



BULLETIN

www.IBPA.com

mail@ibpa.com

President:

PATRICK D JOURDAIN
8 Felin Wen, Rhiwbina
Cardiff CF14 6NW WALES UK
(44) 29 2062 8839
email: pdjourdain@hotmail.com

Chairman:

HENRY G FRANCIS
6875 Stomaway Drive
Memphis, TN 38119 USA
(1) 901 754 3405 Cell: 901 355 6875
Email: hfranci1@midssouth.rr.com

Executive Vice-President:

JAN TOBIAS van CLEEFF
Prinsegracht 28a
2512 GA The Hague, NETHERLANDS
(31) 70 360 5902
Email: jvcleeff@xs4all.nl

Organizational Vice-President:

PER E JANNERSTEN
Villa Cicero
SE-774 27 Avesta, SWEDEN
(46) 22 66 1900
Email: ibpa@jannersten.se

Secretary:

MAUREEN DENNISON
148 Thornbury Road, Osterley
Isleworth TW7 4QE, ENGLAND UK
(44) 20 8560 3788 F: 20 8568 3553
Email: maureen_dennison@ibpa.freemove.co.uk

Membership Secretary:

Dr STUART STAVELEY
Rhu-na-Bidh, Shieldaig, Strathcarron
Ross-shire IV54 8XN SCOTLAND UK
(44) 1520 755 217 F: 1520 755 355

Treasurer:

HANS CHRISTER ANDERSSON
Arstagatan 20 C
75434 Uppsala, SWEDEN
(46) 18 253584 O: 18 175764
Email: jus289n@tinet.se

Honorary General Counsel:

WILLIAM J PENCHARZ
50 Broadway, Westminster
London SW1H 0BL ENGLAND
(44) 207 222 7000
Email: billpencharz@bdb-law.co.uk

Awards Secretary:

BARRY JRIGAL
Apt 8E, 22 West 26th Street,
New York NY 10010, USA
(1) 212 366 4799
Email: barryrigal@mindspring.com

Sponsored Members' Secretary:

IRENA CHODOROWSKA
UI Sewastopolska 3m41
02-758 Warsaw, POLAND
(48) 842 5054
Email: poyel@post.pl

Bulletin Production Manager:

JEANTYSON
105 Roundways, Coalpit Heath
Bristol BS36 2LT, ENGLAND
(44) 1454 778432
Email: mail@ibpa.com

THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: JOHN CARRUTHERS

This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 400 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° 476 Year 2004 Date September 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.

Poland has had a remarkable summer in youth bridge. The first World Schools Championship was contested in New York at the Summer NABC in July - they won. The first World Junior Individual was contested at the same venue - they won; Michal Nowasadzki earned both titles. In the 19th European Youth Bridge Team Championships in Prague, Poland won the gold medals in both the Junior Teams (Under 25's) and the Schools Teams (Under 21's). There is a rumour that the Senate of the Republic of Poland has called for an inquiry because the Polish Girls Team could do no better than third in the European Youth Championships, but that is merely a rumour.

How did this happen? Just when it looked as though Italy and the USA were going to dominate world youth bridge for years into the future, along comes Poland to upset our expectations. In Poland, bridge rivals every sport except the national passions of soccer and volleyball - and there is no question that in Poland, bridge is truly a sport. In the nation of 37 million people, 2 million of them play bridge.

At nearly every tournament, says Radek Kielbasinski, President of the Polish Bridge Union (and a VP of the EBL and Executive Committee member of the WBF), at least 50% of the entry fees go into a pool for cash prizes. Meanwhile, bridge gets lots of positive publicity. Once a year, there is a special promotional game under the patronage of the Marshal of Poland's Sejm (Lower House). Many celebrities in Poland - movie stars, sports figures - play and promote bridge, and there are annual competitions among about 20 different professions such as lawyers, doctors, police officers and soldiers.

The structure of bridge in Poland has made the game very popular among young people. In Poland, there are four categories of play for so-called Juniors: up to 15 years old, 16-18, 19-20 and 21-25. There is a national championship for the young players in each of the categories. To play in New York, there were more than 40 pairs under 20 years of age participating in the Trials. Eight pairs were chosen to have a special training programme (Internet tests, special seminars with classes on bidding, tests on understanding their system, and much play with later analysis in Polish tournaments).

This year, in the Polish Under-15 Championship, 98 pairs participated. Already, the preliminary selection process to choose and train the most talented players for the World Junior Championships in 2007 has begun. Of course, the programme for 2005 is still going on.

The main role of the Polish Bridge Union is to organize National Team Championships. The First League, Kielbasinski says, has 16 teams, made up of the country's top players. The Second League has four groups of 16 teams, and the Third League has 16 groups of 16 teams. The winner of the First League competition earns the title of National Champions and they represent Poland in the European Cup. "Many of the teams," says Kielbasinski, "have sponsors - usually companies rather than individuals." However, in order to get the strongest pairs for their team in the European Bridge League's Championships and the World Bridge Federation's Championships, the Polish team is selected through Pairs Trials." It's a programme the rest of us can marvel at and envy.

Address all editorial correspondence to: **JOHN CARRUTHERS**
65 Tiago Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4B 2A2, Canada
Tel: +1 416 752 7034 Fax: +1 416 344 4851
Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

Summer NABC II New York, July 9-18, 2004

(From the Daily Bulletins edited by Brent Manley and Henry Francis.
Some further editing has taken place for these pages.)

We continue our report of the Summer North American Bridge Championships, held in New York City this July. Barry Rigal reported this deal:

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

Sometimes it doesn't pay to get up in the morning. On their way to a heavy loss in their Spingold match, Wafik Abdou (playing with Kenji Miyakuni) found himself in a normal, but delicate, four spade contract.

His chances improved on a low club lead (third or fifth) when he scored the queen. Playing carefully, he played a club to the ace and a spade to the eight. He planned to duck the first spade, win the second, ruff a club and play for three diamonds winners and the contract.

However, the first round of trumps brought good news and bad news. The eight of spades held the trick, but West pitched a club! Abdou then played the ace of diamonds, collecting the ten from East, ruffed a club, and played a diamond from dummy. East pitched a heart, so Abdou won the king, cashed the heart ace and led a spade to the jack and queen.

This was the ending:

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

Declarer had collected seven of the first eight tricks. East could do no better than to play a heart, Abdou ruffed and played a diamond, then could not be prevented from scoring the ace and ten of spades. Declarer made ten tricks and plus 420, but lost 3 IMPs! His teammates were minus 530 in three spades doubled.

Mark Horton reported this deal from the round robin of the World Computer Championship:

I took the opportunity to see how the programs were performing. This deal shows that the computers can match perfect card play to aggressive bidding.

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Q-Plus	Jack	Q-Plus	Jack
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
5 ♣	Pass	6 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	

After a spirited auction, South led a low spade, and in the twinkling of an eye, declarer had finessed, drawn trumps, eliminated diamonds, cashed the spade ace for a club pitch, then cashed the club ace followed by another club.

The defenders could not prevent plus 1430. It was a big swing because Jack stopped in game at the other table, but recovered to tie the match.

In the semifinals, Jack (Holland), beat Wbridge5 (France), then beat Bridge Baron (USA) in the final.

Steve Robinson reported the next deal, played by an opponent in the IMP Pairs Championship.

Board 24. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

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

Lou Sunshine ruffed the second diamond and played a heart to the ten. He knew the trumps weren't going to split three-three, so he next played the spade jack. South took his king

and played a third diamond, but Sunshine discarded a heart rather than shorten his trumps further. On the fourth round of diamonds he ruffed with dummy's ace.

Declarer passed the club queen then played a club to the ten. The trump queen, the club ace, and a heart to the ace followed. In dummy at trick twelve, declarer's ten-seven of spades were poised to take the final two tricks over South's nine-four. Plus 590 and a huge IMP gain.

Mark Itabashi reported the following deal, also from the IMP Pairs.

This deal illustrates how dangerous it can be to double holding a trump stack, thus alerting declarer to the distribution. South was my partner, Eric Leong.

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

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

West started with the king of clubs to Leong's ace. He figured trumps were five-zero and played accordingly. He went to dummy with the ace of diamonds and passed the spade queen, then led a diamond to the king and ruffed a diamond.

Leong then ruffed a club and played a good diamond from hand, discarding a spade from dummy. East ruffed and played the spade king, pinning the now-bare queen, but Leong was still in control. He won the ace of spades and ruffed a spade, reducing East to four cards, all trumps. With the ace-nine of trumps in dummy and jack-seven-six in his hand, and with eight tricks in, he could not be prevented from scoring two more trump tricks. Plus 790 was good for a 10-IMP gain.

An interesting end-position arose on this deal:

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

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

The opening lead of the diamond six went to the ten, jack and ace. Declarer played the king of hearts to the ace and South got out with the heart queen. Declarer ruffed, drew trumps and played king and another diamond. This was the ending:

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

South must be careful to win the third diamond and exit with a low club, and North must withhold the queen unless declarer plays the jack. Then declarer must lose two clubs and go one off.

The following two deals were reported by Barry Rigal.

It's not really fair when your opponents play well against you. Still, it provides material for the column. Aviv Shahaf declared four spades redoubled on this deal. Why he was doubled is quite another story!

Board 28. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	3 ♣
3 ♦	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♠	Double	Redouble	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The opening eight of hearts lead went to the two, nine, and Shahaf's king. He ruffed a club in dummy and led the diamond jack to North's queen. North continued the attack on hearts and dummy's ace won. Shahaf then played the diamond king to North's ace. North played another heart, ruffed by declarer with the seven and overruffed with the nine. On the diamond return, Shahaf won, noting the three-three split with some satisfaction, and continued diamonds to reach (see top of next page):

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

On the fifth diamond, if North pitches his heart, declarer leads a spade for a finesse. So, North ruffs with the spade ten, overruffed. Now a spade to the queen leaves declarer's ace-eight of spades positioned over North's Jack-six. Finally, if South exits with a club when in with the spade nine, declarer ruffs it in dummy, achieving the coup in perhaps more elegant fashion.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1 NT	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

No names this time – we protect the guilty and the innocent alike. It's a quiet part score deal. Can you guess which spade tricks were won on the first two rounds of the suit, and which heart tricks?

Here's what happened at one table. The opening diamond lead went to the jack and ace. Declarer cashed the trump ace and played a second trump to north's king. North continued with the spade queen and declarer ducked in dummy. North played the two of spades next, which went to the three, eight and ten! Declarer cashed the diamond king, ruffed a diamond, setting up the nine, and drew the last trump, making ten tricks. Spade tricks were won by the queen and ten.

At the other table, the opening lead was the eight of hearts and declarer allowed the nine to win! He won the diamond return and played a spade to the king. A second spade went to North's queen, and, unsuspectingly, he shifted back to trumps, leading the jack! The queen won. Declarer thus scored nine tricks. The first two hearts tricks were won by the nine and queen.

Thus the first two spade tricks were won by the queen and ten at one table, the king and queen at the other. The first

two heart tricks were won by the nine and queen at one table, as opposed to the ace and king at the other. No, this article was not about good play – only about strange tricks.

Vise Is Nice!

Barry Rigal, New York City

No, this is not the motto of the bridge camp, this is a tribute to the vise squeeze. You do not know what a vise is? Well, read on and find out. The deal comes from the Swiss Teams tournament.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

Let's look at the contract of three no trumps declared by South. On a low diamond lead (a good choice by West), South ducks in dummy, and East puts in the ten and returns a spade, for want of anything better, to the nine and jack. Declarer wins in dummy, clears the clubs, and East is endplayed on the third round. His best bet is to play back a low spade, but declarer wins the king and plays a heart to the queen and king and East has to concede the ninth trick one way or another.

Björn Sörling was East and decided from the sight of dummy that this line of defense would be hopeless. So he varied the script by winning the first diamond with the ten, and returning a diamond. Declarer won and led a club to the ace and a club to the queen, a thoughtful play. Serling won the trick (to make sure declarer had an easy reentry to hand) and cleared the diamonds, leaving himself with the high diamond. Declarer then ran the clubs, producing this ending:

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

On the last club, both East and West pitched spades, while dummy threw a small heart. Declarer now led the spade king, and Sörling ducked, luring declarer into his trap. When South led another spade, Serling took the ace and cashed the last diamond; in the two-card ending he had the heart king and the spade eight, West the jack-ten of hearts and declarer the doubleton ace of hearts. But what was dummy to discard from the spade queen and the doubleton heart queen? If he pitched a spade Sörling would cash the eight, if he pitched a heart East would lead the heart king, pinning the queen and letting West win trick thirteen with the jack.

This is a true vise squeeze; yes, declarer might have found a way home, but Sörling defended very well to present him with the losing option.

The Incredible Comeback

Bart Bramley, Dallas

The marquee matchup in the 2004 Spingold semifinals was a runaway. After three quarters, 48 of 64 boards, JACOBS (George Jacobs-Ralph Katz, Lorenzo Lauria-Alfredo Versace, Howard Weinstein-Steve Garner) led NICKELL (Nick Nickell-Dick Freeman, Jeff Meckstroth-Eric Rodwell, Bob Hamman-Paul Soloway) by 71 IMPs. JACOBS had thoroughly outplayed NICKELL for three quarters.

For the final set, Meckstroth and Rodwell sat East and West respectively against Garner-Weinstein (North-South), while at the other table Hamman-Soloway (North and South) faced Katz and Jacobs (East-West). JACOBS had taken the seed in the first and fourth quarters and had elected to play his own pair in those two quarters in order to play against the pair of his choice. The Italians, having delivered just what Jacobs had hoped for in the first three quarters, got to rest.

Throughout this report, the positions have been rotated for convenience, to make South the declarer.

The first board was a push in a normal three no trumps with ten tricks. Then:

Board 50. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Garner	Meckstroth	Weinstein	Rodwell
Hamman	Katz	Soloway	Jacobs
—	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass			

Garner led a normal high spade and shifted to the diamond queen. Declarer, Rodwell, ducked one diamond, won the next diamond, drew trumps and played spades. Making four, plus 420.

At the other table, Hamman led a club! Jacobs won, drew trumps ending in dummy, and led a spade to the queen and king. Hamman led another club. Declarer, playing for Hamman not to have both top spades, led a spade to the jack and ace. Now the diamond shift knocked out dummy's last entry and declarer had to go down two, minus 100 and 11 imps to NICKELL, thanks to Hamman's intelligent and swingy opening lead. 141-81. Hamman was to make a number of these decisions in this quarter, none of them wild, but all well-considered actions.

Board 51. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Garner	Meckstroth	Weinstein	Rodwell
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	6 ♥(!)	Pass	Pass
Pass			

In the other room Jacobs-Katz made 650 in a normal four hearts. Here, Meckstroth blasted to slam, hoping that partner would have a better fit than he actually held.

The contract has very little play, but Garner gave declarer a chance with the normal lead of the diamond ace. He shifted to a trump. Rodwell won in hand to lead a spade, on which Garner made the fine play of the queen, the card he was about to be known to hold, thus feigning possession of the king as well. Declarer won the ace, ruffed a spade, ruffed a diamond, and cashed the trump king, on which Weinstein pitched a spade. Rodwell was still uncertain about the spade position, but, divining the diamond position, he ruffed a spade and ruffed another diamond. When the king fell he had twelve tricks (the spade position was now marked). That was 13 imps to NICKELL: 141-94.

Then Katz and Meckstroth as East held:

Board 52. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

After two passes, Katz opened a 14 to 17 notrump. His LHO bid two clubs, showing spades and a minor, and his RHO

bid two diamonds, pass or correct. He doubled, and when LHO's correction to two spades came back to him, he gave up. This was definitely a state-of-the-match action for Katz. Two spades was cold with a friendly lie, and in fact made three.

At the other table, Meckstroth opened a strong club. His LHO bid two spades, showing spades and a minor, and his RHO bid three clubs, pass or correct. He bid three diamonds, and everyone passed. Three diamonds was cold with a simple guess. (You will see that the Nickell team guessed very well in this set.) 140 and 110 meant 6 more IMPs to NICKELL, who had carved 30 imps off of their deficit in four boards. 141-100.

Next, a bidding exercise:

Board 53. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	East
Garner	Weinstein
Pass	1 ♣
1 ♠ ¹	2 ♦
4 ♦	4 ♠
5 ♥	5 ♠
6 ♦	Pass

1. Artificial, equivalent to a forcing notrump

Hamman	Soloway
Pass	1 ♣ ¹
1 ♠ ²	2 ♣
2 ♦	3 ♦
4 ♦	4 ♠
4 NT ³	5 ♦ ⁴
6 ♦	Pass

1. 17+
2. 8-11 without a good suit
3. RKCB
4. 1 or 4 key cards

Both pairs had excellent auctions to reach the laydown slam. Garner's jump to four diamonds simplified the task for his pair. Weinstein even got to make a grand slam try. At the other table Hamman, having denied a good suit earlier, knew that his fifth diamond was golden. When Soloway showed slam interest, Hamman, with a maximum for his auction, was able to Blackwood into slam confidently.

Both pairs liked their result, but it was just a push. In the other semifinal neither pair came close to this slam. Still 141-100.

Next, Meckwell wandered into two no trumps when they were cold for three hearts. Weinstein had a chance for a set, but, misled by declarer's failure to raise hearts with three-card support, he allowed the contract to sneak home. That was still good for a 1-IMP pickup for JACOBS when Jacobs-Katz scored an effortless 140 at the other table, but it could have been 6. 142-100.

Then, with both sides vulnerable:

Board 55. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	East
Jacobs	Katz
1 ♥	1 NT
2 ♦	2 ♥
Pass	

Rodwell	Meckstroth
1 ♥	1 NT
2 ♦	2 ♥
2 ♠	2 NT
Pass	

What contract would you like to be in with these cards? Three no trumps might fetch on a lucky day with the spade finesse and friendly hearts, but usually a part score will be enough. If that is so, then two hearts looks safer. North had a normal club lead against two hearts. South, who had a singleton club and a doubleton heart, ruffed the second club and declarer could no longer get home without peeking. (North had the doubleton spade king.) Meanwhile, two no trumps made because South's doubleton heart included the ten. 120 and 100 gave NICKELL 6 more IMPs; 142-106.

On the next two boards the teams traded overtrick imps in three no trump contracts. The second of these, however, was a potential swing board:

Board 57. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Jacobs-Katz and Meckwell rested in three no trumps. With the club jack doubleton and the heart queen and diamond ace both outside twelve tricks were available. However, the diamond jack was offside, so the bidders and the defenders alike could hope for a favorable swing. 143-107.

Two more single IMPs went to NICKELL for overtricks in partials. 143-109. Over the last seven boards NICKELL had gained only 7 IMPs (9-2), so with five boards to go the margin was still a healthy 34 IMPs. Then:

Board 60. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Katz	Soloway	Jacobs
—	—	—	2 ♠
3 ♥	4 NT	Double	Pass ¹
Pass	5 ♥	Double	Pass
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Intended to show 1 key card

West	North	East	South
Garner	Meckstroth	Weinstein	Rodwell
—	—	—	3 ♠
4 ♥	4 NT	Double	Pass ¹
Pass	7 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Showing 1 key card

At the first table Jacobs and Katz got their wires crossed after the double of four no trumps. Jacobs intended his pass to show one keycard, but Katz didn't get the message and eventually settled for the small slam. At the second table Rodwell started one level higher, but the problems were the same. Here they knew their system and Meckstroth bid the grand.

A diamond lead will beat the grand slam by knocking out the late entry to the club suit. Both opening leaders correctly placed the dummy with a long suit, but they assumed it was diamonds, so they both led a club to kill the late entry! Now the declarers could ruff, ruff a heart, cash dummy's two high spades, ruff another club, and claim. 1510 against 1010 was good for 11 IMPs to NICKELL, down 23 with four boards left, 143-120. Next:

Board 61. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Jacobs	Hamman	Katz	Soloway
—	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Double	Pass	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		
Rodwell	Garner	Meckstroth	Weinstein
—	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
Pass	2 ♣	Double	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Both Wests made the winning decision to double one no trump. Soloway simply ran to his five-card suit rather than involve his partner. That was a lucky decision, especially as his partnership opens one spade with four-four-two-three shape, but he judged that a good heart fit his way was less likely after the takeout double.

West, Jacobs, led the club queen, ducked, and shifted to his spade. Declarer, Soloway, passed the diamond nine to West's jack. This time West shifted to the heart king, which was fatal. (A club continuation at any time would have left declarer too much work to do with his limited entries.) Declarer played ace and a diamond to East's king. East played spades, on which West pitched hearts, but the lie of the heart spots meant that declarer could always pick up the suit for one loser. Making two, 180 to North-South.

In the other room North declared the three-four heart fit. East, Meckstroth, found the trump lead, after which declarer could only get three trump tricks and three side aces. Down two, 500 to EW and 12 more IMPs to NICKELL, suddenly down only 11 with three boards to go, 143-132.

The next board was another Hamman swing (See next page):

Both opening leaders, Meckstroth and Katz, led clubs and both declarers, Garner and Hamman, won the third round of the suit. Garner, in two no trumps, played West for the diamond queen, a normal guess which was even more strongly indicated by the bidding at his table. When the finesse lost he was down two, 100 to East-West.

Board 62. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Katz	Soloway	Jacobs	Hamman
Pass	Pass	2 ♠	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
Meckstroth	Weinstein	Rodwell	Garner
2 ♣ ¹	Pass	2 ♠	2 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Natural, limited opening bid (It sure is!)

Hamman, who knew he had a good set but figured that he still needed more swings, went anti-percentage in diamonds. He played a diamond to the king and another to the ten. He could only get three spade tricks, but that was enough to make his contract, 400 to North-South. 11 IMPs: 143-143! The penultimate board was a push at 450, but Jacobs-Katz lived dangerously by volunteering for the five-level, where a

benign lie allowed them to make with the loss of just two aces.

This was the final board:

Board 64. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Jacobs	Hamman	Katz	Soloway
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣ ¹
Pass	2 ♦ ²	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Either natural or a 3-card limit heart raise
2. Artificial, minimum

Rodwell	Garner	Meckstroth	Weinstein
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Garner-Weinstein had a good natural auction to the top spot. However, East led a spade, the unbid suit. West cashed his two spades and the defenders still had two trump tricks. Down one, 50 to East-West.

Hamman-Soloway, with semi-balanced hands and no great fit anywhere, misjudged to play three no trumps. Injustice prevailed when the spades were blocked and clubs ran. Indeed, Soloway made five when West, who knew that he couldn't run five spade tricks, shifted to a heart at trick two. Soloway grabbed the ace and tried a club to the jack. 460 and 50 was worth 11 imps to NICKELL, who won the match by that margin. The last quarter score was 84 to 2; the match score NICKELL 154 - JACOBS 143.

**Notice to All IBPA Members !!
Change of e-Mail Address**

If your e-mail address changes, please let us know. Send the change to the Bulletin Production Manager, Jean Tyson, at:
mail@ibpa.com

We need this for various reasons, not least of which is to let you know the Bulletin codes and to reach you personally.

But there was one more act to play out. Lauria and Versace had lodged an appeal from the second quarter when they faced Rodwell and Meckstroth. Dubiously, the appeal was not heard until the end of the fourth quarter when the Appeals Committee must have known their ruling would swing the match. This was the deal:

Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

North	East	South	West
Meckstroth	Versace	Rodwell	Lauria
Pass	Pass	1 ♦	2 NT
3 ♣	3 ♦	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT*	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

*Huddle

Five diamonds was a very lucky make. Rodwell got a heart lead. He finessed, a necessary play, took a diamond finesse and conceded a club. He won the heart continuation, shedding a club, drew trumps, passed the spade eight, and eventually got a third spade trick to make his contract.

After taking in the facts, the Tournament Director ruled that the table result stood, and East-West appealed. The result at the other table was four diamonds just making, worth 10 IMPs to NICKELL, so if the Committee changed the result to three no trumps down one, then JACOBS would gain 6 IMPs instead, enough to swing the match.

The length of Meckstroth's huddle was disputed, but there was a noticeable delay before the bidding tray returned to the South/West side of the table. East-West contended that the huddle demonstrably suggested getting out of three no trumps, and that pass was a logical alternative. North-South argued that the identity of the huddler was not obvious. Since both Meckstroth and Versace are notably fast players and both had made game tries as passed hands, then either or both of them could have taken the unexpected extra time. They also argued that removing three no trumps was clear with minimum high cards and extra distribution.

The Committee accepted the North-South argument about the ambiguity in identifying the huddler. Thus, they were spared the more difficult decision about whether pass was a logical alternative. (This North-South pair can hardly argue that they never attempt three no trumps without adequate high cards, stoppers, or running tricks!) Anyway, the Committee preserved the table result, but this did not happen until four or five hours after the last card had been played, which dampened the celebration considerably. Luckily for NICKELL, he beat SPECTOR (Warren Spector-Mark Feldman,

Ron Smith-Billy Cohen, Vincent Demuy-Gavin Wolpert) handily in the final the next day, so there was even more reason to celebrate.

IBPA Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held in Istanbul on the morning after the Senior Teams finishes, i.e., probably Monday morning 1st November or the following morning Tuesday 2nd November, if necessary.

Proposed agenda:

1. Previous minutes
2. Officers' reports: President; Executive Vice-President; Organisational Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer
3. Appointees' reports: WBF & EBL Liaison Officer; Membership Secretary; Bulletin Editor
4. Accounts & annual subscriptions
5. Elections
6. Honour Member
7. Annual awards
8. Other business

There will be an election for Officers. All existing officers are willing to continue and are thus nominated. They are: President: Patrick Jourdain (Wales); Executive Vice-President: Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands); Organisational Vice-President: Per Jannersten (Sweden); Chairman: Henry Francis (USA); Treasurer: Christer Andersson (Sweden); Secretary: Maureen Dennison (England); Honorary General Counsel: Bill Pencharz (England); Honorary Auditor: Julius Butkow (South Africa).

Automatically continuing without election are the President Emeriti (i.e., past living Presidents), namely: Alan Truscott (USA), Tommy Sandsmark (Norway), and Henry Francis (USA).

Executive Members whose term expires and are available for re-election for a 3-year term to 2007: Chris Diment (Australia); Panos Gerontopoulos (Greece); Brent Manley (USA). Already elected to 2006: Dilip Gidwani (Ghana); Peter Lund (Denmark); Ron Tacchi (France). Already elected until 2005: Julius Butkow (RSA); John Carruthers (Canada); Barry Rigal (USA).

Patrick Jourdain, President

IBPA WEBSITE NOTICE

To access a Bulletin on the IBPA website, enter the website address www.ibpa.com, followed by a forward slash, then the Bulletin code, immediately followed by .pdf - this Bulletin, September 2004, will have code 476es so you will need to key in:
www.ibpa.com/476es.pdf

You can download a copy of the Handbook from www.ibpa.com (click on the link toward the page bottom). When you try to open it will ask for a password, which is: **ihccaT** EXACTLY as it appears here. At the next prompt, key in **Handbook**

European Youth Bridge Team Championships, Prague, August 1-11, 2004

Chris Dixon, London
Barry Rigal, New York

Evgeni Rudakov of the Russian Junior Team played this three no trump contract from Round 1 correctly.

Board 13. All Vul. Dealer North.

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

Rudakov declared three no trumps as West on the lead of the two of hearts. He correctly took the ace immediately for fear of a diamond switch and led a club to his queen.

There is a way to ensure five club winners, and that is the number required to guarantee the contract. Rudakov played the four of spades to dummy's queen at trick three then led the eight of clubs. When South played low he overtook with the nine and two more rounds of the suit gave him nine tricks – five clubs, two spades and two red aces. Had the nine lost to the jack, it would have meant that the suit had broken evenly, of course.

In Round 13, Italy, the defenders, met Hungary. Both teams were battling it out for the lead in the Junior series.

Board 6. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
F di Bello	Mráz	S di Bello	Szegedi
—	—	1 ♠	2 ♠
3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	4 ♣
4 ♠	5 ♣	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Szabo	Lo Presti	Riesz	Sbarigia
—	—	1 ♠	2 ♠
3 ♣	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Szegedi showed hearts and a minor and Furio showed a constructive spade raise with his three heart cue-bid. He went on to game at his next turn but respected Stelio's double of the five club save. Furio led his trump and, though there were only three top losers, the heart stack meant that Szegedi had to lose a second trick in that suit so was down two for minus 300.

Matteo Sbarigia showed hearts and clubs, and Szabo cuebid three clubs to show the spade raise. When Fabio Lo Presti jumped straight to five clubs, Szabo took the push to five spades, which ended the auction.

Sbarigia led the ace of clubs then switched to the diamond seven. Seeing the way home on any but the actual trump split, Riesz did not want to risk the diamond finesse and a possible ruff, so rose with the ace, played a spade to the jack, and found that he could not recover. He could knock out the king of diamonds, but could not then take the required club ruff and pick up the trumps. Sbarigia's nice switch at trick two had beaten the contract; down one plus 100 and 9 IMPs to Italy.

Yes, five spades can be beaten if declarer can be persuaded not to take the diamond finesse, but what about five diamonds? The answer to that one was found in the encounter between Poland and France.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kotorowicz	J. Grenthe	Kalita	G. Grenthe
—	—	2 ♠	4 ♣
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Kalita's two spade opening showed a weak two-suiter with spades and a minor. When Guillaume Grenthe overcalled four clubs, Leaping Michaels, to show hearts and clubs, Kotorowicz went quietly until Jerome Grenthe raised to game, then he saved in five diamonds. Guillaume doubled that but a heart lead was quite painless for declarer, who could take three heart ruffs in dummy, pick up the trumps along the way, and cash out the spades for thirteen tricks; plus 1150.

West	North	East	South
Tessières	Araskiewicz	O. Bessis	Buras
—	—	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	Pass	2 ♥	4 ♣
4 ♠	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
5 ♦	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

French players generally have a conservative opening bid style and the East cards did not meet Bessis's requirements for a one spade opening, with two spades being a single-suited weak bid. He passed, but soon had the opportunity to show his two-suiter by way of a cue-bid when one heart was passed round to him. Now de Tessières followed a very

revealing sequence, first trying four spades, then five diamonds over five clubs. That pretty well marked Krzysztof Buras with a spade void and Konrad Araskiewicz trusted his opponents' bidding sufficiently firstly to double, then to lead a spade for his partner to ruff.

And the spade he led was the two, suit preference. Buras duly underled his club ace at trick two and received a second ruff so an otherwise cold contract had been defeated by a trick. Very nicely defended and plus 200 to Poland, giving them 16 IMPs.

Large penalties are often a feature of the junior game, but sometimes a player expecting to reap a sizeable penalty can be brought down to earth with a nasty bump. Consider this deal from the Round 15 Scandinavian clash between Norway and Denmark in the Junior series.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ringseth	Houmoller	Kippe	Jensen
—	1 NT	Pass	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
5 ♦	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Jonas Houmoller for Denmark must have been hoping for a telephone number penalty here but, when his partner led the heart jack, he was disappointed not to see the king of clubs in dummy. Still, the position of the diamond ten at least assured that the contract would be defeated. Or so he thought!

Hakon Kippe led a club at trick two, taken by North, who continued with the king of spades. Declarer cashed the club king, ruffed a spade, then a club. Next, two winning hearts and a second spade ruff reduced West and North to only diamonds. After a diamond to the nine and king, declarer just had to throw North in with a trump to be able to claim the last two tricks and plus 550.

In the Open Room, the contract was one no trump making eight tricks, giving Norway 10 IMPs.

Looking at this, the final deal from Round 16 of the Junior Championship, you might imagine that declarer would have four inescapable losers in his four spade contract. As reported to us by NPC Michael Barel, Gilad Ofir of Israel showed that there is always a way in his team's match against Scotland.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North Hoffman	East	South Ofir
Pass	1 ♦	Double	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Ron Hoffman's mildly aggressive raise to game resulted in Ofir being in a rather delicate contract as the cards lie. He proved to be up to the task as he played the hand almost double dummy.

The opening lead was a heart, and Ofir took dummy's ace, then played king of hearts and ruffed a heart low, played a diamond to dummy and ruffed the last heart with his ten. Next came a second diamond to dummy and a diamond ruff. Ofir ducked a club, won the club return and ruffed a club. Down to nothing but the king-nine-five of spades, Ofir led a low spade off the dummy and East was caught; ten tricks for a magnificent plus 620.

Everyone knows that it is generally wrong to over-ruff with a useful trump, but just how small can a useful trump be? Consider this deal from Round 19 of the Juniors.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

The popular contract was four spades by West, which was usually defeated on the king of hearts lead but, at most tables, the line of play selected by declarer was an inferior one. The best play is to win the heart lead with the ace and cash the ace of diamonds before crossing to dummy with a low spade to the queen. Then a low diamond, carefully ruffed with the spade nine, which North declines to over-ruff.

Declarer continues with the spade king, which North should duck but will probably win and continue hearts, forcing dummy to ruff the third round. Declarer now leads a second

low diamond and ruffs with his last trump in hand, the four. North also has only one spade left – the five, but must decline to over-ruff, otherwise dummy is now high.

At the end of Round 20, Italy were lying seventh and England joint-ninth, both outside the qualifying places and, in particular for England, this was a must-win match – and preferably win big, as the gap to fifth was around 30VP in their case.

The two following deals from this match might be considered 'synchronicity.' Both featured the queen of clubs prominently.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sbarigia	Green	Lo Presti	Happer
—	Pass	2 ♥	Double
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Woodcock	F. di Bello	Levy	S. di Bello
—	Pass	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

In the Closed Room, two spades was an easy contract for Green who, by getting the trumps right, came to two overtricks for plus 170. He lost just two diamonds and a spade.

Given a free run (even some Juniors require more than a suit headed by the ten to preempt!), the di Bello brothers bid to the spade game after Stelio had opened a slightly off-centre one no trump. Andrew Woodcock led the queen of hearts and Stelio won the king and cashed the ace of clubs. On this trick, Levy dropped the queen!

There was no way that Stelio was going to get the trumps right now – with a presumed four-one club split, he could never afford a line that involved ducking the second round of trumps in case he also conceded a club ruff. Plus, East rated to have the spade length – remember that Levy had not opened two hearts as had Lo Presti at the other table.

Thus, Stelio crossed to the spade king next and had to lose two trump tricks plus two diamonds for down one; minus 50 and 6 IMPs to England.

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sbarigia	Green	Lo Presti	Happer
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Woodcock	F. di Bello	Levy	S. di Bello
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Double
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The Italians had a normal auction to three hearts when Happer did not get involved with the South hand. After a low diamond lead, Sbarigia made ten tricks for plus 170.

Stelio made a take-out double at the other table, but that had little to do with England reaching the thin game. That was just down to Levy's incurable optimism. Furio led the ten of clubs, which is the killing lead, if South can find the defence. Woodcock covered with dummy's jack and...

Stelio won the ace, after which there was no defence. When Woodcock gained the lead he could draw trumps and knock out the ace of spades and the even heart split meant an easy ten tricks for plus 620 and 10 IMPs to England. If South covers the club jack with the queen at trick one, he has the ace-eight over the nine and makes two tricks when partner gets in with the ace of spades. That would result in down one.

England had benefited from some good fortune, but had also played better than the defending champions, and the final margin of victory was 100-22 IMPs, or 25-1 VPs. That left England seventh and Italy eighth in the rankings, both still alive, but both needing some big wins to move into a qualification spot.

It is always satisfying to make a slam contract by means of a criss-cross squeeze, but Ben Green and Duncan Happer managed it in defence to defeat a one no trump contract by two tricks in their Junior Round 22 encounter with Turkey. (See top of next column.)

East opened one diamond, South (Happer) overcalled one heart and West's one no trump ended the auction. North (Green) led a heart, taken with the ace, and declarer played on clubs, North clearing the hearts when he won the king.

Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

On declarer's winning clubs South discarded the spade nine and the diamond queen. Then, after a spade to the jack and king, South cashed his hearts, leaving this ending with East still to discard (and no escape):

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

With only three matches to go in the Juniors, time was running out for Italy and France. The winning team in this battle would have a slightly easier way to a qualification spot. The losing team would most likely not have time to make up the lost ground.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sbarigia	T. Bessis	Lo Presti	Gaviard
—	—	1 ♣	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tessières	F. di Bello	O.Bessis	S. di Bello
–	–	1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	Double	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♦	Double	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Four spades was reached at both tables and the Italians played nicely both as declarer and as defenders. Matteo Sbarigia's lead was the first key to success in the Open Room. He led the diamond seven and Thomas Bessis let Fabio Lo Presti win the first trick with jack as he played low from dummy.

Lo Presti cashed the ace of clubs, then continued with a low club to West's queen. Sbarigia once more could play a diamond and declarer was doomed to go down. Very nicely defended by the Italians; minus 100.

In the Closed Room, Stelio di Bello was declarer. Godefroy de Tessières led the club ten to Olivier Bessis' ace and he switched to a spade. Di Bello draw the trumps then finessed dummy's ten of hearts. When it held the trick he played two more rounds of hearts then played the jack of clubs from dummy. De Tessières correctly rose with his queen to play a diamond through declarer. Di Bello played the queen but when Bessis won the trick with the diamond king, he was at the same time end-played. He had no hearts left to play, while a club would be for a ruff and discard, so he exited with a diamond. Di Bello won the ten and made his game for plus 620 and 12 very well deserved IMPs to Italy.

The Final Tables

Junior Teams

(Top 5 qualify for World Junior Teams in Sydney, Australia in 2005)

1.	Poland	486
2.	Israel	474
3.	Hungary	464
4.	Norway	456
5.	France	452

Schools Teams

(Top 5 qualify for World Schools Teams in Sydney, Australia in 2005)

1.	Poland	288
2.	Israel	278
3.	Netherlands	277
4.	Norway	259
5.	Italy	249

Girls Teams

1.	Austria	228
2.	Sweden	222
3.	Poland	214
4.	Netherlands	200
5.	Italy	162

The Champions:

Juniors - Poland: Konrad Araskiewicz; Krzysztof Buras; Jacek Kalita; Krzysztof Kotorowicz; Piotr Madry; Wojciech Strzemecki

Schools – Poland: Marcin Malesa; Piotr Nawrocki; Filip Nixiol; Przemyslaw Piotrowski; Jan Sikora; Piotr Wiankowski

Girls - Austria: Adele Gogoman; Anna Gogoman; Iris Grumm; Caroline Hupka

5th Pacific Asia Bridge Federation Congress, Taipei July 10–18, 2004

**Brian Senior, Nottingham
Alex Wong, Jessica Lee & Terence Liu, Taiwan**

(These deals are taken from the Daily Bulletins edited by Brian Senior and assisted by Alex Wong, Jessica Lee and Terence Liu.)

The PABF Congress has replaced the Far East Championships on the calendar. In even-numbered years it is an open championship. In the odd-numbered years, with Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Senior Bowl qualification at stake, it is a Zonal Championship, with national teams participating. The Zone always invites the national teams from Australia and New Zealand to take part. This year, only New Zealand was able to come.

The hero of this first deal is D.M. Yen of Taipei (reported by Alex Wong).

Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1 ♣	Double	3 ♣	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

As expected, a top club was led, trumped in hand; two top hearts were used as entries for another two club ruffs, then the trump ace for the fourth club ruff gave declarer the first seven tricks.

Now the third heart toward dummy acted as a sort of coup en passant: if West ruffs, he must lead a trump or a diamond. Declarer scores either two more trumps and a heart in dummy, or two trumps and a diamond in hand. When West actually discarded, declarer scored the heart queen and led toward the diamond king to ensure two more regardless of East's plays.

What beautiful play for a precarious contract.

The following deal comes from the Round 12 encounter in the Open Teams between Sulut (Indonesia) and Oking (Taiwan).

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

♠ 10 8 6 3
♥ K J 7 6
♦ K 3
♣ Q 7 2

♠ 5 2
♥ Q 9 2
♦ 10 7 6 4
♣ A 9 6 4

♠ A K J 9
♥ A 8 5 3
♦ A Q 9 2
♣ 5

♠ Q 7 4
♥ 10 4
♦ J 8 5
♣ K J 10 8 3

West	North	East	South
Shen	Manoppo	Huang	Lasut
Pass	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

West	North	East	South
Wohon	Yen	Togi	Chang
Pass	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 NT	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Both East-West pairs did well to get to the only game that has a chance as the cards lie – though perhaps you do not want to be in game at all if looking only at the East-West cards.

Manoppo led a club, which went to the king and ace, and Shen finessed the diamond nine. Upon winning the jack, Lasut switched to the heart four to the queen, king and declarer ducked in dummy. On the spade return he finessed the jack, which lost, and the heart ten went to the ace. Even the fall of the diamond king did not prevent his going two off for minus 100.

Yen found the reasonable, but unsuccessful lead of a low heart, which ran to the ten and queen. Wohon finessed the diamond queen at trick two, and was well-placed when that held. He continued with three rounds of spades, ruffing out the queen, then played a diamond to the ace and a third diamond, South's jack winning. The defence attacked clubs but it was way too late. Wohon won the ace and played the heart nine to the ace, then played side-suit winners, holding the defence to their two trump winners and the diamond already won. That was plus 420 and 11 IMPs.

Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

♠ J 8 4
♥ 5
♦ A Q 6 5 4 3
♣ K Q 8

♠ 10 3
♥ Q J 10 8
♦ K J 2
♣ 10 9 7 2

♠ A K Q 5 2
♥ 7 4 3
♦ 8 7
♣ A 6 4

♠ 9 7 6
♥ A K 9 6 2
♦ 10 9
♣ J 5 3

There were some teams at the Championships with truly transnational flavour. Chieko Yamazaki from Japan assembled

a team including Santje Panelewen and Franky Karwur from Indonesia, Ming-Hsuan Wu of Taiwan and Alan Sia of Singapore. Sia and Wu were the heroes of this Round 10 clash with the Thailand Open Team. The bidding, with Sia and Wu East-West, was:

West	North	East	South
Wu		Sia	
—	1 ♦	1 ♠	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Sia led out the three top spades, Wu pitching a club, and continued with a heart to the ace. The Thai declarer now played the ten of diamonds, covered by the king and won with the ace, the seven falling from East.

Note that miraculous diamond position from declarer's point of view. It seems that the contract was about to come home, but Sia had other ideas. He ducked the club king, but won the queen with the ace. Considering that partner had played the diamond king on the ten, Sia thought it might have been a suit preference for spades, so he played a fourth round of spades, upon which Wu deposited his fourth club. Declarer could no longer get to dummy to take advantage of the favourable diamond position.

That plus 50, combined with the two spades down two at the other table, meant that Indonesia-Japan-Taiwan-Singapore gained 4 IMPs rather than halving the board.

The Winners

Open Pairs

Kwok Fai Mak; Dicky Lai (Hong Kong)

Mixed Pairs

Sally Wang; Ringo Lee (Hong Kong)

Open Teams

Yeh Bros (Taiwan): Chih-Kuo Shen; Chai Shin Wu;
Patrick Huang; CH Wu

Ladies Teams

Indonesia: Suci A Dewi; Phoebe Lin;
Lusje O Bojoh; Joice M Tueje

Seniors Teams

Sugino (Japan): Masakatsu Sugino; Masako Otsuka;
Fumiko Nanjo; Akiko Miwa

Mxic Cup

Don-Kwan

...Correspondence - continued from page 15.

John,

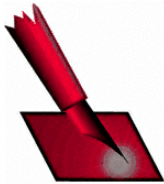
There is an error on page four of the latest Bulletin. When David Price made four spades, Brock said that he had eight tricks in the bag, but at that moment, he had won nine tricks, and his remaining two trumps generated the tenth winner.

Phillip Alder, Hobe Sound FL

Hi John,

In the August issue of the IBPA Bulletin, page 4, it says Labaere (understandably) went up with the king of clubs. That is wrong. With both minor aces - two sure entries - Justin Hackett would for sure win the opening lead with the king of spades to set up his suit.

Boye Brogeland, Fyllingsdalen, Norway



Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

European Women's Bridge Festival

Anna Maria Torlontano, Chairman of the EBL and WBF Women Committees, reports that the **European Women's Bridge Festival** was a great success. Anna Maria says, "The festival was held in Vienna in July 2004, in the magnificent, prestigious City Hall-Rathaus (we have never played in such a fantastic playing area before!). It was a multinational event with players coming not only from Europe but also from Dubai, China, Japan and India."

"The motto of José Damiani, 'Bridge for Peace,' seemed to be created for this event! It was exactly the real spirit of this Festival: tolerance, friendship, understanding, willingness to be together with people coming from different countries, to socialize with them, playing serious bridge in a very friendly atmosphere."

"I offer my warm thanks to the players, and to Vienna which offered us the opportunity to spend five unforgettable days in its legendary beauty!"

The results:

Friendly Tournament - Wang Wen Fey-Wang Hong Li (China)

Individual Tournament - 1st: Sesa Ricci Lucchi (Italy); 2nd: Maggy Costenoble (Belgium); 3rd: Anna Cornia (Italy)

Pairs Tournament - 1st: Guemruekgu-Atalay (Turkey); 2nd: Jocquenard-von Malchus (Germany); 3rd: Kawai-Bue (Norway)

Combined Classification - 1st: Anne Sophie Bue (Norway); 2nd: Petra Von Malchus (Germany); 3rd: Rita Choksi (India)

We are very sorry that the Champion of this European Women's Bridge Festival, Anne Sophie Bue, from Norway, could not be present at the prize-giving and receive the Cup, owing to the sudden death of her father, and we send her our sincere condolences.

Upcoming Events in Portugal

Rui Marques writes to inform members of the following international events in Portugal.

Xth Figueira International Open

20-21 October - Teams; 22-25 October - Pairs

Location: Figueira da Foz (Casino da Figueira)

Chief TD: Rui Marques; Organization: Casino da Figueira

Email for contact: sonia.almeida@casinofigueira.pt

Phone: +351-914958769; Prize Money: ~20,000 Euro

VIIth Madeira International Open Festival

8 November - Welcome Pairs; 9-11 November - Pairs;

12-14 November - Teams

Location: Funchal, Madeira (Congress Center)

Chief TD: Rui Marques; Organization: Club Sports Madeira

Email for contact: rodrigo_m_soares@hotmail.com

Phone: +351-965084479; Prize Money: ~20,000 Euro

II Évora Pairs Festival

14-16 January - Pairs; Location: Évora (Hotel da Cartuxa)
Chief TD: Rui Marques; Organization: Aficionar & Rui Marques

Email for contact: rui.mlmarques@netvisao.pt

Phone: +351-934256798; Prize Money: ~12,000 Euro

20th Estoril International Festival (Portuguese Grand Prix)

19-21 April - Teams; 22-24 April - Pairs

Location: Estoril (Casino Estoril); Chief TD: Rui Marques

Organization: Portuguese Bridge Federation

Email for contact: np43je@mail.telepac.pt

Phone: +351-213884844; Fax: +351-213832156

Prize Money: ~20,000 Euro

Dear JC,

Just a few remarks on last month's editorial. BAM is played (and perhaps loved) in North America. In other parts of the world? NO! (*Where is it played? Give it a chance.*)

If you play a round-robin against teams of different quality a binary system is not so good – there should be some reward for winning big rather than narrowly. (*Why? Most league systems in other sports do not.*)

In Contract Bridge the idea is that reaching a slam or game should give a bonus – skillful safety play assures you of the bonus. Is your opinion that an overtrick in a part score should be given the same win/lose value? (*Sure. Why not? The idea is not unique to BAM. In a Pairs game every board you play has equal value.*)

With three boards to go a team is four up. Should we stop the match? (*The situation is no different at IMPs or any other form of scoring. The lead can be insurmountable no matter the method.*) Your spectator wasn't able to see anything – sorry, they have left for dinner.

And you would never see recoveries like the Nickell-Jacobs semifinal in New York. (*Not so. Nickell could be down seven with seven to go and win all seven, then win in overtime.*)

But, YES the scoring is complicated. What about tennis, American football, cricket, etc. (*I can agree about cricket, but the others don't compare in complexity.*)

PO Sundelin, Stockholm

I'd be interested to know how other Europeans who visit the NABCs in North America feel about BAM. I'm quite sure Forrester, Helgemo, Robson, Balicki, Zmudzinski and other winners of BAM events here quite like it. And I'm not saying convert everything to BAM, simply try it in one or two events on an experimental basis.

Continued on page 14...

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2004			
Sep 8-10	Generali Masters Individual	Verona, Italy	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 11	Torneo Internazionale Citta' di Verona	Verona Italy	www.federbridge.it
Sep 16-24	Festival Internazionale	Elba, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Sep 17-19	Dragon Cup Tournament	Cracow, Poland	www.eurobridge.org
Sep 18-24	26 th Lebanese International Bridge Festival	Beirut, Lebanon	www.eurobridge.org
Sep 28-Oct 3	Festival Internazionale	Venice, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Oct 7-10	3 rd European Champions Cup	Barcelona, Spain	www.eurobridge.org
Oct 12-16	15 th Sun, Sea & Slams	Barbados, West Indies	www.cacbf.com
Oct 14-15	Bridge Pro Tour	Los Angeles, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Oct 16-17	Lederer Memorial	London, England	simon@simonx.plus.com
Oct 20-25	X th Figueira International Open	Figueira da Foz, Portugal	sonia.almeida@casinofigueira.pt
Oct 22	Bridge Pro Tour	Lake Geneva, WI	www.bridgeprotour.com
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 28	Bridge Pro Tour	Lake Geneva, WI	www.bridgeprotour.com
Oct 29-31	Antigua Independence Open Tournament	Antigua, West Indies	www.cacbf.com
Oct 30-31	International Pairs Tournament	Milan, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Oct 31-Nov 6	2 nd World University Teams Cup	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 1-6	3 rd World Transnational Mixed Teams	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 5-7	Monte Carlo International Tournament	Monte Carlo, Monaco	jcaconseil@monaco377.com
Nov 6-10	Tournoi de Bridge de la Famille	Pompadour, France	http://www.festiBridge.com
Nov 7-13	IV Internacional Festival	La Habana & Varadero, Cuba	www.cacbf.com
Nov 9-14	VII th Madeira International Open Festival	Funchal, Madeira, Portugal	rodrigo_m_soares@hotmail.com
Nov 14-21	10 th Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridge.co.il/Redsea
Nov 18-28	ACBL Fall NABC	Orlando, FL	www.acbl.org
Nov 19-21	Brasov International Bridge Festival	Brasov, Romania	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 20-21	Bridge Pro Tour	Orlando, FL	www.bridgeprotour.com
Nov 24-28	Sicily Open	Cefalù, Sicily, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Nov 26-27	Bridge Pro Tour	Orlando, FL	www.bridgeprotour.com
Nov 29 & Dec 1	European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	www.eblsims.org
Dec 4-6	International Teams Tournament	Milan, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Dec 10	Bridge Pro Tour	Indianapolis, IN	www.bridgeprotour.com
Dec 16-18	Bridge Pro Tour	Palm Springs, CA	www.bridgeprotour.com
Dec 17-19	Winter Cup	Bucharest, Romania	www.eurobridge.org
Dec 17-19	Junior Channel Trophy	England (TBA)	www.ebu.co.uk
2005			
Jan 12-24	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 14-16	II nd Évora Pairs Festival	Évora, Portugal	rui.mlmarques@netvisao.pt
Jan 22-30	Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.acbl.org
Feb 5-10	EBU Overseas Congress	Tunisia	www.ebu.co.uk
Feb 7-13	10 th NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 19-26	Gold Coast Congress	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Feb 26-27	2 nd White House International Top Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	jvcleeff@xs4all.nl
Mar 10-20	ACBL Spring NABC	Pittsburgh, PA	www.acbl.org
Mar 21-27	110 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.acbl.org
Apr 3-9	4th Eilat Spring Festival	Eilat, Israel	daganbridge@hotmail.com
Apr 19-24	20 th Portuguese Grand Prix	Estoril, Portugal	np43je@telepac.pt
May 14-21	23 rd CACBF Zonal Championships	San José, Costa Rica	www.cacbf.com
Jun 3-4	Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs Everywhere	www.ecatsbridge.com
Jun 18-Jul 2	2 nd European Open Championships	Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 23-Jul 3	6 th PABF Championships	Seoul, South Korea	www.abf.com.au
Jul 1-3	Hans Christian Anderson Open	Odense, Denmark	www.bridgeopen.dk
Jul 7-12	Nordic Teams Championships	Vingsted, Vejle, Denmark	dbf@bridge.dk
Jul 9-17	Danish Bridge Festival	Vingsted, Vejle, Denmark	www.bridgefestival.dk
Jul 14-24	20 th European Youth Championships	Wroclaw, Poland	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 21-31	ACBL Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	www.acbl.org
Jul 23-Aug 6	Australian National Championships	Sydney, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Aug 7-17	10 th World Youth Team Championships	Sydney, Australia	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 21-31	ACBL Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	www.acbl.org
Oct 13-16	4 th European Champions Cup	Brussels, Belgium	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 22-Nov 5	37 th World Team Championships	Estoril, Portugal	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 17-27	ACBL Fall NABC	Denver, CO	www.acbl.org