



## BULLETIN

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## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: John Carruthers

*This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 400 members of the International Bridge Press Association comprising the world's leading journalists, authors and editors of news, books and articles about contract bridge, with an estimated readership of some 200 million people who enjoy the most widely played of all card games.*

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Year 2011

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## Editorial

ACBL tournaments are noted for their ability to handle walk-up entries, even in elite events with hundreds of tables. Only events which require seeding of teams require some sort of pre-tournament entry. For all other events, entries are accepted up until game time.

Nevertheless, there are some areas that can be improved upon and these were evident in Seattle at the Fall NABC. The first was in broadcasting the events over BBO. The main events at the Fall Nationals are the Reisinger, the Blue Ribbon Pairs (each three days in length), the Open Teams (Board-a-Match) and the Open Pairs (each two days long). There are also big events for seniors, juniors and women, the biggest of which is the Senior Knockout Teams. So we had ten days of top-flight competition – unfortunately, only three days' worth was broadcast on BBO (semifinals, one match only, and finals of the Senior KO and the third day of the Reisinger). Why is this?

The argument goes that pair events and team events with pair movements (such as BAM), to be broadcast, require the boards to be played simultaneously at all tables, as they are done, for example, at the Cavendish. One cannot have the results of Board 1 known after Round 1 if it's to be played at another table in Round 10. The effect of this is that extra sets of boards must be prepared and care must be taken that the results from any table are not known elsewhere. These days though, the boards can be dealt by machine, so that is not quite the issue it was years ago.

Regarding machine dealing, some ACBL events still employ "shuffle and play" boards, even top events like the Spingold and the NABC Swiss Teams. In the latter stages of important Swiss Team events, the top tables do play duplicated boards, but this practice should be adopted throughout so that all teams have the same opportunities.

Another ACBL practice that needs to be improved is that of scoring pair games. These are, even the qualifying and semifinal rounds of the Life Master Pairs and the Blue Ribbon Pairs, scored over pairs of sections and not across the field. There is simply no excuse, with today's technology, for this to happen. To some extent, this practice puts you at the mercy of the other players in your section and can easily make a difference of 5% or more in your score from section to section.

There is no question that more work is required to implement these improvements, but the logistics are not really that daunting. What's required is to ask the question, "What result do we wish to achieve?", then to figure out what needs to be done to make it happen. For example, to broadcast all ten days on BBO, we need all events to be Barometer-style. That may be impractical, one might think, for big pair games, but the last day of the important pair events could certainly be broadcast, and all days of team events can be broadcast, even if they don't play the same boards. Then, you need to arrange a computer and an operator for each table broadcast.

Scoring across the field is such a trivial matter these days that one can only shake one's head in bewilderment that it doesn't happen.

So, here's what we want: (i) BBO broadcasts every day throughout NABCs; (ii) duplicated boards at all stages of NABC events, and (iii) all pair events scored across the field. If it did all that, the ACBL would have a chance to join the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

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Screen displays to go along with these instructions can be viewed in the pdf sent with the December 2011 Bulletin. Note that minor variations may occur depending on the browser and the browser version you are using. **Dues are unchanged for 2012: US\$42 and an extra US\$45 for a printed copy of the Bulletin.**

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## IBPA Extraordinary General Meeting

Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Veldhoven, the Netherlands

**Present:** Phillip Alder (USA), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), Wubbo de Boer (Netherlands), John Carruthers (Canada), Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands), Simon Cochemé (England), Maureen Dennison (England), Herman De Wael (Belgium), Heather Dhondy (England), Jeremy Dhondy (England), Mario Dix (Malta), Chris Dixon (England), Ernesto d’Orsi (Brazil), Elisabeth van Ettinger (Netherlands), Patrice Foulon (France), Joan Gerard (USA), Panos Gerontopoulos (Greece), Dilip Gidwani (India), Patrick Jourdain (Wales), Britt Jannersten (Sweden), Per Jannersten (Sweden), Ron Klinger (Australia), Suzie Klinger (Australia), Ton Kooijman (Netherlands), Fernando Lema (Argentina), Micke Melander (Sweden), Margaret Parnis-England (Malta), Barry Rigal (USA), Giannarigo Rona (Italy), David Stern (Australia), Jan Swaan (Netherlands), Tadashi Toshida (Japan)

### Minutes:

- 1) Appointment of Richard Fleet (England) as Auditor for the 2010 accounts, in place of Julius Butkow. Adopted nem. con.
- 2) Adoption of the Constitution, as published on the IBPA website. Adopted nem.con

## IBPA Annual General Meeting & Awards

Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Veldhoven, the Netherlands

**Present:** The same as above, plus Philippe Cronier (France), Mark Horton (England), Eric Kokish (Canada), GeO Tislevoll (New Zealand)

### Minutes:

1) Remembrance of members deceased. Michelle Brunner (England), Maria Erhart (wife to member Peter Erhart), Heinz Gutwirth (Finland, longtime member).and all other members and former members who have passed away since our last AGM.

2) Minutes of the AGM held on 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2010 in Philadelphia, as published in Bulletin 550, page 12 & 13. Adopted nem. con.

3) Officers' Reports:

3a) President

The big job of the year has been the updating of the Constitution. Your President and Chairman spent much of their spare time in Poznan agreeing each new sentence. The internet era was in its infancy when it was last updated. So the changes mainly reflect current practice with the addition of proxy votes at our AGM. I am most grateful to Per Jannersten for his help in this task.

We have had a happy time in Veldhoven.

I take this opportunity to thank the sponsors of our Awards. Gidwani, Nickell, Lee and Meltzer all continue and we welcome one new sponsor Ron Klinger who donates in memory of his daughter Keri. We are also most grateful to the WBF for its annual grant. This has been substantially increased from \$1000 to \$2500 after many years at the lower figure.

At the last AGM our former Treasurer Mario Dix retired and Heather Dhondy took over. But extra responsibilities she now has elsewhere mean that she wished to limit the Treasurer's role to one year. Hence the proposal of Richard Solomon of New Zealand as our new Treasurer.

I thank the other officers and members of the Executive for their work of the past year. The biggest task may be that of Membership Secretary so I extend my particular thanks to Jeremy Dhondy.

3b) Chairman

The nomination committee's ambition to (gradually) renew the Executive and the Officers with younger forces has materialized. The control committee has had no reason to take action in the past year. The state of realm of the organization is good, but we (still) need to find new ways to attract new members.

3c) Secretary

There is nothing to report.

4) Appointees' Reports:

4a) Editor

Europe, North America and Australia continue to provide the bulk of the material for the Bulletin, although in the past year we have had more reports from South America, courtesy of Ana Roth and Fernando Lema from Argentina. We published material from writers residing in 22 countries on five continents. Barry Rigal, Ron Klinger, Tim Bourke, Brent Manley and Mark Horton continue to be our most frequent contributors. We would welcome more material from Africa and Asia. I would like to recognise the assistance and expertise of PO Sundelin of Sweden, my wife Katie Thorpe and Dilip Gidwani of India. Their help is invaluable and I thank them.

4b) Liaison Officer

The IBPA is happy. The WBF is happy

4c) Membership Secretary

We have 292 members plus 4 in Veldhoven, as against 302 last year.

5) Treasurer's report

The accounts are presented. The Auditor's report is read out. The accounts are approved nem. con.

The subscription for 2012 is approved as unchanged from 2011 at 42\$ (+45\$ for printed bulletin).

6) Elections

Officers already elected to the 2012 AGM are: President: Patrick Jourdain (Wales); Chairman: Per Jannersten (Sweden); Exec Vice-President: Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands); Organisational Vice-President: Dilip Gidwani (India); Secretary: Herman De Wael (Belgium); Treasurer: Heather Dhondy (England). A vacancy arises for Treasurer to be elected with effect from 1st January 2012 to the 2012 AGM: Richard Solomon (New Zealand). Accepted nem. com.

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

Hon. Auditor: Richard Fleet. Accepted nem. com.

Automatically continuing without election are the Presidents Emeritii: Tommy Sandsmark (Norway); Henry Francis (USA).

Executive members:

For a three-year election to 2014: John Carruthers (Canada); Barry Rigal (USA); Gavin Wolpert (USA). Accepted nem. com.

Already elected to 2012: GeO Tislevoll (Norway); Nikolas Bausback (Germany); Ron Tacchi (France).

Already elected to 2013: David Stern (Australia); Brent Manley (USA); Todashi Yoshida (Japan).

Note: Appointees in post: Awards Chairman: Barry Rigal (USA); Editor:

John Carruthers (Canada). Membership Secretary: Jeremy Dhondy (England).

7) Awards (see separate document)

8) Any other business

8a) a Press Conference is scheduled for Friday morning (28<sup>th</sup> October)

8b) What happens to the awards when two journalists present the same deal? The executive position at current is as follows: it is not necessarily the first; there is no bias against English; the awards chairman draws up the shortlist; the editor decides the content of the bulletin. It was agreed that the journalist whose version appears in the shortlist should be the same one who wins the eventual prize.

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## President's Report on Veldhoven 2011

IBPA had a happy and successful time at Veldhoven. Our EGM and AGM had over 30 members present. The new Constitution, the first for 14 years, is already on the website. We welcome Gavin Wolpert of the USA as an Executive member and Richard Solomon of New Zealand as our new Treasurer. Our Membership Secretary, Jeremy Dhondy of England, was co-opted on to the Executive.

Our Awards presentation went successfully despite the absence of some winners. As a consequence of the Awards we welcomed Eric Rodwell of the USA, Patrick Bogacki of France, and John Holland of England to our membership. In addition Wubbo de Boer and René Stienen of the Netherlands became members for the first time and Henry Bethé of the USA and Agnes Fabre of France re-joined after some years absence.

There were two Press Trips, to see tournament sponsor ASML (the world's principal manufacturer of machines that make computer chips), to see a Dutch museum and windmill, the Design Week showroom in Eindhoven, and the high-tech campus there (the "brainport" centre chosen this year as the world's smartest area by an American science committee). An attempt to have an IBPA bridge contest failed through lack of support as most members present were already in some team.

The Press Room was large and well managed by Jan Swaan. There was a Press Conference with the WBF and IMSA Presidents reported in the Daily Bulletin.

**Patrick Jourdain, IBPA President**

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### BY A HEAD OF A HORSE (POR UNA CABEZA...)

The Prince Albert Cup

**Ana Roth, Buenos Aires**

"By a head of a horse" is a term that describes an almost tie in a horse race. "Por una cabeza", meaning "by a head of a horse" in Spanish, is one of the most

famous and popular tango songs by Carlos Gardel (composer) and Alfredo Le Pera (lyricist), written in New York City in 1935. The tango has been performed by numerous tango orchestras and is commonly featured in films and television. Tango scenes with "Por una Cabeza" appear in "Scent of a Woman" a 1992 film drama directed by Martin Brest that tells the story of a preparatory school student who takes a job as an assistant to an irascible, blind, medically-retired Army officer, performed by Al Pacino.

From October 11 to 13, 2011, the Fédération Monégasque de Bridge (FMB) organized the "**Coupe Prince Albert II**" first edition, an event of the highest social level. HRH Prince Albert II himself met participants at the opening cocktail party. This prestigious event brought together ten international teams, most of them with world-champion players. At the end of the qualifying Round Robin the teams GLADYSH (with Krasnoselskiy, Gromov, Dubinin) and ZIMMERMANN (with Multon, Fantoni, Nunes, Helgemo, Helness) ranked in positions 1 and 2 respectively and faced each other in a 48-board final.

With just one board to play in the final, the teams were neck and neck, with only a 1-IMP margin separating them, when the last board hit the table...

**Board 48. Dealer West. Neither Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gladys</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Krasnoselskiy</i>
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	5 NT	Pass	7 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

This was cold on the lie of the cards...on any lead.

At the other table, sitting in North-South were Fantoni-Nunes. Fantoni, feeling his enemies breathing down his neck, knowing that the match was tied and that each IMP could be the difference ... he decided to make one last effort:

West	North	East	South
<i>Dubin</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2 ♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3 ♣ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4 ♦ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	5 ♥ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	7 ♠	Pass	Pass
Double <sup>5</sup>	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Relay
2. Hearts
3. Natural
4. Splinter
5. Odd number of keycards (in clubs) including heart control
5. Lightner



Prince Albert Cup

Gromov led a club, the Cup went to Russia, and Fantoni lost his head.



# THE LAST SHALL BE FIRST

## The 2011 Lederer Memorial Teams Paul Lamford, London

The teams for the Lederer are normally invited well in advance, and the impressive winners of last year's Premier League were clearly worth their place, especially as two of the team were Lederer winners four years ago. However, they had a poor Premier League campaign this year, getting relegated along with Jeremy Dhondy's quartet. For the Lederer, they added the fine pairing of Erichsen and Selway to their Premier League team, and the effect proved to be dramatic. They took the lead by beating the President's team in round four and never looked back.

### Breaking Bad

The winning hand for the best play award, won by Espen Erichsen, came as early as set one.

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Forrester</i>	<i>Erichsen</i>	<i>Crouch</i>	<i>Selway</i>
Pass	1 NT	4 ♠	Double
Pass	5 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Espen Erichsen showed good card reading and earned his side a double game swing on this deal. East led a top spade and Erichsen won, cashed a top diamond and advanced the ten of hearts. East, Peter Crouch, should probably duck this, but Erichsen would just have continued with a second heart. Instead East won, cashed the top spade, and exited with the ten of clubs. Erichsen won in dummy and finessed the diamond to land his game. Given that the spades are 8-1, the chance of West having the jack of diamonds has risen to 70%, while the chance of a 3-2 break has dropped to 35%, so his line is twice as good as playing for the drop.

In the other room, North, Alexander Allfrey, opened one diamond and North-South gave in to East's four-spade overcall, which seems a bit conservative. Andrew Robson led a trump, and North won, cashed the king of diamonds, South giving normal count, and then switched to the ten of hearts. East won, drew the two remaining trumps and played the queen of clubs. South won with the ace and played back a diamond, allowing East to claim. Clearly South thought East had to have the queen of diamonds from North's play of the king, but he would have an awkward guess in any case. East could equally be 8-1-2-2 or 8-2-1-2.

### Not Josephine Tonight

Brian Callaghan remembers playing five no trumps as pick a slam many moons ago, and this convention worked well on the following hand in which Zia and his Swedish partner, Fredrik Björnlund, won the best-bid hand:

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Byrne	Björnlund	Bell	Zia
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	5 ♦
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble
Pass	5 ♠	Pass	5 NT
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

This table was the only one to reach six hearts – Frances Hinden and Graham Osborne had a good auction to the slightly-inferior but very reasonable six spades. Where North opened something showing a good four-heart bid, that is where he played. Björnlund's two clubs showed a very good hand. Zia bid spades and clubs naturally, while Fredrik showed a minimum with hearts. Zia still judged to move, and when North showed delayed spade support, he asked Fredrik to pick a slam with 5NT. North settled on his pretty-solid heart suit, and declarer was able to claim when neither rounded suit proved to be 5-1.

### Trump Rewards

The best-defended hand featured a slight risk by East, who relied on his partner having the nine of trumps, and in South not finding a winning line. This was a bit of a gamble, as declarer was Espen Erichsen, but Simon Gillis was prepared to take the chance.

**Dealer South. Both Vul.**

<p>♠ 9 2 ♥ 6 4 2 ♦ J 9 8 5 2 ♣ K 7 3</p>	<p>♠ Q 8 3 ♥ A K 10 8 7 3 ♦ 10 ♣ Q 10 8</p> <p>♠ J 10 6 ♥ Q 9 ♦ A 7 3 ♣ A 9 6 4 2</p> <p>♠ A K 7 5 4 ♥ J 5 ♦ K Q 6 4 ♣ J 5</p>
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West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Selway	Gillis	Erichsen
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The defenders did well to start with three rounds of clubs. Erichsen threw a diamond on the third round. He might have done better to throw a heart, play the ace of hearts and ruff a heart, relying on both majors to break 3-2. He always needs a 3-2 trump break anyway, so this is probably the best line. Winning with the queen of clubs, he led a diamond off the dummy, and Simon Gillis rose with the ace of diamonds to play a fourth round of clubs, which Gunnar Hallberg ruffed with the nine. Now declarer could have got home by running the eight of spades, but why should he do that when he will succeed if the remaining trumps are 2-2?

Sixty VP are available in each 12-board match, 36-0 being an IMP blitz; 24 VP are available from point-a-board, 2 for a win and 1 for a flat board.

The top finishers:

1. 251 **Premier League:** Espen Erichsen, Norman Selway, Michael Byrne, Mike Bell, Neil Rosen, Martin Jones
2. 225 **Spring Foursomes:** Sandra Penfold, Nevena Senior, Stefan Skorchev, Rumen Trendafilov
3. 220 **Young Chelsea Knockout:** Frances Hinden, Graham Osborne, Andy Bowles, John Howard, Mike Scoltock, Barry Myers.
4. 206 **Ireland:** Hugh McGann, Tom Hanlon, Adam Mesbur, Nick Fitzgibbon



## 2011 AUSTRIAN SENIOR PAIRS

Fritz Babsch, Vienna

To count 'losers' is sometimes easy, but the fewer of them you have, the more difficult it is to find out whether or not they are covered...

The two deals that follow occurred in a single round. Maybe the dealing machine was running wild.

### Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

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

Some pairs went badly wrong on this deal: Three good pairs played a grand slam, two weak pairs played no slam at all, one pair doubled six spades and one East player went to bed with his ace.

### Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

The South hand has only 1¼ losers, but while studying your hand, the bidding might have reached four spades (if not five spades!). If the West hand is too weak for your Weak Two, it's a pity!

Even if the bidding starts with a Multi (pass-two hearts) you are in trouble. Do you jump to six hearts or do you double? Do you have a way to locate the ace of diamonds? It is very difficult to get to seven hearts and only five pairs did so (against that, seven spades was bid twice for only 10%). Three pairs missed slam, but one top pair played seven no trump doubled!

The Championship was a clear victory for Fritz Kubak/Axel Milavec (older players will remember them from Seattle where they played for Austria). The margin between them and the runners-up was 8%!

## LORDS A-LEAPING

David Bird, Eastleigh, UK



The 37<sup>th</sup> Lords v Commons match took place at London's Portland Club, generously sponsored once again by London Export and Stephen Perry. The Commons started well and led by 2040 aggregate points at the lunch break. Their captain, Michael Mates, exhorted his team to hold back on the excellent claret and white burgundy, so that they could play at their best thereafter and retain the lead.

Any consequent restraint was not to be rewarded. Shortly after lunch the two Lords North/South pairs bid wonderfully well on this deal:

### Board 17. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Harris	Caithness	Brack	Byford
—	—	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	Pass

The key moment came on the third round of the auction when Baroness Byford found the classy bid of four diamonds, emphasizing her splendid suit. The Earl of Caithness asked for aces and closed the auction in six diamonds.

Evan Harris led the jack of hearts and a low card was played from dummy. Duncan Brack won with the ace and returned a heart to declarer's king. Baroness Byford played a trump to the queen, returned to her hand with a spade ruff and drew trumps. A club discard was available on the heart queen, so twelve tricks were hers. As you see, East does no better to withhold the ace of hearts at trick one. Declarer will subsequently play the ace and queen of spades, ditching her remaining heart if East plays low. She will then make

the contract whichever defender holds the king of spades.

The other House of Lords auction also featured a key bid:

West	North	East	South
Marek	Skelmersdale	Prentice	Oppenheim-Barnes
—	—	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♠
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

After Baroness Oppenheim-Barnes, who had played in the very first Lords-Commons encounter in 1975, opened, Lord Skelmersdale judged excellently to place the contract in diamonds rather than spades.

The House of Lords overtook their opponents and eventually won the Jack Perry Trophy by 980 aggregate. They now lead by 20-17 in the series.

**PRETTY PLAY**

**Maureen Dennison,  
Isleworth, UK**



Although this was a Pairs final, this deal was something of a needle match. North was Vice-Chair of the English Bridge Union and East, a member of the EBU Board. The play's the thing.

**Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Clive	Andrew	Graham	Patrick
Owen	Petrie	Jepson	Collins
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥
1 ♠	Double	Pass	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the spade six and the king won the trick. With Martin Hoffman-like speed, Collins immediately called for the heart jack and ran it when Jepson, holding four cards in

the suit, did not cover. This was smartly followed by the ten of clubs, covered by the queen and won by the king.

Having sorted out the relevant cards, declarer was able to cash his eight winners in hearts and clubs, throwing two diamonds from dummy and severely embarrassing West! Forced to keep three diamonds to protect dummy's suit, Owen bared the spade ace. Collins next took a winning diamond finesse and threw West on lead with the ace of spades for the enforced diamond continuation. Thus he scored the ace and queen of diamonds for a total top.



### Jan van Cleeff, The Hague

Italy, represented by *Allegra Lavazza*, was once again the winner at the European Champions' Cup competition, held this year in Bad Honnef, Germany. Italy beat the holders, 't Onstein of The Netherlands, and notched their 8<sup>th</sup> victory in 10 competitions, regaining their usual place at the top of the podium. The bronze medal went to Bulgarian champion Vito. Allegra Lavazza comprised Guido Ferraro, Giorgio Duboin, Antonio Sementa, Agustin Madala and Norberto Bocchi; 't Onstein had four players (Bas Drijver, Sjoert Brink, Bauke Muller, Simon de Wijs) and the non-playing captain (Eric Laurant) of the team that won the *Bermuda Bowl* last month in Veldhoven; Vito was Ivan Nanev, Kalin Karaivanov, Rosen Gunev, Velichka Ruseva, Tony Rusev.

The final match was contested over 48 boards, played in four 12-board segments. The Dutch started well, winning the first segment 32-17, but the Italians fought back and almost levelled the score after the second segment (57-59). The third segment went Dutch, leaving the world champions with the lead, 68-60, but Italy finished on top 88-70.

The **European Champions' Cup** is a competition among the top ten countries at the most recent European Team Championships. The defending champions and the host country are also invited; accordingly, this year, the top ten contenders of the 50<sup>th</sup> European Team Championships 2010, held in Ostend, Belgium, were **Bulgaria, Germany, Iceland, Israel, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Sweden and Turkey**. The 'Onstein' team of The Netherlands, who were the defending champions, and the host team from Germany brought the total number of contesting teams to 12. The format was a round-

robin qualifier in two groups, followed by semifinals, final and playoffs.

### Cherish Your King of Trumps

One of the more popular Bols Tips was “Cherish your Ace of Trumps” by the legendary Giorgio Belladonna. Board 12 of Round Robin match 5 brought a new version of that tip to life: Cherish Your King of Trumps:

**Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

Italy v Israel

West	North	East	South
<i>Birman</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Fohrer</i>	<i>Madala</i>
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

After Puppet Stayman and RKC, Alon Birman became declarer in six spades. Since East-West possessed all the key cards but one, Norberto Bocchi therefore elected not to lead his stiff club, but kicked off with a diamond: six, jack, queen and ace. Declarer crossed to dummy with a low club to the jack and played a spade to the ten, ducked (!) by Bocchi.

At this point, Birman could have made twelve tricks by cashing his ace of trumps. However, afraid of spades 4-1, he decided to finesse the suit once more. Declarer therefore continued with ace of hearts, a heart ruff and a spade to the jack, queen and king. Birman ruffed the heart return in dummy and had to find a way to come back to his hand to draw the last trump. When he choose a club, Bocchi ruffed ans six spades was down one.

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Altshuler</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Zeligman</i>
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥	Pass

4 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the closed room, West showed a very strong no trump hand as well, and again, after Puppet and RKC, six spades was reached. There was one big difference though. Due to the forced two-spade response to the two-heart puppet, East, Antonio Sementa, played the hand.

South led a club won in dummy. Sementa cashed the heart ace, ruffed a heart and played a spade to the ten, ducked (!) by Gilad Altshuler. Declarer entered dummy by ruffing the third heart and played another trump: jack, queen and king. With hearts eliminated any card by North would allow declarer to make twelve tricks. At the table Altshuler returned a trump.

### Even Great Players...

Board 31 of the semi-finals was all about clubs.

**Dealer South. NS Vul.**

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

All four declarers played six spades from the West hand. In Onstein v. Vito, Bas Drijver led the queen of clubs to Rosen Gunev's ace. Sjoert Brink followed with the club seven. Declarer drew trumps in three rounds, cashed the ace of hearts, overtook the heart queen with the king and exited with a low club to South's nine. With the king of diamonds offside the slam went down.

Against Simon de Wijs' six spades, North also led a club honour to the ace. At this table South erroneously pitched a club on the third round of spades, so when declarer tested the clubs, De Wijs could pitch his diamond losers from dummy and ended up with twelve tricks.

In Karlsruhe v. Allegra, Duboin was allowed to make the spade slam in similar fashion to what happened Simon de Wijs' table because here as well, South pitched a club on the run of the spades.

At the other table, when Norberto Bocchi led a high club Agustin Madala followed with the six and Bernard Ludewig won the ace. Declarer played the hand brilliantly - until a certain point. He drew trumps,

*Continued on p.12...*



# IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

To make it up to Tim Bourke fans who mourned the absence of the IBPA Column Service last month, we are presenting six deals in this issue and next.

## 589. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♦
2 ♦	2 ♠	Pass	2 NT
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Clearly West did not agree with Terence Reese's opinion about the futility of making a two-suited overcall on such a feeble hand. The result was that, as the cue bid of two diamonds promised at least 5-5 in the majors, declarer was able to play the deal with some precision.

West led the queen of spades and declarer could count six winners in the side suits. Consequently he would need to make a total of six tricks with his trumps. Clearly, it was hopeless to try ruffing spades in the dummy; as the bidding marked East with at most a doubleton spade, he would be able to overruff any spade ruffed with a low trump.

So, declarer decided to ruff hearts in hand. He took the spade lead with dummy's ace and led the spade two. If East had ruffed this, a club discard on the spade king would have been available later. Next declarer cashed the king and ace of hearts. The stage was now set.

Declarer called for a low heart from dummy. At the table, East ruffed this with the six of trumps. Declarer overruffed with the jack and crossed back to dummy by playing a low trump to the ace. Next came dummy's last heart which left East with no recourse; if he

discarded declarer would ruff low and draw all three of East's remaining trumps; he would make two spades, two hearts, four trumps, two clubs and two heart ruffs for twelve tricks in all.

In practice East ruffed dummy's last heart with the eight and declarer overruffed, drew trumps and claimed twelve tricks.

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

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

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

West led the jack of clubs against this enterprising contract. East took the queen of clubs with the ace and returned a trump. Declarer could count nine likely tricks: five trumps, two hearts, a club trick and a club ruff. As it was unlikely that he would ever score more than one club ruff, declarer led a diamond at trick two. However, the chances of making ten tricks diminished considerably when the king of diamonds was taken by ace and East followed this up with a second trump.

Declarer ruffed a club loser and led a heart from dummy. East played low and the king of hearts won the trick. After drawing the last trump, declarer continued with the queen of hearts. East took this with ace and returned a club to declarer's king.

Declarer had lost three tricks already and still had a losing club in hand. So declarer played a low heart and covered West's eight of hearts with the nine; this was not a not a close decision for had East began with ace-ten-deuce, he would surely have held up his ace for a second time, thereby destroying the value of dummy's long heart.

Of course, if East had played the ace of hearts on the first round of the suit, declarer was ready to play the king of hearts and hope that it was from shortage.

**591. Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

	♠ Q		
	♥ A J 10		
	♦ A Q 8 7 4		
	♣ A J 9 8		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

This deal was played on Bridge Base Online and the original declarer did not shine. He took the king of hearts lead with the ace then crossed to dummy with the king of diamonds and successfully finessed the jack of trumps. Next he played the jack of hearts, reasoning that if a heart was ruffed by East it would probably be at the cost of a trump trick. West took this with the queen of hearts and exited passively with a heart to declarer's ten. Next, declarer played the ace of trumps, and when West showed out there was no way to recover. He tried the ace of diamonds East ruffed with the ten of trumps then cashed the king of trumps followed by spades, forcing declarer to use his last trump before the diamonds had been established. The result was one down.

Instead of playing the ace of trumps at trick six, declarer should have played the ace of diamonds. East would have been welcome to ruff and play spades. After ruffing the second spade, declarer would play the ace of trumps and continue with the queen of diamonds, which would leave East with no winning defence.

**592. Dealer West. EW Vul.**

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

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
2 ♥	Double	3 ♥	4 ♠
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	7 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West opened a weak two in hearts and South had an easy leap to game in response to North's takeout double. As he was always going to bid at least a small slam in spades, North enquired about key cards and discovered that South held one key-card plus the queen of trumps and the king of clubs, the later pair shown with six clubs. As a result, North felt South would have a reasonable play for seven spades and bid that contract.

West began with the obvious king of hearts to dummy's bare ace. Declarer played a low trump to the nine and ruffed a heart in dummy. After returning to hand with a trump, declarer ruffed the queen of hearts with dummy's king of trumps. Declarer returned to hand by playing a low club to the king. After drawing East's remaining trump, declarer cashed the ace of clubs, East discarding a diamond. This did not pose any problem for declarer; he cashed the queen of clubs and ruffed a club to establish the seven of clubs. All that remained for declarer was to cross to dummy with the ace of diamonds and discard his diamond loser on the long club.

East was not happy. "You should have led a trump! It takes out one of the entries needed to ruff two hearts. Then the club break will defeat the contract."

Not to be outdone, declarer pointed out that an unlikely diamond lead would do the same thing.

**593. Dealer South. NS Vul.**

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

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

	♠ A K Q 9 6 4		
	♥ K 3 2		
	♦ A 10 5		
	♣ A		
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
—	—	—	2 ♣
Pass	2 NT	3 ♣	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The bidding was somewhat old fashioned as North's two-notrump response promised around 8 to 10 points. When South showed long spades, North cue

bid his ace of hearts and this prompted South to close the auction with a leap to six spades.

West led the five of clubs and declarer won the first trick with his bare ace. Twelve tricks seemed assured until declarer played the ace of trumps and East discarded a club, revealing that West had a trump trick. At the table, declarer continued with king, queen and four of trumps. After winning the fifth trick with the jack of trumps, West exited with the ten of hearts. Declarer took this with dummy's ace and led the queen of diamonds to the king and ace. When he continued with the ten and jack of diamonds he got the bad news that West a diamond winner; he had to concede another trick for down one.

"Leading the queen of diamonds can never work," ventured North. "If East had three diamonds to the king he would not play it until the third round of the suit, limiting you to three diamond tricks. The only chance is that East has a singleton or doubleton king of diamonds. On this deal you should have led a low diamond to the ten and then played the ace of diamonds, felling the king. You would then have made four diamond tricks and your contract."

Declarer was duly contrite.

#### 594. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

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

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

♠ 3  
♥ Q J 4 3  
♦ A Q 7 3  
♣ A Q 9 3

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1 ♣
1 ♠	Double	2 ♠	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

North had an awkward call at his first turn. While many would choose to bid two notrump, North chose a negative double, even though this promised at least four hearts. South had a routine jump to four hearts and West led the ace of spades and continued with a low spade.

Declarer ruffed the second spade, crossed to dummy with a diamond to the jack and ruffed another spade. When he continued with a second low diamond West ruffed and played a fourth round of spades. Declarer ruffed this with the jack of trumps and led the queen of trumps. It was at this point that he made the key play; if he played low from dummy on the queen of

trumps he would not be able to take the club finesse. So, he overtook the queen with dummy's king and cashed the ace of trumps.

Next came a nervous club to the queen. When that held declarer was home. He continued with the ace of diamonds. West was now helpless; if he discarded, declarer would play the queen of diamonds. All West would make was a spade and two trumps.

Notice that on a non-spade lead declarer will make four tricks in trumps, four in diamonds and two in clubs.

#### ...Euro Champions Cup continued from p. 9

cashed heart king and ace and played the eight of clubs from dummy: nine, jack and queen. North was endplayed. At the table, he returned the two of clubs into the ten-five fork (South had the seven and the four left). Declarer won the seven with his ten, ruffed the club five and took the losing finesse in diamonds. Down one.

One may wonder what happened? Well, declarer simply had not known that his club five was high and South didn't realize at trick one that his six (or the seven) would be a very expensive card. This proves once more that even these great players sometimes make mistakes.

The ACBL Fall  
Nationals  
Seattle,  
Washington  
November 24 -  
December 4, 2011



#### Tyger! Tyger! burning bright Barry Rigal, NYC

As fans of William Blake will remember, he referred in his poem to "fearful symmetry". On this deal from the first qualifying session of the Nail Life Master Open Pairs, the clubs and diamonds were symmetrically divided, offering the chance for some nice play or defence in different contracts.

**Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

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

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

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

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

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

♠ J 10 5 2  
 ♥ Q J 10 2  
 ♦ A 3  
 ♣ A 8 2

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

First, consider four spades on this auction:

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

On the eight of hearts lead, you win the ace and ruff a heart (*Really? I get it that when North wins the diamond ace, he could exit with the club king to allow South to retain the second heart as an exit card, but that would be rather extraordinary (double-dummy) and counterintuitive defence since East might own that heart...and ruffing a heart may needlessly expose you to an overruff. Suppose, for example, spades are 2-2 but you have to lose three diamond tricks. – Ed.*), cash the ace of clubs, and play the ace of spades and a spade to the king. When spades don't break, you go after diamonds. North wins the diamond ace and gets out with a heart. You ruff and exit in spades, forcing South to win and return a club to set up dummy's honour. When you ruff and exit with a low diamond, South wins and is endplayed to give you a trick in one minor or the other.

In our combined sections, five pairs brought home the game. At our table, we defended five hearts doubled on a slower auction. On lead, David Caprera cashed the spade ace, a bid and supported suit, so he knew who had the king. To avoid further endplays, he cashed the ace of clubs and shifted to the nine of hearts. The last hurdle for the defenders to overcome is for West to duck this to deny declarer the heart eight entry to dummy to finesse clubs. West can later win the ace of hearts and exit in a red suit and will be in position to collect two club tricks for plus 500.

**Good Communication**  
**Brent Manley, Memphis, TN**

On this deal from the second final session of the Nail Life Master Open Pairs, Billy Miller and Jacob Morgan used a sophisticated defensive convention to earn a near top. The pair play Reverse Smith, a device used to tell partner whether or not they liked the opening lead. In the original version of Smith, either defender could play high-low to say the opening lead hit declarer's soft spot. In reverse Smith, high-low says don't continue the suit.

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1 ♣	Double
INT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Miller, North, led the two of diamonds, fourth best, ducked by declarer. Morgan won the king and continued with the nine to dummy's ace. Miller deduced that, based on Morgan's return of the diamond nine at trick two, that diamonds was not going to be a significant source of tricks for his side. Miller's spot cards were rather weak, so he didn't want Morgan to play more diamonds if he got in next. So when declarer played a spade to the king, Miller started an echo by playing the spade six.

Miller completed the echo when declarer played the spade queen from hand, so when Morgan took the ace of spades, instead of continuing with a diamond, he got out with the seven of clubs: nine, jack, ace. (It's a little counter-intuitive, but to legitimately make one no trump, declarer must win the diamond ace at trick one and play another diamond! When he ducks the first diamond, South must shift to a club to beat the contract. All double dummy, it must be said.)

Declarer next played the queen of hearts, taken by South with the ace. On the club continuation, declarer was doomed. He put in the ten, but North won the queen and cleared the suit, so when South got in again with a heart, he could play a diamond to North's queen. The 13<sup>th</sup> club was the setting trick. Plus 100 was good for 61 matchpoints out of 64 for Miller and Morgan.

**Problem? – No Problem**  
**Brian Senior, Nottingham, UK**

Not all the interesting deals are played in the top-rated national events. Try your hand at this defensive problem from a Bracketed Knockout Teams match.

West	North	East	South
Hamilton	Senior	Sternberg	Kendrick
—	—	Pass	Pass
2 ♥	4 ♣	Pass	5 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Two hearts was weak and four clubs Leaping Michaels, a sound hand with at least five-five in the black suits.

Partner leads the queen of hearts and this is what you, West, see:

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

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

Declarer covers with the king and you win the ace, declarer following with the nine. How do you defend? Former world champion Fred Hamilton showed once again that the years have not dimmed his powers. It was clearly essential that, if partner was the one with the heart singleton, he must be given his ruff, yet to continue hearts when declarer held the shortage could see a diamond loser go away on the heart jack.

Hamilton switched to the king of diamonds! He had seen that, if declarer held ace-doubleton, this would not cost a trick as the second diamond would go away on the heart jack. On the king of diamonds, partner's signal should tell you whether to try for a second diamond trick or a heart ruff – whether he is supposed to show count or attitude doesn't matter. The only time this defence will cost is if partner has the heart singleton plus a black-suit trick. This was the full deal:

**Dealer East. EW Vul.**

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

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

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

Five clubs was one down. At the other table the eccentric contract of four spades received an equally eccentric defence and came home for plus 420 and 10 IMPs to the Hamilton team.

### Every Trick Counts Barry Rigal

On this deal from the second final session of the Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams, it's very hard to stay low on the East-West cards. Switch the North-South cards and you'd wrap up game and wonder what's the point of this article. But if you open the West hand one heart or INT (15-17), you might well get to four hearts, a far from hopeless contract.

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

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

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

On a top club lead, you duck, winning the next club. Now you could take the diamond finesse, but the roof rates to fall in should it lose. Let's say you cross to a top diamond to take the heart finesse. North wins and cashes a club. What should South discard? It may look natural to encourage in spades, but think again. The spade losers can't go away, but your heart ten might still have some part in the defence. At the table, my partner pitched a discouraging spade and I led a fourth club for him to ruff with the ten of hearts to promote my nine for two down.

### Compacted to Death Barry Rigal

When Patty Tucker and Kevin Collins won the Compact KO, this deal was critical to an early win.

**Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

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

♠ K  
♥ A K J 6 2  
♦ K 6  
♣ K J 10 9 8

West	North <i>Collins</i>	East	South <i>Tucker</i>
—	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	3 ♦	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Against six no trump, reached at both tables, Jerry Helms and Bob Bitterman defeated the slam after leading the ace of clubs and a second club. Declarer settled for running clubs, unblocking spades and taking the diamond finesse. Had it won, the slam would probably have come home, but that line failed on this occasion.

Tucker received the lead of the nine of diamonds, covered by the ten and ducked by East. Now Tucker knocked out the ace of clubs, and West shifted to a spade. Tucker won the king and ran the clubs, arriving at this position:

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

The fourth club produces a remarkable triple squeeze as dummy pitches a spade: any discard East makes cost two tricks. The same sort of position materializes if West switches to a heart on winning the club ace. Declarer has an extra heart menace and can produce a triple squeeze on running the clubs.

**Senior Elegance**  
**Jason Feldman, San Diego, CA**  
*(From www.bridgewinners.com)*

Going into board 61 of the semi-final match of the Senior Knockout, **LARSEN** had a 6-IMP lead over **KASLE** when this deal came up.

**Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Pollack</i>	<i>Boyd</i>	<i>Feldman</i>
—	—	—	1 NT
Pass	2 ♣	2 ♥	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 NT	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	5 ♥	Pass	6 ♣
Pass	6 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Steve Robinson led the ten of hearts. One line of play is to assume that hearts are 6-2 and ruff a heart in the dummy and play for the club ace onside. But East made

a vulnerable two-heart overcall on a bad suit and bad hand, so it's likely that he has a seven-card suit. The best line, therefore, is a club-heart squeeze without the count, which is the line Mark Feldman found at the table.

He won the heart ace, drew two rounds of trumps with the queen and jack, then played ace and king of diamonds. Peter Boyd showed out on the second diamond, so it appeared that East was either 1=7=1=4, or 1=6=1=5. Feldman continued with the diamond queen, and ruffed a diamond with the ten of spades. Then he played a trump to the ace, and drew the last trump with the king of spades.

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

In the four-card end position East could not keep three clubs to the ace and the queen-nine of hearts. If East pitched a club, Feldman could play a club to the king and duck a club, and East would have to win the club ten with the ace. At the table, East pitched a heart (hoping that Feldman started with two hearts and four clubs), so Feldman pitched the ten of clubs, played a club to the king, and his heart six was his 12<sup>th</sup> trick for plus 1430.

As it turns out, playing a club to the ten would have worked as the jack was onside, but Feldman's more intricate line worked regardless of the location of the jack of clubs. The other table was in three hearts doubled going for 800, so making the contract was a 26-IMP swing (picked up 12 instead of losing 14).

**Senior KO Final**  
**Phillip Alder, Hobe Sound, FL**

**Dealer North. NS Vul.**

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Bates	Schermer	Wold	Chambers
—	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Feldman	Casen	Pollack	Krekorian
—	2 ♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Schermer made two spades, taking six spades, one heart and one diamond.

Feldman made an aggressive takeout double and Pollack plunged into three notrump. South led his singleton spade. North won with his ace and returned the jack, declarer winning with his king (discarding a heart from the dummy), cashing the diamond ace and continuing with the diamond queen. Krekorian took the trick, then shifted to a low heart. East took North's king with his ace, ran the diamonds, and played a heart to his jack. Pollack had nine tricks via one spade, two hearts, four diamonds and two clubs. That gave Larsen 11 IMPs.

Did you notice Krekorian's error? If North had the heart ace, any heart play would have worked. But to allow for the actual layout, South should have led the heart queen at trick five. This is a Deschappelles Coup, leading an unsupported honour to generate an entry in partner's hand.

### A Lead Problem in Two Parts Brian Senior

How are your opening leads? Better than mine, I hope.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
—	Kendrick		Senior
—	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♣	2 ♥	3 NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

You are South and see the above auction with everyone vulnerable at matchpoints. What do you lead, holding:

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

Now, let's try it on a different auction:

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
—	Kendrick		Senior
—	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
2 ♣	2 ♥	3 NT	Pass
Pass	4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦
4 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

The deal came in the last round of the Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs qualifying day at my table, and we were close to the edge – a bad board could cost us

qualification. On the original auction, I was thinking to lead a diamond – a surprise attack, when both our bid suits appeared to be covered by declarer. This was the full deal:

**Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

As you can see, a diamond lead would not have been a success, presenting declarer with his tenth trick and earning a dreadful score for our side. But David Kendrick's four-club bid, surely showing 7-3 in the majors, and also surely including at least one high spade, made me change my mind. David's excellent bid persuaded me to lead my own suit, spades, and we had the first six tricks for three down and 24.5 out of 25 MPs.



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# NEWS & VIEWS



## 3<sup>rd</sup> World Online University Team Championship

The start of this event has been delayed until **January 2012** to give extra time for teams to enter. It is a knock out competition on the internet between countries where the schedule is determined by draw. Play will start in groups, followed by a knockout final stage. A country can enter an unlimited number of teams.

## Turmoil at the Top

The news was announced recently that Lew Stansby and Chip Martel have broken up their long-standing partnership. Together, the pair have won three Bermuda Bowls, a Rosenblum and a World Open Pairs and thus are among only a handful of players to have won three of the four Grand Slam titles. They need an Olympiad Team title to complete the career Grand Slam. Additionally, Stansby has won two World Senior Teams titles. It has been reported that Stansby will partner Bart Bramley, which whom he won one of the Senior titles, and that Martel will join forces with Zia on the Fleisher team. Bobby Levin-Steve Weinstein have left the Fleisher team to join Nickell, immediately re-establishing them as the team to beat in the USA. Bob Hamman, formerly of the Nickell team, will partner Justin Lall on a team with Joel Wooldridge-John Hurd (all three of them on the 2<sup>nd</sup>-place Bermuda Bowl team in Veldhoven) and Bob and Shane Blanchard (père et fils).

## Site Turmoil

The economic crisis in Greece has forced them to withdraw from hosting the next (2012) European Closed Team Championships. The EBL is investigating alternatives (rumours abound). Additionally, the 2012 World Bridge Games (formerly the World Team Olympiad) site had still not been determined at press time.

## Monaco Z Rebuffed

The European Bridge League, in their meetings in Veldhoven, has declined to alter its qualification rules to allow the Zimmermann team (Pierre Zimmermann, Switzerland-Franck Multon, France; Tor Helness-Geir Helgemo, Norway; and Claudio Nunes-Fulvio Fantoni, Italy) to compete for Monaco in the next European Closed Team Championships, originally scheduled for

Greece in 2012. Had Monaco Z been allowed to compete in the Europeans, they would have been eligible, under WBF rules, to compete in the 2013 Bermuda Bowl, if they qualified (top six in Europe). However, as things stand at the moment, they will presumably compete in the 2012 World Bridge Games, the 2013 Transnational Teams and the 2014 Rosenblum.

## 2012 Summer Festival in Oz

Sean Mullamphy relates that the Canberra Summer Festival of Bridge, January 16-29, 2012, will be its 40<sup>th</sup> and will include the National Open Teams and a revival of the Blue Ribbon Pairs. See

[www.summerfestivalofbridge.com](http://www.summerfestivalofbridge.com) for details.

## Les 2 Modernes

Olivier Beauvillain has written a book (in French) about modern two-bids (strong two clubs, Multi two diamonds and two-suited 2M/2NT), including later developments in the auction. It is available from <http://www.bridgeplus.com> and from the author at [olivier.beauvillain@wanadoo.fr](mailto:olivier.beauvillain@wanadoo.fr) for €15.

## SportAccord World Mind Games

These comprise Bridge, Chess, Go, Draughts and Chinese Chess (Xianqi) and will be held in Beijing from 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> December. The participants for bridge will be China, Netherlands, Norway and USA (men) and China, France, Great Britain and USA (women). The total prize money for Bridge is USD 250,000. Further information can be found at:

SportAccord: <http://www.worldmindgames.net/en/>

IMSA: <http://www.imsaworld.com/>

WBF: <http://www.worldbridge.org/home.asp>

Press: [www.ecatsbridge.com](http://www.ecatsbridge.com)

Internet coverage will be on:

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

Ourgame: <http://register.ourgame.com/special/foreign/>

## Vu-Bridge

Didier Lévy reports his interactive site [www.vubridge.com](http://www.vubridge.com) is free for all bridge people: players, experts, editors, writers, journalists, champions...and IBPA of course. For us in IBPA, Didier relates, "When an author/editor submits a hand to Vu-Bridge, I can create a web link to be included within a website or a PDF file, so that the reader/player can read through

the “printed” version as usual, or click that link and play the hand, as if she/he were at the bridge table!”

Vu-Bridge is a teaching tool, where the player is guided through the correct play “only”, and receives instructions on “how to think” during the play.

Simply put, reporting bridge hands on a blog/website/e-Book is a 2D (two-dimensional) process: The hand is printed on the page and there is no interaction from the player. However, in Vu-Bridge hands, which are “3D”, the reader becomes a player and discovers the hands as if he sits at the table. Only experts can read a hand “2D” and make it become “3D” in their mind. Other solar system inhabitants (mostly humans, plus the Rueful Rabbit, the Toucan and the Walrus) stay locked in “2D” and will benefit from a link to play the hand in Vu-Bridge.

## **2011 European Small Federations Games**

**Luxembourg** was the winner at the 4<sup>th</sup> European Small Federations Games which took place in San Marino, 13-16 September, 2011. They beat Monaco in the semifinal and Estonia in the final to get the gold medal. The silver medal went to Estonia, and the bronze to Lithuania. Fifteen countries were represented. The Games are held annually and involve National Bridge Federations with up to 500 members.

## **2011 European Universities Championship**

The team representing Hamburg University won the gold medal at the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Universities Championships held in Warsaw, Poland, 19-23 September, 2011. Fourteen teams took part in the competition, representing six countries. The other medals were won by Wroclaw Polytechnic and Warsaw University.

## **ACBL Elections and Appointments**

CEO: Robert Hartman

President: Sharon Anderson

Honorary Member: Retired U.S. Air Force Colonel Greg Johnson, NASA shuttle pilot

## **Fall 2011 NABC Winners Seattle, WA**

**Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams:** Giorgio Duboin-Antonio Sementa, Michael Seamon-James Cayne, Lorenzo Lauria-Alfredo Versace

**Blue Ribbon Pairs:** Roger C. Lee-Joshua Donn

**Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams:** Antonio Sementa-Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria-Alfredo Versace, James Cayne-Michael Seamon

**Nail Life Master Pairs:** Justin Lall-Ishmael Del'Monte

**Keohane North American Swiss Teams:** Les Bart-Gloria Bart, Nader Hanna-Piotr Klimowicz

**U.S. Junior Bridge Championship:** Mitch Towner-Owen Lien, Kevin Dwyer-Roger Lee

**Marsha May Sternberg Women's Board-a-Match Teams:** Jill Levin-Jill Meyers, Geeske Joel-Tobi Sokolow, Debbie Rosenberg-Janice Seamon-Molson

**LM Women's Pairs:** Cheri Bjerkan-Rozanne Pollack

**Senior Knockout Teams:** Kyle Larsen-Rose Meltzer, Neil Chambers-John Schermer, Bill Pollack-Mark Feldman

**Senior Mixed Pairs:** Pat Dunn-Polly Dunn

## **IV South American Transnational Championships (2012)**

These Championships will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay from Saturday, May 26 until Sunday, June 3, 2012. There are two main events open to all players of any nationality: a five-session Pairs and a Teams event. The teams competition consists of a 15-round Swiss qualifying of 10-board matches, semifinals and final, and will be conducted in three categories: Open, Women and Mixed.

Additionally, the South American Junior (U-26) and Schools Championships (U-21) will take place concurrently with the other events.

Details can be found at [www.confbridge.org/torneos/montevideo2012.htm](http://www.confbridge.org/torneos/montevideo2012.htm).

## **7<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Congress (2012)**

The APBF Congress is now an open event similar to the European Open Championships. The next one will be held in Fukuoka, Japan from Saturday, August 25 to Sunday, September 2, 2012. Teams Championships, in Open, Women's, Seniors and Youth categories, will be held, as well as an Open Pairs event.

Information can be found at [www.jcbl.or.jp/apbf2012](http://www.jcbl.or.jp/apbf2012).

## **26<sup>th</sup> Worldwide Bridge Contest**

This event will again be held on two separate sessions: Friday, June 1 and Saturday, June 2, 2012. It is a WBF event, organised by ecatsbridge, and any bridge club in the world can run a heat. Scoring is done worldwide and each participant receives a commentary on the boards written by Eric Kokish. Details about participation and how a club can run a heat can be found at [www.ecatsbridge.com](http://www.ecatsbridge.com).



## IBPA Budget for the years 2011 and 2012 All figures in US dollars

	2011	2012
Income		
Subscriptions 280 @ \$42 =	11,760	11,760
Print subs 50 @ \$45 =	2,250	2,250
WBF Grant =	2,500	2,500
Award sponsors 5 @ \$1000 =	5,000	5,000
Interest received =	400	400
Total income =	21,910	21,910
Expenditure		
Bulletin Editor's fee 12 x \$690=	8,280	
12 x \$750=		9,000
Bulletin Editor's allowance=	1,000	1,000
Bulletin Editor's travel =	1,000	1,000
Bulletin Hands columnist =	900	900
Bulletin printing and postage =	2,000	2,000
President's allowance =	500	500
President's travel =	1,000	1,000
Treasurer's allowance =	500	500
Membership Secretary allowance =	500	500
IBPA Award prizes =	2,400	2,000
IBPA Award costs =	200	200
Credit card charges =	500	500
Bank charges =	300	300
Miscellaneous =	400	400
Total expenditure	19,480	19,800

# World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
<b>2011</b>			
Dec 2-11	Festival Mar del Plata	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.aba.org.ar
Dec 3-7	Asean Bridge Club Championships	Singapore	www.scba.org.sg
Dec 5-11	Regional Bridge Cruise	Miami, Florida	jtacbl1289@aol.com
Dec 8-10	Festival Puerto Velero	Puerto Velero, Chile	www.confsubridge.org
Dec 8-16	1 <sup>st</sup> Sport Accord World Mind Games	Beijing, China	www.worldmindgames.net
Dec 9-11	International Open Team Tournament	Milan, Italy	www.federbridge.it
Dec 16-18	GEO Cup	Bandung, Indonesia	fera.damayanti@gmail.com
Dec 16-18	2011 Winter Cup	Bucharest, Romania	www.eurobridge.org
<b>2012</b>			
Jan 15-25	International Festival	St. Moritz, Switzerland	
Jan 16-29	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 21-27	Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.bermudaregional.com
Jan 25-29	Iceland Express Bridge Festival	Reykjavik, Iceland	www.bridge.is
Feb 2-11	46 <sup>th</sup> International Bridge Festival	Tel-Aviv, Israel	www.ibf-festival.org
Feb 7-12	17 <sup>th</sup> NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 7-12	EBU Overseas Congress	Marbella, Spain	www.ebu.co.uk
Feb 17-19	Slava Cup	Moscow, Russia	www.slavacup.com
Feb 25-Mar 3	51 <sup>st</sup> Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	www.qldbridge.com
Mar 2-3	International Sunway Open	Sitges, Spain	www.sunway.es
Mar 6-11	Mexican Regional	San Miguel de Allende, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Mar 15-25	Spring NABC	Memphis, TN	www.acbl.org
Mar 27-Apr 1	Bridge Week	Kitzbuhel, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Apr 3-8	117 <sup>th</sup> Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Apr 27-May 1	International Championship	Berlin, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Apr 27-May 6	Lambourne Jersey Festival	Jersey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Apr 27-May 6	USBF Open/Women/Senior Trials	Chicago, IL	www.usbf.org
May 2-5	Cavendish Invitational Teams & Pairs	Las Vegas, NV	www.cavendishinvitational.com
May 11-18	South African Congress	Cape Town, South Africa	www.sabf.co.zac
May 11-22	63 <sup>rd</sup> International Festival	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.festivaldusoleil.com
May 16-17	Bonn Nations Cup	Bad Godesberg, Germany	www.bridge-club-bonn.de
May 17	Bonn Cup Pairs	Bad Godesberg, Germany	www.bridge-club-bonn.de
May 17-19	Festival de Toulouse	Toulouse, France	www.ffb-competitions.net
May 18-20	German Bridge Team trophy	Bad Godesberg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 21-27	Costa Calida International	La Manga, Spain	www.bridgeecc.com
May 26-Jun 3	IV South American Transnationals	Montevideo, Uruguay	http://www.confsubridge.org
Jun 1-2	Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs Everywhere	www.ecatsbridge.co.uk
Jun 1-6	European Youth Pairs Championship	Vejle, Denmark	www.ecatsbridge.com
Jun 3-10	German Bridge Festival	Wyk auf Fohr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Jun 12-23	51 <sup>st</sup> European Championships	Pending	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 29-Jul 11	International Festival	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 6-16	Danish Bridge Festival	Vingsted, Denmark	www.bridgefestival.dk
Jul 9-15	6 <sup>th</sup> World University Championship	Reims, France	www.fisu.net
Jul 12-22	Summer NABC	Philadelphia, PA	www.acbl.org
Jul 17-29	Territory Gold Festival	Darwin, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jul 24-Aug 4	World Youth Championships	Tai Cang City, China	www.cacbf.com
Jul 27-Aug 5	18 <sup>th</sup> Swedish Bridgefestival	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 28-Aug 2	13 <sup>th</sup> Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Aug 3-11	Norwegian Bridge Festival	Fredrikstad, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
Aug 10-19	Summer Congress	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 25-Sep 2	7 <sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Congress	Fukuoka, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp/apbf2012
Sep 7-9	Isle of Man Congress	Douglas, Isle of Man	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 8-15	51 <sup>st</sup> International Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.crobridge.com/pula/eng
Sep 10-13	4 <sup>th</sup> Buffett Cup	Omaha, NE	www.buffettcup.com
Sep 21-30	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 29-Oct 6	National Congress	Hamilton, New Zealand	www.nzcba.co.nz
Nov 5-11	International Bridge Open	Madeira, Portugal	www.bridge-madeira.com
Nov 5-11	Mexican Regional	Puerta Vallarta, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Nov 22-Dec 2	Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org
Dec 21-23	Channel Trophy	England	www.ebu.co.uk