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**ERNESTO
D'ORSI
1936-2015**

Ernesto d'Orsi, President of the South American Bridge Federation and a top World Bridge Federation administrator for nearly four decades, died on January 9, 2015 in São Paulo, Brazil. He was 78.

D'Orsi was a successful businessman and former engineer. He was the Tournament Committee Chair and chief organiser of the 1979 World Team Championships in Rio de Janeiro and organised the 1985 and 2009 Championships in his home town of São Paulo. Due to their successes, he was involved in the organization of every world championship from 1980 to the 2014 tournament in Sanya last fall.

D'Orsi was chosen for the WBF Executive Council in 1980. He served as WBF president from 1990 to 1992, filling the vacancy created when Denis Howard resigned. D'Orsi was elected to the WBF's prestigious Committee of Honor in 1986 and was selected as the 1994 Personality of the Year by the International Bridge Press Association. D'Orsi was awarded the WBF Gold Medal for long and meritorious service in 2005. The Senior Bowl, contested in odd-numbered years at WBF World Team Championships, is named after d'Orsi.

D'Orsi was a pretty good player as well, having won the South American Open Pairs as recently as 2009, as well as a handful of Brazilian Championships. He played in more than a dozen World Championships and captained Brazilian teams on many occasions.

Apart from his rôle as an administrator, d'Orsi really loved the game and its players. He was in return very popular and loved by all.

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LETTER FROM NORWAY

Knut, Kjærnsrød,
Tored, Norway



There is no doubt that Espen Lindqvist and Boye Brogeland are our present superstars, with victories in two North American Bridge Championship events in 2014. On the last board of the Fall Nationals, Boye put the icing on the cake by making four hearts on the following deal, to win the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams:

Dealer East, Neither Vul.

<p>♠ K Q</p> <p>♥ A 8</p> <p>♦ A 6 4</p> <p>♣ K J 9 8 7 4</p> <p>♠ A 10 9 6</p> <p>♥ Q 10 3</p> <p>♦ 9 3</p> <p>♣ A 6 5 3</p>	<p>♠ 8 7 5 3</p> <p>♥ 6 4</p> <p>♦ K Q 10 2</p> <p>♣ Q 10 2</p> <p>♠ J 4 2</p> <p>♥ K J 9 7 5 2</p> <p>♦ J 8 7 5</p> <p>♣ —</p>
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Brogeland opened in the South seat with two hearts and was raised to game by Lindqvist. West started with the ace of spades and shifted to a diamond, ducked to East's queen. East played a second spade. Brogeland ruffed a club, played a diamond to the ace and ruffed a second club. Dummy's last diamond was discarded on the jack of spades. Declarer played a diamond, and West could not gain by ruffing, so he discarded a spade. Brogeland ruffed, trumped a club and ruffed his last diamond with the ace of hearts. These cards remained:

<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ —</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ K J 9</p> <p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ Q 10 3</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ —</p>	<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ —</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ K J 9</p> <p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ 6 4</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ —</p>
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Brogeland ruffed the nine of clubs with the nine of hearts and could not be prevented from making two of the remaining three tricks.

It had been almost impossible to find the killing trump switch at trick two.

The Open World Championships in China were not a great success for Norway, but on this board from the World Open Pairs final, Lindqvist performed with elegance:

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
I♥	2♦	Double	4♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the ten of spades, ducked all around. Lindqvist won the spade continuation with his ace, ruffed a spade, discarded a heart on the ace of clubs and ruffed a club with the ten of diamonds. When Lindqvist played his last spade and West followed, Lindqvist ruffed it with the queen of diamonds, then ran the nine of diamonds successfully. He ruffed another club, removing West's last exit card, and played his last two trumps to reach this position:

<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ 10 6</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ 6</p> <p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ K J 8</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ —</p>	<p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ 4 2</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ K</p> <p>♠ —</p> <p>♥ A Q 9</p> <p>♦ —</p> <p>♣ —</p>
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Lindqvist completed his brilliant performance by leading the queen of hearts and unblocking dummy's ten. When West won with his king, he had to lead into the ace-nine tenace to hand declarer the contract.

The Norwegian Pairs Final was played in Lyngdal in the southern part of Norway in mid-September. It was won by two of our best young players, Tor Eivind Grude and Håkon Kippe, ahead of the winners from 2012 and 2013, Terje Lie and Nils Kvigraven.

On the following board, Lemet Hetta managed to land a four-spade contract, helped by a small defensive slip:

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

The bidding took some time:

West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	4♣	Double
Redouble	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The jack of diamonds was taken by the ace, and the diamond queen was covered by the king and ruffed. If South had shifted to a heart, the contract would have been unmakeable, but he led the king of clubs, taken by dummy's ace. When Hetta ran all of his trumps, North had to keep his king of hearts guarded along with his last diamond. Hetta put him in with a diamond to lead into the ace-queen of hearts.

North Dealer. Neither Vul.

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

North/South's system included a convention called "Garbage Multi". The bidding:

West	North	East	South
—	2♦!	2♠	Double
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

The prize for the best-played deal of the Norwegian Championships was earned by Joar Haugseth for his effort on this board. He was able to turn a complete bottom into a complete top with a smart psychological move.

West started with the ace of spades and continued with another spade. Haugseth trumped the second spade and smoothly put the ten of clubs on the table. When West played low, thinking his partner had a club honour, declarer removed the East/West trumps and played the king of hearts. This time West, perhaps rattled by his previous blunder, did not play low, and Haugseth discarded his diamond losers on dummy's hearts. A 100 percent score on a board in this Championship is rather rare, but this one was indisputable.

PRINCE OF THIEVES

**Mark Horton,
Sutton Benger,
Wilts., England**



In my home town of Nottingham, there stands a statue of Robin Hood, the well-known heroic outlaw who lived in Sherwood Forest and 'robbed from the rich to give to the poor'. He has been portrayed many times in the movies and, although the 1938 classic *The Adventures of Robin Hood* starring the legendary swashbuckler Errol Flynn sets the standard by which all the others are judged, the 1991 film that provides the inspiration for my title, *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, which featured Kevin Costner in the title role, is highly regarded.

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Forrester	Brock	Kendrick	Smith
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	3♠ ¹	Pass
4♦	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		
I.		Splinter bid	

It is possible to rob your opponents at the bridge table and on this deal from the English Senior Trials David Kendrick (as Robin Hood, and partnering that well-known woodsman, Tony Forrester) selected as his potential victims two very wealthy targets, Nicola Smith and Sally Brock, currently numbers one and two on the WBF's Women's Master Point list.

The common sequence was one diamond-one heart-four clubs-four hearts, which makes on the nose after a spade lead from North.

However, Kendrick spotted a way to try and relieve his illustrious opponents of their IMPs by making a psychic splinter bid of three spades. When Tony Forrester bid four hearts, Kendrick went on to six hearts, which made easily when North led a club.

It's a moot point whether North should lead the unbid suit in this situation (especially when East is known to have a vivid imagination), but that was of little concern to my Prince of Thieves, who put 11 IMPs into his pocket.

THE POKER STAR

Charles (Jens Otto Pedersen),
Odense, Denmark



The Bridge Star, Zia Mahmood, and the Poker Star, Gus Hansen, both seem amused by the outcome as they replace their cards in the board.

Danish poker star Gustav Hansen, better known as Gus or "The Great Dane", failed to qualify for the Copenhagen Bridge Invitational with his partner Martin Schaltz, and instead Gus played The Radisson Blue Scandinavia IMP

Pairs with the Swedish Junior World Champion Ola Rimstedt. They finished in the top half of the A Final. Here, though, is a deal from the CBI Qualifying.

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Joergensen	Schaltz	Berg	Hansen
Pass	1♠ ¹	Pass	INT ²
Pass	2♥ ³	Pass	2♠ ⁴
Pass	3♣ ⁵	Pass	3♦ ⁶
Pass	3NT ⁷	Pass	4♣ ⁸
Pass	4♥ ⁹	Pass	4♠ ¹⁰
Pass	5NT ¹¹	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 9-13; at least 4 spades, possibly with a longer minor (canapé)
2. Game-forcing relay
3. 4=2 or 5=2 in the majors
4. Relay
5. 4=2 in the majors
6. Relay
7. 4=2=2=5
8. Control asking (A=2; K=1)
9. 3 controls
10. Relay
11. Club and spade control, denying diamond and/or heart control, but showing the queen of clubs

The opening lead of the queen of spades was won with the ace. Hansen played five rounds of hearts, pitching two clubs and a spade from dummy. A club to the jack followed and the nine of diamonds was ducked by West! A diamond to the ace left this position.

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

Gus made 12 tricks by endplaying West with a spade to the king and the nine of spades to West's ten. A very nice ending and, in the diagrammed position, there is an equally clever alternative: a diamond to East's queen squeezes West! That would have been a very rare losing-trick squeeze.

Frequency	Result	IMPs
1	2000	357
1	1400	272
1	990	192
1	980	187
5	490	19
1	480	18
3	460	5
1	450	5
2	430	-9
1	150	-121
2	-50	-192
3	-100	-206

TWO GOOD DEFENCES ON ONE DEAL

David Bird,
Eastleigh, Hamps.,
England



It's always enjoyable to watch a defence that requires a bright effort from both defenders. This was one such deal from the 2015 Copenhagen Bridge Invitational:

Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ Q 10 5

♥ Q 6 4 3 2

♦ 10 4

♣ J 10 6

♠ K 6 4

♥ K J

♦ 5

♣ K Q 9 8 7 5 4

♠ 9 8 7 2

♥ 10 5

♦ A K 9 7 2

♣ A 3

♠ A J 3

♥ A 9 8 7

♦ Q J 8 6 3

♣ 2

West	North	East	South
Versace	Auken	Tokay	Welland
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Roy Welland led the eight of spades, Mustafa Cem Tokay winning North's queen with his ace. When declarer led a club to the king, Sabine Auken dropped the jack. If the jack or ten had not been played, declarer

would have had no option (to lose just one club trick) but to lead a low club from dummy on the next round, hoping that the ace would fall.

How should declarer have continued? It depended on how likely he thought it was that North would find the play of a club honour from jack-ten-third. If she would always find it, then South's play of the six or three is an example of Restricted Choice, making jack-ten-third more likely than jack-ten-doubleton. Be that as it may, Tokay guessed wrongly and continued with the queen of clubs, won with Welland's then-bare ace.

Now it was Welland's turn to shine. Two clubs and two diamonds would not defeat the contract. He switched to the two of diamonds, hoping that partner held the jack- or ten-doubleton. The ten of diamonds duly appeared, won with declarer's queen. Tokay crossed to the king of spades and led the nine of clubs to set up the suit. Auken won and returned a diamond through declarer's jack, allowing Welland to score three diamond tricks for one down.

Tokay and Alfredo Versace had the last laugh though, winning the event with a score of plus 880 IMPs (cross-IMPed against the field), ahead of Ireland's John Carroll and Tommy Garvey with 665 IMPs.

OZ BRIDGE

Ron Klinger,
Northbridge, NSW
www.ronklingerbridge.com

Going for or Foregoing Diamonds

With both sides vulnerable, right-hand opponent opens three hearts. Your go with:

♠ J 7 5 2

♥ K 4

♦ A K J 8 2

♣ A K

Here is the full deal:

Board. 28. Dealer East. Both Vul.

♠ A 9

♥ 9 8 5

♦ 6 5 3

♣ Q J 8 5 3

♠ Q 10 8 3

♥ A

♦ Q 10 9

♣ 9 7 6 4 2

♠ K 6 4

♥ Q J 10 7 6 3 2

♦ 7 4

♣ 10

♠ J 7 5 2

♥ K 4

♦ A K J 8 2

♣ A K

West	North	East	South
Nunn	Chan	Whibley	J. Gue
—	—	3♥	Double
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

This deal was from the semifinals of the Grand National Open Teams.

West led the ace of hearts: five – queen – four. The three-of-spades switch went to the ace. East won the nine-of-spades exit and gave West a heart ruff at the cost of his natural trump trick. Declarer won the club switch, drew trumps, unblocked his other club and had ten tricks, plus 130.

West	North	East	South
De Luca	Griffiths	Lusk	Milne
—	—	3♥	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

There was much to be said for three notrump. It did not come with guarantees, but then neither did the double made at the other table.

West led the three of spades to the nine and king. Back came the six of spades to the ace, killing the entry to the clubs. Declarer played the ace and king of clubs, then exited with the five of spades. West won and had become a stepping-stone, most unusual at trick five. He cashed the queen of spades and the ace of hearts, but then a club lead would have given declarer three club tricks for the contract. Instead he played the nine of diamonds and gave South five diamond tricks and the king of hearts for plus 600 another way and 10 Imps to Sydney 1.

With deeper thought, West might have found the best defence. It was all right to cash the queen of spades, but West should then have exited with a club and hung on to the ace of hearts. South could have taken three club tricks, but what would South have discarded? If he threw three diamonds and played a heart to the king, he'd have been down. If he pitched two hearts and a diamond and relied on the diamond finesse, he'd have been down. The winning play would have been to keep the king-four of hearts and duck a heart to West's ace or to throw a heart and two diamonds and then to endplay West with a heart. That play was not too likely.

The GNOT was won by Sydney 2 (David Beauchamp, Terry Brown, Peter Buchen, Avi Kanetkar, Kim Morrison). In the final they defeated Adelaide 1 (Peter Chan, Attilio De Luca, Joel Gue, Phil Gue, David Lusk) by 135-130.



THE SMELL OF GOULASH

Sviatlana Badrankova,
Minsk, Belarus

Light rain cooled the air in Sanya, but dealing machines 'heated' the environment of the playing area by supplying players with a lot of rare layouts. Especially happy must have been the players in the West seat – they were dealt, for example, an eight-card heart suit and a nine-card spade suit in Session 4 and a 7-6 hand in Session 2.

Let's look at Board 15 from Session 2 – with a 7-6 in spades and diamonds. Handling those types of hands seems to test one's guessing and nerves rather than system agreements, and for those who adore such gambling, it is strongly recommended they apply for the four-day Goulash tournament in Moscow – especially designed with weird distributions in mind. The participants hardly ever have to deal with 4-3-3-3 or 4-4-3-2 hands, while 5-4 hands may be called 'balanced'. Our hero from the Seniors events in Sanya, Apolinary Kowalski (Poland), has played in this tournament twice – his team won in 2013 and finished second this year, just three weeks before the Red Bull World Series of Bridge. Recently utilised skills were critical for Kowalski when he picked up this hand:

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

♠ 10 8
♥ Q 9 4
♦ A 7 4
♣ K 10 8 6 3

What would you have done with North's hand when the bidding started as follows?

West	North	East	South
—	Kowalski	—	Romanski
2♥ ¹	3♥ ²	3♠ ³	1♥
4♦	??		4♣

1. Spades and a minor
2. Competitive, no higher aspirations
3. Natural, but bidding to help partner with the lead

What would you bid now, knowing about the super-fit in the minors for each side and anticipating wild distribution in both the South and West hands? Kowalski was guided by the Goulash rule: If in doubt – go higher. Either it turns out to be a playable contract or a cheap sacrifice, or it encourages the opponents to bid more. So he bid five clubs and continued over

the opponents' five diamonds with six clubs (a cheap vulnerable sacrifice for only minus 200). This was the full deal:

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

West	North	East	South
—	Kowalski	—	Romanski
—	—	—	1♥
2♥	3♥	3♠	4♣
4♦	5♣	5♦	Pass
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
6♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

According to their system, two clubs was the appropriate opening bid for South to make, a Precision-like 11-15 HCP with clubs. However, Romanski knows his partner has a very strong aversion to concealing a five-card major in this fashion and so opened one heart instead.

The impact of Kowalski's approach was even more than he could have hoped – the opponents bid on to six diamonds and went down for a small but valuable plus 50 for North/South.

How would North/South have fared in a club contract? In six clubs, for example, if the defence starts with a spade to the ace and a spade back, declarer wins with his king. He cashes two rounds of trumps finishing in the dummy, takes the ace of diamonds, ruffs a diamond and reaches dummy once again with a trump to ruff out last diamond. After all that, these cards would be left:

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

In this ending, after ruffing dummy's last diamond, declarer advances a low heart from hand, discovering

the position in the suit and playing a low heart from the dummy. East would be thrown in to lead away from the king of hearts or to play a diamond for a ruff-sluff.

If West starts with a diamond instead of a spade, declarer pitches a spade loser on the ace of diamonds (avoiding two spade losers when the ace is with West), ruffs a diamond, reaches dummy with a trump to ruff another diamond, and plays on spades, reaching a similar position for the throw-in.

It would be nerve-wracking if West should lead a spade to East's ace and East then shifts to a low heart. Still, declarer could escape for one down there too by ducking the heart. Ducking the heart switch is not obvious to everyone, but it's very probable when considering both the bidding sequence and class of the players engaged in a World Series final.

CZECH CORKERS
Michael Byrne,
Manchester, England



The England Under-20 team, having spent four days in the Czech Republic, returned with several good deals in both the bidding and the play. The tournament was long and tiring (on one day, we played 96 boards!) As NPC, I had two pairs, Ben Norton/Freddie Illingworth and Chris Cooper/Andrew Murphy. Norton/Illingworth were slightly the more experienced pair, but Murphy has played for the Under 25s and Cooper has captained a University team in the Europeans. Ben and Freddie produced a few corkers that made me smile.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

East was Illingworth, from Oxford, and West was Norton, from Loughborough. North/South were two of the Czech Girls team.

Continued on p.10 ...



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

745. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	1♠	INT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the nine of spades and East overtook it with the jack. Declarer noted that there were only twelve high card points missing and so he expected East to hold almost all of them. Declarer ducked the first round of spades, but took the second round to keep open his option of endplaying East with a spade later in the play.

When West followed at trick two the spades were marked as 2=5 (East/West were employing five-card majors). Declarer continued with three rounds of hearts, with East throwing a low club on the third round. After a diamond to the king, declarer played a diamond to jack and then cashed the ace of diamonds. When East followed to the diamonds with the four, ten and queen of diamonds respectively, declarer was fairly certain that East's initial shape was overwhelmingly favoured to be 5=2=3=3. If that were the case, then East's remaining cards were three spade winners and two clubs. So declarer exited with his remaining spade. All East could do was to take his three spade winners but then had to lead into dummy's ace-queen of clubs.

746. Dealer South. Both Vul.

North's transfer to four spades improved the contract positionally since a heart lead from East would have beaten four spades. Nevertheless, how would you play four spades after West has led the jack of clubs?

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	INT
Pass	4♥ ¹	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
I. Texas Transfer to spades			

You take the opening lead with the queen of clubs and play the ace and king of trumps, East turning up with a winner. Can you avoid three heart losers when the ace of hearts is offside? You continue with the king and ace of diamonds and ruff a diamond in the dummy. You return to your hand with the ace of clubs and lead your last diamond, West producing the queen. What now?

If you ruff this trick, you will have to lead a heart yourself. East will rise with the jack, to prevent you from inserting the seven to endplay West. The defenders will then claim three heart tricks to beat your game. Instead, you should discard a heart from dummy on the fourth round of diamonds. West is left on lead and must either lead a heart or give you a ruff-and-discard. It would not help East to ruff his partner's diamond winner, of course, since you would then lose just one trump and two hearts.

747. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West began with the ace of hearts and continued with the king and five of the suit in response to East's encouraging signal. Declarer ruffed the third heart low in the dummy, East following suit with his remaining pip. A trump to the ace revealed the 5=0 break and South then had to lose a diamond as well as a trump trick for down one.

"What rotten luck to get a 5=0 break," moaned declarer.

True to form, his partner was not sympathetic. "Nonsense! You should have discarded a diamond from dummy at trick four," he offered. North continued, "This is pretty safe because you always have to lose a diamond and in playing this way you will get two low diamonds away from dummy, with the second one disappearing on the fourth round of clubs. East cannot damage you by playing a fourth round of hearts because then the jack of hearts will force West to ruff from his five-card length (discarding is just as ineffective for West). In that case dummy can overruff and from there it would have been routine to take ten tricks."

North then added "Also, discarding a diamond on the third round of hearts would succeed if East began with a doubleton heart. He would ruff the trick but you would have the rest: five trumps, the ace of diamonds and four clubs. My suggested strategy swaps a diamond loser for a third heart loser. Also, it all but guarantees ten tricks no matter how the cards lie."

748. Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ K J 10 9 7 5

♥ 2

♦ A 6 5

♣ J 10 5

♠ 8 2

♠ 4

♥ K Q 10 8

♥ 9 7 6 5 4

♦ 10 8 2

♦ K Q J 4

♣ K Q 8 4

♣ 7 6 3

♠ A Q 6 3

♥ A J 3

♦ 9 7 3

♣ A 9 2

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

I. Puppet to four spades

West led the king of hearts. Declarer could count nine winners and while a double finesse in clubs would

offer around a 3:1 chance of success, declarer felt that he should be able to do better. He had recognised a classic sign of an elimination play as the way to make his tenth trick: plentiful trumps and a club suit that would benefit from such a plan.

The problem was the diamond suit. He asked himself, "How can I prevent East from gaining the lead while preparing the sought-after elimination?" He was able to come up with the winning answer – he ducked the king of hearts.

At trick two West shifted to a diamond, respecting East's nine-of-hearts suit-preference signal. Declarer rose with the ace of diamonds then drew trumps with the king and ace. Next he played the ace and jack of hearts, discarding dummy's two remaining diamonds. After winning with the queen of hearts West exited with a diamond, as he could not play a club without giving declarer his tenth trick. Declarer ruffed this in dummy then crossed back to hand with the queen of trumps to ruff his last diamond, thereby eliminating that suit.

As all of the preliminary work was complete, declarer played the jack of clubs from dummy next and passed it to West when East followed with a low card. After winning with the queen of clubs West had no winning option. He had to give declarer his tenth trick, either by conceding a ruff-and-discard with a heart exit or by leading a club into declarer's tenace.



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West	North	East	South
—	1♦	2♣	Pass
2♥ ¹	Pass	5♦ ²	Pass
6♣ ³	Pass	6♦ ⁴	Pass
7♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Forcing for one round
2. Exclusion Key Card Blackwood
3. Two key cards and the queen of hearts
4. Guarantees all the key cards and asks for a filler in clubs!

When North opened one diamond, East started slowly with two clubs, which allowed West to bid hearts at the two level, forcing for one round. East then leapt to five diamonds, EKCB, and the six-club response showed two key cards and the queen. Then came the critical bid from East, six diamonds, asking for a filler in clubs. On this auction, the bid was not needed as a queen-ask as it would have been after a five-heart or five-spade response. West could see that his singleton club (whilst not as valuable as the king) would work well with the extra trump length, so he took the plunge and bid seven hearts.

On a spade lead, with the jack holding, declarer could claim after both opponents followed to a round of trumps, but even on the best lead of a diamond, the grand slam was still easy by ruffing out the clubs.

5th/6th Playoff. England v. Hungary. Final Set.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norton	Bence	Illingworth	Attila
—	—	Pass	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Bozzai Bence, North, led the two of spades and West considered his options. Winning Viktor Attila's jack with the king, he cashed the ace of clubs and played another, ducking when the queen appeared, an avoidance play to keep South off lead. (North should have unblocked the queen under the ace.)

Winning with the queen of clubs, North switched to the king of diamonds. Norton won and played a diamond back to his ten and North's queen. North

played a third round. Norton saw that to finesse the eight of diamonds was unnecessary as, assuming South's count signal was correct, he could afford to win and play a fourth round, throwing North back on lead for the third time. End-played yet again, North then had to play a major suit, allowing the ninth trick. He chose a heart (seven, four, jack, queen) in the vain hope that South had the queen and West had opened on a 14-count. That presented declarer with his game-going trick.

But declarer was not done yet. The run of the clubs squeezed North in the majors for the tenth trick, the defence having isolated the heart menace for declarer. Plus 430 was worth 7 IMPs to England, East/West in the other room having stopped in part-score.

Two boards later ...

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Norton	Bence	Illingworth	Attila
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♠
3♥	3♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

On the seven-of-diamonds lead to the jack and ace, declarer played a heart to the three, king and ace and a diamond came back. Watching as NPC I was slightly concerned that declarer might win this in dummy and get the trumps wrong, but Freddie saw this was unlikely to be the layout and he won the diamond in hand and cashed the queen of hearts.

In his own words, "When opponents with ten spades let you play in four hearts and give no thought to sacrificing, the trumps rate to be 2-2. Also South was unlikely to lead a short suit with only one trump." That was very well reasoned.

Now followed more good technique: Illingworth cashed the ace of spades and crossed to the diamond queen to ruff the queen of spades. Next came the ten of diamonds to discard a club. Declarer crossed to dummy with a trump and led the jack of clubs. As the cards lay there was no guess and the defence was endplayed to take care of declarer's potential third-round club loser.

Assuming South was indeed 7=2=2=2, then broaching clubs by leading the jack from dummy was 100 percent. Even if North had won and returned a club, East misguessing, South would have been endplayed into giving a ruff-and-discard.



The following deal from the Rosenblum Open Teams quarterfinal of the recent Red Bull World Bridge Series, Sanya, China, caused much excitement amongst contestants and commentators alike:

(See *Sanya Daily Bulletin* 12, p. 10, and *THETIMES* Review, November 22, p. 54.)

Stanza 2. Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ 4

♥ K J 9 8 6 2

♦ 4 3

♣ J 10 8 2

♠ A Q 8 7 6

♥ 10 7 5 4

♦ —

♣ A Q 9 7

♠ J 10 9 2

♥ —

♦ 10 8 7 6

♣ K 6 5 4 3

♠ K 5 3

♥ A Q 3

♦ A K Q J 9 5 2

♣ —

West

North

East

South

Helgemo

Hallberg

Helness

Bertheau

—

2♦¹

Pass

2NT²

Pass

3♦³

Pass

6♥

6♠!

Pass

Pass

Double

Pass

Pass

Pass

1. Multi

2. Strong enquiry

3. Extremely weak, with hearts

Mark Horton, (*Sanya Daily Bulletin*) suggested Helgemo's call was "perhaps the bid of the century", but Andrew Robson (*The Times*) was a bit more circumspect, writing that Helgemo was "... doubtless deducing from the opposition bidding that his partner might have fitting black cards."

Let us see what can be deduced from this leaping-to-slam auction:

1. North cannot possess either black-suit king (implied from the three-diamond response).

2. North's hearts are likely to be king-jack-to-six and South's ace-queen-to-three (implied from South's failure to use KCB).
3. South's diamonds must be something like six or seven solid; otherwise he does not have the stuffing to make six hearts.
4. South must hold a black suit king-third and a black-suit void; otherwise he has two fast losers.
5. East must therefore hold around three or four low diamonds, a heart void and nine or ten black-suit cards, including one king.

Other relevant information is that, in the Open Room, Monaco teammates Fantoni and Nunes are (unsurprisingly) playing the Fantoni-Nunes system, so their auction will start with a pass from North followed by a third hand opening bid from South of one diamond (forcing). This will give East/West maximum space to explore the situation and possibly judge the par contract more accurately.

In the event, six spades doubled in the other room went two down, while in this room, Helgemo made eleven tricks. That was 7 IMPs to MONACO.

An instructive example of a world-class player utilising the guesstimation technique.



PROVIDENCE PROVENDER

Barry Rigel, NYC

The Fall Nationals tournament was held in the historic city of Providence, Rhode Island, 140 years older than the United States itself. Today Providence is very much a university town, with Brown University, Rhode Island College, Johnson & Wales University and Providence College just a few of the post-secondary schools in the city.

Here are a few more of the interesting deals from the tournament.

Hard to See

This deal was played on the third day of the Baze Senior Knockout Teams.

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

♠ Q 10 7 4 2

♥ 8 4

♦ 8 3

♣ 10 8 4 2

♠ 8

♥ J 6 2

♦ A 10 7 6

♣ J 9 7 5 3

West	North	East	South
—	—	1♠	2♠ ¹
Pass	3♣ ²	3♠	4♥
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
1.	Michaels cuebid: hearts and a minor		
2.	Pass or correct		

You doubled four hearts, expecting a trump promotion at trick two, and led your spade to the ten and jack, ruffed by declarer. The king of diamonds comes next. Do you duck or win?

Let's say you duck. Declarer leads the queen of diamonds and you win, partner following in diamonds with the two and nine. Take it from there.

At both tables, West played a low club after winning the ace of diamonds. This was the full deal:

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

After the club shift, Jeff Aker played the contract carefully. He ruffed a diamond with the eight of hearts, and when East overruffed to return a spade, he ruffed high to play the queen and ten of hearts, soon followed by a claim.

The winning defence is not easy to spot. West must play a third diamond himself to let partner ruff with the ace to play a spade. Declarer must ruff high, and now when he draws trumps, West can win with the jack of hearts and exit in hearts. Partner will get a club at the end.

Tough Defender

On this deal from the final of the Baze Senior Knockout Teams, Matt Granovetter made a nice defensive play to earn a swing for his team, captained by Dan Morse.

Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Woolsey	Bramley	Stewart	Stansby
—	Pass	2♠ ¹	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass	—	1. "Good" three-diamond preempt

Lew Stansby led the king of hearts, ducked by Fred Stewart. Declarer won the heart continuation with the ten and played a club to his queen and Stansby's king. A heart to the ace, establishing Stansby's long trick in that suit, was followed by another low club to declarer's jack. When that held, Stewart exited with a club to the nine and North's ace. The nine of diamonds went to Stewart's queen and he was home with three spades, two hearts, two club and two diamonds for plus 600.

Things went differently at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Morse	Meckstroth	Granovetter
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Granovetter started with the queen of hearts (Rusinow), taken by Meckstroth with the ace. He played a low club from dummy at trick two, his jack losing to Granovetter's king. At trick three, Granovetter played the jack of spades, pinning Meckstroth's singleton ten and threatening the transportation between the East and West hands.

Meckstroth took the ace of spades and played another club, winning the queen when Morse played low. Meckstroth exited with a club to dummy's nine and Morse's ace. The nine of hearts came next. Meckstroth played the jack and Granovetter ducked. Granovetter won the next heart with the king, cashed the seven of hearts and got out with a diamond. Meckstroth won the king of diamonds with the ace and cashed the queen, but had to give up the setting trick on the final play. North/South took two clubs, two hearts and a diamond for one down.

Double-dummy, Meckstroth could have survived the clever play by winning the spade and playing another club from dummy, unblocking the queen if Morse rose with the ace. If Morse played low, Meckstroth could win with the queen of clubs and exit with a low heart. South would likely go up with the king to block the suit, putting Meckstroth back in his hand with a third round of hearts. Now Meckstroth could play his last club to the nine and the ace, leaving Morse no choice but to exit with a diamond (all dummy's black cards by then were good). Meckstroth could finesse in diamonds, cash the ace and exit with a low diamond. With all black cards left, North would have to play a card to dummy with the king-queen of spades and the ten of clubs, all of them good.

The result was a 12-IMP gain for Morse.



BEIJING 2014

SPORTACCORD WORLD MIND GAMES

11-17 DECEMBER 2014

MIND OVER MATTER

Mark Horton
Sutton Benger,Wilts.,England

The author reports more deals from the Mind Sports spectacular from the Chinese capital.

Featuring some of the world's top competitors in their respective fields, the fourth edition of the SportAccord World Mind Games took place at the Beijing International Convention Center in December 2014. The five mind sports represented were: Bridge, Chess, Draughts, Go and Xiang Qi (Chinese Chess). One hundred and fifty world-class performers competed in the event, which was supported by IMSA.

The USA, China, Israel and Monaco contested the Open events, while the Women's competition comprised the USA, China, Netherlands and England. They would compete as teams, pairs and individuals for medals and substantial prize money.

The winners of the Teams events were:

Open Teams: Israel – Alon Birman, Lotan Fisher, Ilan Herbst, Ophir Herbst, Dror Padon and Ron Schwartz

Women's Teams: England – Sally Brock, Fiona Brown, Heather Dhondy, Catherine Draper, Nevena Senior and Nicola Smith

Although there were no gold medals for the USA, the American players created some of the more memorable moments of the event.

The round-robin match between Monaco and the USA started with a superlative effort by the Americans, an early contender for auction of the year:

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

♠ J 9 6 5 4

♥ A

♦ K 9 8 7 4

♣ 9 8

♠ Q 10 8

♥ J 8 6 3 2

♦ Q J 2

♣ J 10

♠ —

♥ Q 5 4

♦ A 6 5 3

♣ A Q 5 4 3 2

♠ A K 7 3 2

♥ K 10 9 7

♦ 10

♣ K 7 6

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Kranyak	Helness	Demuy
—	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2NT ¹	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♠ ²	Pass	4NT ³
Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass
	Pass		

1. Diamonds with tolerance for clubs
2. A Bluhmer - a good hand with no wastage in spades opposite the known void
3. Encouraging; 5♦ would have been discouraging

When South reopened with a double, North placed him with a shape-suitable hand that almost certainly included a spade void. When South bid three diamonds, North bid four spades to show a good hand with all his values outside spades. Four notrump promised a good hand and North backed his judgement by jumping to the slam.

Trumps were 3-1, but the clubs were 3-2 with the king was onside so that was a splendid plus 920 for Demuy and Karanyak.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Lee	Fantoni	Lall	Nunes
—	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	Pass	Pass	2NT ¹
Pass	3♠ ²	Pass	4♣ ³
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Secondary diamonds or hearts
2. Good hand in context
3. Offering clubs as a place to play

When South could bid only five diamonds on the next round, North called it a day, plus 420, and 11 IMPs to the USA.

Curiously, Kranyak and Demuy recorded another remarkable six-diamond result when the teams met for the second time.

In the Open Room (see top of next page), East was unwilling to look beyond game. North led the jack of clubs and declarer won with the ace and played a spade to the ace and another spade for eleven tricks, plus 450.

Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lall	Helness	Lee
2♠ ¹	Pass	2NT ²	Pass
3♦ ³	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Spades and a minor, 5+/5+; 2-10 HCP

2. Relay

3. Diamonds

The Open Room East and West were rather more ambitious:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Demuy	Fantoni	Kranyak	Nunes
2♠ ¹	Pass	2NT ²	Pass
3♦ ³	Pass	6♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Spades and a minor, 5-10 HCP

2. Relay

3. Diamonds

North led the seven of hearts and declarer won with dummy's ace, cashed the ace of diamonds, played a diamond to the queen (South discarding a discouraging nine of clubs) and led a spade. It was clear that declarer held the ace of clubs, so if North/South were to get two tricks they could only come from spades. On the actual layout North needs to play the queen, catering for partner holding the king and ten of spades, but what if West had started with five spades to the ten?

In that case, the fate of the contract would turn on how declarer tackled the spades. Low to the jack would be a winner on this layout and so would playing the ace (which works as long as spades are 3-2 with the honours split) but low to the eight would give the defenders two tricks in the suit. When North followed with the six of spades declarer went up with dummy's ace, cashed three rounds of clubs, ruffed a heart and exited with a spade to endplay North.

That was a spectacular plus 920 and 10 IMPs to the USA.

The following deal, played in the last qualifying round, made sure that the USA would reach the final.

GAREY HAYDEN 1944-2015



Garey Hayden, one of the world's top professional players, died suddenly at his home in Tucson, AZ on the evening of February 5.

Hayden was the first-ever WBF Seniors Grand Master and had won all five of the Senior World Championships in which he had played. He won ten North American Championships, was second in nine others and was eighth on the ACBL all-time masterpoint list

Dealer East. EW Vul

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

West	North	East	South
Fisher	Cheek	Schwartz	Bertens
—	—	INT	Pass
2♠ ¹	Double	3♣ ²	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♡
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
1. Transfer to clubs			
2. No fit			

East led the king of diamonds and declarer ruffed as West followed with the nine. Attempting to cross to dummy with a spade would have seen East take the ace and give his partner a spade ruff, but declarer found a brilliant counter, leading the king of hearts at trick two. When West's queen put in an appearance, declarer could play on spades for a comfortable plus 590.

At the other table John Krayak was one down in four clubs, so the USA picked up 10 IMPs.

NEWS & VIEWS



Weinstein Wins Lazard Sportsmanship Award

Howard Weinstein has won the Sydney Lazard Jr. Sportsmanship Award for 2015. The Award is administered by the ACBL Educational Foundation and will be presented at the Summer NABC in Chicago.

Pakistan Day International

The Pakistan Bridge Federation, along with the Mind Sports Association of Pakistan and the Karachi Bridge Association will conduct the 2nd Pakistan Day International Bridge Tournament in Karachi, Pakistan, on 21-23 March 2015. There are Pairs and Teams events with a total of US\$20,000 in prize money.

Women's Festival Report

Anna Maria Torlontano reports that the WBF Women's Autumn Online Bridge Festival went very well indeed, with the introduction of another robot tournament proving popular, and there was an overall increase in the number of participants. The most significant change for this edition was taking into account only a player's best 10 results. The successful prize structure from the Spring Festival remained unchanged. Players from 55 countries took part.

The grand prize for the overall winner is free entry to the 2015 European Women's Pairs Championship to be held during the 2015 European Championships in Tromso. The winner of the overall classification will be awarded the prize together with a partner of her choice. The winner, Virginia Chediak, accepted with great enthusiasm and gratitude.

The WBF would like to express its gratitude to the BBO personnel for their efficient organization of the event, and look forward to working with them again for the 2015 Spring Festival in April (dates to be announced).

GOTO Bridge & FunBridge

Valentin Foncez, a new IBPA member, reports on GOTO Bridge, a puzzle software publishing company specialising in bridge, with over 5000 units sold annually. The current version is GOTO Bridge XV. The software is aimed at beginners and intermediate who wish to improve their game. GOTO Bridge also manages the FunBridge website.

FunBridge, a bridge app for PCs, Macs, iPhones, tablets and iPads offers two applications for smartphones and tablets (namely FunBridge and FunBridge Quiz) as well as a computer software programme.

FunBridge is a duplicate bridge game, i.e. one human player sits South at the table, whereas East, West and North are played by computers. Each player plays the same deals. Thus you can compare yourself to the thousands of FunBridge players and rank yourself. Only your bridge sagacity makes the difference. You can play whenever you want, at your own pace, at any time of the day or night. You can also pause at any time and resume the game later. Two practice modes are available on FunBridge: IMPs and matchpoints.

See www.funbridge.com.

White House Junior International

Kees Tammens reports that once again, the White House Junior International Teams tournament will be held in Amsterdam at Het Witte Huis, this year from 29 March till 3 April 2015. This is the event's tenth anniversary.

Correspondence



The Editor reserves the right to abridge and/or edit correspondence.

Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

Dear John,

Regarding your editorial on board erosion: If real-life timing could be introduced (similar to the chess clock) and system constraints be imposed, then matches could be made longer, logic would supersede language and skill would prevail. I am reminded of the deal in Chile from many years ago (*1993 Bermuda Bowl - Ed.*), when a forgotten defense to Ferts may have been material. There are many other similar examples in World Championship play.

Regards, Bob Hamman, Dallas

Dear John,

Can you possibly help me through the IBPA with my mission? I am telling all my inexperienced players to IMMEDIATELY summon the tournament director as soon as anybody gets officious and tries to give an armchair ruling. They are being turned off duplicate bridge and I think this is terrible. I haven't turned into a grumpy old bridge player – I have just decided that before I retire, I want to protect all my lovely novices and I would welcome your comments.

Very best regards, Harold Schogger, London

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2015			
Feb 10-15	NEC Bridge Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 12-17	28 th Cairo International Bridge Festival	Cairo, Egypt	www.egypt-bridge.org
Feb 13-20	SAWBA Congress	Port Elizabeth, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
Feb 20-26	49 th International Bridge Festival	Tel-Aviv, Israel	www.ibf-festival.org
Feb 21-28	Gold Coast Congress	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	www.qldbridge.com
Feb 25-Mar 1	International Festival	Cannes, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Mar 5-10	28 th Cairo International Festival	Cairo, Egypt	www.egypt-bridge.org
Mar 6-8	Camrose Trophy	Belfast, Northern Ireland	www.bridgegreatbritain.org
Mar 12-22	ACBL Spring NABC	New Orleans, LA	www.acbl.org
Mar 21-23	2 nd Pakistan Day International	Karachi, Pakistan	www.pakdaybridge.pk
Mar 22-28	XXVII International Festival	Tenerife, Canary Is., Spain	www.aebridge.com
Mar 23-29	XII International	Casablanca, Morocco	www.bridge-casablanca.com
Mar 24-29	Bridge Days	Kitzbühel, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Mar 29-Apr 3	10 th White House Junior Internationals	Amsterdam, Netherlands	www.jeugdbridge.nl
Mar 31-Apr 1	120 th Canadian Nationals	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Apr 1-7	APBF Youth Teams Championships	Bangkok, Thailand	www.thailandbridgeleague.com
Apr 8-12	Yeh Bros Cup	Shanghai, China	chihuachen2001@yahoo.com.tw
Apr 16-19	16 th Hotel Senator Bridge Meeting	Starachowice, Poland	www.h-s.pl/brydz-meeting
Apr 18-26	South African National Congress	Durban, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
Apr 24-May 3	Jersey Festival of Bridge	Jersey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Apr 29-May 3	International Polish Pairs Championships	Warsaw, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Apr 30-May 4	ABF Autumn Nationals	Adelaide, Australia	www.abf.com.au
May 1-3	German Bridge Team Trophy	Berlin, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 1-5	Schapiro Spring Foursomes	Stratford-upon-Avon, England	www.ebu.co.uk
May 8-13	African Zonal Trials	Egypt	www.sabf.co.za
May 8-21	International Festival d'Antibes	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
May 9-16	LXV Sudamericano	Buenos Aires, Argentina	www.csbnews.org
May 14	XXXV Bonn Cup	Bad Godesburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 15-23	28 th CACBF Zonal Championships	Christ Church, Barbados, W.I.	www.cacbf.com
May 19-24	Grand Prix of Portugal	Estoril, Portugal	www.fpbridge.com
May 21-25	Graz Bridge Days	Graz, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
May 21-31	50 th Asia Pacific BF Championships	Bangkok, Thailand	www.thailandbridgeleague.com
May 23-25	6 th Gros Supercup	Hessen, Germany	www.grossupercup2015.wix.com
May 24-31	XXVIII Golf-Bridge International	Costa Calida, Spain	www.aebridge.com
Jun 3-7	55 th Poznan Bridge Meeting	Poznan, Poland	www.kongres.brydz.wlkpl.pl
Jun 6-14	17 th German Bridge Festival	Wyk auf Föhr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Jun 17-21	5 th Tolani Open Summer Nationals	Begaluru, India	www.bfi.net.in
Jun 23-Jul 5	33 rd International Festival	Albena, Bulgaria	www.bridgealbena.org
Jun 27-Jul 11	7 th Open European Championships	Tromsø, Norway	www.tromso2015.no
Jul 1-12	Festival de Biarritz	Biarritz, France	www.biarritz-bridge.com
Jul 3-12	58 th Bridge Congress Slawa	Slawa, Poland	www.kongres-slawa.pl
Jul 11-23	Australian National Championships	Fremantle, WA, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jul 16-29	Festival de Deauville	Deauville, France	www.deauville-bridge.com
Jul 17-25	European Youth Team Championships	Tromsø, Norway	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 17-25	55 th Baltic Bridge Congress	Sopot, Poland	www.bridge-gda.pl/mkb
Jul 24-Aug 2	21 st Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se/eng
Jul 25-31	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se/eng
Aug 6-16	ACBL Summer NABC	Chicago, IL	www.acbl.org
Aug 7-9	Pesta Sukan	Singapore	www.scba.org.sg
Aug 11-18	Coffs Gold Coast Congress	Korora, NSW, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Aug 14-23	Brighton Summer Congress	Brighton, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 15-23	Festival de La Baule	La Baule, France	www.bridge-club-labaule.fr
Aug 19-23	9 th "Riga Invites to Jurmala"	Jurmala, Latvia	www.rigainvites.lv
Aug 21-30	43 rd Grand Prix of Warsaw	Warsaw, Poland	www.warsbrydz.pl
Aug 24-30	Festival du Touquet	Le Touquet, France	www.bridge-club-letoquet.com
Aug 29-Sep 6	International Festival	La Grande Motte, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Sep 11-20	Confiance Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 26-30	NZ National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzbridgecongress.co.nz
Sep 26-Oct 10	World Team Championships	Chennai, India	www.bfi.net.in
Sep 30-Oct 4	International Festival	Azores Is., Portugal	www.fpbridge.com
Oct 19-23	Cavendish Invitational	Monte Carlo, Monaco	jaconseil@libello.com
Oct 21-29	ABF Spring Nationals	Sydney, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Oct 29-Nov 1	International Festival	Avignon, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Nov 2-8	International Festival	Madeira, Portugal	www.fpbridge.com
Nov 5-7	2 nd Marbella International	Marbella, Spain	www.marbellabridge.com
Nov 11-14	14 th European Champions Cup	Little Horwood, Bucks., England	www.ebu.co.uk
Nov 24-29	ASEAN Championships	Bangkok, Thailand	www.scba.org.sg
Nov 26-Dec 5	ACBL Fall NABC	Denver, CO	www.acbl.org
Dec 27-30	Year End Congress	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk