



BULLETIN

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Editorial

Bridge authorities have shown great perspicacity in the organisation of their events lately. Most importantly, the World Bridge Games (formerly the Olympiad Teams) had three main events, Open, Women's and Seniors, and all were run in parallel, playing the same boards with, for the most part, three sessions of 16 boards per day. The organisers were even able to synchronise the final two Round Robin matches in the Seniors event with the first two sessions of the Knockout stages of the Open and Women's events. The World Bridge Federation had already organised the Bermuda Bowl/Venice Cup/d'Orsi Bowl along similar lines, all three series having the same number of teams and the same structure. The final step is to do the same for the next Rosenblum Cup/McConnell Cup/Rand Cup. The Rand Cup in Philadelphia was a poor event, with only a two-day qualifying stage, much too short for a world championship. Speaking of short, we must mention one of our pet peeves, the playoffs for bronze medals in bridge world championships. If we must have them (awarding double bronze medals seems more humane, doesn't it?), let's make them real events, the same length as the gold medal matches. In practice, the bronze medal matches are loathed by the participants and all but ignored by the Daily Bulletins, onsite VuGraph, World Championship book and BBO. If we care about them, let's make them important events; if we do not care about them, let's get rid of them and award bronze medals to both losing semifinalists.

The Buffett Cup, although still experiencing growing pains, took a large step forward in making all deals point-a-board, greatly simplifying the scoring. We'd like to see the so-called 'singles' matches eliminated and the event slightly altered to teams and pairs only. The teams would be scored at PAB, as it is currently, and the pairs at total points. In the pairs, three of each team's pairs would sit North-South and three East-West and play head to head against one pair of opponents. In effect, pairs is bridge's equivalent of singles at golf. The individual, as now constituted, just doesn't work in a head-to-head multi-pair team format and is almost extinct as a form of competition anyway.

The Cavendish Invitational also showed imagination in moving to Monte Carlo this year, giving more Europeans the opportunity to compete. Provided all are happy with the result, the plan is to alternate between Las Vegas and Monte Carlo each year. The only downside that we could observe was that few Americans took the opportunity to come to Monaco. Most notable absentees were Steve Weinstein and Bobby Levin, five-time winners of the Cavendish Invitational Pairs, and Bob Hamman, doyen of World Bridge Productions (WBP), owners and organisers of the Cavendish. Assuming all the principals are happy with the results from Monaco, would it be possible to look at other locations for the event? It would seem that the Gold Coast Congress in Australia would be an ideal co-host. Or perhaps Macau?

In moving the Cavendish to Monaco, WBP is following the lead of the Yeh Bros. Cup, which next year will be in Japan, to be held in conjunction with the NEC Festival. Previous Yeh Bros. Cups have been in China, Australia (with the Gold Coast Congress) and Taiwan, and the organisers are open to bids from other nations to host the event.

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Rich Colker, Wheaton, MD
Barry Rigal, NYC
(Pairs reported last month.)

On to the teams...

We've been accusing the players of lunacy without yet having a slam-dunk conviction; time for proof positive to emerge.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

<p>♠ J 10 ♥ K Q J 8 6 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ 8 4</p> <p>♠ 9 6 4 ♥ 10 9 5 ♦ A K 3 ♣ Q J 10 9</p> <p>♠ A Q 2 ♥ 7 4 3 ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ A K 5 3</p>	<p>♠ K 8 7 5 3 ♥ A ♦ J 9 8 6 ♣ 7 6 2</p>
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West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Minrong</i>
Pass	2♦ ¹	Pass	2NT ²
Pass	3♣ ³	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

1. Multi
2. Relay
3. Hearts

West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
Pass	2♦ ¹	Pass	2NT ²
Pass	3♣ ³	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

1. Multi
2. Relay
3. Hearts

Both Norths got to the same position. Ino, whose vulnerable preempts are closer to standard than his counterparts, let three hearts go, while Jingsheng went after the vulnerable game.

Played by South, four hearts is close to the required vulnerable IMP odds, were it not for that spade

blockage; the defenders led clubs, and declarer could not go after spades conveniently because of the absence of entries back to hand (even if the spade finesse works East can block the suit – not that he would - by covering the spade jack).

So declarer played a trump up, hoping it would be ducked. However, East won and returned a club in both rooms, (yes the jack of diamonds might have persuaded declarer to go wrong; East knows declarer rates to have two spade honours and one diamond honour or vice versa – in either case, the diamonds jack doesn't cost, or might be necessary).

Declarer won the second club and drew trumps. East then did not cover the spade ten, so declarer was home.

Look what happens on best play, though – this is one of the most beautiful hands we've seen this year. Club lead, trump to the ace, club back. Declarer must ruff a club, draw trumps, lead the jack of spades, covered all round, then ruff the fourth club. Now, the run of trumps executes a double squeeze in two suits:

<p>♠ 10 ♥ 2 ♦ 10 5 4 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ 9 6 ♥ — ♦ A K 3 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ Q 2 ♥ — ♦ Q 7 2 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ 8 7 ♥ — ♦ J 9 8 ♣ —</p>
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On the last trump, as South throws his small diamond, which defender keeps two spades? If neither, then declarer overtakes the ten of spades with the queen and scores the two of spades. If East keeps spades guarded, declarer unblocks spades and leads a diamond, covering East's card, and West can crash his partner's jack of diamonds or lead low to his partner, who concedes the last trick to declarer.

If East pitches a spade, West does best to keep two spades and pitch the king of diamonds. Now declarer unblocks spades then leads a diamond and must duck East's card. West can overtake and give declarer the last two, or duck and give South trick 13!

On the following deal (see top of next page), both tables reached the grand slam, and both received the club lead rather than the deadly heart lead. Winning the club in hand, you have a choice:

- (i.) do you draw trumps and play diamonds from the top – guarding against West having length, or
- (ii.) do you play the ace and ruff a diamond after one top trump from hand, which guards against East having length?

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

♠ A Q 9 8 7 5 2
 ♥ 8
 ♦ 3
 ♣ A 10 9 2

♠ 4
 ♥ K 10 6 5
 ♦ 7
 ♣ J 8 7 6 5 4 3

♠ J 10 3
 ♥ Q 7 4 2
 ♦ Q 5 4 2
 ♣ K Q

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Minrong</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

In favour of the first line is that you don't lose to 5-0 diamonds with East (West would surely have made a Lightner double). In favour of the second line is that if diamonds are 4-1 you may survive East having two singletons or a doubleton spade without the jack-ten, not being able to overruff.

Suffice it to say that one line works, one line doesn't, and both our declarers followed the unsuccessful line. In fact Fu Zhong and Ron Klinger were the only two declarers in the open event to bid and make 13 tricks and Esther Sophonpanich in the Seniors made it three.

Time for one of the more incendiary boards we've seen this week...

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ Q 5
 ♥ 4 3
 ♦ A K Q 9 5
 ♣ K J 3 2

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Dong</i>	<i>Zhou</i>	<i>Shan</i>	<i>Lian</i>
1♣ ¹	1♦	Double	4♦
4♥	Pass	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	5♥	6♦
Pass	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	7♦	Double	All Pass
I. Strong			

West	North	East	South
<i>Bian</i>	<i>Ju</i>	<i>Zhu</i>	<i>Shi</i>
1♥	2♦	4♥	5♦
5♥	Pass	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Double
All Pass			

The question of who was in a forcing pass situation determined who 'sacrificed' and who bid on. Where West opened a strong club he announced to both pairs at the table that it was his hand and neither opponent was prepared to disbelieve him. So when East bid six hearts over a forcing pass by West, North had to decide if two rounds of clubs were standing up; and why wouldn't West have a club fewer and a diamond more, in which case six hearts would be cold? There was nothing to the play in seven diamonds doubled, of course.

In the other room, no one knew whose hand it was. Having got his lead-directing six-club bid in, South was prepared to defend slam on a club lead, and North was too balanced to disagree. After the club lead, the defenders had no trouble in cashing out for a somewhat nerve-racking plus 9 IMPs.



**Christer Andersson
 Uppsala, Sweden**

The World University Bridge Championship (WUBC) is organized by FISU, the International University Sports Federation. The sixth WUBC was held during 9-15 July, 2012, and hosted by the French University Sports Federation in Reims, which is the largest and most important city of Champagne-Ardenne. Eighteen teams turned up for accreditation but one of the players in the Austrian team did not fulfill stipulated requirements as he had Italian citizenship. Therefore, only 17 teams were allowed to compete in the Championship.

would have been defeated: declarer needed to play three times from hand - to take two ruffs and to play the coup card - but would have had only have two entries to hand. Declarer could have taken two ruffs but would then have been stuck on the table.

Wu could have safeguarded this position if he had thought of a possible foul break early enough by cashing the ace of diamonds before winning the ace of trumps. This would have allowed him to start shortening the trump length in dummy on the way to playing the jack of trumps. With diamonds unblocked and the trump length partly shortened, he would have had the tempo and transportation to secure the contract.



During the recent World Mind Sports Games in Lille, France, the computers squared off once again to contest the 16th World Computer Bridge Championship. The eight entrants played 32-board all-play-all matches scored at Victory Points with the top four qualifying for the knockout round. There they would play 64-board matches with carry-forward from the round robin stage.

The final table of the qualifying round was:

Jack	146
MicroBridge	135
WBridge5	125
Q-Plus Bridge	111
Bridge Baron	107
Shark Bridge	98
RoboBridge	68
Moose Bridge	14

In the semifinals, Jack defeated Q-Plus Bridge 189-116 and WBridge5 eked out a 1-IMP win over MicroBridge, 162-161, overcoming a 10-IMP MicroBridge carryover.

The final featured the two most successful programs in the history of this event: seven-time winner Jack (HansKuijff, developer) versus three-time winner WBridge5, with Jack winning 153-147. The last board of the match gives great hope to WBridge5 developer Yves Costel for future championships.

Six diamonds is a decent contract - the spade king rates to be onside on the bidding, but vile breaks in the minors could still do it in.

Board 64. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

At Table 1:

West	North	East	South
WBridge5	Jack	WBridge5	Jack
Pass	1♥	2♣	3♥
Double ¹	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

1. Takeout

Nevertheless, we can see that Brigitta, the card goddess, was kind to East/West. West's double and East's non-minimum jump response showed a fine assessment of their values. East might have bid four notrump to ensure reaching the best spot (e.g., if West were 4=4=3=2 or 4=3=3=3), or might even have cuebid four hearts; West in turn might have passed five diamonds, but the final resting spot was certainly acceptable.

South Jack led the three of hearts to the two, nine and a ruff by WBridge5 East, the declarer, which continued with a club to the ace, another heart ruff, then the king and ten of clubs. When South Jack declined to cover, declarer discarded dummy's last heart, having released the third heart on the club king. North Jack could ruff, but with the spade king onside and trumps 3-2, declarer could set up the East hand with a club ruff no matter what North did. In desperation, North Jack tried the spade king after it ruffed the club. Plus 1370 to WBridge5.

Then at Table 2:

West	North	East	South
Jack	WBridge5	Jack	WBridge5
Pass	1♥	2♣	2♥
Pass	Pass	3♣	3♥
All Pass			

North WBridge5 declared three hearts, losing the obvious six tricks. That meant minus 100, but 15 IMPs to WBridge5, narrowing the final margin to 6 IMPs.

This board should serve as a warning to Hans Kuijff, Jack's lead developer, that there is still work to be done. For Jack West to pass two hearts after Jack East's overcall is simply too conservative. Even so, Jack might have recovered if Jack East had found the better re-

opening call of double of two hearts rather than its dreadful three-club balancing bid. Indeed, although both robots overcalled two clubs, many experts would have preferred an initial takeout double because of the relatively weak (for an overcall) clubs.

Information and play details about the 16th World Computer Bridge Championship can be found at www.computerbridge.com and at <http://www.ny-bridge.com/allevy/computerbridge/2012scores.html>.



Although I had a disappointing NABC in Philadelphia, my consolation prize was that I was to be in Sweden only a few days later. The idea of a milder summer, hanging out with some of my good friends, and playing some casual bridge in the Swedish Bridge Festival was just what the doctor ordered. This fantasy lasted all of one day when I was suddenly asked to fill in for Fredrik Nyström in the prestigious Chairman's Cup. On a team with Peter Fredin, Gary Gottlieb, and Tommy Jansson, I partnered and anchored with Johan Upmark. I suddenly found myself playing bridge behind screens (sadly, for the first time all summer) with the same intense atmosphere as in an NABC knockout. Losing in the semi-finals was disappointing, especially since it always hurts more to be beaten by your friends. But hey, I came here to enjoy myself. There was, however, one board where Peter Fredin demonstrated just what separates him and the few truly world-class players out there from the rest of us:

Fredin, as South, held: ♠Q7 ♥KQ874 ♦8 ♣AK1082. His RHO passed and the bidding went...

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1♥
Double	Redouble	Pass	Pass
INT	Double	2♦	Pass
Pass	4♥	Pass	?

My stepfather, Bobby Levin, taught me one of the most valuable lessons I will ever need at the bridge table, and that is when considering bidding, you must visualize the dummy and plan the play of the hand in your head. Applying this now, I would consider the prospects of making slam. Knowing that partner has only three trumps is a tremendous deterrent. We also know that missing club honours will be behind this otherwise promising suit, and that dummy probably

has no ruffing value. To us mere mortals, it would seem that four hearts is about the limit of this hand.

To Peter Fredin, however, his opponents' bidding had revealed several key pieces of information that enabled him to use Bobby's principle in a way that I could never dream of...

RHO's pass of the redouble denies surely four spades. LHO's one notrump bid also denies four spades. Therefore, North has five spades (with six decent ones he would have bid them), and spades are breaking 3-3. Partner undoubtedly has at least three diamonds yet was not interested in defending two diamonds doubled; therefore, he must not have more than one diamond honour (though even one is unlikely). LHO has denied four spades, but bid one notrump, presumably showing equal length in the minors. Needing three spades for a takeout double, this means that LHO's most likely distribution was 3=2=4=4. In this case, hearts would be 3-2.

So dummy has at least 12 HCP, five spades, and three hearts. We are assuming a maximum of one honour in diamonds, and no more than the queen or jack of clubs (though holding both of the queen and jack of clubs would be ideal). Therefore, partner has at least one high honour in spades and most likely the heart ace. Knowing that hearts are 3-2 gives us five heart tricks to go along with our two club tricks. Now we need five tricks from the pointed suits: either five spade tricks, or four spade tricks and the diamond ace, or four spade tricks via a finesse and ruff out to go with a slow diamond trick.

So, if partner holds ace-king to five spades, we know that slam is cold with the spades breaking. If partner holds ace-jack-ten to five spades, we also know that five spade tricks are also a practical certainty. When partner holds only the ace-jack to five, we need the ace of diamonds, the king of diamonds or the queen of clubs to get to our 12 tricks. One of these is likely, given his minimum of 12 HCP. Fredin accordingly bid Key Card Blackwood and bid what he called a "100% slam."

Fredin's brilliant inferences were rewarded when the full deal was:

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1♥
Double	Redouble	Pass	Pass
INT	Double	2♦	Pass
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Miles	Helness	Korbel	Helgemo
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When we read off the comparisons and I laughed at our 11-IMP gain for what I thought had been dumb luck, Fredin gave me a look that said “Luck?”. When I inquired, he explained the reasoning to me and I was mesmerized by the elegance of his thinking. Moments like these remind me that there is always so much more to learn, and why I truly love this game.

Three notrump was the contract at all sixteen tables of the Open quarterfinals. The declarers at ten of those tables received a spade lead; six of these declarers failed by incorrectly divining who held the heart jack. The remaining four declarers guessed the heart, and three made the contract as a result.

The fourth declarer, Monaco’s Geir Helgemo, went down one. Looking at the diagrammed position, it looks like Helgemo is a favourite to make his contract, as at this level, card reading by declarer is usually excellent. Unfortunately for Helgemo, he could not predict the brilliant defence put forth by Canada’s Daniel Korbel.

The play started well for Helgemo when, upon winning Danny Miles’ six of spades lead with the ace, he led a heart to the jack and queen and at trick two, then knocked out the ace of hearts. Korbel continued with his remaining spade, the ten, and Helgemo won his queen. A diamond to the king followed and the ten of diamonds was played from dummy. Korbel made his first good play by following with a low diamond - Helgemo won his ace. Two heart winners followed, East discarding the ten and five of clubs and declarer the six of clubs. With Helgemo having had won seven of the first eight tricks, the ending, with declarer needing just two tricks for his contract, was:



We play this game we love for a variety of reasons, but there is one motivation everyone can identify with – getting a hand right. This could be as declarer or defender, or in my favourite subject area: bidding. It is a thrill to make that bid or play that directly leads to a good board or score. You feel so good when your teammate says, “Way to go, partner!”, and even better when your opponents say, “Well done!”

Daniel Korbel’s opponents may not have congratulated him on his defence on the following deal, but his teammates certainly appreciated his play. The deal occurred at the 2012 World Championships (officially, the 2nd World Mind Sports Games) held this past summer in Lillie, France during the fifth segment of the quarterfinals, with Canada leading Monaco narrowly.

**Quarterfinals, Segment 5. Monaco v. Canada.
Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

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

Helgemo, accurately playing East for the ace of clubs, cashed his eighth trick, the king of spades. On this trick, Korbel discarded the diamond queen! Had Korbel simply discarded a club (as most defenders would), declarer would have an easy time reading this position and would lead a diamond to endplay East; however, the diamond queen created an entirely new option. Declarer assumed Korbel was trying to create an entry for his partner’s jack of diamonds. If the queen of diamonds were an honest card, it confirmed Helgemo’s card reading that Korbel had the ace of clubs. Anyway, had Miles held it, he’d have the remainder of the tricks.

Therefore, the ace of clubs was with East, but where was the queen? It was irrelevant! If Helgemo card reading was accurate, West had started with ♠ 86532 ♥ 7543 ♦ J75 ♣? And the size of his club did not matter. Either it would fall under the king of clubs, making the jack high, or he would score the jack later,

since East had only clubs remaining. However, on the actual layout, Korbel won the ace of clubs, then returned a club to Miles, who won the trick and cashed his two spade winners for down one.

Helgemo sat in silence.



THE 2012 CAVENDISH INVITATIONAL

John Carruthers, Kingsville, ON

This year, for the first time, the Cavendish was held outside the 48 contiguous states of the USA, in Monte Carlo. Pierre Zimmermann, the driving force behind the change, continues to build Monaco's presence in bridge. The intention is to alternate locations between Las Vegas and Monte Carlo for the foreseeable future.

Twenty teams with players from as many countries played in the warmup event, the Cavendish Monaco Teams. In a departure from previous years, the two leaders after seven of the nine 10-board Swiss matches played each other for the title (and the top cash prize!) while the other 18 teams continued the Swiss, with third and lower placings at stake. The top three finishers were:

- 1 Pierre Zimmermann/Franck Multon, Geir Helgemo/Tor Helness, Fulvio Fantoni/Claudio Nunes
- 2 Philippe Cronier/Godefroy de Tessières, Nathalie Frey/Jean-Jacques Palau/Jean-Charles Allavena
- 3 Lotan Fisher/Ron Schwartz, Alon Birman/Dror Padon

In the Pairs, remarkably, Stevie Weinstein did not win. There was a very good reason for that: he did not play this year. Again there was a departure from previous years - after four sessions, the top 12 of the 58 registered pairs played a further two-session "A" final while the rest were divided equally into "B" and "C" finals for the remaining two sessions. At the top were:

- 1 Lotan Fisher/Ron Schwartz
- 2 Philippe Cronier/Jean-Christophe Quantin
- 3 Zia Mahmood/Agustin Madala

If there was a theme to this year's event, it was grand slams - bidding them and avoiding them. The minor theme was hearts. The fun started on Board 21 of Match 3 in the Teams...

Teams. Match 3. Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul

<p>♠ J 10 3 2 ♥ — ♦ 10 3 2 ♣ J 10 8 5 3 2</p> <p>♠ A K 6 5 ♥ 8 ♦ A K Q 8 5 4 ♣ 9 4</p>	<p>♠ 9 7 ♥ A K Q 10 9 7 6 5 2 ♦ 9 6 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ Q 8 4 ♥ J 4 3 ♦ J 7 ♣ A K Q 7 6</p>
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Antonio Sementa/Giorgio Duboin of the Lavazza Team showed just how easy this one was...

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Cronier</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>de Tessières</i>
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♥ ¹	Pass
3♠ ²	Pass	4♣ ²	Pass
4NT	Pass	6♣ ³	Pass
7♥	All Pass		

1. Internally-solid or semi-solid suit
2. Control showing
3. Club void plus 2 key cards

Duboin/Sementa play a useful treatment after their two-over-ones, which are forcing to game, to wit, that a jump rebid of the opened suit shows an internally-solid suit, one that can be missing the ace or king, but not the queen and, if only six cards, not the jack.

At the other table Jean-Jacques Palau opened four hearts. When Jean-Charles Allavena passed, there being no safety at the five level, that was 14 IMPs to Lavazza.

Not all pairs were given free rein in the bidding:

West	North	East	South
<i>Multon</i>	<i>Martens</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>	<i>Filipowicz</i>
—	Pass	1♥	2♣
2♦	5♣	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

If a pass over five clubs by Zimmermann would have been forcing, he might have done that, then pulled Multon's double to six clubs.

Perhaps an immediate bid of six clubs over Martens' five clubs would have agreed diamonds and the delayed six clubs would have shown self-sufficient hearts, both promising first-round club control. Has anyone discussed this?

Palau was not alone in declaring four hearts: six other pairs rested in four hearts and four pairs got to six hearts. Only seven pairs bid to the grand slam in hearts. That's 18 of the 20 pairs accounted for - the other two got to seven no trump, the respective Easts not being able to convince their partners that they did not hold the club ace after they'd opened with two clubs! That was a swift six down. In only one match was there an honourable push at 1510: Welland vs. Bonori.

When Welland and Lavazza met in Match 6, they were in sixth and fourth place, respectively and needed to make up some ground to challenge the leaders.

Teams. Match 6. Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Smirnov	Bocchi	Piekarek	Madala
—	—	Pass	1♥
3♦	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♣	Pass	7♠
All Pass			

Four diamonds agreed spades and four notrump asked for key cards. When Madala showed two key cards and the spade queen, Bocchi made a grand slam try of six clubs, giving Madala room to show a red-suit feature. But Madala had seen enough and, thinking Bocchi had a six-card spade suit, leapt straightaway to the grand slam.

Perhaps, having already shown the trump queen, this was a little exuberant. However, all that remained was for Bocchi to make it, which he needed to do to cover his partners' (Sementa/Duboin's) minus 1700 in five clubs doubled.

Piekarek led the queen of clubs. Bocchi won that in hand and played the king of spades, discovering the bad news, then three rounds of hearts, ruffed and overruffed for one off.

It would not have been outrageous to play a spade to the seven at trick two, then a club to hand, discovering the news in that suit as well. West would then have been marked with 0=4=8=1 (no diamond lead, so a void in diamonds with East). Thus: the ten of spades to the jack, a club ruff with the spade nine, then three rounds of hearts ruffing the third with the spade king.

Declarer would then have been left with the five of spades in hand to lead to the ace-eight in dummy to finish the trumps. On the last of these, this would have been the situation:

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

West would have had to surrender two heart tricks or a third diamond trick to declarer.

Lest you think this line of play fanciful, recall the Helgemo grand slam of two years ago when he made seven spades by taking a first-round finesse for the trump queen, missing three, then subsequently had an entry-shifting trump squeeze to make his contract.

We did have grand slams that most pairs reached and made. On the following deal, 17 of the 20 pairs holding the East-West cards bid to and made seven hearts. In Cronier versus Zimmermann, the two leaders...

Teams. Match 7. Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

Continued on page 12...



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

637. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

This deal was played in a local teams event and the contract was the same at both tables, as was the lead - the nine of spades.

At the first table, declarer called for dummy's ten and East correctly saw no good reason to cover this with his king. When he played low, declarer followed with the five and there was no longer any way to make the contract! As the ace of diamonds was offside, all declarer could make were his six trump tricks, two spades and the ace of clubs; nine tricks, for one down.

At the second table, declarer counted his tricks instead of playing too quickly at trick one. He realised that if West began with the ace of diamonds then he would have four potential losers in the minors. The solution was easy, once seen. Declarer played low from dummy at trick one and won the opening lead with the ace. After drawing trumps with the king and queen, declarer led a spade to the ten and king. East now shifted to the queen of diamonds and West took declarer's king of diamonds with the ace. The defenders could take another diamond trick, but that was all. When declarer

regained the lead he crossed to dummy with the ace of trumps and discarded his two low clubs on the established queen and jack of spades.

638. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
4♣	Double	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

In a recent teams match, the auction was the same at both tables. Both Wests cashed the ace of clubs and both shifted to spades.

At the first table, West shifted to the queen of spades and declarer took this in hand with the ace, drew trumps and then played a diamond to the queen and ace followed by another diamond. East could do no better than take his two diamond trick, as a spade lead would be into dummy's king-ten tenace; in effect, the spade loser had disappeared.

There was some discussion around the shift to a low spade at trick two being better than the queen and, as it turned out, that is what the crafty West did in the other room. There, the equally-crafty declarer played low from dummy and took East's eight of spades with the ace. After drawing trumps in two rounds, declarer played a low spade to the queen and king followed by the ten of spades. East took this with the jack and exited with the nine of spades.



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.

After ruffing this in dummy, declarer paused to count West's hand. Declarer concluded that West started an 2=2=1=8 distribution, as he should have eight clubs for his vulnerable opening bid.

As he could only afford one diamond loser, declarer had to hope that West's singleton diamond was an honour, a 3:2 shot. Accordingly, he led a low diamond from dummy and East had no winning option; if he rose with the king of diamonds, to Crocodile Coup West's queen, he would have to lead away from the jack of diamonds into the ace-ten tenace in dummy, thereby holding declarer's diamond losers to one. At the table, East played a low diamond and West won the trick with his bare queen. The forced club return saw declarer ruff in dummy and discard a low diamond from hand. As his second diamond loser had now disappeared, declarer had made the game for an interesting flat board.

639. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

This was another board from the same teams match as the previous one.

At table one, West cashed the ace and king of diamonds, East playing high-low, and then led a third round of diamonds. Not liking the look of this one bit, declarer decided not to ruff this with one of dummy's small trumps. (If he had done so, East would have overruffed and the contract would have failed on the combination of West having four spades and East having the king of clubs).

Instead, declarer discarded a club from dummy. East ruffed, but declarer was then in control. After gaining the lead, declarer drew trumps and discarded dummy's jack of clubs on the good queen of diamonds.

At the other table, West cashed just one top diamond and switched to a club. Just as at the other table, this declarer too was on the ball. He saw that if he finessed in clubs, East might win and return a diamond to West. As the cards lay, a third round of diamonds would

then promote a trump trick for the defenders. Declarer avoided this outcome by rising with the club ace, drawing trumps and then testing the spades. When they proved to be 4-2, he played dummy's jack of diamonds. All he lost was two diamonds and a club.

Well done by both declarers.

640. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

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

While some might pass the North hand or even pass over West's three-spade overcall, our intrepid North was made of sterner stuff, however. As for South's six-heart bid, little need be said - six clubs would have been a much-better contract. Even seven clubs is a decent contract.

The auction sounded to West like a situation where a trump lead was best, so he put the four of hearts on the table. Declarer saw that if he won this and drew trumps then he would be left with two diamond losers. He saw that overcoming this outcome would require trumps to be 3-2 and a dummy reversal.

Declarer took the first trick with the eight of trumps and ruffed a spade in hand. A diamond to the ace was followed by a spade, ruffed with the ace. Next he crossed to dummy with the ace of clubs and ruffed dummy's third and last spade with the queen. All that remained was to overtake the jack of trumps with the dummy's king and draw East's last trump with the ten.

Declarer had made three spade ruffs, three trumps and the two minor-suit aces, for a total of eight tricks. All that remained was to cash his remaining clubs from the top to bring his trick total to twelve.

USA RETAINS BUFFETT CUP

The USA team defeated Europe to win the fourth Buffett Cup, held in Omaha this September. USA now leads the series 3-1.

...The Cavendish - continued from page 9.

West	North	East	South
De Tessières	Fantoni	Cronier	Nunes
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	7♥	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Frey	Helness	Allavena
1♣ ¹	1♦	2♥ ²	Pass
2♠ ³	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	5♦ ¹	Pass
5♠	Pass	7♠	All Pass

1. Normally open lowest of four-card suits
2. Shows 6 spades*
3. Showing spade support
4. Exclusion Key Card Blackwood

*The BBO commentators seemed to think that Helgemo/Helness play transfers at the one level after a club opening (they do not) and they had a mixup about the nature of two-level bids, i.e., transfers or no transfers (they did).

In any case, Helgemo/Helness had a colossal mixup. They do not play one-level transfers after a one-club opening. They do, however, play that this particular two-heart bid shows six spades. Helness simply forgot their agreement and subsequently thought that Helgemo had bid spades naturally.

Helness commented later, "As you know, we play very naturally. Perhaps this hand shows why!"

Only two other pairs failed to reach seven hearts, one pair declaring six hearts, the other four notrump.

Notice the similarity of our first grand slam to the following one from the pairs: hearts and diamonds forever, an ace in one side suit and a void in the other.

Pairs. Session 4. Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

It is surprising that no fewer than six pairs could not even reach a small slam on these cards, five of them playing in four hearts and one defending against four spades doubled. Only 10 of the 29 pairs who held

these cards bid to seven diamonds and one intrepid pair reached seven hearts.

At least two pairs (they shall remain anonymous) had the auction Pass-3♦-Pass-4♥ and two more had the auction Pass-3♦-Pass-6♦. Josephine was not invited to the party.

Bidding seven diamonds was good for plus 207 IMPs across the field. Four hearts after partner's three-diamond opener in second chair has been nominated as the worst bid of 2012 - it's difficult to argue with that assessment.

Finally, a deal in which it was judicious to stay out of the grand slam, again in hearts, although the grand was pretty decent...

Pairs. Session 6. Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Quantin	Grue	Cronier	Del'Monte
—	2♦	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Double	Pass	Pass
Redouble	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♠	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♦	Pass	6♠	Pass
7♥	All Pass		

Since Cronier/Quantin came in second in the Pairs by the margin of 64 IMPs to the Israelis, it is safe to assume they'd have won, but for this board. They were minus 81 IMPs on it and would have been plus 31 had they settled for six hearts, enough to win by 40-odd IMPs.

Seven hearts depends upon 3-3 spades (except possibly jack-nine-third from North, in which case declarer can misguess), the spade jack falling doubleton from either hand, or the doubleton nine falling from North and declarer being able to diagnose it. There are no viable squeeze opportunities.

There were, of course, non-grand slam deals. On the following one, J-C Quantin had a very difficult decision to make, much too early in the morning, against the Israeli Juniors...

Teams. Match 1. Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Padon</i>	<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	2♦	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	2NT
Double	All Pass		

Both Israeli players were very light for their actions and Bompis' suit texture was barely good enough. Quantin, with the best hand at the table, had a very tough decision to make at his third turn. He did not make it lightly. He knew Bompis had only six diamonds (no pre-empt at favourable vulnerability) and that they'd be violating Burn's Law of Total Trumps ("Have more cards in a suit than your opponents to make that suit trumps.") by declaring two diamonds doubled.

Padon found the best lead of the diamond nine, covered by the jack and queen - Quantin discarded a heart - and Birman switched to the club seven. Declarer won, cashed his clubs and tried a high heart. West took the heart and continued diamonds - East took his two winners there, declarer discarding a spade and another heart. The king and another heart put South back in his hand with only the ace-nine-six of spades remaining. A low one toward the jack ended played West, but that was still one off, minus 100.

In two diamonds doubled, the defence would have been very interesting. Firstly, to have a chance, East must lead a heart to West's ace for a spade ruff, a little counter-intuitive with five trumps. East must exit with a club and declarer cashes the clubs, ruffs a heart to hand and begins trumps with the king. East wins and plays a third heart and West ruffs in with the diamond nine. Declarer overruffs and continues drawing trumps but, now, East can finally begin the force when he wins the next trump. His trumps at that point would have been the same length as North's, and his jealously-guarded heart king would elevate his low trump to the setting trick after North ruffs that card.

Would the Israelis have found the defence? Possibly, but the club seven was the most likely lead from East's hand.

The final of the Teams pitted Cronier and Zimmermann. As it happened, they'd met in Match 7, Cronier winning by 5 IMPs, and thus Cronier, leading in the standings, would carry half that margin into the 20-board final.

Teams. Final. Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Palau</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Frey</i>	<i>Nunes</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Frey led the spade four and Fantoni tried the ten, then won with his king when Palau played the jack. A club to the king followed, then a diamond to the king, holding the trick. Declarer cleared the clubs, East pitching a heart and a spade, and West switched to the heart queen. Fantoni won the ace and Frey continued the good work by unblocking the king.

Declarer ran the clubs, coming to this position:

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

Declarer needed two more tricks and was pondering the best way to go about acquiring them when West informed him there was nothing he could do! Right he was. One off, minus 50.

At the other table, the defence allowed Philippe Cronier a second heart trick for his ninth trick, after which East was squeezed without the count in diamonds and spades for trick ten. That was 10 IMPs to Cronier - not enough, however as Zimmermann won by 3.5 IMPs, 47-43.5.

HOLDING THE TROPHY

Paul Lamford,
London



This year's Lederer, held on 29th and 30th September, was one of the strongest ever, and the eight invited teams featured eight World Champions, including Seniors and Women. The number of previous winners, at 18, was one down from last year's record. The weekend coincided with Europe retaining the Ryder Cup in Chicago, with a remarkable last day turnaround, and The Colonies, from the other side of the pond, had no joy here either, finishing last. They were popular visitors, however, and had the consolation of a big win against the Crockfords team.

The Holders hit the front on the Sunday morning as the Spring Fours team faded and it was a surprise that their final margin of victory was as great as it was. Organiser Stefanie Rohan moved them off Vugraph in the final round, to allow the world to watch Zia and Robson doing battle. That attracted almost 2,000 viewers to BBO, so that change turned out to be wise. Young Chelsea made a Sunday charge to take second place, but they never threatened the leaders.

The awards for best play, defence, and bidding were all in the third and fourth segments, and were quite difficult decisions. We start with the best auction:

Her Majesty's Pleasure

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Howard	Green	Bowles	Holland
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠ ¹	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♣	Pass	6NT	All Pass

1. Artificial game force

Her Majesty The Queen sent a message to the EBU this year to congratulate them on their 75th anniversary. It was appropriate that the increased value of a queen played a part in this deal.

Andy Bowles, honest as ever, confided to me a day after the event that two spades was an artificial game force, so West should have just rebid three clubs rather than three notrump but the rest of the auction was good, and East knew at the end that the queen of clubs was a trick and there was no advantage in playing in the ten-card fit. The 3 IMPs for the higher-scoring slam and the point-a-board were a good reward.

Scylla and Charybdis

Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
McGann	Brock	Garvey	Smith
—	1♣ ¹	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass

1. Natural or 12-14/18-19 balanced

Two declarers reached the reasonable contract of three notrump here. Joe Fawcett played it from the East hand on the lead of the jack of diamonds, and he could have made it more easily by playing on diamonds.

Hugh McGann, as West, faced the more testing lead of the king of spades from Sally Brock and, when he ducked, she continued with the queen to take out the entry from dummy. Now McGann, who knew North had a weak notrump type of hand, played a club to the king and ducked a club to North.

Sally Brock did the best she could by continuing spades, but McGann won, played a diamond to the queen, finessed the heart jack and then cashed the ace. Declarer then played another diamond. North could win and cash the spade, but now she had the unenviable choice of the rock of leading a diamond, which resurrects the dummy, or the whirlpool of leading a club, allowing West to enjoy that suit. Nine class tricks.

Fawcett reached a similar position but the prize went to McGann who had faced a much more challenging defence.

A Dying King

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Teltscher	Allerton	Silverstone	Lee
—	—	—	INT
2♣ ¹	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

1. Majors

*Authority forgets a dying king,
Laid widowed of the power in his eye*

wrote Tennyson. This is interpreted by many as meaning “new rulers emerge” and South had to take this on board and realise that he had to sacrifice his king of hearts in order to beat the contract on this deal. Two clubs was Landy and West was happy to accept the game try of three spades because of his good controls, despite his bad spades.

South led the jack of clubs, which was won with the ace in dummy, and a spade to the queen revealed the bad news. South won that and played a second club. East won, finessed the diamond, cashed the ace of diamonds, discarding a heart, and then cashed the ace of hearts, on which Peter Lee had to unblock the king. This he did and declarer could no longer get home.

The best defended hand therefore went to Peter Lee, a former British chess champion, and in chess the king can never be sacrificed!

“I Coulda Bin a Contendah”

Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Carruthers	Allfrey	Silver	Robson
—	—	—	1♣
4♥	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	4♠	Double	4NT
Double	5♣	Double	All Pass

The Colonies had few bright spots in the event. This was one, against the Crockford’s Cup winners:

Once the doubling started, there was no happy ending for the Crockford’s winners. The defence got off to an excellent start with the queen of spades to the ace and a spade ruff. As East had returned the spade ten, indicating that his entry was in hearts, West led a heart, the two, hoping to convey diamond suit preference. If East thought that showed an odd number of hearts and tried to cash a second heart, that was fine also for West had no second trump.

East did continue with the heart queen after winning the ace, West following with the five. Declarer ruffed and played a club to the queen, getting the news that East had both the remaining trumps. He led a low diamond from the dummy, and having faith in West’s suit preference signals, ducked it, hoping East had the nine or West the ace-queen doubleton. West could have taken the ace of diamonds at this point, guaranteeing down three and plus 800, but since South’s distribution was now known to be 2=1=4=6, a ruff-sluff could not harm the defence.

On the king of hearts, dummy and East both discarded diamonds. Declarer ruffed the heart in hand and led another diamond, won by West with the queen, felling East’s jack. Since declarer still had two diamonds remaining, any card by West would gain another trick by allowing East to overruff the dummy, provided he had the jack of clubs to go with his seven.

The seven? Well, either the seven or the nine. South had already played the three, five and eight of clubs and was marked with the ace and king on the bidding. His other club was either the jack, nine or seven. If it were the jack, he could ruff a diamond high and claim. If it were the nine or seven, that left East with the jack-nine or jack-seven and an overruff of the dummy, no matter what declarer did.

So West decided to exit with another heart, presenting declarer with a second ruff-sluff. If declarer ruffed the heart in dummy, East would overruff, then overruff a diamond. If declarer discarded from the dummy, East would still overruff a diamond. Declarer simply conceded another trick to the defence for down four, plus 1100. “Nice defence, boys,” he admitted ruefully.

Note that it would not have availed declarer to take a diamond discard on the spade jack when in dummy with the club queen. West would still give a single ruff and discard, but would then play a third diamond when

in with his second diamond trick, allowing East to overruff the dummy. As the play went, it was simply more fun to give two ruff-sluffs.

The top finishers:

- 1 **Holders:** Espen Erichsen, Norman Selway, Michael Byrne, Mike Bell, Neil Rosen, Martin Jones **267**
- 2 **Young Chelsea:** Kitty Teltscher, Sally Brock, Nicola Smith, Colin Simpson, David Price **240**
- 3 **Crockfords:** Andrew Robson, Alexander Allfrey, Tony Forrester, David Gold, Peter Crouch, Derek Patterson **230**



The MERSIN Bridge Festival (September 20-23) is one of the most important in Turkey (www.mbsk.com).

This year, there were 61 teams in the Patton Teams and 186 pairs in the Open Pairs. In the Open Pairs, Bulgarians Tony Rusev and Kalin Karaivanov took first place. In the Teams, ZABUNOGLU was the champion.

I'd like to tell you about two deals from the Patton team matches:

1. Dealer West. NS Vul.

<p>♠ 9 4 2 ♥ K Q 8 3 ♦ A Q J 7 ♣ Q 8</p> <p>♠ 7 3 ♥ A 5 ♦ 10 9 3 ♣ K J 9 5 4 2</p>	<p>♠ K J 10 ♥ 10 9 4 2 ♦ K 8 6 2 ♣ 7 6</p> <p>♠ A Q 8 6 5 ♥ J 7 6 ♦ 5 4 ♣ A 10 3</p>
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West	North	East	South
Zorlu	Dogan	Tokay	Kandemir
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
2♣	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

There were four national team member at the table. Nafiz Zorlu, West, led the the two of clubs. Declarer, Ismail Kandemir, took this with his ten and played a low heart. When West ducked, South won with dummy's queen and played a second heart - Zorlu

took declarer's heart jack with his now-bare ace and played the king of clubs. When this held the trick, he continued with a third club. On this trick, East, Mustafa Cem Tokay, was squeezed in three suits! He threw a diamond.

South won with the club ace and played a diamond to the queen, won by East with the king. East switched to the ten of spades, but declarer knew that West didn't have the king (he passed as dealer), so he finessed the queen and played all the diamonds. This time, East was squeezed in the majors. His overtrick won Kandemir the board.

2. Dealer South. EW Vul.

<p>♠ 9 ♥ K 10 9 5 ♦ A J 4 3 ♣ A 7 5 2</p> <p>♠ A ♥ Q 7 6 ♦ K 10 7 6 5 2 ♣ K 9 8</p>	<p>♠ Q J 7 3 ♥ 4 3 2 ♦ Q 9 ♣ 10 6 4 3</p> <p>♠ K 10 8 6 5 4 2 ♥ A J 8 ♦ 8 ♣ Q J</p>
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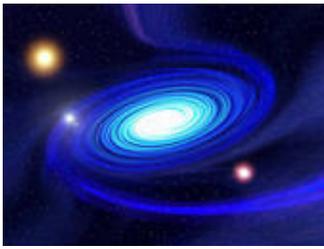
West	North	East	South
T. Ozbey	Zabunoglu	F. Ozbey	Alan
—	—	—	1♠
2♦	Double	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

West led the six of hearts. Declarer, Sabri Alan, took the trick with the ten in dummy and played the nine of spades. When East did not cover, Alan played a small spade from hand. West took his bare ace and shifted to a low diamond; declarer took this with dummy's ace, ruffed a diamond, cashed the ace of hearts and played the jack of hearts from hand, queen, king, four.

Declarer then played the fourth heart and when East didn't ruff it, he threw the club jack, returned to hand with a diamond ruff, then played the queen of clubs to dummy's ace and ruffed a club.

At that point, declarer had only the king-ten-eight of trumps remaining and East had the queen-jack-seven of spades left. Declarer exited with the ten of spades. End of story.

The heart lead made life easy for declarer. Double dummy, West can hold declarer to ten tricks by leading the ace of spades and shifting to the king of clubs. If declarer plays spades early, as in the actual play, West again shifts to the king of clubs. This forces declarer to use up a dummy entry prematurely and stops the overtrick.



FROM ANOTHER GALAXY

Ana Roth,
Buenos Aires

Harry Houdini (born Erik Weisz; March 24, 1874 – October 31, 1926) was an Austro-Hungarian-born American stunt performer, noted for his extraordinary escape acts. He first attracted notice as “Harry Handcuff Houdini” on a tour of Europe, where he challenged police forces to try to keep him locked up. This revealed a talent for gimmickry and audience involvement that characterized all of his work. Soon he extended his repertoire to include chains, ropes slung from skyscrapers, straitjackets under water, and having to hold his breath inside a sealed milk can.

The 2012 Campionati di Società (Italian Clubs Championships) were held in Salsomaggiore from September 27 to 30. The teams played the semi-finals and finals for promotion to the upper league. The Open Final (six sets of 16 boards) found Associato Allegra and Bridge Reggio Emilia playing against each other.

Associato Allegra consisted of Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Guido Ferraro, Maria Teresa Lavazza, Agustin Madala and Antonio Sementa. Bridge Reggio Emilia was Mauro Basile, Andrea Buratti, Amedeo Comella, Gianfranco Facchini, Ezio Fornaciari, Carla Gianardi, Aldo Mima and Gianpaolo Ruspa.

On the first board of set three, Agustin Madala performed a sensational three-stages escape act of his own.

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

♠ 6 2
♥ J 8
♦ Q J 4 2
♣ J 8 6 5 3

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

♠ Q J 9 8 7 3
♥ K Q 6
♦ A 9 7 6
♣ —

West	North	East	South
Ruspa	Bocchi	Mina	Madala
—	Pass	1♥	1♠
Double	Pass	2♣	2♦
4♥	All Pass		

Madala led the jack of spades (Rusinow). Declarer won with the ace and continued with a low club to the ace...Madala realized that if he ruffed the trick he was going to be endplayed (a diamond return would give a diamond trick and a spade return would give a spade trick to declarer). So he performed his first escape act: he pitched a low spade.

Declarer quickly realized he was in danger...and played the ace of hearts. Agustin performed his second escape act: he unblocked the heart king, saving a heart escape card.

Declarer continued with another heart and Madala performed his third escape act as he held his breath in perfect Houdini style and played the heart six, dreaming for a miracle...and all of his dreams came true when Bocchi won the trick with his heart jack and returned the diamond queen to defeat the contract by two tricks.

This three-stage escape act could only function with the play of a club at the second trick. If declarer had played the ten of hearts at the second trick, letting South win the trick if North played low, or winning with the ace if Bocchi played the heart jack, Madala-Houdini wouldn't have been able to escape.

Finally, if Madala ruffs the first club with a heart honour and exits with his other heart honour, declarer ducks the first heart lead, wins the second, then runs hearts and clubs, ending in the dummy. This position is reached:

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

When declarer plays the nine of clubs to the king, South is squeezed without the count in spades and diamonds. Declarer must, of course, read the end-position correctly.

After I wrote this article, I received some e-mails from bridge players talking about this deal. Luis Palazzo was one of them; his e-mail begun with this words: “Agustin Madala is a player from another galaxy.” (“Agustín Madala es realmente un jugador de otra galaxia.”)...the same words people used to describe The Great Houdini.



Correspondence

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

From Club Neapolitan online magazine (edited):

I would like to shed light on and hush up the ill-founded rumours surrounding the Italian team. For Duboin-Sementa, I can assure you that they do not intend to split up, for now. They intend to keep working together in order to improve. No divorce is looming.

As for rumours about me moving to Argentina, I would like to be clear - I do not intend to go and play for another country at the moment, even though Madala and I have received many offers.

We should put this into the wider bridge context. The Monaco case is a dangerous precedent and the change in the eligibility code seems to make it easier for pairs to move from one country to another. What happened with Zimmermann shows that the residency criterion is looser than in the past. I personally find it hard to believe that a famous professional such as Pierre Zimmermann – who has continuous commitments elsewhere – really spends six months a year in Monaco. And there are other members of his team who have family or other businesses elsewhere.

Apparently nowadays it is easier to represent a new country than it used to be. I do have an Argentine passport (my mother was from Argentina) and for Madala and me it would be easy to play for Argentina. However, passport and residency are not a real obstacle anymore - it would be just as easy for us to accept an offer from any other country. This concerns not only us but also other international pairs. The flexibility shown in the case of Monaco opens the door to fake residency (which nobody checks) and opens up the possibility to a trade of players.

I stress that in Bali you will see me defend the Italian flag. And, by the way, the same applies to Lauria. His fans can be reassured and his opponents are warned!

Norberto Bocchi, Barcelona

Dear John,

As usual, an excellent editorial, but in two respects I would go further.

Firstly, more than 25 years ago, I suggested to the ACBL that it needed to take proactive steps to protect caddies and younger players from possible sexual predators at tournaments, whether in the form of

directors, players, or volunteers interacting with them. ACBL of course did nothing, and has been fortunate indeed - especially as most caddies are employed illegally, in violation of child labour laws and with no payroll taxes deducted (or paid by the employer in a matching amount under US law), no reporting of income to the IRS, etc. - not to have had a tragedy and ensuing scandal on its hands.

I personally know two accomplished players who have served prison time for sexual offenses involving minors. As a membership organization, that we would not take whatever steps possible to protect our players from harm of any kind that might befall them while involved in ACBL-sponsored activity boggles the mind.

Secondly, the rule that prohibits the presence of legal counsel at a disciplinary hearing is far more unfair than you have portrayed it. The ACBL almost always has its own lawyer in the room during any disciplinary hearing, and often during deliberations as well (which is totally improper), so while it is denying counsel to the accused, it gives itself the special benefit of having counsel whenever it chooses, and the League's attorney is almost always further ahead of the curve by being experienced in the arcana of the disciplinary code.

If the accused happens to be an attorney, he or she does not suffer quite the disadvantage of those who picked a profession such as medicine, accounting, or another legitimate vocation (including bridge professional). Again, a membership organization should want to assure that it treats its members fairly, and does not set itself up to reach inaccurate disciplinary decisions through unfair and skewed procedures. No doubt being Canadian, it came naturally to you to be circumspect and balanced in writing your editorial, but the League deserves far more scorching criticism. It says nothing good about an organization that chooses to treat its members in this fashion.

Allan Falk, Okemos, MI

(It is not often I am accused of being circumspect! - Ed.)

Dear John,

During the early 2000's, the City of Kingston (Ontario) amended its sponsorship contract for event organizers providing hospitality to out-of-town visitors to read that to be available for city funding, the organizers must certify that vulnerable groups

(including youths under the age of 16) would be under the management of screened individuals.

Previously, \$3,000 of city funding was available for each bridge tournament merely by making an official request to the Mayor. More money was often available by appealing to the City Council. Thus, bridge (with no such certification) has lost this source of funding.

Of course, the lost money is not as important as doing our utmost to help protect youth, but the sponsorship requests and grants also provided welcome publicity for, as well as interest in, bridge activities.

Yours truly, Ed O'Reilly, Kingston ON

Dear John,

You may remember that before Lille you were contacted through me and asked to complete a survey for Slavica Martinovic, who needed information about bridge players for her thesis. This thesis is now complete and you can find the links to both an English and a Croatian version if you go to:

<http://www.ecatsbridge.com/News/Generalnews.asp>

Slavica has asked me to pass on the following message:

Dear players, captains and coaches,

I want to thank everyone who took time and participated in the survey. I translated it into English so that everyone can see the results. I hope that it will be interesting for some of you. You can of course contact me with any questions about it on slavicam@gmail.com. I wish a lot of success to you all.

Yours sincerely, Slavica Martinovic, Banja Luka, Croatia

NEWS & VIEWS



CHAMPIONSHIP DEAL ANALYSIS

Per Jannersten reports that www.duplimate.com/DuplimateClub/Library contains a collection of World and European championship deals.

IBPA members can apply for a complimentary copy of the BOS-package, which enables you to import championship deals automatically into Deep Finesse and other tools for analysis, printing, etc. Just write to support@duplimate.com and ask them to give you a full license of the software pack.

SPORTACCORD ONLINE MIND SPORTS GAMES

Very encouraging participation figures have been registered across the Bridge, Chess, Draughts, Go and Xiangqi (Chinese Chess) online gaming platforms in

the SportAccord World Mind Games online tournament.

BridgeBase Online reported that more than 600,000 games took place in the quest for the main prize. Pandanet (online platform hosting the online Go tournament) reported that the number of players had doubled compared to the first edition of the online tournament in 2011. The winner for each sport will receive an invitation to attend the SportAccord World Mind Games from 12-19 December 2012 in Beijing, China (travel and accommodation included). In addition, Samsung tablets and Swatch watches will be awarded to other top players.

See <http://www.worldmindgames.net/en/content/about-mg-0-15513> for details.

CZECH MIND SPORTS FESTIVAL

The inaugural Mind Sports Festival will take place from 1 December - 4 December, 2012 in Prague. There will be tournament prize pools in Bridge, Backgammon, Scrabble, RISK and even global eSport phenomenons League of Legends and Counter Strike: Global Offensive. The Prague Poker Festival will also take place at the same venue on these dates.



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World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2012			
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 15-19	Jordan International Festival	Dead Sea, Jordan	www.bridgewebs.com/jordan
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 1-4	Mind Sports Festival	Prague, Czech Republic	www.praguemindsportsfestival.com
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
2013			
Jan 4-6	Camrose Home Internationals I	County Down, N. Ireland	www.ebu.co.uk
Jan 14-23	72 nd International Bridge Tournament	St. Moritz, Switzerland	www.bridge-stmoritz.com
Jan 15-27	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 30-Feb 3	Bangkok Bridge Festival Championships	Bangkok, Thailand	www.thailandbridgeleague.com
Feb 1-3	IV International Bridge Open	Barcelona, Spain	www.bridge.cat
Feb 9-15	47 th Israel Bridge Festival	Tel-Aviv, Israel	www.ibf-festival.org
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 1-3	Camrose Home Internationals II	Republic of Ireland	www.ebu.co.uk
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 17-22	White House Junior International Teams	Amsterdam, Netherlands	keestammans@gmail.com
Mar 18 & 20	WBF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	www.ecatsbridge.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
Apr 26-May 5	Lambourne Jersey Festival	Jersey, Channel Islands	www.ebu.co.uk
May 3-16	International Festival	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
May 8-10	International German Teams Trophy	Bad Godesberg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 17-26	27 th CACBF & 1st Int'l Open Festival	Playa Blanca, Panama	www.cacbf.com
May 25-Jun 1	LXII South American Championships	Angra dos Reis, Brazil	www.confssudbridge.org
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
Jul 17-30	19 th Maccabi Games	Jerusalem, Israel	www.maccabiah.com
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 9-18	Summer Meeting	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 19 & 21	WBF Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs	www.ecatsbridge.com
Sep 16-29	41st World Team Championships	Bali, Indonesia	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 20-29	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Islands	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 23-28	9th Transnational Teams	Bali, Indonesia	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 28-Oct 5	30 th New Zealand National Congress	Hamilton, New Zealand	www.nzcba.co.nz
Oct 9-15	EBU Overseas Congress	Lake Garda Italy	www.ebu.co.uk
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