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Editorial

Bridge organisations provide a never-ending source of material for editorials. Never a laggard in this regard is the American Contract Bridge League, the umbrella organisation for club and tournament bridge in North America. Over the years, the ACBL has produced some questionable-at-best administrative decisions, both at the table and away from it. A couple of examples of these: (i.) for years, the ACBL legislated that a weak two-bid must be in the range of 6-12 HCP; (ii.) even in those rarified events in which Multi Two Diamonds is allowed, its proponents must supply the opposition with the published ACBL-approved defences. However, these defences are not made available to the players at the tournament - they must be acquired beforehand.

Another of these dodgy administrative decisions, which really does need attention, concerns ACBL employees who deal with children and young players. The official ACBL policy is to screen all new and recent employees who have dealings with young people. While this is laudable, it does not go far enough - employees with three or more years' service are exempt from the screening. However, as has been proven repeatedly in other arenas, three years' service is no guarantee of a clean police record.

In the wake of the Penn State sexual abuse scandal (in which a long-term assistant football coach repeatedly, and for decades, abused young men), any organisation which takes the ostrich-like approach currently employed by the ACBL is asking for trouble. We must protect our young people and a police records search for all adults who have any contact with young people is a good starting place. Admittedly, a police search would not catch people who've had no previous dealings with the authorities, but it's better than the current approach.

A second questionable policy decision concerns people who are asked to attend a conduct and ethics hearing in the ACBL. Despite being accused of some wrongdoing, and being allowed representation at the hearing, these poor souls are denied the right to be represented by a lawyer in the hearing room. They can bring a lawyer with them, but the lawyer must remain outside the hearing room. The effect of this is twofold: firstly, it denies the accused one of their basic rights in law; secondly, it gives an advantage in the hearing to any accused who does have a familiarity with the law. This seems wrongheaded on both counts. Sadly, the Canadian Bridge Federation has also adopted this draconian approach.

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These championships were played in Taicang, China, from July 26 to August 4. Taicang is a small town, to quote the locals, of some 600,000 people, lying about 80 kilometres north of Shanghai. The town has one claim to fame: the world's greatest per capita population of bridge players. About one quarter of the residents play the game.

This was the honor roll:

Juniors (Under-27)

1st: **The Netherlands:** Aarnout Helmich, Gerbrand Hop, Joris van Lankveld, Berend van den Bos, Ernst Wackwitz and Chris Westerbeek, with Wubbo de Boer the non-playing captain

2nd: **Israel:** Lotan Fisher, Moshe Meyouhas, Gal Gerstner, Dror Padon, Eyal Erez and Lee Rosenthal, npc Gil Ofir

3rd: **China:** Ku Lai, Shen Jianqiu, Shao Yinpei, Chen Yichao, Hu Junjie and Jiang Yujie, npc Wang Xiaofeng

Youngsters (Under-21)

1st: **Poland:** Lukasz Witkowski, Michal Klukowski, Michal Gulczynski, Andrzej Terszak, Wojciech Kazmierczak, Igor Losiewicz, npc Wlodzimierz Krzysztofczyk

2nd: **USA-I:** Zachary Brescoll, Adam Kaplan, Adam and Zachary Grossack, Andrew and Richard Jeng, npc Tom Carmichael

3rd: **France:** Baptiste Combescure, Fabrice Charignon, Julien Bernard, Clement Laboureyre, Gregoire Lafont, Ivan Caillau, npc Christophe Oursel

Girls (Under-21)

1st: **Poland:** Katarzyna Dufurat, Justyna Zmuda, Natalia Sakowska, Kamila Wesolowska, Magdalena Holeksa, Danuta Kazmucha, npc Leszek Nowak

2nd: **The Netherlands:** Natalia Banas, Janneke Wackwitz, Judith Nab, Jamilla Spangenberg, Sigrid Spangenberg, Magie Ticha, npc Alax van Reenen

3rd: **Italy:** Giorgia Botta, Margherita Costa, Michela Salvato, Flavia Lanzuisi, Margherita Chavarria, Federica Butto, npc Emanuela Capriata

The final session of the Juniors final was very exciting, with the lead changing hands five times. The full details can be read in the final Daily Bulletin at: [http://www.worldbridge.org/tourn/Taicang.12/MicroSite/Bulletins/Taicang.2012.Bulletin.\(11\).pdf](http://www.worldbridge.org/tourn/Taicang.12/MicroSite/Bulletins/Taicang.2012.Bulletin.(11).pdf)

This report will feature the most interesting boards of the championships, with a particular slant towards good deals for newspaper columns.

Youngsters - England v Poland (MB)

The English Youngsters found Poland too hot to handle in their Round 4 match, but Shivam Shah and Alex Roberts combined well on this deal to bring in a much-needed swing.

Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

In the Closed Room the English North-South bid to five diamonds by South on a top heart lead and that was an easy 11 tricks for plus 400.

This was the auction in the Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Shah</i>		<i>Roberts</i>	
—	—	—	1♣
3♥	Double	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

One club was Polish, three-way, and, presumably, four diamonds was forcing. Put yourself in the East seat - how can you possibly beat five diamonds?

Surely the opponents have missed a slam when you hold such a poor hand facing partner's pre-empt? If that's your attitude, then you'll never be a winner, as real bridge players don't give up.

Looking for miracles, Roberts led a club, and one duly materialised when Shah ruffed it. Now the spotlight turned to him - could he find a low heart? Analysing the position well, he reasoned that a low heart could never cost. If partner had the ace of trumps, the ruff would still arrive, so only an undertrick would be lost, and to force to game facing a non-vulnerable opening, declarer would surely have most of the missing points. Besides which, if he had held the queen of hearts, he might have tried three notrump at some stage.

The stage was set for a heart back and another club ruff and that was one down and 10 IMPs to the good.

Juniors - Bulgaria v Netherlands (BS)

This was the final board of the Junior match between Bulgaria and the Netherlands...

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

♠ A 8 4 ♥ A K 9 ♦ 8 7 4 2 ♣ K Q 3 ♠ 9 6 5 2 ♥ Q 10 7 5 ♦ K ♣ A J 8 6	♠ K J 3 ♥ 8 2 ♦ J 9 6 3 ♣ 10 7 5 4 ♠ Q 10 7 ♥ J 6 4 3 ♦ A Q 10 5 ♣ 9 2
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West	North	East	South
<i>Wackwitz</i>	<i>Syusyukin</i>	<i>Westerbeek</i>	<i>Ivanov</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Skorchev</i>	<i>v d Bos</i>	<i>Spasov</i>	<i>v Lankveld</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♦ ¹
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1. Game forcing, either 4 or 6+ hearts

Spasov led the three of diamonds to the ten and king, and Skorchev switched to a low club, Van den Bos winning with the king. With little to go on, declarer played ace, king and a third heart. The contract was two down for minus 100.

Westerbeek led the seven of clubs. Wackwitz won with the ace and returned the six to Syusyukin's king. Declarer led the two of diamonds to the six, ten and king, and back came a club to his queen. He played a diamond to the queen and discovered the four-one split.

At this point Syusyukin thought for quite some time. He knew that East had begun with four-four in the minors, so West rated to have the heart length. Eventually he was ready and led the jack of hearts off the table, covered by the queen and ace. Now a low spade from hand saw Westerbeek go in with the king and return his ten of clubs. Wackwitz won with the jack and returned a spade, so Syusyukin won with the ace, crossed to the queen and cashed the ace of diamonds. He then completed a nicely played deal by leading a heart to his nine and had nine tricks for plus 400 and 11 IMPs to Bulgaria.

Girls Semifinal - Poland v France (BS)

The Polish Girls team picked up a game swing on this deal from the second quarter of its semifinal against France. System played a part, but it also took beautiful play from Danuta Kazmucha to bring home her contract.

Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Canonne</i>	<i>Dufrat</i>	<i>Thizy</i>
—	—	—	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Chaugny</i>	<i>Kazmucha</i>	<i>Puillet</i>	<i>Sakowska</i>
—	—	—	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

For France, Aurelie Thizy opened with a natural weak two-bid and Marion Canonne raised her to game. Justyna Zmuda's opening lead of the jack of diamonds swiftly doomed Thizy to defeat; down one for minus 50.

Natalia Sakowska opened with a Multi Two Diamonds and, in response to two relays, showed a weak two in hearts, so that Danuta Kazmucha could declare from the slightly safer North seat, protecting the diamond position.

Carole Puillet led the queen of clubs, as who would not. Kazmucha won with the ace, crossed to dummy with a spade to the ace, and led the ten of hearts off the table. Claire Chaugny played low, so the heart held the trick and the contract could no longer be defeated! Kazmucha continued with a spade to the king and a spade ruff, then a club to the king, followed by the ten of clubs. Puillet, of course, played the club jack, and Kazmucha discarded a diamond from the dummy. Puillet was endplayed, forced either to allow the king of diamonds to win a trick or to give a ruff and discard. She actually chose to play a spade, so Kazmucha threw a second diamond from dummy and ruffed in hand, after which there were just the red aces to be lost. That was very well played for plus 420 and 10 IMPs to Poland.

Youngsters Semifinal - Israel v USA (PA)

This was the deal of the tournament, featuring brilliant play by Adam Kaplan of the USA.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Ginossar</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Reiter</i>	<i>Brescoll</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣ ¹
1♠	2♥ ²	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣ ³	Pass	4♠ ⁴
Pass	4NT ⁵	Pass	5♣ ⁶
Pass	6♥ ⁷	All Pass	

- 16-points or more
- Five-plus hearts, game-forcing
- Control-bid (cue-bid)
- Roman Key Card Blackwood
- One key card
- Asking for the queen of hearts
- Showing her and denying a king

West	North	East	South
<i>Zachary G.</i>	<i>Levy</i>	<i>Adam G.</i>	<i>Asulin</i>
2♠ ¹	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2NT ²	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4NT ³
Pass	5♦ ⁴	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

- Weak two-bid
- Lebensohl, warning of a bad hand
- Roman Key Card Blackwood
- One key card

The Israeli auction was surprising. First North warned that she might have a zero-count when she was easily worth a constructive three-heart advance; then South barreled into six hearts anyway.

A diamond lead would have been lethal, but understandably both Easts led their singleton two, telling the declarers that spades were 5-1.

Hila Levy won with dummy's ace, cashed the ace of hearts, played three rounds of clubs, ruffing the last, led a trump to her hand, ruffed the last club and cashed the ace of diamonds to give the position at the top of the next column.

On the next diamond lead, Zach Grossack accurately put up his queen, then played a spade to make his brother's eight of hearts the setting trick.

After the club ruff at trick five, the contract could have always been defeated.

At the other table, Kaplan spotted the right line of play. After winning the first trick, he cashed dummy's ace of hearts (believing when West played the ten that the hearts were 3-1) and king of clubs before playing a club to his ace. Then he made the key play: he led his last spade.

At the table, East ruffed in and led his last trump, but Kaplan claimed. He could discard his diamond loser on the king of spades and ruff both of his clubs in the dummy.

It would have been stronger defence by East to discard a diamond, not ruff in. But Kaplan had seen the right answer. He would have won with dummy's king of spades and led a third spade, discarding his diamond loser. Suppose West plays another spade: North ruffs high, leads a diamond to the ace, ruffs a diamond and crossruffs home.

Plus 100 and plus 1430 gave 17 IMPs to USA I.

THE SHUTOUT
Mark Horton
Bath, England



In team sports, a shutout is a game in which one team prevents the opposing team from scoring. Shutouts are usually seen as a result of effective defensive play. In Major League Baseball, for example, a shutout refers to the act by which a single pitcher pitches a complete game and does not allow the opposing team to score a run. If two or more pitchers combine to complete this act, no pitcher will be awarded a shutout, although the team itself can be said to have shut out the opposing team.

Until August of this year, only 22 pitchers had recorded a 'perfect game' - a shutout, with no hits by the opposition, as well as no runs. Felix Hernandez made it 23 by achieving the feat for the Seattle Mariners against the Tampa Bay Rays.

Round about the time that was happening Sweden's Per-Ola Cullin and Peter Bertheau were combining defensively on a deal where the key to success was to shut declarer out of dummy.

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Liran	Cullin	Fridlander	Bertheau
—	—	1♣	1♦
1♥	1♠	3♣	Pass
3♥	3♠	4♥	All Pass

North led the king of spades and South made the first essential move by following with the three. If he had overtaken and, say, switched to a club, declarer would have won in hand and played a spade. North would have won that and played a second club, but declarer could then have won and played the jack of spades, discarding a diamond if South had refused to ruff. Then a diamond would have allowed declarer to organise a diamond ruff, thanks to North's modest trump holding.

To defeat the contract, North had to assume that a second spade would stand up, and that the ace of diamonds would give the defenders a third trick. On the assumption that declarer held the ace of clubs, how could the defenders possibly arrive at a fourth trick?

The next problem was that the defenders could not afford to cash a second spade as that would provide declarer with an easy way to get to hand. So, how to set about negating the threat posed by dummy's clubs?

One possibility would be to play diamonds with the idea of forcing a trump out of dummy, but as you can see, that won't work as declarer would simply ruff, unblock the other trump and come to hand with club to draw trumps.

Per-Ola Cullin of Sweden was the only player in any of the knock out matches to find the way to defeat the contract. At trick two he switched to a club!

Declarer could win in hand, but if he took two rounds of trumps and then played clubs, South would ruff the third round and whatever declarer did, the defenders would prevail. So, declarer played a second club, and then a third round, discarding a spade when

South pitched a diamond. North ruffed and now attacked dummy's trump holding by playing two rounds of diamonds. Declarer could ruff the diamond in dummy, ruff a spade to hand and ruff another diamond, but then South had to score a trump trick for one down.

Cullin's defence deserved more than the 10 IMPs it collected when four hearts made in the other room.



The 2011 Senior World Champions, who would also become the 2012 European Champions in Dublin, were in Biarritz and confirmed that they were in form by dominating the team event, the Lavazza Cup. The winners of the 2012 Festival events were:

Ville de Biarritz Open Pairs: MM Mateos Ruiz – Ringuet (France)

Lavazza Patton: MM Piganeau, Cabanes, Lasserre, Poizat (France)

Casino Barrière Mixed Pairs: Mme Payan – M Poizat (France)

IMP Pairs: Mme Molle – M Ter Laare (Netherlands)

The superb Swiss watches offered by the president of the Festival, the Marquise de Moratalla, for best overall performance, were captured by Linda Molle and Philippe Poizat.

Here's an interesting deal played by Danielle Avon who finished fifth in the Open Pairs with Colette Riberol. They arrived in six notrump after a fast auction.

<p>♠ A K Q J 10 9 5 ♥ J ♦ J 10 6 ♣ 8 6</p> <p>♠ 6 ♥ 7 5 4 2 ♦ K Q 8 3 2 ♣ 9 4 2</p>	<p>♠ 8 7 2 ♥ 10 9 8 6 ♦ 9 7 ♣ A J 7 3</p> <p>♠ 4 3 ♥ A K Q 3 ♦ A 5 4 ♣ K Q 10 5</p>
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West	North	East	South
—	Riberol	—	Avon
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

The lead of the king of diamonds tangled the transportation necessary for declarer to cash her 12 top tricks. At another table, the declarer ducked the open-

ing diamond king lead and West did not find the killing club shift. At the diagrammed table, Avon won the ace of diamonds and ran the spades. The position before the last spade was:

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

The final spade executed a double squeeze without the count where one threat in each hand became a stepping stone.

A discard of either the club ace or the diamond queen would have resulted in instant death and two extra tricks for declarer. If East had discarded a diamond on the last spade, declarer would have played the heart jack, then a club - the club ace would have become the stepping stone to declarer's remaining heart tricks. Thus East threw a heart.

South got rid of a club and West was subjected to the same torture: if he discarded a club, declarer would unblock the heart jack as before, then play a diamond to use the diamond queen as a stepping stone. If, instead, West discarded a heart, South could overtake the jack of hearts in hand and make four heart tricks for 12 in all. Needing to beat dummy's fourth heart, West let go his club, whereupon declarer cashed the heart jack and exited with a diamond, forcing West to provide her with an entry to the ace-king-queen of hearts.



Niklas Warne/Tom Gärd, Jonas Petersson/Krister Ahlesved and Olle Wademark/Jan Selberg defeated Cecilia Rimstedt/Marion Michielsen, Kathrine Bertheau/Jessica Larsson and Gunnar Hallberg/Peter Bertheau in the final of this year's Chairman's Cup in Örebro, Sweden. The best-played deal of the final was this one...

Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

East opened with three hearts in both rooms. Peter Bertheau raised to four hearts and North had an automatic four-spade bid. At the other table Niklas Warne passed three hearts and Cecelia Rimstedt choose to bid three spades. Lesser souls might have passed with the South hand, but Marion Michielsen tried four diamonds and Rimstedt rebid her spades.

The six of diamonds was led at both tables. Both declarers won and ruffed a heart, then a club to the jack was ducked by East. At the first table, declarer ruffed another heart, and the contract should now have gone down. Apparently, though, West had given the wrong count in clubs and declarer made the contract.

Rimstedt demonstrated how the contract could be made after the club jack held, even without any mistakes by the defence. She cashed the ace and king of trumps and the high diamond, then played another club. Now East was forced to play clubs for eleven tricks or a heart for ten.

My Nightmare

At the end of the week, I woke up from a nightmare about a spade play and realized that it was a board I had played in a knockout match.

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

A misunderstanding in the bidding had landed us in six spades instead of in the safer six hearts. After a diamond lead to the ten and king, I played the spade ace - West following with the five and East with the ten. Then I played a low trump, intending to play the queen.

West, however, thought it over slightly, indicating that he had the king, and played the seven. My options were

suddenly changed, since West must have started with king-nine-seven-five or king-seven-five.

To give away the location of the king with either of these combinations is not good. With the weaker holding partner might have started with the doubleton jack-ten and declarer has a guess.

Enter the Principle of Restricted Choice. With the ten-nine of spades East may have chosen either of them, but with the stiff ten he just had to follow suit. Since he could not have king-ten-nine after West's huddle, I decided to follow the principle and played the eight to East's bare nine - we lost the match by 4 IMPs.

Talking about that position with my friend Anders Morath, he told me of a similar situation from the European Championships in Dublin earlier this summer.

♦ Q 9 2
♦ A 10 8 7

He was playing in a notrump contract with just one side entry to dummy and needed three tricks in this diamond suit. He decided to play the seven of diamonds and let it run. If East won the jack, he planned to go to dummy and run the queen – approximately a 75% chance.

West considered the play of the seven, indicating that he had the king, and Anders realised that his odds, if he continued with his plan of running the seven, had just decreased to 50%, since he now had to find the jack!

Maybe that these huddlers know something we don't?



Senhor do Bonfim wrist ribbons, known as fitas, are an institution in the northeastern Brazilian state of Bahia. Senhor do Bonfim means Our Lord of a Good End. In popular tradition, the Senhor do Bonfim ribbon is wrapped around the wrist and secured with three knots. Each node follows a request made mentally that must be kept secret until the tape breaks from wear and tear.

This year, the most important bridge event in Brazil, the Brazilian Open (named the Brasileiro in Brazil) was played in San Salvador de Bahia from the 1st till the 9th of September and, for the legendary Gabriel Chagas, the event finished with **a good end**. Chagas won both Brasileiro's main events, the Pairs event, playing with Carlos Pellegrini, and the Teams event, playing with

Carlos Pellegrini and Alejandro Bianchedi-Ernesto Muzzio.

The teams event comprised two stages. In it, the first four teams from an initial Round Robin played a second double Round Robin. One of the most instructive boards was played on the last day of the Teams event.

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
D. Brenner	G. Chagas	A. Madala	C. Pellegrini
Pass	1♠	2♥	3♦
3♥	4♦	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

Brenner's lead was the best one, a trump. With any other lead, the play is much easier, as declarer can ruff his heart losers in dummy. Declarer won the diamond lead in his hand, played the spade king and continued with the ten of hearts, trying to forestall West's diamond return, but Brenner won with his ace of hearts and played another diamond. Pellegrini won the trick in his hand, ruffed a heart and played the spade ace (pitching a club from hand) and continued with another spade (ruffed in hand) to investigate the spade distribution. When Madala pitched a heart, he knew he wouldn't be able to discard a loser on dummy's fifth spade and so he had only one last resource available for a good end, a possible squeeze.

The position was:

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

Declarer continued with three rounds of diamonds and Madala had to trust that his partner had the nine of hearts...bad luck... the nine of hearts became trick twelve.



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

633. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

1. Five-Card majors
2. Roman Key-Card Blackwood
3. 0 or 3 key cards

West led the king of spades and declarer took this with his ace. All too speedily, declarer cashed dummy's ace and queen of trumps and the slam could no longer be made. It may seem odd that anyone should fail to make twelve tricks on this layout. However, the failure to develop a plan was the catalyst for the disaster.

Declarer should have seen that entries to dummy were sparse and begun by taking the ace and king of trumps, leaving the queen as a later entry to dummy. When West shows out on the second round, leaving East with a trump winner, declarer cashes the ace and jack of diamonds and then crosses to dummy with queen of trumps to play the diamonds. When the king of diamonds is played, East ruffs in with his high trump but declarer simply throws his losing spade. Furthermore, when the lead is regained, the king of clubs is the entry to cash the queen and six of diamonds, which will take care of declarer's two club losers. Declarer would make a spade, five trumps, four diamonds and two clubs.

634. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

South's three notrump was a choice-of-games bid; with only three-card support, North passed and West led a low spade. This time declarer made a plan! He started by counting his tricks. He had four top tricks and, as long as diamonds were not 4-0, he would make four diamond tricks and the safest plan was to make an extra club trick.

Declarer saw that it would be wrong to play on diamonds immediately for, if East had the ace, he would win and play a spade. On this layout the contract would be defeated as the club finesse loses and an endplay will fail (West can put East on lead with the fourth round of spades to lead a club).

Consequently, declarer saw that he had to play a club to the queen before touching diamonds. The finesse lost but West could not continue spades effectively from his side of the table. When he exited with a heart, declarer played low from dummy and took the jack of hearts with the ace. East had to win the ten of diamonds and the contract was safe. Declarer took the spade continuation with the king, unblocked the ace of clubs and claimed nine tricks.



Tim Bourke converts many BBO LIN files to text. He will send the zipped RTF files to any IBPA member who so desires. Contact Tim at: bourketim@hotmail.com to be put on the mailing list.

635. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

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

West's negative double promised four spades and North's cue bid was a strong raise in hearts. The original declarer went down by winning the ace of diamonds and playing dummy's queen of clubs; his idea was to ruff a club in dummy. East took this with the ace and played the king of diamonds, West discarding a spade. When East continued with the diamond queen, declarer ruffed with the ten to avoid an overruff. West took the opportunity to part with a second spade. Declarer then cashed the king of clubs and ruffed his remaining club in dummy. Next came dummy's nine of trumps and the two was played from hand.

As there was still a trump in dummy, West held up the ace of trumps because otherwise dummy's five of trumps would protect declarer from a fourth round of clubs. This move proved fatal for declarer; if he played a second trump, West would win and force him with a club, promoting a trump trick for the defence; if declarer played on spades instead, West would ruff the third round of spades.

Dummy said, "As you knew from the bidding that the spades were 4-3, you should have begun by cashing your three spade winners. Then play as before and you will make three spades, four trumps, the ace of diamonds, the king of clubs and a club ruff."

636. Dealer West. E-W Vul.

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

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

West led the king of hearts to declarer's bare ace. At first glance, the contract appears to depend on keeping declarer's club losers to one. However, when this hand was played, the declarer spotted an extra chance. He drew three rounds of trumps, ending in hand, and led a low diamond.

The best West could do was to win the queen of diamonds and lead a club. Declarer called for dummy's queen but East took this with the king and played a heart. Declarer ruffed and led a second diamond. West took his ace of diamonds and exited with a club. However, declarer was now in control; he rose with the ace of clubs, crossed to his hand with a trump and threw dummy's remaining clubs on the king and jack of diamonds.

What would have happened if East had produced a diamond honour? Declarer reckoned that in that case, West would be a certainty to have one of the club honours.



www.ibpa.com

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IBPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & AWARDS

Thursday, August 16th, 2012
Lille, France



Present:

Phillip Alder (USA), Sevinç Atay (Turkey), Jean-Claude Beineix (France), John Carruthers (Canada), Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands), Simon Cocheme (England), José Damiani (France), 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), Ghassan Ghanem (Jordan), Mazhar Jafri (Pakistan), Britt Jannersten (Sweden), Per Jannersten (Sweden), Patrick Jourdain (Wales), Laurie Kelso (Australia), Ron Klinger (Australia), Suzie Klinger (Australia), Linda Lee (Canada), Ray Lee (Canada), Fernando Lema (Argentina), Didier Lévy (Guadeloupe), Micke Melander (Sweden), Jaime Ortiz-Patiño (England), Margaret Parnis-England (Malta), Barry Rigal (USA), Gianarrigo Rona (Italy), Ton Schipperheyn (Netherlands), PO Sundelin (Sweden), David Stern (Australia), Jan Swaan (Netherlands), Katie Thorpe (Canada), GeO Tislevoll (New Zealand), Marek Wojcicki (Poland), Tadashi Yoshida (Japan) (42).

Minutes:

0) The president welcomes two people who had been present at the founding meeting of the IBPA in Oslo in 1958: Jaime Ortiz-Patiño and Per Jannersten (who was only 10 at the time that his father became one of the founder members).

1) Remembrance of members deceased. Léon Tintner (France), who died aged 101, and all other members and former members who have passed away since our last AGM.

2) Minutes of the AGM held on 24th October, 2011 in Veldhoven, as published in Bulletin 563, page 2 & 3. Adopted nem. con.

5) Treasurer's report (brought forward because the treasurer needed to play later in the morning.

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).

3) Officers' Reports:

3a) President

The extra tasks for your President this year have been the change in treasurer and the rewrite of the Job Descriptions. Changing Treasurer, signatures, and learning how to handle the bank accounts in Malta has been a major challenge for our new officer and we thank him indeed. We hope to see the new Treasurer in Bali.

This year I tackled the first rewrite of the Job Descriptions for more than ten years. The new definitions are half the length of the previous ones, reflect current practice, and acknowledge the existence of the internet, for example. Each new sentence was checked in Dublin with your Chairman and my thanks to him for that. Your Executive has a few comments that will be dealt with here in Lille and then the new Job Descriptions will go on the website for members to see.

I take this chance to thank the World Bridge Federation for their support for IBPA. The IBPA prizes come from our sponsors who I thank warmly. Dilip Gidwani is not able to be with us this year but we give a welcome to Ray Lee, Nick Nickell and Ron & Suzie Klinger. You will see there is a vacancy for sponsoring Auction of the Year but, with the help of Executive member Tadashi Yoshida, we believe we have filled that spot next year.

I conclude with thanks for your other officers and Executive. Of 16 members of the Executive 12 are here in Lille and all were present for our meeting. Thank you all.

3b) Chairman

The state of the realm of the organization is, generally speaking, good. The organization's legal status (in Montana, USA) must be addressed, however, and we (still) need to find ways to attract new members.

3c) Secretary

There my job entails no activity that needs to be reported on.

4) Appointees' Reports

4a) Editor

Things have been moving along fairly smoothly in terms of the IBPA Bulletin. In a few instances, we've had enough material for 20 or 24 pages rather than the usual 16. A few stalwarts continue to be the most frequent contributors – Barry Rigal from USA, Tim Bourke from Australia, Mark Horton from England, Ron Klinger from Australia and Brent Manley from the USA. We would welcome more material from the Zones outside North America, Europe and Australia.

As usual, my thanks and appreciation go out to Katie Thorpe for all her help with the Bulletin and to PO Sundelin for his technical assistance and analysis. Dilip Gidwani produces and mails the physical copies of the Bulletin in Mumbai. Also, this year, Phillip Alder has volunteered his services as a proof reader and his help is also much appreciated. Thank you all.

4b) Liaison Officer

Everything is OK. I am not aware of any problems.

4c) Membership Secretary

We have 282 members plus 10 in Lille, exactly the same 292 as last year.

6) Elections

Officers to be re-elected to the 2015 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: 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).

7) Election of Executive members:

For a three-year election to 2015: GeO Tislevoll (New Zealand); Nikolas Bausback (Germany); Ron Tacchi (France). Accepted nem. com.

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

Already elected to 2014: John Carruthers (Canada); Barry Rigal (USA); Gavin Wolpert (USA).

Note: Appointees in post: Awards Chairman: Barry Rigal (USA); Editor: John Carruthers (Canada). Membership Secretary: Jeremy Dhondy (England).

8) Awards (see separate document)

9) Any other business – none.

President's Report from Lille

IBPA had a successful time in Lille.

As the World Mind Sports Games opened, membership was down 10 on last year, but by the time I left, it was up. We welcome as new members: Katia Reznik of France (organiser of Deauville); Linda Lee of Canada (blogger, and wife to member Ray Lee); and Roy Hughes of Canada (author of Book of the Year); and re-joining members: Martin Schifko of Austria; Luis Lantaron of Spain; Donna Compton of the USA (n.p.c. to many USA teams); and Jean-Christophe Quantin of France (major contributor to the French Bridge Magazine). In addition, a number of late-payers, who were members last year, paid their dues.

There was a spacious Press Room, well-managed as usual by our friend Jan Swaan. The WBF President, Gianarrigo Rona, hosted a dinner for 40 IBPA members at a local restaurant, for which we are grateful. The next day, our AGM and Awards had a good turnout. Unusually, none of the players winning awards were in Lille, but this does indicate how widely the honours are spread.

Your Executive has 16 members, of which 12 were in Lille, and all 12 turned up for the main meeting of the Executive. This could be a record. We approved the first re-write of the Job Descriptions for more than ten years and that will go on our website for all members to see.

We also asked Jan van Cleeff to launch a sub-committee to advise your Executive on expanding IBPA's services to the broadcast media, meaning TV, radio, and internet-based services with moving pictures and blogs open to the public.

We have had an offer to sponsor the Best Auction of the Year beginning with next year, bringing our tally of sponsors back up to five.

Patrick Jourdain, IBPA President

ERNST & YOUNG AWARD 2012

Jon Sveindal
Bergen, Norway



This delicacy gave GeO Tislevoll the prize for the best Norwegian declarer play of last season. The award was presented to him during the Norwegian Bridge Festival.

GeO faced this single-dummy task at the table: how to play four spades on a low heart lead?

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ Q 9 7 2
♥ Q 6 5 4
♦ A J 2
♣ 10 3

♠ A K 8 6 4
♥ A K 9
♦ 10 6 5
♣ K 2

You win the ace of hearts and see four possible losers in the minors. If the diamond honours are split, you have two diamond losers if you play the suit yourself. East follows to three rounds of trumps, and the heart king and a heart to the queen reveals that West started with four. So do you play a club to the king? That is a 50% shot. The layout was like this:

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

If so, West wins the ace, and can take another club before exiting with the heart ten. You ruff, but have two diamond losers for one down.

GeO found an amazing move: he ruffed dummy's last heart, then played a small club from hand toward the ten! That seemingly illogical play was undoubtedly the best line. The defence could take two club tricks, but then either had to open the diamond suit or give a ruff and discard. The contract would have made even if East had both diamond honours, provided he also held the club ace!

There were quite a few good candidates for the award. The IBPA winner for Best Declarer Play this year was awarded second prize!



44th WACHAUER BRIDGEWOCHE

Loiben
05-11 August, 2012
Fritz Babsch, Vienna

The events of the 44th Wachauer Bridge Week suffered heat stroke due to the World Mind Sports Games in Lille, losing almost 20% in attendance. Unfortunately, it was very hot during the tournament as well.

The Mixed Pairs was won by Jovanka Smederevac/Torbjörn Jönsson, the Teams by an international team with Fresen/Vogt as anchor pair; Fischer/Saurer, Fallenius/Simon/Wodniansky were second. The Open Pairs went to Konrad Giffinger/Wolfgang Semmelrath. Doris Fischer was Miss Loiben and Josef Simon, Mister Loiben.

There was an unpleasant and dangerous incident on the first day of the Pairs. After more than 75% of the boards had been played there was a dangerous fire very near the playing site. There was a lot of smoke and high flames could be seen from one of the playing rooms. The TDs did a good job, so no panic ensued, and the session was completed without further incident. Despite that, fire brigades from four nearby places (Loiben is a very small village) had a lot of work to extinguish the fire.

The following slams are from this session. Every board was played at 52 tables.

Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

A grand slam is risky and cannot be made on a heart lead (the squeeze against West is broken), so it should not be bid. If you make it you receive 99% (or 94% in clubs) instead of 83% for six notrump, but if you fail

you get only 2% instead of 83%. Six pairs bid the grand slam, four in notrump (two declarers failed) and two in clubs. Eight pairs bid six notrump and 35 pairs bid six clubs; very few made an overtrick.

East/West had a similar problem here...

Dealer North. EW Vul

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

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

If you bid a 50% seven notrump instead of a sure seven clubs, you receive 99% instead of 83%; if you fail in seven notrump, you get a zero instead of 83%. Three pairs bid seven notrump and twelve bid seven clubs. Strangely, only one pair bid six notrump, three pairs six hearts(!) and 19 pairs six clubs. Eleven pairs bid no slam at all.

The conclusion is that you should not play seven notrump unless you are sure of 13 tricks on top. Here is another extreme example from the second day of the Pairs:

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

Grand slam in notrump is a very bad contract but seven hearts is almost cold. One pair bid and made seven notrump (North covered the jack of clubs holding king-nine-six). The grand slam in hearts was made at 13 tables (89%). Players who scored plus 1010 got 56.5% but plus 980 was worth only 26%.



This year, the Norwegian Bridge Festival moved from Lillehammer to Fredrikstad and attracted a somewhat larger crowd than last year. The Norwegian Pairs Final is considered the most prestigious event during the

week, and as usual there were performances on the entire scale from top to bottom. Here are two of the excellent ones, presented on the Festival net pages by Erlend Sjetne. The first one earned the Festival Prize due to a highly-unusual duck:

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

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

South was Lars Allard, who was fighting among the top ten for the duration of the whole event...

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	3 NT
All Pass			

A spade or club lead would have yielded declarer's ninth trick, but West instead led the nine of diamonds, two from dummy, seven from East and the four from Lars! West naturally thought he had found the optimal start and continued the suit - nine tricks made!

Toward the end of the tournament, Kåre Beyer Kristiansen was one of only six declarers to land a four-heart contract:

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

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

Kristiansen was East, partnering Fredrik Helness, son of our famous Monaco emigrant, Tor. The bidding went:

West	North	East	South
<i>Helness</i>		<i>Kristiansen</i>	
—	—	2 NT	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
3 NT	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 ♥	All Pass		

South led a spade to North's ace and the king of spades took the second trick. Declarer played the ace and king of diamonds, ruffed a diamond, then the queen of hearts rode around to the king. South continued trumps and when Kristiansen cashed the ace of clubs and continued clubs, South was helplessly endplayed and had to return a spade on which declarer could discard a club from dummy and take the trick with his last trump.

Emigrants Geir Helgemo and Tor Helness have continued to display their brilliance after joining Monaco and lifting the mini-state to the top of the bridge world. In Lille in August, they earned a bronze medal, and here are two boards by superstar Geir Helgemo contributing to their success. The boards have been reported to the Norwegian newspaper Dagbladet by another of our bridge stars, Boye Brogeland:

Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ 10 6
♥ 7 4 2
♦ Q 8 2
♣ A K 9 4 3

♠ A J 5
♥ Q 10 9 8 5
♦ A K J 3
♣ 6

The Irish player John Carroll went down in four hearts after a spade lead. At the other table, Helgemo was South and took full advantage of a defensive slip. The bidding went:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Two clubs showed a good raise in hearts. Helgemo took the king of spades lead with his ace, East discouraging, and played a club to the ace, then took his legitimate play for the contract, the jack of hearts onside, by playing a trump to the ten and West's knave. West, reluctant to set up a possible spade trick in declarer's hand, switched to the knave of clubs. Helgemo took dummy's king and discarded his five of spades. He proceeded with four rounds of diamonds, and East/West found themselves with an insoluble dilemma. These were the East/West cards:

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

On the last diamond, if West trumps with his six of hearts, Helgemo would discard dummy's spade ten.

The next round of trumps would then crash the ace and king together. If West discards, again the ten of spades disappears and East has to ruff with the king. Geir could then ruff the club return high and lose just three trump tricks.

Some players seem to have an uncanny x-ray ability to read the opponents' cards. Helgemo ranks high in that group. Here is another board from the Monaco playoff against Ireland for the bronze medal in Lille. Helgemo was again South.

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1NT
3♦	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

The king-of-diamonds lead took the first trick, and Helgemo took the next diamond, East discarding a small spade. Obviously, you can't let West in to cash his diamonds, and declarer lacked the entries to establish the spade suit, so he cashed the ace of hearts, West contributing the queen. Helgemo unblocked dummy's ten and led a spade to the ace. The nine of hearts held the next trick, and declarer proceeded to cash his hearts. With five cards left the position was:

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

Helgemo played his four of diamonds. West could cash three diamond tricks but had to lead away from his club king to surrender the contract.



ASIA PACIFIC BRIDGE FEDERATION

**THE APBF CHAMPIONSHIPS
FUKUOKA, JAPAN**

**Rick Colker, Wheaton, MD
Barry Rigal, NYC**

**NEWS &
VIEWS**



WBF Pairs for Youth Bridge

To support Youth Bridge, ecatsbridge will organise, on behalf of the WBF, four new Simultaneous Pairs each year – in October, December, March and August - to raise funds specifically to help develop and promote bridge for young players. Entry fees are: US\$3.00, €2.50, or £1.90 per pair.

The dates can be found on the calendar on page 16, information at www.ecatsbridge.com. Email Anna Gudge at anna@ecats.co.uk to host the event in your club.

New Bridge Venture: Bridge Big

Dutch startup Bridge Big launched their new bridge site in mid-August, the first of its kind to offer duplicate bridge for money. Bridge Big has the firm belief they can make online bridge as big as poker.

Players can participate in tournaments for a small buy-in and Bridge Big guarantees prize pools. Right now there are guaranteed tournaments with prize pools starting at €250 on weekdays, €500 on Saturdays and €1,000 on Sundays. All tournaments start at 9:00 pm Amsterdam time. As the number of players on Bridge Big grows, so will the prize pools and numbers of tournaments.

You can contact the company for more information at info@bridgebig.com or check out their website at bridgebig.com. Let them know if you want to participate as a reporter and they will give you a free pass to the tournament.



Correspondence

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

The APBF became the third WBF Zone to adopt Europe’s model and hold championships open to all, with all events being transnational. There were two main championships, an Open Pairs and the Teams events, divided into Open, Women’s, Seniors and Youth.

Winners of the Pairs were Masayuki Ino-Tadashi Teramoto, Japan. The Teams events were taken by Beijing Evertrust (Open), Shenyang Olystar (Women’s), Magic Eyes Thai (Senior) and Beijing Yindi (Youth).

The following deal is from the Open Pairs and featured some somewhat surprising results...

Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

If you had the North cards and your partner opened the bidding would you let him out below slam? We wouldn’t – especially if we found we had all the aces. But today, six notrump by North on an unlikely diamond lead is horrible (it makes if you duck the diamond and play for a diamond-spade squeeze) and on normal defence, you are likely to come down to needing 3-3 spades.

David Hoffman did better when he played six hearts on a trump lead and drew trumps, then exploited the diamond spots by leading the ten to the ace, and running the jack, then regaining the lead and passing the nine to establish the eight. That is a well-over 75% line – if East can bring himself to duck the ten of diamonds when he holds both honours, good luck to him! Still, with spades 3-3 you’d expect more than a few pairs to get to that slam and make it; not so. Bringing in 980 was worth 33/40. (*The Teams will be reported on next month.*)

John:

Interesting food for thought in the Bulletin. For my part, I think that either aggregate or point a board are the purest scoring methods: IMP is no more than a compromise (*to ameliorate the effect of large aggregate-scoring swings - Ed.*). However, this begs the question: Why is that desirable? I’ve seen the theory that one large swing could decide a match. But if you look at match records, this is virtually never the case.

Regards, Richard Fleet, Berkhamsted, UK

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2012			
Oct 3-7	2 nd International Festival	Marrakech, Morocco	www.rbmbridgemarrakech.free.fr
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 13-20	Cuban Bridge Festival	Havana/Varadero, Cuba	www.cacbf.com
Oct 15-19	Cavendish Invitational Teams & Pairs	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.cavendishinvitational.com
Oct 22 & 24	WBF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	www.ecatsbridge.com
Nov 1-4	26 th Festival des Jeux de l'Esprit	Avignon, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Nov 5-11	Mexican Regional	Puerta Vallarta, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Nov 5-12	International Bridge Open	Madeira, Portugal	www.bridge-madeira.com
Nov 15-18	34 th International Bridge Festival	Brasov, Romania	bridgeclubbrasov@gmail.com
Nov 15-18	11 th European Champions Cup	Eilat, Israel	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 15-25	18 th Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.bridgeredsea.com
Nov 16-18	Festival CentroAmericano	Boquete, Panama	www.cacbf.com
Nov 20-24	23 rd Sun, Sea & Slams	Bridgetown, Barbados	www.cacbf.com
Nov 22-Dec 2	Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org
Nov 23-24	11 th International Open Tournament	Topolsica, Slovenia	www.sbk.si
Nov 23-25	Menegpora Cup	Batam, Kepri, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Nov 23-Dec 2	Festival Mar del Plata	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.confssudbridge.org
Dec 5-9	Asean Open Club Championships	Sanur, Bali, Indonesia	www.gabsi.or.id
Dec 16-22	Winter Nationals	Kolkata, India	www.bfi.net.in
Dec 17 & 19	WBF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	www.ecatsbridge.com
Dec 21-23	Winter Cup	Bucharest, Romania	vlad_bl@yahoo.com
Dec 21-23	Channel Trophy	England	www.ebu.co.uk
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Jan 14-23	72 nd International Bridge Tournament	St. Moritz, Switzerland	www.bridge-stmoritz.com
Jan 14-27	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 24-27	Iceland Express Bridge Festival	Reykjavik, Iceland	www.bridge.is
Jan 26-Feb 1	54 th Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.bermudaregional.com
Jan 29-Feb 3	Bangkok Bridge Festival Championships	Bangkok, Thailand	
Feb 1-3	IV International Bridge Open	Barcelona, Spain	www.bridge.cat
Feb 23-Mar 2	Gold Coast Congress	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	www.qldbridge.com/gcc
Feb 27-Mar 3	International Festival	Cannes, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Mar 1-3	Zurich Open	Zurich, Switzerland	schoellkopf@inp.ch
Mar 5-10	Mexican Regional	S. M. de Allende, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Mar 14-24	Spring NABC	St. Louis, MO	www.acbl.org
Mar 18 & 20	WBF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	www.ecatsbridge.com
Mar 24-29	White House Junior International Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	keestammans@gmail.com
Mar 26-31	118 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Apr 16-21	18 th NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Apr 22-26	Yeh Brothers Cup	Yokohama, Japan	pat_hwang2002@yahoo.com.tw
May 3-16	International Festival	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
May 8-9	XXVIII Bonn Nations Cup	Bad Godesberg, Germany	www.bridge-club-bonn.de
May 9	XXXIII Bonn Cup	Bad Godesberg, Germany	www.bridge-club-bonn.de
Jun 6-9	Midsummer Bridge Tournament	Helsinki, Finland	www.bridge.fi
Jun 7-8	WorldWide Bridge Contest	Clubs Everywhere	www.ecatsbridge.com
Jun 9-16	15 th German Bridge Festival	Wyk / Fohr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Jul 15-28	Deauville Bridge Festival	Deauville, France	www.deauville-bridge.fr
Jun 28-Jul 10	International Festival of Bridge	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Aug 1-11	Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	www.acbl.org
Aug 19 & 21	WBF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	www.ecatsbridge.com
Sep 16-29	41st World Team Championships	Bali, Indonesia	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 23-28	9th Transnational Teams	Bali, Indonesia	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 21 & 23	WBF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	www.ecatsbridge.com
Nov 28-Dec 8	Fall NABC	Phoenix, AZ	www.acbl.org
Dec 16 & 18	WBF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	www.ecatsbridge.com