



## BULLETIN

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Once again we have a fine selection of books to consider for the Master Point Press Book of the Year Award. Somewhat unusually, two are new editions of classics from a generation ago, too good for us to pass up, and a third is a reissue of a CD in book form. The shortlisted candidates are:

Larry Cohen: *My Favorite 52*. These are Larry Cohen's favourite deals over his 30-plus years of playing bridge at the top levels. He retired recently from competitive bridge to concentrate on his other bridge activities, which include teaching, writing, and running cruises. Cohen's favourite deals are interesting indeed and Cohen writes in a clear, attractive style. The deals are sensational, and Cohen gives us the setting, presents the bidding, then the play, and finally the post mortem, telling us what actually happened when the deal was played. He is both hero and goat.

Raman Jayaram and Ghassan Ghanem: *Romance at Bridge*. Jay, as he is known, has produced, this time with Ghassan Ghanem of Jordan, another in his series of philosophical bridge books, this time looking at bridge through the eyes of a romantic. This is not a book about the antics bridge players get up to away from the table (although that would certainly make entertaining reading!), but about romance at the table. The deals are entertaining and many players from the Indian sub-continent and the Middle East are introduced to Westerners for the first time. Jayaram always adds a little extra by way of philosophy to the analysis, making it more interesting.

Mike Lawrence: *The Complete Book on Overcalls*. To say that the first edition of this book was a seminal work in bridge literature is no exaggeration. The second edition is an update, not simply a reprint, to bring it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Lawrence is so succinct and writes with such clarity and authority (three Bermuda Bowl wins) that everyone from novice to expert will find something to improve his or her game. With the opening bid being devalued so much and players opening hands they never would have considered an opening bid 30 years ago, since this book was first published, there is no doubt that it is needed now more than ever.

Clyde E. Love: *Bridge Squeezes Complete*. This book has been described as a classic so often that it sometimes appears that the word is part of the title. This is the book that taught many players now in their sixties and

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# 5<sup>th</sup> WHITE HOUSE JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL

21-26 March 2010

Het Witte Huis, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Kees Tammens, Amsterdam

## The Arrival

Wednesday morning, 18 March 9.45: Australian juniors Justin and Michael call to say that they have arrived in Stayokay Zeeburg in Amsterdam. In the next couple of days almost 150 juniors from 19 countries arrive for the 5<sup>th</sup> White House Junior Internationals. And even make visits to the Vincent van Gogh Museum and other cultural attractions!

A good thing in this junior event that started in 1993 in 's-Hertogenbosch and moved to Amsterdam in 2005, that a mondial flavour was restored with the participation of teams from the USA and Australia. Hiroaki Miura and Noriaki Koike from Japan teamed up with Milan Macura and Michal Kopecki of the Czech Republic; this team being the winners of the 1<sup>st</sup> Junior World Team Championships last year in Istanbul.

## Opening and Patton

Sunday 21 March saw the official opening of the event by Herman Drenkelford (with Max Abram the main sponsors) followed by a Patton team tournament. The Dutch juniors had been assigned – as Professionals - to form partnerships with sponsors, officials and guests – as the amateurs. This event proved to be interesting (because of the format) and friendly. But of course everybody was aiming for a win which was snatched away by Germany.

## Round Robin

Monday 22 March was the start of the Round Robin (23 matches of ten boards). Thursday night was the deadline for the four places gaining a place in the semifinals. Israel won this round robin ahead of France (the European champions of 2008) and Italy. France 2 overtook Australia, which had been in the top three for most of this qualification. A hard moment for the guys from down under, they really made a good impression and worked so hard to qualify. For the home supporters it was a disappointment that the Dutch juniors did not qualify; they started well but only 80VPs from six matches on the third day was too thin to reach the playoffs.

## Semifinals

So, it was Israel (holders of the Carrousel Cup and also winners in 2008) who went for the hat trick against Italy whilst the two French teams battled each other for a berth in the final. The playoffs consisted of two halves of twelve boards each.

## Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Birman</i>	<i>Manno</i>	<i>Argelazi</i>	<i>di Franco</i>
—	3 ♣	3 NT	Pass
4 ♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
6 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
1. Hearts			

The sequence by West was reasonable, but unsuccessful. After the nine of spades lead to the ace and another spade, there was a trump promotion for one down and 11 IMPs for Italy, which was in five hearts at the other table.

## Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

<p>♠ A Q 9 7 5 ♥ 2 ♦ Q J 7 5 ♣ J 7 6</p> <p>♠ 10 6 3 2 ♥ 8 ♦ 6 4 ♣ K Q 10 9 4 2</p>	<p>♠ 8 4 ♥ A 4 3 ♦ A K 9 8 3 ♣ A 8 3</p> <p>♠ K J ♥ K Q J 10 9 7 6 5 ♦ 10 2 ♣ 5</p>
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The Israeli East-West pair lost 500 in five diamonds doubled, with the Israeli North-South pair in the other room was in four hearts. Unsportingly, East-West took their four top tricks, so it was another 12 IMPs to Italy.

Did Israel strike back at Board 3?

## Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Not an easy hand for East-West to bid: five clubs by Italy was a precious eleventh trick more than five diamonds by Israel, and again 12 IMPs to the Italian juniors, after this spectacular start, leading by the huge sum of 35 IMPs!

The whole week brought a lot of good, exciting - and sometimes hilarious - bridge. An enthusiastic six hearts in the semifinal was bid and made by three of the four East-West pairs.

**Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.**

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

♠ 4 3  
♥ K J 10 7 6  
♦ K 6 3 2  
♣ K Q

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

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	1 ♠	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Serious slam try

After the ace of clubs and a spade switch, declarer finessed the jack. Then came the ace of hearts and a heart for another finesse, and the heart king to collect the queen. Then another spade finesse and the ace of spades, discarding a diamond.

Declarer followed with a trump to hand, the last heart and the queen of clubs, squeezing North in the process. Juniors show us: bridge is an easy game. Of course the finesse for the heart queen was very clever. Declarer knew North had to have, apart from five spades, at least three diamonds and North rated to have three (or four) clubs as well.

Montanari (Italy), l'Huissier (France) and Birman (Israel) all bid and made the contract: the fourth table stayed (reasonably) in five hearts.

**The Final**

In the final against France I, it was Italy who dealt the first blow. This board (see top of next column) probably suggests that against all preemptive openings the double should be treated as completely takeout. The juniors

were cautious at their first turn: atypical passes in first and second hand at both tables (juniors always seem to have the right hand for a bid, surprisingly not in this board!).

**Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

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

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

♠ K J 3  
♥ Q 10 7 5 3 2  
♦ 10 8 2  
♣ 2

West	North	East	South
Motanari	Robert	Franchi	l'Huissier
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
West	North	East	South
Volcker	di Franco	Bessis	Manno
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	5 ♣	Double	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	6 ♦	Pass
6 ♥	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass	—	—

With plus 800 and plus 100 Italy wrote down 14 IMPs in the 'In' column.

**Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

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

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

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

With one board to play it was Italy 42 and France 30. But here came a chance when the French North-South pair conceded minus 800 in five hearts doubled, which gave France a chance to tie the match if they found a way to six spades and plus 1430, which would be good for 12 IMPs.

West	North	East	South
Volcker	di Franco	Bessis	Manno
—	—	—	2 ♥
2 ♠	4 ♥	5 ♥	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

You may wonder if West could not believe the void in hearts; otherwise going on with controls in the minors seemed a reasonable option.

### Italy Wins Carrousel Cup

So Italy (Matteo Montanari-Arrigo Franchi, Massimiliano di Franco-Andrea Manno, Simon Fellus-Giuseppe della Cave with npc Giagio Rinaldi) became the fine and deserving winner of the Carrousel Cup 2010 with Israel beating France2 in the match for third place.

### Consolation Swiss, Have a Good Trip and See You in 2011

The teams that did not qualify played Friday a Consolation Swiss (with many transnational pairings). This game - always played in a nice atmosphere - became a pray of the Netherlands, only a small revenge for missing the semifinal.

On Sunday night 28 March, after the Israeli juniors had paid a visit to Ajax-Groningen in the Amsterdam Arena on Sunday afternoon, everything became quiet again in Amsterdam.

If the omens are right the 6<sup>th</sup> White House Junior Internationals in 2011 will be another chance for junior bridge players from all parts of the world..

### Thank You

Many thanks to the department Topbridge of the Dutch Bridge Federation (NBB), the foundation 'Het Witte Huis' (Herman Drenkelford and Max Abram), Jos Jansen, Peter Sisselaar, the city of Amsterdam, Stayokay Zeeburg, bridge friends Rolf Schreuder, Dominique Custers, Rob Lindeman and Ruud van Rosmalen for their support. And to Roos Emmerik(bar) and Paul Elstrodt (kitchen) who – with the assistance of the staff in 'het Witte Huis' – took care of always-thirsty and -hungry juniors. The BBO volunteers did a great job. Tim Heeres put articles, results and Butler scores on [www.jeugdbridge.nl](http://www.jeugdbridge.nl). Last but not least, a big hand for Bep Vriend and Anneke Simons, whose efforts made the organisation a big success.

## KITZBÜHEL 2010

Fritz Babsch, Vienna

The snow was beautiful and so was the participation. In the opening tournament there were some interesting slams but they were difficult to bid:

### Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Six clubs is an excellent contract, yet only seven out of 26 pairs were able to bid it; seven pairs also reached six no trump and had to concede one down.

### "Greed Kills"

### Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Against the strongest opposition, Renate Hansen (West) led a heart against the normal contract of three no trump by South, and Andreas Babsch inserted the queen. Now declarer has ten solid tricks but he was greedy: thinking that West had led from the ace he continued with a heart! Andreas took the jack with the ace; he was sure that South had the heart ten for his play, so he shifted to a low club. Hansen took the king and cashed three hearts before she played another club...plus 100 was a 100% score for Renate and Andreas!

The teams was won by Lindermann/C.Terraneo, Simon/Wodniansky. The pairs was won by Andreas Gloyer/Georg Kriftner.

Austria's Open Team for Ostend will be: Lindermann/C.Terraneo, Fucik/Purkarthofer and Sylvia & Franz Terraneo, npc Tommy Burg.

# A CAMROSE THORN

John Carruthers, Toronto

During the second weekend of the Camrose, the British Isles' Home Internationals among Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England, this deal occurred early-on in the match between Wales and England.

## Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Silverstone</i>	<i>Shields</i>	<i>Dixon</i>	<i>Denning</i>
—	—	—	1 ♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠	1 NT
Double	2 ♣	3 ♦	Pass
3 ♥	Double <sup>2</sup>	Pass	Pass
Redouble	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Precision; 2+ diamonds
2. I do not want a heart lead

Despite the Welsh North's guerilla tactics, Victor Silverstone and Chris Dixon handled the auction reasonably competently to arrive at the vulnerable game in the suit opened by their opponents. Silverstone was no doubt expecting better diamonds from Dixon for the jump to three diamonds, which explains his own jump to five diamonds. Perhaps a delicate four clubs as 'choose a game' might have enticed Dixon to bid four spades, which would have been rather easier to make than five diamonds. If indeed that's what four clubs would have meant.

Three lines of play presented themselves when Denning led the queen of hearts despite Shields' warning double:

(i.) win the heart and play three rounds of spades, ruffing low in dummy – if overruffed, ruff the second club and ruff another spade in dummy, this time high; hope the remaining trumps are 2-2.

(ii.) win the heart, take the king and ace of trumps, then play spades, ruffing the third in dummy; this is successful if spades are 3-3 or if they are 4-2 and North cannot overruff the dummy – it is safe if South ruffs in front of the dummy from a three-card holding.

(iii.) win the heart and take an immediate heart finesse for the jack to discard a club, then follow (i.) or (ii.).

Whatever the a priori percentages for lines (i.) and (ii.), North's bidding made it seem more likely to declarer that he had a doubleton spade and a doubleton diamond, so Dixon adopted line (ii.). As you can see, it is the only unsuccessful line of the three, North overruffing the third spade and leading a club to South, who was able to cash a spade with no more trumps left in dummy. A rather unlucky end to an enterprising and interesting deal.

In view of North's anti-lead-directing double and South's heart lead despite the warning, perhaps Dixon ought to have won the heart king and played a second heart toward the dummy to see what happens. If South follows low, finesse and discard the club on the heart ace. However, if South follows to the second heart with the jack, some guessing will be required. Would South have led the heart queen from queen-low after the double? Would you?

East-West at the other table also did well in the face of obstruction from North-South:

West	North	East	South
<i>G. Jones</i>	<i>Paterson</i>	<i>D. Jones</i>	<i>Crouch</i>
—	—	—	1 ♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠	Double <sup>2</sup>
1 NT	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Precision; 2+ diamonds
2. 3-card heart support

North should perhaps lead a club on this auction as South could certainly be 3=3=2=5, but on this day it mattered not as he had only four and declarer soon wrapped up his nine tricks.

Whether either East-West pair would have reached the best game of four spades without interference remains moot.

# A CANNON FROM CANNONE

Philippe Cronier, Paris

From the French Mixed Pairs Championship comes this gem...

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>de Tessières</i>		<i>Cannone</i>	
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	3 ♥ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Three hearts showed a high honour in (two cards, never three) with a good club fit. At this point West needed to know which honour in hearts East had. Three spades, control, asked for more; four hearts was the key bid of the auction: very good club fit and ACE of hearts. The following bid was easy

Marion Cannone is a girl, an under-20 world champion in Beijing (2008). Godefroy de Tessières is a former junior French international, with very good prospects for the future.

# THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP

Tim Bourke, Canberra

Margi played last night and Board 2 seemed an unremarkable one:

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

♠ A Q J 9 6  
♥ J 6 3  
♦ J 10  
♣ A 9 8

♠ 8 5  
♥ 9 7 4 2  
♦ A 9 8 4  
♣ 5 4 2

♠ K 7 2  
♥ A Q 8  
♦ K 7 5  
♣ K Q 10 3

However, it is a curiosity because at double dummy, North-South can make exactly seven tricks in all five denominations! (Thanks, Deep Finesse.)

# ANY SLAM, PARTNER

Alan Taylor, Auckland

“We need a slam, partner, any slam” snarled the Hideous Hog. “After your masterful bidding, play and defence we are over 1300 down. Just make sure that you are dummy. It is, after all, your forte.”

The Rueful Rabbit gulped nervously and fortified himself with a sip of his cherry brandy while Papa the Greek looked on with a sneer from the East seat. The Rabbit, South, sorted his cards and assessed his assets.

♠ 5 2 ♥ A K 9 5 ♦ A 9 ♣ A K Q 8 2

The Hog opened one diamond and Papa passed disdainfully. Two clubs seemed to be a reasonable first step for the Rabbit. Karapet the Unlucky passed, looking as if the worst would happen.

“Three no trumps!” barked HH and sat back, looking every inch the declarer. Papa passed and RR, remembering the Hog’s slam injunction, decided that he would have to try and so he bid his second suit – four hearts.

“Four no trumps!” was even more forcefully expressed from the North seat.

As always, the Rabbit responded to four no trumps as Blackwood. As usual, he misbid. Furtively counting his aces and his bids on his fingers below the table, he ticked them off – “five clubs is one, five diamonds is two...”

And so he bid five hearts.

As the Hog pushed on with five no trumps, RR realised that he had misbid. With a squeal of dismay, he bid six hearts to show his three kings. At least the Hog would only have one thing to be angry about. Unhappily, the Hog resigned himself to being dummy and passed. Papa’s fertile imagination sprang to life. Nobody would double with his heart stack, so if he did, RR would take it as a Lightner double and start looking for Papa’s imaginary void. Anyway, nobody ever went broke doubling the Rabbit. Papa doubled.

The Rabbit passed guiltily, though he was reassured by the thought that he had undercounted his aces rather than overcounted them. The Hog redoubled with a snarl, not so much because he expected the Rabbit to make twelve tricks, but to show Papa that he, the Hog, was not to be trifled with.

Karapet led the jack of spades, presumably expecting Papa to ruff. The Hog tabled his dummy with a look of contentment and deftly emptied Papa’s glass of Gevry Chambertin while the Greek was inspecting the dummy.

The Rabbit looked at the Hog's cards and then checked his own. The result was horrifying. Not for the first time he had mis-sorted his cards. The cards in six hearts redoubled were:

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

♠ 5 2  
 ♥ A 9  
 ♦ A K 9 5  
 ♣ A K Q 8 2

RR had carelessly seconded the king and five of diamonds to the heart suit.

Resignedly, he called for the ace of spades and was gratified to see Papa follow suit. Now if he could just cash some winners and maybe ruff something he might get out for only two or three down. With trembling fingers he pulled dummy's spade king into the middle of the table and was doubly relieved to see Papa follow with the ten.

A hasty count assured RR that he couldn't cash another spade so he turned his attention to diamonds, playing a small diamond to his ace. He realised too late that he had forgotten to play the queen first and now he couldn't cash the king.

While he wondered what to do, the Rabbit absentmindedly played his three top clubs. Then, squaring his round shoulders, he went back to dummy's diamond queen. Desperate to put off the moment when his trump shortage would be exposed to the Hog's wrath, the Rabbit embarked upon a discovery play – he led the spade queen to discover if something good would happen. Papa however ruffed with the two, so the Rabbit over-ruffed.

By this time, I sensed that something strange was happening so I walked quickly round the table to see this position:

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

RR was about to take the opportunity to score his diamond king when he accidentally dropped the nine of diamonds on the table. Karapet hastily placed the

ten on that and the Rabbit apprehensively ruffed it with the three of hearts, fully expecting the Greek to overruff. When he was unable to do so, even the Rabbit could see that he could not draw trumps, so led the eight of spades from dummy. Papa ruffed with the heart four and RR overruffed with the heart ace.

“What a relief,” he thought, “Ten tricks already and the king of trumps still to come. Only one off!”

He led the diamond queen and sadly ruffed it small. Papa scored his eight of trumps but then, ignominiously, had to lead into the dummy's king-jack tenace.

Six hearts, doubled and redoubled, made.

*The above invention was inspired by board 20 in round 4 of the South West Pacific Teams. North-South can make a slam in every denomination. I don't think I've ever seen that before.*

**Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

*In the real world, Avi Kanetkar and Terry Brown bid the North-South cards to seven no trumps - making thirteen tricks cost Terry considerably less effort than the Rabbit needed to make twelve.*

## Upcoming BBO Online Transmissions

May 7-9	Cavendish, Las Vegas
May 7-9	French Women's Team Trials, Paris
May 10-11	SA Championship, Durban
May 12-13	Bonn Nations Cup, Germany
May 13-16	Norwegian Club Championship
May 13-16	Swedish Team Championship
May 14-16	German Open Teams, Bonn
May 15	Scottish Cup Final, Edinburgh
May 21-23	Romanian Teams, Bucharest
May 23-29	PABF Teams, Auckland
May 27-30	Tallinn Festival, Estonia
May 28-30	Senior Camrose, Glasgow
Jun 3-5	Canadian Championships, Toronto
Jun 18-20	Indian Summer Nationals, Chennai

# IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

## 517. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 NT
Pass	6 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the queen of spades, taken by declarer with the king. This deal seemed so straightforward that, without much thought, declarer cashed the the king of diamonds. When West discarded a club, declarer was in trouble. Now he needed East to have begun with 2=3=5=3 shape. So, he cashed his hearts and clubs. When East discarded a diamond on the third club, declarer tried playing a diamond to the jack but East refused to play his queen. All declarer could do now was to take his remaining winners; he made two spades, three hearts, three diamonds and three clubs for down one.

As declarer needed only four diamond tricks, he missed a foolproof way of making the contract: he should have played a low diamond at trick two! If West follows, declarer plays the ten and, no matter how the diamonds lie, declarer will always make at least four tricks in the suit. When West discards, declarer plays the ten of diamonds. If East takes the trick, declarer wins the spade return, crosses to dummy via the jack of clubs and plays the seven of diamonds. There is no gain for East if he covers, so plays low and the seven of diamonds wins. Then it is a matter of playing the eight of diamonds to the king, the queen of clubs to the ace and cashing the ace and jack of diamonds.

It would do East no good to duck the queen of diamonds, for then declarer will call for the seven of diamonds. If East plays low, so does declarer and he will then have four diamond tricks. So East must covers with

the nine. Then, declarer wins the king of diamonds and plays his five of diamonds back to the eight. No matter what East does, declarer has four certain diamond tricks.

## 518. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

After North's splinter bid, agreeing hearts, South revealed his diamond control as well as a hand good for the bidding so far. After using Roman Key Card Blackwood and discovering that South held two key cards and the queen of trumps, the good slam in hearts was reached.

West led the ten of trumps and, after dummy went down, declarer paused to form a plan. He had nine winners and he needed to establish dummy's spades. If spades were 4-2, he would need trumps to be 3-2 but then he would have only eleven tricks. So, in that eventuality, he would need to ruff a club for his twelfth trick.

His first move was the essential one of winning the trump lead in dummy. Next he called for dummy's singleton club. West won the trick with the jack and played a second trump, again correctly won in dummy. After cashing the ace of spades and ruffing a spade low, declarer ruffed a club with dummy's last trump and ruffed another small spade with the queen of trumps. Declarer drew West's last trump with the king, throwing a diamond from dummy. Declarer then crossed to dummy with the king of diamonds and cashed the king of clubs. He took the last three tricks with dummy's two established spades

and the ace of diamonds.

If trumps had been 4-1, declarer would have required spades to be 3-3.

**519. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

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

West led the ten of trumps against five diamonds. When dummy went down, declarer saw that the best plan was to set up the club suit. As this required both minor suits to behave and three entries to dummy, declarer took the trump lead in hand with the king. After cashing the king of trumps, declarer played his club to dummy's ace of clubs and ruffed a club.

After throwing one of dummy's spades on the ace of hearts, declarer drew the last trump with dummy's queen and then gave up a club. East won the king of clubs and the defenders could cash one spade but then dummy would be high. Declarer took a heart, four trumps, a ruff and five clubs.

Notice how spectacularly the contract would have failed if declarer had attempted to ruff **two** clubs in hand. This would see declarer lose trump control and East would make his jack of diamonds allowing which would be followed by an avalanche of spades.

**520. Dealer South. E-W Vul.**

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

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

A simple five-card major auction saw North-South reach an excellent small slam. West led the king of diamonds and, after taking this with dummy's ace, declarer carelessly drew two rounds of trumps with the queen and ace. When West discarded a diamond, he abandoned trumps and gave up a diamond. West won the diamond trick as East discarded a heart, and shifted to the king of clubs. Declarer took this in dummy with the ace and ruffed dummy's remaining diamond with the ten, as East discarded his second heart. After the king of trumps, declarer could only reach dummy to draw the last trump if a heart to the king held. Alas, East ruffed and the contract failed.

After winning the diamond lead, declarer should have played the ace and king of trumps. Then, after conceding a diamond to West, declarer wins the club shift with dummy's ace and ruffs dummy's last diamond. After this sequence of plays, he has two high trumps in dummy and has a trump left to get there. Once he draws East remaining trumps, discarding a club from hand, he will have made seven tricks and will then cash five heart winners for his contract.



**Notice to IBPA  
members from  
Dilip Gidwani,  
Bulletin Production  
Manager**

All eligible members who have not received their hard copies for 2010, please email me so I can regularise the mailing business by May 2010. My email address is [dilipgidwani@hotmail.com](mailto:dilipgidwani@hotmail.com).

# OZ BRIDGE

**Ron Klinger,**  
**Northbridge, NSW**  
*(From the Sydney Morning Herald)*



♠ —  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ J 9 5  
 ♣ 8 4

♠ A J 8  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ A J

♠ Q 9 4  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ 8  
 ♣ 5

Following is an amusing deal (for some) from Round 11 of the NEC Cup in Yokohama this February.

## Minor Miracle

Players sometimes give you a suit combination and ask, "Guess how many tricks I made from this lousy suit?" Consider this trump suit:

Dummy: 8 4 3 2  
 You (declarer): K 10 5

How many trump tricks could you make from this lot?

### Board 8. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

After a bidding misunderstanding...

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

Matt Mullamphy, South, was declarer in three clubs. Can you believe that he made six – count 'em, six – trump tricks, and this was against two world-class players? It really deserves to be in the Guinness Book of Records.

This is how the play went: heart eight lead, ducked to the jack; heart to dummy's ace; spade seven, ten, two, five; club queen switch, the king wins (first trump trick); spade ruff (second trump trick); heart king, ruffed with the nine, over-ruffed by the ten (third trump trick). South now cashed the the diamond ace and king, felling the queen, and these cards remained (see next column):

The diamond jack was led and East ruffed. East continued with the spade jack, queen, ruffed with the club seven and over-ruffed with the eight (fourth trump trick). A diamond was led from dummy and East could not prevent South from scoring the club five in hand and the club four in dummy.

Six amazing trump tricks and ten tricks in all for plus 130. You can tell your grandkids about this one.

Ian Thomson of Canberra is a top-class player and was in the Australian Open Team in 2008 and 2009. Here he is in action from Stage 1 of the the 2010 Playoffs.

### Round 3. Board 6. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brightling	Reynolds	Thomson	Appleton
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♦
1 ♠	2 ♦ <sup>1</sup>	2 ♠	3 ♥
3 ♠	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
1. Hearts			

Lead: ♠K

West continued with a low spade to East's ace. East shifted to the diamond seven and South took the ace. At trick four, South played the two of hearts: jack, queen, five! Had Thomson taken the king of hearts, it would be automatic for declarer to play a low heart from dummy later to the seven in hand. Then with the club position friendly, South has ten easy tricks.

After East ducks the heart queen, South can still succeed via a low heart from dummy, but it is attractive to play the heart ace next, hoping for the king-jack bare with West. Then the club position will not matter.

Brightling-Thomson met Appleton-Reynolds again in Stage 2, Round 1. This was Board 6:

**Dealer East. EW Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Appleton	Brightling	Reynolds	Thomson
—	—	Pass	1 ♥
3 ♦	3 ♠	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Lead: ♠ J

South took the ace of spades and led the heart three: king, four, ten. East exited with the five of diamonds to dummy's king. A heart to the jack was followed by the ace and a fourth heart to East's queen. East played the diamond two, won by the ace, and South cashed a heart, leaving this ending:

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

When South played the last heart, East was caught. Pitching the club eight allows South to play the club seven, building a trick with the king. In fact, East discarded the five of spades. Now Thomson played the spade nine to the king and exited with a spade. East won and tried a low club, but the double marked East with the ace. South rose with the king and had plus 550, 9 IMPs against the datum of plus 150 to North-South.

<http://www.RonKlingerBridge.com>

## THE STONE-STEPPING SQUEEZE

**Richard Hills, Canberra**

A number of years ago a feature of the Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra was the Novelty Pairs, organised

by Neville Moses. Each round of the Novelty Pairs had special rules which modified the normal rules of bridge. On this board, the novelty modification to the Laws of Contract Bridge was a rule that the partner of the player who won the previous trick would be required to lead to the subsequent trick.

**Dealer South. NS Vul.**

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

As North, I declared four spades and East led a trump. As the Novelty Pairs was scored by matchpoints, it was vital to try to win 13 tricks rather than merely 12. I drew trumps in three rounds, and then I played on clubs, carefully blocking the fifth round of clubs with the ten of clubs. This stone-stepped the lead to dummy, which allowed me to cash the sixth round of clubs to discard the jack of diamonds.

The novelty of having the lead switch to the partner of the trick winner allows for considerable new scope in play and defence, not least of which is the simple squeeze operating a trick later than is usual.

Back in my hand now, I carefully cashed a fourth round of trumps before playing a Vienna Coup ace of hearts. The play of dummy's ace of hearts stone-stepped me back to my North hand, thus allowing me to lead the seven of spades squeeze card in this two-card ending:

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

East could not discard the king of hearts, as that would give me a heart winner. So East discarded the ace of diamonds. I now discarded dummy's six of hearts, and the lead was now stone-stepped to dummy, which allowed dummy's 'entryless' king of diamonds to score the thirteenth trick.



## PREVIEW

### John Carruthers, Toronto

In future years, as word spreads, more Americans and Europeans will come to South America for this event. The people are friendly and polite, the food is great (and cheap!) and the atmosphere at the table is very collegial.

In the South American Pairs Championship, Alejandro Bianchedi used inferences from the bidding and play to bring home a contract that looks impossible...

#### Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sultán</i>	<i>Brenner</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>	<i>Benzaquen</i>
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♠	2 ♥
Double	Pass	2 ♠	3 ♥
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Three no trump is cold on the lie of the cards and five clubs offers a decent play. South started with a high heart and shifted to the three of spades. Declarer won the ace and played a diamond to the king, losing to the ace. South now shifted to the club ten, leading Bianchedi to the conclusion that South had no more trumps – he another club and led a diamond to the queen, then ruffed a diamond with the ten of spades.

From the bidding and play, it certainly looked as though South had seven hearts and she'd already played one, three and two cards, respectively, in the other suits. That left no more cards in trumps. Bianchedi thus cashed a third club and led a heart from dummy: Brenner began to feel the pinch. He ruffed with the spade eight and was overruffed with the nine.

Declarer now ruffed his last diamond with the king of spades and played another heart from the dummy.

Brenner was down to the jack-seven-four of trumps and Bianchedi held the queen-six of spades and a club. Brenner ruffed with the seven and when Bianchedi discarded his last club, Brenner was left on play with the jack-four of trumps, while Bianchedi held the queen-six. Declarer knew which one to play on the return of the four. Great declarer play.

On the next board, Francesco Persivale and Carl King displayed their methods and judgement very effectively.

#### Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>King</i>		<i>Persivale</i>	
Pass	Pass	2 ♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
2 ♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	2 ♥ <sup>3</sup>	Pass
2 ♠ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	2 NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass
3 ♣ <sup>6</sup>	Pass	3 ♦ <sup>7</sup>	Pass
4 ♣ <sup>8</sup>	Pass	4 ♦ <sup>9</sup>	Pass
5 ♣ <sup>10</sup>	Pass	6 ♣ <sup>11</sup>	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Strong, artificial
2. Waiting, shows some values
3. Hearts; or 26-27 blanced; or some 4-4-4-1. Puppet to 2♠
4. Forced response
5. Some strong 4-4-4-1
6. Where is your singleton?
7. Diamonds
8. Sets trumps, better than 5♣ would be
9. ♦A; since I am an optimist, we could still have a grand slam
10. I don't think so.
11. Okay

With no terrible adverse breaks, there was nothing to the play and Persivale-King received a very good matchpoint score.



## REINDEER GROUP DENOUNCES WRITER

**Richard Pavlicek, Ft. Lauderdale, FL**

In response to last Sunday's column, I received a telex letter from Fawn Deerborn, president of NAAR, apparently some reindeer organization. Miss Deerborn said her members were up in antlers about my accounts of last year's North Pole Regional. She goes on to state, "Your condescending remarks about reindeer — in particular, the pillaging and plundering — were uncalled for and without foundation. In the future, please keep your opinions to yourself." I was also "uninvited" to attend next year's tournament.

Well, what can I say; I have never had a condescending attitude toward reindeer. In fact I have always felt there is a place for them not only at bridge tournaments but in every home. To be sure, they make excellent hat racks; or you can take 'em outside, turn 'em over and plow the garden. (Santa, take note for the off-season.)

In support of her claim, Miss Deerborn submitted today's deal, which was played by her reindeer partner Randolph. Aggressive bidding led to a tenuous four-spade contract, doubled by West. She writes, "There was no defense to beat Randolph's brilliant play."

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Fawn</i>		<i>Randolph</i>
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠
1 NT	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

West cashed two diamonds, then exited with a heart and sat back to wait for his two sure trump tricks; or so he thought. Randolph won the heart ace, heart king, and ruffed a heart in his hand. Next came a diamond ruff; club ace-king; a club ruff; and another diamond ruff with the spade eight so East could not overruff. With three cards left, declarer ruffed dummy's last club with the spade king and West was helpless. If he overruffed with the ace, he would have to lead away from the jack-nine; if he underuffed, declarer would win both the king and queen. Either way, all West could win was the ace of spades.

### Reply

Dear Miss Deerborn:

The hand was well-played for a hat rack, er, reindeer; but I dispute your contention that the defense was accurate. West can beat the contract by leading a trump at trick two. Later, when he wins the diamond ace, he can clear trumps. This leads to the normal reindeer result, down one.

Respectfully yours, R.P.

See [www.rpbridge.net](http://www.rpbridge.net) for more of Richard Pavlicek's bridge material.

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## Report on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's Online Bridge Festival, 12-18 April 2010

**Anna Maria Torlontano**  
**WBF Women's Committee Chair**

The Women's Online Bridge Club is developing quite well and is providing an excellent service for women from all over the world to enjoy playing bridge online, with friends in a social and relaxed atmosphere. We have nearly 2,500 members and the club is growing in numbers almost daily as those who are members encourage their friends to join in and participate.

The Festival was an enjoyable event, with two tournaments being run daily for seven days. We had players from some 90 countries taking part, and I believe that the fact that we now offer WBF Online Master Points to the top 20 individual places in the overall classification has encouraged

stronger and better participation. About 10% of our membership played in the Festival but I am quite certain that as our membership grows over the next year, this will increase. In Philadelphia, the Women's Committee will discuss such things as the timing of the tournaments to see what improvements can be made but I can tell you that the reaction from the players was extremely positive and they are already looking forward to the next time.

The overall winners were our dear friends Maud Khouri and Lily Khalil from Egypt, with Teresa Roquette from Portugal coming in third place. Certificates have been sent out to the winners, and these can be viewed on our website at [www.wbfwomensbridgeclub.org](http://www.wbfwomensbridgeclub.org) together with the full ranking lists from the event. I would like to express my warm thanks to Marijke Blanken who manages our website so beautifully and has created these certificates for us.

Now we start to look forward to the Women's Festival to be held in Thailand early next year, and begin the publicity and planning for that, as well as for the continuation of our Online Bridge Club and next year's Online Festival. I rely upon all of you to assist us with the publicity for these events and know that I can count on your continued cooperation to help us develop Women's Bridge in accordance with the ethos of the International Olympic Committee.

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### ***Book of the Year Award (continued from page 1)***

seventies about squeeze play for the first time. Now a younger generation can benefit from Love's exposition. Love, a mathematics professor, was the first to categorize squeezes and named many squeezes previously untitled. His acronym BLUE became a catchword and he was the popularizer of the phrase "rectifying the count" and other squeeze terminology. Love's claim that his book will make you a better bridge player is absolutely true.

Krzysztof Martens: *Owl, Fox and Spider*. The author has produced an incredible amount of written material in the past few years - 12 books, all part of Martens University. Originally written in Polish, the books have, somewhat unusually, gone through two translations to arrive in perfect English (first into Polish English, with near-literal, frequently

awkward constructions, then into an Americanized version of the Queen's English). As one of the best analysts in the world, Martens' deals are intriguing and he thinks about things most of us never consider.

Jeff Rubens: *Expert Bridge Simplified – Arithmetic Shortcuts for Declarer*. Jeff Rubens, editor of *The Bridge World* and a mathematician, tells us the basis for making probabilistic and mathematical choices in play as declarer, explaining the relationship between odds and probability and how to calculate factorials, and then how to approximate them for practical use. There are an unusually-large number of review quizzes in this book to ensure reader understanding. This book has a chance to become a classic like others on the shortlist have become.



## Correspondence ..

The Editor reserves the right to abridge  
and/or edit correspondence  
Email: [ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca](mailto:ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca)

*One of our most distinguished and influential members takes exception to the opinions expressed in my last editorial.*

Hi John,

Oh, that it were as simple as you say. Australian players, almost exclusively, regard 'a card laid as a card played.' This true story may explain why.

Playing in the final of a national event my RHO, looking at his dummy's diamond suit headed by the king, queen jack, called for the king. When my partner played low, I followed with my ace, only to see that the declarer had in fact ruffed. In a reflex reaction I went to pick up the ace but my RHO, said "It's a played card, John." I could only agree.

Only overtricks were at stake in a part-score contract so my gaffe had not been expensive. BUT, a few boards later my LHO reached six clubs and tackled the trump suit by leading to dummy's queen, which held, then leading a small card from the table and following low on my jack. It took me a few moments to realise what had happened but then I cashed an ace to defeat a stone cold contract (LHO had the ace and king of clubs).

Now, if I had been allowed to pick up the ace of diamonds, would I have been under a "sportsmanlike" obligation to allow my opponent to pick up his small club? Isn't it better and clearer to play strictly to the Law? Of course, we are talking only top-level bridge here. We surely all make allowances for weaker players.

Regards, John Wignall, New Zealand

*I certainly did not mean to imply that this was a simple matter - if I did that, I did not express myself very well. In some card games a "card laid is a card played", but there are exceptions in bridge, and I do not believe that phrase is part of the Laws of Bridge. This is especially true as it applies to declarer and the cards played from the dummy, which is under declarer's absolute control, not its own.*

Hello John!

I'd like to inform you about the progress in Sweden (*in getting funding for their senior teams-Ed.*). Hans-Olof Hallén initiated a proposal from his district regarding the Swedish Bridgefederation's support to seniors in European and World Championships. I myself got the Stockholm district with me and at the General Assembly meeting in the Federation I had to fight against the whole board of directors who were against support of the seniors. With 69 for and 65 against, the seniors now will get the same economic support from the Federation as the Open team and the Women's team starting in Ostend this year - believe or not!

This means that Sweden will have the best seniors playing in the national team in Ostend in June.

Best regards, Gunnar Andersson,  
Former Captain of Sweden Open and Senior Teams

## NEWS & VIEWS

### New Website

IBPA member Barnet Shenkin has just launched a new modern website and club. The club is free to join. There is something of interest for all bridge players with up-to-date accounts of tournaments with interesting deals. There are also articles and extraordinary stories from the past. Barnet includes a personal note on many of the famous characters in bridge.

Intermediate and advancing players can enjoy features with bridge tips. Tips can be played out on the screen with the aid of both a powerpoint slide and BBO handviewer. Barnet is also giving his members some free lectures online.

Barnet welcomes any journalist to pick a hand from the site and use it and hopes he will include a byline indicating the site address:

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

### ACBL Hall of Fame

David Berkowitz, Paul Hodge and Tom Stoddard will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the induction ceremony during the New Orleans NABC.

### Meck Tops List

Jeff Meckstroth has passed the late Paul Soloway as the ACBL's all-time master point holder with 65K+ MP.

# World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
<b>2010</b>			
May 1-8	III South American Transnational	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.confssudbridge.org
May 1-8	South American Youth Championships	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.confssudbridge.org
May 7-9	19 <sup>th</sup> OECS Championships	Anguilla, W.I.	www.cacbf.com
May 7-9	Grand Prix of Kosice	Kosice, Slovakia	vojtechbelcak@iol.sk
May 7-20	Festival du Soleil	Juan les Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
May 8-16	South of Ireland 67 <sup>th</sup> Open Congress	Killarney, Ireland	www.cbai.ie
May 12-13	25 <sup>th</sup> Bonn Nations Cup (Invitational)	Bad Godesburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 13	30 <sup>th</sup> Bonn Cup (Open Pairs)	Bad Godesburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 13-16	Festival de Toulouse	Toulouse, France	www.fbt2010.free.fr
May 14-16	1 <sup>st</sup> German Bridge Teams (Open)	Bad Godesburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 17-23	XXIII Torneo Int'l Costa Calida	Menor, Murcia, Spain	www.bridgecc.com
May 19-24	Festival de Palavas	Palavas, France	www.ffb-competitions.net
May 21-30	PABF Championships	Hamilton, New Zealand	www.gabsi.or.id
May 26-30	43 <sup>rd</sup> Tallinn Bridge Festival	Tallinn, Estonia	www.bridge.ee
May 30-Jun 6	12 <sup>th</sup> German Festival	Wyk auf Föhr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Jun 3-6	50 <sup>th</sup> Poznan Bridge Congress	Poznan, Poland	www.kongres.brydz.wlkp.pl
Jun 4/5	Worldwide Bridge Contest	Clubs Everywhere	www.worldbridge.org
Jun 18-Jul 2	50 <sup>th</sup> European Team Championships	Ostend, Belgium	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 29-Jul 11	Festival International de Biarritz	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 1-3	European Transnational Pairs	Ostend, Belgium	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 7-11	Salzkammergut Bridgetage	Gmunden, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Jun 19-27	Festival Campionato Allievi	Grosseto, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Jul 22-Aug 1	ACBL Summer NABC	New Orleans, LA	www.acbl.org
Jul 30-Aug 5	Chairman's Cup	Orebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 30-Aug 7	Norwegian Bridge Festival	Lillehammer, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
Jul 30-Aug 8	16 <sup>th</sup> Swedish Bridge Festival	Orebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Aug 1-7	Wachauer Bridgewoche	Loiben, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Aug 2-9	5 <sup>th</sup> World University Championships	Kaohsiung, Taiwan	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 6-9	Pesta Sukan Asian Championship	Singapore	www.scba.org.sg
Aug 6-15	Summer Congress	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 6-15	20 <sup>th</sup> Solidarity Festival	Slupsk, Poland	www.polbridge.pl
Aug 10-15	Hong Kong Inter-City	Hong Kong, China	www.hkcba.org
Aug 14-5	Selangor Congress	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	www.pabf2010.co.nz
Aug 20-28	38 <sup>th</sup> Warsaw Grand Prix	Warsaw, Poland	www.polbridge.pl
Aug 30-Sep 4	34 <sup>th</sup> Festival International Grande Motte	La Grande Motte, France	www.ffb-competitions.net
Sep 4-5	Torneo Open de Bridge	Barcelona, Spain	www.tennispremia.com
Sep 4-23	25 <sup>th</sup> Mamaia Festival	Mamaia, Romania	www.frbridge.ro
Sep 5-16	49 <sup>th</sup> International Bridge Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.crobridge.com/pula/eng
Sep 9-12	Isle of Man Congress	Douglas, Isle of Man	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 13-16	3 <sup>rd</sup> Buffett Cup	Cardiff, Wales	www.buffettcup.com
Sep 16-19	37 <sup>th</sup> Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	erikas.vainikonis@gmail.com
Sep 17-26	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Islands	www.ebu.co.uk
<b>Oct 1-16</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Series</b>	<b>Philadelphia, PA</b>	<b>www.worldbridge.org</b>
Oct 13-18	EBU Overseas Congress	Crete, Greece	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 19-23	21 <sup>st</sup> Sun, Sea & Slams	Barbados, WI	www.cacbf.com
Oct 24-29	3 <sup>rd</sup> Commonwealth Nations Cup	New Delhi, India	www.hcl-bridge.com
Oct 29-Nov 1	HCL Teams and Pairs Tournament	New Delhi, India	www.hcl-bridge.com
Oct 30-31	Lederer Memorial Trophy	London, England	www.metrobridge.co.uk
Nov 18-28	16 <sup>th</sup> Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridgeredsea.com
Nov 20-24	32 <sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Club Championships	Bangkok, Thailand	cblltthailandbridge.com
Nov 25-Dec 5	ACBL Fall NABC	Orlando, FL	www.acbl.org
Dec 10-12	Geologi Cup	Bandung, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
<b>2011</b>			
Feb 26-Mar 5	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	gttully@bigpond.net.au
Mar 10-20	ACBL Sping NABC	Louisville, KY	www.acbl.org
Jul 21-31	ACBL Summer NABC	Toronto, ON	www.acbl.org
Nov 24-Dec 4	ACBL Fall NABC	Seattle, WA	www.acbl.org