



## BULLETIN

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## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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*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. 513

Year 2007

Date October 1

## Editorial

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

International bridge competitions are many and varied. Every year we have a World Championship in three categories (Open, Women's, Seniors) sanctioned by the World Bridge Federation and the WBF's Youth Championships have expanded to Juniors and Schools series in the past few years. We have the World University Games, the Commonwealth Games, and the IOC Grand Prix. Additionally, there are organisations called the Mind Sports Olympiad and the International Mind Sports Association which run bridge competitions as part of their portfolio.

What this all results in is a huge financial burden on the National Bridge Organisation that wishes to send representative teams to all the available championships. The WBF has taken a step in the right direction by providing accommodation and food for all bridge competitors (28 years old and younger) at next year's IMSA Championships in Beijing. We laud the WBF for this step and hope that the practice will be expanded to other competitions as well.

On another topic entirely, here is a disaster waiting to happen. Bridge organisations take great pains to prevent partners from seeing and hearing each other during the bidding and play by using screens and bidding boxes at important competitions. Why then do they allow Non-Playing Captains and partisan scorers to sit at the table with, and in full view and hearing of, the players? With today's brilliant VuGraph presentations, there is no need to continue this outmoded practice.

To our mind, it is a bizarre practice that the teams competing in World Championships must provide their own scorers for each match. This practice is nothing less than providing dishonest competitors an opportunity to cheat. The option is sometimes provided of paying for a scorer supplied by the Organising Committee, but this option is not always available, and is up to the team's discretion.

Now I understand that all kibitzers are supposed to view only one hand, and all conversation is supposed to be in English, but in practice, this does not happen. NPCs and scorers converse with their players in their own language and occasionally even interfere with play. What purpose is served by having NPCs at the table? There is no need for this at all. We call for a change in Conditions of Contest to provide for a total ban on all partisan spectators (at the table) in World Championships before a scandal occurs (and it is simply a matter of time and exposure before this happens). If necessary, add a few dollars to the entry fee to pay for locally-supplied scorers, or, have Country A's scorer officiate at the match between Country C and D, not at country A's match with Country B.

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# FESTIVAL DE BIARRITZ

**Hervé Pacault, Bordeaux**

Players from 27 countries came to Biarritz (29 June-1 July 2007) to appreciate the charms of the Côte Basque. Le Grand Prix de la Ville de Biarritz (Open Pairs, 258 pairs) was won by Agustin Madala and Antonio Sementa (Italy); the Casino Barrière Mixed Pairs (224 pairs) by Mr and Mrs Van Eijck (Netherlands); the Accor IMP Pairs (112 pairs) by Michel Bessis and Michel Duguet (Paris); the Whisterie.com Individual (144 players) by Clément Sire (Toulouse); and the Lavazza Patton (98 teams) by the Franco-Iberian team of the Festival President - the Marquise of Moratalla - composed of Mesdames Maria Lara and Colette Riberol, with Messieurs Manuel Capucho, Rafael Muñoz, Arturo Wasik and Hervé Pacault.

Complete results and the programme for 2008 can be found at the website [www.biarritz-bridge.com](http://www.biarritz-bridge.com).

The Spanish champion Rafael Muñoz adroitly made his diamond loser disappear on this board:

**Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	Rouquillaud	—	Muñoz
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	4♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 4 spades and 4 hearts
2. Transfer to hearts

Against four hearts (which usually went down) West led the jack of clubs. With entries to the dummy severely limited, South won the club ace and played the spade king. East won the ace and exited with the queen of clubs.

After winning the king of clubs, South crossed to the diamond king and played a heart to his king. The queen of spades and a spade ruff permitted declarer to reenter the dummy for another round of trumps. East furnished the nine and South put up the queen.

Rafael Muñoz cashed the ace of diamonds, then played the jack of spades and trumped it with the last heart in dummy. A club left East without defence: if he ruffed, South would discard his losing diamond; if he didn't ruff, South would make his tenth trick with a trump en passant.

The lead of the queen of diamonds, found at some tables, beats the contract unless declarer takes an inspired view.

# BRIDGE AT THE NORTH POLE

**Richard Pavlicek, Ft. Lauderdale**

## RUDOLPH WINS AGAIN

It was the thirty-second annual North Pole Regional Bridge Tournament and Rudolph, the famous reindeer, had returned to defend his championship in the Open Pairs. He and his partner Randolph were the hottest pair on hooves; but they now faced their arch rivals, Mush and Slush (inventors of the Eskimo Club System).

**Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Slush	Randolph	Mush	Rudolph
—	1♣	1NT	7♦
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Randolph, North, opened one club and Mush overcalled one no trump. This might have influenced the bidding of many South players; but not Rudolph, who had diamonds coming out of his antlers.

"Seven diamonds," he said with defiance.

"Double," shouted Mush.

The excitement had drawn a large crowd to Rudolph's table and the kibitzers were buzzing.

"Rudolph's bitten off too much this time," said one.

"It can't be made," whispered another.

Slush led the eight of hearts and the contract seemed doomed, as the club finesse was clearly offside. But reindeer have a magic of their own and, to Rudolph, an

'impossible' contract only means that he has to play a little harder.

How did Rudolph make his grand slam?

The heart eight lead was covered by the nine and queen, and Rudolph ruffed with the seven of trumps. Dummy was entered with a spade to lead the diamond four: three; two (East cannot gain by playing his king). Then the ten of hearts was led, covered by East and ruffed.

Rudolph led all but one of his diamonds, discarding clubs from dummy, and then led a spade to dummy to reach a three-card ending. North remained with the heart jack-three and the ace of clubs. There was no defence. East had to keep the ace-two of hearts (else a low heart lead would ruff out the ace); West had to keep the heart 'seven-six in hearts (else the heart jack lead would force East to cover and establish the heart three!); so each defender could keep only one club.

Rudolph cashed the ace of clubs, playing the three, and won the last trick with his club two.

And yes, his name will go down in history.

### TOURNEY DOMINATED BY HOOVES AND ANTLERS

At the annual North Pole Regional, local reindeer are invited to attend. This has caused complaints from the Eskimos who cite 'hoofings' and 'antler gougings' as reasons for barring the reindeer; but the truth is that no Eskimo has won since the reindeer were admitted in 1976.

At one table Mush, the top Eskimo player, opened the South hand with four no trump, Blackwood. (Eskimo bidding left a lot to be desired.) His partner, Slush, showed no aces (what a surprise) and Mush continued with five no trump to ask for kings. When Slush showed one king, Mush still had no idea what to bid and he took a stab at six no trump.

**Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

♠ J 9 8 7  
♥ 9 8 7  
♦ 8 7 6  
♣ 7 6 5

♠ 6  
♥ J 6 5 4  
♦ J 9 3 2  
♣ J 4 3 2

♠ A  
♥ A K Q 10  
♦ A K Q 10  
♣ A K Q 8

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 NT
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led a spade and Mush was...well, in the slush. He had ten top tricks in his hand and two in dummy, but there was no way to reach the dummy. He played skillfully (end-playing East) to escape for down one. After the session he asked some of the reindeer what they had done on this annoying deal.

"Oh, we bid seven spades," said Randolph, "and I made it on a trump coup. After ruffing three times in the North hand, I ended with South on lead and West's spade jack was trapped in the end position. Not much to it really."

"We bid seven hearts," exclaimed Raymond. "West led a spade and I had to hope for miracles. I ruffed the third round of diamonds in dummy then, fearing a bad spade break, I led the club ten for a finesse. When this held I took the heart finesse and all of a sudden my hand was good. Making seven!"

"How about that!" echoed Ralph. "We bid seven diamonds and I made it the same way."

"Guess what?" chimed in Rudolph. "We bid seven clubs...some kind of Gerber malfunction as I recall. I won the spade lead, cashed all my red-nosed...er, red-suit winners, and ruffed a heart. The spade king was ruffed and over-ruffed, then a diamond ruff gave me thirteen tricks. Rather easy."

### ESKIMO HOSPITALIZED BY NORTH POLE DEAL

This deal from the North Pole Regional caused havoc for many pairs who bid too much with their 31 high-card points. Indeed, one Eskimo was hospitalized after he bid a slam - it seems the reindeer sitting East-West celebrated the defeat with too much glee, dealing the Eskimo an antler in the ear. Latest reports indicate he is recovering.

Most of the reindeer duplicated the auction of Randolph and Raymond, as shown in the diagram. Randolph, South, opened one club and Raymond bid his diamond suit after West's overcall. Randolph rebid two no trump to show his spade stopper and Raymond raised to four - a quantitative slam try (not Blackwood), which Randolph correctly refused with his lousy 14 points. An excellent auction, but even four no trump proved to be too high.

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

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

♠ 10 4  
♥ J 8 6 5  
♦ J 8 7 6  
♣ 8 7 3

♠ K 3 2  
♥ A Q 3 2  
♦ Q 3 2  
♣ Q J 2

West	North	East	South
—	Raymond	—	Randolph
1 ♠	2 ♦	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	4 NT	Pass	2 NT
Pass			Pass

West	North	East	South
Victor	Jeff	Michael	Barry
Melman	Aker	Prahn	Rigal
—	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West cagily led the nine of hearts, rather than present declarer with a spade trick, and Randolph had nine sure tricks: three in every suit but spades. The ace of spades was obviously offside, so he first tested hearts, then diamonds, to see if either suit broke favourably. No luck.

Randolph then cashed his club winners ending in dummy and made one last attempt by leading the seven of spades. If East had played low, he would have ducked it to West who remained with ace-queen-jack-six; but East alertly played the ten and Randolph was defeated.

A discussion was held later to determine if four no trump could be made, but the reindeer failed to find a solution. Even Rudolph, with his inspired play, could win no more than nine tricks after a heart lead. Can you make it?

This was a job for Master Mouse. The reindeer chipped in for a long-distance phone call to the rodent's home, and the answer came forthwith: "Yes... your basic holdup play. Duck the nine of hearts completely, then cash all your red-suit winners on which West discards one spade and two clubs (best). Cash your clubs ending in dummy and West must keep either ace-queen-jack or ace-queen-six in spades. Either way you can force a spade trick in the end."

For more of Richard Pavlicek on bridge, visit his web site at: [www.rpbridge.net](http://www.rpbridge.net)

## THE ROSENBERG RULE

Barry Rigal, NYC

The following deal, from our match against the winners in a local event, provoked much discussion amongst my team. As a result, a rule emerged, roughly formulated by Michael Rosenberg, and confirmed by Borel (p. 393 if you have the Traub translation).

**Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

West led the diamond ace which I ruffed. I ruffed a club, discarded the spade king on the diamond king and tried the spade queen. When East played the three, I ruffed in hand and ruffed my other low club in the dummy.

How to get off dummy?

I tried to ruff a spade with the heart ten (the queen is a better play) and went down.

Do you know your percentages? Borel p. 393 supports my play, and East's smooth duck was conclusive to tip me the wrong way 17.1% to 14.5 % approximately.

But what is the rule? And, incidentally, how should you play the hand with the club ten rather than the eight - might you ruff one club, take the discard, and then finesse in hearts?

Once you know the rule, you don't need to consider the percentages again. You just need to know which comparison to make.

The rule is as follows:

***The common splits (those with differences of zero, one or two cards between the two hands) become LESS likely as you add cards, while the more unlikely splits (three or more cards difference) become MORE common as you add cards.***

Thus, a 4-4 split is less likely on a percentage basis than 3-3, which is less likely than 2-2, which is less likely than 1-1.

And 4-3, 3-2, 2-1, and 1-0 splits similarly.

5-3, 4-2, 3-1, 2-0 similarly.

On the other hand...

A 5-2 break is more likely than a 4-1, which is in turn more likely than a 3-0.

A 6-2 is more likely than a 5-1, which is more likely than a 4-0.

And a 6-1 is more likely than a 5-0.

As a 7-1 is more likely than a 6-0.

Don't ask me to explain why the cutoff is where it is. Perhaps a mathematician or statistician can do so.

# THE LAST DEAL: FIGHTING TO THE BITTER END

**Christer Andersson, Uppsala, Sweden**

It is a busy Sunday, with three matches to play in the Junior European Championship in Jesolo. You have nearly finished a tough first match and the last board is put on the table. It is easy to be hasty and finish the match too quickly, introducing carelessness into the bidding and play. Here are the final deals from those three Sunday matches, where the gladiators tried to fight to the bitter end. The first is from Round 7 in the match between Italy and France:

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Seguineau</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Vinay</i>	<i>Baroni</i>
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	Double
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Adrien Vinay lead the king of clubs and Sangiorgio considered his possibilities. With eight top tricks (requiring a kind trump break) he needed extra tricks in both minors. With good breaks in trumps as well as the minors, a dummy reversal combined with establishing a trick in diamonds might work. However, declarer felt that the entries to the table were a bit short and contributed low cards on the first trick. West signalled with the jack, possibly indicating values in spades. Whatever the meaning of the signal, Vinay shifted to the two of spades, and Paul Seguineau won with the ace. As West thought it would be strange for declarer not to take the ace of clubs on the first trick with only a singleton in hand, he switched back to clubs for his partner to ruff instead of forcing declarer to ruff spades with his trump honours. That turned out to be a costly mistake as the club seven was won cheaply by the eight on the table and declarer discarded a diamond.

From there, declarer can make his contract by cashing two trumps and playing ace, king and the ten of diamonds, discarding a spade from hand. If East wins the queen and gives West a diamond ruff, two spades can be discarded from hand and the fourth ruffed on the table. Not having accepted the possibility of the alternative line of cross-

ruffing clubs and spades, and being afraid that the trump length and the diamond length was on the same hand, declarer instead cashed the tree top trumps. East discarded a spade. The ace of clubs and a club ruff followed. One spade was discarded from hand, and East discarded a spade and a diamond. Needing four of the last five tricks, declarer cashed the last trump in the following situation:

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

East had to discard a spade, and made the mistake of keeping the king. When a diamond was discarded from the table, West was caught in a guard squeeze. He could not throw his club, could not discard a diamond as that would expose partner's honour to a finesse after the ace was cashed, and he could not discard a spade as declarer could then establish a spade in his own hand. Had it not been one of the last cards in the match, I am sure East would have recovered and seen the necessity of unblocking the spade nobility.

This was the last deal in the match between Portugal and Greece in the afternoon round. Once again an impossible contract was reached:

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kontomitros</i>	<i>Palma</i>	<i>Dixiodis</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The Portuguese auction included a transfer sequence that took the pair to a very optimistic spade game. Believing from the bidding that the spades were unfavourably placed for the defence, East embarked on the traditional

technique with a good trump holding, that is, he tried to establish his own side suit. But which one was it – diamonds or hearts? He took a shot in the dark and led the heart five.

Antonio Palma won the ace, as West encouraged, played a trump to the jack in hand and East won with the queen. The heart continuation went to the king on the table, and now followed ace and a diamond ruff. Having survived this far, another critical point in the hand had been reached. To make the contract from here it is vital to ruff the last heart before the ace of trumps is cashed (exposing the bad trump split), and the diamonds are cashed. This would be the situation when the last diamond is played:

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

Not losing concentration, Konstantinos Doxiodis ruffed low, securing that the contract went one down. Any other action in the end-game gives the contract to the declarer.

The evening match saw France take on Poland and this was the grappa of this dinner:

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	O. Bessis	Sikora	T. Bessis
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Olivier Bessis lead the jack of diamonds, which declarer won on the table. He could count six top winners in the side suits and had to arrange four tricks from the trump suit or from the queen of spades. He could either

take a double finesse in trumps or start with the trump ace and then play trumps up to the queen. Although the percentage play is the double finesse, this time the second strategy cashes the gold as the ace brings down a singleton honour from North.

At the table, Piotr Nawrocki played a heart to the ten and lost to the singleton king. The defence continued diamonds. Declarer won with the king, played a club to the ace and followed up with the trump seven, which he ran successfully. When Olivier discarded a club, declarer followed up with a trump to the queen and tried to ruff a diamond. However, Jan Sikora could overruff and had the club queen left to kill declarer's jack and force out the club king. Had declarer eliminated clubs before trying the diamond ruff, Sikora would have been end-played. There were still possibilities to make the game, but declarer played a spade to the ace and another up to the queen, going one down.

All three deals illustrate that the match is not over until the last card of the last deal is played.

## CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES

**Phillip Alder, Hobe Sound, FL**

*(From the NYTimes)*

**Dealer South EW Vul.**

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

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

West led the ... what?

First, look at only the West hand in the diagramed deal. You are on lead against six spades. Declarer showed four spades, five diamonds, and two key cards (one ace and the trump king, or two aces) but no trump queen. Dummy revealed five or more clubs, four spades and sufficient strength to drive to slam opposite a minimum opening bid. What would you lead?

This deal was played in the California Capital Swiss Teams in Sacramento. In traditional American bidding, South's two-spade rebid, a reverse, would show extra values; usually, at least 15 high-card points opposite a two-level response (and at least a good 17 if the responder has bid only at the one level). But North-South were playing that after a two-level response, which was game forcing, a reverse defined only hand distribution, not strength.

At the other table, North-South made four spades with two overtricks, so there were a lot of IMPs riding on the result in six spades.

Sitting West was Bob Morris of Houston. With good minor-suit holdings, he sensibly decided to lead a trump. Holding only a doubleton, it is traditional to start with the lower card, and that was what Morris did, leading the spade deuce. Here, though, there was a case for selecting the ten, which would have made the defence much easier and ruined a good story.

Sitting East was George Rosenkranz, Mexico's top-ranked player and a member of the ACBL's Hall of Fame. When declarer called for dummy's spade seven at trick one, most players would cover with the nine ... and let the contract through. Declarer would win with his ace, play a club to dummy's ace, ruff a club in his hand, lead a heart to the board, trump a second club (over-ruffing East if necessary), return to the board with a heart, and ruff a third club. South would ruff his last heart with dummy's spade eight, draw trumps and cash the two established clubs. He would lose only one diamond trick.

But when East let declarer take the first trick with dummy's spade seven, suddenly the tide turned. South cashed dummy's club ace, ruffed a club in his hand, played a heart to the board, and trumped another club, East discarding a heart. Back to dummy with a heart, declarer ruffed another club in his hand while East threw his final heart. That left this end position:

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

South could not ruff his heart jack with dummy's spade eight, because East would over-ruff with his carefully conserved nine and shift to a diamond. Declarer did the best he could, leading the diamond king from his hand, hoping East would have to win with the ace. But West took the

trick and led a heart, promoting East's spade nine as the setting trick.

When you see that declarer is likely to be doing a lot of ruffing, it might be best to retain your high spot-card in the trump suit, as Dr. Rosenkranz did here. Maybe it will be promoted later in the play.

## BETTER THAN THE BEST

**Mark Horton, London**

It's not often anyone outbids Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell, but two of Sweden's finest did just that in this year's Spingold Trophy in Nashville when they produced one of the best auctions of the year.

**Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fredin</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Fallenius</i>	<i>Soloway</i>
1 NT	2 ♥	3 ♠ <sup>1</sup>	Double
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
5 NT	Pass	6 ♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 5-5 minors

The Swedish pair had a gadget available and used it to great effect. Once East had shown the minors, West decided that his tremendous club support and controls meant it was worth going past three no trump. When East cue bid in hearts, he asked for key cards and toyed with the idea of a grand slam before settling in six clubs.

Declarer won the opening lead of the seven of spades with the ace, cashed the ace of clubs, crossed to dummy with a diamond and picked up South's trumps, claiming +920.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Rodwell</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Chmurski</i>
1 NT	2 ♥	3 ♥ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Minors?

If I interpret Meckwell's convention card correctly three hearts promised the minors, but that may be wrong after the intervention, and whatever the meaning, the good slam was missed.

North led the king of hearts and declarer won and cashed the ace of clubs, claiming +490 when North discarded, but losing 10 IMPs.

♠ A K 6 3  
♥ 7  
♦ A 7 6 3  
♣ A Q 4 3

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

## ALL INDIA HCL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT TC Pant, New Delhi

SHREE CEMENT WINS TEAM OF FOUR EVENT  
S. SUNDERRAM - P SRIDHAR WIN OPEN PAIRS

The 5<sup>th</sup> All India HCL Bridge Tournament with total prize money of approximately Rupees 10 Lacs (one million) was held at Hotel Radisson, Noida, India from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August 2007, under the auspices of the Bridge Federation of India. The tournament had two events - the Teams of Four for the "Naresh Tandan Trophy" and the Open Pairs for the "Neena Bonerjee Trophy".

The tournament broke its old record of 70 participating teams in the team of four event with 73 teams from all parts of India along with DATA STEEL & CANDYLAND teams from Karachi, Pakistan taking part in this year's event. A combined India-Pakistan team BEEZEE also participated in the tournament.

The quarterfinalist teams were:

1. SHREE CEMENT	194 VP
2. KHANDELWAL	190 VP
3. J.P. GOENKA	184 VP
4. MANYAVAR	184 VP
5. TEXANACES	181 VP
6. MAHESHWARI ALLAHABAD	180 VP
7. CANDYLAND	173 VP
8. SHREE RADHEY	172 VP

The semifinal line up was: J.P. GOENKA vs. KHANDELWAL & SHREE CEMENT vs. MANYAVAR. It was J.P. GOENKA vs. SHREE CEMENT in the 4x16 boards final with SHREE CEMENT having a carry-over of 4 IMPs. Everybody was eager to know whether J.P. Goenka's team, which had won this event for the last two years, could make their hat-trick.

In the event, SHREE CEMENT beat J.P. GOENKA by 57 IMPs.

Here is a deal from the teams:

K.R. Venkataman (Venky) reported the following gem of inferential deduction on defence:

The bidding had gone as follows:

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

On North's Precision Club opening, South's response showed 8+ HCP and a five-card spade suit. Two spades was gamma and the response showed five cards to one honour. Three diamonds and four clubs were both epsilon control-asking bids and the responses showed third-round control (doubleton or queen) and second-round control (singleton or king) in the respective suits.

You are West and you choose to lead a trump. Declarer wins on the table and pulls a low heart from dummy on which partner shows an odd number of cards. You win declarer's nine-spot with your jack. Take it from there. What do you play now and why?

Before you pull out a card, go back to the bidding. Declarer is marked with queen to five in spades, no diamond king but he is likely to have the club king. Since he has shown third round control in diamonds, he has a doubleton in that suit. He has six cards in the other two suits and your partner is more likely to have five hearts, rather than three, otherwise declarer has five. Voila!

Declarer's hand pattern is 5=3=2=3 and he may well hold king-jack-small in the club suit and the way he has played it, he sort of has made it obvious that he plans to ruff two hearts in dummy and get rid of his diamond loser on the fourth club after drawing trumps. That adds up to an easy twelve tricks.

If you passively play another heart now, you are only helping him to do what he is planning to do. You obviously cannot play a diamond, because for all you know, declarer may hold the queen and allow your shift to run to that card in his hand. By the process of elimination, you have arrived at the club suit and if you think deeply enough, that shift is not a passive shift but one that plays havoc with declarer's transportation. And you know that partner is short in clubs and may well hold the jack of spades, in which case declarer's link between the hands goes awry.

Your club play prematurely takes away one of the entries in that suit. The full deal (see next page):



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

## IBPA COLUMN SERVICE

**Tim Bourke, Canberra**

*Members may use these deals as they wish, without attributing the author or IBPA.*

### 405. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

West led a trump against six diamonds and declarer saw that, although a successful club finesse and a subsequent club ruff would see him home, the best plan was to try and set up a long heart. This needed four entries to dummy, three to ruff the hearts good and one to get back to the established card.

Accordingly, declarer took the trump lead in hand, then played a heart to the ace and ruffed a heart. After returning to dummy with the king of trumps, he ruffed a second heart and then made sure of one entry back to table by leading a low club. Declarer was very pleased when West rose with the king of clubs. After taking the club exit with dummy's queen, declarer ruffed a third heart, establishing the ten of hearts as a trick. It only remained to ruff the ace of clubs to reach it and claim twelve tricks - a spade, two hearts, seven trumps, a club and a club ruff.

### 406. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

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

This deal comes from a class for intermediate players where the raise to four hearts is explained by South's first response being a force to game.

West led the king of clubs and switched to the queen of trumps. Both declarers took this switch with the ace and cashed the king of trumps before playing on diamonds, hoping to get rid of a club loser on the fourth round of diamonds. Unfortunately, West ruffed the third diamond with the master trump and cashed two more club winners to defeat the contract.

Afterwards, the teacher was able to show how the contract should have been made. "As you had to lose a trump trick at some stage it was best do it early on this deal. So you should have let West hold the second trick with the queen of trumps. Now look what happens. West can't cash more than one club winner as dummy's ten of trumps will take care of a third round of clubs. As you can see, no other plan is better for the defence. Suppose West plays a spade at trick three. You rise with dummy's ace, draw the remaining trumps with the ace and king before claiming ten tricks. - one in spades, five in trumps and four in diamonds."

### 407. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

West led the six of hearts against this sound contract. Without any thought towards a plan, declarer played low from dummy and from there could no longer make the hand. He was never able to return to his South hand because the defenders were uncooperative, refusing to play a second heart or a third round of diamonds. So declarer lost five black-suit tricks.

All that declarer had to do before playing at trick one was to count his sure winners outside hearts – one spade, four diamonds and a club. Then he would have seen that he only needed *three* heart tricks to make his contract. So, the plan would be to take the first trick with dummy's ace of hearts and then cash dummy's ace-king of diamonds. Next declarer takes the four red-suit winners in his hand and claims the contract by pointing to dummy's black aces.

#### 408. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 NT
Pass	7 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The jump to four diamonds promised a strong diamond suit and four-card support for spades. South trotted out Roman Key-Card Blackwood and North's response admitted to three key cards. As the five no trump bid announce that the partnership had all five key-cards and the queen of trumps, North was just about able to count thirteen tricks (six diamonds, four trumps, the two side aces and a heart ruff) and so bid the grand slam in spades.

West led the king of hearts and declarer took this with the ace of hearts and played the ace and king of trumps. Now he could do no better than draw the trumps, run the diamonds and finally play a club to the queen. North was not a happy man when West produced the king of clubs.

"All you had to do was count on your top tricks (twelve) and ruff a heart at trick two to bring the total to thirteen. After that you draw three rounds of trumps with the ace, king and jack before crossing to hand with the ace of clubs to draw West's last trump with the queen while throwing dummy's remaining club. Then you would make the remaining six tricks with the diamonds."

#### 409. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

This deal came from rubber bridge where a simple system was in use and the responder could pass a two diamond rebid.

West led the five of hearts and declarer called for a small heart from dummy and took East's ten with his queen. When he continued with ace and another diamond, West rose with the king of diamonds and exited with a club to dummy's bare ace. Declarer now played the queen of diamonds on which East completed a positive echo in clubs. A fourth round of diamonds drew the queen of spades from East, indicating that he had at least five spades headed by the queen-jack-ten-nine. After West won the fourth round of diamonds and exited with a spade, the best that declarer could do was take his winners and concede the last three tricks for down one.

Yet again, this fate could have been avoided by counting tricks. What declarer should have focused on was accumulating two spades, two hearts, one diamond and four clubs. And to arrive at his four club tricks, two entries are needed to declarer's hand, one to drive out the king of clubs and the other to cash the established clubs. So, as the second entry could only come in hearts, the first trick should be taken with the ace of hearts. Then comes the ace of clubs, a diamond to the ace, and the queen of clubs follows. Even if East does not take the king until the fourth round, declarer is safe, for he throws two spades and a diamond from dummy.

No matter what East returns after taking the king of

clubs, declarer will reach his hand in hearts to enjoy the established clubs.

**410. Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

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

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

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

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

A simple auction carried North-South to a game in hearts and West led the jack of diamonds. When dummy goes down, the plethora of trumps turned declarer's mind towards the possibility of an elimination play. He took the first trick with dummy's king, drew trumps in two rounds and cashed his remaining minor-suit winners before exiting with a club.

If West had won this trick he would have faced two unpleasant prospects, leading away from his ace of spades or giving away a ruff-and-discard. At the table it was East who took the trick and he exited with a low spade. Declarer played low from hand, forcing West to take the trick with his ace. Game made!

However, even if West had won with a lower honour the contract was secure no matter what was continued. Either declarer would win a trick with his king of spades or he would be presented with a ruff-and-discard.

Of course if East had played a spade honour declarer would cover with the king and West takes this with the ace. Then dummy's ten-nine in the suit guaranteed declarer a spade trick.

**411. Dealer South. NS Vul.**

♠ 10 9 7  
 ♥ 9 7 4  
 ♦ J 9 7  
 ♣ K 7 5 2

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

♠ 4 3  
 ♥ Q J 10 8 6 3  
 ♦ Q 4 2  
 ♣ 8 4

♠ A K Q J 8 6 2  
 ♥ A K 5  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ A J 3

West	North	East	South
3 ♦	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	6 ♠
All pass			

West led the ace of diamonds and declarer ruffed with the ace of trumps. Next he played the eight of trumps to dummy's ten so that he could ruff a second diamond with the king of trumps. Another trump to dummy's nine allowed the last diamond to be ruffed with the queen of trumps, confirming in declarer's mind that the suit was originally 7-3.

Most players would now play a club to the king followed by another club to the jack and then complain about their bad luck when the suit broke 4-2 with West. However, this declarer was made of sterner stuff and, although he saw the above line, he spotted an extra chance that was valid as long as West began with his mooted seven diamonds.

He cashed the ace and king of hearts before touching clubs! When West discarded on the second heart, he was marked with 1=1=7=4 shape so declarer cashed the ace and king of clubs then exited with a heart. As East only had hearts remaining, declarer discarded his third club on the forced heart return and ruffed in dummy to make his contract.

Notice that if West had followed to the second heart, declarer would still make the contract if East had the queen of clubs or, when West produces the queen of clubs, clubs were 3-3. (You should note that in the latter case West would have started with 1=2=7=3 shape and would have no heart to play when in with the queen of clubs.)

**412. Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

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

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

♠ A K J 10 5  
 ♥ Q 10 6  
 ♦ A 7  
 ♣ A 7 5

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

This is another deal that blindsided a class of intermediate players. They all took the king of diamonds with the ace, drew trumps and took the club finesse and finished with only nine tricks.

In his review, the teacher had to point out that the students were blindsided by the jack of clubs. He asked, "How would you play the hand if dummy held the two of clubs instead of the jack?"

Eventually, the answer was discovered – to play on hearts at trick two. East takes the jack of hearts with the king and returns a trump, taken in dummy. Declarer plays dummy's remaining heart to his queen, which West wins with the ace. If West plays two more diamonds, declarer ruffs, draws a second round of trumps ending in hand and leads the ten of hearts. As the cards lie, he can safely discard a club from dummy, cash the king and ace of clubs before finally ruffing a club in dummy.

## THE BATTLE OF BRIGHTON

Andrew Robson, London  
(From *The Times*)

Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

There was a fascinating battle on this deal between the declarer, South, Victor Silverstone of Glasgow and London, and the West defender, Ireland's Rebecca O'Keeffe. Despite not having played for ten years, it was the Irish lady who came out on top.

There are two lines of play in six clubs on a heart lead. Simplest is to rely on the king of trumps to be onside: win the ace of hearts and lead the ten of clubs. If East holds king-doubleton or third the suit will be scooped up via a successful finesse, and after drawing all the trumps, declarer can lead over to dummy's diamonds to make all thirteen tricks.

To stake all on the position of the king of trumps is anathema to a player as successful as Victor, and would indeed have resulted in a quick defeat on the actual layout, West winning the king and the defence promptly cashing a heart (and then switching to a diamond,

severing transportation lines and making declarer's life even worse).

After winning the ace of hearts, Victor preferred to shake his other heart on dummy's diamonds, cashing two rounds of the suit for that purpose. However, this play takes away declarer's route to dummy's winners, and now the interest begins. Can the defence prevent declarer from reaching dummy on the third round of trumps with the ten?

At trick four declarer led a trump to his queen. West, Rebecca, ducked. Smoothly. Had she hesitated, declarer would have known to make his second trump play a low one towards dummy's ten, rendering West powerless. As it was, declarer next followed with the jack of trumps, hoping either (i) the king of trumps was now unguarded and would have to win the trick, or (ii) a defender would succumb to temptation to win with a remaining guarded king.

Rebecca was not to be tempted by the Greek gift. She withheld her king on declarer's jack of clubs, prepared to sacrifice her trump trick in order to prevent dummy's ten of clubs from becoming a third-round entry to the table.

Declarer was now sunk. He did the best he could, cashing the ace of spades and running the jack, not covered, then ruffing a third spade with the ten of trumps and discarding a fourth spade on the top diamonds. But West ruffed the third diamond and cashed the spade king. Down one.

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# KOACHING IN KARACHI

John Carruthers, Toronto

Recently, I had the honour of coaching the Pakistan Open Team before the BFAME Championships in May and again before their trip to Shanghai to play in the Bermuda Bowl. Many interesting deals occurred during our sessions together. Here are a couple.

Try your hand at this defensive challenge. You are South.

## Board I-4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ 9 7  
 ♥ J 6 5  
 ♦ A Q J 5  
 ♣ A Q 9 7

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

Table 1

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	Double
Redouble	2 ♠	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Having pushed the opponents into game, you had better find a way to beat them! You lead the spade ace (ace from ace-king, old-fashioned signals) and Partner plays the eight, declarer the three. How do you continue? As a clue, I'll give you the auction at the other table.

Table 2

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

Three hearts was a balanced game try with five hearts. Does this auction make it easier to find the winning continuation?

Neither defender found the killing switch to a diamond. The full deal:

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

♠ 9 7  
 ♥ J 6 5  
 ♦ A Q J 5  
 ♣ A Q 9 7

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

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

A switch to clubs looked more promising than to diamonds to one defender. Since the other defender had led a trump to start with, he had no second chance.

Is it a guess whether to switch to diamonds rather than clubs? The first defender thought that he may need to switch to clubs in case Partner had king-jack to three and the second high spade was the entry to lead a second club.

That may well be, but you'll need Partner to have a trump trick and a minor-suit king to beat the hand. If he has no trump trick, it looks like declarer has five heart tricks, four of one minor and the ace of the other for ten. Partner's minor-suit king is only the third defensive trick.

The solution is to lead your king of spades at trick two and let Partner tell you which minor suit to switch to. He'll have to dump the queen under the king to tell you to lead a diamond, but the established spade trick will be useless to declarer in any case.

The next deal is from a future Bridge World Challenge the Champs and features Jan-e-Alam Fazli and Abdul Rehman Allana, both of whom have been in Pakistani teams since the early Eighties.

## Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ A Q 9 6  
 ♥ K 10 9 2  
 ♦ K 6 3  
 ♣ A 4

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

West	North	East	South
Fazli		Allana	
—	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	6 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

That's an auction few pairs could have today. Three hearts promised either a self-sufficient suit or a spade fit with a hand too strong for their (limited) Jacoby Two No Trump. The heart raise guaranteed four trumps and the four-spade bid clarified that Fazli had spades (which Allana knew from his own hand anyway).

Allana was on firm ground using RKC Blackwood (for spades, and not six-card key card) and Fazli was confident in passing six hearts since Allana had promised four-card support. It was a brilliant display on a difficult deal.

The other members of the team are Rashid Jaffer-Sarfraz Ahmed Khan and Tahir Masood-Javed Mirar, with Kemal Shoib as Non-Playing Captain. The team's immediate goal is to qualify for the knockout rounds in Shanghai (quarterfinals). Since they had done so in the 2004 Olympiad in Istanbul, this seems an achievable target.

## NEWS & VIEWS

### BRIDGE HONOURS J.A.SAMARANCH



Juan Antonio Samaranch, the former President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC, 1980-2001) was recently honoured for his contribution to the recognition of bridge as a sport.

The ceremony was arranged by the Spanish Bridge Federation and took place on Saturday, 15 September 2007 in Madrid, attended by WBF President José Damiani, the entire Executive Committee of the European Bridge League, and hundreds of bridge players.

In 1995 the WBF became a 'Recognized Sport Federation'. In 1998 the IOC Grand Prix was launched at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, where President Samaranch declared that, "bridge is a sport and, as such, its place is here (in the Olympic family) like all other sports". In 1999, at its session in Seoul, the IOC recognized the WBF as an 'International Federation'. This is the last step before a sport becomes a medal sport at the Olympic Games.

### BRIDGE IN THE IMSA WORLD GAMES



All WBF member countries are invited and expected to participate in the bridge series of the 1<sup>st</sup> World Mind Sports Games following the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China, October 3-18.

Each country may be represented by one national team consisting exclusively of players born in 1980 or later. Team expenses (lodging and food at the Olympic village) will be borne by the organisation.

### TEAM OLYMPIAD GIVES WAY TO INTER-NATION WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

The World Team Olympiad, held every leap year, will continue next year, but under a new name. The competition will be called Inter-Nation World Team Championships.

The first event under the new name will be held in Beijing, China, concurrently with the IMSA World Games, October 3-18, 2008.

### ACBL HEADQUARTERS BUILDING SOLD

The ACBL Headquarters building in Memphis was sold on August 27, 2007.

A great innovation to prevent 'sportsmanlike dumping' has been to provide the winner of the Bermuda Bowl (and other events) Round Robin its choice of quarterfinal opponents amongst the teams finishing fifth through eighth. Second then chooses among the remaining three teams, and so on. Furthermore, the first-place team then chooses its semifinal bracket, picking its potential semifinal opponents from among the other three pairs of teams.

Two slight improvements can be made:

(a.) Rank the teams based on their performance only against the teams making the quarterfinals. Why should Team A get a higher seed just because it beat up on Vanuatu and Mongolia more heavily than did Team B?

(b.) Have the highest-ranked Round Robin team pick its semifinal opponent after the quarterfinals. (This had been done previously.) This would prevent a fortuitous lower-ranked team being the beneficiary of a quarterfinal upset rather than the top-ranked team, a situation which could arise in the current format.

Also, in Shanghai in particular, the current practice of bracket alignment will actually prevent the two top teams in the world, Italy and USA2, meeting in the Bermuda Bowl Final unless one of them wins the Round Robin, or both USA teams make the semifinals (they must play each other if they do).

The reason for this is that any team (other than those two) winning the Round Robin will pick the pair of teams which does not include either of them as its semifinal bracket opponent and send Italy and USA2 off to meet in the other semifinal (assuming they both win their quarterfinal match). After all, why would any team want to have to beat both those teams to win when beating only one of them would suffice?

This is in itself enough reason to discard the current procedure, for partisanship aside, isn't that what we all want to see? We have a unique situation in world bridge at the moment, with two stable, all-time great teams competing at the same time. Shouldn't the authorities ensure that, if possible, they meet in the final rather than earlier?

### Notice to All IBPA Members!!

#### Change of e-Mail Address

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

**mail@ibpa.com**

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

The ACBL has an option to occupy the property for up to 18 months. The ACBL is considering various relocation options in Memphis and in other areas.

### DAN MORSE ACBL PRESIDENT

Dan Morse has been elected ACBL president for 2007-2008. His term begins after the Fall NABC in San Francisco and is for one year.

### YOUNG CHELSEA BRIDGE CLUB 40<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The Young Chelsea Bridge Club was founded in May 1968 and has become one of the world's great bridge clubs. To celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the club has organised a series of events spread over 12 months. There are social events, spectator events and a wide range of playing events for all standards of player, such as the annual Young Chelsea Marathon, a University Challenge, and Inter-Club Championship, a Challenge Match with Manchester Bridge Club (celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary), a Play with an International event and the Inter-National Teams.

Full details of all the anniversary events can be on the YC web-site, [www.ycbc.co.uk](http://www.ycbc.co.uk)

If any IBPA member knows any bridge player with a non-British passport who lives in London and might like to play in the Inter-National Teams event on 21-22 June 2008 for foreign-born players residing in London, they are asked to please email [info@ycbc.co.uk](mailto:info@ycbc.co.uk).



**Correspondence ...**  
The Editor reserves the right to  
shorten correspondence  
Email: [ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca](mailto:ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca)

Dear Mr. Carruthers,

I refer to a letter to you from Mr. B. Bhardwaj, the Chairman of Kenya Bridge Africa Limited. The statements made therein are untrue and the facts are as follows:

1. The purported Special general Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> September 2000 was irregularly, unconstitutionally and illegally conducted. There was no agenda of meeting circulated to members as is required under the constitution of the Kenya Bridge Association. The minutes were signed by a person not even present at the meeting.
2. There was no resolution passed at the meeting when the Kenya Bridge Association is claimed to have been replaced by Kenya Bridge Africa Ltd.

3. KBA Ltd. may have been formed specifically for the purpose of raising the shortfall in finance of the bridge hall. This opportunity was unfortunately turned round in an attempt to replace the Kenya Bridge Association. The Kenya Bridge Association was formed under the Societies Ordinance in 1963 and currently has over 160 full members with about 60 affiliated members and operates under and is supervised by the Societies Act.
4. A private company anywhere in the world cannot represent itself as a public body.
5. There was no statement made by the Hon Minister of Sport.
6. Kenya Bridge Association did not file an application to stop the African Bridge Championships from taking place but to stop KBA Ltd. from making themselves out to be the NBO at the Championships. However, the application only came up for hearing after the event. The application was then withdrawn to enable the suit filed by the Association to proceed. The suit is to stop KBA Ltd. from making themselves out to be a public body and representing themselves as the NBO for Kenya. The suit is pending.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Bhardwaj has chosen to personalize the situation and has attacked the person of Samina Esmail. National Bridge Associations are not about personalities and egos but about public institutions giving equal opportunities to the young and old, promoting the game and skills of bridge and providing integrity and representation to the bridge fraternity.

Yours sincerely, Samina Esmail  
Chairman, Kenya Bridge Association, Nairobi

Dear Mr. John Carruthers,

The defence to three no trump by Henner-Sementa in the IBPA Bulletin of Sept 2007, page 14 is indeed highly praiseworthy. But declarer has a successful line of play. After winning the diamond ace, he plays a heart to the king, which holds. Declarer must assume that both the diamond king and queen are onside, otherwise the defence has two diamonds, two spades and a heart for one off (West cannot have the spade ace-king and heart ace on the bidding). Now, by playing the club ace-king, he discovers clubs to be 2-2. When he now plays a spade from dummy, the opponents must hand him his ninth trick.

Sudhir Kumar Ganguly, Kolkata

Dear John,

I'm very impressed by Tony Gordon's detective work in identifying and validating his editorial correction (No. 512, p. 15)! Too bad we don't get that kind of clear thinking from our political leaders . . .

Allan Falk, Okemos, MI

# World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
<b>2007</b>			
Sep 29-Oct 13	World Team Championships	Shanghai, China	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Oct 16-20	17 <sup>th</sup> Sun, Sea & Slams	St. Michael, Barbados	<a href="http://www.cacbf.com">www.cacbf.com</a>
Oct 11-16	EBU Overseas Congress	Rhodes, Greece	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
Oct 12-14	2007 Neutrino Cup	Bucharest, Romania	<a href="mailto:danenescu@bridge-club.ro">danenescu@bridge-club.ro</a>
Oct 20-21	61 <sup>st</sup> Lederer Memorial Trophy	London, England	<a href="http://www.metrobridge.co.uk">www.metrobridge.co.uk</a>
Oct 20-21	Torneo Internazionale Coppie Libres	Cremona, Italy	<a href="http://www.federbridge.it">www.federbridge.it</a>
Oct 27-30	Tolani Grand Prix	Mumbai, India	<a href="mailto:dipak@wearology.com">dipak@wearology.com</a>
Nov 3-10	7 <sup>th</sup> Cuba International Festival	Varadero/Havana, Cuba	<a href="http://www.cacbf.com">www.cacbf.com</a>
Nov 6-12	10 <sup>th</sup> Madeira International Open	Madeira, Portugal	<a href="http://www.bridge-madeira.com">www.bridge-madeira.com</a>
Nov 7-9	1st Small NBO Bridge Games	Monte Carlo, Monaco	<a href="http://www.federation-bridge.mc">www.federation-bridge.mc</a>
Nov 8-11	European Champions Cup	Wroclaw, Poland	<a href="http://www.eurobridge.org">www.eurobridge.org</a>
Nov 8-18	13 <sup>th</sup> Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	<a href="http://www.bridge.co.il">www.bridge.co.il</a>
Nov 9-11	19 <sup>th</sup> International Patton Teams	Monte Carlo, Monaco	<a href="http://www.federation-bridge.mc">www.federation-bridge.mc</a>
Nov 10-16	ASEAN Primary Schools Olympics	Jakarta, Indonesia	<a href="mailto:arifinhl@dnet.net.id">arifinhl@dnet.net.id</a>
Nov 20	European Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Europe	<a href="http://www.eurobridge.org">www.eurobridge.org</a>
Nov 29-Dec 2	Festival de Bridge	Venice, Italy	<a href="http://www.federbridge.it">www.federbridge.it</a>
Nov 22-25	29 <sup>th</sup> International Festival	Brasov, Romania	<a href="mailto:bridge-club-brasov@as.ro">bridge-club-brasov@as.ro</a>
Nov 22-Dec 2	ACBL Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Nov 28-Dec 2	Sicily Open	Cefalù, Italy	<a href="http://www.federbridge.it">www.federbridge.it</a>
Nov 30-Dec 12	Festival Argentino	Mar del Plata, Argentina	<a href="http://www.bridgegear.com.ar">www.bridgegear.com.ar</a>
Dec 7-9	Città di Milano	Milan, Italy	<a href="http://www.federbridge.it">www.federbridge.it</a>
Dec 7-11	29 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Club Championships	Makati, Philippines	<a href="http://www.scba.org.sg">www.scba.org.sg</a>
Dec 8-9	Gold Cup Finals	Peebles, Scotland	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
Dec 14-16	2007 Winter Cup	Bucharest, Romania	<a href="mailto:dragosslesan@yahoo.com">dragosslesan@yahoo.com</a>
Dec 21-23	Junior Channel Trophy	Netherlands	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
<b>2008</b>			
Jan 14-20	57 <sup>th</sup> Hawaii Regional	Honolulu, HI	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Jan 14-28	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	<a href="http://www.abf.com.au">www.abf.com.au</a>
Jan 18-20	Bergen International Tourbament	Bergen, Norway	<a href="http://www.storturningingen.no">www.storturningingen.no</a>
Jan 26-2	Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	<a href="http://www.bermudaregional.com">www.bermudaregional.com</a>
Feb 1-6	EBU Overseas Congress	Lanzarote, Spain	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
Feb 23-Mar 1	Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	<a href="http://www.qldbridge.com/gcc">www.qldbridge.com/gcc</a>
Mar 6-16	ACBL Spring NABC	Detroit, MI	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Mar 9-16	White House Junior Internationals	Amsterdam, Netherlands	<a href="mailto:keestammens@email.com">keestammens@email.com</a>
Mar 18-23	113 <sup>th</sup> Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	<a href="http://www.toronto-bridge.com">www.toronto-bridge.com</a>
Mar 30-31	Isle of Man Congress	Isle of Man	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
Apr 30-May 1	10th German Bridge Festival	Wyk auf Föhr, Germany	<a href="http://www.bridge-verband.de">www.bridge-verband.de</a>
May 16-18	13 <sup>th</sup> Southern Regional	Trinidad	<a href="http://www.cacbf.com">www.cacbf.com</a>
Jun 6&7	Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs Worldwide	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Jun 14-28	49 <sup>th</sup> European Championships	Pau, France	<a href="http://www.eurobridge.org">www.eurobridge.org</a>
Jul 17-27	ACBL Summer NABC	Las Vegas, NV	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Jul 26-Aug 3	Chairman's Cup/XIV Festival	Jönköping, Sweden	<a href="http://www.svenskbridge.se">www.svenskbridge.se</a>
Aug 8-17	Summer Congress	Brighton, England	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>
Aug 29-Sep 7	6 <sup>th</sup> PABF Congress/1st Asian Cup	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	<a href="http://www.qldbridge.com">www.qldbridge.com</a>
Sep 2-7	4 <sup>th</sup> World University Championships	Lodz, Poland	<a href="http://www.unibridge.org">www.unibridge.org</a>
Oct 3-17	13 <sup>th</sup> Inter-Nations Cup (was Olympiad)	Beijing, China	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Oct 3-17	World Mind Sports Games	Beijing, China	<a href="http://www.worldbridge.org">www.worldbridge.org</a>
Oct 5-7	Oltania Team Cup	Gura Vaii, Romania	<a href="http://www.ecatsbridge.com">www.ecatsbridge.com</a>
Oct 25-26	62 <sup>nd</sup> Lederer Memorial Trophy	London, England	<a href="http://www.metrobridge.co.uk">www.metrobridge.co.uk</a>
Nov 20-30	ACBL Fall NABC	Boston, MA	<a href="http://www.acbl.org">www.acbl.org</a>
Dec 19-21	Junior Channel Trophy	Belgium	<a href="http://www.ebu.co.uk">www.ebu.co.uk</a>