



## BULLETIN

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### *Editorial*

There was something for everyone at the recent World Championships in Philadelphia: 13 world championships were contested in open, women's, senior, and junior categories. The facilities were magnificent and the championships were very well-organised and well-run. The Daily Bulletins were excellent, as was BBO coverage. However, by combining all these championships into the World Bridge Series, some events were given short shrift, notably the junior and the senior championships.

In the Under-26 and Under-21 events, 17 and 15 teams, respectively, played 10-board round robin matches to qualify eight for knockout play; then, 40-, 48- and 64-board matches provided a winner. This shortened the championships from previous nine-day contests to six days, in our view diminishing the events. The World Junior Championships need to be a separate event at a separate venue. They suffered in Philadelphia from being in a different location (the Philadelphia Convention Center) from the other world championships (at the Marriott), not being on Vugraph or BBO until the semifinals, and not having their own Daily Bulletin. The WBF would do better to return to a longer, discrete World Junior Team Championships at a venue other than the World Bridge Series. One of the purported reasons for holding it at the World Bridge Series was that the juniors would benefit from the proximity of the open competitors – this did not happen as the two locations were too far apart.

If the junior events were diminished in Philadelphia, the senior events were demolished. Thirty-four teams contested a two-day Swiss to produce eight teams for knockout play; 24-board(!) quarterfinal and semifinal matches were followed by a 48-board final. To have a world championship knockout match of 24 boards in length strikes us as totally inadequate. The WBF has got the seniors bang-on in the odd-numbered (Bermuda Bowl) years, with Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and d'Orsi Cup having the same format and schedule (with small differences). Why not at the World Bridge Series? Have all three events start on the same day (the Seniors started three days after the Rosenblum began). It would have been easy to divide the 34 teams into four sections with the top four in each qualifying for knockout play, as the McConnell Cup for women was done (the Rosenblum had 16 sections, each qualifying four teams). Then, full-day knockout matches would be possible, with drop-ins to the pairs as teams are eliminated. As it was, seniors who played the Mixed Pairs had to twiddle their thumbs for three days awaiting the Senior Teams to begin. The Senior Pairs could have been lengthened by a day or two as well – it was four days (eight sessions) in length. By contrast, the Open Pairs was 15 sessions long.

### *Membership Dues for 2011*

These remain unchanged from last year at US\$42 and an extra \$45 for hard copies of the Bulletin. Your prompt attention to payment is appreciated.

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## SCOTLAND WINS GOLD IN 3<sup>rd</sup> COMMONWEALTH NATIONS BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

T.C. Pant, New Delhi

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship was held at Cabana Estate, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad (part of the National Capital Region of New Delhi, India) from Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> till Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2010. The Championship was organised under the auspices of the Bridge Federation of India and 14 nations of the Commonwealth took part. The host country India had three official teams – Indian Ladies, India I & India II; Australia had their open and ladies teams and the other 12 countries, namely Bangladesh, England, Guernsey, Kenya, Malaysia, New Zealand, Scotland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda and Wales were represented by one team each to constitute a total of 17 teams. Only these teams were eligible for the medals.

Besides those 17 teams, seven more teams (called “Special Entrant” teams) were allowed to compete in the Championship to make the competition more lively. The “Special Entrant” teams consisted of the Chairman’s team led by Paul Hackett, the President and Chairman of the Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship, and six top Indian teams.

The 24 teams played a round robin qualifying stage of 8-board matches spanning four days, with the top four teams qualifying for the semi-finals. At least two Commonwealth teams would qualify for the semi-finals independent of the results of the round robin.

The opening ceremony was held in traditional Indian style on the lawns of the Cabana Estates. The participants were welcomed with garlands and tilak. Welcome speeches were given by Organising Secretary Subhash Gupta, WBF Executive VP John Wignall, and Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship Chairman Paul Hackett, who acknowledged that it was Jeff Morris, a member of the England Team, who first suggested to him the Commonwealth Nations Bridge concept. Sarthak Behuria, Chairman of the Organising Committee, welcomed all visitors and thanked the sponsors. The traditional lighting of the lamp was followed with the introduction and welcoming of each team and India’s national anthem.

England got a head start on this deal against the Shree Cement team from India in Round I. The Indians attempted a save against slam in one room, then discovered that the slam went down at the other table.

### Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul

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

| West    | North   | East     | South      |
|---------|---------|----------|------------|
| Roy     | Hassett | Ghosh    | Morris     |
| —       | —       | —        | Pass       |
| 1 ♠     | 2 ♦     | 3 ♣      | 5 ♦        |
| Pass    | Pass    | 6 ♠      | Pass       |
| Pass    | Pass    |          |            |
| West    | North   | East     | South      |
| Perkins | Lal     | Reismann | Bhiwandkar |
| —       | —       | —        | Pass       |
| Pass    | 3 ♦     | Pass     | 5 ♦        |
| Double  | Pass    | 6 ♣      | Pass       |
| Pass    | 6 ♦     | Double   | Pass       |
| Pass    | Pass    |          |            |

Against six spades, John Hassett, North, couldn’t find anything lower than the two of diamonds, so he led it, and even the waiter figured out that he wanted a club ruff. No palpitations. Down one.

In the other room, V.M. Lal, North, preempted and bid again over six clubs. That was 300 away and 9 IMPs to England.

Note that while six spades can be beaten, six clubs can be made by running the club jack at first instance.

From the third-round match between Australia and India II...

### Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| Nunn |       | Hans |       |
| —    | Pass  | 1 ♣  | Pass  |
| 1 ♥  | Pass  | 4 ♥  | Pass  |
| Pass | Pass  |      |       |

On the lead of the spade queen, South, perhaps technically correctly, but not so smart on this deal, unblocked the king under the dummy's ace.

Tony Nunn played a low heart from dummy, low and king! And the marriage was complete as Her Highness fell under it. Next came the club ace, club king, club ruff and the top three diamonds. The master club jack off the table, ruffed by South with the seven, was over-ruffed by declarer with the jack.

That was nine tricks for declarer. Holding the nine-eight-six of hearts with only the heart ace-ten outstanding, declarer was home. The key play was at trick two – the low heart to the king! Declarer's logic was simple: when South unblocked the king of spades at trick one, North seemed to hold five spades. With the heart ace as well, he might have ventured a one-spade overcall. A subtle inference of the case of "the dog that didn't bark in the night."

At the end of first day (after five rounds), Australia (102 VP), represented by Sartaj HANS, Tony NUNN, Arjuna DELIVERA, Ian ROBINSON, Paul GOSNEY, Peter GILL, and Andy BRAITHWAITE (NPC) were the leaders, followed by Hemant K. Jalan (92), India I (87) and England (86).

Seven rounds were played on the second day. In the Round 6 match between the Chairman's team and Shree Cement, this deal occurred, the result hinging on the opening lead...

**Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.**

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

| West | North   | East   | South   |
|------|---------|--------|---------|
| Roy  | Hackett | Goenka | Halberg |
| —    | —       | —      | Pass    |
| Pass | Pass    | 1 ♦    | 1 ♠     |
| Pass | 2 ♠     | 3 ♦    | Pass    |
| 3 NT | Pass    | Pass   | Pass    |

| West    | North | East   | South |
|---------|-------|--------|-------|
| Penfold | Ghosh | Senior | Roy   |
| —       | —     | —      | Pass  |
| Pass    | Pass  | 1 ♦    | 1 ♠   |
| 1 NT    | 2 ♠   | 3 NT   | Pass  |
| Pass    | Pass  |        |       |

In both rooms spades were bid and supported but not led. The choice was which of the other two suits to find with partner to get a spade push. In the closed room the heart jack was led and declarer wrapped up nine tricks, after dropping the diamond queen.

The open room North (Paul Hackett) figured that since the diamond source of tricks was solid and the spade king was with West, he needed quick entries with his partner to push spades. If the club ace was with declarer, then partner could still have a heart entry and his club king would provide a trick if partner had the queen. He needed partner to have the club queen and heart ace or just the club ace was good enough. So he led the club two and struck gold. Down four and a dozen IMPs.

At the end of Day 2, the Hemant K. Jalan Team (Hemant K. JALAN, Ashish MALHOTRA, Anal SHAH, Keyzad A. ANKLESARIA, Jyotindra M. SHAH, K.R. VENKATARAMAN) led with a score of 236 VP in 12 rounds, which was nearly a 20-VP average. India I (216 VP), Scotland (215) and Australia (213) occupied the second to fourth positions.

Six more rounds were played on Day 3. In the Round 14 match between England and Wales, Adrian Thomas and Peter Goodman of Wales did well to reach this slam on minimum values:

**Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.**

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

| West      | North   | East    | South  |
|-----------|---------|---------|--------|
| Thomas    | Hassett | Goodman | Morris |
| —         | —       | 1 ♠     | 3 ♣    |
| 3 ♥       | 4 ♣     | 5 ♣     | Pass   |
| 6 ♥       | Pass    | Pass    | Pass   |
| West      | North   | East    | South  |
| Callaghan | Rees    | Hyett   | Jones  |
| —         | —       | 1 ♠     | 3 ♣    |
| 3 ♠       | Pass    | 4 ♠     | Pass   |
| Pass      | Pass    |         |        |

Once Goodman had cue bid clubs showing a heart fit, thomas needed no further encouragement. With everything friendly, 13 tricks were available on a successful heart guess and 12 otherwise.

The last board of the match was an excellent competitive affair:

**Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.**

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

| West             | North          | East           | South         |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Thomas</i>    | <i>Hassett</i> | <i>Goodman</i> | <i>Morris</i> |
| 1 ♠              | 2 ♣            | 2 ♥            | 3 ♣           |
| 4 ♥              | 5 ♣            | 5 ♥            | Pass          |
| Pass             | Pass           |                |               |
| West             | North          | East           | South         |
| <i>Callaghan</i> | <i>Rees</i>    | <i>Hyett</i>   | <i>Jones</i>  |
| 1 ♠              | 2 ♣            | 2 ♥            | 2 ♠           |
| 3 ♥              | 5 ♣            | 5 ♥            | Pass          |
| Pass             | Double         | Pass           | Pass          |
| Pass             |                |                |               |

North-South cannot quite manage five clubs because there are insufficient entries to dummy to pick up the trumps. However, that was impossible for the Easts to guess and both went on to five hearts.

Wales got off lightly in this contract when it was not doubled and went only two light. At the other table, Tim Rees had his axe out (partner had shown a good high-card raise in clubs) and Wales was due for a good score.

The defence naturally led a club, and had declarer drawn trumps and taken the spade finesse or set up diamonds, he would have been only two off (with the chance of a defensive error in diamonds for one off). But he began with king and ace of spades. North ruffed and two rounds of trumps left declarer with only seven tricks. The penalty of 1100 gave Wales a gain of 14 IMPs.

At the end of 18 rounds, the Australian Open team again emerged as the leaders with 339. Hemant Jalan's team with 326 VP were in second position. India I on 305 and Scotland on 304 VP occupied the third and fourth places and were hotly chased by Promila Saraf (300 VP) and Sunil Machhar (299 VP).

Five more rounds were played on Day 4 to complete the 23-match round-robin stage. At the end, the qualifiers for the knock-out stage were identified. Australia, with 431 VP, emerged at the top. Second place, with 420 VP, went to the "Special Entrant" team of Hemant K. Jalan. Third place, with 401 VP, was occupied by the India I team represented by Ashok Kumar GOEL, Suhas VAIDYA, Pritish KUSHARI, Debbrata MAJUMDER, Sumit MUKHERJEE, and Bhabesh SAHA. Scotland, with 389 VP, occupied fourth spot (Derek SANDERS, Brian SPEARS, Derek DIAMOND, Irving GORDON, John MURDOCH, and A.H. DUNCAN. India II and Sunil Machhar, both with 387 VP, just missed.

The regulations required that if two teams qualifying for the semifinals were from the same nation, they had to meet at the semi-final stage. Hence the line-ups were Australia v. Scotland and Hemant K. Jalan v. India-I.

Day 5 was a rest day for the participants for a visit to the Taj Mahal in Agra.

Scotland overcame a first-half deficit of 20 IMPs to defeat Australia 59-44 in one semifinal, while Hemant K. Jalan beat India I 69-58 in the other. Jalan defeated Scotland 69-59 in the final. Scotland, by virtue of being the only Commonwealth team to reach the final, became winners of the gold medal. Australia defeated India I for the silver, while India took out the bronze.



Following on the heels of the Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship was the Hindustan Computers Limited (HCL) International. Eleven of the 17 Commonwealth teams remained to play the HCL and they were joined by 78 Indian teams vying for the US\$30,000 in prize money.

A Swiss League of ten 10-board matches, followed by 36-board quarterfinals, 48-board semifinals and a final of 64 boards, was played.

Hans (Australia), playing the same six that had won silver in the Commonwealth Championship, took the first prize. They defeated Arun Jain of India (Arun Jain, Manas Mukherjee, Rana Roy, Subir Majumder, Subrata Saha, Krishna Kumar) 135-89 in the final.

A pretty little hand popped up in the Swiss Qualifying match of Formidables versus I-Doctors where declarer scored his six of trumps en passant...

**Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

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

♠ A 2  
 ♥ Q 8  
 ♦ 10 9 8 7 3  
 ♣ K Q 3 2

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

| West    | North   | East     | South   |
|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| S.Gupta | R.Dalal | R.Tiwari | F.Lewis |
| Pass    | 1 ♥     | Pass     | 1 ♠     |
| Pass    | 2 ♣     | Pass     | 2 ♦     |
| Pass    | 3 ♣     | Pass     | 4 ♠     |
| Pass    | Pass    | Pass     |         |

The South in the open room fell in love with his cards and bid a solo four spades, spurning the 5-3 heart fit. Dummy produced a trump void and he lost three trumps and a heart.

| West    | North   | East         | South   |
|---------|---------|--------------|---------|
| G.Singh | B.Satya | A.Purshottam | K.Nadar |
| Pass    | 1 ♥     | Pass         | 1 ♠     |
| Pass    | 2 ♣     | Pass         | 2 ♦     |
| Pass    | 3 ♣     | Pass         | 4 ♥     |
| Pass    | Pass    | Pass         |         |

On the lead of the heart eight (the queen would have been better) declarer played the nine, covered by the ten and won with the ace. Next came the diamond ace, spade ruff in hand, club ace, club ruff, diamond king, spade ruff, diamond queen, club ruff, spade queen, covered, ruffed and over-ruffed by East with heart queen.

Declarer had scored three diamonds, the club ace and two club ruffs, the heart ace, and two spade ruffs for nine tricks. This was the scenario in the three-card ending, with East on lead:

♠ —  
 ♥ 6  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ J 10

♠ 9  
 ♥ K 3  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ —

♠ —  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ 10 9  
 ♣ K

♠ J 10 7  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ —

When East returned a diamond, the heart six was the tenth trick to give Formidables 12 IMPs. A club is no better – East can ruff or not, but then a spade to dummy or the heart six en passant would have been trick ten.

The Round 9 encounter of England v. Hackett (that sounds strange!) produced a world-champion lead.

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

♠ Q 9 7 5 3  
 ♥ A Q 7 5  
 ♦ 10 9  
 ♣ K 3

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

♠ 4 2  
 ♥ 8 4  
 ♦ K J 8 4  
 ♣ Q J 8 5 2

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

| West   | North   | East    | South  |
|--------|---------|---------|--------|
| Senior | Hassett | Penfold | Morris |
| —      | —       | —       | Pass   |
| 1 ♣    | 1 ♠     | 3 ♣     | 3 ♠    |
| 5 ♣    | Pass    | Pass    | Pass   |

Declarer could not avoid the loss of three tricks when the trump finesse failed.

| West  | North   | East     | South    |
|-------|---------|----------|----------|
| Hyett | Hackett | Callahan | Hallberg |
| —     | —       | —        | Pass     |
| 1 ♣   | 1 ♠     | 3 ♣      | Pass     |
| 3 NT  | Pass    | Pass     | Pass     |

What would you lead sitting North against three no trump after the above auction? Paul Hackett led the heart ace! It was a Gallery Lead when it fetched the king from declarer.

Declarer went down three, vulnerable. Without the lead, the contract should go down anyway when North comes in with the king of clubs. He must then find the heart ace shift. Hackett made it more dramatic and brilliant when he led it. Take a bow, Mr. Hackett.

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|  | <b>TABLE FEEL</b><br>George Retek<br>Montréal |  |
|---|---|---|

**Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

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

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

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

|             |              |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>West</b> | <b>North</b> | <b>East</b> | <b>South</b> |
| —           | 1 ♠          | Pass        | 1 ♠          |
| Pass        | 3 ♠          | Pass        | 4 ♠          |
| Pass        | Pass         | Pass        |              |

During the 2009 Canadian Bridge Championships, West paused 10-15 seconds before passing each time it was his turn to bid. After the first two tricks, he was revealed to have seven clubs to the ace-queen. Would he have passed if he had held the missing spade queen or diamond king? Declarer did not believe so.

West led the ace, queen and a third club, ruffed by the ace in dummy as East discarded two spades. Declarer drew trumps to leave these cards:

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

On the final trump, East could discard a spade, exposing the queen to be dropped, or a diamond, allowing declarer a choice of plays: ace and another diamond to set up the queen, or ace, king and another spade to force East to lead into the diamond tenace. Declarer also had a choice of plays: in the diagrammed ending, three rounds of spades would have done the job.

In actual play, Steve Mackay of Toronto discarded the spade queen, hoping his partner had three to the jack and could win the third round of the suit. To no avail.

**THE COPENHAGEN INVITATIONAL**

**Henrik Kruse Petersen, Copenhagen**  
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**Jan van Cleeff, Amsterdam**  
**Steve Garner, Chicago**

**Careful Play from the Court**

His Royal Highness Prince Consort of Denmark loves the game of bridge, and we were grateful when he accepted to participate in the Pro-Am tournament playing together with top French player Philippe Cronier. Communicating away from the bridge table was no problem of course, "Because I am an ex-Frenchman," Prince Henrik laughed.



**His Royal Highness Prince Consort of Denmark** was the Patron of the event and dignified it with his presence on the evening of November 4<sup>th</sup> in the Pro-Am tournament preceding the main event.

But seated at the bridge table...what about the language of bidding?

**Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

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

|             |              |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>West</b> | <b>North</b> | <b>East</b> | <b>South</b> |
| Prince      | Torsten      | Philippe    | Ivan         |
| Henrik      | Bernes       | Cronier     | Nadelman     |
| —           | —            | Pass        | 2 ♠          |
| 2 ♠         | 3 ♠          | 4 ♠         | Pass         |
| Pass        | Pass         |             |              |

At seven tables, North-South made three no trump, usually with overtricks, and at four more, diamond part scores were made. At this table Prince Henrik and Philippe Cronier bid game, and the Prince made 11 tricks by careful play.

The play went like this: After the diamond king lead, North shifted to a trump for the six, king and ace. Trumps were drawn ending in hand and the Prince took the

successful club finesse, leading the eight in case North had a singleton king or South a singleton ten. The ace of clubs (thanks!) brought the king and ten from the opponents and a spade to the king left North with quite a problem.

He did not dare play a spade, and a diamond was no better. The Prince ruffed it in hand, unblocked the clubs and was able to reach dummy with the spade queen to discard his spade loser on the long club. Very well played!

That was not good enough for the Prince and Cronier to win the Pro-Am however. That honour went to Ireland's Tom Hanlon and poker star Gus Hansen from Denmark.



Gus Hansen may get a chance to show that "All in" will work at the bridge table as well.

### Too Tough

Day two of the main event started with the deal of the tournament:

#### Board 1. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

| West   | North             | East      | South            |
|--------|-------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Garner | Helgemo           | Weinstein | Helness          |
| —      | —                 | Pass      | 1 ♣              |
| Pass   | 1 ♦               | Pass      | 2 ♣              |
| Pass   | 2 ♥               | Pass      | 2 NT             |
| Pass   | 3 ♣               | Pass      | 4 ♠ <sup>1</sup> |
| Pass   | 4 NT <sup>2</sup> | Pass      | 5 ♦ <sup>3</sup> |
| Pass   | 5 ♠ <sup>4</sup>  | Pass      | 7 ♣              |
| Pass   | Pass              | Pass      |                  |

1. Key card ask
2. 0 or 3
3. King ask
4. Spade king

Six of the eight pairs finished in seven clubs. What would you surmise is the best line of play?

At our table, Helness won the spade lead in hand to play the diamond ace, diamond ruff, then the ace of clubs and a club to dummy before ruffing a third round of diamonds. Disaster! LHO showed out on the ace of clubs and declarer was unable to both dispose of his heart loser and develop a trump coup against RHO.

No declarer who declared seven clubs found the winning line: spade ace, club ace getting the bad news, then a diamond to the queen, now a necessary play with diamonds 4-2 and trumps 4-0.

### Endless Endplay

On the second day of the main event, scored at IMPs across the field, I (JVC) followed Bocchi-Madala, one of my picks as pre-tournament favourites. They were playing against the Day 1 leaders, Zorlu-Assael from Turkey.

#### Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

| West   | North  | East   | South  |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Madala | Assael | Bocchi | Zorlu  |
| —      | 1 ♣    | 1 ♠    | Double |
| Pass   | 2 ♥    | Pass   | 3 ♥    |
| Pass   | 4 ♥    | Pass   | Pass   |
| Pass   |        |        |        |

With all cards open it is easy to see that the heart game is on: finesse the queen of trumps or hook for the diamond nine plus an honour. But was that needed?

*Continued on page 10...*



# IBPA Column Service

**Tim Bourke, Canberra**

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

## 545. Dealer South. E-W Vul.

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

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

The declarer did not do well here. He took the king of hearts lead with the ace and ran the jack of trumps, feeling rather proud of himself when it held. Next, a trump to the ace revealed a problem.

Hoping for the best, declarer drew a third round of trumps with dummy's king and played on clubs. However, West ruffed the third round of clubs and cashed a heart to defeat the contract by a trick.

It would have done declarer no good to switch to clubs after the second round of trumps. West would ruff the third club low and play a high heart, thereby promoting his queen of trumps into a trick.

The correct line was to ruff a heart at trick two with dummy's ace. After returning to hand in a minor suit, declarer ruffs his last heart with dummy's king. Next, the eight of trumps is led to the jack. What can West do? He can score the queen of trumps but declarer will be able to get back to hand and draw trumps before discarding his diamond loser on a club winner.

## 546. Dealer South. Neither Vul. (See next column.)

West led the jack of diamonds. Declarer took this in hand with the king, drew trumps and ran the jack of clubs. West took this with the queen and exited with a

diamond to dummy's ace. When the second club finesse lost to West's king, declarer conceded two hearts for one down.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| —    | —     | —    | 1 ♠   |
| Pass | 3 ♠   | Pass | 4 ♠   |
| Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |

"You should have played on hearts before clubs," advised North. "Draw trumps and, once they are 2-2, cash the king of diamonds and lead the three of hearts. If East plays an honour, win the ace and play the ten of hearts. No matter how the hearts lie, East will not be able to lead clubs twice before a heart winner is established."

"If East follows with a low card, play the ten of hearts. West will win and not be able to attack clubs or hearts without setting up your tenth trick. His alternative of a diamond sees you ruff in dummy and discard a heart from hand; then you can amuse yourself trying for an overtrick."

## 547. Dealer South. N-S Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| —    | —     | —    | 1 NT  |
| Pass | 6 NT  | Pass | Pass  |
| Pass |       |      |       |

West led the jack of diamonds and declarer took this with dummy's ace. Declarer counted eleven top tricks and decided to combine his chances in the majors. At trick two he played the ace of hearts and then ducked a heart to East's jack. After winning the diamond return, declarer cashed the ace and king of clubs, followed by the king of hearts. After East discarded a club, declarer relied on a successful finesse of the jack of spades. When East produced the queen of spades, declarer claimed his original eleven top tricks.

While this offers around 69% chance of success, a better plan at trick two is to lead a low spade from dummy with the intention of finessing the nine. Whenever East holds the ten of spades this will produce an extra trick straightaway. Should the nine lose to West's ten, declarer tests the spades, hoping that the queen falls on the second or third round. This would establish dummy's jack as the twelfth trick.

If the queen of spades failed to appear, declarer cashes his minor suit winners ending in dummy. In the three-card ending, the defender who holds the queen of spades won't feel too comfortable if he began with four or more hearts. He will have to shed either the queen of spades or come down to two hearts. No matter what such an unfortunate defender discards, declarer makes twelve tricks.

Overall the second plan has close to a 75% chance of succeeding.

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

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|-------|------|-------|
| —    | —     | —    | 2 ♣   |
| Pass | 2 ♦   | Pass | 2 ♠   |
| Pass | 4 ♠   | Pass | 6 ♠   |
| Pass | Pass  | Pass |       |

North's raise to game promised trump support and some scattered points, with no ace or king, so South just bid the slam. West led the queen of diamonds. Declarer took this with the king and cashed the ace of

trumps. East's club discard was a shock. Now declarer needed some luck to bring home his slam. He decided that the best chance was for West to have begun with a 4=4=3=2 distribution.

Declarer continued by playing three heart winners, discarding a diamond from dummy. After cashing the ace of diamonds and ruffing a diamond, declarer ruffed a club and played his last heart winner. When West followed, he ruffed it in dummy and ruffed another club. Declarer's remaining cards were the king-jack-six of spades and he placed the six of trumps on the table. West had to win and lead a trump back into the king-jack.

Notice that if West had started with a 4=4=2=3 shape, the slam could be made by ruffing three clubs low in hand, using heart ruffs as entries to dummy. However, this was much less likely after the lead of the queen of diamonds. (In fact, if you assume that West has the jack of diamonds, a 4=4=3=2 was a 5 to 2 favourite over a 4=4=2=3 shape.)



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East led the spade three: seven, queen and ace. Declarer cashed the heart ace and king and exited with a spade. Bocchi took the jack and looked endplayed. However, he switched brilliantly to the jack of clubs. Declarer won the king and played a trump for West's queen.

This time it was Madala who appeared to be endplayed. Not so, he simply exited with a club. Declarer won the ten, pitched a diamond on the club ace. In this position...

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

...declarer ducked a diamond. Notice that it does no good for Madala to win and lead a club – declarer can ruff in hand and finesse a diamond. So Bocchi won and played another diamond (he cannot effectively play a spade). Declarer won the diamond return with the ace and ruffed the third diamond. Finally the defence had to give in as the fourth diamond became the tenth trick.

### Viking Battle

In the great Nordic 'war' between Nyström-Bertheau from Sweden and Brogeland-Sælensminde from Norway, the Swedes took no prisoners when they beat the Norwegian pair by an amazing 80-0. In one of the boards Sælensminde, called Cille, had a tough guess when Bertheau made a good falsecard...

### Board 30. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

|                  |                |                    |                 |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                  | ♠ 8 6 3        |                    |                 |
|                  | ♥ 10 9 5 3 2   |                    |                 |
|                  | ♦ K 10 5 3     |                    |                 |
|                  | ♣ 2            |                    |                 |
| ♠ K 10 2         |                | ♠ J 5 4            |                 |
| ♥ Q 6            |                | ♥ K                |                 |
| ♦ Q 9 6          |                | ♦ A J 7 4          |                 |
| ♣ J 10 8 6 5     |                | ♣ A K Q 9 7        |                 |
|                  | ♠ A Q 9 7      |                    |                 |
|                  | ♥ A J 8 7 4    |                    |                 |
|                  | ♦ 8 2          |                    |                 |
|                  | ♣ 4 3          |                    |                 |
| <b>West</b>      | <b>North</b>   | <b>East</b>        | <b>South</b>    |
| <i>Brogeland</i> | <i>Nyström</i> | <i>Sælensminde</i> | <i>Bertheau</i> |
| —                | —              | 1 ♣                | 1 ♥             |
| 1 ♠ <sup>1</sup> | 4 ♥            | 4 NT <sup>2</sup>  | Double          |
| 5 ♣              | Pass           | Pass               | Pass            |

1. Fewer than 4 spades
2. Both minors.

The lead was heart ace and South also took his other ace before he continued with a small spade, which declarer took with the king. After the ace of clubs and a club to the jack declarer took heart queen to throw his spade loser.

Now Cille played the diamond queen, king from North, ace from declarer and a clever eight from Bertheau. Cille knew the distribution and had to guess if the eight was from ten-eight or a clever falsecard.

His chose to play the eight as an honest card and tried the jack of diamonds next. No luck and one down in a round the Norwegians will try to forget in a hurry.

### Thirty Kibitzers, 1500 BBO Spectators and One Journalist

#### Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

| <b>West</b>    | <b>North</b>  | <b>East</b> | <b>South</b>  |
|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| <i>Welland</i> | <i>Bocchi</i> | <i>Zia</i>  | <i>Madala</i> |
| —              | 1 ♣           | Pass        | 1 ♠           |
| Pass           | 2 ♠           | Pass        | 2NT           |
| Pass           | 4 ♠           | Pass        | Pass          |
| Pass           |               |             |               |

West led the diamond six: two, queen and ace. Declarer drew trumps (West discarded a club) and exited in diamonds. The defence gave a heart to the king, won the heart return and West won the third round of hearts. This was the layout with West on lead and declarer needing the rest...

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

A diamond would surrender a ruff-sluff and a low club would expose the queen to a later finesse if declarer put in the eight, so Roy Welland switched to the club

queen. It was a nice try, but Agustin Madala played for doubleton honour with East. North-South plus 620.

Declarer rightfully reasoned that West, with something like the queen-jack-nine of clubs, probably would have led the suit. And without the nine he would have switched to a low club at the critical moment. And the club discard helped. A piece of cake.

### Triple Squeeze Stepping Stone

Helgemo proved why he is one of worlds' best declarers on the following deal...

#### Board 30. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

|                   |                |                |                |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                   | ♠ 6 2          |                |                |
|                   | ♥ 10 8 6       |                |                |
|                   | ♦ K Q 9 7      |                |                |
|                   | ♣ J 9 6 4      |                |                |
| ♠ Q J 8 5         |                | ♠ A 9 7        |                |
| ♥ Q 9 7 3         |                | ♥ K 5          |                |
| ♦ J 10 8 3        |                | ♦ 6 4          |                |
| ♣ 5               |                | ♣ K 10 8 7 3 2 |                |
|                   | ♠ K 10 4 3     |                |                |
|                   | ♥ A J 4 2      |                |                |
|                   | ♦ A 5 2        |                |                |
|                   | ♣ A Q          |                |                |
| <b>West</b>       | <b>North</b>   | <b>East</b>    | <b>South</b>   |
| <i>Bjarnarson</i> | <i>Helness</i> | <i>Askgård</i> | <i>Helgemo</i> |
| —                 | —              | 2 ♣            | Double         |
| Pass              | 2 ♦            | Pass           | 2 NT           |
| Pass              | 3 NT           | Pass           | Pass           |
| Pass              |                |                |                |

Three no trump is pretty high. Still, with 23 points, nowadays nobody likes to miss game. West led a club to declarer's queen. Of course the contract can be made when you finesse for the jack-ten of diamonds, but this is too much to ask for. So, Helgemo started with the ace of diamonds, a diamond to the king and a heart to the jack and queen. If West had returned a diamond, communications would be very difficult for declarer.

However, West switched to a small spade to his partner's ace. A spade came back: ten and jack, and then came the diamond jack to the queen in this position, declarer needing all the tricks but one:

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

At this point, Helgemo played a club to the ace and West was caught in a triple stepping stone squeeze! West discarded a heart, and Helgemo continued with the heart ace, heart to the ten, and then a diamond, on which he threw the losing spade. West had to play back a spade to the king in the end, which led to nine rather spectacular tricks.

Results:

1. Fredrik Nyström-Peter Bertheau 773
2. Norberto Bocchi-Agustin Madala 685
3. Krzysztof Martens-Krzysztof Jassem 677

**EUROPEAN  
CHAMPIONS CUP**

Izmir, Turkey, November 11-14, 2010

**Jan van Cleeff & Tim Verbeek,  
Amsterdam**

Twelve national teams were grouped into two sections and played a round robin of 20-board matches to qualify for semifinal knockouts at the European Champions Cup. Onstein of the Netherlands interrupted Italy's run, defeating Angelini in the final, 93-73, after being down 1 IMP at the ¾ mark.

### One Step Further

Sometimes you are obliged - or at least you think you are - to ruff a trick which belongs to your partner. To ruff a trick which belongs to yourself is going a step further, especially when it is an ace. Martin Rehder from Bamberger Reiter saw an opportunity to execute this rare play:

#### RRI. Bamberger Reiter (Germany) v. Matushko (Russia). Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

|                  |                   |               |                  |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
|                  | ♠ 9 4             |               |                  |
|                  | ♥ A Q 9 5         |               |                  |
|                  | ♦ K 5 3           |               |                  |
|                  | ♣ K 9 8 6         |               |                  |
| ♠ K 2            |                   | ♠ A 8 7 6     |                  |
| ♥ K J 10 8 7 4 3 |                   | ♥ 6 2         |                  |
| ♦ —              |                   | ♦ A Q 7 4     |                  |
| ♣ A Q 10 7       |                   | ♣ J 4 2       |                  |
|                  | ♠ Q J 10 5 3      |               |                  |
|                  | ♥ —               |               |                  |
|                  | ♦ J 10 9 8 6 2    |               |                  |
|                  | ♣ 5 3             |               |                  |
| <b>West</b>      | <b>North</b>      | <b>East</b>   | <b>South</b>     |
| <i>Rehder</i>    | <i>Khiuppenen</i> | <i>Wladow</i> | <i>Kholomeev</i> |
| —                | —                 | —             | 2 ♠              |
| 4 ♥              | Double            | Pass          | Pass             |
| Pass             |                   |               |                  |

The final contract appears to headed down, as declarer looks bound to lose the club king and three heart tricks. However, warned by the double, Martin Rehder found a brilliant line.

Rehder took the spade lead in hand and immediately advanced the queen of clubs! North won the king and returned a spade. Declarer won the ace, ruffed a diamond, cashed the ace of clubs, played a club to the jack, ruffed another diamond, ruffed the fourth club in dummy and ruffed the diamond ace in hand. With four cards remaining, Rehder had only trumps left: king-jack-ten-eight. This combination was good for two tricks, enough to make his contract.

At most tables, West played four hearts, though not doubled. Without the knowledge of the bad break in trumps, all other declarers went down.

### Careful Play by the Professor

In the Netherlands, Bauke Muller is called 'the professor'. It has everything to do with the fact that Bauke takes his time when he plays bridge, because at the table, he analyses all possible distributions; he almost always comes to the right conclusion. This hand is a typical example.

#### RR3. Onstein (Netherlands) v. Cerkezkoj Belediye Spor (Turkey). Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

| West           | North     | East          | South        |
|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>De Wijs</i> | <i>Er</i> | <i>Muller</i> | <i>Yavuz</i> |
| 1 ♥            | Double    | 4 ♠           | Double       |
| Pass           | Pass      | Pass          |              |

On a heart lead or heart shift when in with a spade honour, the contract is doomed due to the ruff (if South can come in with a diamond). South, however, led the king of clubs, which gave Muller a chance, but a lot of problems as well.

Muller took the ace of clubs in dummy and immediately played a diamond. This Scissors Coup took away South's entry. It was necessary because if instead he had ruffed a club and led a spade to North, the defence could set up a heart ruff.

North took the ace of diamonds and played the club queen. Muller ruffed and played the spade queen to

North's ace, and another club followed. At this point, Muller had a choice. If South originally had only one spade, declarer had to ruff low. But with spades 3-2, he had to ruff high and play the spades from the top.

Due to North's double, spades could have been 4-1. On the other hand, South had the option to bid five diamonds (or four no trump) with a 1=4=6=2 distribution. Muller thought for a while (his core business) and, as usual, came to the right conclusion, so he ruffed high.

At the other table Brink-Drijver, against the same contract, found a similar defence to that of Er-Yavuz. They led the club king, and also at their table, a diamond was played at the second trick.

Drijver, North, took the ace, but instead of the club queen, played back a small one. Declarer was not warned, like Muller, that the clubs were 5-2, and believed South to have the club queen. So when a third club came after a round of trumps, declarer believed it to be safe to ruff low, and just ruffed with the seven and thus was over-ruffed by the eight and was one off.

When we discussed the board with Bas Drijver he made an interesting remark. Would you play clubs twice if you knew your partner had queen-low or queen-third of clubs left? Maybe not, as you might be afraid declarer could pitch something useful from hand.

Maybe, but there is nothing fruitful declarer can pitch on the clubs. Nevertheless most people, even top players, would rather return a diamond than a club. So maybe even here declarer might have ruffed high on the third round of clubs.

### Yossi's Choice

#### RR 4. Bareket (Israel) v. Matushko (Russia). Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

| West            | North           | East          | South           |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <i>Ginossar</i> | <i>Matushko</i> | <i>Lengly</i> | <i>Khokhlov</i> |
| Pass            | 1 ♣             | Pass          | 1 ♥             |
| Pass            | 1 ♠             | Pass          | 2 NT            |
| Pass            | 3 ♠             | Pass          | 3 NT            |
| Pass            | 4 ♣             | Pass          | 4 ♦             |
| Pass            | 6 ♠             | Pass          | Pass            |
| Pass            |                 |               |                 |

The defence got the club king but no more, NS plus 1430.

| West              | North       | East             | South          |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| <i>Khiuppenen</i> | <i>Roll</i> | <i>Kholomeev</i> | <i>Bareket</i> |
| Pass              | 1 ♠         | Pass             | 2 ♦            |
| Pass              | 3 ♠         | Pass             | 4 ♠            |
| Pass              | 4 NT        | Pass             | 5 ♦            |
| Pass              | 5 NT        | Pass             | 6 ♦            |
| Pass              | 7 ♠         | Pass             | Pass           |
| Pass              |             |                  |                |

At this table, the Israelis bid one higher. After hearing one key card, Roll made a grand slam try with five no trump. When he heard that his partner had something extra in diamonds (king-queen fifth for instance, was his hope), Roll jumped to the seven level. Five diamonds, six spades and two aces makes thirteen, doesn't it? Unfortunately his partner had only four diamonds.

Nevertheless, the contract was not without chances. Kholomeev led a heart to the ace. Roll ruffed a heart, played trumps twice, crossed to the table with a diamond and ruffed another heart. Now the heart jack was high. Declarer cashed two more spades, pitching the queen of clubs from dummy, and played two rounds of diamonds, leaving this position:

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

On the jack of hearts, East was squeezed. One problem remained: Roll also had the option to finesse in clubs. Thirty IMPs were at stake on his choice between the squeeze and the finesse. Roll took the slightly-favoured finesse in clubs. Seventeen IMPs to the Russians.

### The Hammer

There was a Viking battle between Sweden and Iceland in the European Champions Cup...

**RR 5. St Erik (Sweden) v. Grant Thornton (Iceland). Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.**

(See top of next column...)

In the Icelandic auction, one club was clubs or a balanced hand out of range for one no trump, one diamond showed hearts, two hearts promised a weak no trump with four-card support, and three clubs was a game try, accepted.

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

| West                | North         | East               | South        |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <i>Sigursjonsso</i> | <i>Sylvan</i> | <i>Ingimorsson</i> | <i>Wrang</i> |
| —                   | —             | 1 ♣                | Pass         |
| 1 ♦                 | Pass          | 2 ♥                | Pass         |
| 3 ♣                 | Pass          | 4 ♥                | Pass         |
| Pass                | Pass          |                    |              |

Ingimorsson ruffed the third spade, played three rounds of diamonds, ruffed the diamond return, played the ace of hearts and a heart to the jack: down one.

After a similar auction at the other table, the Swedish declarer, Hammarström, outplayed his Icelandic counterpart.

Hammarström ruffed the third spade as well, but cashed two clubs, ruffed the third in dummy and played three rounds of diamonds, leaving this position:

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

South returned a diamond; when North discarded a spade, Hammarström ruffed and made his contract by simply ruffing a club.

The results:

### Semifinals:

Onstein (NED) 137 Matushko (RUS) 22

Angelini (ITA) 160 Izmir (TUR) 54

### Final:

Onstein (NED) 93 Angelini (ITA) 72

### Playoff:

Matushko (RUS) 103 Izmir (TUR) 54

## Correspondence



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

Dear John,

I was distressed to read various negative reports in your publication concerning the recent Warren Buffett Cup. While I can't argue with some of the suggestions that have been made concerning the scoring of that event and while I am naturally disappointed that the Buffett Cup has so far not managed to attract a lot of media attention, as a player on the American Team I believe I am in a strong position to set the record straight in one important area:

Our Welsh hosts did a sensational job in terms of making the players feel welcome and in terms of running a first class tournament. Patrick Jourdain and his team of volunteers deserve to be praised for their very hard work and for their attention to detail. This is a view that I am certain would be shared by all of the players who were fortunate enough to be invited to play in the 2010 Buffett Cup..

All of these players are professionals, but nobody was getting paid to play in Wales. That did not stop the organizers from assembling an extremely strong field, and, as expected, the level of competition was indeed fierce. Notably, the levels of sportsmanship and cameraderie exhibited by the players were also exceptional.

The Buffett Cup is a special event and, even if it is not quite ready for prime time television, it is certainly a step in the right direction as far as bridge is concerned. The fine people who made this possible should be applauded for their efforts.

Fred Gitelman, Las Vegas

Dear John,

I was disappointed to read the negativity in Ray Lee's letter (*about the Buffett Cup – Ed.*) but I must make several points.

Firstly, the hospitality for the players was almost on a par with Louisville. Good wines (although we did not match Roy Welland's contribution of Dom Perignon), top-class accommodation and good restaurants. True, we were on a tight budget, but not for the players.

We nearly got television. BBC were prepared to show it, but only if we did the programme ourselves. The cost of doing so would have been £200,000. I raised £75,000, but was unable to find the rest.

We had a good audience on BBO (despite the occasional connection problems). We are in discussion with them for the next one of having an edited later version which will attract players from different time zones to watch. In Cardiff the time difference made it difficult to get the U.S. audience, although we had good figures from India and Australia where it was more convenient to watch.

Also, ensuring that the Commonwealth Bridge Championship was a success (although afterwards, I realised that I had not needed to worry as Subhash Gupta and T.C. Pant did everything that was required and more) and getting sponsorship for the English Senior team (Pharon Independent Financial Advisors have committed a minimum of two years of support), made it tough, in this economic climate, for me to raise all that was ideally needed.

However, I am not deterred and intend to continue, hoping to get bridge back on the television screens and to hold tournaments which a lot of different class of players enjoy.

Paul Hackett, Manchester

Dear Mr. John,

I reference issue no. 550, page 3, Board 23: No doubt declarer played well, but if East ducks the heart jack opening lead to allow the queen to win the trick, can declarer make three no trump? I don't think so. Please look to it - I wait for your comments. Thanks.

Sudhir Kumar Ganguly, Kolkata

*This was the deal...*

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

*Sudhir is quite right, as usual. West led the heart jack against three no trump and East won the king and continued the suit. A later defensive miscue by West allowed declarer to get home with some good card reading.*

*However, declarer cannot make three no trumps against the play of the heart king either, at least if the defence does not put a foot wrong thereafter. In practice, West was squeezed out of the idle-but-material second club, then endplayed with the last diamond to lead a spade into declarer's tenace.- Ed.*



## Bridge Books in English 1886-2010

Tim Bourke & John Sugden have published an annotated Bibliography of bridge books in English: 250 x 180 x 40mm, ppixvi + 711+ xxi. ISBN 978-0-9566576-0-2. Cover price £49.95. It is accompanied by a pp24 supplement. Packaged weight 1510 gm. Available direct from the authors. As there is no other comparable record available, it is expected to be of interest to bridge book collectors, bridge journalists, and reference libraries. The first fifty copies have been autographed by the authors. Available to IBPA members at £30; contact Tim at [bourketim@hotmail.com](mailto:bourketim@hotmail.com) for details.

## ACBL Elections

2011 Honorary Member – Larry Cohen

2011 President – Craig Robinson

## Departures

**Raman Jayaram** - IBPA member Raman Jayaram ("Jay") of Baroda, India, bridge writer and the author of four recent books: "Logic, Intuition and Instinct at the Bridge Table" (2001); "Moments of Truth at the Bridge Table" (2004); "Serendipity in Bridge" (2005); and "The Romance of Bridge" (2009), the last with Ghassan Ghanem of Jordan, two of which were shortlisted for for the Master Point Press IBPA Book of the Year award.

**Göran Gjerling** - Longstanding Swedish member Göran Gjerling passed away about a month ago. He was for many years an important power in the Scanian bridge (South of Sweden). His last big project was the book "Skånsk bridge i Sven Weliths sällskap" ("Scanian bridge together with Sven Welith"), which was published this year. (From Tjolpe Flodqvist.)

**Jim Gordon** - Jim Gordon, aide to the Rose Meltzer team, died of natural causes in his hotel room on the first Friday night of the World Bridge Series in Philadelphia. Jim resided in Burlington VT and was 65. Rose Meltzer immediately announced that the RoseCliff Award for Declarer Play will be renamed in Gordon's honour, commencing next year.

**Gabino Cintra** – One of the best Brazilian players of all time, an Olympiad gold medallist, a World Open Pairs champion and a WBF Grand Master, Gabino Cintra died on Nov. 28 as a result of injuries received in an automobile accident in Rio de Janeiro. Cintra was a former IBM executive.

**Bruce Keidan** - Bruce Keidan, veteran player and a former sports editor, died of complications from diabetes during the Fall NABC in Orlando. The

Philadelphia native had a long career in the newspaper business, working as a sports writer, editor and columnist for the Seattle Times, the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Keidan managed media relations for the WBF. He came to fame in the bridge world in 1975 during the Bermuda Bowl final between the USA and Italy. While watching the play, Keidan noticed two Italian players making contact with their feet underneath the bridge table. After he brought it to the attention of the American team, the ensuing scandal nearly resulted in the withdrawal of Team USA, who went on to lose to Italy in the final.

**Sue Emery** - Sue Emery, a Bridge Bulletin editor for nearly a quarter of a century and a fixture at NABCs for even longer, died on Nov. 20 of natural causes in Wichita Falls TX, her home since she retired from the ACBL in 1996. She was 90. During her time at the ACBL, she wrote *No Passing Fancy*, a book about the ACBL's first 50 years.

**Tom Smith** - One of the five original "Precision Team" members that were successful in North American bridge in the early Seventies, died Nov. 15 in his hometown of Bennington VT. As well as being a top level player and teacher, Smith was a publisher, journalist, editor and club manager.

## Winners:

### Open Life Master Pairs

Hiroaki Miura-  
Kazuo Furuta

### Women's Life Master Pairs

Hjordis Eythorsdottir-Valerie Westheimer

### Open Board-a-Match Teams

Josef Blass-Marcin Lesniewski, Adam Zmudzinski-Cezary Balicki, Andrei Gromov-Aleksander Dubinin

### Women's Board-a-Match Teams

Joyce Hampton-Jenny Wolpert, Sabine Auken-Daniela von Arnim, Bénédicte Cronier-Sylvie Willard

### Senior KO Teams

Marc Jacobus-Roger Bates-Eddie Wold, Jim Krekorian-Drew Casen

### Blue Ribbon Pairs

Jay Borker-Jan Jansma

### Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams

Jimmy Cayne-Michael Seamon, Antonio Sementa-Giorgio Duboin, Alfredo Versace-Lorenzo Lauria

### North American Swiss Teams

Mike Levine-Dennis McGarry, Dave Siebert-Chuck Said, Jerry Clerkin-Dennis Clerkin



# World Bridge Calendar

| DATES            | EVENT  | LOCATION                      | INFORMATION                     |
|------------------|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>2010</b>      |  |                               |                                 |
| Nov 25-Dec 5     | ACBL Fall NABC                                   | Orlando, Florida              | www.acbl.org                    |
| Dec 3-12         | Pinamar Festival                                 | Pinamar, Argentina            | www.aba.org.ar                  |
| Dec 10-12        | Geologi Cup                                      | Bandung, Indonesia            | www.gabsi.or.id                 |
| Dec 10-12        | Città di Milano                                  | Milan, Italy                  | www.federbridge.it              |
| Dec 10-17        | 52 <sup>nd</sup> Indian Winter Nationals         | Kolkata, India                | www.cba.org.in                  |
| Dec 17-19        | Junior Channel Trophy                            | Lille, France                 | www.ebu.co.uk                   |
| Dec 27-30        | Year End Congress                                | London, England               | www.ebu.co.uk                   |
| <b>2011</b>      |  |                               |                                 |
| Jan 16-26        | International Bridge Week                        | St. Moritz, Switzerland       | www.bridgefederation.ch         |
| Jan 17-31        | Summer Festival of Bridge                        | Canberra, Australia           | www.abf.com.au                  |
| Jan 22-27        | Women's Bridge Festival                          | Bangkok, Thailand             | www.worldbridge.org             |
| Jan 22-29        | 52 <sup>nd</sup> Bermuda Regional                | Southampton, Bermuda          | www.bermudaregional.com         |
| Jan 26-30        | Iceland Express Bridge Festival                  | Reykjavik, Iceland            | www.reykjavikbridgefestival.com |
| Feb 8-13         | 16 <sup>th</sup> NEC Festival                    | Yokohama, Japan               | www.jcbl.or.jp                  |
| Feb 9-14         | EBU Overseas Congress                            | Antalya, Turkey               | www.ebu.co.uk                   |
| Feb 10-19        | 45 <sup>th</sup> Israel Bridge Festival          | Tel-Aviv, Israel              | www.ibf-festival.org            |
| Feb 21-26        | Biarritz Winter                                  | Biarritz, France              | www.ffb-competitions.net        |
| Feb 22-27        | Indian Summer Nationals                          | Bangalore, India              | www.cba.org.in                  |
| Feb 26-Mar 5     | 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gold Coast Congress | Broadbeach, Australia         | www.qldbidge.com/gcc            |
| Mar 1-6          | Mexico Regional                                  | San Miguel, Mexico            | www.acbl.org                    |
| Mar 10-20        | ACBL Spring NABC                                 | Louisville, Kentucky          | www.acbl.org                    |
| Mar 11-13        | Gstaad Tournament                                | Gstaad, Switzerland           | www.bridgefederation.ch         |
| Mar 20-25        | White House Junior International                 | Amsterdam, Netherlands        | keestammens@email.com           |
| Mar 22-27        | Kitzbühel Festival                               | Kitzbühel, Austria            | fritz.babsch@tele2.at           |
| Mar 27-28        | Isle of Man Congress                             | Douglas, Isle of Man          | www.ebu.co.uk                   |
| Apr 18-22        | Yeh Bros. Cup                                    | Wuxi, China                   | pat_hwang2002@hotmail.com.tw    |
| Apr 19-24        | 116 <sup>th</sup> Canadian Nationals             | Toronto, Ontario              | www.torontonabc.com             |
| Apr 22-25        | Easter Festival                                  | London, England               | www.ebu.co.uk                   |
| Apr 28-May 2     | Autumn Nationals                                 | Adelaide, Australia           | www.abf.com.au                  |
| Apr 29-May 8     | Lambourne Jersey Festival                        | St. Helier, Channel Islands   | www.ebu.co.uk                   |
| May 10-19        | USBF Open Team Trials                            | Las Vegas, Nevada             | www.usbf.org                    |
| May 14-21        | South African Bridge Congress                    | Mpumulanga, South Africa      | www.sabf.co.za                  |
| May 18-22        | Sri Lanka International Tournament               | Wadduwa, Sri Lanka            | www.mcba.org.my                 |
| May 20-28        | X <sup>th</sup> International Festival           | Havana/Varadero, Cuba         | www.cacbf.com                   |
| May 24-28        | 26 <sup>th</sup> CACBF Zonal Championships       | Varadero, Cuba                | www.cacbf.com                   |
| Jun 1-2          | 26 <sup>th</sup> Bonn Nations Cup                | Bad Godesburg, Germany        | www.bridge-club-bonn.de         |
| Jun 1-13         | Festival International                           | Biarritz, France              | www.biarritz-bridge.com         |
| Jun 1-5          | 13 <sup>th</sup> Festival de Palavas             | Palavas, France               | www.ffb-competitions.net        |
| Jun 3&4          | Worldwide Bridge Contest                         | Clubs Everywhere              | www.ecatsbridge.com             |
| Jun 3-5          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> German Bridge Trophy             | Bad Godesburg, Germany        | www.german-bridge-trophy.de     |
| Jun 15-24        | PABF Championships                               | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia        | www.mcba.org.my                 |
| Jun 6-11         | USBF Women's & Seniors Trials                    | Detroit, Michigan             | www.usbf.org                    |
| Jun 17-Jul 2     | 5 <sup>th</sup> European Open Championships      | Poznan, Poland                | www.eurobridge.org              |
| Jun 21-Jul 2     | 29 <sup>th</sup> International Festival          | Albena, Bulgaria              | www.bridge.bg                   |
| Jul 1-13         | Festival International de Bridge                 | Biarritz, France              | www.biarritz-bridge.com         |
| Jul 8-17         | 54 <sup>th</sup> Slawa Congress                  | Slawa, Poland                 | www.polbridge.pl                |
| Jul 21-31        | ACBL Summer NABC                                 | Toronto, Ontario              | www.acbl.org                    |
| Jul 22-24        | Governor KEPRI Cup                               | Bandung, Indonesia            | bert.toar@gmail.com             |
| Jul 29-Aug 7     | 17 <sup>th</sup> Swedish Bridge Festival         | Orebro, Sweden                | www.svenskbridge.se             |
| Aug 5-14         | 21 <sup>st</sup> Solidarity Festival             | Slupsk, Poland                | www.polbridge.pl                |
| Aug 7-13         | International Festival                           | Loiben, Austria               | www.bridgeaustria.at            |
| Aug 12-21        | Summer Congress                                  | Brighton, England             | www.ebu.co.uk                   |
| Aug 13-20        | 35 <sup>th</sup> International Bridge Festival   | Varna, Bulgaria               | www.bridge.bg                   |
| Aug 19-28        | 39 <sup>th</sup> Warsaw Grand Prix               | Warsaw, Poland                | www.polbridge.pl                |
| Sep 3-11         | 50 <sup>th</sup> International Festival          | Pula, Croatia                 | www.crobridge.com/pula          |
| Sep 16-25        | Guernsey Congress                                | Guernsey, Channel Is.         | www.ebu.co.uk                   |
| Sep 23-25        | GABRIAL UI Cup                                   | Jakarta, Indonesia            | bert.toar@gmail.com             |
| <b>Oct 15-29</b> | <b>40<sup>th</sup> World Team Championships</b>  | <b>Veldhoven, Netherlands</b> | <b>www.worldbridge.org</b>      |
| Nov 22-26        | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sun Sea & Slams                 | Barbados, West Indies         | www.cacbf.com                   |
| Nov 24-Dec 4     | ACBL Fall NABC                                   | Seattle, Washington           | www.acbl.org                    |
| Dec 5-11         | Regional Bridge Cruise                           | Miami, Florida                | jtacbl1289@aol.com              |