



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:

PER E JANNERSTEN
Banergatan 15
SE-752 37 Uppsala, SWEDEN
(46) 18 52 13 00
email: ibpa@jannersten.se

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:

DILIP GIDWANI
401 Mariden, 16th Road Bandra West
Mumbai 400 050 INDIA
(91) 22 98205 47150 Fax: 22 26002241
email: dilipgidwani@itesghana.com

Secretary:

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

Treasurer & Membership Secretary:

MARIO DIX
Flat 1, 41 Tigne Seafront
Sliema SLM15 MALTA
(356) 9949 3167 Cell; 2132 2433 Tel/Fax
email: mario@bridge.org.mt

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

Sponsored Members' Secretary:

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

Bulletin Production Manager:

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

Presidents Emeritii:

TOMMY SANDSMARK (NORWAY)
HENRY FRANCIS (USA)

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.

No. 505

Year 2007

Date February 10

IBPA Membership & Dues

IBPA membership carries certain privileges. For your dues, you receive the IBPA Bulletin monthly. Additionally, if you happen to be present at either the World Championship or the European Championship, you'll have priority access to the Press Room and their computers, Internet access, fax machines and telephones; you'll be invited to a luncheon; an outing is sometimes arranged; and you'll be eligible to play in a special Journalist Pairs game provided entries warrant holding such a game. It's a great deal!

We (Mario Dix, Jean Tyson, Katie Thorpe and I) have had numerous inquiries recently regarding the IBPA's dues policies and procedures. We thought it important enough to try to clarify these policies and procedures here. There are a number of points to be made:

1. All dues are paid for a calendar year.
2. Mechanisms of payment. You can pay by any of the following methods:
 - a.) via email to Mario (for security reasons, please do this only if just supplying new credit card expiry date and new credit card security code). Mario's email address is mario@bridge.org.mt.
 - b.) via post to Mario. Mario's snail mail address is:
Flat 1, Tigne Seafront
Sliema SLM 15, MALTA
To use this method, you can fill out the Renewal form on the IBPA website at www.ibpa.com, then print it and mail it to Mario with your payment.
 - c.) via the IBPA website (we stress that this is a SAFE site, password protected) at www.ibpa.com. Click on the "Renewal" button and choose the "Online" option to pay by this method.
3. How you can pay:
 - a.) with a credit card
 - b.) by a cheque drawn on a UK bank
 - c.) in cash (in person option, do not send cash by mail!).
4. How much are dues? Annual dues are currently £46 sterling for hard copy Bulletins delivered by post. You get a big reduction to £25 sterling if you merely want the Bulletin via Internet.
5. We will automatically renew people who give us a credit card number. To do this, however, Mario needs to have the up-to-date expiry date and three-digit security code (this code is on the back of each credit card).

At the time of writing, we had 87 members who had not yet renewed for 2007. You should all have already been contacted by Mario about renewing. In March, we are considering publishing an up-to-date list of paid-up members so that those who are late with their dues, or have merely forgotten to renew, can check to see if their names are on the list. On the other hand, if all 87 of you pay by the end of February, we won't need to publish a list of paid-up members!

Meanwhile, all questions can be answered by Mario via email or at: (356) 2132 2433, his telephone and fax number, or at (356) 9949 3167, his mobile number.

Address all IBPA Bulletin correspondence to: JOHN CARRUTHERS
65 Tiago Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4B 2A2, CANADA
Tel: +1 416-752-7034
email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

ITALIAN CLUB TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

David Bird, Eastleigh, UK

(From the Mail on Sunday)

Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Lo Presti</i>	<i>Ferraro</i>	<i>Mazzadi</i>	<i>Vivaldi</i>
—	—	—	1♣
2♠	Double	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

This deal comes from the semifinals of the Italian Club Team Championship, with Torino Allegra facing Villa Fabbriche.

West led the five of clubs and Vivaldi won East's nine with the queen. Since West's advertised length in spades suggested a possible shortage in trumps, declarer broached the suit by cashing the ace and king. When West showed out, Vivaldi cashed dummy's ace of spades and continued with another trump, finessing the ten. He then led the queen of spades and the key point of the deal had been reached. If West refuses to cover, the slam cannot be made. (East will overruff the last spade.) Lo Presti did cover, however. Declarer ruffed in the dummy and called for the nine of diamonds. East rose with the king and declarer won the ace. He then drew the last trump and cashed the established jack of spades.

Dummy came down to a singleton jack of diamonds and the ace-king-ten of clubs. East, meanwhile, had to find a discard from queen-five of diamonds and jack-nine-seven of clubs. If he threw the five of diamonds, he would be thrown in with a diamond to lead into dummy's club tenace. He could not afford to throw the diamond queen, of course, or dummy's jack would be established. East decided to throw a club and Vivaldi scored three further club tricks in dummy for the contract. Exactly the same play would arise if East did not split his diamond honours.

THE CHANNEL TROPHY

Paul Magerman, Schilde, Belgium

The 23rd edition of this tournament was played in Lille, France from 16-18 December, 2006. The Channel Trophy is a competition for juniors (25 and under) and schools (20 and under) among four countries: Belgium, England, France and The Netherlands.

The chairman of the organising committee was Yves Aubry, president of the French Federation, assisted by TD Jean Audebert. Hospitality and technical assistance were provided and extremely well executed by the Lille Bridge Club.

The results:

JUNIORS

1	The Netherlands	122
2	France	89
3	Belgium	73
4	England	72

SCHOOLS

1	France	119
2	England	98
3	The Netherlands	93
4	Belgium	50

The following deal was uniform across the field :

Round 1. Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

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

South led the five of clubs against three no trump by East to the two, king and ten. North continued with the club nine to the jack, queen and ace. Declarer now played on diamonds, losing to North's jack on the fourth round of the suit. North switched to hearts - declarer took the ace and squeezed South in clubs and spades.

All four declarers in the school competition did it the right way and claimed 11 tricks: well done. (Perhaps declarer should win the first trick. If North wins the club and switches to hearts, the contract is in danger. - Ed.)

100 and COUNTING

Tony Friday, London

On the 13th November 2006, the oldest active tournament director in the world celebrated his 100th birthday. More than 120 guests attended the party for Sydney Matthews at the elegant Marbella Club in Spain. Sydney, a Harvard graduate, was born in Boston, where he spent the first 50-odd years of his life before retiring in 1962 to Marbella. Before leaving the USA he married Lillian Blumen (her sister Cecile Fisher has represented Canada in partnership with Sami Kehela and Lillian is herself a fine performer).

In addition to their bridge activities, Sydney and Lillian are great hosts. At the 1976 Bridge Olympiad in Monte Carlo there were two important parties. One was the prize-giving banquet, presided over by Prince Rainier and Princess Grace, and almost equally impressive was the mid-championship reception given by Sydney and Lillian on behalf of the Spanish Bridge Federation.

Until recently Sydney was playing golf every week and he still directs at least two tournaments a week, caddying, ruling, scoring with his computer program and gently introducing all newcomers to the game.

Sydney is no mean bridge player himself and he used his mathematical knowledge to score a joint top on the following hand played at the International Bridge Club in Marbella, where the proprietor is the Irish International Desmond Deery.

Dealer West. Game all

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

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

After this simple auction, West led the club queen and Sidney, sitting South, realized that with normal breaks, ten tricks would be easy. There would be two ways to make an overtrick, which was important as this was a pairs game. The first was a simple spade finesse (50%) and the second relied on the opponents' diamonds

breaking 4-3 (about 62%). There weren't the dummy entries to try both.

Naturally, Sidney took the better percentage line. He won the first trick with club ace, led a diamond to the ace and ruffed a diamond. He continued with a heart to the ace, ruffed a third diamond and played a heart to the king.

As both diamonds and hearts split conveniently, it was a simple matter to ruff a fourth diamond and exit with the spade queen. The defence scored the spade king and heart queen but Sidney's losing spade five was discarded on the established diamond two! Eleven tricks and a 90% score on the board. Not bad for a centurion!

Perhaps West deserved his fate for not leading a trump, which would have had the salutary effect of prematurely removing a vital entry to the table.

PIPS SQUEAK

Ron Klinger, Northbridge, NSW

From the Sydney Morning Herald

Anyone can take tricks with aces and kings. The top players seek opportunities to score tricks with the low cards. This deal from Stage 2 of the 2006 Grand Prix is an excellent example of the power of the pips.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

One North-South pair played in two hearts (pass, one spade, two hearts), one was in two spades, two were in four spades, and this was the auction here to three spades:

West	North	East	South
Sartaj	Nick	Tony	Nicoleta
Hans	Hughes	Nunn	Giura
—	1 ♥ ¹	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Double ²	3 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Playing a strong club system
2. For takeout

Lead: ♥8

How many trump tricks do you think West will score? The obvious answer is one, but see how the defence (*with declarer's assistance – Ed.*) created a second trump trick for West. Declarer played low from dummy on the

heart lead, as did East, and won with the ace. Then came a diamond to the ace, diamond to the king and a diamond ruff. The spade six went to the king, ducked, and South led her last diamond, ruffed with the spade nine and over-ruffed.

Nunn exited with the king of clubs, taken by the ace and declarer returned a club, ten, seven, jack. Hans continued with the heart seven to Nunn's ten, and the heart king now created a second trump trick for West, whether South ruffed high or low.

One pair succeeded in bidding and making four spades. This was the auction:

West	North	East	South
Robert	David	Paul	Kieran
Krochmalik	Wiltshire	Lavings	Dyke
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♣ ¹	Pass	2 ♦ ²
Pass	2 ♥ ²	Pass	2 ♠ ³
Pass	3 ♠ ⁴	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Good spade raise, 8-11, with values in clubs
2. Natural, values in the suit bid
3. Prepared to play in two spades
4. One last effort

Lead: ♥8

As the heart eight was West's highest spot card, Dyke judged that West was probably leading a singleton or a doubleton. That marked East with the honours in hearts and playing low in dummy would not help declarer. He therefore covered the heart eight with the queen and captured East's king with the ace. At trick two he returned the heart two: seven, nine, ten. Suddenly dummy's six-five-four of hearts were looking very powerful.

A high club shift can still defeat the contract, but East switched to the spade four: king, ace, five. Back came a spade to the jack and queen. A club to the ace left this ending:

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

Dyke now led the heart four for a very low ruffing finesse! Had East played low, Dyke would have discarded his club loser. When East covered with the heart ten, Dyke ruffed with the spade ten. A spade to dummy's

nine drew West's last trump and Dyke cashed the high heart six and five for two discards. He had to concede a diamond at the end, but he had made ten tricks for plus 420 and 7 IMPs.

BAD JUDGMENT -->> EXPERIENCE -->> GOOD JUDGMENT Allan Falk, Okemos, MI

It is said that good judgment comes from experience, and that experience is the product of bad judgment. Try these problems from this past Spingold Cup competition:

1. Opponents are vulnerable, and you, West, hold:

♠ 9 6 4
♥ —
♦ 10 7
♣ A K Q 10 8 7 6 5

West	North	East	South
You	LHO	Partner	RHO
—	—	1 ♦	Pass
2 ♣ ¹	2 ♥	3 ♦	3 ♥
??			

1. Game forcing

What do you bid now?

2. With neither side vulnerable, you hold:

♠ K 4
♥ A K 8 5 2
♦ A 6 3 2
♣ Q J

West	North	East	South
You	LHO	Partner	RHO
1 ♥	2 NT ¹	3 ♥ ²	4 ♣
4 ♥	6 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Spades and clubs
2. Competitive

What do you lead?

3. You declare one no trump after the following auction:

West	North	East	South
You	LHO	Partner	RHO
—	—	1 ♣	1 ♥
INT	Pass	Pass	Pass
You		Dummy	
♠ J 8		♠ K 7 5	
♥ K 9 6 4		♥ 7 5 3	
♦ Q 9 2		♦ K 7 6	
♣ K 10 9 5		♣ A Q J 6	

North leads the ten of hearts, ducked all around, and shifts to the diamond jack, which rides to your queen. Plan the play.

Solutions

1. You had better bid five clubs before partner gets any ideas about bidding more diamonds, which, as usual, outrank clubs. Our opponent tried four clubs here and to his horror, it went four hearts, five diamonds, pass, back to him, giving him a choice of losing options. Anticipation is the key.

2. My, but you have a good hand! LHO must have a really freakish hand, so your only hope is a trump lead:

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

Note what happens if you lead a red suit: declarer ruffs in dummy, cashes the spade ace, ruffs a spade, ruffs a red card to dummy, ruffs a spade with the club ace, ruffs a red card in dummy, ruffs a spade low, and you can take one trick, now or later. A trump lead leaves declarer a trick short unless he guesses spades very well.

3. You have pretty fair resources, but both pointed suits are frozen - you don't dare lead either one for fear of losing all the tricks in the suit. But, you can endplay RHO if he has no more than two clubs. Cash two high clubs in dummy, then lead a heart. After winning the heart king on this or the next trick, exit a heart. You can discard one club and one spade from dummy on the run of the hearts, leaving RHO on lead, who now must play a pointed suit, setting up your seventh trick. Even if LHO has the spade ace, your diamond nine prevents them from running diamonds. The defenders actually held...

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

...and could have beaten you with a shift to the spade queen but that's too tough a game to be in!

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

If your e-mail address changes, please inform the Bulletin Production Manager, Jean Tyson, at:

mail@ibpa.com

We need to have your correct e-mail address to send you the Bulletin codes each month.

AN UNPREDICTABLE DEAL

Vlad Racoviceanu, Bucharest

May I present you with an unpredictable deal, played in a Romanian teams tournament?

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	1 ♦ ¹	Pass
1 ♥	2 ♥ ²	Double	3 ♣
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1. 4+ cards			
2. Michaels			

West started with the heart queen, ruffed. The diamond king was covered and ruffed. Next came the successful finesse in trumps and the spade ace, dropping the king. The last trump was drawn and South played dummy's jack of clubs. When East covered with the queen declarer ducked. Declarer suspected East was 3=3=4=3 or 3=3=5=2 and thus avoided the guess for the ten of clubs. The line he chose resulted in 12 tricks and plus 680.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
—	—	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Two hearts was forcing, and five clubs was a bit precipitate. Again the heart queen was led, ruffed in dummy. The diamond king was covered and ruffed. The spade finesse was taken and the diamond queen cashed for a heart discard, followed by a diamond ruff and another heart ruff with dummy's jack of clubs. Another diamond ruff in hand was followed by a spade to the king and ace. (*Declarer would have done better to cash the club ace and king at this point, then leading a spade, taking two spades and then scoring the club nine en passant for twelve tricks. - Ed.*) A master spade was led next and when East followed, declarer ruffed with the nine. When West could not over-ruff, eleven tricks were in the bag. Plus 600.

IBPA COLUMN SERVICE

Tim Bourke, Canberra

Members may use these deals as they wish, without crediting either the author or IBPA.

369. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

After a strong no trump and transfer auction, West's high-card strength suggested the neutral lead of a trump. Declarer called for dummy's ten of trumps so that he could lead dummy's singleton club at trick two. When West took the king of clubs with the ace, declarer's chances of twelve tricks seemed to rely on the diamond finesse. However, declarer saw a better chance.

As trumps were 3-2, he took the second trump in hand and ruffed a club in dummy. He followed this by crossing to hand twice in hearts to ruff his two remaining clubs. After a diamond to the ace, he drew the last trump with the ace. This gave him three trumps, three club ruffs, five hearts and the ace of diamonds for twelve tricks in all.

Notice that declarer must use the hearts as entries to ruff the clubs, for if he does not, East can discard a heart on the fourth club and when declarer tries to return to hand with a second heart East ruffs in to defeat the contract.

370. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

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

North's cue bid showed a sound limit raise in spades. After North accepted the ostensibly game-try bid of three diamonds, North-South drove to the slam via a cue bidding sequence.

West led the obvious king of clubs and then shifted to a trump. Declarer took this on table with the queen and drew the rest of the trumps with the ace and king. As the heart loser would be ruffed with dummy's last trump, the contract depended on scoring four diamond tricks.

After cashing the king and ace of hearts and ruffing a heart, West had shown up with three trumps and three hearts. As his overcall indicated at least five clubs (*unless he was Michael Courtney - Ed.*), he was limited to two diamonds! Declarer continued with the king and ace of diamonds, removing West's two cards in the suit, and then finessed the ten of diamonds with 100% certainty of success.

It was as well that West was the one who showed up with three trumps because South had a near-certainty after trick two by winning the trump shift in hand and completing a dummy reversal, using the diamond ace, the heart king and a heart ruff as entries to trump all dummy's remaining clubs. Then a trump to dummy (having retained a small one) allows declarer to finish drawing trumps and the king-queen of diamonds take tricks twelve and thirteen.

371. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

North-South played a fourth-suit bid as forcing to game, which allowed the reasonable slam to be reached with some certainty.

After West led the queen of hearts, the original declarer counted five club tricks, four top winners in the majors and two spade ruffs in dummy. So all he seemed to need was a successful guess in diamonds to make the slam.

Somewhat reluctantly, he played a diamond to the jack - his shoulders dropped when this lost to the queen. When West then cashed the ace of diamonds he felt a little better because it seemed there was no way to make twelve tricks.

As is often declarer's lot, dummy was not so forgiving after seeing East's cards. "You should have taken a spade ruff early in the play. As East has queen-jack third of spades the ten of spades would be a winner, giving you two diamond discards (one on the ace of spades, another on the ten). Then you could ruff a diamond in dummy for the twelfth trick."

372. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 NT
2 ♠	3 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

North's three-diamond bid was forcing. When West led the queen of spades, declarer counted four tricks in the majors and five tricks in diamonds if West held the king of diamonds, as seemed likely. So he took diamond finesse immediately and when it lost, East cleared the spades. So, as West had an entry with ace of clubs, the contract failed.

A better idea than playing on diamonds at trick two is to lead a club from the South hand. This gives West an impossible choice. If he plays his ace of clubs on air,

declarer has four club tricks for a total of nine. If West decides to play low instead, then after scoring the king of clubs, declarer plays on diamonds. As the diamond finesse loses to East's king, declarer makes four diamonds, one club as well as the four major-suit tops.

The only question to ask is, "Why is it correct to place the ace of clubs with West? (Declarer could achieve the same outcome if East had a doubleton or tripleton ace of clubs by leading a club from dummy).

However, as West's overcall of two spades at this vulnerability makes it certain he holds either the ace of clubs or the king of diamonds, if declarer plays a club to the king and this loses to East's ace, the diamond finesse will almost certainly succeed.

Deals 373-376 are based on deals taken from the 1937 Australian Par Contest.

373. Dealer South E-W Vul.

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

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

South showed four-six in the majors. West led a high club, and upon receiving a count signal from East cashed the second club and the ace of diamonds. Having seen declarer's three off-suit cards, West must realise the only hope for the defence is that his partner owns the heart jack. That being the case, a third round of clubs allows East to score it.

374. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	5 NT
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	7 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Declarer wins the queen of clubs lead with the king, cashes the black suit winners, and runs the hearts to reach this ending:

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

The last heart executes a classic double guard squeeze. In the four-card ending, West has to discard when South plays the last heart. A spade is immediately fatal and a club exposes his partner to a squeeze in the minors. So, he throws a diamond. A diamond to the king brings down the queen and exposes East's jack-nine to a finesse of declarer's ten. The diamond ace is trick thirteen.

375. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ J 4 3		
	♥ 9 8 7 6		
	♦ K 5		
	♣ K 9 5 4		
♠ K 8 6		♠ 7 5	
♥ K 10 3		♥ A Q 4 2	
♦ Q 9 3 2		♦ J 10 8	
♣ Q J 10		♣ A 8 7 2	
	♠ A Q 10 9 2		
	♥ J 5		
	♦ A 7 6 4		
	♣ 6 3		
West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Those who open light may duplicate this auction. West leads the queen of clubs, dummy plays low and East plays the eight to indicate an even number.

If West shifts to a trump now, South prevails by winning and leading a second club, ducking in dummy. Suppose West shifts to a heart. East wins the queen and plays a second trump. South rises with the ace and crosses to

the king of diamonds to lead the king of clubs. East covers, South ruffs and the fall of West's jack sees dummy's nine established.

South continues with the ace of diamonds, a diamond ruff and the nine of clubs to discard a red-suit loser from hand. The defence takes only five tricks.

In order to defeat two spades, West has to find a heart shift at trick two for a trump switch from East.

376. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 ♥
4 ♠	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

When the ace of spades holds, West plays a second spade. Dummy ruffs with the king and cashes the ace of trumps. The nine of trumps is finessed and the rest of the trumps drawn, dummy discarding clubs.

If the contract is to succeed, East must guard clubs and have at least four diamonds. So the best play is to cash the diamond ace-king and ruff a diamond, getting a complete count on the West hand. Here, it also isolates the diamond menace. So, on the last trump dummy throws another club and East has to let go of one of the minors, giving declarer his twelfth trick.

World Wide Web Resources for Bridge Journalists

On-line Viewing

<http://www.bridgebase.com/>

<http://www.swangames.com/main/index.html>

Tournament Bulletins

<http://www.worldbridge.org/competitions/>

<http://www.eurobridge.org/index2.html>

<http://www.acbl.org/play/nabc3.html>

<http://www.pabf.org/competitionCorner.asp>

<http://www.bridgeplaza.com/>

<http://bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/necfest.html>

<http://www.thecavendish.com/>

Miscellaneous Information

<http://www.greatbridgelinks.com>

<http://www.ecatsbridge.com>

<http://www.math.aau.dk/~nwp/bridge/>

YEARS AGO

Larry Cohen, Boca Raton, FL

From www.larryco.com. This is a good source for articles, and Larry provides a free monthly mailing.

15 Years Later

(Written at the 2000 Summer Nationals, Daily Bulletin)

In the 1985 Team Trials I was the victim of one of the best defensive plays of all time. In a well-documented deal, Bob Hamman refused to over-ruff dummy and thereby gained trump control. His play resulted in 7 extra IMPs in a match that his team won by 5.

It took 15 years, but in the first session of the LM Open Pairs, my partner, David Berkowitz, put me on the winning side of such a defensive play.

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Cohen</i>		<i>Berkowitz</i>
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

West's four-heart bid might not be to everyone's taste, but the final contract was fine. I led diamonds and declarer ruffed the second round. He cashed the spade ace and crossed to the ace of clubs to play the spade king and then the jack in this position:

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

I followed with the nine, and declarer would have succeeded had he guessed to discard from dummy. But spades could have been 3-3, so he ruffed.

Now came the moment of truth. Declarer had ruffed with dummy's jack, but even if the ruff had been with a small heart, it wouldn't have made a difference. In either case, if David makes the normal-looking play of over-ruffing, the defense is finished. Let's see what happens if David over-ruffs.

Declarer ruffs David's minor-suit return and ruffs another spade in dummy. Declarer would still have the ace-nine-eight. David could over-ruff this fourth round of spades, but the declarer would be in full control. Even if David pitched on the fourth round of spades, declarer could play a heart to the ace and another heart to make his contract.

Now, back to the position where dummy ruffed the spade jack with the heart jack. Emulating Hamman's famous play, David discarded a club! Now the defense was in control. Declarer played a heart to his ace and ruffed another spade in dummy in this position:

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

Again, if David had overruffed, declarer would have been in control (he could ruff any return and play a trump). So, David pitched again, this time a diamond.

Finally, the defense could rest. Declarer ruffed a club to his hand, but he was doomed. If he played a trump, David would draw all the trumps and get a club trick at the end. Declarer played a winning spade, but I ruffed with the 7 and David still had the king-queen for a hard-fought down one.

More Than 20 Years Ago!

Some deals you never forget. I held this hand in 1980, and I'd say it "launched my career:"

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

In the Vanderbilt Teams, I dealt and had to make the first bid. My partner was Ron Gerard, and I hoped he had read what I had read. What had I read? That an opening bid of five hearts or five spades shows this type of hand - 11 winners missing only the ace and king of trump. So, I opened five spades, a bid that took everyone by surprise. My LHO passed, and my partner, with a sly look on his face, jumped to seven spades. Hopefully he knew that he

should raise to six with one high trump, and to seven with both high trumps. This was the full deal:

Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Gerard	—	Cohen
Pass	7 ♠	Pass	5 ♠
Pass			Pass

West trusted our bidding enough not to double and to lead a trump (and not try one of his aces). Still, I was able to ruff one diamond in dummy and easily claim 13 tricks for +2210. At the other table, my counterpart opened two clubs and reached only six. Our team went on to win the match, and this deal was written up in the New York Times bridge column; my first claim to fame!

POTPOURRI

John Carruthers, Toronto

Another Senior Moment

Is there a more humbling game than bridge? Okay, golf's right up there too. Pinhas Romik told this story on himself during the Senior Knockout Teams in Honolulu:

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Fisher	Levit	Hamilton	Romik
—	—	—	1 ♥
2 ♠	Double	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Arnie Fisher led a fourth-best five of diamonds to the ten and ace and Fred Hamilton returned the diamond eight to the king. Romik tried the effect of a low spade to the queen and Fisher won and shifted to the eight of clubs, three, nine, king.

Romik now had eight top tricks and could see that, having lost just two, he could lead a diamond to West. Fisher could cash his two diamonds (assuming he had not made a weak jump overcall in spades with a five-card diamond suit on the side) and exit with any card in his hand, and Romik would be able to run the spades to squeeze Hamilton in hearts and clubs (he had already seen West play one club, so knew that he could not guard the hearts).

Showing off a little, Romik cashed the spade ace, then played a diamond and turned to Hamilton, exclaiming, "You're squeezed in the round suits."

Retribution was swift. Arnie Fisher won the diamond with the nine and told Romik, "I'm not going to be your bum boy!" while exiting with his second club, and not cashing the diamond queen.

Romik had discarded a heart from dummy on the third diamond, and now, perhaps a little flustered, won the club ace, after which he could not get home. He soon realized that ducking the club would have produced the same squeeze ending!

The 2007 Camrose

The British Isles' Home Internationals have been played since 1937 among England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland (then the Irish Free State). Lord Camrose donated the trophy awarded to the winners each year and the event is now known simply as the Camrose.

The event is considered to be a proving ground for pairs hoping to receive invitations to their nations' European and World Championship Teams. This year, there appeared an innovation – the Holders (Ireland) made up a sixth team, conveniently allowing for five 32-board matches over each of the two weekends. This change was brought about due to the unpopularity of having to sit out a full match in the five-team format. The Holders were invited as the sixth team on an experimental one-time basis, with no promises to this year's winners.

Obviously, a six-team format is to be preferred, but perhaps the Committee ought to consider making a special invitation to a nearby nation such as the Netherlands, Denmark or France. A different country could be invited each year, having the added advantage of also strengthening the field. After all, if Italy and France can play rugby with the four 'home international' sides, why not in bridge as well?

In any case, the Holders were Hanlon-McGann, FitzGibbon-Mesbur and Carroll-Garvey, allowing Ireland a second team. The Holders were defending the title for the second year running and had recently performed well at the Olympiad, the European Championships and the Lederer, so were considered to be slight favourites over also-fancied England: the Hackett twins, Malinowski-Sandqvist and Armstrong-Holland.

The first Camrose weekend of 2007 was at Oxford from January 5 to 7. England had a 32-IMP lead over Ireland (effectively the Irish second team) in Round 2 when the following tricky defensive/declarer play problem appeared.

Board 24. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Justin H.</i>	<i>Keaveney</i>	<i>Jason H.</i>	<i>Timlin</i>
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The Hackett convention card describes two spades as 3-10 HCP, frequently with five spades, and possibly with any other suit. Not wanting to offer up a big penalty if Partner had only five spades and the opponents a misfit, Jason raised gently to three, but Justin could not be restrained.

Keaveney started with the diamond ace and Hackett ruffed in the dummy. He could see that even breaks in the minors and something good in spades would see him home so he started a cross-ruff: club ace, club ruff, diamond ruff, club ruff, diamond ruff, club ruff. However, on the fourth club, Timlin was able to pitch his last diamond and over-ruff the dummy on the fourth round of diamonds.

Then, heart ace, heart to king, queen of clubs tapped out Hackett's penultimate trump and he could not score the now-established diamond jack as South had two trumps remaining. One off; minus 50.

West	North	East	South
<i>Coyne</i>	<i>Sandqvist</i>	<i>Walsh</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>
1 ♠	Double	4 ♠	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Coyne passed up the opportunity to open a Weak Two, but could not resist a one-bid. He loved it when Walsh raised to game. Malinowski's double did not diminish his euphoria: surely the save was excellent against the opponents' certain game?

Well, as you can see, North-South can make about one no trump or two clubs.

Sandqvist led the spade two, a rather unfortunate choice as it turned out, because it reduced Coyne's options. He could see that a cross-ruff could never succeed, so he took his best shot by winning the spade nine (four, seven) and leading a heart from dummy. Malinowski hopped up with the ace on that and continued with spades, leading the five to the queen.

Declarer continued his plan by leading another heart, this time to North's king. Unsure of the location of the thirteenth heart, Sandqvist continued with the heart jack, not that it mattered, and Coyne ran hearts through South until he ruffed with the spade king, over-ruffed. Coyne scored all five trumps in hand, two ruffs in the dummy, two heart tricks and the ace of clubs for a magnificent plus 590 and 12 well-needed IMPs.

The margin had thus been reduced to a manageable 20 IMPs when the next board was placed on the table.

Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Coyne</i>	<i>Sandqvist</i>	<i>Walsh</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Sandqvist started with the ace of diamonds and received a reverse-signals ten from Malinowski. He shifted to the spade queen, thereby making Coyne one very happy Irishman. Plus 620. It is difficult to see how this play could gain. Could Keaveney resist making it at the other table? 12 IMPs were again at stake.

West	North	East	South
<i>Justin H.</i>	<i>Keaveney</i>	<i>Jason H.</i>	<i>Timlin</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

An identical auction and the identical opening lead (actually, it was the diamond king, but never mind).

Keaveney avoided giving the twins the contract at trick two by shifting to the suit his partner had bid!

Timlin embarked on a campaign of deception on Keaveney's eight of clubs lead by winning the ace and continuing with the queen. Justin ruffed, crossed to the heart ten and ruffed dummy's last club, on which Timlin played the jack. He then drew trumps with the ace and put the diamond eight on the table.

Keaveney of course won the ace and continued with...the spade queen! This looks like a failure to count declarer's distribution. Hackett had shown 6=2=1 in hearts, diamonds and clubs, thus had to have four spades, so a diamond exit is marked as safe. Declarer can throw a spade away, but so what? The queen of spades brought a sigh of relief from Justin, one of exasperation from Timlin, and a push at plus 620.

England had weathered the storm and went on to win the match by 37 IMPs, enough for 21-9 in terms of Victory Points. After the first weekend the Holders were on 95, England were on 86, and it was looking like a two-horse race. The second and final weekend will be March 2-4 in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Thrills & Spills

Have you ever wanted to leap across the table and kiss your partner? It happened to me recently (I resisted the urge) in a team league match. I held as South:

Dealer North. EW Vul.

♠ 8 7 6
♥ J 10 9 8 7 3
♦ A 2
♣ 10 8

West	North	East	South
—	Gowdy		Carruthers
3 ♥	1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠
	??		

As I was idly wondering if my partner John Gowdy could possibly pass my penalty double (can it really be anything but penalty with his void in hearts?) in the passout seat, he earned my eternal gratitude by making a Game Try Double!

I maintained enough composure to alert his call and lead the heart jack after no one had anything further to say. Declarer was held to the ace-king-queen of trumps and an outside ace for minus 1100 (he misguessed a king-jack combination in diamonds). It served him right for that execrable vulnerable overcall on ace-queen-six-five-four of hearts. His partner will think twice before raising on king-deuce in the future.

My own partner on another occasion might have felt the same way after this deal, except that my partner was the redoubtable Eric Murray who has never felt the urge to kiss anyone, even his wife and children!

Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ A 3 2
♥ A 10 6 4
♦ A
♣ A K 7 5 3

♠ —
♥ Q J 5 3
♦ K 9 6 4
♣ J 10 9 6 4

♠ Q 9 8 6 5 4
♥ K 8
♦ Q J 8 2
♣ 8

♠ K J 10 7
♥ 9 7 2
♦ 10 7 5 3
♣ Q 2

West	North	East	South
Hazel	Eric	Darren	John
Wolpert	Murray	Wolpert	Carruthers
—	1 ♣	2 ♠	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Even though we were vulnerable-against-not, I felt we had no assurance of game, and if we had a game, perhaps we'd get enough to cover it. Little did I know!

I led the club queen and the aforementioned Murray played his lowest. I dutifully played a diamond to his ace and he tried to cash a second club, the king. Wolpert ruffed and played the heart king, ducked, and another, won by the ace.

Murray's club ace was ruffed by declarer and I over-ruffed. When I continued with a diamond and Murray ruffed it, declarer gave a rueful smile. A low club saw declarer discard a diamond, but it was too late. I ruffed and gave Murray another diamond ruff. He gave me a further club ruff and the last diamond was ruffed with the spade ace. I still had the trump king!

We'd taken our three aces and all seven of our trumps! Minus 1100.

The following deal arose in a Toronto Swiss Teams tournament. How would you play as declarer on the queen of spades lead?

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

♠ A K 7 6
♥ 5
♦ Q J 10 7 3
♣ K 4 2

♠ 5 2
♥ Q J 10 4
♦ A 8
♣ A 10 9 8 7

West	North	East	South
—	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Thinking that an auction that began one diamond-two clubs-two diamonds-two hearts would overstate his values, South settled for a one-heart response to his partner's opening bid of one diamond. Then the one-spade rebid proved to be too much temptation to South, and his intermediates propelled his side into game.

West led the spade queen with no apparent difficulty and South had to decide how to proceed. One possibility was to duck the first spade, but that would limit the entries to dummy, not to mention creating a fifth winner for the defence should declarer have to give up a trick in each minor.

So, declarer elected to win the first spade; he then had to decide whether to play on clubs, diamonds or hearts first. Each had risks. Assuming normal breaks, no matter which minor suit declarer played, the yield would still only be eight tricks. A ninth had to be sought.

After much agonizing, declarer decided to play for two diamond tricks (with the finesse), four club tricks and a heart trick, to go with the top spades. Accordingly, he decided on the plan of first leading the queen of diamonds, and assuming that held, then leading a heart, hoping that the heart position was such that any long spades held by the defence could not be taken.

This was the complete deal:

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

When declarer played the diamond queen from the table, he received an unexpected bonus when East covered with the king in an attempt to limit declarer's entries to the closed hand or perhaps to preserve one in Partner's hand. That allowed declarer to duck a club and score four clubs, three diamonds and two spades.

Note that even if East ducks the diamond queen, when declarer next leads a heart from the dummy he must rise with the king to play back his remaining spade to defeat the contract. Not so easy.

Did declarer take the best line? You can be the judge of that, but his line had one great virtue - it worked! On a double dummy basis, ducking the first spade also succeeds in a couple of scenarios.

DEFEND THIS HAND WITH ME

Renée Secrète, London

Having entered a tournament in which our hopes were relatively modest, we have already exceeded expectations by reaching the quarter-finals, where we find ourselves opposed by a formidable squad from the United States.

Although the match is following a predictable course, there is still personal pride at stake when as North I pick up the following hand:

Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A K
♥ K J 5 4
♦ A Q 10 8
♣ 6 5 4

My partner and West have nothing to say, so I can make the first positive contribution to the auction. I am out of range for one no trump and we play five-card majors, so I am left with an obvious one diamond or a devious one club. As we are on Vu-Graph I resist the temptation to do anything avant-garde and venture one diamond.

East passes, and when Partner responds one no trump, West comes to life with two spades. In my youth, the bid I choose now would have had an entirely different meaning, but times have changed and my double is for takeout. Partner bids three diamonds and, despite the state of the match, I resist the temptation to bid an undisciplined three no trump. East now enters the fray with three spades and that brings the auction to a close.

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	1 NT
2 ♠	Double	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

As I see it, I have two possible opening leads, a top spade or a club. Although some innate sixth sense tells me that the latter may be the better choice, I nevertheless place the king of spades on the table and dummy is revealed.

♠ A K
♥ K J 5 4
♦ A Q 10 8
♣ 6 5 4

♠ Q 10
♥ Q 10 6 3
♦ 9 6 4 2
♣ K J 9

Partner contributes the five of spades and declarer the two. We need four more tricks to defeat the contract; where are they to come from? If we have two diamond tricks then we will need only one trick in hearts.

NEWS & VIEWS

IBPA Visits Site of 3rd Open Europeans

What, if anything, do I know about declarer's hand? Given the vulnerability, I am inclined to place West with six spades, and their poor quality probably explains the absence of a weak opening. The rest of his hand is less obvious, but a singleton diamond must be a possibility, and he must have some high cards - perhaps the black aces.

I wish I had led a club, as that would have clarified the position in that suit and made my next play easier to justify. With some trepidation I switch to the eight of diamonds. To my relief, partner produces the king and switches to the nine of hearts. Declarer plays the two and I win with the king and return the five of hearts, partner following with the seven. Declarer wins with the ace and plays a spade, but I win with the ace and play a third heart, which partner ruffs. Declarer has the rest, but we have an all-too-rare plus score. This was the full deal:

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

It occurred to me later that, in situations such as this, the defenders have a chance to make a signal in the trump suit. For example, if South had held the ace of hearts on this deal he could play the nine of spades to the first trick. With his actual holding he would have to play his middle card and hope the six of spades was easy enough to read. I reflect sadly that, 40 years ago, it might well have been enough.

(On this deal from the 2006 Rosenblum/McConnell, no declarer who played in spades was held to eight tricks.)

Upcoming Online Transmissions

Feb 1-8	1995 Bermuda Bowl Final	BBO
Feb 6-11	NEC Cup, Yokohama	BBO
Feb 9-11	Norwegian Premier League	BBO
Feb 10-11	Belgian Team Championship	BBO
Feb 14-18	Icelandair Open, Reykjavik	Swan
Feb 16-18	Slava Cup, Moscow	BBO
Feb 20-22	Gold Coast Teams, Qld	BBO
Feb 24	Polish Grand Prix	BBO
Feb 24-25	White House Teams, NED	BBO
Mar 2-4	Camrose Trophy, Aberdeen	BBO
Mar 14	Winter National Teams, Izmir	BBO

Between January 19th and 21st, and led by EBL President Gianarrigo Rona, a group of IBPA journalists, headed by President Patrick Jourdain, visited the Turkish town of Antalya and, specifically, the World of Wonders, which will be the venue of the 3rd European Open Bridge Championships, to be held in June from 15 to 30.

Saturday afternoon (January 20th), the event was previewed in a press conference attended by local authorities such as the Governor of the Region of Antalya, the Major of Antalya, the General Manager of the World of Wonders, and the President of the Turkish Bridge Federation.

In addition, the journalists visited the various sites of the venue, including the playing area, the technical sites, the hotels, and the resort facilities. The purpose was to offer them the opportunity to experience the technical and logistical aspects of the event, as well as the usual tourist pleasures.

The playing areas, consisting of two large rooms, located in the heart of the resort, are fully air-conditioned and will allow tournament organisation at the highest possible level. The venue is a beautiful resort on the sea and has a number of huge swimming pools and a wide, long, private beach. All-inclusive food and drink service is available 24 hours a day.

2007 World Junior Individual Cancelled

WBF Youth Committee Chairman Panos Gerontopoulos regrettably informs us that the World Junior Individual, originally scheduled to coincide with the Nashville Summer NABC, has been cancelled. There will thus be no WBF youth events in 2007.

China to Host 2007 World Team Championships

Shanghai, China's mega-city, is set to host the 2007 World Team Championships. The Championships include the 38th **Bermuda Bowl** (Open Series), as well as the **Venice Cup** (Women's Series) and the **Senior Bowl** competitions. An open competition for **Transnational Teams** will also take place.

The tournament will be staged at the Shanghai International Convention Centre, from 29 September to 13 October, 2007.

Jerry Thorpe Elected

Long-time IBPA member Jerry Thorpe was elected to a one-year term as President of the ACBL Educational Foundation Board of Trustees, at their National Meeting during the Hawaii NABC. His term began on January 1, 2007. The objectives of the Foundation are to increase the population of bridge players, increase the pleasure of playing bridge, and engage in educational activities and research. Jerry, from the Pacific Northwest of the USA, is also a member of the ACBL Board of Governors.

Changes to European Championship Proposed

The Polish Bridge Union has proposed sweeping changes to the current European Championships, notably:

- (i) killing the Open European Championships and returning to the previous European Pairs format, restricted to EBL members by quota,
- (ii) dividing the European Teams Championship into two seeded groups, with a round robin within each group, followed by knockout playoffs, and
- (iii) returning the European Championship to odd-numbered years.

The proposed changes seem very sensible to us.

IBPA WEBSITE INFO

(www.ibpa.com)

The Bulletins:

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, February 2007, will have code 505pc so you will need to key in:

www.ibpa.com/505pc.pdf

The Handbook:

You can also access the IBPA Handbook from www.ibpa.com by clicking on the link on the Constitution page. When you open the link, you will be asked for a password, which is:

ihccaT

EXACTLY as it appears here. When prompted for a keyword, it is:

Handbook

Subscriptions:

You can apply to join the IBPA or renew your subscription on the website by clicking on the appropriate button on the top of the homepage.

Correspondence ...



The Editor reserves the right to shorten correspondence

Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

Hi John,

Do you know of anyone who still has the early issues of the IBPA Bulletin? I am missing numbers 1-47 and 50. Would it be possible for you to inquire?

Cheers, Wolf Klewe, Winchester UK
weklewe@aol.com

Consider it done! – Ed.

To the Editor:

Here is a fascinating little deal from open play on OK Bridge submitted to me by Lorne Russell, the new club manager.

Board MP-46.291. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Double dummy, East-West can make exactly eight tricks playing in clubs, diamonds, hearts, spades or no trump.

Harold Schogger, Edgeware, UK

A similar deal occurred recently in a Toronto club on which North-South could make nine tricks in all five denominations. I wonder if anyone has experienced deals on which ten or more tricks are available in all denominations. – Ed.

This was the 9-trick deal:

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

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2007			
Feb 7-12	11 th NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 8-11	21 st Seth Shrinivas Lohia All India	Arya Nagar, Kanpur, India	www.bridgeindia.com
Feb 8-17	41 st Israel Bridge Festival	Tel Aviv, Israel	www.israbridge.com
Feb 14-18	Icelandair Open	Reykjavik, Iceland	www.bridge.is
Feb 15-20	24 th Cairo Bridge Festival	Cairo, Egypt	www.egypt-bridge.org
Feb 17-24	Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	www.qldbridge.com
Feb 20-24	Festival des Jeux	Cannes, France	www.ffbridge.asso.fr
Feb 23-25	White House Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	www.hetwittehuisbridge.nl
Feb 27-Mar 4	Ixtapan Tournament	Ixtapan de la Sal, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Mar 1-4	Yeh Brothers Cup	Shenzhen, China	pat_hwang2002@yahoo.com.tw
Mar 2-4	Camrose Trophy	Aberdeen, Scotland	www.ebu.co.uk
Mar 6-11	International Festival	Montegrotto Terme, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Mar 8-10	Torneo Internacional del Bridge en Punta	Punta del Este, Argentina	www.bridgegear.com.ar
Mar 8-18	ACBL Spring NABC	St. Louis, MO	www.acbl.org
Mar 20-23	11 th Balijee International	Lahore, India	www.cba.or.in
Mar 21-25	2 nd International Bariloche Open	Bariloche, Argentina	www.barilochebridge.com.ar
Mar 23-31	42 ^{ème} Semaine Internationale	Crans-Montana, Switzerland	www.bridgefederation.ch
Mar 30	Lords v Commons	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Apr 3-8	112 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.toronto-bridge.com
Apr 10-15	Kitzbühel Festival	Kitzbühel, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Apr 13-15	Torneo Uruguay	Colonia, Uruguay	www.bridgegear.com.ar
Apr 14-22	All Africa & ABF Zonal Championships	Mombasa, Kenya	www.africanbridgefed.net
Apr 17-22	International Festival of Estoril	Estoril, Portugal	np43je@telepac.pt
May 4-8	Schapiro Spring Foursomes	Startford, England	www.ebu.co.uk
May 9-10	EBU Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	www.eurobridge.org
May 9-12	Zone 7 Playoffs	Christchurch, NZ	ehr@bigpond.com
May 11-24	Festival International de Bridge	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.bridgejean.com
May 12-20	14 th BFAME Championships	Karachi, Pakistan	www.cba.or.in
May 14-20	XX International de Bridge	Murcia, Spain	http://bridgecc.com
May 16-17	Bonn Nations Cup	Bad Godesburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 17-20	Festival de Toulouse	Toulouse, France	www.ffbridge.asso.fr
May 18-27	24 th CACBF Zonal Championships	Willemstad, Curaçao, WI	www.tropicalbridge.com
Jun 1&2	Worldwide Bridge Contest	Clubs Worldwide	www.ecatsbridge.com
Jun 2-9	57 ^o Campeonato Sudamericano	Quito, Ecuador	www.bridgeargentino.org.ar
Jun 4-13	45 th PABF Championships	Bandung, Indonesia	www.ccba.org.cn
Jun 5-9	Nordic Bridge Championships	Lillehammer, Norway	http://nordic.bridge.no
Jun 10-16	Deutsches Bridge Festival	Wyk auf Föhr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Jun 11-17	V Festival Bridge-Golf	Almeria, Spain	http://bridgegolf.net
Jun 15-30	3 rd European Open Championships	Antalya, Turkey	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 19-30	XXV International Festival	Albena, Bulgaria	www.aebridge.com
Jun 29-Jul 11	Festival Internationale de Biarritz	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 6-21	Australian National Championships	Fremantle, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jul 7-15	Danish Bridge Festival	Vinstded, Denmark	www.bridge.dk
Jul 11-15	Gmunden Festival	Gmunden, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Jul 19-29	ACBL Summer NABC	Nashville, TN	www.acbl.org
Jul 28-Aug 2	Chairman's Cup	Jönköping, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 28-Aug 5	Bridgefestival XIII	Jönköping, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Aug 4-9	European University Cup	Brugge, Belgium	www.unibridge.org
Aug 5-11	Loiben Festival	Loiben, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Aug 10-19	Summer Congress	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 24-Sep 2	35 ^o Warsaw Grand Prix	Warsaw, Poland	www.polbridge.pl
Aug 27-Sep 8	22 nd Mamaia Festival	Mamaia, Romania	office@frbridge.ro
Sep 8-15	46 th Bridge Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.bridge.hr
Sep 12-16	Festival Venezia	Venice, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Sep 21-30	Geurnsey Congress	Geurnsey	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 22-29	NZ Nationals	Hamilton, New Zealand	www.nzcba.co.nz
Sep 29-Oct 13	World Team Championships	Shanghai, China	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 20-21	61 st Lederer Memorial Trophy	London, England	www.metrobridge.co.uk
Nov 22-25	29 th International Festival	Brasov, Romania	bridge-club-brasov@as.ro
Nov 22-Dec 2	ACBL Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org
Nov 26&28	European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	www.ecatsbridge.com
Nov 28-Dec 2	Sicily Open	Cefalù, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Nov 30-Dec 12	Festival Argentino	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.bridgegear.com.ar
Dec 7-10	Città di Milano	Milan, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Dec 21-23	Junior Channel Trophy	Netherlands	www.ebu.co.uk