough; don't expect your partner to have the seven of hearts also!

Here is another deal from the same match, with the same players occupying different chairs.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East, Rajeshwar, being a passed hand, Marwan found a speculative double, asking for a spade lead. Sireen dutifully led her spade, Marwan's nine losing to Gupta's king. At trick two, declarer played a diamond. Sireen jumped up with her ace and returned a diamond. Subhash played a club to the ace,

and in a mood to explore further, played the diamond nine. Sireen took her queen and went by the basics: what is good for declarer cannot be good for me.

Consequently, Sireen did not cash her diamond ten but returned a heart, which Subhash won with his king. He played two rounds of hearts from dummy, and convinced that Marwan had the four diamonds and that he had a sure end-play, crossed over to the club ace, and tried to throw Marwan in with the fourth diamond.

Alas, Sireen won the ten and returned a club for her partner to cash the club queen and the spade ace for down one. Nice play Sireen, well-defended.

It will be India and Pakistan in both the Bermuda Bowl and the Venice Cup for the Bridge Federations of Asia and the Middle East in Monte Carlo. For the Seniors Bowl, Zone 4 will have teams from Jordan and Pakistan.

IX World Junior Teams Championship

By Brian Senior, Nottingham, England and Peter Ventura, Sundsvall, Sweden

Round 1. France v. Poland

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Grenthe	Buras	O.Bessis	Lutostanski
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠
3 ♥	Double	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
5 ♥	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
K.Kotorowicz	T.Bessis	J.Kotorowicz	Gaviard
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 ♠	2 ♥	3 ♠
4 ♥	4 ♠	5 ♥	Pass
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the Closed Room, Piotr Lutostanski made a simple raise to two spades and Buras appears to have first made a game-try double then, when his opponents reached

four hearts, judged to go on despite his partner's failure to act, no doubt as a two-way shot in case one or other game was making. As an aside, wouldn't you prefer to bid four clubs on the East cards rather than four hearts, thereby helping partner judge what to do if the opposition, as expected, bid four spades?

As it was, Guillaume Grenthe did well to go on to five hearts, expecting his partner to be very short in spades for his forcing pass, and right he was. Buras doubled but found that he could not defeat the contract; plus 850 to France. Of course, Buras no doubt assumed that he was facing only three-card spade support.

In the Open Room, Gaviard raised to three spades and that made it easier for Bessis to judge correctly on vugraph. He saved in five spades over five hearts, and had no problem in overcoming the four-nil trump split to get out for two down; minus 300, but 11 IMPs to France.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ A Q 5 4
 ♥ 10
 ♦ A K 9 7 6 5 2
 ♣ K

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

♠ K J 8 7
 ♥ A Q 9
 ♦ 10 4
 ♣ J 10 9 8

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Grenthe	Buras	O.Bessis	Lutostanski
—	—	—	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
3 ♥	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
K.Kotorowicz	T.Bessis	J.Kotorowicz	Gaviard
—	—	—	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
3 ♥	4 ♥	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Neither West was willing to make an immediate pre-emptive overcall, perhaps because of the four-card spade suit, perhaps because of the weak hearts. However, both pre-empted at their second turn. Should this have alerted North-South to the likely four-one spade split? If the spade side suit is the most likely explanation for the delayed pre-empt then perhaps so, and that would also suggest the possibility of a bad diamond split.

However, the North hand has huge potential once a fit has been established and it is hard to be too critical of the re-

spective Norths who checked on key cards then bid the spade slam.

Grenthe doubled the final contract, Lightner, hoping for a diamond lead. But the only suit bid by dummy was clubs, and it was impossible for Bessis to appreciate that the requirements of the Polish Club had obliged Buras to respond one spade because one diamond would not have been natural. He led a club to the ace and Grenthe returned a club.

When Buras ruffed and cashed the ace of spades followed by a top diamond, the hand fell apart. Buras was down three for minus 800. Had Grenthe received the diamond lead which he sought, the contract would have been only one down.

Played the other way up, Krzysztof had no reason to double. He led a heart to the king and ace and now Gaviard had to find the best line in what is a very good but doomed contract. Perhaps best is to throw the club king on the heart queen, then lead a diamond up, planning to cross to the spade king to lead a second diamond towards the dummy. It seems that the defence should still prevail as long as West does not err by ruffing in front of dummy.

In practice, Gaviard played a spade to the ace and back to the king at tricks two and three. Next he took the club pitch on the heart and led a diamond to the ace, Krzysztof correctly discarding a heart, then led a low diamond back. Jakub won that and played a diamond back for his partner to ruff but that was it for the defence; down one for minus 100, but 12 IMPs to France.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ 7 5 3 2
 ♥ K 10 9 7 4 2
 ♦ 2
 ♣ 9 7

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

♠ 9 4
 ♥ J 6 5
 ♦ K Q J 5
 ♣ K 8 5 2

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Grenthe	Buras	O.Bessis	Lutostanski
Pass	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
1 NT	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
K.Kotorowicz	T.Bessis	J.Kotorowicz	Gaviard
Pass	2 ♥	4 ♦	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

This may be a first in my many years of watching international bridge - a hand on which a Frenchman opens a weak two bid while the hand was passed at the other table. Given a free run, Bessis/Grenthe sailed into three no trumps and came to eleven tricks in straightforward fashion after a heart lead; plus 660.

Olivier Bessis's weak two bid made life more difficult in the other room. Perhaps you prefer a take-out double to the Leaping Michaels four diamonds chosen by Jakub? It is still not automatic by any means to get to three no trumps. With five diamonds doomed to fail, Krzysztof did well to choose four spades. The singleton diamond lead might have beaten this, but Bessis's actual choice of the nine of clubs gave Krzysztof a chance. He won the ace and drew trumps in four rounds. What was South to discard? Gaviard actually threw a club and a heart, and now declarer played the club queen, ducked, followed by the club ten to the king.

South cannot switch effectively to diamonds as that holds declarer's losers in that suit to two, so Gaviard led the jack of hearts, hoping to find his partner with the ace. Krzysztof won the ace of hearts, cashed the jack of clubs, and had ten tricks for plus 620 and just a single IMP to France.

If South does not throw a club away, he can win the club queen and lead a heart while the club suit is blocked. But what should his second discard be? If a heart, he is down to a singleton in that suit. Declarer wins the heart ace, unblocks the club, and ducks a diamond. With no heart to lead, South is powerless. And if South discards a diamond to retain his clubs and two hearts? Declarer does not bother to play on clubs. Instead he ducks a diamond. If South switches to a heart, a club goes away and there is just a second diamond and the king of clubs to be lost. Again, South can do nothing.

Round 3. USAI v. China (HK)

Board 9. Dealer North. EWW Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lai	Beck	Ng	Pahk
—	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Yuan	leong	Glickman	Wong
—	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
2 ♣	3 ♣	Double	3 NT
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Both Norths judged their hand to be worth a raise to three hearts, a valuation with which I agree, though the final con-

tract of four hearts is a pretty poor one to say the least. Lai led a low club and Pahk had ruff in dummy as he would otherwise have had four losers very quickly. He continued with a spade to hand and a diamond up.

Lai won the diamond ace and played back a spade. Pahk won in dummy and ruffed out the diamonds, then ducked a heart (he could not play ace and another unless there was a blockage, as the defence would draw the remaining trumps and cash a club). Ng gave his partner a spade ruff with the short trump and that was down one; minus 50.

Yuan led a spade and now the contract could not be beaten. Wong won in hand to play a diamond and Yuan won the ace and played a second spade. Wong had not been forced so could afford to play ace and another trump. Though Glickman could play a third round, the even diamond break meant the suit could be established with one ruff. That was ten tricks, plus 420, and 10 IMPs to China Hong Kong.

Round 6. Poland v. England

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

This deal featured a nice piece of play from Jakub Kotorowicz for Poland. Both Wests passed as dealer. The English North-South pair then bid one heart-one no trump, and West overcalled two spades, where he played for plus 110 to Poland.

At the other table Jakub Kotorowicz opened the North hand with a Polish Club and East overcalled one diamond, South bid one spade (transfer advance), and West two spades, over which Jakub bid two no trumps, where he played.

The lead was a low diamond to dummy's jack and Jakub now played on clubs. When East took his ace he led another low diamond and Jakub won on the table and led a low spade to his king. Now he cashed the remaining clubs and exited with the jack of spades. Had West held both the missing spade honours, he would have been forced to win this trick and eventually lead away from the king of hearts to present declarer with his eighth trick. However, it was East who won with the spade queen and cashed his diamonds.

No matter, when he was eventually forced to switch to a heart, the auction made it pretty clear where the king would be and Jakub played low from dummy, and once again had the necessary second heart trick; plus 120 and six IMPs to Poland.

42nd PABF Championships

By Brian Senior, Nottingham, England

The 2003 Pacific Asia (formerly the Far East) Bridge Championships were held from August 29 to September 7 in Makati, near Manila in the Philippines. The Conditions of Contest were intriguing. First, the PABF allows Australia and New Zealand to compete, even though they are in a separate WBF Zone. This year, Australia sent teams to compete in the Open, Women's and Senior divisions, while New Zealand sent Women's and Seniors teams.

The second fascinating aspect was the method chosen to qualify the three teams each that would compete for the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup. The double round robin winner (the Antipodes teams excepted) would get the first berth in each case. The second berth would go to the winner of a playoff between the second and third placed teams in the round robin. The third berth would be granted to the winner of a playoff between the second-third place match loser and the fourth-fifth place winner.

In the Seniors it would be the round robin winners plus the winner of a playoff between the second and third place teams. An intelligent method indeed!

To no one's surprise at all, Indonesia ran away with the round robin to earn the first berth in the Open series, while China did the same in the Women's. Both finished two matches clear of the field. Japan won the Seniors and Indonesia the Youth Teams. The other qualifiers were China and Chinese Taipei in the Open, Indonesia and Chinese Taipei in the Women's, and Indonesia in the Seniors. It was quite a tournament for the Indonesians!

Open Teams

1.	Indonesia	405
2.	China	349
3.	Chinese Taipei	336
4.	Australia	334
5.	Japan	329
6.	Thailand	322

Women's Teams

1.	China	380
2.	Chinese Taipei	330
3.	Australia	317
4.	Indonesia	304
5.	New Zealand	279
6.	Singapore	259
7.	Japan	258

Seniors Teams

1.	Japan	310
2.	Australia	292
3.	Indonesia 2	284
4.	China Hong Kong 1	264

Youth Teams

1.	Indonesia	305
2.	Singapore	248
3.	China Hong Kong	242

These were some of the deals that tickled my fancy.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wong	Quiogue	Yum	Soo
—	—	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Yang	Chui	Lin	Lo
—	—	1 ♥	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

I was surprised to see Yum bid the hearts only once in the Closed Room. Surely they are the main feature of the hand and the only reason to mention diamonds at all is to help partner to judge how high to go in hearts. Over two no trumps, a three heart rebid seems normal, although on this occasion it would have led to the same three no trumps contract as was actually reached. Three no trumps drifted one off with declarer not being able to read the position sufficiently clearly to take the nine tricks available; minus 100.

Lin/Yang bid to four hearts in the other room, with Lin showing a very different attitude to the heart suit as she overruled her partner's decision by going back to four hearts. There is only one defence that guarantees defeat of the heart game, and that is for South to cash two top clubs then lead the low club for North to ruff with the jack, thereby ensuring two defensive trump tricks. That is exactly what Lo/Chui managed to do; down one for minus 100 and a flat board. Well defended.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Graca	3 ♠	Yiu
Pass	Pass	Pass	4 ♥

A defender missed his chance to break this contract from the Seniors match between China Hong Kong and Philippines, but Hong Kong's Chan Yiu still had to take advantage of the slip.

Naturally enough, West led the singleton spade and Chan Yiu won dummy's ace, then took the heart finesse. West won the heart king and switched to the queen of clubs to the ten and ace. Yiu could see that he had one loser in each suit and that he would need an endplay to get rid of one of these. To the next trick he led a low heart to dummy then played the seven of diamonds.

Here is where East erred, because he played low, and Chiu also played low, allowing West to win the trick. Back came the jack of clubs to dummy's king. Chiu played a diamond to the ace, a heart back to dummy, then ruffed the last diamond. Finally, he exited with his club loser and West was endplayed, forced to give a ruff and discard to permit declarer to throw his spade loser from hand; just made for plus 620.

Of course, the key play was the diamond ducked to West. To ensure that he gained the lead to cash a spade trick, East needed to go in with a diamond honour on each occasion that declarer played the suit. Now the contract has to fail by a trick.

With two rounds to go in the Open Series, Indonesia was effectively assured of being champion and taking the first Bermuda Bowl berth. They faced Chinese Taipei on Yugraph in a match that had far greater importance to their

opponents, who were lying third. While they were heavy favourites to make the play-offs, Taipei would be keen to finish second or third to assure themselves of two chances of qualification for Monte Carlo.

The match began very well for Indonesia.

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tobing	Huang	Asbi	Wu
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Yang	Lasut	Chiu	Manoppo
—	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

There is nothing wrong with passing the North hand as dealer and Patrick Huang's decision to do so meant that the board was passed out in the Closed Room. However, this is the best vulnerability at which to compete should it be a part score deal and so it is good to get in the first blow if your methods make this convenient.

Lasut could open one diamond, limited to 15 HCP and not promising diamonds, and he did so. He rebid one no trump to show a minimum balanced hand and was left to play there.

It appeared, however, that to open the bidding was the losing option on the hand as, even assuming a winning diamond guess, there does not seem to be anywhere for a seventh trick to be found. Wei-Chun Chiu led the ten of spades to Hsin Lung Yang's ace and back came a second spade to the jack and queen. When Chiu now cleared the spades, Yang threw the nine of clubs. Henry Lasut won the third spade and played a heart to East's king. Chiu cashed the spade, Yang discarding a diamond, then the queen of hearts.

Now it is necessary for East to have an accurate count of the hand to see that he should switch to a diamond, even if that runs the risk of picking up partner's hypothetical queen. If he has a count, he can see that this only provides the sixth trick and he waits to get two clubs in the ending. But if East has only received attitude signals he is awkwardly placed and Chiu switched to the jack of clubs.

Lasut could win the king of clubs and play a club to the ace, then a third round to the queen. Chiu could exit passively with his last club but Lasut won and got the diamonds right for plus 90 and 3 IMPs to Indonesia.

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tobing	Huang	Asbi	Wu
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	3 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Yang	Lasut	Chiu	Manoppo
—	Pass	2 ♣	Double
2 ♦	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

There was nothing in the auction to indicate that Tobing should play North for queen-third of clubs and he was two down when he failed to do so after a spade lead and continuation; minus 200.

Yang did have some indication, because South had made a take-out double of the two club opening. The defence again began with a spade to the ace and a second spade. Yang won the king and played the king of clubs, then a club to the jack. He was cut off from the spade queen, but that could easily be resolved. Declarer can run six rounds of clubs, coming down to one spade and two red king doubletons in hand, then play the queen of hearts to ensure his contract.

But Yang had a blind spot and cashed the seventh club, squeezing himself. When he came down to a bare diamond king, he was defeated, as Manoppo could win the heart queen with his ace and switch to diamonds to collect the next three tricks there. As both defenders had come down to one heart, declarer would have survived had he bared the heart king instead of the diamond; a poor effort to waste the good club play. It deserved minus 100, but not the 3 IMPs which it collected for Chinese Taipei.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
—	Wignall	—	Kerr
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	6 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
—	Ohno	—	Yamada
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

There is only one way to defeat the no trump slam on this deal from the Seniors match between New Zealand and Ja-

pan, and that is to knock out the entry to dummy's diamond winners while the suit is still blocked.

That is just what John Wignall did by leading a low spade. There was nothing the Japanese declarer could do and he ended up down two for plus 100 to New Zealand.

The New Zealanders in the other room were a little less ambitious and settled in the club game. The queen of hearts held the first trick, and the continuation of the jack was covered by the king and ace. Now Kyoko Ohno needed to find precisely the same play as had Wignall.

Sure enough, Ohno switched to a low spade to the queen and ace and the New Zealand declarer had to settle for down one; minus 50 and just 2 IMPs to New Zealand when it might have been a double figure swing either way had one or the other defender not been up to the task. Well defended by both.

<http://www.ptba.net/pabf/bulletin/index/htm>

IBDA Column Service

By Tim Bourke, Canberra

(These deals are provided as a service to members and may be used without attributing the author or the IBPA.)

245.

This deal has a nice point to it. It is all about timing.

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♦
5 ♣	5 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the club ace and shifted to a trump. The winning line is to draw trumps ending in dummy, East throwing two clubs. A spade to the king and ace is followed by a spade to the queen and a spade ruff. Now a heart to the king reveals the five-zero break.

When the jack of clubs is ruffed, East can safely discard a heart. But after a heart to the ace, the king of diamonds squeezes East in the majors!

246.

Declarer overcame the bad trump break on this deal by means of a partial elimination.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Double	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West cashed two diamonds and shifted to a spade. Declarer successfully finessed the jack and cashed the heart ace. He then led the heart three to the eight, finessed the spade again, and cashed the spade ace. The stage was set.

Declarer played a club, covering East's card and endplaying West. West had to win and did his best by playing the king of spades, although that was not enough. Declarer ruffed with the heart king, discarding the remaining losing club from hand, and finessed for East's heart ten once again. It remained only to draw the last trump and claim ten tricks.

247.

South got away with a sub-minimum response here:

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the ace and queen of clubs. When a heart was played from dummy, East rose with the queen to lead a trump to dummy's king.

Declarer ruffed a heart, finessed a diamond, ruffed another heart and finessed the diamond again. When he cashed the diamond ace to throw a club, this position had been reached:

♠ A
 ♥ 9 7
 ♦ 6
 ♣ —
 ♠ Q 7
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ Q 3
 ♠ —
 ♥ A
 ♦ 9
 ♣ 10 9
 ♠ J 10 9
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ 8

A heart ruff sets up a winner in dummy and effectively neutralises West's second spade. He can overruff or not, but cannot prevent South from winning all but the spade queen.

Did you notice the lead to defeat four spades? It is the spade queen! East has to duck the heart off the table too!

248.

I've used poetic license in basing this deal upon one that came up in actual play.

Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♠
2 ♥	3 ♥	4 ♥	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

One spade promised five. On the singleton two of diamonds lead, the winning card at trick two is the eight of spades, letting it run. If West ducks, another spade finesse (or a heart) is the route to success.

The trap is to play a heart too early, allowing the defence to score their diamond ruff, then knock out the club ace before the spade queen is dislodged.

IBPA WEBSITE NOTICE

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EXACTLY as typed.



Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

John,

Re: the Fleet controversy...

I rather support Fleet in that I think strict adherence to the Laws is the proper policy in Tournament play. I fear that if players take unilateral action, we could easily run into difficulty when an irregularity is ignored at one table, whilst the full penalty is extracted at another. I think we all draw a distinction between tournament and social bridge.

However, there is some discretion within the Laws. Law 9 makes it clear that the non-offending side do not have to call attention to an irregularity. So, for instance, when a revoke has occurred which has had no effect, it can just be ignored. Law 72A3 deals with the right of a player to ask the Director to waive a penalty. The relevant Law 81C8 states that a director can waive penalties for cause, at his discretion, upon the request of the non-offending side.

Sufficient cause could be that the irregularity had no effect, typified by Roth's revoke example.

L R Griffin, Swansea, Wales

John,

I have read the debate on "sportsmanship" with some interest; as you say, there exist two diametrically opposing views, and the holders of one are unlikely to convince the holders of the other.

However, one thing seems clear: when you sit down to play bridge, you owe your partner, your team-mates, the opponents and yourself the duty of paying attention to the game. If you don't do this, then you have to suffer the consequences. When those consequences are that your score is less than optimal, because your inattention has led to your revoking, or making the wrong bid, or committing some other error; then you should accept the penalties prescribed by the rules with good grace. *That*, unlike Mr. Roth's suggestion, is the manner and spirit in which the game should be played at all levels.

David Burn, London

John,

I have one comment about the letter from Danny Roth. I feel it is my duty to say that you ought to have put that letter to a director for comment first.

Danny may well be right to complain about sportsmanship and the rules, if what he experienced were in any manner normal under the rules. But the director in Danny's case made not one, but two grave errors.

First of all, it is customary to rule that a green card, put on the table with the intent of alerting, is not a pass at all. Just a green alert card.

And secondly, even if this is treated as a pass, and fourth in hand accepts that pass out of turn, and passes as well, the bidding is not over (no three passes), but the bid reverts to the one club opener who now simply bids one diamond and nothing has happened.

I do not really wish to criticize Danny, or to continue a discussion, but I just wanted to remind you to check up on things before publishing them. After all, you regularly add an editor's note to a misanalysis of a deal, don't you?

Herman De Wael, Antwerpen, Belgium
<http://users.skynet.be/hermandw/index.html>

...Editorial (Cont.)

For the current Bermuda Bowl, it would have worked out this way:

- Europe (Zone 1): Bulgaria, Italy, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Spain, Sweden
- The Americas (Zones 2, 3, 5): Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Uruguay, USA 1, USA 2
- Asia (Zones 4, 6): China, Chinese Taipei, India, Indonesia, Pakistan
- Africa & Oceania (Zones 7, 8): Australia, Egypt, New Zealand, South Africa.

In the Venice Cup, this scheme would organise the protagonists as follows:

- Europe: England, Germany, Holland, Italy, Sweden
- The Americas: Brazil, Canada, USA 1, USA 2, Venezuela
- Asia: China, Chinese Taipei, India, Indonesia, Pakistan
- Africa & Oceania: Australia, Egypt, South Africa.

The WBF could re-jig the numbers to ensure there were, for example, eight teams in each bracket, or any other convenient number. Or, the makeup of the brackets could be altered. This would also spur interest in bridge in Africa and Asia, an avowed goal of the WBF, as it would offer the opportunity for nations other than regular combatants India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Chinese Taipei, and South Africa to participate on the world stage.

This method would ensure a truly representative World Championship. Wouldn't Italy, Brazil, Indonesia, and South Africa make for a much more interesting semifinals than say, Norway, Sweden, USA 1, and USA 2?

Monte Carlo Press Room

The Press Room in Monte Carlo will be managed by Elly Ducheyne (great news!). It will be in l'Hotel Hermitage. No room number, telephone number or fax no. is available yet.

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2003			
Oct 1-6	2 nd International Bridge Festival	Alexandria, Egypt	www.ascbridge.com
Oct 12-18	Pan-Arab Championships	Amman & Aqaba, Jordan	nuha_h@yahoo.com
Oct 17-18	2 nd Grand Prix Prague	Prague, Czech Republic	www.eurobridge.org
Oct 17-20	Scottish Bridge union Autumn Congress	Peebles, Scotland	www.eurobridge.org
Oct 21-25	14 th Sun, Sea & Slams	Barbados	www.cacbf.com
Oct 22-26	10 th International Bridge Festival	Figueira da Foz, Portugal	sonia.almeida@casinofigueira.pt
Oct 25-26	2003 Lederer Trophy	London, England	simonx@simonx.plus.com
Nov 2-10	World Championships – 2 nd Senior Bowl	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 2-15	World Championships – 36 th Bermuda Bowl & 14 th Venice Cup	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 7-9	13 th International Memorial	Stargard, Poland	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 10-15	World Championships – 4 th Transnational Open Teams	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 16-22	III International Bridge Festival	La Habana-Varadero, Cuba	www.cacbf.com
Nov 16-23	9 th Red Sea Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridge.co.il
Nov 17-23	6 th International Bridge Open	Madeira, Portugal	www.bridge-madeira.com
Nov 20-23	International Bridge Festival	Brasov, Romania	bridgeclubbrasov@hotmail.com
Nov 20-30	ACBL Fall NABC	New Orleans, LA	www.acbl.org
Nov 24-27	EBL Simultaneous Pairs	Internet	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 24-28	HKCBA Intercity Tournament	Hong Kong	www.hkcba.org/maine.htm
Nov 26-30	2003 International Tournament	Cefalù, Sicily, Italy	albor@infcom.it/start
Dec 9-12	Bridge Pro Tour Palm Springs Open	Palm Springs, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Dec 19-21	Winter Cup	Bucharest, Romania	www.eurobridge.org
Dec 26-27	Bridge Pro Tour New York Open	New York, NY	www.bridgeprotour.com
Dec 27-29	Bridge Pro Tour Reno Open	Reno, NV	www.bridgeprotour.com
2004			
Jan 14-26	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Feb 9-15	9 th NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 21-28	Gold Coast Congress	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Mar 18-28	ACBL Spring NABC	Reno, NV	www.acbl.org
May	17 th OECS Championships	Anguilla	www.cacbf.com
May 14-27	55 th Antibes International Festival	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.bridgejuan.com
Jun 19-Jul 3	47 th European Team Championships	Malmö, Sweden	www.bridgefestival.net
Jun 20-24	Chairman's Cup	Malmö, Sweden	www.bridgefestival.net
Jun 20-Jul 2	10 th Bridge Festival	Malmö, Sweden	www.bridgefestival.net
Jun 29-Jul 11	19 th Biarritz International Festival	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 8-18	ACBL Summer NABC	New York, NY	www.acbl.org
Jul 14-16	1 st World Junior Individual	New York, NY	www.eurobridge.org
July 19-24	World Junior Camp	Adelphi University, Garden City, Long Is., NY	www.eurobridge.org
Aug 1-11	19 th European Youth Team Championship	Prague, Czech Republic	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 10-12	2 nd European Champions Cup	Rome, Italy	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 23-Nov 6	12 th World Team Olympiad	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 24-30	3 rd Senior International Cup	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 24-30	2 nd World University Teams Cup	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 2-6	3 rd World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 18-28	ACBL Fall NABC	Orlando, FL	www.acbl.org