



BULLETIN

www.ibpa.com

President:

PATRICK D JOURDAIN
8 Felin Wen, Rhiwbina
Cardiff CF14 6NW, WALES UK
(44) 29 2062 8839
president.ibpa@gmail.com

Chairman:

PER E JANNERSTEN
Banergatan 15
SE-752 37 Uppsala, SWEDEN
(46) 18 52 13 00
ibpa@jannersten.se

Executive Vice-President:

JAN TOBIAS van CLEEFF
Prinsegracht 28a
2512 GA The Hague, NETHERLANDS
(31) 70 360 5902
jvcleeff@xs4all.nl

Organizational Vice-President & Bulletin Production Manager:

DILIP GIDWANI
401 Mariden, 16th Road Bandra West
Mumbai 400 050, INDIA
(91) 22 98205 47150 Fax: 22 26002241
dilipgidwani@hotmail.com

Secretary:

HERMAN DE WAEL
Michel Willemslaan 40
B-2610 Wilrijk, BELGIUM
(32) 3 827 64 45 Fax: (32) 3 825 29 19
hermandw@skynet.be

Treasurer:

HEATHER DHONDY
50 Great North Way
London NW4 1HS, ENGLAND UK
(44) 20 8203 2119
heather.dhondy@btopenworld.com

Membership Secretary:

JEREMY DHONDY
50 Great North Way
London NW4 1HS, ENGLAND UK
(44) 20 8203 2119
j.dhondy@btinternet.com

Honorary General Counsel:

WILLIAM J. PENCHARZ
Lacourarie, Barthelemy de Bussière
24360 Piegut Pluvier, FRANCE
+33(0)5 53 60 30 60
billpencharz@hotmail.co.uk

Awards Secretary:

BARRY J. RIGAL
Apt 8E, 22 West 26th Street,
New York NY 10010, USA
(1) 212 366 4799
barryrigal@mindspring.com

Presidents Emeritii:

TOMMY SANDSMARK (NORWAY)
HENRY FRANCIS (USA)

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.

No. 566

Year 2012

Date March 10

Editorial

In law, in most cases, guilt or innocence is not determined by motive. If one breaks the law, motive may be taken into account at sentencing, but not in determining the verdict. Part of the reason for this is the difficulty in assessing motive, but the major part of it is that it is an action that is deemed illegal, not a motive. For example, armed robbery is not excused because of the need for money, however dire that may be. Nevertheless, we are asked to believe by the proponents of 'sportsmanlike dumping' (as if there could ever be such a thing) that motive is paramount. They argue that a team is within its rights (even compelled) to dump a match if it advances the team's chances to win the event. In this instance, dumping is the action, and improving one's chances of winning the event is the motive. Two questions arise: (1.) Is dumping 'sportsmanlike' in other circumstances? (2.) Can motive be determined with certainty?

Let's examine other potential motives for dumping. A couple of these may be: (a.) improving someone else's chances of qualifying for or winning some event; (b.) personal financial gain; (c.) advancing one's career. For example, a sponsor agrees to hire you if you dump a match to him. Are any of these motives acceptable? We think (hope) that the proponents of sportsmanlike dumping would all agree that motives such as financial, professional or fraternal gain are not acceptable reasons for dumping a match. Then why should it be acceptable to dump a match for some other reason, say, an increased chance for your team to win an event? Is that motive somehow more noble than these others? And what if your chances were improved by losing some match AND someone offered you cash to lose that match?

We have no quarrel at all with the argument that the organisers of events must be convinced to frame their conditions of contest to prevent dumping. Awarding advantages to the higher finishers in round-robin events (such as the right to choose opponents, carry-forward, etc.) are an attempt to do this. Another, perhaps less-effective attempt, is writing anti-dumping regulations into the conditions of contest. Are those sufficient to prevent the practice?

There is another set of players and pundits who claim that it is always sportsmanlike to follow the rules. The set of those with this belief intersects the set of those who also believe in sportsmanlike dumping, though probably not precisely. However, what if (a.) the rules prohibit dumping in any context, and (b.) a round-robin format with poorly-designed conditions of contest means that the possibility of its happening is real? Suppose, for example, toward the end of a round robin contest, Team A can prevent Team B, its primary opponent, from qualifying by losing to Team C? It would improve its chances of winning by dumping to Team C, but dumping is prohibited by the rules. What should Team A do then? Follow the rules, or dump?

We know that sports teams commonly dump to improve their chances (the FIFA World Cup and National Football League are rife with examples) and bridge teams have been suspected of doing so in the past. In the sporting arena, dumping is never admitted, and nothing is ever done after the fact - it's too difficult to prove, and damages the image of the game. In bridge, the act of framing the conditions of contest to prevent dumping means that there is a belief that dumping is, at the least, improper. So let's come out and say it, dumping is wrong, regardless of the motive. And let's not try to couch it in terms of trying to make the authorities write their conditions of contest better. We might believe a law to be wrong, but we don't imprudently break that law as a means to get it changed or, if even we do so, call it 'sportsmanlike law-breaking'.

Address all IBPA Bulletin correspondence to: JOHN CARRUTHERS
1322 Patricia Blvd., Kingsville, Ontario, N9Y 2R4, CANADA
Tel: +1 519-733-9247
email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

THE 2012 NEC CUP

Barry Rigal, NYC
Rich Colker, Wheaton, MD

The 17th NEC Cup had a clear favourite, NEDUK, the defending champions (David Bakhshi/David Gold, Ricco van Prooijen/Louk Verhees), and many other contenders from Bulgaria, the Antipodes, Indonesia, China, the British Isles and the host country.

The teams would play a 12-round, 14-board Swiss Qualifying, followed by Knockout play for the top eight.

Round 1. Indonesia Syabas v. Papa & the Rabbits;
Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

♠ 10 2
♥ Q J 8
♦ Q 10 7 4 3
♣ J 9 2

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

♠ Q 5 4
♥ K 10 9 6 3
♦ 5
♣ K 8 4 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Hayashi</i>	<i>Bojoh</i>	<i>Maeda</i>	<i>Tueje</i>
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Dewi</i>	<i>Jomura</i>	<i>Murniati</i>	<i>Iwata</i>
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT ¹	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Non-serious

Both tables received the queen of hearts lead. Dewi won in dummy, led a diamond to her hand, and then took a losing trump finesse. She ruffed the heart return and now needed a miracle in diamonds, which was not forthcoming, plus the club finesse.

Nobuyuki Hayashi took a different tack. He took an immediate club finesse and when it held, he ruffed a club, crossed to the diamond king, ruffed a second club, cashed the ace of spades, ruffed a heart to hand and played the king of spades. With the clubs and spades splitting, he could claim 12 tricks. Nicely done.

In NEDUK v. Aka Maru:

West	North	East	South
<i>Miyakuni</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Ota</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Akama</i>	<i>Prooijen</i>	<i>Maruyama</i>
2 ♣ ¹	Pass	2 ♦ ²	Pass
2 ♠ ³	Pass	2 NT ²	Pass
3NT ⁴	Pass	4 ♦ ⁵	Pass
4 ♥ ⁵	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♥	Pass	6 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 6+♣ or 4+♣ and 5+♠, 11-15 HCP
2. Relay
3. 5+♠ and 4+♣
4. 5♠ and 5♣
5. Cue for spades

While Gold-Bakhshi were defeating six spades by three tricks (declarer played for a cross-ruff but delayed cashing the ace-king of diamonds until she had taken two ruffs in her hand and Bakhshi could now ruff in and play a trump), Louk Verhees played slam on a third/fifth diamond three lead to his nine.

Knowing diamonds were 3-3 or 5-1 and that he no longer had the entries to set up clubs if diamonds were 5-1, Verhees played back the diamond king at trick two to discover which it was. South ruffed and returned the king of hearts. Verhees won, took a club finesse, then ruffed a club, ruffed a heart, ruffed a club and cashed the ace of spades. He could return to hand with a second heart ruff, draw trumps, and cash his two remaining clubs. Nicely done, contract made and 15 IMPs to NEDUK.

Four spades looks easy on the following board, until the 4-1 trump break made it more challenging than expected.



**Round 3. England Women v. Strawberry Fields
Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.**

♠ 5
♥ J 9 6 4
♦ A Q 9 7 5 3
♣ 5 2

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

♠ Q 10 8 6
♥ 10 5
♦ 8 6
♣ K Q J 7 4

West	North	East	South
<i>Yanagida</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Ito</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>
Pass	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>Stockdale</i>	<i>Sentsui H</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Sentsui S</i>
1 ♣	1 ♦	1 ♥ ¹	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Spades

In the Open Room, Ito won the club lead and drew two rounds of trumps with the king and jack then knocked out the diamond ace. North won and led a club to South for a third spade. Now declarer ruffed a club and pitched one on the king of diamonds, but was then out of trumps. With hearts not breaking, there were only nine tricks. Declarer could have either led a diamond earlier or, after the third trump, come to a heart, pitched a club on the diamond king and played two more hearts. South could not ruff profitably, so declarer wins the queen, ruffs a club and leads a diamond, scoring the last trump in dummy en passant.

Stockdale played four spades on a heart lead and won in dummy to lead a spade to the ace and a diamond up. North won and continued diamonds; Stockdale finessed, then cashed the king of spades to reach:

♠ —
♥ J 9 6
♦ Q 9 7
♣ 5 2

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

♠ Q 10
♥ 10
♦ —
♣ K Q J 7 4

Declarer led the diamond king and South pitched his heart, so Stockdale discarded a second club and led a

trump. South could win the queen of spades and play back a top club; but Stockdale ducked and won the next club then played the last trump to squeeze North in the red suits. a nice recovery.

In the diagrammed position, declarer can always succeed. However, if she cashes the diamond king and spade king, South can defeat her by throwing a club instead of a spade. In any event, the bottom line was 10 IMPs to England.

**Quarterfinals
Board 15. Dealer South N/S Vul.**

♠ A J 4 3 2
♥ Q 9 8
♦ A
♣ A Q 10 2

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

♠ Q
♥ K J 4 2
♦ K 7 6 5 4 2
♣ 4 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Newell</i>	<i>Zhuang</i>	<i>Reid</i>
—	—	—	1 ♦ ¹
Pass	1 ♥ ²	Pass	2 ♥ ³
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Hearts, 9-13, possibly canapé
2. Relay, usually GF
3. 4 hearts and 5+ diamonds

West	North	East	South
<i>Nunn</i>	<i>Dai</i>	<i>Hans</i>	<i>Yang</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 ♣ ¹	Pass	2 ♦
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Strong

The benefits of the relay system showed up big-time here when, against three no trump, Zhuang led a spade to the queen and king, ducked. West returned his eight of spades and declarer ducked again. East overtook and shifted to the queen of diamonds, but Newell won and cashed two spades, the heart queen (ducked), his last spade, then led a heart to dummy (ducked again) on which West came down to three clubs and two diamonds.

Now a club to the ten and jack left East on play; after cashing the heart ace, if he returned a diamond it would give dummy an entry, if he played back a club, declarer would have the last three club tricks. (Had West pitched a diamond in the five-card ending declarer would have cashed king of diamonds and

exited with a diamond to endplay East to lead clubs at the end.)

Hans led an intelligent heart against three notrump, trying to kill declarer's entries to the diamonds. Declarer won cheaply in hand and unblocked the ace of diamonds, then led a spade. West won the king and returned his heart to Dai's queen, ducked by Hans. Now declarer cleared spades, and Hans took his spade ten and heart ace. We had reached this ending.

```

      ♠ 4
      ♥ —
      ♦ —
      ♣ A Q 10 2

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

      ♠ —
      ♥ K
      ♦ K 7 6
      ♣ 4
  
```

Hans exited with the club jack to the four, five and queen. Reading the position perfectly, Dai cashed his four of spades and got out with the two of clubs. Whichever opponent won the club would have to give him the red kings in dummy or lead a club for the finesse. No swing.

Semifinals

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

```

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Iliev</i>	<i>van Prooijen</i>	<i>Hristov</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	1 NT	Double	2 ♠
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Isporski</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Kovachev</i>
—	—	—	1 ♠
Pass	1 NT	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	3 ♣	Pass	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The Bulgarians won the bidding battle here but lost the war - though it was a close-run thing. Gold's

decision to bid two diamonds over one notrump has the merit of simplifying the auction but it lost the heart fit for good. Bakhshi competed to three diamonds, but sold out to Kovachev's effervescent balance of four clubs. The defenders led spades and scored a trick in each suit in the fullness of time.

While four hearts appears hopeless, Iliev gave himself a decent chance. He got a spade lead and a club shift to the ace for a club return. He won in hand and played out his top spades; van Prooijen discarded - though I think he knew his partner had the heart king, or how was he to beat the contract? Now declarer played a heart to the ace and to avoid being endplayed, Verhees unblocked the king of hearts to let his partner in for the diamond play. Nicely done, and 4 IMPs to NEDUK.

Nunn-Hans, with the East/West cards, sold out to three clubs when the auction followed that of the Closed Room 'til Nunn passed three clubs rather than bidding three diamonds. Minus 110 was still good enough for a 5 IMP gain, though, since Yamada as West jumped to three notrump at his second turn when he saw his partner come in with two diamonds. On a club lead, declarer had no choice but to finesse in diamonds and go three down when it lost.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

```

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Mihov</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Stefanov</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>van Prooijen</i>	<i>Danailov</i>
Pass	1 NT	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Both tables reached three notrump by North and both received the three of hearts lead. With five diamond and two heart tricks, you need two more. How should you set about obtaining them? One way is to play for the ace of clubs to be onside, another to play for the jack of spades to be onside, and a third to play for the jack-ten of clubs to be onside. As soon as you lose the lead, you know a heart will come back and you will be unable to knock out another ace without the defence cashing at least three hearts to go with their two aces (and possibly the jack of spades). Well, how would you play it? (No fair looking at the E/W hands - I know, too late!)

Gold and Stamatov both won the heart king, crossed to a high diamond, and played a spade to the king. When that held, they led the club king to the ace, won the heart return, and claimed. Note that, even if the defenders play back a spade after winning the ace of clubs, the defence can only cash three of them to go with their club ace. (Of course, the spades could have been 5-3 but then, either East might not have led a heart if he had five spades, or the suit would be blocked if West had five.)

Also note that if the spade king loses to the ace and a heart comes back, you still have the chance of the spade jack onside. Only the ace of spades with West and the jack of spades with East beats the hand. (Unless of course, some diabolical West, with ace-fifth of spades, ducks the spade king, wins the club, then leads a low spade. But how would anyone know to defend that way?)

The Final – Down Under v. Bulgarian All-Stars

Deals like the following one are what make the game fascinating to me. There is a bluff and double-bluff element that leaves me wondering whether anyone will ever really master the game.

Board 50. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Reid</i>	<i>Isporski</i>	<i>Newell</i>	<i>Kovachev</i>
—	—	Pass	1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Iliev</i>	<i>Hans</i>	<i>Hristov</i>	<i>Nunn</i>
—	—	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 ♠ ¹	Pass	3 ♣ ²
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Range ask (12-14 notrump)
2. Maximun, clubs, no major

Tony Nunn saw his LHO lead a fourth-highest spade to the ace and East return the eight. He played the jack and West ducked, playing the six - now declarer did not know if spades were 4-3 or 5-2. He played a heart to his queen - down one.

Valio Kovachev followed with the spade two and three, deliberately revealing the position to West, who won his king and exited with a middle spade. Declarer won and ran five clubs, West pitching his small heart, then two diamonds. Now declarer led to the ace of hearts, and had the king not fallen, would have had the choice of trying to drop the king of diamonds, pinning the jack of diamonds, or endplaying East in hearts to lead away from the diamond king. All of this was moot when the heart king put in an appearance. Twelve IMPs to the All-Stars.

The results:

1st: **DOWN UNDER** – Sartaj Hans/Tony Nunn, Martin Reid/Peter Newell

2nd: **BULGARIAN ALL-STARS** – Valio Kovachev/Vladimir Isporski, Manol Iliev/Hristo Hristov

3rd/4th: **ONI-TAKA** – Tadashi Teramoto/Masayuki Ino, Kazuhiko Yamada/Takahiko Hirata, Masaaki Takayama/Takeshi Niekawa

3rd/4th: **NEDUK** – David Bakhski/David Gold, Louk Verhees/Ricco van Prooijen



www.ibpa.com

This Bulletin

You can access an electronic copy of this Bulletin at www.ibpa.com/566is.pdf

The 2010 Handbook

To access the electronic version of the Handbook, please follow the emailed instructions.

Personal Details Changes

Whenever your contact details change, please amend them as appropriate in the database found at: www.jannersten.org or inform the Membership Secretary, Jeremy Dhondy: j.dhondy@btinternet.com

Subscriptions

You can apply to join the IBPA or renew your subscription on the website by clicking on the appropriate button on the top of the homepage.

Members' Addresses

You can find fellow members' contact details at: www.jannersten.org. If you have forgotten your access code: j.dhondy@btinternet.com

OZ BRIDGE

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



JACOB'S LARDER

The 2012 Australian National Open Teams was won by David Beauchamp, Andy Braithwaite, Peter Newman, Matthew Thomson and Nathan Van Jole. In the final they defeated Arjuna De Livera/Ian Robinson, Bill Jacobs/Ben Thompson, Matt Mullamphy/Ron Klinger by 109 IMPs to 94.

This was Board 46 in the final:

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
De Livera	Newman	Robinson	Thomson
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the diamond three: two, queen, ace.

Declarer played the club five: nine, king, four, and returned a club to the ten and jack. West cashed the king of diamonds and played a third diamond to declarer's jack. South continued with the club ace and the fourth club. West won, took his diamond winner and, in response to East's signaling, switched to a heart. The heart ace was the fifth trick for East/West, plus 50.

West	North	East	South
Beauchamp	Thompson	Van Jole	Jacobs
—	Pass	Pass	1 ♣
Pass	1 ♠!	2 ♥	2 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
I. 0-11, no major			

Here, the lead was the heart eight, four, seven, three.

Opposition interference is one of the problems with the weak notrump opening, used by Jacobs/Thompson and other leading Australian pairs. The range for balanced hands between one and two notrump is 15-19/20. Here, South's two notrump showed 18-20 balanced and, with a combined total of 26 points possible, North went on to game.

A tiny slip by Dave Beauchamp gave Bill Jacobs a chance to shine and Jacobs took that chance. He ducked the heart opening lead and West continued with the heart five to the ace. East returned the jack of hearts to South's king and West discarded the spade six. The critical play occurred at trick four: club three from South, nine, king, spade two. Unable to afford two club losers, South planned an endplay.

From this point, Jacobs played like Deep Finesse. The diamond two went to the four, nine and king and West returned the diamond three: ten – six – jack. South cashed the spade ace and crossed to the king. These cards remained:

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

When declarer played the nine of spades to the queen, what was West to do? If he threw a club, South could play ace and another club and make the last two tricks. When West discarded the diamond five, South cashed the ace of diamonds and exited with the five of clubs. West could win this, but had to give South the last two tricks and the contract. Very nicely played.

West could have avoided this position by playing the six on the first club. Deep Finesse can succeed by inserting the seven or eight from dummy, but that was never going to happen in the real world. After the club six from West and the king from dummy, there is no endplay and three notrump is doomed.

REMINDER !!

A number of IBPA members have not paid their dues for 2012. Jeremy Dhondy will be delighted to help you renew. Jeremy's contact details are on the masthead on the front page of every Bulletin.



Moscow,
February 17-19, 2012
Mark Horton,
Bath, UK

The Slava Cup, held each year in Moscow in memory of Slava Grinyuk, is now firmly established as one of the best events on the calendar. This year the organisers staged a team tournament with eight extremely powerful sides as well as a forty-pair Swiss.

Monaco, represented by Pierre Zimmermann, Frank Multon, Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes swept to victory in the Top 8, defeating Israel's Ron Pachtman, Eldad Ginossar, Yaniv Zack and Ilan Herbst 96 -52 IMPs in a final that was full of exciting deals that kept the huge BBO audience happy. Third place went to Bulgaria's Victor Aronov, Jerry Stamatov, Vladimir Mihov and Diyan Danailov who defeated Russia's Lazy by 79 IMPs.

Israel gained a measure of consolation when Lotan Fischer and Ron Schwartz proved convincing winners of the Top 40 IMP Pairs. It was the first time a pair has been certain of winning this event before the last round started.

Here are a few highlights – the daily bulletins can be found at: www.slavacup.com.

Big Black

Israel's heavy defeat of the Italian squad in their first-round encounter was a bit of a surprise. The second half of their match started in sensational style:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Herbst</i>	<i>Zaleski</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Giubilo</i>
—	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	4 NT	Pass
7 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

The textbooks don't tell you how to approach this type of hand! North led the two of hearts and when South covered the king with a hopeful ace, West ruffed and claimed, having three discards for the spades; plus 2140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Pachtman</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Ginossar</i>
—	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♣ ¹	Pass	2 ♥ ²	Pass
3 ♥ ³	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
5 NT ⁴	Pass	6 ♥ ⁵	Pass
7 ♣	Pass	7 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Game forcing, natural or balanced
2. Spades
3. Agrees spades
4. Grand Slam Force
5. Ace or king of spades

It looks as though Lauria might have violated captaincy principles, but if so, he justified it when South tried the ace of hearts as his opening lead. Lauria ruffed, played a spade to the king and a spade to the nine, plus 2210. Perhaps declarer was influenced by South's failure to lead a trump. Whatever, it was quite a way to pick up 2 IMPs.

Divide and Rule

It is not uncommon for declarer to be in a position to take on just one of the defenders. On this deal from the second half of Round 2 declarer was in the happy position of being able to choose which opponent to tackle.

Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jansma</i>		<i>Paulissen</i>	
—	—	1 ♣ ¹	1 ♥
Pass	1 ♠	1 NT	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
1. Any 18+; 12-14 balanced; or clubs with 15+			

Continued on page 10...



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

605. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

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

South's cue bid of two spades promised a limit raise or better in diamonds. Thereafter the auction was natural.

West led the seven of spades to the two from dummy, the nine from East, and declarer's king. Next, declarer played a club to dummy's ace and then ran the jack of diamonds. When West produced both the king of diamonds and a second spade, the contract was down one.

"Taking the first spade was a mistake," offered North at the end of the session. "You have nine tricks without a spade trick and the last thing you want is for West to produce the king of diamonds and for him to have a spade left to play. Consequently, you should play a low spade at trick one. The best the East can do is to take his ace and queen of spades. Then, after you regain the lead, you will cross to dummy and run the jack of diamonds. As West has no spades left, then, despite his producing the king of diamonds, you will have nine trouble-free tricks."

606. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

This deal (see next column) was from a local teams semi-final and only one declarer made four spades. One unsuccessful declarer took West's opening lead

of the queen of diamonds with the ace and returned the suit. East won the second trick and shifted to a club. Declarer finessed and West won the king of clubs. As both major-suit kings were wrong, the contract failed by one trick.

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

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

The other two declarers ducked the opening lead but failed at trick two when West shifted to a heart for they called for dummy's queen of hearts. East took his king of hearts and shifted to a club and, as West held both black kings, the contracts finished one down.

Against the same lead, the successful declarer paused to form a plan based on keeping East off lead while either the king of trumps or the king of hearts remained unplayed. If East played the king at trick one, this declarer planned to win the ace and return the ten of diamonds. However, East followed with the eight of diamonds and declarer allowed the queen of diamonds to hold the trick. West saw little point in continuing the attack on diamonds as it was clear that declarer held the ace of diamonds. So, he shifted to a heart. This declarer kept true to his plan and called for dummy's ace of hearts and then ran the queen of trumps to West's king.

There was nothing the defence could do now: a heart exit was pointless and the actual diamond exit

was won by declarer with the ace, who then drew trumps and knocked out the king of hearts. He made four trumps, four hearts and the minor-suit aces.

607. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

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

West led the king of hearts against four spades. After dummy was tabled, the declarer counted four potential losers: two hearts, a diamond and a club. As the first three losers were unavoidable, the declarer saw that he needed to make three diamond tricks for a club discard. As West was marked with the ace of diamonds, declarer formed a plan to overcome his holding a singleton or doubleton ace of diamonds. As hearts were likely to be 6-1, declarer deemed it more probable that West would have one or two diamonds rather than three.

Declarer took the first trick with the ace and played the ace of trumps followed by the two of trumps to his nine. Although West discarded a heart, declarer used this first entry to his hand to lead the three of diamonds towards dummy. West played low and dummy's jack won the trick. Next, declarer overtook the jack of trumps with his queen, drawing East's last trump, to lead the eight of diamonds. This time the ace of diamonds appeared, just beating the air.

West then cashed two hearts and shifted to a club. Declarer rose with the ace of clubs and cashed his queen of diamonds. All that remained was to cross back to dummy with a trump and throw the six of clubs on dummy's king of diamonds.

Declarer's plan would have failed against 3-3 diamonds and an alert West. In that case, on the first diamond lead, with one trump still outstanding, West would rise with the ace and cash two heart

tricks, allowing East to discard his two remaining diamonds. A diamond ruff would then have spelt doom for declarer.

608. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2 ♣
Pass	2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	4 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

South was not tempted to bid again over North's raise to game as it promised fewer values than a raise to three hearts. West began with the ace and king of spades. Declarer ruffed and made the seemingly strange move of drawing only one round of trumps before playing the ace and king of diamonds. The lone kibitzer winced when West ruffed the latter card and played another spade. Declarer ruffed and cashed the ace and king of clubs before playing a third rounds of diamonds to East's jack.

The spade continuation was no surprise and declarer ruffed with the queen of trumps, reducing himself to the bare ace of trumps and the nine-three of diamonds. When declarer led a fourth round of diamonds, West had no winning defence. He was reduced to the nine-eight of trumps and a club. If he discarded the club, declarer planned to ruff the diamond in dummy with the six of trumps and then make the last two tricks on a high crossruff. When West actually ruffed the diamond, declarer overruffed this with the king of trumps and then led the six of trumps to his ace, drawing West's last trump in the process. All that remained was to table his tenth trick, the thirteenth diamond.

The kibitzer now understood what declarer had done. "That was a finely played hand," he said. "It was an example of good technique, because a second round of trumps would see the contract fail on the actual layout."

...Slava Cup - continued from page 7

When East started with a Polish Club and South overcalled, West had nothing useful to say, but when East rebid one notrump to show a powerful hand, West thought it was likely that it would include the ace of diamonds in which case there might well be enough tricks for game. His diagnosis was perfect, but there was a minor flaw – the vital ace was unaccompanied.

Nevertheless, the only certain way to defeat three notrump is for South to lead the nine of spades. North must cash two top spades and switch to a heart. When South in reality led a club, declarer won with the eight, unblocked the ace of diamonds and played a low heart. South went in with the jack and switched to his spade. North took the king and returned a club. Declarer won with the king and played back the queen of spades! North could see that if he won and cashed another spade he would then have to give declarer access to dummy, so he ducked. North was now out of the game and declarer could continue with the king of clubs and a club. South could win and cash another club but was now down to the queen-four-three-two of hearts. North's singleton seven of hearts meant that if South exited with the queen of hearts declarer would score all four tricks in the suit and a if he exited with a low heart, that would finally give declarer access to dummy's winners.

Declarer can also prevail by taking on North! After the club switch he can simply cash his winners in hearts and clubs and then exit with the queen of spades. North can win, but South's singleton nine of spades ensures that declarer will eventually be granted an entry to dummy. This was confluence of a sort, with North's singleton heart seven and South's spade nine singleton providing declarer with the key to dummy entry.

Declarer's excellent play proved to be a pyrrhic victory as in the other room declarer was in 3NT redoubled and finished two down, minus 1000. So plus 600 was worth only an additional 2 IMPs!

Foresight

The great Giorgio Belladonna said that it was not absolutely necessary to be a master of squeeze play in order to become a champion. I will leave you to form your own judgment as to the validity of that statement (I recall stumbling into my first double squeeze quite by accident) and it is certainly true that many squeezes seem to occur without any special effort on declarer's part. However, from a defender's point of view, the ability to foresee a potential squeeze is important, as there may be a way to circumvent declarer's strategy.

This deal from the second half of the semi-final between Israel and Lazy (Russia) illustrates the point:

Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khiuppenen</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Kholomeev</i>	<i>Herbst</i>
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣ ¹	Pass
2 ♠ ²	Pass	2 NT ³	Pass
3 ♦ ⁴	Pass	3 ♥ ³	Pass
3 NT ⁵	Pass	4 ♦ ⁶	Pass
4 ♠ ⁶	Pass	4 NT ⁷	Pass
5 ♣ ⁸	Pass	5 ♦ ⁹	Pass
6 ♦ ¹⁰	Pass	6 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Game forcing
2. Denies four spades
3. Relay
4. Six hearts
5. No weak shortage
6. Cue bids
7. Roman Key Card Blackwood
8. 1 or 4
9. Trump queen ask
10. Heart queen and diamond king, no club king

In the other room, East/West had stopped safely in four hearts, but Lazy needed things to happen and the slam was not without play.

North led the two of spades to declarer's king and, with eleven tricks on top, it seems that the best chance of an extra one is to find a favourable position in spades. However, declarer has another string to his bow and he crossed to the ace of hearts and played a club. If South plays low, declarer can put in the ten. North will win with the king, but that will leave South guarding both minors and he will inevitably be squeezed. Although it may appear easy enough for South to split his honours this type of play is to some degree counter-intuitive. When South does split, declarer ducks.

Now, if South fails to play a second club – say he exits with a trump – declarer can win in dummy, ruff a spade and then play trumps to reach this ending (see *top of next page*):

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

South is looking after the diamonds and North the spades, while both opponents have a guard in clubs. When declarer cashes the king of diamonds and plays a diamond to the ace North must part with a club. Now the ace of spades squeezes South in the minors.

However, Ilan Herbst did split his honours and when the queen of clubs held he promptly played back the two of clubs to effectively end declarer's hopes. Well defended!

Monaco Reigns

The final was a little one-sided, but full of interesting deals – this was one such...

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Z'mann	Zack	Multon	Herbst
—	1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	1 NT
Pass	2 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the five of clubs and when declarer played low from dummy East won with the queen and switched to the six of hearts. Bingo! That was a fast one down, plus 50.

In the other room...

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Fantoni	Pachtman	Nunes
—	1 ♣	1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♥	Double	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

A singleton king is frequently a stopper when the suit has been bid against you, but here declarer also needed some help from both partner and the opponents. East led the queen of hearts – having been raised, there is a strong case for finding the essential lead of a low one. West put up the ace and returned a heart and East ducked the trick to dummy. Declarer came to hand with a club and played a diamond, putting in the nine when East followed with the seven. When that passed off peacefully, declarer played a second club and then another diamond. After cashing two tricks in the suit he exited with a heart. Declarer did not care that the spade finesse was right all the time – he had plus 400 on the card and 10 IMPs.

Well done to the champions from Monaco: Pierre Zimmermann/Franck Multon, Tor Helness/Geir Helgemo and Claudio Nunes/Fulvio Fantoni.

**NORWEGIAN
BRILLIANCY**

**Knut Kjærnsrød,
Tored, Norway**



One of the main Norwegian championships is played over two weekends, one in November and one in February, with the teams in the first and second divisions gathered at Værnes airport near Trondheim in central Norway. During the November play, Ronny Jørstad was the only declarer among 47 to land ten tricks in a spade contract on this board:

Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

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

North showed an invitational hand with three spades. West started with the ace of hearts and played a heart to East's king, and he shifted to the queen of clubs. What to do?

Ronny realized that West must have led from a five-card suit, otherwise East would have continued hearts. Maybe West was trying to shorten declarer's trumps? He laid down the ace of trumps, East following with the nine, and continued with a small one, West grabbing his queen and East discarding a club. West continued hearts, and East threw another club. South played a spade to the knave, East shedding a diamond and ruffed a club, both opponents following. On the ace of spades a diamond was discarded in dummy and East did the same. A diamond to the ace, and the situation was:

	♠ —	
	♥ —	
	♦ 6	
	♣ K 5	
♠ —		♠ —
♥ 9 3		♥ —
♦ ?		♦ ?
♣ ?		♣ J ?
	♠ —	
	♥ —	
	♦ K J 7	
	♣ —	

Ronny played the king of clubs; East followed, and West threw a heart. Then the position was an open book. The remaining diamonds had to split 1-1, and the contract was home regardless of the position of the diamond queen. The full deal:

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

The second board was played recently in one of our clubs in the far north, Harstad. Anders Kristensen, one of the opponents, reported declarer's brilliant play:

Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bremseth	Lind	Kristensen	Lichtwark
—	—	Pass	2 ♥
Pass	2 NT	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Two hearts showed six hearts and 10-13 points and three hearts showed a (semi)balanced minimum. Despite that, North decided to jump to slam. West had decided to "wait in the bushes" with his solid suit.

West started with the ace of diamonds and continued with the king, ruffed in dummy. With the trumps 2-2 or 3-1 the contract is easy, but when Terje Lichtwark played a trump to his queen, West discarded a diamond.

South played a club to the king and played the ten of trumps, which East had to cover. Then Terje played a club to the ace and ruffed a club.

It may seem natural to play the queen of spades now, but that would not work. Instead he played a spade to the king and a club from dummy. East discarded a spade and South his remaining diamond. Now the situation was:

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

To fulfill his brilliancy, Terje played dummy's last club and trumped with his three. The spade queen overtaken with the ace left East helpless.

The third board was played in Bergen, prior to the great January tournament there, and Gunn Helness emerged as the star:

Dealer North Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Haetta</i>	<i>Ekren</i>	<i>Miecovic</i>	<i>Helness</i>
—	1 NT	Pass	2 ♠
2 ♠	Pass	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	4 NT
Pass	6 ♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Two diamonds was a transfer and three diamonds showed diamonds and a game force. The final contract was highly optimistic. West led the king of spades to dummy's ace and I am quite sure you have to think for quite a while to spot a winning chance.

Gunn embarked on her journey towards success by cashing the king and knave of hearts and then played three rounds of trumps ending in hand. She cashed her remaining hearts and before the last one, the position was:

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

On the last heart West had to throw a club. Dummy's last spade disappeared and when Gunn played her club, West could not gain by taking the ace, so she ducked. East won the king but had to play another club, and when Gunn trumped, the ace fell and dummy was high.



The Austrian Ladies Pairs Championship was won by Doris Fischer/Iris Grumm. They were only in fifth position after two sessions but in session three they had a score of nearly 70% and won in comfort. Runnersup were Ursula Assmann/Eva Pichler, two young ladies. Miss Fischer now holds the title in the Open Pairs and in the Ladies Pairs. To win the "Triple",

she also needs to win the Mixed Pairs. It will be played in Loiben and always attracts about 160 pairs.

The first round of Session I was a bit unusual as mother (Susanne) and daughter (Iris) met as opponents when the two favourites (Doris Fischer/Iris Grumm and Sylvia Terraneo/Susanne Grumm) played each other. It was also a duel between hearts and spades.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Doris</i>	<i>Sylvia</i>	<i>Iris</i>	<i>Susanne</i>
—	1 ♥ ¹	1 ♠	2 ♥
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	4 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Hardly an opening bid when you play any system except Blue Club!

The aggressive opening and South's tactical(?) bidding were rewarded as East/West neglected to double: minus 100 was worth 85% for the mother. Three spades was made at most tables.

Iris Grumm showed her technique in this deal from the final session.

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Iris</i>		<i>Doris</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♦
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	Pass

Iris took the lead of a small heart with the ace and played a diamond. West took the trick and shifted to a club which went to the ace. East had to take the next diamond and played another heart which Iris ruffed. Now she played the king of spades and a spade to the ace, ruffed another heart in hand and a diamond on the table. The position was...

<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ —</p> <p>♦ 9</p> <p>♣ K 9 7</p>	<p>♠ 10</p> <p>♥ Q</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ 10</p>	<p>♠ Q</p> <p>♥ K</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ 6 4</p>
---	---	---

When she drew the last trump, West could safely discard a club, but on the heart king, she had no good reply.

The Contract of 7NT

There are three main types of grand slam in notrump when a squeeze is not involved.

1. Both hands are powerful and balanced with a lot of points.
2. The partnership has two long complete suits and the appropriate controls in the other suits.
3. The partnership has one very long complete suit and enough tricks and controls outside.

Last week, I encountered examples of all three types. The following deal, Type 3, was played in a pairs tournament in Vienna's biggest bridge club. I have never seen such a hand in almost 50 years of bridge, although

I must admit that I have played much less in the last 20 years. I remember a hand with 1-1-1-10 (1968, Olympiad in Deauville, Iceland-Austria), another with 10-3-0-0 in an Austrian Team Championship, also in the sixties, and a recent 10-0-1-2. But never an 11-card suit!

Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

North/South can make seven notrump and seven clubs, but East can make life difficult if he opens with a Weak Two, a Multi or Muiderberg. If you bid five clubs, partner will give you credit for eight good clubs - but who would think of eleven cards? The probability for such a distribution is about one in ten million.

One South player passed over a two-spade opener and bid three spades after his partner doubled the opening bid. Not a good idea! However, the continuation was even worse - the partnership landed in six hearts (yes, hearts) and scored minus 700. Imagine laying an 11-card suit down in the dummy!

The rest of the (rather weakish) field: one pair played seven notrump, two pairs seven clubs, six pairs six clubs, and two pairs five clubs.

NEWS & VIEWS



World Bridge Games

The 2012 World Bridge Games (formerly the Olympiad Teams) will indeed be held in France (tentatively), but in Lille and not, as previously reported, Strasbourg. The event will be held from August 9-23 and will comprise Open, Women's, Seniors and Mixed Transnational Teams. Contracts are expected to be signed within two weeks. There is as yet no word from IMSA regarding the status of the other sports in this scheme.

Women's Online Festival

The 5th edition of this event will be held from Monday, April 16 to Sunday, April 22, 2012 on BBO. There will be four tournaments each day, two individuals, followed by two pairs games - the times are 10:00, 15:10, 19:00 and 23:40 GMT each day. Each tournament will be 10 boards long and the cost for each is BBO\$1. Prizes in WBF master points and BBO\$ will be awarded. More information can be found at: www.wbfwomensbridgeclub.org.

Angelini Rebuffed

CONI, the Italian Olympic Committee, has rejected an appeal by Francesco Angelini to overrule his team's disqualification from the 2010 Italian Club Team Championship, which he had won. The Angelini team had played with Boye Brogeland, Tor Helness and Geir Helgemo and had been disqualified after complaints from other clubs about their using non-Italian players. This practice did not appear to be an issue in France, where Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes played in and won the French Club Championship.

Het Witte Huis

Once again, Kees Tammens has organised the top junior invitational event, the White House Junior International Teams, at the White House in Amsterdam, March 25-30. This year, the event comprises four Dutch teams, 19 other European national teams and a team from the USA. Israel returns as defending champions.

Onstein Aces Launched

Hans Melchers, longtime supporter and sponsor of Dutch bridge, including the 2011 World Championships, has announced the formation of the Onstein Aces (named after his bridge club and modelled upon Ira Corn's Dallas Aces). The team will consist of the three Bermuda-Bowl-winning pairs, Louk Verhees/Ricco van Prooijen, Bauke Muller/Simon de Wijs, and Bas Drijver/Sjoert Brink – the players have all signed two-year contracts to play bridge full-time and continue the success of 2011. This is great news for Dutch bridge, but not so great for other pairs hoping to crack the Dutch team lineup in the near future.

Halls of Fame

Kyle Larsen will be inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame this year; the Canadian Bridge Federation will induct Bill Anderson, Boris Baran, Mark Molson and Peter Nagy.



Correspondence

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

Dear John,

From Bulletin Number 564, January 2012, page 12,...

Board 8. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Graupera</i>	<i>Pablo GP</i>	<i>Pont</i>	<i>Basabe</i>
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♦
3 ♣	Pass	Pass	3 ♦
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Contrary to the article's analysis, four hearts was still making after the defence of the club eight to the ace, the two of clubs, ducked and ruffed, then a diamond ruff and the club jack exit. Declarer retains the club king, ruffing in dummy, then runs all the trumps but one, reaching:

After a diamond to the king, the club king is played. East must bare the spade ace or unguard the diamonds, allowing declarer to set up the king of spades or the jack of diamonds.

Alternatively, declarer could cash the heart queen and, when both opponents follow suit, cross to the heart king and cash the club king, then ruff a spade and run all the trumps but one. Essentially the same position develops.

The play is indicated since West passed as dealer, marking the spade ace with East; and, after drawing trumps, East is known to be 5=3=4=1, so cannot successfully falsecard declarer.

Regards, Sudhir Ganguly, Kolkata

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2012			
Mar 2-3	International Sunway Open	Sitges, Spain	www.sunway.es
Mar 6-11	Mexican Regional	S. M. de Allende, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Mar 15-25	Spring NABC	Memphis, TN	www.acbl.org
Mar 25-30	White House Junior Internationals	Amsterdam, Netherlands	keestammens@email.com
Mar 27-Apr 1	BridgeWeek	Kitzbuhel, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Apr 3-8	117 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Apr 5-10	28 th Cairp Bridge Festival	Cairo, Egypt	www.egypt-bridge.org
Apr 12-15	13 th Hotel Senator Tournament	Starachowice, Poland	www.h-s.pl/brydz-meeting
Apr 16-22	5 th Online Women's Festival	BBO	www.worldbridge.org
Apr 25-30	White House Junior Internationals	Amsterdam, Netherlands	keestammens@email.com
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 Trials	Chicago, IL	www.usbf.org
Apr 28-30	Kuching Congress	Kuching, E. Malaysia	www.bridgewebs.com/kuching
May 11-18	South African Congress	Cape Town, South Africa	www.sabf.co.zac
May 11-24	63 rd 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.bridgecc.com
May 25-27	33 rd Oder River Blue Ribbon Meeting	Wroclaw, Poland	www.dzbs.com.pl
May 26-Jun 3	IV South American Transnationals	Montevideo, Uruguay	www.confsubridge.org
May 31-Jun 6	USBF Women's/Senior Trials	Chicago, IL	www.usbf.org
Jun 1-2	Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs Everywhere	www.ecatsbridge.co.uk
Jun 1-3	52 nd Poznan Tournament	Poznan, Poland	www.kongres.brydz.wlkp.pl
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 st European Championships	Dublin, Ireland	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 14-17	Midsummer Bridge Finlandia Open	Helsinki, Finland	www.midsummerbridge.com
Jun 29-Jul 11	International Festival	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 5-8	International White Nights Festival	St. Petersburg, Russia	anikitina@list.ru
Jul 6-15	55 th Bridge Congress	Slawa, Poland	www.kongres-slawa.pl
Jul 6-16	Danish Bridge Festival	Vingsted, Denmark	www.bridgefestival.dk
Jul 9-15	6 th 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	52 nd Baltic Bridge Congress	Sopot, Poland	www.bridge.gda.pl/mkb
Jul 27-Aug 5	18 th Swedish Bridgefestival	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 28-Aug 2	13 th Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Aug 3-11	Norwegian Bridge Festival	Fredrikstad, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
Aug 5-11	Wachauer Bridge Week	Loiben, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Aug 9-23	World Bridge Games	Lille, France	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 10-19	22 nd Solidarity Bridge Festival	Slupsk, Poland	www.bridgefestival.hg.pl
Aug 10-19	Summer Congress	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 17-19	Festival de la Côte Basque	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Aug 24-Sep 2	40 th Grand Prix of Warsaw	Warsaw, Poland	www.warsbrydz.pl
Aug 25-Sep 2	36 th International Festival	La Grande Motte, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Aug 25-Sep 2	7 th Asia Pacific Congress	Fukuoka, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp/apbf2012
Sep 7-9	Gabrial-UI Cup	Jakarta, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Sep 7-9	Isle of Man Congress	Douglas, Isle of Man	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 8-15	51 st International Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.crobridge.com/pula/eng
Sep 10-13	4 th 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
Oct 10-15	EBU Overseas Congress	Marmaris, Turkey	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 12-14	International Teams Tournament	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.federation-bridge.mc
Oct 15-19	Cavendish Invitational Teams & Pairs	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.cavendishinvitational.com
Nov 1-4	26 th Festival des Jeux de l'Esprit	Avignon, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Nov 5-11	International Bridge Open	Madeira, Portugal	www.bridge-madeira.com
Nov 5-11	Mexican Regional	Puerta Vallarta, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Nov 15-18	11 th European Champions Cup	Eilat, Israel	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 22-Dec 2	Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org
Nov 23-25	Menegpora Cup	Batam, Kepri, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Dec 5-9	Asean Open Club Championships	Sanur, Bali, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Dec 21-23	Channel Trophy	England	www.ebu.co.uk