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February 10, 2016

From the President

HANDLING CHEATING ALLEGATIONS

Following is a proposed procedure for handling cheating allegations.

1. The World Bridge Federation, in the same way as it is responsible for the International Laws and for recommending standard procedure for handling infractions and appeals against rulings, should also be responsible for defining and recommending standard procedure for the handling of cheating allegations. These can be defined as allegations so serious that if made public they could open the person making the allegation to legal action. Lesser allegations should be handled under the normal procedure for infractions of Law.
2. The standard procedure should include items such as:
 - (a) All levels within bridge (club, regional, national, zonal, world) are responsible for appointing a person to whom such allegations should be made in a way that gives as much legal protection to the complainant as local law allows. The appointing body shall be responsible for making that name widely known within its sphere together with the method for making an allegation. It should also make arrangements for receiving the records of the Officer in the event of incapacity or replacement. The post is referred to below as "Ethics Officer". Note: This procedure is already followed in many clubs for Health and Safety.
 - (b) At all levels above club level (e.g., regional, national, zonal, world) the regulatory body should appoint an elite player's commission with the role of receiving allegations forwarded by an Ethics Officer at that level or the next level down to make the decision of whether there is a case to answer. The Commission has the power to seek further evidence (e.g., videos). It must inform the Ethics Officer referring the evidence of its answer. Where this is "no" the complainant(s) are informed by the Ethics Officer but the complaints not released to the person(s) about which the complaints are made. If the answer is ("yes") the Commission seeks permission of the complainant(s) to proceed within as much legal protection as can be arranged and decides the appropriate level to conduct prosecution. The Commission can require the regulating body to appoint a prosecutor. The Prosecutor must then inform the person that he/she has a case to answer and presents the case to the person. The case is then handled thereafter as prosecution and defence.
 - (c) Allegations fall into two principal categories: (i) bridge action(s) – those which the person making the allegation believes is evidence of illicit knowledge

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LETTERA DALL'ITALIA

Maurizio Di Sacco, Pisa



Two deals from a recent Italian Championship caught my attention.

The following deal, reported in the Daily Bulletin by Fabio Lo Presti, offered a fascinating solution, of a kind very much loved by Hugh Kelsey and Geza Ottlik.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣ ¹
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥ ²
Pass	3♣ ³	Pass	3♦ ⁴
Pass	3♠ ⁵	Pass	4♣ ⁶
Pass	4♦ ⁶	Pass	4NT ⁷
Pass	5♦ ⁸	Pass	5♥ ⁹
Pass	5NT ¹⁰	Pass	7♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Game-forcing
2. Heart fit, asking
3. Five hearts, four diamonds; 15-17 HCP
4. Relay
5. 1=5=4=3
6. Control bids
7. RKCB
8. 0/3 key cards
9. Trump queen?
10. Yes, but no outside kings

The writer didn't dig too deeply into the play: he said that the declarer won the trump lead, cashed two more rounds, then took the top two spades, the top two clubs and led a club to the queen, to come to the following ending (see *top of next column*):

On the penultimate trump, in an attempt to disguise the diamond situation, East ditched the queen of spades.

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

When East threw the queen of spades, it caused an automatic show-up squeeze on West in the pointed suits. If East had instead disposed of two diamonds on the hearts, possibly throwing the queen of spades on an earlier round and keeping the six, simulating a queen-of-diamonds-originally-fourth holding, the declarer would have had to guess the ending.

As soon as I saw the deal, it rang a bell and I immediately realized that the theme was a classic one. Also, that there was a superior line, one which had the advantage of being totally automatic (at least on this lie of the cards): a compound squeeze. Declarer wins the lead, cashes four trumps (diamond from dummy), ace-king of diamonds (getting home if the queen falls) and three rounds of clubs ending in hand. Here's the ending with four tricks to go:

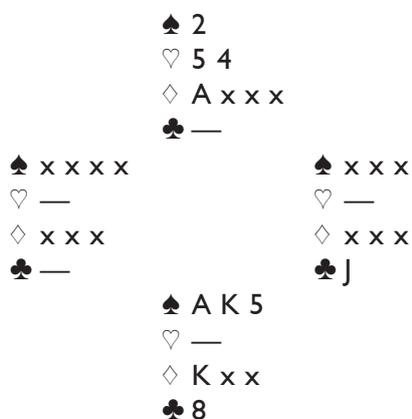
<p>♠ 2 ♥ 4 ♦ J 5 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ J 10 9 ♥ — ♦ Q ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ Q 6 4 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ J</p> <p>♠ A K 5 ♥ — ♦ — ♣ 8</p>
--	---

When North cashes the last heart, East must let go a spade to keep the jack of clubs, but South throws the eight of clubs and West is caught in a pointed-suit squeeze. This line obviously wins with the clubs splitting, and with four clubs in West you can still rely on a

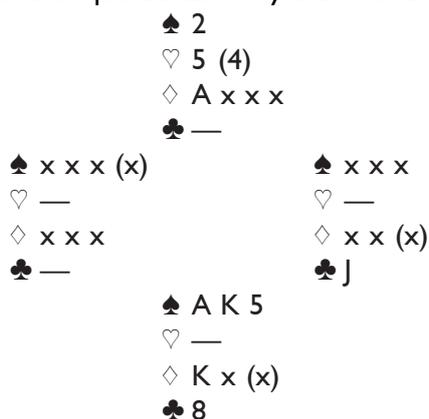
minor-suit squeeze against him. However, the bell kept ringing: my unconscious tried to tell me that something more must have been there, and finally, after a few hours, I was enlightened.

What I had originally spotted is a good, quite classic play, but does not have 100% certainty. There is a line, however, which has. A black pearl and, to execute it, you don't even need the jack of diamonds.

Let's say that you win the trump lead, and immediately cash three more rounds of trumps, throwing a diamond from dummy before testing clubs. Now, you are home and dry when clubs are 3-3, and you still have the club/diamond squeeze if it's West who is the holder of four-plus clubs. However, if East guards clubs, after four trumps he cannot hold both three spades and three diamonds. Let's have a look at the position, with each defender always having an 'x' higher than declarer's:

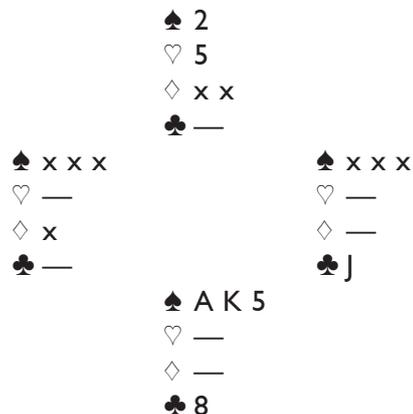


When North plays the fourth heart, East must release either a spade or a diamond. In both cases, his partner will become the only keeper of the suit's guard, thus you will use the other one as the common menace in the double squeeze. Let's try a diamond first:

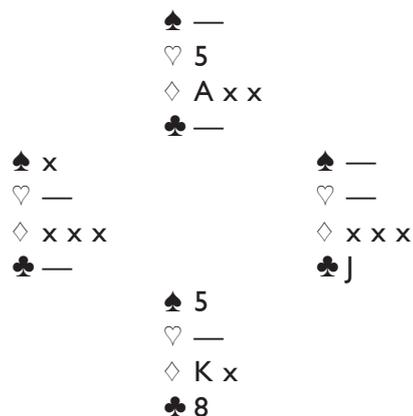


Since East threw a diamond, to keep three diamonds, West must pitch a spade. North plays the king and ace of diamonds and places the last trump on the table.

In the position at the top of the next column, East is forced to get rid of a spade to keep the jack of clubs. North throws the eight of clubs from dummy and West is caught in a pointed-suit squeeze. Here we are:



Similarly, if in the seven-card ending East throws a spade, declarer plays out the ace and king of spades and the final position becomes:



On the last trump East must pitch a diamond, but when North gets rid of dummy's eight of clubs, West is once more squeezed between spades and diamonds.

As proven, this line of play is just perfect, since it wins whatever the position. However, it requires you to read the ending. The keystone is always the same: you should not cash the ace-king of spades prematurely, as the original declarer did, because this prejudices the compound squeeze.

End of the story? No! This hand has still something in reserve. It is true that you have to guess the ending correctly, however, other than using your table feel, you can improve your chances by not touching clubs at all, immediately running four rounds of trumps (diamond from dummy). In one particular case, at least, unless you're playing against a formidable defender, you can be almost sure of the position. Let's try: remember, the hypothesis is that East has four clubs.

Now:

- if clubs were 3-3, as you're going to verify immediately, you win;
- if clubs are four or more with West, you're going to play for a minor-suit squeeze against him (in the real hand, a 'show up' squeeze: if West originally had four diamonds and the queen doesn't show

up, then you can be sure that it is going to fall on your left);

- if four clubs were with East, then:
- i. independently from whether he originally had three or two hearts (if he started with two, he certainly threw a spade on the third round, since the declarer is known from the auction to hold a singleton) he, as we saw, cannot hold on to both three spades and three diamonds.
- ii. Since you need to be at the same time a fantastic player and a magician to read the complete ending after three cards, it's (almost) impossible for anybody to throw a diamond having originally started with three – as we have seen, it is totally silly to hold on to the spades, whatever your holding – if you see a diamond it is reasonable to assume that East started with either 3=2=4=4 or 2=3=4=4. You will then proceed to use diamonds as the double menace, cashing the ace-king of spades first and then three clubs.
- iii. If you see a spade instead, you are really put to a guess, since the original distributions compatible with it are the following: 4=3=2=4; 4=2=3=4 (obviously, East has already thrown a spade on the previous round); 3=3=3=4.

In the last two cases, you have to proceed in the same way as before, but in the last one, after the fourth heart, you need to use spades as the double menace, thus you have to cash the ace and king of diamonds, leaving intact your transportation in spades. As perfect as this line is, you are still put to a guess, thus you need to be in top form and to decide to rely on your feelings to use it. Otherwise, the 'simple' double squeeze shown at the beginning is the best choice after all, as it is completely automatic.

On the next deal, I had the chance to play a very nice ruffing squeeze. Put yourself in the South seat and play six spades (after a two notrump-transfer auction) on a trump lead:

```

♠ K Q J 10 9
♥ 4
♦ A J 10
♣ 8 5 4 3

♠ A 8
♥ A Q 10 4
♦ K Q 7
♣ A J 7 2

```

The contract is not one of the best but, if you have to play a slam, spades offers the best chance. In the auction, it was impossible to appreciate the lack of internal values in clubs, or the duplication in diamonds and hearts (give South the queen of clubs instead of the queen of hearts and the contract is excellent). But it is not the time to complain about your poor luck. So far, the only thing you can do is to cash three

trumps, carefully throwing a club from hand, both defenders following, and continue with a club to the jack: king-queen of clubs onside and the suit splitting 3-2 is worth a valuable 17% of the odds, and even with the suit splitting 4-1 or 5-0 you can try the heart finesse, or play for a squeeze. No luck there, since the jack is won by the king. West shifts to a diamond. Now what?

The only chance remaining is represented by a heart-club squeeze, but if at first glance it seems that you need to find the RHO with both the king-jack of hearts and the club guard (or six-plus hearts with the king), there is a better line that significantly increases your chances to land your contract: a squeeze that acts against either defender. You win the diamond lead and play two more rounds ending in dummy, then the penultimate trump pitching a club. Here is the end-position (before the penultimate trump is taken):

```

♠ 10 9
♥ 4
♦ —
♣ 8 5 4

♠ —
♥ A Q 10 4
♦ —
♣ A 7

```

Your goal is to find the opponents with either:

♠ —	♠ —
♥ x x	♥ K J x x
♦ x x x	♦ —
♣ 10	♣ H 9

or:

♠ —	♠ —
♥ J x	♥ K x x x
♦ x x x	♦ —
♣ 10	♣ H 9

or even:

♠ —	♠ —
♥ J x x x	♥ K x x
♦ —	♦ x x
♣ H 9	♣ 10

In all three of the possible positions, East in the first two, and West in the third, still has to make a discard, but is inexorably squeezed: ditching a club would see you cashing the ace of clubs, making the two low in dummy good, still reachable with a heart ruff, whereas a heart would result in that suit being made good after finessing the queen and ruffing one. The ace of hearts would be the decisive transportation. All classic and really beautiful but, as often happens, even though the operation had been very successful the poor patient died, because the king of hearts was wrongly placed and, when I ended up down two, the reward for my

efforts was a loss of 3 IMPs, since in the other room my counterpart had gone down one in six notrump.

Now the final question: if you had been West, owning any of the hands described above, would you have been able to find the heart switch which cuts the necessary transportation for the squeeze (in the third case, a club continuation works as well)?



Sixty-four teams qualified from clubs around Australia to contest the finals of the 30th Grand National Open Teams. The knockout format consisted of one 14-board match, followed by three 28-board matches and a 42-board match to qualify two teams for the semi-finals. Losers dropped into a Swiss Teams. At the end of the Swiss, the two leading teams played against the two losers in the Round of Four to produce the other two semi-finalists.

The two KO teams for the finals were Adelaide 1 and Sydney 2. In the Repêchage (over 20 boards) to select the other two teams for the semifinals, Sydney 1 beat Canberra 1 by 33-26 and Sydney 3 beat Perth 1 by 33-31. In the semifinals, Adelaide 1 beat Sydney 3 by 139-66 and were undefeated. Sydney 1 beat Sydney 2 by 109-27.

In the 64-board final, Sydney 1 (David Beauchamp/Kim Morrison, Terry Brown/Peter Buchen, Avinash Kanetkar/Ron Klinger) defeated Adelaide 1 (Phil Markey/Justin Williams, Russell Harms/Jeff Travis) by 170-90.

Board 47. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Williams	Morrison	Markey	Beauchamp
—	—	Pass	1♦
Double	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the king of hearts, ducked, and the queen of hearts. South won and played off the diamonds. West let the five of spades go so South ducked a spade. West cashed jack and eight of hearts, South ditching two clubs. Declarer had the rest, plus 400.

West	North	East	South
Kanetkar	Harms	Klinger	Travis
—	—	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the king of hearts, ducked, and the queen of hearts. South took the ace of hearts and played the ace of spades, king of spades, ace of diamonds, jack of diamonds, queen of diamonds, heart ruff, ace of clubs, heart ruff. South had nine tricks and when he played the king of diamonds, he was assured of one more trick, no matter what West did, scoring a trump *en passant* for his tenth trick.

The following deal featured superlative play by Peter Gill in the 2015 Reisinger final, won by Boguslaw Gierulski/Jerzy Skrzyzpczak, Woytek Olanski/Vytautas Vainikonis, Ron Pachtmann/Pawel Zatorski. Gill's team (Sartaj Hans, Bart Bramley/Greg Hinze, Ross Grabel/Howard Weinstein) came fifth.

Final Session 1. Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Cayne	Grabel	Seamon
—	—	3♣	Double
3♥	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East ignored West's lead-directing three hearts and led the jack of diamonds. Declarer won, drew trumps, cashed the diamonds and eventually played a heart to the jack, one down, East/West plus 100.

West	North	East	South
Versace	Hans	Lauria	Gill
—	—	Pass	1♣ ¹
1♦	1♠ ²	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠ ³	Pass	4NT ⁴
Pass	5♣ ⁵	Pass	6♠
Double	Pass	Pass	6NT!
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Strong, artificial, forcing
2. 8+ HCP, 5+ spades, game forcing
3. Slam interest
4. Roman Key Card Blackwood
5. 1 or 4 key cards

It is not often that one can get the better of a world champion, let alone illustrious stars like Alfredo Versace and Lorenzo Lauria, but Peter Gill did. Had Versace passed six spades, the board would almost certainly have been tied. As the cards lie, North has nowhere to dispose of the heart losers. West's double asked for a heart lead and so Gill did the wise thing and ran to six notrump.

Declarer has eleven tricks on top. Where can South find the extra trick? Gill made his contract, but I am confident you cannot guess which card was his twelfth trick at trick 13.

West led the ten of clubs. South won with his ace and played the three top spades, ending in the dummy. West discarded the three of hearts (encouraging) and the two of diamonds. Then came the rest of the spades. South discarded three hearts, West the eight of hearts and his two remaining clubs, East the three of clubs, the four of hearts – a fatal pitch – and the five of clubs. East could easily have afforded to let three clubs go. These cards remained:

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

Declarer continued with the king of clubs, ditching the jack of hearts. West had to keep four diamonds to stop the run of the suit, so threw the queen of hearts. South played a diamond to the ace and cashed the king. Then came the king of hearts: ace – two – nine. West had to play a diamond to dummy's queen. The six of hearts won trick 13 and was the twelfth trick for declarer.

Try these problems:

1. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

♦ A K 9 8
♣ K Q 6

South opens two notrump and North raises to three notrump. West leads the six of hearts: five – eight – jack. What do you do now?

2. With only East/West vulnerable, your partner South deals and opens two hearts (weak, five hearts, four-plus of either minor). The next player passes. What would you do as North with the following hand?

♠ 10 7 3 2
♥ J 10 2
♦ A 2
♣ A 8 5 3

The following deals are from the semifinals of the 2015 Bermuda Bowl. This was from Sweden vs. USA1:

Board 5. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

The actual auction was longer, but it boiled down to two notrump – three notrump. On the six of hearts lead, low from dummy, East played the eight to retain transportation with West. After winning trick one with the jack of hearts, John Kranyak, South, played . . . the heart three(!): king – nine – two. Probably placing South with four or five hearts headed by the ace-jack, West switched to the seven of clubs: two – jack – king. South now played the ace, king and a third spades. East discarded the four of clubs. South's deception worked when West switched to the four of diamonds. South had three spades, one heart, two diamonds and three clubs, plus 400. You could consider what East should have played to try to alert West to South's subterfuge. Perhaps the heart seven and eight at tricks one and two.

At the other table, North/South for Sweden bid to four spades and lost the obvious four tricks for plus 50 to East/West and 10 IMPs to USA1.

From England vs Poland . . .

(See top of next page.)

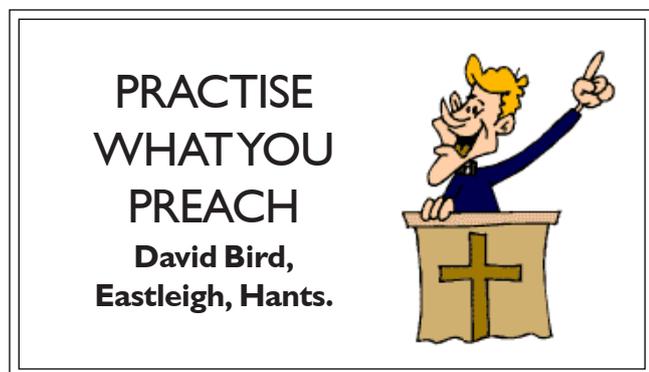
Both Souths opened two hearts (weak, five hearts and four or more of either minor). Poland's North bid three, not encouraging. East doubled for takeout and West bid three notrump.

Board 41. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

North led the heart jack: king – nine – five. The defenders had five diamond tricks available, but neither was aware of that. Andrew Robson, West, played the king of clubs: nine – four – three, the four of spades to his king and the ten of clubs. When North played second-hand-low on that, declarer had nine tricks, plus 600.

At the other table, David Bakhshi bluffed East/West out of bidding game. He ‘invited’ game in hearts via three diamonds in his methods. Others might psyche a two-notrump response, an inquiry bid showing a strong hand. South signed off in three hearts. That went three down, minus 150, and that was worth 10 IMPs, thanks to Bakhshi’s clever psyche and Robson’s clever play.



The BROCK team (Brock/Myers, Dixon/Anthias) defeated GILLIS (Gillis/Ericksen, Mahmood/Hanlon, Brogeland/Lindqvist) in one semifinal of this year’s Gold Cup.

Board 61. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Dixon	Lindqvist	Anthias	Brogeland
—	1♥	Pass	3♠ ¹
Pass	3NT ²	Pass	4♣ ³
Pass	4NT ⁴	Pass	5♥ ⁵
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass

1. Unspecified splinter in support of hearts
2. Where?
3. Clubs
4. Roman Key Card Blackwood
5. Two key cards, no queen of hearts

Here is one interesting deal from that semifinal match.

When Taf Anthias and I used computer simulation to write *Winning Suit Contract Leads*, we discovered that leading from king-jack-to-four was one of the worst leads in the game. You may pay a price for leading from the jack as well as from the king. Taf duly led a ‘safe’ five of clubs and the slam went two down.

You may think that declarer would still go one down after a spade lead, but he can succeed in an unusual end position. He wins with the eight of spades, cashes the ace of hearts and crosses to the ace of clubs to ruff a club with the seven of hearts. A trump to the queen is followed by a club ruff with the king. Declarer can then run the trumps to reach this position:

<p>♠ — ♥ — ♦ K 7 6 5 ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ A Q ♥ — ♦ Q ♣ K</p> <p>♠ K J ♥ — ♦ A J ♣ —</p> <p>♠ 10 9 ♥ — ♦ 10 8 ♣ —</p>
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When the king of clubs is played, East cannot throw the jack of diamonds or he will be endplayed with a diamond. If instead he discards the ace of diamonds, declarer throws a spade from dummy and leads the queen of diamonds, pinning the jack. West wins and has to concede a trick to dummy’s ten of diamonds. It is a winkle.

At the other table Zia (West) persisted to six diamonds over five hearts and went 500 down. Brock’s team won the match 168-132 but lost to COPE (Simon Cope; John Holland; Nicola Smith; Ben Green; Peter Crouch) in the final.



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

793. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

West started with the king of hearts, which held. Declarer ruffed the next heart and counted seven top tricks. Provided diamonds were 3-2, two more could be set up in diamonds. A tenth could come from clubs. One danger was that if he drew trumps and ducked a diamond the defenders would force him again, leaving them with the ace of clubs to cash a heart.

So, after drawing one round of trumps with his ace, declarer played a club to dummy's king and East's ace. After ruffing the heart return, declarer ducked a diamond to East's nine. East could not see a trick in the minors for the defence, so he exited with a heart. After this exit was ruffed with dummy's queen, declarer drew trumps and claimed ten tricks. He made five trumps in hand, a heart ruff in dummy, three diamonds and a club.

While declarer could have played the ace, king and another diamond on the above layout, that would have proved fatal if East had begun with (say) 3=6=2=2 shape. In that case, East could have discarded a club on the third round of diamonds and ruffed West's club exit for a one-trick set.

The following deal (see top of next column) occurred in a teams match. The auction and early defence were identical at both tables: after the queen of hearts went to the king and ace, both Easts returned the four of heart to West's nine. Both Wests exited with the ten of diamonds, taken by dummy's king.

794. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At the first table, declarer played the two of trumps to his king and West's ace. When West exited with the nine of diamonds, declarer won the trick with dummy's ace. He cashed the ace of clubs, planning to ruff a club back to hand. However, when West dropped the king of clubs under the ace, declarer believed this had to be a singleton, so he ruffed a diamond with his seven of trumps. This allowed West to overruff with the nine of trumps to set the contract by one trick.

The second declarer appreciated that the only danger to his contract was if West held all of the outstanding trumps. He saw if he played a trump at trick four he might have to guess which minor suit to ruff to return to hand. In order to circumvent such difficulties, declarer cashed dummy's ace of diamonds and ace of clubs before playing the two of trumps to his king. West won with the ace and when he tried to cash the king of clubs, declarer ruffed it, drew trumps and claimed. He made seven trumps, two diamonds and a club.

On the next deal (see top of next page), West led the jack of diamonds. Declarer could count ten top tricks, with possibilities in both black suits for extra tricks. He saw that the club suit should be broached first. So, after winning the first trick with dummy's queen of diamonds, declarer led a low club from dummy, intending to play the jack of clubs if East had followed with a low card. When East discarded a diamond, declarer rose with the ace of clubs and continued with the five of clubs, catching West in a Morton's Fork.

795. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	6NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

If West had played the king of clubs, declarer would have had the rest of the tricks. When West played the nine of clubs, dummy's queen won, giving declarer his eleventh trick. Then, all declarer had to do was to make an extra trick in spades without allowing West to gain the lead. Consequently, declarer returned to hand with the king of diamonds and then led a low spade to the nine. When that held, he cashed the king of spades and the ace of diamonds before running the hearts. In the end, he made three spades, four hearts, three diamonds and two clubs.

796. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the jack of hearts to dummy's queen and East's ace. Declarer took the heart return with dummy's king and then played a trump to the ace. Declarer's next move was to cross to dummy's ace of clubs and lead a trump, intending to cover East's card: his plan would have made the contract if East had had the queen of trumps or if West had had it doubleton. In the latter case, declarer could have arranged to ruff a diamond in dummy for his tenth trick. Alas, East discarded a club on the second round of trumps and

the contract could no longer be made. West could always win a diamond trick and draw dummy's last trump with the queen.

"Once everybody followed to the first round of trumps, the best approach was to duck a diamond at trick four," said North. "After winning the return, you could have cashed the king of trumps, followed by the ace and king of diamonds. After ruffing your last diamond, you could have claimed ten tricks, conceding only one more trick, to West's queen of trumps."



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**AN
EN PASSANT
ENTRY**
P.O.Sundelin,
Stockholm



WELL-TIMED COOPERATION
Alex Wang, Puli, Nantou, Taiwan

The following deal arose recently in a club game:

Dealer North. E/W Vul. (*Spots approximate*)

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

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

West led the queen of hearts and was allowed to hold it. He made the 'obvious shift' to the jack of diamonds, three, five, queen. I led a club to the jack, then the king of diamonds. East won and played the eight of clubs to the five, nine and king. I took the ace of spades and crossed to the king of spades (East discarded a heart), led a club to the ace and ruffed a heart, to leave:

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

When I led the four of diamonds from hand, West could not prevent me from reaching dummy to discard my other losing diamond on a club. West made only the jack of spades. Is there a name for this *en passant* play that gives a direct or later entry for a discard?

West could have made it more difficult by following to the second club with the queen rather than the nine.

Sometimes you need well-timed cooperation to break a contract. The following deal is an example – it is from an eight-board match on BBO, the last board of which had much interesting play between declarer and the defence.

IMPs. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

At the other table, our teammates had stopped in three hearts and had collected plus 140. At our table, the bidding was as follows:

West	North	East	South
Rung-Yung	Penny	Alex	Peter
Ryking	Jie	Wang	Chang
Pass	1♥	3♦	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

South had no suitable bid over three diamonds. After his partner reopened with a double, he made the reasonable but aggressive choice of three notrump rather than a timid three hearts.

My partner led the two of diamonds (third/fifth) and I followed with the jack, which held the trick. Without a side entry, I saw that after declarer ducked another round, there would be little prospect of developing my diamond winners.

It was clear that, on the bidding, declarer must have the ace of diamonds. If he also had the ace of spades, he already had the contract. So, I attempted to create transportation problems by shifting to the jack of clubs at trick two. Declarer was forced to play low and the trick was taken by my partner's king. Then my partner made a key play: continuing with another diamond. Declarer had to duck again. This delayed diamond trick served as the entry for me to play a second club.

Declarer popped up with the ace of clubs and cashed the ace of diamonds. Then he tried a low spade towards dummy. However, my partner promptly collected his ace of spades and ten of clubs for one down.

The routine continuation of two more rounds of diamonds at tricks two and three would have forced declarer to find the solution: the ace of spades onside. Would there have been any difference if I had played one more round of diamonds before shifting to the jack of clubs at the third trick?

The defence can prevail, but it needs to be very careful. On the third trick, declarer has a beautiful counter play: jettison the queen of clubs from dummy under the king. Any further play of the minor suits would then have been fruitless. My partner would have had to throw dummy in with a heart. Declarer runs hearts and in the four-card ending, both of us would have had to keep the correct cards: we both would have needed to keep two spades and my partner would have needed both of his clubs. Then we can get either two spade tricks or one spade and one club depending on how declarer plays.



Recently I played a deal in Örestadsligan, a local teams competition in the Malmö-Lund region. We met a team from Landskrona. After the match, I was astonished to find the deal slightly different than I had thought at the table.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

♠ K 10 6 5 2
 ♥ A 5 3
 ♦ K 9 7 2
 ♣ 7

♠ 8 4 3
 ♥ K 10 7 6 2
 ♦ A Q 6 3
 ♣ 3

West	North	East	South
—	Bennet	—	Wirgren
—	—	—	Pass
2♣ ¹	Double	Pass	3♥ ²
Pass	4♥ ³	Pass	Pass

1. 6+ clubs, 10-14 HCP
2. Forcing by an unpassed hand
3. Forgetting that South was a passed hand

West led the king of clubs and thought for a while. East's silence over the double made me think/hope West was 2=2=2=7 and East 3=3=3=4. If West had the ace of spades and a heart honour, the contract was cold: win the diamond shift in hand and play a spade. Say West wins the ace and plays a second spade to the king. Then play the ace of hearts, diamond king and a heart to the ten – endplaying West. I played as described, making four hearts. The cards were also as described (or so I thought when West continued with the queen of clubs allowing me a ruff-sluff): West had ♠AQ ♥Q8 ♦108 ♣KQJ10952). They reached game at the other table too, but didn't make it, so we won 10 IMPs.

If the contract is four spades rather than four hearts and a club is led, East must then shift to a spade to West's ace so that West can exit with the spade queen, otherwise declarer can play two rounds each of hearts and diamonds, then lose two trump tricks to West, endplaying him similarly to the endplay in four hearts, but this time to discard the heart loser on the ruff-sluff.

I was distressed to find that, according to the hand record, the full deal was:

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

West had three spades, so he could have cashed the spade jack. Why didn't he? The same deals were played in all matches, and had been pre-dealt with Duplimate, so the board can hardly have been fouled. Can East have thought the jack of spades was the jack of clubs? Maybe, I don't know. The cows were flying by.



If a bridge contest has only three or four tables, it is generally considered advantageous to calculate the scores according to the IMP Scale. This can be done by calculating 'IMPs across the field' or 'Butler IMPs'. The latter method is also called 'Datum score'. For bigger competitions, it is

usually advisable to discount the extreme score values before you do the calculation. The datum is then either the arithmetic mean or the median score of the remaining scores.

For a three-table competition, I recommend using the median value. For a four-table competition, the datum should be selected according to the following rules, where the rules are sorted according to diminishing importance. That is, check if Rule 1 can be applied, then use it, otherwise check Rule 2, and so on.

1. If all four results are within a span of 60, then use the arithmetic average (e.g., 600, 620, 630, 650; use 625)
2. If three results are within 40, then
 - o If two of the results are equivalent, then use it (e.g., 170, 400, 420, 420; use 420)
 - o Else, use the arithmetic mean of the three near values (e.g., 170, 400, 420, 430; use 417)
3. If two results are within 20, and the other two within 40, then use the arithmetic mean of the two middle results (e.g., 60, 100, 400, 420; use 250)
4. If two results are within 30 and the other two differ more, use the arithmetic mean of the two results within the specified span (e.g., 150, 300, 400, 420; use 410)
5. If none of Rules 1 through 4 apply, then use the arithmetic mean of the two middle results (e.g., 150, 300, 400, 800); use 350).

Any scoring system can prove unfair in specific instances; there is always a certain amount of luck involved. I'll try to explain why I believe using the median is preferable for three tables and the most probable 'correct' score better for four tables. The advantage of using median occurs when one score differs remarkably from the other two. In the other cases, you could equally well use arithmetic mean, but for consistency it is better to use median values throughout.

Here is a simple example: there is a slam available to North/South and two tables bid and make it; at the third table the contract is set by good defence or poor play by declarer. The Noerth/South scores are plus 1430, plus 1440 and minus 50. Perhaps we could assume that the normal score is 1430 and it should therefore be used as datum. Thus the IMPs at Tables 1 and 2 should be 0 for both North/South and East/West. If we knew the reason for the result at Table 3, the IMP scores could be either N/S 0 and E/W plus 16 or N/S minus 16 and E/W 0. Nevertheless, because we cannot know the reason for the score at Table 3, the scores will be N/S minus 16 and E/W plus 16. One pair had misfortune on this deal, but we do not know which one.

However, using arithmetic average we get T1 N/S plus 10, T1 E/W minus 10, T2 N/S plus 11, T2 E/W minus 11, T3 N/S minus 14, and T3 E/W plus 14. There is a score difference of 10 between Tables 1 and 2. In normal calculation, this would give an IMP-value of zero. Here, we can see a difference of 1 IMP. More remarkable is that three pairs are penalized (T1 E/W, T2 E/W and T3

N/S/T3 E/W). If the East/West pairs at Tables 1 and 2 had been sitting North/South, they could perhaps have had a positive score. Just by sitting in the unfortunate direction they were penalized. So by using median for the datum score we reduce the injustice by a factor of three. Also note that the span of IMPs is very high (plus 11 to minus 14=25). This value is over the IMP-scale's limit of 24.

Another example: three spades is bid and will score 140; one competitor decides to bid four clubs and is doubled. Suppose the score is either minus 500 or plus 710. The results are dependent on the outcome and are presented here:

	Median Calculation			Average Calculation		
	Table 1	Table 2	Table 3	Table 1	Table 2	Table 3
Scores	+140	+140	+710	+140	+140	+710
IMPs	0	0	+11	-5	-5	+9
Scores	+140	+140	-500	+140	+140	-500
IMPs	0	0	-12	+5	+5	-10
Scores	-500	+140	+710	-500	+140	+710
IMPs	-12	+1	+11	-12	+1	+11

You can see that median value is still the best way to do the calculations. The most probable (reasonable) score should thus be used for datum score; this is the median value. The selection diagram for four table tries to mimic this.

Someone could say, "Why not use the optimum score as calculated from the deal by a computer program as datum score?" But humans cannot see through the cards and seldom execute perfect play even at double dummy. Thus the optimum scores are either too low or too high for human beings.

There is an excellent compilation of the different methods in large competitions to be found at: http://www.bridgeguys.com/pdf/butler_scoring_stevenson.pdf

If Louis Wu (a character in Larry Niven's science-fiction novels) had been playing bridge, he would surely have said: "Tanj, who could create a perfect bridge scoring system? Tanj! Tanj! Median datum score is still the best calculation method for a three-table IMP competition"



In the card room of our club, only one table was in play and all the members had thronged to that table to kibitz. Mr. Badhir was in action. But that was not the only reason; the other three players who were Mr. Badhir's guests were equally dunce-like and were providing great entertainment for the kibitzers. When I peeped in, this deal had just been played and there was great merriment around the table. So I asked our

club expert what had happened. With a gleeful look in his eye, he narrated the story.

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

“Mr. Badhir was West. South was dealer – he opened one spade and North bid one no trump which was alerted as forcing. South bid two diamonds. Now for some obscure reason North bid four spades. Mr. Badhir’s partner sagaciously refrained from doubling, lest the opponents go to a minor suit. Mr. Badhir led the two of hearts.

The declarer went hammer and tongs at the deal. As the cards lay he could not make his contract, but he would have been able to limit his losses. He won the opening lead in dummy and, disregarding any danger that might lie ahead, he cashed the ace of spades and continued with a low spade. East won and proceeded to draw trumps. On these trumps the declarer made the far-sighted play of discarding the three and ten of hearts from dummy. Licking his lips, East played a low heart. Mr. Badhir won with his nine and cashed the king of hearts. The declarer now had the rest of tricks. Mr. Badhir and his partner were almost at each other’s throats. Mr. Badhir was protesting that he did not have another heart to play after the king and his partner was berating him for not leading the king. Neither of them realised that Mr. Badhir could have won the second round of the suit with the king and kept the nine of hearts to reach his partner”

I was amused. I asked the expert “What was the far-sighted play by the declarer?” His answer floored me. “If dummy had retained the ten of hearts Mr. Badhir would have been forced to win with the king and the contract would have gone three more down.”



Wang Zhi-ge, Liu Yinghao, Li Zhenpeng & Dunga Liu, Beijing

Eight of the top women’s teams in the world (Beijing Hua Yuan, China, England, France, Indonesia, Italy, Netherlands and USA) came to Beijing late last year to contest the Beijing Hua Yuan (BHY) Cup and the Capital Cup Pairs to attempt to garner the generous cash prizes. The teams played an all-play-all format of 16-board matches with no knockout stage in the BHY Cup. Twenty-four pairs played three-board rounds against one another with Barometer scoring in the Capital Cup.

Round 1. China v. Beijing Hua Yuan

The 2015 Beijing Hua Yuan World Women’s Elite Tournament started with a very exciting match between the defending champion China Women’s Team and former champion Beijing Hua Yuan Women’s Team. The match was on Vugraph and on CCTV 5+

channel, making the tournament the second bridge event to be on television in Beijing, after the World Bridge Championships in 1995 – we are back 20 years later!

The first few boards were peaceful. After nine boards, China led by 9-3.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sun	Zhang	Wang P	Wang H
Gan	Lu	Ran	Liu
—	—	1♣ ¹	Pass
1NT ²	Pass	2♣ ³	Pass
2NT ⁴	Pass	3♣ ⁵	Pass
3NT ⁶	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Strong
2. 9+ HCP, balanced
3. Relay
4. 11-13HCP, 4-3-3-3 shape
5. Relay
6. Four-card club suit

Identical Precision auctions led to three notrump by West.

At the first table, Zhang led her ten of spades, covered by the jack, queen and king. Though the audience could see that diamonds would bring the contract home, the declarer had multiple choices. Sun chose to play a club to the jack, losing to the queen. Wang Hongli played back a spade. Sun ducked that. When the defence played a third spade, declarer was in the annoying position of having to give up a 3-3 break in one of the other three suits. She chose a diamond. Sun tried a heart to the nine, won by South with the jack, leaving:

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

When South played her fourth spade to North's eight, declarer could have arrived home had she known the nine of diamonds was the critical card. Thus, she could have discarded a club from hand on the fourth spade, and squeezed South in hearts and diamonds. But in practice, she could not give up the chance of 3-3 clubs, so she discarded a heart. North, Zhang, then found the key switch to a heart, cutting off the transportation for the squeeze. Down one and minus 100.

At table two, North, Lu, also led the ten of spades. Here, Gan ducked the first and won the second round. She played a club to the jack, won the spade return (also discarding a diamond from dummy), ducked a heart, and discarded a heart from hand and a diamond from dummy on the last spade. When Lu also switched to a heart, it was down one and flat board. Well done by the defenders!

Round 2. Beijing Hua Yuan v. USA

Board 15 illustrated that this was a clash of elite players in all aspects of the game: bidding, defending and declaring.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wang P.	Eythorsdottir Sun	Deas	
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	1♠	1NT
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the queen of diamonds; three, two, ace. Declarer next played the king of clubs, East winning with the ace. Sun shifted to a trump to her partner's ace and Wang Ping masterfully played a diamond back (another trump would have given Eythorsdottir ten easy tricks). But Declarer put up the king and - to the surprise of all - wrote plus 620 on her scoresheet, even as Sun ruffed the king of diamonds and returned her last trump.

Eythorsdottir's reasoning went as follows:

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

"After taking all my trumps but one, I shall have five cards left: the jack of spades, a heart, the ten of diamonds and the queen-four of clubs. On my last trump, East has to keep three spades, so she has to discard a club, coming down to one card in the suit. Then, when I take two spade tricks via the finesse, West has to keep one diamond and, therefore, only one club. My tenth trick will be the four of clubs."

The other two players in four hearts went down; a beautiful example of top-quality elite women bridge – both defending and declaring!

Round 4. Beijing Hua Yuan v. Netherlands

Lu Yan and Liu Yan, who are on the Beijing Hua Yuan Team, played a fabulous tournament. They not only topped the Buller rankings of all pairs, but also displayed a perfect performance in slam bidding. Let's enjoy one of their slams from Round 4.

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lu Yan	Dekkers	Liu Yan	Van Delft
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT ¹	Pass
5♦ ²	Pass	5♥ ³	Pass
6♣ ⁴	Pass	7♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Key card ask for diamonds
2. 0/3 key cards
3. Asks for trump queen
4. Queen of diamonds and king of clubs

After Liu showed support in diamonds and they made three control-bids Liu, with a source tricks, decided to ask for key cards, a wise decision. After her partner showed all missing key cards, the queen of trumps and the king of clubs, Liu knew that they would have a good play for a grand slam. Good job! They were the only pair who bid the right grand slam and received plus 2140. This auction won the prize for Best Bid Deal.

Round 4. England v. Italy

(See top of next column.) Declarer, Fiona Brown, trumped the ace of diamonds lead and played a heart to dummy's king. To guard against hearts being 4-1, Brown ducked a heart at trick three. If hearts had been 4-1, she would then have ruffed the third round with the nine of clubs in the dummy. Plus 1370.

At the other table, in the same contract, Ilaria Saccavini for Italy played the king and ace of hearts, then ruffed

the third round with the nine of clubs, making an overtrick. Plus 1390 won 1 IMP for Italy.

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Draper	Piscitelli	Brown	Kaifmann
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
INT	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Results were...

TEAMS

- 1st: Beijing Hua Yuan (\$30,000)
 Sun Ming, Lu Yan, Yan Ru,
 Wang Ping, Liu Yan, Li Yiting,
 Du Fengchao (NPC), Liu Jie (Coach)
- 2nd: Italy (\$25,000)
 Gabriella Manara, Caterina Ferlazzo Lumia,
 Francesca Piscitelli, Margherita Chavarria Kaifmann,
 Simonetta Paoluzi, Ilaria Saccavini,
 Gianpaolo Rinaldi (NPC)
- 3rd: France (\$20,000)
 Bénédicte Cronier, Sylvie Willard,
 Vanessa Reess, Joanna Zochowska

PAIRS

- 1st: Laura Dekkers/Doris van Delft -
 Netherlands (\$10,000)
- 2nd: Fiona Brown/Catherine Draper -
 England (\$8,000)
- 3rd: Wang Wen Fei/Shen Qi -
 China (\$5,000)



The victorious Beijing Hua Yuan team at the Closing Ceremony



Correspondence

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

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but for which there is no further external evidence;
(ii) non-bridge action(s) (e.g. “I saw him looking at boards he was about to play” or “I overheard in the toilet player A telling player B about a deal he was to play later.”

(d) The allegation should be made to the Ethics Officer nominated for that level, i.e., for a club event to the club-nominated Ethics Officer, for a regional event to the Regional Ethics Officer, etc. In the unlikely event the allegation is about the Ethics Officer him/herself the allegation should be made to the Ethics Officer at the next level up (unless at World level where it should be made to the Ethics Officer at the next level down within the complainant’s own structure).

(e) The person making the allegation should provide, in the case of bridge actions, as much as possible of the following: date, names of players at the table, auction, card layout, play and suspect action. In the case of non-bridge action a statement of what was seen and heard relating to the allegation.

(f) The Ethics Officer has an obligation to: (i) Notify the complainant of date of receipt of the allegation (possibly with a reference number), and a date by which the complainant will have a further reply (ii) keep a record of the complaint even where it is dismissed by that Officer and provide a mechanism to access those records should the Officer be incapacitated or replaced by the appointing body.

(g) The Ethics Officer has an obligation NOT to disclose the allegation to any other person except insofar as the Law of the land requires. If the officer believes the complaint contains no evidence of impropriety, the Officer should reply to that effect, giving reasons (e.g., “the bid or play made was, in my opinion, one of the logical actions expected of that level of player”... but still retain the record of the complaint and answer.

(h) If the Ethics Officer believes the allegation could be evidence but is insufficient in itself to justify “a case to answer” then the Officer must reply to that effect saying the record is maintained and should further evidence come to light, the decision not to refer it a Commission may be reviewed.

(i) If the Ethics Officer believes there is a case to answer the evidence, without names, should be referred to the Players’ commission at the next level up for confirmation as to whether the evidence constitutes a “case to answer”. Then proceed as in (b) above.

Patrick Jourdain, Cardiff

Dear John,

There were two dubious analyses in the January issue:

Page 2, top of second column: According to the writer, on the last spade, South had (?) to release the queen of clubs. He should instead blank the king of diamonds, and now why should declarer play for the drop rather than take the finesse?

Page 5, second column, Board 36: At trick two, South should surely switch to the four of hearts, not the queen. There is nothing to be gained by playing the queen of hearts. Declarer can still save himself by playing one round of trumps and then a heart, ducking when South produces the queen, but that is very double dummy. Why should he reject the percentage spade finesse?

Danny Roth, London

NEWS & VIEWS



2016 Lazard Sportmanship Award

The ACBL has announced that Boye Brogeland has been named the recipient of the 2016 Sidney H. Lazard Jr. Sportsmanship Award. The honour recognizes high-level players who strive to win with class and dignity.

“The bridge community owes Boye a huge debt for his historic efforts to eliminate cheating from high-level bridge,” says Award Selection Committee Chair Steve Weinstein. “His devotion to cleaning up our game made him a clear-cut choice for this year’s Lazard award.”

The Big Bridge Quiz

Sally Brock’s daughter Briony works as a fundraiser for Stoke Mandeville Spinal Research, a charity that undertakes research into improving the quality of life after a spinal cord injury. The charity is organising The Big Bridge Quiz, which goes on sale on February 15th (closing date April 30th).

For a fee of £10, purchasers are eligible for the £1000 first prize (with runners-up prizes of online subscriptions to Bridge Magazine). Donate £10 at: justgiving.com/bigbridgequiz and the charity will arrange for the quiz to be sent to you. Alternatively, email Briony at: briony.brock@smsr.org.uk

Any non-UK members who would like to get involved, possibly acting as agents, should also contact Briony.