



BULLETIN

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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.

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Editorial

The 2008 World Mind Sports Games are now history and José Damiani, as President of the WBF and IMSA, is to be congratulated for a job well done. Whichever nation hosts the second WMSG will have a difficult and unenviable task matching China's determination, sponsorship and success. Nevertheless, a number of IBPA members have commented on improvements that could be made to the Daily Bulletins at these and other championships. (In Beijing, there were three Daily Bulletins: one for all the mind sports, edited by Jos Jacobs; another for the youth bridge competitions, edited by Brian Senior; and a third edited by Brent Manley for what used to be called the World Team Olympiad competitions in bridge).

Chief among the suggestions for improvement in the Daily Bulletins in Beijing was that, other than to announce the winner of the IBPA Personality of the Year, the annual IBPA awards were ignored. That the president of the WBF, the Daily Bulletin coordinator, all three Daily Bulletin chief editors, most of the Daily Bulletin associate editors and the official Daily Bulletin photographer, all IBPA members, some of them on the IBPA executive, allowed this to happen is an oversight which will hopefully not be repeated. These award winners are, after all, the best hands of the year – certainly not every deal reported in the daily bulletins is more interesting.

An oft-repeated complaint about these and other bulletins is the lack of explanations about the alerts in the bidding – they most often have an asterisk, but with no explanation. There can be no excuse for this – the convention cards for all partnerships are readily-available to all on ecatsbridge.com. This is a simple fix and would require no more than the writer of each bulletin article looking up the meaning of any conventional bids in his article.

Another area for improvement concerns the method of match reporting in the main bridge bulletin. Currently, each of the four editors (usually, but not always) watches a match on VuGraph or BBO, then reports that match in print within the next day or two. This practice leaves the writers somewhat at the mercy of the cards – sometimes there are many interesting deals in a match, but sometimes they are deadly dull. There is really no need to report the dull ones. A better methodology would be for two of the four writers to watch a match on BBO or VuGraph, another to watch a match no one else could see (at the table), and the fourth to seek out interesting hands from the players. Some players do come into the Bulletin Room with an interesting deal, but those players are few and far between. A more active methodology is needed. The four writers could rotate their duties for variety.

Most bridge writers also want to see the names of the contestants – especially those from the medal-winning teams and/or those from their own country. No photograph of medallists should be published without the names of the people in the photograph – this may require some additional work on the part of the editors and photographers, but the result would be worth it.

Finally, every daily bulletin editor everywhere should be required to familiarise himself with the NEC daily bulletins edited by Eric Kokish and Richard Colker to see just how good daily bulletins can be.

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2008 IBPA Awards

The IBPA Personality of the Year

Antoine Bernheim, president of the Generali Group, has been selected as the International Bridge Press Association's Personality of the Year. Generali is a longtime supporter of the WBF and the IBPA. See last month's issue for details.

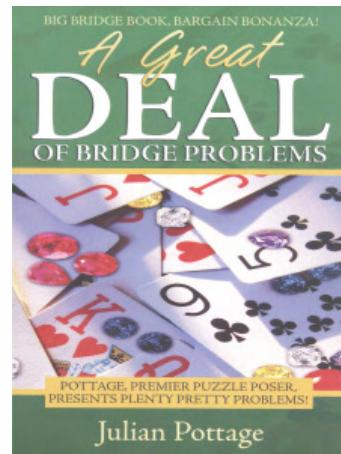
The Alan Truscott Memorial Award

The **Alan Truscott Memorial Award** is given periodically for some special service to the game that would appeal to Alan. As well as being a top bridge player, Alan was also a fine chess player. He was bridge editor for the New York Times for over 40 years.



This year, the Truscott Award is given to Liu Siming, Vice-President of the Chinese Contract Bridge Association, for services to the International Mind Sports Association, bringing chess and bridge together at this First World Mind Sports Games. Patrick Choy, accepting the award, said Siming, as Director General Administrator of Sport in China, worked tirelessly to bring bridge and chess into media coverage.

Master Point Press Book of the Year



Winner: Julian Pottage (Wales) for
"A Great Deal of Bridge Problems"
Vivisphere Publishing

Shortlist:
Anant Baghwat (India): "The Bridge Adventures of Mr. Baghir (The Numb)"
David Bird (England): "Heavenly Contracts"
Mark Horton (England): "Misdisplay These Hands with Me"
Enda Murphy (Ireland): "A Bridge Too Far?"
Bobby Wolff (USA): "The Lone Wolff"



Julian Pottage - Second-time winner of the MPP Book-of-the-Year Award

C&R Motors Declarer Play of the Year

Winner: Giorgio Duboin (Italy)
Journalist: Mark Horton (England)
Bulletin 514, page 9
World Bridge Team Championships,
Shanghai, China
Bermuda Bowl - Norway v Italy

RR6. Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ A 10 8 4 2

♥ K

♦ K 8 2

♣ K 7 5 4

♠ 9 7 6

♥ 3

♦ A 10 7 5

♣ Q J 10 9 2

♠ Q 3

♥ A Q 9 7 6 4 2

♦ 4

♣ 8 6 3

♠ K J 5

♥ J 10 8 5

♦ Q J 9 6 3

♣ A

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Bocchi	Helness	Duboin
—	—	3 ♥	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

There was some discussion as to the best bid with the North cards. You can decide if you prefer three spades. You might also consider if there is any case for passing the double on the South cards.

West led the queen of clubs and we immediately observed that declarer was unlikely to make a winning guess in spades. He won the club ace and played the jack of diamonds. West took the ace and continued with the jack of clubs. Declarer ducked that, discarding the jack of spades from his hand, and won the next club, discarding the three of diamonds.

Now came some more serious thinking - declarer could be sure of eleven of East's cards - seven hearts, three clubs and one diamond - but what were the other two? For the moment, it didn't matter, as declarer set out to develop a heart trick by playing the king of hearts.

If East wins this he has no good move - a spade is clearly hopeless, and if East and South play some ping pong in the heart suit West will be squeezed - but Helness found the only way to set declarer a problem by ducking - earning cheers from the Norwegian supporters.

Declarer came to hand with a spade and played the jack of hearts. If East wins that, he can cash another heart, but then the next heart will see West squeezed, so Helness ducked once more. A great try, but now declarer could simply play a spade to dummy's ace.

If East had shown out on the spade ace, the diamonds would have behaved. If he had followed with a small spade and showed out on the king of diamonds West could have been thrown in to lead away from his ten of diamonds. A great hand featuring top-class play and defence. When the queen of spades actually fell under the ace, Duboin emerged with a couple of overtricks for plus 660.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Saelensminde	Lauria	Brogeland
—	—	3 ♥	Pass
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass
	Pass		

East led the ace of hearts and switched to the six of clubs. Declarer won in dummy perforce and played a diamond to the king. When that held he cross ruffed clubs and hearts and arrived at ten tricks, plus 620 to lose 1 IMP.

Shortlist:

- 516.7 Lauria (Phillip Alder)
- 519.4 Sementa (Yeh Bulletin)
- 520.3 Cohen (Phillip Alder)
- 520.10 Cannell (John Carruthers)
- 522.5 Helgemo (Mark Horton)
- 523.4 Greenwood (Andrew Robson)

Gidwani Family Trust Defence of the Year

Winner: Michelle Brunner (England)
Journalist: Heather Dhondy (England)
Bulletin 514, page 18
The Venice Cup

Having successfully negotiated the round robin, it was time for England to face China in the quarter-finals. We were neck and neck for the first four sets out of six, but eventually the Chinese proved too strong and we were eliminated. One of the earlier sets produced a very special play from Michelle Brunner:

QF2. Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ A K Q 9 8 3

♥ A 7

♦ —

♣ A J 7 3 2

♠ J 5

♥ K 8 4 3

♦ A 10 7 6 3

♣ 6 4

♠ 7 6 4

♥ J 10 9 5 2

♦ K J 9 8

♣ K

♠ 10 2

♥ Q 6

♦ Q 5 4 2

♣ Q 10 9 8 5

West	North	East	South
Michelle	Liu	Rhona	Wang
Brunner	Yi Qian	Goldenfield	Wenfei
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1 ♣ ¹	Pass	1 ♦ ²
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	5 NT	Pass	7 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Precision Club (16+)
2. Negative (0-7)

The Precision auction propelled the Chinese side to an optimistic seven-club contract. You will note that the entryless dummy more or less forces declarer into the winning line of dropping the singleton king of trumps off-side to land a rather jammy contract.

Enter Michelle, who, on seeing partner's lead of the jack of hearts covered by the queen in dummy, ducked!

Declarer, who was mightily relieved to gain a surprise entry, had no hesitation in taking advantage of it to play her percentage shot in trumps of taking the finesse! Whoops!

How was this brilliancy found? Should declarer have been fooled? Let's think about it.

One club was strong and one diamond negative. The jump to two spades was natural and forcing, showing a strong hand. Two no trump and three clubs were both natural. Over partner's natural four clubs, showing support, North jumped to five no trump, grand slam force. Whether they disagreed about the meaning of five no trump or the responses, I'm not sure, but one thing that Michelle could be certain of is that declarer had a source of running tricks in spades for this action. Therefore there would be no danger in giving declarer a cheap trick in hearts since they would soon be disposed of on spades in any case.

From Michelle's point of view, a jump to seven clubs holding only the queen in trumps left room for partner to have a trump honour and there was a significant danger that it would be singleton. With plenty of time to think about it, we can all see that it can't cost, and may gain on this layout.

However, the really impressive thing is that it had to be done smoothly and in tempo so as to give nothing away. If you duck slowly, declarer will be suspicious. Should she have been suspicious anyway?

It is unusual to lead from a king-jack-ten holding against a grand slam. If you don't want to lead a trump, then a spade into the solid suit would seem to give nothing away. On the other hand, a lead from jack-ten would be perfectly normal. Therefore, you should not expect the queen of hearts to hold the first trick. Nevertheless, it is a huge leap of logic to then deduce that West has

ducked in order to persuade you to take a losing line in trumps. This brilliancy was undoubtedly the play of the tournament.

Shortlist:

- 513.12 O'Keefe (Andrew Robson)
- 515.9 Carroll (John Carruthers)
- 528.11 Campanile-Barel (Richard Colker)
- 521.5 Gromöller (Andrew Robson)
- 521.11 Hamman (Donna Compton)

Precision Best Bid Hand of the Year

Winner: Geoff Hampson-Eric Greco (USA)

Journalist: Paul Linxwiler (USA)

Bulletin 516, page 4

Board-A-Match Beauty

Geoff Hampson and Eric Greco bid these hands from the Reisinger qualifiers beautifully.

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

Greco

- 2 NT¹
- 4 ♦³
- 4 NT⁵
- 5 NT⁷
- 7 ♣

1. 19-21
2. Minor-suit Stayman, one/both minors
3. Diamonds and a club fit
4. Key-card ask in clubs
5. 1 or 4 key cards
6. King ask
7. A red king

Hampson

- 3 ♠²
- 4 ♥⁴
- 5 ♠⁶
- 6 NT
- Pass

When Hampson bid six no trump Greco knew he was facing a running club suit and could count 12 top tricks. The thirteenth would come from setting up the diamonds, and the worst diamond holding that would go down in dummy of three small would still leave him with better than a 50% contract. Even getting to six no trump would have scored well at BAM, but reaching seven clubs deservedly earned them a shared top from the 64 tables in play and a win at BAM.

Shortlist:

- 512.5 Krupowicz-Lutpstanski (Mark Horton)
- 513.7 Fredin-Fallenius (Mark Horton)
- 515.5 Heather Dhondy-Jeremy Dhondy (Simon Cochemé)
- 517.8 Pigot-Moran (Mark Horton)
- 519.12 Siebert-Said (Paul Linxwiler)

Brazilian Junior Deal of the Year

Winner: Rosaline Barendregt (Netherlands)

Journalist: Max Rebattu (Netherlands)

Bulletin 521, page 13

IMP Magazine Junior Bridge Hand of the Year

Translated from the Dutch by Lex deGroot, Arnhem, The Netherlands; courtesy of IMP Bridge Magazine. The deal was also short-listed for IMP's own hand-of-the-year awards.

The White House Junior International is without a doubt the most important international youth tournament in The Netherlands. This year the event comprised 24 teams, including four Dutch Teams. Such an event almost automatically guarantees beautiful and spectacular deals. This year it was Rosaline Barendregt who presented us with a fabulous three no trump contract.

Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A 7 4 3

♥ Q J

♦ K Q 7 2

♣ 10 9 3

♠ —

♥ K 9 6 4 3 2

♦ 3

♣ K 8 6 5 4 2

♠ K J 9

♥ A 7 5

♦ J 8 6 5

♣ Q J 7

♠ Q 10 8 6 5 2

♥ 10 8

♦ A 10 9 4

♣ A

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	I NT
Pass	2 ♣	2 ♠	Pass
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 NT
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Double of two spades would not have been for penalties. West led the two of clubs and East won with the ace and shifted to the ten of hearts; West was allowed to win with the king. West returned a heart, won with dummy's queen.

It was time to take stock. The opening lead and the auction made it fairly clear that West held a spade void and East a likely singleton club ace. In principle, there are possibilities for four spade tricks, two heart tricks, two or three diamond tricks and one club trick. Transportation between the hands is fairly poor, though. Four spade tricks require the North hand to have three entries and East-West may be able to prevent that. Moreover, the hearts are a threat when declarer loses the lead in diamonds and clubs.

Declarer, after winning the heart queen, started with the marked finesse of her nine of spades and West showed out as expected, pitching a club. Then she played

a diamond to dummy's king, all following low. Now South had an opportunity to take a second spade finesse. Then, if the diamonds were 3-2, all would be well, as there would be sufficient entries for the spade plays. However, Rosaline Barendregt avoided the trap of cashing the spade king and then playing a diamond. Instead, she led the diamond jack from her hand. West showed out, so probably had a 0=6=1=6 distribution. East ducked to avoid giving dummy an extra entry.

South could now have cashed the the spade king and heart ace and then played a diamond. As East would have no more hearts or clubs, he would be forced to lead to dummy's spade ace after winning two diamond tricks. However, declarer then has only eight tricks, four in spades, two in hearts, two in diamonds and none in clubs. Meanwhile, East-West have four tricks, so there's no more chance to develop a ninth trick in clubs.

Declarer therefore needed at least one club trick, so after the diamond jack held, she led the club queen. West won with the king and returned a club to South's jack, East discarding two spades. Again, South cannot play the king of spades and ace of hearts, and then a diamond, as that would give East-West five tricks. South therefore cashed the heart ace and discarded the diamond seven from dummy. What is East to do? If he discards a spade, South will overtake her spade king with the ace and score the spade seven for her ninth trick. Instead, East discarded the ten of diamonds - declarer unblocked the king of spades and threw East in with his diamond ace, forcing him to yield the ninth trick to dummy's spade ace. This last scenario gives South another winning option. She can play a diamond right away. East wins and South scores the last two tricks with the spade king and diamond eight.

Scoring the last trick via a classic stepping stone to an otherwise inaccessible hand is much more elegant, however.

East might have done better by capturing the diamond jack with the ace and then continuing with the diamond ten. However, South can still reach a stepping stone ending or execute a spade-diamond squeeze. After winning with queen of diamonds declarer next plays a club. She will regain the lead in clubs or hearts and, with South holding the king of spades and eight of diamonds, East will be squeezed. If West refuses to win with the club king, then, after the heart ace, a stepping stone position results.

Shortlist:

- 515.4 Bessis (Mark Horton)
- 517.11 Geromboux (Ron Klinger)
- 519.11 Drijver (Kees Tammens)
- 520.4 Braun (Ron Klinger)
- 521.6 Lindqvist (lb Lundby)

IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

And now for something completely different...

457.A MINOR PROBLEM

Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ A J 6 5
♥ 6
♦ A K 3
♣ A 8 5 3 2

♠ K Q 4
♥ 10
♦ J 8 7 6 4 2
♣ K J 4

West	North	East	South
—	—	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Double	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

How do you plan to make eleven tricks after the two of hearts is led to East's king and East then shifts to the ten of spades?

458.THE RIGHT ORDER

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ K J 5 2
♥ K J 8 7 4
♦ 6 5 3
♣ A

♠ A 9
♥ A Q 10 5 3
♦ A Q 2
♣ 9 7 5

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

1. Game-forcing heart raise, 4+ trumps
2. Extra values, no shortness
3. Cue bids
4. Roman Key Card Blackwood
5. 0 or 3 aces
6. King ask, guarantees all '5 aces' and the heart queen or extra length

How do you plan to make twelve tricks in hearts after West leads the king of clubs?

459. ORDINARY FINESSES

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

♠ 6 4 3
♥ 7 4 3
♦ A K 7 4
♣ 10 6 5

♠ A Q J 10 9 7
♥ A Q J
♦ 5 2
♣ A K

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

How do you plan to make twelve tricks after West leads the queen of diamonds?

460. MORTON'S DILEMMA

Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ Q J 5
♥ 7 6 4
♦ 10 8 2
♣ Q J 8 3

♠ A K 9 7 6 2
♥ —
♦ A K J 9 3
♣ K 5

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 ♣
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	5 ♥	Double
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass		

How do you plan to make eleven tricks after West leads the ace of hearts?

461. COMBINATION PLAY

Dealer South. NS Vul.

♠ 9 8
♥ A 9 4
♦ 10 7 5 3
♣ A K Q 5

♠ K 2
♥ K Q J 10 8 5
♦ A K
♣ 7 4 2

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

I. Artificial heart slam try

How do you plan to make the contract after West leads a trump?

462. DIAMOND TRICKS

Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ 6 4 3
♥ K Q 5
♦ 9 7 6 3
♣ Q J 2

♠ A K Q J 8 7
♥ A
♦ A K J 5
♣ A 9

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

How do you plan to make twelve tricks once West leads the jack of hearts and your bare ace of hearts wins the trick?

SOLUTIONS

457.

♠ A J 6 5

♥ 6

♦ A K 3

♣ A 8 5 3 2

♠ 8 7 3 2

♥ Q 7 5 2

♦ Q 10 9 5

♣ 10

♠ K Q 4

♥ 10

♦ J 8 7 6 4 2

♣ K J 4

Suppose you win the spade shift with the king and play a trump to the ace. That will not be a success if East shows out, for West must subsequently take two trump tricks. As the only danger is losing two trump tricks, you should lead the six of trumps from your hand, intending to run the card whenever West produces the five.

It will do no harm if this trick is lost to East, because then trumps will be no worse than 3-1 and you will hold your losses to one trick in the suit. Observe that on this layout, it will do West no good to play the nine on the first round of trumps. Of course, if it is West who discards on the first round of trumps, you will cash the ace-king of trumps and continue with a third round towards your hand.

Do you notice anything else about the above layout? It is that it would not have been a good idea to pass the double of four hearts as the East-West hands fit so perfectly that four hearts is cold - East can make seven trumps and take three club ruffs in the West hand.

458.

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

Let's see what happened when the deal was played in a local team game: after winning the first trick with the ace of clubs, declarer drew trumps, cashed the ace of spades and then led the nine of spades. West covered this with the ten and dummy's jack of spades was taken by East's queen. When the inevitable diamond return came, declarer had no option but to play the queen of diamonds. When West took this with the king the slam failed by one trick.

When declarer moaned about his luck in going down in a 75% contract, as is often the case, dummy was not sympathetic. "You had the nine of spades, didn't you? After drawing trumps you should have played a spade to the nine. This succeeds in producing three spade tricks whenever East has the ten of spades. If the nine had lost to the queen of spades, you would have two discards for your diamond losers immediately. Here, West would win with the ten and, after ruffing ruff the club return, play a spade to the ace. After returning to dummy with a club ruff, the king of spades is cashed. As the cards lie the queen of spades falls and the contract is home – you make three spades, five trumps, a diamond,

a club and two club ruffs. Finally, if the queen failed to drop under the king, you would still have had the diamond finesse as a last chance. This way you would combine three chances instead of the two with which you were satisfied."

459.

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

You only have two entries to dummy and so you have to decide which major suit finesse to take. The difficulty that ensues when you take the trump finesse and it loses is that you are virtually certain to finish with only eleven tricks. This is because you will have only one entry to dummy left to take a heart finesse. This means that will lose a heart trick unless East has a singleton or doubleton king of hearts, which is not a very likely proposition.

Let's see what happens if instead you play a heart to the queen at trick two. When the queen of hearts holds, you should plan to continue with the ace and queen of trumps and use the remaining diamond entry to dummy to repeat the heart finesse. Whenever West takes the queen of hearts with the king and plays a second diamond to dummy's king, you will lead a trump and hope that East has a singleton or doubleton king of trumps.

While it is possible West could hold up the king of hearts, that is not very likely because he cannot be certain of the location of the jack. It's equally likely for one of the major suit finesses to succeed. However, if it loses there is more chance of picking up the trump suit with one finesse than it is to achieve the same outcome in hearts.

460.

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

If trumps are no worse than 3-1, just draw the trumps, ending on the table, and run the ten of diamonds. You will lose at most one club and one diamond. The situation becomes trickier if West discards on the first round of trumps. Suppose the full deal is as diagrammed.

After you ruff the ace of hearts and play a trump to the queen, the 4-0 trump split puts you in danger of going down. Suppose you run the ten of diamonds. West wins the queen of diamonds and plays another heart and you must ruff. As you still need a club trick, you must play the king of clubs. East wins the ace of clubs and taps you with another heart. You will have only two trumps in each hand to East's three and as he has no more diamonds he must make a trump.

Is there anything better? In order to find out, let's do some card reading. Assuming that the bidding is rational, East is very likely to have both the ace of clubs and at shortage in one of the minors. Further, there is close to a three-in-four chance that East has at least four clubs. So, at trick three you should play a low club towards your hand. On the this layout if East plays low, the king wins the trick and you can now draw trumps and give up a diamond trick. You make six trumps, four diamonds and a club.

What happens if East plays the ace of clubs and forces you with another heart? After you ruff, you will cash the king of clubs and cross to dummy with the jack of trumps to play dummy's two club winners, throwing low diamonds from hand. Then, after drawing trumps, you cash the ace and king of diamonds for the tenth and eleventh tricks.

If West takes the king of clubs with the ace, then you can still get home provided East has at least two cards in each minor. After ruffing the heart return, you simply play the diamonds from the top. If a defender wins the third diamond and plays another heart, ruff, cash the ace of trumps and any minor suit winners you can. After that you will make the last two tricks on a high crossruff.

When it is West rather than East who has four trumps the contract will not succeed and it will be time to minimise the damage while praying for an easier time on the next deal.

461.

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

This is another taken from a local teams game. One declarer drew trumps, cashed the top clubs and when they failed to break 3-3 he led a spade to the king. West was not troubled to cash two spade tricks. South felt he done as well as he could by combining his chance is the black suits.

At the score-up, South said, "Minus 100."

The reply was, "Minus 1430. That's 17 away."

The declarer at the other table had spotted an extra chance: that the queen-jack of diamonds would fall in three rounds. After drawing trumps, he cashed the ace-king of diamonds then crossed to dummy with a club to ruff the seven of diamonds. As you can see, dummy's ten of diamond ten was established for the twelfth trick.

If the diamond play had failed, the second declarer would have tested the clubs and only when they failed to break would he lead up to the king of spades.

462.

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

After drawing trumps in three rounds, the trick is to get to dummy to discard any losers on the king and queen of hearts. If diamonds were 3-2 then playing the ace, king and jack of diamonds would ensure you could reach dummy with the nine of diamonds. However, suppose the full deal is as diagrammed.

The straightforward play in diamonds will see West take two tricks. The best play is to cash the ace of diamonds and then make a surprising play – to lead the jack of diamonds next. On the above layout, whenever West takes with the queen of diamonds he is be end-played. A diamond will give you an entry to dummy and so will a club or heart shift. No matter what West does, you will take twelve tricks. West may try to avoid the end-play by withholding his queen of diamonds. However, this will be to no avail for king and another diamond will leave him on play with only hearts and clubs left, either of which will give you your twelfth trick.

If both defenders had followed to the second round of diamonds you could then reach dummy with the nine of diamonds on the fourth round.

You might ask yourself what would have happened had East turned up with four diamonds headed by the queen

and ten? In that case, East would take the queen of diamonds and return a club and you would only succeed if East began with the king of clubs.

If diamonds turned out to 5-0, and trumps were 2-2 you would lead the jack of diamonds next if it was West who had the diamond length. In all other cases of a 5-0 break, you would continue with ace and another club, playing with the odds that the hand with the void has the king of clubs. When that is the case, that defender must give you an entry to dummy with either a heart or a club.

COUNTED OUT...ALMOST

Raman Jayaram, Baroda, India

Indian Country Head of the world's largest steel maker, Raju Tolani, is an engineer, bilingual stage actor, hilarious raconteur and an excellent bridge player to boot. And, he is a bridge writer's delight.

His team reached the finals of the Ashok Ruia Trophy, the blue ribbon of Indian bridge, only to lose to India's best known team FORMIDABLES, in the Indian Nationals early this year. In September, he was playing in Sunil MACHHAR's team in India's biggest prize money event, the HCL International Tournament and the team was in the finals losing out to TEXAN ACES, silver medallist in the 2007 European Open played in Antalya, Turkey. Badal Das and Sumit Mukherjee were part of the Texan Aces' team then, where the Texans had outplayed ORANGE (The Netherlands), the holders and the number one seed in the quarterfinals, and they were now defending against Raju's three no trump contract in a semifinal of the HCL event.

Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Badal	Ajay	Sumit	Raju
Das	Khare	Mukherjee	Tolani
Pass	1 ♦	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass

Sumit Mukherjee won the heart five lead with the king and continued with the jack. The first moment of reckoning had come. It was clear that the opponents had to be restricted to three tricks in hearts. The rule of eleven had made it clear that the lead was from four cards only; that being so, Tolani had to essentially hope that the third heart with his RHO was not the six, so that a blockage emerges. He covered the jack with the queen; Das won the ace and continued with the six, which Mukherjee won with the ten and then shifted to a low club.

From the word go, it was clear that this layout was going to give communication problems and the taking away of the club entry to the table had only worsened the scenario. The second moment of reckoning had now made its appearance. If West had the ace of spades, Tolani was out of the race. So, he had to hope that East held that card. Winning trick number four with the jack of clubs, Tolani played a spade to his queen and when that held, ran the clubs.

Tolani told me later, "Even when I was running the clubs, I thought of squeeze possibilities. The first realization was that the fifth club had to be the 'squeeze card' and a double squeeze with diamonds as the common suit was not arithmetically possible and more importantly I had lost one trick fewer than was needed to rectify the count. As for a simple spade reduction-diamond (if East held three spades) squeeze on the right (for dummy's third diamond, a small one, to make the ninth trick), that also will not work out because RHO had the 'upper' hand, having to discard only after dummy discards. I was limited to playing for a doubleton ace in spades with RHO."

After the above reasoning, when he played the fifth club, Tolani discarded a diamond from dummy, coming down to king-nine in spades and ace-king in diamonds. Meantime, RHO had discarded a diamond on the fifth club. Tolani played a spade, ducked in dummy. Upon winning the ace, East had only diamonds left and the last three tricks were won by ace-king of diamonds and the king of spades.

It may be noted that on the lie of the cards as correctly assumed by Raju, he could as well have cashed his queen of diamonds and then played the fifth club, discarding a spade from dummy, baring the king, and still made the contract. Played that way, Tolani would have scored nine tricks through five clubs, three diamonds and a spade rather than the actual two spades, two diamonds and five clubs. But, to dreamers like me, the way Tolani played by ducking the spade and felling the ace was pure romance.

A TREBLE

Paul Lamford, London

This year's Lederer Memorial Trophy had one of its most exciting last sessions, as the runaway Saturday leaders, the double winners of Forrester, Bakhshi, Robson and Allfrey, were bidding for what we think might be a unique treble of The Lederer, Crockfords and Gold Cup. They were being challenged by a charging Irish team. Simpson and Silverstone had a chance to equal Zia's record of seven wins, but heavy losses by England and the Presidents in early rounds put paid to that hope.

Grand Finale

By the last round, the gap between the leaders and the chasing teams of England and Ireland (who played each other in the last round) had closed, and the early exchanges between the Gold Cup Winners and Holders were roughly level. Come the last board, and the Vugraph audience knew that Forrester and Bakhshi just had to bid a relatively simple small slam to win the event ... but the players did not know that would be enough, and there was another possible twist to the tale:

Dealer East. NSVul.

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

West	North	East	South
McIntosh	Forrester	Hallberg	Bakhshi
—	—	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♣	2 ♠	3 ♣	3 ♦
Pass	4 ♣	Double	Redouble
5 ♣	Pass	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	7 ♠	Pass	Pass

The key to the hand was Bakhshi's three diamonds, showing his second suit, which made Forrester's hand much better. He had nothing wasted in clubs, and a fourth trump which he had not promised. When Bakhshi made a grand-slam try with six clubs, he was pleased to co-operate, and chose six hearts as he did not want to play in diamonds. When Bakhshi indicated, completely in tempo, that he was not worth any more himself, Forrester re-evaluated his diamond holding and bid the

continued on page 13...

IBPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & AWARDS

Sunday, October 12th 2008 - Beijing

In Attendance: Alder Phillip (USA); Beineix Jean-Claude (Fra); Bourke Tim (Australia); Chodorowska Irena (Pol); van Cleef Jan (Net); Cochemé Simon (Eng); Damiani José (Fra); Dennison Maureen (Eng); Diment Chris (Australia); Downes Kay (Ire); Gidwani Dilip (India); Godtfredsen Louise (Den); Horton Mark (Eng); Jackson David (Ire); Jannersten Per (Swe); Jourdain Patrick (Wales); Kelso Laurie (Australia); Klinger Ron (Australia); Lema Fernando Alfredo (Argentina); Lund Peter (Den); Manley Brent (USA); Rand Nissan (Isr); d'Orsi Ernesto (Brazil); Rigal Barry (USA); Rosenblum Michael (Russia); Stern David (Australia); Swaan Jan (Ned); Tacchi Ron (Fra).

1. **Remembrance of Members Deceased** since last AGM: Tim Seres (Australia) and Nils Petersen (Den). Also mentioned: Paul Soloway, Raymond Brock and John Armstrong.

2. **Minutes of the AGM** held on 8th Oct, 2008 in Shanghai (see Bulletin 514, page 3) were approved.

3. **Officers' Reports:**

(a) **President**: IBPA can be proud of its fifty years. We celebrated with dinners at the Europeans in Pau and here in Beijing with more than 40 members present at each. Here Johannes Hulgaard of Denmark, our guest of honour, was also a founding member. Per, our current Chairman, has kindly donated an anniversary IBPA pin to all members. Our Anniversary Handbook is in draft form on the website. Per's company has offered to print it and Generali to post it to members, for which we are most grateful. If you do NOT wish to receive a printed copy please inform us. In other matters it has been a relatively quiet year. No officer or appointee has retired. More members have paid promptly. Many of the missing photos of members on the membership file have now been added. But our website design and its links still need improving.

I want to take this opportunity of thanking all our sponsors for their contributions. We are delighted that Ernesto d'Orsi and Dilip Gidwani are with us. We also thank George Rosenkranz, Rose Meltzer and Ray Lee in their absence. The WBF also supports us with an annual grant.

I also wish to thank our hard-working officers, in particular Mario Dix, who must find the joint task of being Treasurer and Membership Secretary a heavy burden to bear. He asks me to convey his apologies for his absence as he has work to do in Malta. We thank those of our Executive who have contributed during the year. We also applaud Jan Swaan for his work as Press Room Manager and our Chinese hosts for the good working conditions here for the Press.

I come now to the matter of the printed version of the Bulletin posted to the home address of those members who pay the higher subscription rate. For 2009 your Executive has decided to present this as Full Member (£26) with an additional service charge (£29) for those receiving a printed Bulletin to their home address. This charge represents the full cost for those in the cheapest postal area. (Currently we print all 100 copies in England.) In 2010 we plan the additional service charge will cover the full cost, i.e., higher for those in more expensive postal areas. In 2011 or 2012 we plan to drop the service generally. However, we will discuss individually the provision of printed Bulletins to our members (now less than 30) who do not have e-mail, and also honour members and current IBPA sponsors who may expect a printed copy.

Secretary's Report: Maureen Dennison

Apart from my work at championships, I have very little to do towards the smooth running of the IBPA. However, I am always there as a 'backstop' should there be a problem.

Editor's Report: John Carruthers

The 12 months since Shanghai have been relatively quiet, save for a few battles in the Correspondence section of the IBPA Bulletin. Players provided us with marvelous copy, the outstanding examples of which (in my mind) were Michelle Brunner's duck of the heart king at trick one in the Venice Cup, Giorgio Duboin's and Tor Helness' battle in 3NT in the Bermuda Bowl and Brad Moss' five-heart bid in the US Trials. All showed the heights to which bridge can climb.

In those 12 months, we have had 50 different authors from 21 different countries on five continents published in the Bulletin (not counting correspondence and news items), an admirable output. However, conspicuous in its absence was any material from the continent of Africa (excepting correspondence and news), and from bridge powers Italy and Poland. Additionally, and distressingly, only two women and one junior were among the 50 authors published. Tim Bourke of Australia, Barry Rigal of the USA and Mark Horton of England were our most prolific contributors. I would dearly love to see increased participation from our members in Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Japan and China, as well as more contributions from women and juniors.

I would also like IBPA members to feel free to make suggestions for content and to criticise actual content. But ultimately, the Bulletin is only as good as the material I receive, so I exhort you; please keep the material coming in. I love this job and do the best I can to produce a high-quality periodical.

I'll close with a quote from John Armstrong (the other John Armstrong, from Toronto), who was editor of our local bridge magazine for 17 years. "You send, we publish; you no send, we no publish."

Treasurer's Report: Mario Dix; **As our audited accounts show, 2007 was satisfactory in that we made a surplus on operations despite the extra amount of travel to Shanghai as this was balanced by our bulletin editor not using his annual travel allowance. The outlook for 2008 is also reasonable but with the clearly declining value of Sterling, coupled with increased UK postal costs, we will probably only just about break even.**

My budget projections for 2008 and 2009 exclude the meaningless currency adjustments and do assume that we can maintain our current number of members. It also assumes that we will continue to receive the same level of sponsorship for awards, out of which we make a good profit towards our general expenditure and travel costs. Please also note that I have assumed an exchange rate of GBP/USD 1.80. This is pertinent in that our subscriptions are in Sterling, but about two-thirds of our real expenditure is in Dollars.

As we are now well into the 21st century, it is your Treasurer's suggestion that we should eventually be looking to phase out the printed version of the bulletin because of the costs involved. Printing and posting it exceeds the extra subscription charge. I accept the fact that we still have some Members who do not have email and I do not wish to deprive these Members, but I think that they should pay the cost for the service (unless they are over 80 years of age when they are paying half the dues).

The current cost for printing and postage is \$7142, divided by 103 members paying for printed bulletins, makes an expense of \$69 per person. That is to say, the correct charge for the printed version should be £64. I suggest that we should increase the cost for membership with the printed bulletin to £55 in 2009 and that there should be a similar increase to £60 for 2010. If everyone printed their own copy we could reduce the price of the internet version, although I suggest that this is not done until 2010.

It might also be a suggestion for 2009 that the Honour Members who have email addresses and receive the bulletin for free, should be advised that they will receive their bulletins via email in future, unless they want to pay the extra. This alone would save us an estimated \$1,000.

Finally, I would like to thank Per Jannersten, our Chairman, who has done a terrific job in improving the IBPA web page from an accounting point of view, as well as all other modifications that make renewal on line so easy. But could Members who pay by credit card please remember to advise me about changes of their card details when they occur, particularly new expiry dates if your card expires in 2008.

Thank you and I apologise for my absence in Beijing. However, I expect to attend in both San Remo and San Paulo next year.

5. Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2007, budget and subscriptions for the year 2009 plus auditor's report were approved. Stern asked that IBPA funds only be held in accounts backed by government guarantee. Jannersten agreed to check this with the Treasurer.

6. Election of Officers: (all agreed unanimously): nominated for a two-year term to 2010 are:

President: Patrick Jourdain (Wales); Chairman: Per Jannersten (Sweden);

Exec Vice-President: Jan van Cleeff (Net); Organisational Vice-President : Dilip Gidwani; Secretary: Maureen Dennison (England); Treasurer: Mario Dix (Malta).

Proposed for annual election are: Hon. General Counsel: Bill Pencharz (Eng);

Hon. Auditor: Julius Butkow (South Africa)

Automatically continuing without election are the President Emeritii: Tommy Sandsmark (Nor); Henry Francis (USA).

7. Election of Executive Members (all agreed unanimously):Executive members whose term expires and are available for a 3-year term to 2011: Julius Butkow (RSA); John Carruthers (Can); Barry Rigal (USA).

Already elected to 2009: Christer Andersson (Swe); Peter Lund (Denmark); Ron Tacchi (Fra).

Already elected to 2010: Chris Diment (Australia); Panos Gerontopoulos (Greece); Brent Manley (USA). Note: Chris Diment has resigned and David Stern (Australia) is nominated to replace him

Note: Appointees in post: Awards Chairman: Barry Rigal (USA); Editor: John Carruthers (Can). Membership Secretary: Mario Dix (Malta). Sponsored Members: Irena Chodorowska (Pol).

8. The IBPA Annual Awards (*Please see the awards results beginning on page 2 of this issue.*).

IBPA Personality of the Year: (*Please see last month's issue for the commendation by Patrick Jourdain.*)

9. AOB: Ernesto d'Orsi reported on arrangements for São Paulo next year (for dates see IBPA calendar). There would be a Press Outing. Ron Klinger reported on a number of inaccuracies in results that were causing problems for journalists. The President replied that the organisers could only take responsibility for what was on the official screens, not for live reporters such as Bridgebase or SwanGames. Stern reported that information from the Youth Tournament was much better than that from the Open, Women and Seniors. Alder said the latter had improved since the knockout phase started.

The President said the Executive would consider whether the currency for membership should be changed from pounds given the decrease in expenditure in pounds as the printed Bulletin was phased out, with an increase in expenditure in dollars due to the Editor being in North America.

Patrick Jourdain (President)

grand. Interestingly, Hallberg could, and probably would, have sacrificed in seven clubs if Forrester had passed, and that would have won the board, and the event for Ireland on a split tie, winning the point-a-board, and winning 12 IMPs instead of losing 12 IMPs, a gigantic swing in VPs. Instead the Gold Cup and Crockfords Cup winners had their treble.

THE RIGHT WAY ROUND

David Bird, Eastleigh, Hants., UK

For many contracts, it is essential to play the 'right way round'. This deal, from the pairs championship at the 11th International Bridge Festival in Madeira, was an extreme example of this. If you played in notrumps, you could make 11 tricks when played by East and only three (against best defence) when played by West. I was watching at the table of the eventual winners, Iceland's Runalfur Jonsson and Gunnlaugur Saevarsson, and this is what happened:

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Cristian	Saevarsson	Constantin	Jonsson
—	—	1 ♦	2 ♣
4 ♡	Pass	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	4 NT(!)	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West's contract of four hearts can be beaten only by the double-dummy lead of the jack of spades (or the nine), followed by a club switch through the king. However, Jonsson competed with four spades on the South cards. At other tables where the bidding started like this, East-West either doubled four spades (the results varied from plus 590 to minus 800) or advanced to five hearts (which was made nine times, surprisingly, and beaten only four times).

At my table, the East player was Romania's Costa Constantin and he had a different idea. Looking favourably at the kings in South's two suits, he made the brilliant bid of four no trump. As if by magic, he had ended in no-trumps (despite a 7-3 heart fit) and was playing the contract from the right side. Jonsson led

the ace of clubs, followed by the queen, and declarer collected twelve tricks for plus 690 and a matchpoint score of 89.2%.

Everyone is familiar with the Roman Key-Card four no trump. This was the Romanian Killer-Contract four no trump! As I wrote in the daily bulletin, if anyone made a more brilliant bid during the Bridge Festival, I would like to hear about it!

(See web-site:

www.bridge-madeira.com/Tournament-2008/index.html

for full results, photos, articles and hand write-ups in seven bulletins.)

THE BEST LINE?

Anders Wirgren, Limhamn, Sweden

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

What is the best line in six clubs on a non-heart lead on the diagrammed deal? Michael Akeroyd says (no. 523, August 2008, p. 2) it is to draw trumps, strip the pointed suits and lead to the heart eight. If East wins the nine and returns a low heart, you have to guess. Let's say you play low. Then, this line only loses to West's KJ6, KJ2, J6 and J2. Four losing cases.

If you instead lead to the queen, then finesse the ten, you go down if West has K96, K92, K62, K9, K6 or K2. Six losing cases.

There is a third line, however, which I instinctively would have deemed best at the table. It is to strip the hand as before, then lead a heart towards hand, planning to cover the nine with the ten, otherwise play heart ace, heart to the queen. That loses if West has both the king and the jack (but not KJ9 tripleton, since I will cover the 9 with the 10). If West has king doubleton of hearts, the contract is still made, since he is endplayed.

My losing cases are KJ6, KJ2, KJ96, KJ92, KJ62 and KJ962. Six losing cases: two 3-2, three 4-1 and one 5-0. Even if the 4-1 and 5-0-splits are each less likely than any 3-2-split, the losing cases add up to a higher percentage than those in Akeroyd's line. So in a vacuum I would

have been wrong. But not if we consider *all* available clues, which Akeroyd doesn't.

First we know that West has three clubs to East's one, and then both opponents have followed to two rounds of diamonds and three rounds of spades. That is important.

At the point of my decision, West has four unplayed cards. For the ace to lose, West must have both the king and the jack of hearts among those. For Akeroyd's line to lose, East has to have the nine plus the remaining low heart, and West the jack.

Both my line and Akeroyd's lose to West's KJ6 and KJ2, so it all boils down to: Is it more likely that West has only one specific heart left (the jack) or two specific hearts left (the king and the jack, possibly with another heart)? *A priori* Akeroyd would be right, but what about this specific ending?

To find out, I did what I always do. I simulated the problem with my own Scania BridgeDealer program, giving North and South their actual hands and specifying that West has three-plus spades, one-plus heart, two-plus diamonds and exactly three clubs. I then let the program generate 1000 deals and browsed West's hands.

Here are my results: J6 / J2 – 70 cases, KJ96 / KJ93 / KJ62 – 40 cases, KJ962 – 2 cases. So it looks like my instincts were right. My line was indeed best in the present situation – by far. And if we add the fact that East, with a worthless hand, might do what East did at the table, i.e., lead his singleton heart, the chance of West's having king-jack fourth of hearts goes down quite a bit. So the truth is that my line is even better than the simulation shows. Furthermore, when West has all five hearts, East has twelve cards in two suits. Will he always pass then? If not, the chance for hearts 5-0 goes down too.

I also checked the third line (leading to the queen, then finessing the ten). It loses when the suit splits 3-2, East has the jack and West the king. In my sample that happened 221 times, which makes this line the worst of them all.

IBPA INFORMATION

www.ibpa.com

The Bulletins:

To access the December 2008 Bulletin, key in, in your web browser: www.ibpa.com/527hc.pdf

The 2002 Handbook:

To access the 2002 IBPA Handbook from www.ibpa.com click on the link on the Constitution page. The password is: **ihccaT** exactly as it appears here.

The 2008 Handbook:

Follow emailed instructions to access the (electronic) draft of the new 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.

Members' addresses:

Can be found at www.jannersten.org

Address Changes:

If your e-mail address changes, please inform the Bulletin Production Manager, Jean Butler, at: mail@ibpa.com or change your data yourself in the database found at: www.jannersten.org

Upcoming BBO Transmissions

Dec 8	Norwegian Club Teams, Trondheim
Dec 11-14	Italian Cup, Salsomaggiore
Dec 12-14	Gold Cup Finals, Peebles, Scotland
Dec 12-14	Spanish Team Championship, Barcelona
Dec 13-14	French Cup Finals, Paris
Dec 13	Portuguese North Teams, Porto

Dec 14-16	Tolani Grand Prix, Mumbai, India
Dec 19-21	Polish Pairs Grand Prix, Warsaw
Dec 27-28	Aoado Cup, Shenyang, China
Jan 9-11	Camrose Trophy, Cardiff, Wales
Jan 13-15	Norwegian Premier League, Trondheim



Correspondence ...

The Editor reserves the right to abridge
and/or edit correspondence
Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

Dear John:

The choice made by the IBPA for Personality of the Year concerns me. I was quite disappointed.

Yes, Antoine Bernheim has been a major supporter of both the IBPA and the WBF over the years. He deserves to be honored by the business world for his efforts and accomplishments in this area.

The problem is that he is NOT a bridge personality. He is an unknown except to the officers of the IBPA and the WBF. His connection to bridge is tenuous at best. The purpose of the IBPA is to provide help to bridge writers, to provide them with material they can use, to keep them up-to-date with what's going on in the world of bridge. This year's choice does not seem to fit well with these goals.

I have always considered it good business to keep our sponsors happy. However, making a sponsor who has no close connection with the bridge world in general the Personality of the Year carries this idea one step too far.

Henry Francis, Memphis, TN

NEWS & VIEWS

European Champions Cup Results Amsterdam November 6-9, 2008

1. **Italy (Tennis Club Parioli)** – Francesco Angelini, Ercole Bove, Fulvio Fantoni, Lorenzo Lauria, Claudio Nunes, Alfredo Versace
2. **Netherlands (Bridgeclub Star)** – Remco Bruggemann, Jacco Hop, Hans Kelder, Marion Michielson, Henk Willemse, Marcel Winkel
3. **Bulgaria (Bridge Club Quantum)** – Victor Aranov, Rossen Gunev, Vladimir Mihov, Ivan Nanov, Julian Stepanov, Ilia Vassilev

North American Bridge Championships, Boston November 20-30, 2008

Winners of Major Events

Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams

Nick Nickell, Dick Freeman, Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth, Bob Hamman, Zia Mahmood

Blue Ribbon Pairs

Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth

Life Master Open Pairs

Nikolay Demirev, Ralph Katz

Life Master Women's Pairs

Lynn Deas, Betty Ann Kennedy

Open Board-a-Match Teams

Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth, Bob Hamman, Zia Mahmood

Women's Board-a-Match Teams

Lynn Baker, Kerri Sanborn, Karen McCallum, Irina Levitina, Beth Palmer, Lynn Deas

Senior Knockout Teams

Reese Milner, Matthew Granovetter, Fred Chang, Sam Lev, P.O. Sundelin, John Carruthers

North American Swiss Teams

Carolyn Lynch, Joe Grue, Curtis Cheek, Mike Passell, Bart Bramley, Eddie Wold

ACBL News from Boston

- **Board Realigns Young Players** - The ACBL Board of Directors has approved a motion realigning young players by creating Youth (19 and under) and Junior (25 and younger) divisions. The move does not quite align the ACBL with the WBF and EBL categories of Under-26 and Under-21.
- **Jerry Fleming** of New Mexico has been elected ACBL President for 2009.
- Former ACBL CEO Roy Green is doing charity work in Thailand, teaching finance and business at two universities.
- Jeff Polisner, longtime League Counsel has been named Honorary Member of the Year. Polisner serves at the WBF Legal Counsel as well.

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2008			
Dec 6-8	Città di Milano International Teams	Milan, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Dec 6-14	Festival Internacional	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.bridgeargentino.org.ar
Dec 11-15	Marmara Festival	Marrakech, Morocco	www.bridge-maroc.com
Dec 12	Lords v. Commons	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Dec 12-14	Gold Cup	Peebles, Scotland	www.ebu.co.uk
Dec 13-16	Tolani Grand Prix	Mumbai, India	www.cba.org.in
Dec 19-21	Junior Channel Trophy	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
2009			
Jan 2	PABF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs in Pacific Asia	www.scba.org.sg
Jan 14-26	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 18-28	Internationale Bridgewoche	St. Moritz, Switzerland	www.jzinsli.ch
Jan 24-30	50 th Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.bermudaregional.com
Jan 28-Feb 1	Icelandair Open	Reykjavik, Iceland	www.bridge.is
Feb 4-9	EBU Overseas Congress	Tenerife, Canary Is., Spain	www.ebu.co.uk
Feb 5-14	43rd Israel Bridge Festival	Tel-Aviv, Israel	www.ibf-festival.org
Feb 9-15	14 th NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 10-15	Festival International des Jeux	Cannes, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Feb 19-25	26 th Cairo Bridge Festival	Cairo, Egypt	www.egypt-bridge.org
Feb 26-Mar 2	Yeh Bros. Cup	Broadbeach Island, Australia	www.qldbridge.com
Mar 1-7	Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach Island, Australia	www.qldbridge.com
Mar 2-8	Ixtapan Regional	Ixtapan de la Sal, Mexico	mmk@infosel.net.mx
Mar 3-8	Montegrotto Festival	Montegrotto Terme, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Mar 12-22	ACBL Spring NABC	Houston, TX	www.acbl.org
Mar 16-21	White House Junior International Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	www.bridge.nl
Mar 24-29	Kitzbüheler Bridgewoche	Kitzbühel, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Apr 7-12	114 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, Canada	www.unit166.ca
Apr 9-12	24 th International Festival	Dobrich, Bulgaria	www.bgbridge.org
Apr 10-12	Easter Congress	Singapore	www.scba.org.sg
Apr 30-May 3	28 th International Festival	Plovdiv, Bulgaria	www.bgbridge.org
Apr 30-May 4	Australian Autumn Nationals	Adelaide, Australia	www.abf.com.au
May 1-8	Scottish BU Overseas Congress	Marmara, Turkey	ap.cohen@virgin.net
May 6-10	35 th Cavendish Invitational	Las Vegas, NV	www.cavendishinvitational.com
May 8-15	South African Nationals	Western Cape, RSA	www.sabf.co.za
May 10-17	Killarney Congress	Killarney, Ireland	www.cbai.ie
May 15-28	Challenge International de Bridge	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
May 16-24	South American Championships	Santiago, Chile	r Garcia@ sudamericano chile2009.cl
May 20-21	24 th Bonn Nations Cup	Bad Godesburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 22-30	26 th CACBF Zonal Championships	Le Gosier, Guadeloupe, WI	www.cacbf.com
May 29-Jun 6	9 th Alps Adriatic Bridge Festival	Poreè, Croatia	www.bridgeaustria.at
Jun 7-14	11 th German Bridge Festival	Wyk auf Föhr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Jun 7-17	PABF Championships	Macau, China	antoniopr00@yahoo.com
Jun 12-27	4 th European Open Championships	San Remo, Italy	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 16-27	27 th International Festival	Albena, Bulgaria	www.bgbridge.org
Jul 4-12	Dansk Bridge Festival	Vingsted, Denmark	www.bridgefestival.dk
Jul 8-18	22 nd European Youth Championships	Brasov, Romania	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 23-Aug 2	ACBL Summer NABC	Washington, DC	www.acbl.org
Jul 24-Aug 2	Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 31-Aug 2	Governor KEPRI Cup	Batam, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Aug 7-9	Pesta Sukan	Singapore	www.scba.org.sg
Aug 14-23	Brighton Summer Congress	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 15-16	Selangor Congress	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	www.mcba.org.my
Aug 15-23	World Youth Championships	Istanbul, Turkey	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 29-Sep 12	29 th World Team Championships	São Paulo, Brazil	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 17-26	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 26-Oct 4	New Zealand National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzcba.co.nz
Oct 15-18	8 th European Champions Cup	Paris, France	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 18-22	31st ASEAN Bridge Club Championships	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	www.mcba.org.my
Nov 26-Dec 6	ACBL Fall NABC	San Diego, CA	www.acbl.org
Dec 6-13	1 st Regional-on-a-Cruise	Miami, FL (Embark)	www.acbl.org