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THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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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

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Editorial

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

Isn't it time to do away with the anomaly of two USA teams in events such as the Bermuda Bowl and the Venice Cup? In the days before this practice started, each WBF Zone was allowed one team in these Championships. The Europeans thought, reasonably enough, that with about 40 countries in their Zone, they deserved more than one team in the Championships. It was a compromise of sorts with the ACBL that allowed each of the EBL and the ACBL to have a second team.

An earlier precedent had been set when the defending champions were granted entry to the succeeding Bowl. So we had a situation where there might be two North American teams or two European teams (Italy plus another in those days) in the Championship. The EBL and the ACBL decided to do away with the practice of allowing the defender free entry, and simply grant two spots to each Zone, also allowing the host nation a spot beginning in the 1980s. Eventually this led to five spots for Europe and three for North America. Most times, the North American spots have been filled by two USA teams and a third through a competition among Bermuda, Canada and Mexico, the other countries in Zone 2 besides the USA.

Let's look at the (public) reasons why this practice is permitted. (1.) *The ACBL has many more members than any other NCBO.* This is in fact no longer the case. With membership on the decline in the USA and on the rise in Europe, America must face up to the fact that there has been a power shift in bridge, just as there has been in politics and trade with the advent of the EU. The USA has approximately 148,000 of the ACBL's 164,000 members. The Netherlands and France have nearly 100,000 each. We don't hear The Netherlands and France demanding two teams at the European Team Championships, despite their having approximately 1000 times as many members as 13 other nations in the EBL. At least not publicly. (2.) *The USA is so much deeper in talent than any other country.* This is still true to some extent (they could produce half a dozen teams capable of winning a World Championship), but Poland and Italy are also pretty deep as well. In any case, should talent be a criterion for allowing multiple teams from one nation into an event? Brazil doesn't get two teams in the World Cup, despite its dominance. Nor does the USA get two teams in the 4x100 metre relay at the World Track & Field Championships, despite winning the event nearly every time out. Why here?

An additional factor in the argument for doing away with this outdated practice is that the current scheme of World Championships allows an unlimited number of teams from any country into the Rosenblum. So there isn't the exclusivity there once was in international play. Furthermore, the new European Open Championships, modeled on the World Open Championships, permit anyone to play, so, a team with aspirations to prove themselves against the best can play in a top international championship every two years, without having to qualify for anything.

There are other instances of inequalities in the qualification method involving Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Mexico. We'll get to those next month.

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Can You Better the Junior?

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

Each of the following situations arose in the World Junior Teams Championship this summer in Paris. They are all taken from one match, the round robin encounter between France and Canada, two teams with a chance at the medal round. The match featured an unusually large number of swing decisions. See if you can equal or better the result achieved at the table.

Problem 1.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ Q 10 2
♥ Q 9 6 2
♦ Q 5 4
♣ K 8 4

You are West and see the following auction:

West	North	East	South
Wolpert	T. Bessis	Demuy	Gaviard
—	—	—	1 NT ¹
Pass	2 ♣ ²	Pass	2 NT ³
Pass	4 ♦ ⁴	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- 15-17
- Enquiry, at least invitational
- Both majors
- Puppet to 4 ♠

What is your lead?

Problem 2.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ 10 9 8 4 2
♥ A 9 2
♦ 7 6 3
♣ 9 8

Jump over to the East seat for this opening lead.

West	North	East	South
G. Grenthe	Grainger	J. Grenthe	Lavee
—	—	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♣ ¹	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 ♠ ²	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦ ³	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- Checkback
- Slam try - spade values
- One key card

Problem 3.

Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

♠ J 10 9 8 7
♥ —
♦ J 4 3
♣ A Q 10 7 4

♠ Q 5 4
♥ A Q 9
♦ A Q 9
♣ J 8 3 2

West	North	East	South
Wolpert	T. Bessis	Demuy	Gaviard
—	—	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♠	Double	1 NT
2 ♥	3 ♣	3 ♥	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

You are South. West leads the two of diamonds, which you win with the jack, six, nine. On your jack of spades, East puts on the king and West the three. East continues with the seven of diamonds. Plan the play.

Problem 4.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ J 3 2
♥ K Q 6
♦ Q 7 4 2
♣ Q 8 4

♠ 9 5
♥ A 10 9 2
♦ J 10 9
♣ A 9 5 3

Now put yourself in East's chair. South is playing four spades after the auction one spade-two spades-four spades. West leads the club seven (third from an even number, lowest from an odd number) to your ace, dummy playing the four and declarer the two. With what do you continue?

Problem 5.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ A 7 5
♥ 6
♦ 9 8 3
♣ A Q 10 8 5 4

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 ♦	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
??			

You are West. What do you bid now?

The Results

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

A club lead or a heart lead and club switch will lead to defeating four spades. In the Closed Room, David Grainger had received a club lead and had scored plus 140. In the Open Room, however, Julien Gaviard found himself playing an optimistic game. Gavin Wolpert led a helpful diamond, solving that suit for declarer. Gaviard won with diamond jack and continued with a heart to the king.

East won the ace and switched to a club, taken by the ace. If declarer now takes the trump finesse he will go down, but Gaviard found the winning line; he took the tops in trump and ran diamonds, pitching a club loser from hand. Now there was only a spade trick and a heart trick for the defence. Very nicely played by Gaviard and 10 well-earned IMPs to France.

2

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

Having the correct hand (South) use Blackwood could have given Canada's Grainger and Lavee a good result on Board 10. Jerome Grenthe's only clue for the lead was that West didn't double for a diamond lead. Therefore, leading the spade ten would have been a reasonable choice. As on many other boards in this match, Jerome found the killing lead. This time, he produced the nine of clubs and declarer was doomed to go down. Well done!

In the Open Room West had the chance to double a five club response to a Blackwood ask by the wrong hand (North). When he failed to do so, East naturally led a spade and it was all over. 17 IMPs to France.

3.

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

Julien Gaviard played his three no trumps excellently, gaining France 10 IMPs. A heart lead would be preferred, but West led a diamond, giving declarer hope. Gaviard took the trick with dummy's jack, then played the spade jack to East's king. East went on with diamonds, but declarer jumped up with his ace, blocking the suit, and now successfully changed horses, letting the club jack run. East won with the king but couldn't prevent declarer taking nine tricks.

Note that if declarer had continued with a spade, instead of finessing the club, West would have won with the ace and cashed the king of diamonds, establishing East's fourth diamond. East would then sooner or later win a club trick and beat the contract with his diamond winner.

At the other table, North's four spades had been beaten on a diamond lead, despite West's raise of East's opening two heart bid to four. Well done.

4.

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

Demuy of the Canadian team had to find the right continuation. When he played another club, the declarer made his contract. Did you find the killing switch?

In practice, it's not so easy to defeat four spades. First, West needs to find a club lead, then East has to find the diamond shift. Declarer will of course duck the diamond, and West wins the trick with the king.

It's also then necessary for West to cash the second club winner immediately, otherwise it will go up in smoke, as declarer later will pitch a club on the queen of diamonds. Neither defence found the successful line and the board was a flat one - a chance to win 12 IMPs missed by both teams.

5.

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

Gavin Wolpert went for the game bonus and bid four spades. No reward was forthcoming: South produced a double. South led the diamond queen and North played ace, king and jack. South over-ruffed and the defence had taken the first three tricks. Declarer still had to lose a heart and a trump trick for plus 500 to North-South. 17 IMPs danced in for France when, at the other table...

West	North	East	South
G. Grenthe	Grainger	J. Grenthe	Lavee
1 ♣	1 ♦	1 ♠	1 NT
2 ♣	2 ♥	Pass	Pass
2 ♠	3 ♦	Pass	4 ♥
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

West doubled four hearts since, according to North-South's bidding, his partner should have four hearts. After a club lead, declarer managed to take just six tricks; 1100 for France.

Note that West's early entry into the auction allowed him to describe and limit his hand before the final call was to be made.

The European Champions' Cup II

By Jos Jacobs, Amstelveen, Netherlands
and Mark Horton, Romford, England

The venue was the Tennis Club Parioli in Rome, and the competitors were the top eight countries in last year's European Team Championship. Italy had won the inaugural event in Poland last fall.

In such a short event, previous successes, form, and reputation mean little. Look at the round robin table...

Group A		Group B	
Sweden	69	Netherlands	60
Italy	52	Bulgaria	46
France	30	Norway	41
Poland	26	Israel	33

Sweden beat Bulgaria 66-28 in one semifinal, and Italy won the other against Netherlands, 101-72. It would be Sundelin-Sylvan and Nyström-Bertheau versus Versace-Lauria, Fantoni-Nunes, and Angelini-Sementa in the final. In addition to their success in the Europeans, many of these players also figured strongly in the World Championships in Montréal last year.

Let's look at some of the deals that occurred along the way.

Israel v. Norway (RR Match 1)

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kalish	Ausberg	Podgur	Helgemo
Furunes	O.Herbst	Aa	I.Herbst
Pass	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

This may well be the only time you'll ever see Geir Helgemo make a mistake in card play. He led the club two to the four, jack and ace. Declarer played a spade – Helgemo took the ace and switched to...a low diamond! Declarer put up the king, and the spade king was trick ten. True, Ausberg might have played the spade jack under the ace to wake Helgemo up, but when was the last time anyone had to do that? Perhaps when he was a baby. A class act all the way, Helgemo took the whole blame, saying he should have switched to a heart in any case, as he had a count in spades and knew the club layout. At the other table, a heart was led, allowing North to win and switch to a club for an easy one off.

Poland v. Italy (RR Match 2)

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Versace	Pszczola	Lauria	Kwiecien
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♦	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♥	Double	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Looked at in isolation, three hearts is not a very good contract, with four top losers and the queen of heart and jack of diamonds to pick up. Kwiecien led a spade to Pszczola's ace and the club return went to South's ace. He continued clubs and Lauria ruffed.

You might now think a diamond to the queen would be a good play. If North has the ace and wins it, there's a chance to guess both red suits, since North passed as dealer. North might counter this play by ducking smoothly if he appreciates declarer's problem.

In any case, Lauria led a diamond to the eight! This apparently caught Pepsi a little off guard, because when he ducked, it was not quite smoothly enough to deny possession of the ace. East then played hearts from the top, scoring plus 140. At the other table, declarer did not divine the position and finished one down in the same contract.

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Versace	Pszczola	Lauria	Kwiecien
1 ♦	2 ♠	Double	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 NT	Pass
6 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

North, Pszczola, led the four of diamonds. Declarer, Versace, won and continued with three more rounds of the suit, North discarding the three and eight of spades. If you make the assumption that hearts are three-three, at this stage you know North must be six-three-two-two. (You cannot afford to cash all the red-suit winners, as you need one of those suits for transportation.) In that event, it will not help you to find South with the club queen. Thus Versace cashed the king of clubs and led a low one, earning what might be termed 'a strong applaud.'

Israel v. Netherlands (RR Match 3)

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

<p style="text-align: center;">♠ — ♥ K Q 8 7 5 3 ♦ K 10 7 6 ♣ 5 4 2</p> <p>♠ Q J 7 6 3 2 ♥ J 9 6 ♦ 9 4 2 ♣ 7</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">♠ A K 8 5 4 ♥ 10 ♦ A Q J 8 5 ♣ 9 8</p> <p>♠ 10 9 ♥ A 4 2 ♦ 3 ♣ A K Q J 10 6 3</p>
--	--

West	North	East	South
Westra	O.Herbst	Ramondt	I.Herbst
—	—	1 ♠	2 ♣
4 ♠	5 ♣	5 ♠	6 ♣
6 ♠	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

South incautiously led his singleton diamond. Netherlands plus 1740.

West	North	East	South
D.Yadlin	Drijver	I.Yadlin	Schollaardt
—	—	1 ♠	3 ♠
4 ♠	5 ♣	5 ♦	Double
5 ♠	6 ♣	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Three spades asked for a stopper. Drijver was not unduly taxed in the play. Netherlands plus 1210 for a rarely seen 21 IMP swing.

Sweden v. Italy (Final)

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

<p style="text-align: center;">♠ — ♥ K Q 8 6 4 ♦ 10 9 8 5 ♣ A J 3 2</p> <p>♠ Q J 10 6 2 ♥ 10 9 7 ♦ Q J 6 ♣ K 8</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">♠ A K 7 5 ♥ A ♦ 3 2 ♣ Q 10 9 7 6 4</p> <p>♠ 9 8 4 3 ♥ J 5 3 2 ♦ A K 7 4 ♣ 5</p>
--	--

West	North	East	South
Angelini	Bertheau	Sementa	Nyström
Pass	1 ♥	2 ♣	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West	North	East	South
Sylvan	Lauria	Sundelin	Versace
Pass	1 ♥	2 ♣	3 NT
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Bertheau received the spade ace lead from Sementa. He began a crossruff, cashing two diamonds along the way, but could come to only nine tricks.

Lauria received the club nine lead from Sundelin. He ruffed a club and, appreciating that he would need three diamond tricks for his contract, immediately played off the ace, king, and another. The spade continuation was ruffed, another club was ruffed with the jack, and only now was a trump led to the king and ace. The final club could be overruffed, but that was still ten tricks and plus 620 to Italy, 12 IMPs.

In the end, Italy prevailed, 122-43, while the Netherlands finished strongly to beat Bulgaria for third place, 109-70.

IBDA Column Service

By Tim Bourke, Canberra

249. Dealer East. NS Vul.

<p style="text-align: center;">♠ K 10 8 7 4 ♥ A K 9 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ 6 3</p> <p>♠ 5 ♥ 8 6 ♦ K J 8 5 3 ♣ K Q J 10 5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">♠ 9 6 ♥ J 10 5 2 ♦ 10 6 ♣ 9 8 7 4 2</p> <p>♠ A Q J 3 2 ♥ Q 7 4 3 ♦ Q 9 7 ♣ A</p>
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West	North	East	South
--	--	Pass	1 ♠
2 NT	3 ♦	5 ♣	Pass
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the club king to declarer's ace. The Unusual No Trump overcall promised at least five-five in the minors and suggested West had the king of diamonds. So playing a diamond to the queen was likely to lose two tricks in that suit.

Instead, South decided to play along elimination lines. First, he drew trumps with the ace and king, then ruffed dummy's remaining club. After cashing the top hearts, he ruffed his fourth heart, reducing everyone to five cards. (His were a symmetrical three diamonds and two trumps in each hand.)

Now it was safe to lead a low diamond from dummy. When East played low, he inserted the nine. West won the jack, but had no safe exit. A diamond would run to declarer's queen, while a club return would concede a ruff and discard. Either way declarer had twelve tricks.

Of course, it would not help East to play the diamond ten on the first round of the suit. South would cover with queen, forcing West to win and either lead away from the jack, allowing South's nine to score a trick, or concede a ruff and discard.

250. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

	♠ A Q 7 5		
	♥ 6 4		
	♦ K 6		
	♣ A K Q J 3		
West	North	East	South
2 ♠	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the queen of diamonds. As all would be well if hearts were no worse than four-two, declarer took this in hand with the king to preserve the diamond ace as an entry to a potential long heart.

Declarer cashed the heart ace and king, getting the bad news that hearts were five-one. Now the only hope was to put the West hand under pressure. So first he cashed the queen of hearts, throwing a spade from hand, then came the four top clubs, leaving these cards to be played:

<p>♠ 9 3 2 ♥ 7 ♦ A ♣ —</p> <p>♠ K J 10 ♥ — ♦ J 10 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ J 10 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ —</p>
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When South advanced the three of clubs, West had no answer. In practice, he chose a diamond. Declarer removed West's last diamond by cashing the ace, then ducked a spade. West had to win and then return a spade into declarer's ace-queen. Making six.

251. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

	♠ A K 8 4		
	♥ 10 9 3		
	♦ A K Q J		
	♣ A 7		
West	North	East	South
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	3 ♠
Pass		Pass	Pass

South ducked the king of clubs lead, East playing the ten of clubs. West continued with the queen of clubs to declarer's now bare ace of clubs. South, with only seven top tricks, attacked hearts by leading the ten. East withheld his ace, leaving declarer with no option but to play a second heart. West smartly discarded the jack of clubs, allowing East to take the ace of hearts and cash four club tricks to defeat the contract by two tricks.

There was a simple precaution against this. As declarer needs clubs to be blocked, he should win the first club and play on hearts. The difference is that West cannot unblock the clubs in time - if the second heart holds, South cashes his six remaining winners.

252. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

	♠ A K 3		
	♥ A 3		
	♦ A 2		
	♣ A K Q 9 7 6		
West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	3 NT
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	6 ♠

West led the king of diamonds, taken by declarer in hand with the ace. The ace of trumps revealed the bad news that they were 0-4 and that there was a certain trump loser. As there would be no problem if clubs were 3-3

declarer played his three top clubs, discarding two diamonds from dummy.

Alas, East ruffed the third club but has no winning exit. A diamond lead would be ruffed low in dummy, trumps drawn with the queen and king and a club ruffed would establish two winning clubs to take care of dummy's heart losers. As a similar result would occur on a trump return, East exited with the two of hearts. Declarer had no choice but to run it to the queen. Once that passed off he plays spade queen, spade ace, club ruff. (Note than on an unlikely king of hearts shift, South ruffs a heart in hand for the twelfth trick.)

On this layout, a heart lead defeats six spades.

On Arithmetically Invalid Concessions

By R. Jayaram*, New Delhi

In my book, *Logic, Intuition and Instinct at the Bridge Table* (Vivisphere Publishing, Poughkeepsie, NY, 2001), I raised the question, "Cannot daylight robberies be stopped?" by quoting the following example, taken from the 1997 Indian Nationals, played in Bangalore.

Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

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

1. Precision
2. 0-7 HCP
3. Significant pause

North had hesitated a long time before passing in the second round and West had called the Tournament Director when the bidding ended. The Director ruled play to continue and West led the king of spades. Winning on the table, declarer drew trumps in two rounds and played a low diamond to his queen. West took this with his ace, cashed his spade winner and exited with a second diamond.

After cashing both his diamond winners, thus clearing the suit, declarer played a low club to his king, which held. Declarer now re-entered the table in trumps and pulled a second low club off the table. East put in the ten, but no further card was played as *declarer conceded down one*. The Director in question, V. K. Sharma, who was a witness to the play of the hand, had difficulty in accepting what went on at the table, as only he and West realized that West was

hopelessly end played with the jack of clubs and had necessarily to concede a ruff and discard, in which case the declarer would have made his contract.

When West accepted the concession and quietly put back his cards on the board, the Director ruled "Four Hearts by South. Down one. Plus 100 to East-West." No appeal was lodged.

Maybe I was prejudiced, but I felt very strongly about this when Sharma related the deal to me. I promptly published it in the *Daily Bulletin*, perhaps using strong words. I did not stop at that; I went ahead and wrote about this in my book, four years later. I felt then, as I feel now, that West should have practiced "active ethics."

I felt then, as I feel now, that the Director should have been more proactive and should have intervened to prevent this 'robbery.' Two important and influential points of view on the deal follow.

In an editorial "Behavioral Obligations," in *The Bridge World* (July 2002), Jeff Rubens had picked up the same deal and argued forcibly that West's behavior cannot be faulted at all. "The outcome is not unjust. It was South's idea to curtail play." Interestingly, the editorial goes on to say, "The position that arose is not to be confused with one in which a player claims fewer tricks than he has already taken (or that he cannot fail to win with any continuing legal play) or similarly concedes too much; those are cases in which it is proper for an opponent who understands the situation to speak up and for the Director to make an adjustment.

I showed both the chapter in the book and Rubens' TBW editorial to Antonius Kooijman, Chairman of the Laws Committee of the World Bridge Federation when I met him in Amman, Jordan during the BFAME Championships in early August. Here is what Kooijman himself wrote in the BFAME *Daily Bulletin* No. 5, dated 5th August 2003, under the title, *The Laws*.

"Let me give you another interesting example that was brought to my attention by R. Jayaram, one of our *Daily Bulletin* editors, who wrote this case in his book. Declarer plays in Four Hearts and has eliminated all side suits but the clubs. In an end play, thinking he would have to lose another club trick he conceded one down, of course accepted by the opponents. But the opponent who would have won the club trick, did not have clubs any more, so he had to concede a ruff and discard. Does this allow the declarer to make the contract despite the concession? Only if he becomes aware of the situation, normally within the allocated appeal time, because Law 71 clearly states that a concession will be cancelled if it concerns a trick that cannot be lost during the play of the remaining tricks. It is irrational to ask the declarer to play a club from dummy and his own hand, when an opponent is giving him a ruff and discard."

Laws 71 and 79(c) are the ones to be clearly understood here. Rubens writes about, "... he (declarer) cannot fail to win with any continuing legal play...." (in his editorial, Rubens completely ignored the fact that the Director has *already been called and that the Director was a witness to the play of the hand*). Kooijman writes about "...only if he (declarer) becomes aware of the situation, normally within the

allocated appeal time,” but also writes, “It is irrational to ask declarer to play a club from dummy and his own hand, when an opponent is giving him a ruff and discard.”

If it is true that a Director is bound to intervene in the case of an arithmetically invalid claim, should not the same logic be extended to a case of an arithmetically invalid concession? If ‘active ethics’ has to make any headway at all, the first step surely should be for our Tournament Directors to act proactively. And in my opinion, the law should specifically provide for such proactivity.

* R. Jayaram is the author of *Moments of Truth at the Bridge Table* (Batsford, London, September 2003).

Cerebral Health

By Maureen Hiron, Malaga, Spain

(This article appeared in *The Independent*, London, on September 20, 2003.)

Published research has suggested that playing bridge has positive cerebral health benefits for those of advancing years. Tony Priday, for many years a mainstay of the Great Britain and then England team, is living proof of this. He was in action on his 81st birthday on this deal from the Senior Pairs Championship at the 2003 Brighton Congress.

Dealer East. Both Vul.

<p>♠ A Q 10 7 3 ♥ J 9 2 ♦ J 8 7 6 ♣ K</p> <p>♠ K 8 5 ♥ 6 ♦ K Q 5 3 ♣ Q 7 5 3 2</p> <p>♠ 9 2 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ A 9 4 ♣ A J 9 8 4</p>	<p>♠ J 6 4 ♥ K Q 10 7 5 3 ♦ 10 2 ♣ 10 6</p>
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West	North	East	South
—	V. Priday	2 ♥	Pass
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led his singleton heart, and Tony took the second round of hearts with the ace. He appreciated that for the contract to have any chance at all, West had to hold the spade king. That did not preclude East from having the spade jack however, and had declarer tackled spades in the regular manner, East would have come in with the jack to cash the hearts (West unblocking the king under the ace).

So, Priday played a club to dummy’s king, and then – the master stroke – led a low spade toward the closed hand, looking for all the world like a man holding king, small in spades. Not unnaturally, East followed low.

West headed the nine with the king, to return another spade. Tony cashed dummy’s spades, then continued with a low diamond to the two, nine, and king. West was now endplayed in the minors, and although he’d had the presence of mind to win the king rather than the queen, then return a

low diamond, Priday was not fooled. He rose with dummy’s jack, and with the minor suit aces still to come had his nine tricks. And most of the matchpoints.

Misguided

By Ib Lundby, Fredensborg, Denmark

(Members are free to use the deals as they wish, without attribution.)

The advice of their elders to young men is very apt to be as unreal as a list of the hundred best (bridge) books.

O.W. Holmes, Jr.

Unfortunately, I don’t have time to play bridge as much as I want, but I enjoy a weekly club evening with my son, Lasse, and play with him in our 3rd Division Teams as well. I use the opportunity to teach him about every facet of the game, not only bidding and play technique, but also the ability to collect and use all kinds of information you may get during the bidding and play of a hand: a defender’s lead problem, his small breaks, remarks, attitude, etc.

In the first round of this year’s tournament, the following deal came up against two lovely girls:

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lovely Girl 1	Sonny Boy	Lovely Girl 2	The Old Man
Pass	1 ♣	Double	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening Lead: Spade 3

East considered awhile before her double of one club. Afterwards, she told me that she had an alternative choice, a Michaels Cue Bid, but she realised that according to their partnership agreements her hand was too weak for the two club bid. I had supposed that the reason for the pause was that her hand was a little stronger but without the ideal distribution for a takeout double. I jumped directly to three no trumps instead of redoubling in order not to give the enemy space to bid something and find the best lead.

A spade lead initially looked good for the defence. I won the second spade with the ace and played a low club to the king, surprisingly won with the ace by West, and a third spade ran to my king, while a heart disappeared from dummy.

The very next moment, the club seven was placed on the table, and I noticed an “oops” from West who had pulled three cards from her hand at the same time. After the “oops,” she chose one of them, the club four. I only saw the backs of the cards, but I was awake. East’s light double combined

with this special sort of distribution signal made the situation obvious. I asked for the six of clubs, and as expected won the trick.

Now it was easy: a club to the jack, the heart queen-king-ace, a heart to the jack, and the club queen. East had to throw a card from the spade queen, nine, the heart nine, and the diamond king, ten. To avoid the endplay in hearts, she discarded the diamond ten, and the diamond queen therefore became my ninth trick.

After the match, I used the opportunity to give my son a lesson: This was an easy but very illustrative hand, because I had two things indicating that clubs were four-one, East's light double, and West's funny length-showing signal.

Instead of being impressed, my son gave me a big smile: "Do you know which three cards she pulled?" and without waiting for my answer, he went on, "the four of clubs and the two hearts!"

With someone who holds nothing but trumps, it is impossible to play cards.

Friedrich Hebbel

While bridge students discuss five-three versus four-four fits, the better tournament players consider the Moysian fit, the four-three, or even the four-two fit. In the first round of the Danish Teams Championships, this deal came up:

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Freddi	Poul	Jacob	H.C.
Brøndum	Clemmensen	Røn	Graversen
—	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥!
1 ♠	2 ♣	2 ♠	3 ♣
3 ♠	4 ♥	Pass	Pass!
Pass			

Three no trumps, five clubs, and five diamonds are makable contracts, and even six clubs can make if declarer avoids a heart lead. Anyway, Graversen decided to stay in four hearts - a remarkable and questionable decision but ...

The spade lead was won by the ace, and a low heart went to the heart eight and jack. West played another spade, ruffed in dummy, and South continued 'drawing trumps' by playing a heart to the ace, and his last heart to the king with West.

At this point, the contract is still defeated if West shifts to a club, but West played a third spade, and now South was in

charge. Granted entry to his hand with the spade king, he finessed for the diamond king and ran diamonds and clubs from top. East could take his trump trick whenever he wanted.

There are more fools than knaves in the world, else the knaves would not have enough to live upon.

Samuel Butler

"It may have looked a little foolish to the Vu-graph audience", Sabine Auken said to me as she gave me this deal. Sabine and Daniela von Arnim have won almost everything worth winning in Women's bridge, and now they are trying to qualify for the German Open Team. They won their first match, from which this deal is taken:

Dealer West. Both Vul.

<p>♠ Q 10 8 ♥ J 9 6 5 4 3 2 ♦ Q 2 ♣ 9</p> <p>♠ A 7 6 5 4 ♥ K 10 ♦ A K 7 ♣ 8 6 5</p>	<p>♠ J ♥ Q 8 7 ♦ 10 9 6 4 3 ♣ 10 7 3 2</p> <p>♠ K 9 3 2 ♥ A ♦ J 8 5 ♣ A K Q J 4</p>
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West	North	East	South
	von Arnim		Auken
1 ♠	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The defence began with three times diamonds, and Sabine was in with the jack. What are the chances?

You have five club tricks if the suit behaves, but as West has showed five spades and three or four diamonds, it may be slightly against the odds that clubs are four-three. In that case, you need three spade tricks, and the best chance to succeed looks like playing the spade nine and finessing West for the jack.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to test the club suit first, because if you need three spade tricks, you have severed the transportation to get them (West will play the ace the first or second time you lead a spade towards dummy, thereby blocking the suit).

If you only need two spade tricks you can afford to begin with the spade king, thereby covering the situation where East has the singleton jack. You may have guessed that Sabine's spade nine lost to the jack and she went down two. Well played anyway, Sabine!

If Not to the Left, then to the Right

By Irena Chodorowska, Warsaw

In a team tournament in Pula, Croatia, two Polish teams met. A well-known player, Andrzej Wilkosz was one of the opponents against the following three no trumps contract played by Jan Chodorowski.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

The bidding was based on the Polish Club system:

West	North	East	South
Wilkosz	Irena	Nowowo-	Jan
—	Chodorowska	wiejski	Chodorowski
—	—	Pass	1 ♣
2 NT ¹	Double	3 ♦	Pass
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 5-5 minors, 6-10 HCP

Wilkosz led the queen of clubs. Chodorowski took the trick in the dummy and tested the heart suit, hoping to find a single heart honour with his left-hand-opponent or both honours with RHO. He played the ace and a small heart to the ten. Unfortunately, this chance failed. West won the trick with the king and played back the jack of clubs on which East discarded a small spade.

Chodorowski won the trick with his ace and played the king of spades. Everybody followed suit. Now the layout was obvious - the two no trump bid by Wilkosz had shown both minors. Declarer played a small club on which RHO discarded a small diamond. Had Wilkosz played his club tricks then he would have forced his partner in both majors.

However, Andrzej Wilkosz, one of the finest players in Poland, knew his business well. Not cashing his club tricks, he returned the king of diamonds! This was the end position:

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

Now it was time for declarer to show his skill. With his LHO not making his task any easier, he tried RHO. After cashing his two top diamond tricks, declarer played the queen of hearts and exited a small heart, throwing East in. RHO tried the queen of spades but it held the trick. Now he had to lead into the dummy's spade ace, ten.

The contract could not have been made if East had discarded a small spade to the third club trick and not a small diamond. One might think that leaving the queen, jack dry would let the declarer establish the spade suit, but this was not the case, though, provided West withholds his club tricks and plays the king of diamonds exactly as Wilkosz did.

After the play was over, Andrzej Wilkosz congratulated my partner on his declarer play, to which he heard a modest reply: "It is just because I carefully read your articles in Polish Brydz every month."

Kissing Your Sister

By Adam Wildavsky, Jackson Heights, NY

It was the last board of the final of the Secaucus Open. I was having a good game. Whether it was good enough to win, who could tell? It was an individual.

Dealer South. NS Vul. (Board rotated for convenience.)

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Wildavsky
—	—	—	1 NT
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Yes, that's the real auction. I don't know why my partner chose that sequence, but we ended up in an aggressive game. West led a trump, solving one of my problems. I covered the four with the five (anything can happen in an Individual!), and East put up the king. I won with the ace and tried a diamond finesse.

When the jack held, things began to look up. I led a spade to the king and West's ace; he returned the diamond queen to my king. I tried the heart ten in case East had begun with the king, nine. West covered, so I won with dummy's queen.

I didn't want to rely on the club ace being onside, so I attempted to strip the hand out before putting West on lead with the heart nine. I played a spade to the queen and ruffed a spade. Now I played the diamond ace. When everyone followed, I played the thirteenth diamond and threw my last spade on it. West declined to ruff, pitching a club, so I threw him in with the heart nine. I was pleased he didn't have the thirteenth spade to get out, but was disappointed that the club ace had been onside all along.

Three pairs were in game and five in part scores. One declarer took eleven tricks (!), two took nine, and the rest

scored ten tricks. Plus 420 was worth 5.5 match points on a 7 top. That was just enough to pull me into an exact tie for first. Thank you, Partner!

The Lead

By Chris Compton, Dallas

Opening leads are a very tough part of bridge. However, every now and then, the auction is so revealing that one can logically come to the conclusion that desperate measures are in order. Witness the following example that occurred this summer against Alan Sontag and Peter Weichsel in the USBF Team Trials for the Bermuda Bowl. This deal came up in the third and final session of the round robin and contributed to our team's near-blitz of the Meltzer team.

Sitting West, I picked up:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ J 3
♥ 10 3 2
♦ K 10 4
♣ A Q 9 8 5

West	North	East	South
—	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦ ¹
Pass	3 ♠ ²	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 4th Suit Forcing to game, the same as 2 ♥ in standard methods
2. Three spades, short hearts, 16 HCP or fewer

The auction described a dummy that was three-one-five-four or the like. Declarer had a game force and the dummy had jumped to three spades! This auction does not sound as if they are pushing to a thin game. Worse yet, clues to our side's defensive assets being poorly-placed were available for all four suits.

First, the spades were very likely three-two in our hands – no good news there. The hearts lay poorly for our side, my partner's putative heart honours in front of declarer's. Leading hearts would play the suit for declarer, likely finessing against my partner. With at least nine minor suit cards in dummy, my own club and diamond honours figured to be trapped.

Trumps and hearts were likely to help declarer more than us. The ten of diamonds dissuaded me from diamonds as leading the suit could compress our natural diamond trick or tricks. That left clubs as the suit to lead, but which one? Most people visualized the king of clubs in the dummy and began the defense with ace and another, but this basically depended upon a singleton in partner's hand or the timing being right to make a killing diamond switch at trick two.

To me, it was far more likely that declarer was short in clubs and would throw a diamond on the king in the dummy. What then could be done to defeat four spades on this bleak situation?

Well, just because I know my side's assets were poorly placed did not mean that declarer appreciated that. What could I

do to trick the declarer into misreading the hand? What was the most important card to mislead declarer about? The ace of clubs. Do you see the lead? The queen of clubs! The full deal:

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

Look at the hand from declarer's point of view with the queen of clubs lead. He has two likely trump losers, a diamond finesse to take, and an apparently losing club finesse. At most tables declarer made the hand by finessing the diamond queen and throwing a diamond on the king of clubs. Either the ace of clubs was led, or declarer led up to the ace himself. Regardless, declarer essentially had time to test the club ace before falling back on the double diamond finesse or the king doubleton of diamonds onside. But what about Alan Sontag who received my queen of clubs lead?

From Alan's point of view, covering the club with the king would cost a trick whenever the ace of clubs was in the East hand singleton, doubleton, or sometimes tripleton. Contra, covering the club would only gain a trick when West had led the queen of clubs holding the ace. Accordingly, Sontag played low from the dummy. Flushed with success, I continued underleading my club ace again by leading the nine.

If I switch from clubs, then the double diamond finesse would have succeeded or I would have been forced to throw a diamond to come down to king, ten doubleton when declarer ruffed a heart, cashed his hearts, and eventually ran trumps.

Sontag, sticking to his plan of ruffing out the club ace, played low from dummy on the second round of clubs, ruffing in hand. Next, Sontag tried a low spade to dummy's king and my partner won the ace. My partner now returned the jack of clubs and Sontag, hoping I would either follow to the trick with a club lower than the ace, or ruff with any three card spade holding (my side's second trump trick, a loser on loser from Sontag's point of view), threw his third diamond on this trick.

Thus, our side defeated four spades by scoring two club tricks and two spade tricks. Although declarer could still have made the hand by ruffing my partner's return of the jack of clubs and eventually show-up squeezing me in diamonds and clubs, or by double finessing the diamonds, he was unable to shake the illusion created by the opening lead of the club queen. After the hand, Sontag confirmed his world-class stature by complimenting me on my lead.

Stars of the PABF

By Brian Senior, Nottingham, England

(Taken from the PABF Championships Daily Bulletins.)

Patrick Huang, Chinese Taipei, is a retired financial executive. He was born in 1943 to a bridge-playing family and was taught to play at the age of seven, partnering his brother, Frank. The brothers first represented Taiwan, as it was then officially known, in the PABF (previously called Far East Bridge Federation) Zonal Championship in 1958 when Frank was 18 and Patrick only 15.

In his more than 50-year bridge career, Patrick has played in eight Bermuda Bowls, six World Team Olympiads and two other World Championships. He twice finished second in the Bermuda Bowl and reached the semifinal twice in the Team Olympiad. Since 1958 Patrick has played in more than 20 PABF Championships, winning the Open Teams 10 times and the Open Pairs six times.

Patrick's wife, Grace, learned to play bridge after their marriage, and played for Taiwan's ladies team in the 1978 PABF championships. His son, Jerry, was a Zonal Junior Champion in 1992 and represented Zone 6 in the 1993 World Junior Championship in Denmark. Patrick's brother Frank is another World Life Master of the family as his partner and teammate in many PABF and World Championships.

Patrick was C.C. Wei's original associate in the development of the Precision System in the late 60s and helped to promote the system in Taiwan in the 70s. He is a bridge writer and served on the appeals committee and as vugraph commentator at several World Championships.

The following hand was played by Patrick in a round robin match against France in the 1989 Bermuda Bowl in Perth. The duel between an expert defender and a master declarer is fascinating to watch.

South Dealer. Neither Vul.

<p>♠ Q 5 ♥ Q J ♦ A Q 10 9 3 ♣ A J 6 4</p> <p>♠ A J 10 3 2 ♥ K 4 ♦ J 8 4 ♣ 9 7 5</p> <p>♠ K 7 6 ♥ A 8 6 2 ♦ K 6 2 ♣ K Q 3</p>	<p>♠ 9 8 4 ♥ 10 9 7 5 3 ♦ 7 5 ♣ 10 8 2</p>
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North-South quickly sailed into six no trumps by South, Patrick Huang, after he opened one no trump as dealer. West, the great French champion, Christian Mari, led the seven of clubs, which was won in the closed hand. A low spade was led to the queen, which held, and Patrick ran the diamonds, discarding two hearts from hand. On the penultimate diamond, Mari, foreseeing a possible endplay, discarded the four of hearts. On the last diamond, he parted with a low spade. Patrick next played off the remaining club winners, coming down to ace and another heart and the king of spades in hand, while Mari discarded the jack of spades.

Declarer knew he could make the contract with a good guess of the end position and the percentage play was to finesse East for the king of hearts or to endplay Mari for a heart return. However, Patrick chose neither of these unsuccessful lines and gave thought to Mari's early heart discard. Backing his card-reading ability against the cold mathematical figures, Patrick led the queen of hearts and, when East followed with the nine, rose with the ace. The king came tumbling down and the slam was home.

Yoshiyuki Nakamura, Japan was born in 1944 and started playing bridge while attending Kyoto University. He is a bridge professional and now lives in Tokyo. Yoshiyuki has represented Japan on many occasions in international competition. His first major title came when he was in the team that won the FEBF Open Teams Championship in Sydney in 1985. In his spare time, he enjoys listening to music and watching movies.

Yoshiyuki's most memorable hand came many years ago in the 1976 Kyoto Mayor's Cup, a Board-a-Match Teams event scored with Victory Points. He describes it as a kind of Butler-scored teams match.

Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Yoshiyuki was South and the auction went:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1 NT	4 ♣	5 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Against the thin contract of five diamonds, West led the jack of clubs, East followed with the six, and declarer won with the ace. Yoshiyuki led the diamond two, and West followed with the three. What should declarer play from dummy?

Yoshiyuki played the jack, which won the trick, but East discarded the club five. Prospects did not look very good now, with two trump losers, an already established club loser, and the third spade to be taken care of. This was full deal:

<p>♠ A K 4 2 ♥ A 7 6 5 ♦ K J 10 ♣ 7 3</p> <p>♠ 10 6 5 3 ♥ 10 9 8 4 ♦ A Q 4 3 ♣ J</p> <p>♠ 9 8 7 ♥ K J ♦ 9 8 7 6 5 2 ♣ A 9</p>	<p>♠ Q J ♥ Q 3 2 ♦ — ♣ K Q 10 8 6 5 4 2</p>
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The bidding offered a ray of hope to declarer and once he set his mind to the task, the play from there was almost automatic. At trick three Yoshiyuki led the five of hearts and

finessed his jack, then he cashed the heart king and crossed to the ace of spades. Declarer cashed the ace of hearts, pitching a spade, then ruffed the last heart, crossed again to the king of spades and ruffed a spade. The end position was:

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

At trick ten, Yoshiyuki led the nine of clubs, West pitched the ten of spades, and East won with the club ten. Now, on the forced club return from East, South ruffed with the diamond seven and West's queen was smothered, so that he could score only the diamond ace. If West ruffs high at trick eleven, dummy discards and makes the last two tricks with the king and jack, if West ruffs with the queen, he is over-ruffed, while if he under-ruffs, dummy discards and the lead is from South through the ace, queen of diamonds. Five diamonds made!

Sam Wan, China Hong Kong, is a WBF World Master. Aged 51, Sam is an executive search consultant and is currently a managing partner of Amrop Hever in Hong Kong and China. He has played bridge for 37 years.

Sam has participated in a Bermuda Bowl, two World Knock-Out Teams and World Pairs, four World Team Olympiads, eight Far East/PABF Championships and two Okbridge Internet World Bridge Championships.

Sam's major accomplishments have been to win the Far East Open Teams Championship in Shanghai (1987), to be Zonal Champion in the World Knock-Out Teams in Albuquerque (1994), and to reach the final of the World Pairs in Montreal (2002), where he partnered Derek Zen. He was also semi-finalist and quarterfinalist in both IWBC (2000 & 2001).

Sam had the interesting experience of spending a year in Canada in 1997 and almost became 'Rookie of the Year'! Sam started out by playing the Roman Club, then tried Blue Club, Precision, Strong Pass, and recently became a convert to Two-over-One Game Force.

Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wan	Levy	Yeung	Mouiel
1 ♦ ¹	1 NT	Pass	2 ♥ ²
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass			

1. Precision, two or more diamonds, 11-15 HCP
2. Transfer to spades

Here is an example of one of Sam's nicely defended hands. It comes from the World Pairs semifinal in Albuquerque in 1994, where he partnered Peter Yeung.

At many tables, East led a club, West played the jack, and this was ducked by declarer. After a club continuation, the jack of spades was run, but was not covered by West in order to block the suit. However, declarer countered by cashing the spade ace and the club king, then four rounds of diamonds ending in dummy. A spade to West forced him to break hearts for ten tricks.

Against the French internationals, Yeung also led a normal fourth-best club, ducked by declarer. Without pausing for breath, Sam fired back a devastating low heart and found partner with exactly what was required. Declarer had only eight tricks before giving up a spade and so was one down.

Ling Gu, China. China has been the strongest team in PABF Ladies bridge competition for over a decade, winning several PABF Ladies Teams Championships, as well as being regular qualifiers for the knock-out stages of the Venice Cup and World Team Olympiads, including finishing in the medals on more than one occasion.

Throughout this period, Ling Gu has been a regular member of the team in partnership with Yalan Zhang and one of its most consistently strong performers. Like many of the top Chinese pairs, Gu-Zhang have played Precision Club throughout their careers together.

On this deal we see Ling in action during the round robin stage of the 1999 Venice Cup tournament. She faced the task of finding the winning line in this six club contract, which appears to have two inevitable losers, and which defeated all the other declarers in both the Venice Cup and Bermuda Bowl.

Dealer West. Both Vul.

<p>♠ K ♥ A J 8 7 3 ♦ 8 7 3 ♣ 10 7 4 3</p> <p>♠ Q J 10 6 3 ♥ Q 4 ♦ K 10 4 ♣ Q 8 6</p>	<p>♠ 8 7 5 4 2 ♥ 9 6 2 ♦ 6 5 2 ♣ 9 2</p> <p>♠ A 9 ♥ K 10 5 ♦ A Q J 9 ♣ A K J 5</p>
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West	North	East	South
van der Pas	Zhang	Vriend	Gu
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♣ ¹
1 ♠	2 ♥ ²	3 ♠	Double ³
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Precision, 16+ HCP
2. 5+ hearts, 8+ HCP
3. Very strong balanced

Marijke van der Pas led a spade. Ling Gu played quickly, as if there were no problem in the play at all. She cashed two top trumps, followed by the spade ace, throwing a diamond from dummy. The heart king was followed by four more rounds of hearts. Marijke van der Pas had no escape. Ruffing a heart would endplay her immediately so she instead discarded on all the hearts, but that was only delaying the execution.

Ling Gu exited with a club at trick ten and Van der Pas had to concede a ruff and discard or lead into the diamond tenace. Very elegant.

All the other declarers in six clubs went ingloriously down when they tried a diamond or club finesse at trick two.

IBPA WEBSITE NOTICE

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www.IBPA.com/467vc.pdf

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When you try to open it will ask for a password which is:

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EXACTLY as typed.

News & Views

- Jan van Cleeff reports that due to the support of two Amsterdam bridge aficionados, a successor to the Forbo International Teams is planned. The first edition of the White House International Top Teams tournament will be held in Utrecht (near Amsterdam) at the premises of the Dutch Bridge Federation on February 28-29, 2004. The formula will be in line with the successful Forbo format: 32 top international teams, which will play a round robin on Saturday and the finals on Sunday.

Information: Jan van Cleeff c/o bridge magazine IMP, telephone 0031 70 360 5902, e-mail jvcleeff@xs4all.nl

- Mario Pescante, Italy's State Under-Secretary of Sport and President of the European Olympic Committees, and Gianni Petrucci, Italian Olympic Committee President, paid a visit to the Second European Champions Cup on October 10. The event was played at the Tennis Club Parioli in Rome.
- Omar Sharif has been given a one-month suspended prison sentence for hitting a police officer in a casino in suburban Paris in July. Sharif, 71, was also fined 4000 Euro for "violence toward a police officer," a spokesperson for the Pontoise criminal court said, declining further comment. Sharif had been arguing with a croupier at the casino, and he insulted and then head-butted a policeman who tried to intervene.

This echoes an incident at the 2000 World Championships in Bermuda, where Sharif head-butted Paul Chemla

after a disagreement. No charges were laid as a result of that contretemps, however!

- Laila Leonhardt announces that SWAN Games has released a new version of their software that features online broadcasts from live events. BridgeCast is free for all to watch. Details and schedule are available on: <http://www.swangames.com/main/bridgecast/>
Download the latest version of the software from: <http://www.swangames.com>

- Val Brockwell, Secretary of the Australian Bridge Federation informs us of the death of Jim Borin, prominent Aussie international, on October 13. Jim never recovered from a heart attack he'd had the week before.

Jim Borin was born in England and represented Australia in Zone and World competition many times. Jim won the Far East Championship in 1970 and 1971; he played in three Bermuda Bowls and an Olympiad, most often with his wife Norma, finishing third in the Bermuda Bowl in 1971.

- The ACBL now produces the Appeals Casebooks from its NABCs online. The avowed goals are to inform, provide constructive criticism, and foster change for the better in a way that is not only instructive but entertaining and stimulating. All appeals and their resolution are presented, a much more open practice than the WBF's selective appeals publication.

The Philadelphia casebook (Spring 2003) can be found at www.acbl.org

- Jeremy Flint was a member of the British Team that finished as runners-up in the 1986 European Team Championship, thus qualifying them to play in the 1987 Bermuda Bowl in Jamaica. When invited to play in the Bowl by the British Bridge League, Flint informed the then-secretary, Anna Gudge, that he could only accept the invitation provided his room had a bath rather than a shower:

It was only after several letters and faxes (there being no email in those days) had been sent that Anna was able to reply to Jeremy with the information that his room would indeed have a bath. Flint affirmed that, in that case, he would be delighted to play.

"I suppose you are wondering why I must have a room with a bath," Flint asked Anna. Consumed by curiosity, Anna replied that such was indeed the case. "My dear," continued Jeremy, "it is quite impossible to smoke a cigar in the shower!"

- International Bridge Services, Eric Kokish and Beverly Kraft's company, offers "Professional Potential Conversion," that is, coaching and writing services. They have coached medal-winning teams from The Netherlands, the USA, Indonesia, Canada, Brazil, and many others. Kokish is Editor of WBF News and they both write regular features for The BridgeWorld and the ACBL Bulletin. Kokish also does Vu-graph and Daily Bulletins for tournaments all over the world.

They can be reached at: kokish-kraft@rogers.com and kraft-kokish@rogers.com



Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

Dear Editor,

I would like to contribute to the debate on sportsmanship begun by Mark Horton.

In your editorial in last September's Bulletin, you refer to Danny Roth's partner's mechanical error as an **unintentional slip**. A slip is always unintentional and it is the result of being unfocussed. In what sport have we seen mistakes resulting from slips go unpunished? Any sportsman, whatever sport he practices, who has a moment of inattention, pays a price for it on the playing field.

Although I admire Jovi Smederevac's sportsmanship, I compare her gesture to that of a soccer player who, having received the ball from an opponent (who was not focussed on his game) in front of the goal post, would refuse to score, and would instead return the ball to the defender. When have we ever seen such a thing?

My feeling is that the player guilty of the slip against Smederevac should not have accepted Jovi Smederevac's offer, but instead should have lived by his mistake and paid the price for it. That would have been a real sportsmanlike action.

Pierre Philogene, Mauritius

Hello John,

It surprises me that Mr. De Wael did not put his letter to a Director before submitting it for publication. His statement that "it is customary to rule that a green card put on the table with the intent of alerting, is not a pass at all. It is just a green alert card" is misleading. The question is whether the pass is "made" and this is settled by the regulations. The EBL regulation, for example, says that a call is made "when a player releases it onto the tray". No mention is made of 'intent' but the player does have his Law 25 rights. An intent may be inherent in the precise placement.

Without screens an example regulation is the EBU statement that the call has been made when the bidding card "is removed from the bidding box with apparent intent" - the Director has to judge intent. Other regulations may be different.

Mr. De Wael should cite the regulation that governed the use of the bidding cards on this occasion in order to avoid false generalities loosely stated.

Grattan Endicott, Liverpool

Dear John,

While I could support the view that the Bermuda Bowl & Venice Trophy could do with a boost, I believe that your proposal is counter-productive. What is the point of 5 or 6 European teams travelling to some far distant venue just to play each other. You might as well remove the round robin stage completely, seed the European and USA champions through to the semi-finals and arrange a round robin be-

tween the winners of the other zones to determine the other 2 semi-final places.

If we are going to arrange a multiple inter-zonal teams event then at least let teams from any zone have the experience of playing against teams from other zones. This provides variety for the better teams and a good learning experience for the weaker teams. Left to my own devices I would prefer the championship to be re-organised on an all play all basis so that every match is important. Then you wouldn't need any rules pertaining to who can play whom in the semi-finals.

Cheers, Tony Sowter

Results

Mind Sports Olympiad, Manchester, Aug. 16-25, 2003

Ladies Pairs - Michelle Brunner; Rhona Goldenfield

Men's Pairs - John Holland; David McDouall

Open Pairs I - Alex Wilkinson; Tony Wilkinson

Multiple Teams of Four - Jeff Smith; Davis Whyte; Leslie Klein; David Barton

Mixed Pairs - Michelle Brunner; John Armstrong

Senior Pairs - Jill Entwistle; Donald Cross

Open Pairs II - Pauline Rudolf; John Rudolph

Swiss Pairs - Lena Morrish; Dmytro Nikolayeno

Olympiad Pairs Championship - Rhona Goldenfield; Bernard Goldenfield

Swiss Teams - Michelle Brunner; John Holland; Rhona Goldenfield; Bernard Goldenfield

BPT Tour Santa Clara Open, Aug. 26-28, 2003

1. Ali Vali	\$4000
2. Hugh Ross	\$2000
3. Rob Crawford	\$1000

Bonus Pool Race (\$20,000)

1. Charles Miner	\$8000
2. Adam Wildavsky	\$7000
3. Chris Compton	\$6400

Second European Champions Cup, Rome, October 10-12, 2003

1. **Italy** (Tennis Club Parioli) - Angelini, Fantoni, Lauria, Nunes, Sementa, Versace
2. **Sweden** (Club Herkules) - Bertheau, Nyström, Sundelin, Sylvan
3. **Netherlands** (Club Lombard) - Drijver, Ramondt, Schollaardt, Westra

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2003			
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	13th 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 Championship	Hong Kong	www.hkcba.org
Nov 26-30	2003 International Tournament	Cefalù, Sicily, Italy	albor@infcom.it/start
Dec 6-10	25 th ASEAN Championship	Batu, Malang, Indonesia	www.pbgabsi.or.id
Dec 6-14	Festival Internacional de Bridge	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.bridgeargentino.org.ar
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
Jan 24-31	Bermuda Regional 2004	Southampton, Bermuda	www.bermudaregional.com
Feb 9-15	9 th NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 16-21	21 st Cairo International Festival	Cairo, Egypt	www.egybf.com
Feb. 20-23	Icelandair Open	Reykjavik, Iceland	bridge@bridge.is
Feb 21-28	Gold Coast Congress	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Feb 28-29	White House International Top Teams	Utrecht, Netherlands	jvcleeff@xs4all.nl
Mar 1-7	Mexican Nationals	Ixtapan de la Sal Edo, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Mar 18-28	ACBL Spring NABC	Reno, NV	www.acbl.org
Apr 5-11	109 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON, Canada	acbl166@iprimus.ca
May	17 th OECS Championships	Anguilla	www.cacbf.com
May 14-27	55 th Antibes International Festival	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.bridgejuan.com
May 15-23	XVII Internacional de Costa Calida	Murcia, Spain	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 7-15	2 nd Festival de Bridge Golf	Almeria, Spain	www.eurobridge.org
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