



## BULLETIN

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## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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*This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 300 members of the International Bridge Press Association comprising the world's leading journalists, authors and editors of news, books and articles about contract bridge, with an estimated readership of some 200 million people who enjoy the most widely played of all card games.*

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## Editorial

It is evident, in North America at least, that bridge is dying. It seems to be holding its own in other places such as Europe, and gaining popularity in China and Australia; in South America, Africa and the near East it has always been moribund at best. The ageing bridge-playing population is most frequently given as the reason for the decline, although there are plenty of other good reasons as well, cost being a major one.

How is this situation being addressed? Aside from a few countries with active bridge administrations which get young people involved, it isn't. We still have many good young players at the top, but there needs to be a larger base of young people playing the game if it is to survive.

How should the situation be addressed? In our view, the single biggest, and most-significant, step we could take would be to get bridge taught in schools. This should be the primary goal of every NBO. It is already taking place in China (24 million players) and Indonesia (30,000 juniors) in earnest, but only occasionally in Europe and North America. One of the reasons seems to be that bridge is still thought of as a gambling game rather than a mind sport. The University of North Carolina recently de-certified the campus bridge club on the grounds that it was a game of chance. To its credit, UNC reversed this stance and reinstated the club when presented with compelling evidence to prove otherwise.

Although the WBF has been criticised for its slavish adherence to 'Olympism', there can really be no doubt that this is the way forward. The IOC has deemed bridge a sport and many NBOs have been recognised by their National Olympic Committees. The first step to getting bridge in the schools, either as a curriculum subject or as a 'club' activity, is to have NOC approval. Every NBO should make this a priority if it has not already been accomplished. Once accomplished, the NBO should have a (full-time?) person charged with the mission to get bridge into the schools. Armed with NOC accreditation and the evidence that bridge improves minds, the sales pitch should be easier than it is currently. For the countries that have not already achieved NOC accreditation, the IOC and the WBF should be engaged to help attain it.

Every sport that appears in the Olympics gains enormously in exposure and popularity, and consequently, government funding. The mind sports will be no different. There has been great progress in Asia already, bridge having been admitted to the 2018 Asian Games in Indonesia. For whatever reason, Asian governments and organisations seem to be more amenable to the mind sports than others are.

NBOs should also look to the exemplars of youth bridge, China, Indonesia and Poland, for ideas. Their experience will provide invaluable assistance in how to proceed.

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# 4th Copenhagen Bridge Invitational

19 - 22 January 2017



## Mark Horton, Sutton Bengier, Wilts., UK

Nineteen invited pairs and one qualified pair comprised the field for the fourth Copenhagen Invitational. They played a round robin of eight-board matches over three days in an all-play-all format scored at IMPs across the field. There was a concurrent secondary event open to all, the Radisson Blu Scandinavia IMP Pairs, and also a Pro-Am preceding the IMP-Pair events.

The winners were:

**Copenhagen Invitational** - Vincent Demuy/Tom Hanlon

**Radisson Blu IMP Pairs** - Børre Lund/Jørgen Molberg

**CBI Pro-Am** - Christian Lahrman/Per-Ola Cullin

### Match 2. Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Upmark</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>Nyström</i>	<i>de Wijs</i>
1♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

North led the queen of clubs (whenever I do this dummy has king-ten-third and declarer ace-doubleton). Declarer won in hand, pitching a diamond from dummy, and played a spade. West went up with the ace and switched to the three of diamonds. South cashed the king and ace of that suit and exited with the five of clubs. Declarer ruffed in dummy, pitched a diamond on the king of spades and played the ten of spades. South had to ruff, else declarer would pitch a club, play a heart to the ten, ruff a club and repeat the heart finesse. As it was, declarer could overruff, ruff a club, play a heart to the queen, ruff a club and claim, plus 620.

It was hard for North to find a diamond lead at trick one, but had he withheld the ace of spades at trick two, declarer would have had too much to do. If declarer tried to play a crossruff, South would pitch a

club on the third round of spades. If he played a partial crossruff and then exited with a diamond, North would win and play a trump, also leaving declarer a trick short.

### Match 5. Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Hanlon</i>	<i>Bessis</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the nine of spades. East ducked the ace and declarer played four rounds of clubs, getting rid of dummy's remaining spades and emerging with an overtrick, plus 450.

Maybe it would have been better to keep a spade switch in reserve, after winning a trump trick, as it was not unreasonable for East to play West for a doubleton spade.

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Thomsen</i>	<i>Cullin</i>	<i>Houmøller</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter

Here, West led the queen of diamonds. Declarer won with dummy's ace and played a heart to the ten and jack. West switched to the nine of spades but, when declarer played dummy's king, East ducked (strange, after South's two spades). A second heart resolved the situation in that suit, and declarer then lost only two further tricks, to the major suit aces, for plus 420.

Suppose West had cashed the ace of hearts before switching to a spade? Would that have been enough for East to win and give his partner a ruff?

**Match 6. Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Versace</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Tokay</i>
—	—	1♣	1♥
Double <sup>1</sup>	2♥	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South led the seven of diamonds. Declarer won with the king and played a club, putting up dummy's king when South followed with the five. Rimstedt's next move was to play a heart, North winning with the nine and playing the queen of clubs, followed by the ten. Declarer ruffed, ruffed a heart, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a heart, cashed the jack of diamonds and played a club, ruffed by North with the three of spades and overruffed by declarer, who ruffed a heart with the ten of spades. North could overruff, but that was the last trick for the defence, plus 420 and 61 IMPs.

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	2♠	3♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the five of spades. East won with the ace and, surprisingly, returned a spade, allowing declarer to pitch a diamond on the king of spades. Mahmood came to hand with a heart and played a club to the ten. When that held, declarer played a club to the ace and another club and claimed – he could ruff a club in dummy, plus 140 but only 3 IMPs.

**Match 10. Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Volcker</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Quantin</i>	<i>M. Rimstedt</i>
—	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At the first table, East, Volcker, led the queen of hearts. Helness won with the ace, played a spade to the king and ace, won the heart return, and played the seven of clubs. East went in with the king and played a third heart, but declarer ruffed, played a spade to the queen, unblocked the queen of clubs, returned to hand with the jack of spades, cashed the ace of clubs and advanced the queen of diamonds, claiming ten tricks, plus 420 and 50 IMPs.

At our second table, the first three tricks were identical, but then declarer, Ola Rimstedt, cashed the ace of clubs and played a second club to Quantin's king. Declarer ruffed the heart return, ruffed a club with the queen of spades and drew trumps. He ran the ten of diamonds to West's jack, but the heart exit forced him to ruff and he was one down, minus 50. That cost 50 IMPs.

**Match 13. Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Cullin</i>	<i>Quantin</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>
—	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	3♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	4♥ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	5♦ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	5♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- 5/6 spades, 4+ clubs, 11-15, or; any 16+
- Hearts, 8(9)+, game forcing opposite 16+
- 16+, 6+ spades, 0-2 hearts
- Control bids

The Swedes climbed dangerously high – South's bids seemed to fit North's hand pretty well. Even with the king of hearts offside, the contract might still be made by taking two heart finesses, losing one heart and one club, but ... East led the seven of hearts; declarer put in the queen. West took the king and, after a few moments thought, returned a heart into the tenace – the only way to defeat the contract. Declarer won

and took his only shot by playing a club to the jack, hoping for the king-queen or a doubleton honour onside. No luck, one down, minus 50. It cost 97 IMPs.

West	North	East	South
Bjerg	Werdelin	Thomsen	Pedersen
—	4♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Strong 4♠ bid

Four diamonds with a side ace and a void – you don't see that too often. However, it avoided any danger, and declarer finished with ten tricks, ruffing the diamond lead, drawing trumps and playing a heart to the queen. minus 420 gave EW 4 IMPs.

To win a pairs event you need to get a few gifts from your opponents, but you must also make the best of your own cards. When I asked the 'old man' of Danish Bridge, Christian Lahrmann (*13 years of age, and now a two-time winner of the Pro-Am - Ed.*) for a deal from the Pro-Am, he came up with this one:

**Pro-Am. Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Kiær	Cullin	Bilde	Lahrmann
—	—	Pass	INT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	2♦ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	3♣ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	3♦ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	4NT <sup>6</sup>	Pass	5♣ <sup>7</sup>
Pass	5♦ <sup>8</sup>	Pass	7♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 12-14
2. Stayman
3. No major
4. Clubs, FG
5. Control bid
6. RKCB
7. 1 key card
8. Queen-of-clubs ask

Although South held a minimum hand for his opening bid, not only did he have the queen of clubs, but also a source of tricks. That was enough for him to go 'all in' – and right he was. (*This might be a candidate for the Richard Freeman Junior Deal of the Year. – Ed.*)



As more overseas players discover how attractive and well-organised Australian bridge tournaments are, events such as the Gold Coast Congress and the Summer Festival of Bridge will continue to grow in stature, size and prestige. This year, as last, Lavazza sent a team to Canberra and Reese Milner brought a group from the USA and Poland.

The Women's and Senior Team events are run parallel to each other for five days at the start of the tournament, followed by the South-West Pacific Teams and, finally, the National Open Teams Championship. The Women's and Seniors play 9 x 20-board Swiss matches over three days to qualify the top four for semifinal play. The SWP Teams play 12 x 20-board Swiss matches, with the top eight making it to full-day knockout play in the National Open Teams. The Women's had 24 entries, the Seniors 34 and the Open 126.

These were the teams that reached the final of the Seniors and Women's Teams:

**Senior Teams Final**

**KROCHMALIK:** Robert Krochmalik/Paul Lavings; Ron Klinger/Neil Ewart

**NEILL:** Bruce Neill/Avinash Kanetkar; Bill Haughie/Simon Hinge; Terry Brown/Peter Buchen

**Women's Teams Final**

**MUNDELL:** Giselle Mundell/Avril Zets; Judy Mott/Rita Nailand

**KAPLAN:** Rena Kaplan/Nevena Djurovic; Di Smart/Paula McLeish; Pauline Evans/Judy Osie

The second and third quarter of the Women's and Senior final matches (playing the same boards) provided a lot of excitement – there were a number of deals where slam was tough to bid, tough to defend and/or tough to play. Here they are.

**Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

Six notrump is approximately a 97% proposition, losing only to jack-fourth of diamonds offside and spades not 3-3. Six diamonds is only slightly worse.

West	North	East	South
Hinge	Ewart	Haughie	Klinger
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
6♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

With three diamonds non-forcing in his system, Hinge might have bid four diamonds rather than three clubs. The effect was the same, however, when Haughie marked time with three hearts rather than bidding three spades or three notrumps. Plus 920 to NEILL.

West	North	East	South
Lavings	Kanetkar	Krochmalik	Neill
—	Pass	1♠	3♣
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	5♠ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. RKCB for spades
2. 2 key cards + the spade queen

Bruce Neill flung a spanner into the works, depriving Lavings of a level of bidding. Krochmalik looked askance at his 'onside' king of clubs and tried to get out cheaply at the four level, declining to bid four hearts. Did he fear it would be taken as a natural bid? Once Lavings bid Roman Key Card Blackwood, this pair was locked into spades, a dreadful spot in comparison to notrump or diamonds. It received its just reward, minus 50, and a loss of 14 IMPs. That gain vaulted NEILL into the lead, 28-21, a lead they never relinquished.

West	North	East	South
Osie	Mott	Evans	Nailand
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
6NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

I'd like to say Osie/Evans for KAPLAN handled it brilliantly to reach the top spot, but that would be

untrue. Had Evans had the ace-king of spades instead of the king-queen-jack, seven notrump would have been almost laydown. A slower auction by Osie would have revealed that.

West	North	East	South
Zets	McLeish	Mundell	Smart
—	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

The less said about Zets' auction, the better; 11 IMPs to KAPLAN.

**Board 39. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

This deal was about avoiding slam for East/West or, if bid, defeating it for North/South.

West	North	East	South
Brown	Lavings	Buchen	Krochmalik
—	—	—	Pass
4♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
4NT <sup>3</sup>	Pass	5♣ <sup>4</sup>	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Strong 4♠ opener
2. Slam interest
3. Me too! RKCB
4. 1 key card

Lavings followed the principle of trying to set up a trick while retaining an entry to it – he led a heart. Brown had 12 top tricks and NEILL had plus 1430.

West	North	East	South
Klinger	Haughie	Ewart	Hinge
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
2♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Hearts
2. Tempourising; forcing

Haughie led a club and Klinger had the same 12 tricks as Brown had at the other table, but lost 13 IMPs.

West	North	East	South
Osie	Mundell	Evans	Zets
—	—	—	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

The KAPLAN team adroitly avoided the six level by opening four spades. Three rounds of diamonds held Osie to ten tricks.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nailand</i>	<i>Djurovic</i>	<i>Mott</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	5♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
5♦ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	6♣ <sup>4</sup>	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. RKCB
2. 1 key card
3. Queen of trumps ask
4. Spade queen + club king

Djurovic found the killing ace-of-diamonds lead: two, five, four. Apparently believing that declarer would not have bid Blackwood without a diamond control and placing partner with some queen-ten holding, North shifted to a heart! Plus 1430 and 13 IMPs to MUNDSELL.

**Board 44. Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

The issue on this deal was to reach seven hearts, taking advantage of the solidity of the hearts, the semi-solidity of the spades and North's club void. Barring a first-round ruff, seven hearts can always be made by ruffing clubs in the dummy: on a trump lead, win in dummy, cross to the ace of diamonds, ruff a club, cross to the king of spades, ruff a club, ruff a diamond low, ruff a club, ruff a diamond (only high ones are left), draw trumps. Spades need to be 3-2 or 4-1 to succeed.

West	North	East	South
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Lavings</i>	<i>Buchen</i>	<i>Krochmalik</i>
Pass	1♠	2♣	2♥
Pass	4♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT <sup>2</sup>
Pass	5♥ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter in support of hearts
2. RKCB
3. 2 key cards; no heart queen

Lavings was reluctant to show his club void without the queen of trumps. He hoped he'd get another

chance. He's still waiting. Brown led a club. Declarer ruffed it in the dummy, came to the ace of diamonds and ruffed another club. He cashed the king of hearts, the king of diamonds and ruffed a diamond. There followed another club ruff, a spade to the king, and the drawing of trumps. That was plus 1460 to KROCHMALIK.

West	North	East	South
<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Haughie</i>	<i>Ewart</i>	<i>Hinge</i>
Pass	1♠	2♣	2♥
Pass	4♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter in support of hearts

Haughie was more aggressive than Lavings, carrying on beyond four hearts to control-bid in spades. Still Hinge settled precipitately for six hearts. On a club lead, the play was similar, declarer crossing on diamonds and spades to ruff more clubs before drawing one trump with the king in dummy. A diamond ruff allowed the pulling of trumps for an ignoble push.

West	North	East	South
<i>Osie</i>	<i>Mundell</i>	<i>Evans</i>	<i>Zets</i>
Pass	1♠	2♣	2♥
Pass	4♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4NT <sup>2</sup>
Pass	6♣ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	7♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter in support of hearts
2. RKCB
3. 2 key cards and a club void

Mundell/Zets did not exhibit Lavings/Krochmalik's reticence, Mundell showing the club void and Zets drawing the correct inferences. On a club lead, Zets followed Krochmalik's line for plus 2210.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nailand</i>	<i>Djurovic</i>	<i>Mott</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣ <sup>1</sup>	Double	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT <sup>2</sup>
Pass	6♣ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	7♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter in support of hearts
2. RKCB
3. 2 key cards and a club void

Djurovic and Kaplan produced the most convincing auction of the lot. Nailand, alone of the four Wests, led a trump. When East followed, Kaplan drew a second, relying on four spade tricks, seven heart tricks and two diamond tricks for a noble push at plus 2210.

Despite East's two-loser hand on the next deal, slam was not cold – it wasn't even that good on the ace of diamonds led at both tables in the Seniors match against a slam.

What do you think is the best play for (i) six hearts and (ii) six clubs?

**Board 45. Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Brown</i>	<i>Lavings</i>	<i>Buchen</i>	<i>Krochmalik</i>
—	1♠	Double	Pass
2♥	Pass	6♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Buchen simply took the Acol view – bid what you think you can make. Brown ruffed the ace of diamonds lead in the dummy, then played the ace of spades and another, ruffing it in hand. Since the spades were almost certainly 5-3, declarer was not able to ruff all three spade losers in hand without South ruffing high in front of him.

So, declarer had two main chances: (i.) ruff the spade king down third, leading a heart to the queen along the way, planning to lose just one heart trick (they need to be 3-2 in any case), or; (ii.) take two heart finesses, playing for the king and jack to be onside, planning to lose just one spade trick. However, if declarer loses a heart trick to South, another diamond play would have created a second trump trick for the defence.

Which line is superior? I didn't know at the time, and I don't know now. Brown led a heart to the queen, playing to ruff down the spade king. When that did not happen, he was headed for one off. After the second spade ruff in hand, he led a club toward the dummy; Lavings ruffed in and led his remaining heart, leaving the dummy with a spade loser. Had Lavings seen the eight of hearts in Krochmalik's hand, he'd have led a spade for a ruff and received another club ruff for two off. Still, it was minus 100 for NEILL.

West	North	East	South
<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Haughie</i>	<i>Ewart</i>	<i>Hinge</i>
—	1♠	Double	2♠
Pass	3♦	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Klinger preferred clubs to hearts and was soon in the slightly superior slam. Declarer ruffed the ace of diamonds lead with the jack of clubs, hoping to create an extra entry to hand, but in reality creating a trump trick for Hinge. No matter. Klinger cashed the ace of

spades, ruffed a spade, led a heart to the ten, ruffed a spade, led a heart to the queen and cashed the ace of clubs. Oops. When declarer next led the queen of spades, South could not ruff profitably, so discarded a diamond. Klinger ruffed in hand and led a heart to the ace, giving South his trump trick. That was 12 tricks, plus 1370 and 16 IMPs to KROCHMALIK.

West	North	East	South
<i>Osie</i>	<i>Mundell</i>	<i>Evans</i>	<i>Zets</i>
—	1♠	Double	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Evans went low, passing four hearts. Osie ruffed the ace-of-diamonds lead, led the ace and ruffed a spade, led a heart to the queen, cashed the ace of hearts and ruffed another spade. That left her with a spade and a heart loser for plus 650.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nailand</i>	<i>Djurovic</i>	<i>Mott</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>
—	1♠	Double	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The auction was rather extraordinary, East thought, checking the backs of her cards to make sure everyone was playing with the same deck. The play was amusing – North and East exchanged ruffs for the first five tricks (and it could have been nine!) – ace of clubs, ruffed; diamond, ruffed; king of clubs, ruffed; diamond, ruffed (king unblocked); queen of clubs, ruffed; diamond. At this point, East left the crossruff highway, discarding her low heart. Declarer won with the queen of diamonds in the dummy and ruffed dummy's remaining club anyway, completing a rather unusual dummy reversal.

Declarer led the ace of diamonds, East discarding another heart as dummy and West followed with their last diamonds. When declarer led the nine of diamonds, East discarded her remaining club, dummy a heart and West ruffed with her singleton ten of spades. Imagine – the West defender followed to a side suit four times, then was allowed to ruff the fifth round of the suit with a singleton trump!

West led a heart, but dummy had been reduced to its three trumps and a singleton heart, so declarer had to make another trick. Declarer made five spade tricks and two diamond tricks for minus 800. That was 4 IMPs to MUNDELL.

NEILL and KAPLAN won their respective events.

The National Open Teams final was a repeat of 2016, with MILNER, first in the Swiss qualifier, facing LAVAZZA, second in the Swiss – they were also the top two seeds.

## Open Teams Final

**MILNER:** Jacek Kalita/Michal Nowasadski; Hemant Lall/ Reese Milner; Justin Lall/Jacek Pszczola

**LAVAZZA:** Alejandro Bianchedi/Agustin Madala; Dennis Bilde/Giorgio Duboin; Norberto Bocchi/Antonio Sementa

### Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sementa	Nowasadski	Bocchi	Kalita
—	INT	Pass	2♥ <sup>1</sup>
3♥	Pass	4♥	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Transfer to spades

Nowasadski led the low-from-a-doubleton two of spades. Kalita put in the eight and Sementa won with his ten and led a diamond. North rose with the ace and led another spade to South's ace. A third spade to the jack, ruffed and over-ruffed, resulted in plus 590 when declarer could draw trumps safely.

West	North	East	South
H. Lall	Madala	Milner	Bianchedi
—	INT	Pass	2♦ <sup>1</sup>
2♥	3♣	3♦	Double <sup>2</sup>
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. (a) Transfer to hearts, or; (b) 5/5 in majors, or; (c) 5 spades and any 3-3-2, invitational+
2. Option (c)

It would have been a good idea for Lall to double four spades. The best Bianchedi could have done in that contract was minus 500. Had North or South pulled the double to five clubs, that would have gone 300 down. But how was Lall to know that? He was content to take his plus in 50s. The king-of-hearts lead was overtaken by the ace and the deuce was returned to the queen and jack. Believing Milner to be out of hearts, Lall continued with the eight of the suit. The ruff-sluff did declarer no good at all and, after ruffing in the dummy, he played a spade to the queen. Lall won with his king and led the ten of hearts. Milner ruffed that with his nine of spades and declarer overruffed with

the ace. When Bianchedi continued with the six of spades, he could make only one more spade and the two minor-suit aces; minus 250 for 8 IMPs to MILNER.

### Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sementa	Nowasadski	Bocchi	Kalita
—	Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
1♠ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. 2+ clubs, 11-21
2. Diamonds

After Kalita led the jack of clubs to declarer's king, the defence was routine: diamond to the ace, diamond to the queen, spade to the ace, heart jack. Nowasadski won with his ace and led a club through; minus 50 to LAVAZZA.

West	North	East	South
H Lall	Madala	Milner	Bianchedi
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

At this table, Bianchedi led a spade. won by the nine in dummy. Milner also led the ace of diamonds and another to the queen. Here, the ace of clubs could have been onside, so Milner lost a diamond to the jack and won the eight of clubs shift (second and fourth) with the king. After that start, with only eight tricks, he still needed a heart trick, so took his spade and diamond winners, then led a heart toward the king. North rose with the ace and led another club for minus 50 and a push.

On the spade lead and poor diamond break, declarer could have succeeded by being content with three diamond tricks and playing on hearts. With the ace-queen-third of hearts being onside, nine or ten tricks, depending on the subsequent play, would have been his reward.

How should North/South defend against four spades on the nine-of-clubs lead on the following deal? (See top of next page.) Nowasadski won with his queen of clubs and shifted to the seven of hearts. That went to the ten and jack. Kalita tried to cash the ace of hearts.

**Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Sementa	Nowasadski	Bocchi	Kalita
Pass	3♣	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Declarer ruffed the second round of hearts, drew two rounds of trumps with the king and ace, then ran diamonds, discarding his club loser on the fourth of those. South made his queen of spades and Bocchi took ten tricks for plus 420.

After the three-club bid, it was very difficult for the defence at this table. From South's point of view, North could well have held seven clubs and a singleton heart, so his defence seems plausible. There was a contradiction, however: North had won with the queen of clubs at trick one and the jack had not appeared from declarer (as it should have done). However, when the seven of hearts came through, it appeared to South that North had played the queen of clubs, instead of the ten or jack, as a suit preference signal for hearts.

What about North shifting to the king of hearts at trick two? The same considerations apply in that instance as well: North could have held seven clubs and a singleton king of hearts, so South should have overtaken and led more hearts.

The solution (on this deal, anyway) is for North to take his winners in the order: queen of clubs, ace of clubs, king of hearts. On this sequence of plays, South would have let the king of hearts hold the trick as he can see that another club would deliver a trump trick for him, no matter how declarer played. Whether North should defend in that way is another matter altogether. Picture East with the ace-doubleton of hearts, for example.

West	North	East	South
H. Lall	Madala	Milner	Bianchedi
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	2♣	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Here, Bianchedi knew that Madala had only six clubs after the nine went to the queen and no jack appeared, so he won the trick-two heart shift and went back to clubs, securing the trump trick needed to beat the contract. That provided 10 IMPs to LAVAZZA.

**Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Sementa	Nowasadski	Bocchi	Kalita
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

There is only one loser in six hearts, but ... there are not 12 winners without making something of the black suits. Sementa was very clever, as he is wont to be, on opening lead: he led the jack of diamonds. When Bocchi won that with his ace, he made a very good play: he returned his spade, rather than a trump, essentially killing the dummy.

Look at what happens if Bocchi returns a heart: declarer needs four discards for the diamonds. He has three of them already, one spade and two clubs. His best chance for a fourth trick is to run the jack of clubs, taking the ruffing finesse. On the actual layout, it does not matter whether he takes it immediately or whether he risks cashing the ace and king of clubs first; they both work.

On the spade shift, we can see that Kalita could also have made the contract by ruffing down Sementa's king of diamonds, to make his queen good, and discarding his two low diamonds on clubs, but declarer could not see that. It looked to him like he needed three discards and a ruff for his diamonds. When the king of spades, as the first of these, was ruffed by East, that plan was dead. Plan B was for the queen of clubs to fall doubleton and that player to have no more trumps left to ruff the jack and ten. For example, if Bocchi (East) were 1=4=3=5 and Sementa (West) were 6=1=4=2 with the queen of clubs, Kalita could have made his contract by overruffing the spade ruff, crossing on a heart and cashing four clubs for diamond discards. As slim as those chances were, they seemed superior to taking one diamond ruff and trying to ruff down a now-bare king.

So, after he overruffed the spade, Kalita crossed to the ace of hearts and started on the clubs. When the queen did not fall, he ruffed Bocchi's queen of clubs, drew the trumps and led a low diamond. He was

*Continued on page 12...*



# IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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## 841. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

1. At least 5-5 in the minors
2. Roman Key Card Blackwood
3. 1 key card

West led the king of clubs. Declarer took the opening lead with the ace, cashed the king and ace of trumps, thus marking West with at most a singleton in hearts. So declarer continued with the jack of hearts from dummy, with the intention of running it if not covered. This would lose only if West had either three trumps or a singleton queen of hearts.

As the cards lay, this was the only winning line. East covered the jack of hearts with the queen and declarer won with the ace, then drew East's remaining trump. Next he played a heart to the king and ruffed out East's ten of hearts. The diamond king provided the entry to the established eight of hearts, on which declarer's losing diamond was thrown.

If West had shown up with one trump it would still be the correct play to lead the jack of hearts at trick three as it would be at least two to one that East had the queen of hearts. It is only when West has a void in trumps that declarer should play the ace and king of hearts after drawing trumps. Then, if West produces the ten of hearts, declarer should make certain of the contract by discarding the two of clubs from hand. If the nine loses to the queen, the eight of hearts would still take care of declarer's diamond loser.

## 842. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West led the two of hearts. Declarer saw that the easiest road home was to ruff two diamonds in dummy. The danger was that East might trump a diamond. So declarer rose with the ace of hearts at trick one and then played the two of trumps to his ace. After East discarded a heart, he was marked with seven hearts and six cards in the minors.

As there were seven cards outstanding in each minor, declarer took the 100% safe play of cashing the ace of clubs and the ace of diamonds (West had to have at least one of each). Once East followed to both of these cards, he was known to have started with at most five cards in one of the minors. Consequently, as West would then have at least two cards in each minor, declarer cashed the minor-suit kings in complete safety.

When East discarded a heart on the second club, declarer counted West as starting with 4=1=2=6 shape. So, after ruffing a club with the three of trumps declarer led the ten of diamonds. West saw that if he discarded a club declarer would have twelve tricks. So he ruffed in with the seven of trumps and dummy overruffed with the ten. After ruffing dummy's remaining club with the jack of trumps declarer drew a second round of trumps with the king and then led the nine of diamonds.

When West ruffed this with the nine of trumps, declarer discarded a heart from dummy. At this point, West had only two clubs left and had to lead one of

them. Declarer ruffed the exit in dummy with the six of trumps and discarded his remaining heart from hand. He took the last trick with the queen of trumps and so had made his contract.

Declarer's plan of cashing his minor-suit winners in steps would also have succeeded if East had shown out on the second diamond. This would have placed West with six diamonds, allowing declarer to adopt a foolproof plan for taking twelve tricks: cash dummy's ten of trumps and then crossruff the minors.

If East had followed to all four of the minor suit tops then West would have had at least three cards in each minor. As a result, it would have been safe to ruff a club with the three of trumps. Twelve tricks would have come from crossruffing the minors as cheaply as possible.

**843. Dealer North. EW Vul.**

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

This was a seemingly routine board in a team match. At both tables, West led the ten of hearts. Each declarer won the first trick with ace of hearts, looking at 11 tricks if both black suits were favourably-distributed. Also, it was obvious that, to have any chance of making ten tricks, the declarers needed spades 3-2 with the queen of trumps onside. The alternative plan of cashing the ace and king of trumps before turning to clubs had significantly less chance of success.

At trick two, the first declarer led a trump to dummy's ace then led the two of trumps to the ten and his jack. After this held, declarer drew East's remaining trump with his king then played on clubs. When the clubs proved to be 4-1 he could no longer make his contract.

At the other table, declarer led a low club to dummy's king at trick two and continued with a low trump to the jack. This declarer cashed the king of trumps and, instead of drawing the last trump, cashed the queen of clubs. He continued with a club to dummy's ace in order to ruff a club and establish the eight of clubs as a winner. All that remained was to draw the last trump with dummy's ace and cash his tenth trick, the thirteenth club.

**844. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	3♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	4♠ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	4NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass	5♥ <sup>6</sup>
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass

1. Forcing-to-game raise in spades
2. Diamond shortage
3. Slam try
4. Minimum values
5. Roman Key Card Blackwood
6. Two key cards, no queen of spades

West led the nine of hearts, as there seemed little point in attacking diamonds when declarer was known to be short there. Declarer took the lead with dummy's ace, then drew trumps with the ace, king and queen. Next, he cashed the king of hearts, followed by the ace of diamonds. After ruffing the seven of diamonds back to his hand declarer cashed the queen of hearts and threw a club from table.

It was time to tackle the clubs. Declarer started the suit by leading the five from hand, intending to play low from dummy if West produced the three: either the five of clubs would win the trick or East would take the five with an honour and the suit would be no worse than 3-1, in which case he would have the three club tricks necessary to make his contract.

In practice, West discarded a diamond, so declarer played low from dummy anyway. East won the trick with the ten of clubs and was fixed. A diamond exit would see declarer make his twelfth trick by discarding a club from hand and ruffing in dummy. As playing the three of clubs next would be hopeless, East exited with the jack of clubs. This was taken in dummy with the king in order to lead another club. When East played the three of clubs and declarer finessed the nine: he made five trumps, three hearts, a diamond and three clubs for a total of twelve tricks.

Notice that it would have been fatal to start clubs by cashing the ace. On the above layout there would then have been no way to avoid the loss of two club tricks.

dismayed to see the king fall on it. That held his losses to one down, minus 100.

West	North	East	South
<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>J. Lall</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
2♠	Double	Pass	2NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Lebensohl; asks for a three-club rebid

Duboin intended to jump to four hearts over the expected three-club call from Bilde. However, North crossed him up by leaping to four clubs to show his power. After that, North was never convinced that South had such a hand and simply hoped for the best in clubs.

With a certain trump trick, Lall looked no further than the ace of diamonds for his opening lead. When that held, he continued with a diamond. Bilde ruffed the king and cashed the ace of hearts, then played the ace, king and jack of clubs. With seven winners in plain view in the dummy, Lall won with his queen of clubs and exited with his fourth club. Declarer won and, knowing spades were 6-1, led his low spade, hoping East would have to win the queen or jack, making one hand or the other high, depending on West's play. When East had only the eight of spades, West had to overtake it with the jack and lead another. Declarer thus lost one club, one diamond and two spades for three off, minus 300; 5 IMPs to MILNER.

#### Board 47. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>J. Lall</i>
—	—	—	1♠
2♠ <sup>1</sup>	4♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 5+ hearts and 5+ either minor

With his bits and pieces, Bilde might have bid four notrump or even passed as an alternative to double. The defence started with a high club and a heart shift. Lall won with dummy's ace and played another heart to the ten, jack and king. A third heart was ruffed in the dummy. Expecting spades to be 4-0, Lall played off

the ace, king and a third diamond, ruffing the third low in hand. Duboin was able to overruff with the jack but that was the last trick for the defence, declarer easily picking up East's trumps with diamonds in the dummy as surrogates. Plus 790 to MILNER.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Madala</i>	<i>Nowasadski</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>
—	—	—	1♠
2♠ <sup>1</sup>	2NT <sup>2</sup>	3♦ <sup>3</sup>	Pass
3♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. 5+ hearts and 5+ either minor
2. 4-card spade raise, invitational+
3. Pass or correct

Here, Nowasadski had already shown some values, so was not interested in taking further action. Kalita led the ten of diamonds. Declarer won with his ace and cashed his two high trumps. If West had had a singleton diamond, the trumps would likely have been 2-2 and, if it turned out that he had a trump loser, the diamonds were likely to be 3-2. After West showed out on the second spade, declarer played a diamond to the king and ruffed the diamonds good. losing just one spade, one heart and one club. Plus 620 was, however, a loss of 5 IMPs.

#### Board 48. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>J. Lall</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Pszczola gave up a trick on the opening lead with the jack of diamonds ducked to the queen. However, Lall led trumps both times when in with clubs, so declarer could never realize a tenth trick; minus 100.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Madala</i>	<i>Nowasadski</i>	<i>Bianchedi</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Madala also led the jack of diamonds, ducked to the queen. However, when Kalita led a low club from hand at trick two, Madala jumped up with the king to lead the king of diamonds. Declarer won with dummy's ace, cashed the ace of hearts for a diamond pitch and led a club. Bianchedi won with his ace and led a trump, but it was too late, Declarer won with his ace and ruffed a club. When South's queen fell, declarer's ten was established for the overtrick; 13 IMPs to MILNER.

**Board 54. Dealer East. EW Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>J. Lall</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	Double	2♠
3♥	3♠	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

This deal played very nicely for Duboin in four hearts. Pszczola led the king of spades. Duboin won, cashed the three high diamonds for spade pitches and led a heart. North won with his ace and tapped dummy with a spade. Declarer accepted the tap, cashed the king of hearts and the ace-king of clubs (discarding his last spade), then ruffed a club. When he ruffed a diamond to establish the suit, South could have overruffed or not; the jack of hearts was the only other trick for the defence; plus 650.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Nowasadski</i>	<i>Sementa</i>
—	—	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
1♦	1♠	Pass	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Natural, but could be precisely 3=3=5=2 with poor diamonds if 18-19 balanced

Kalita made heavy weather of four hearts. The first four tricks were the same as at the other table: king of spades to the ace and the three top diamonds for spade discards. Here, though, Kalita ruffed a spade, then played the ace, king and a third club, ruffing it low in hand. He was leery of losing three trumps and a diamond if he led a heart away from the king at that point. However, when Bocchi overruffed with his queen, Kalita was in big trouble:

♠ Q 10 9  
♥ A  
♦ J  
♣ —

♠ —  
♥ 10 9 6  
♦ 7 3  
♣ —

♠ —  
♥ K 5 4  
♦ —  
♣ 10 9

♠ —  
♥ J 8 7  
♦ —  
♣ Q J

To defeat the contract legitimately at that point, Bocchi had to cash the ace of hearts and lead the jack of diamonds. Declarer could have ruffed low or high; either would have led to defeat, the defence being able to tap declarer's trumps so that he could never have taken his diamond trick. But Bocchi led the jack of diamonds prematurely, without cashing the ace of hearts, Declarer could have recovered by ruffing the diamond with the king of hearts and leading a trump. Instead, he ruffed high and led another club. The defence was in charge again. Bocchi overruffed the club with his ace of hearts and led a spade. South was down to the jack-eight-seven of hearts and declarer had two trumps in either hand, but could only make one more trick. Minus 100 sent 13 IMPs LAVAZZA's way.

Going back to the point where declarer led the ace, king and a third club, had he led the ten of clubs, forcing a cover (double-dummy), he'd have made a club trick in the end for his tenth.

That 13 IMPs made the always-close match score 101-98 for MILNER. The following board was the difference-maker.

**Board 61. Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>J. Lall</i>
—	2♠	3♦	3♠
Double	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Duboin doubled to show hearts, then took the push into game. The ace of clubs lead and another club would

have netted the defence plus 500 after a spade back, but Lall, not unreasonably, led the jack of spades, to dummy's ace, king, five. Bilde led the king of diamonds, crossed to the jack of diamonds and led the jack of hearts. When Lall ducked his ace, Bilde made no mistake, rising with dummy's king for plus 750. There was no excuse for ducking the ace of hearts, other than carelessness – Bilde was not going to misguess the suit after South's double, even had he had another heart.

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bocchi	Nowasadski	Sementa
—	2♠	3♦	3♠
3NT	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Sementa did lead the ace of clubs and another club (the three), but Bocchi misdefended by returning a heart to hold the loss to one off, minus 200, but 14 IMPs to LAVAZZA nevertheless, taking over the lead 119-114. The last three boards were almost flat with each team earning an IMP. It had been an exciting match, with MILNER leading most of the way, but never comfortably. LAVAZZA won 120-115.



**Charles  
(Jens Otto  
Pedersen)  
Odense,  
Denmark**

Team Lavazza was not able to play in the Copenhagen Bridge Invitational this year – they were defending champions in the 2017 Summer Festival of Bridge in Canberra, Down Under, and they will be defending champions again next year!

Here is a deal from the Swiss Qualifying of the Australian National Open Teams, featuring the young Dane, Dennis Bilde.

**Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
	Duboin		Bilde
2♠ <sup>1</sup>	3♦	4♣	Double <sup>2</sup>
5♣	Double <sup>3</sup>	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. (i) Spades and diamonds, or; (ii) hearts and clubs
2. Power double
3. Interested in bidding more

West led the ace of clubs and shifted to the deuce of diamonds. Bilde won with dummy's king as East followed with the ten. Bilde led the four of spades from the dummy. When East played the six, declarer put in the eight(!) and claimed 12 tricks when West showed out.

Why did Bilde finesse?

- (1.) He knew that West was at least 6-5 in the round suits, maybe 7-5 since he held such poor hearts, and the two of spades had not appeared, so, even if West had a trump, maybe it was the two.
- (2.) If East had held five clubs, a singleton heart and no likely trump trick (or what he thought was a trump trick), he would probably have sacrificed non-vulnerable. vs. vulnerable after West's bidding.

That was 12 tricks (plus 980). The contract went down at the other table, the timing not quite right for a trump coup.

A few West players doubled six diamonds, Lightner, with no success, as North/South removed that to six spades, then had no problem picking up the trumps.

**DON'T  
UNDERESTIMATE  
THE CHILD**



**Erdal Sidar, Istanbul**

**Dealer West. EW Vul.**

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

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

Two hundred and twelve pairs participated in the Southern Marmara Pairs tournament on September 24<sup>th</sup>–25<sup>th</sup>. The first deal is from that tournament.

Ediz Akay was born in July, 2004, so he is 12 years and 5 months old. He has been playing bridge for only a few months, but if he's going to continue playing bridge, I think we should prepare ourselves to see a strong player in terms of card-play technique, card-sense, self-confidence and psychology.

After doubling, Ediz said, "So far, nobody has ever managed to make a contract that I doubled."

"How long have you been playing bridge?" he was asked.

"Two months," was the reply.

"Who taught you bridge?"

"My father."

"Who is your father?"

"Sadik Akay."

His opponents wanted to encourage him and said, "So, bridge is in your genes."

Ediz's partner, Özlem Sentürk, who is a university student, led her singleton diamond. Declarer won in the dummy and could have saved a trick by playing a trump for one off, but instead, he played a heart, which Ediz won with his ace to put his nine of clubs on the table. The declarer could ruff his second heart loser with the queen of spades, but the defence had two trump tricks and two ruffing tricks, which made the contract go down two.

At the end of the deal, Ediz murmured, "I told you so."

The second deal is from 16<sup>th</sup> Sunget Pairs tournament, which is played simultaneously in 57 clubs by more than 1600 players.

**Dealer West. EW Vul.**

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

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

Ediz, North, led his ace of diamonds. Declarer ruffed the second diamond, played his spade ace and another spade. Ediz won with his king and, without hesitation, led a low club. Declarer couldn't guess right and played low from the dummy. Sentürk (who doesn't have a long bridge history, either) won with her queen and played another club to North's ace, taking the contract down. The surprised declarer confessed, "I never could have guessed that a child of your age could lead low from the ace."

Ediz and Özlem had 98% of the matchpoints for that board.

Will Ediz, who is a scholarship student in a private secondary school and who also plays basketball, stay in bridge? Can he become an expert? We cannot know these things yet. The priorities in the life of a young person will determine that. We'll wait and see.

## HEARTBROKEN

Anant Bhagwat  
Thane, India



When I entered the card room of our club, there was not the usual hubbub. Everybody was talking in hushed tones about Mr. Badhir, who had gone missing from the card room. I was taken aback, so I went in search of him. He was sitting in a corner of the bar, looking morosely at his glass. He appeared desolate. I was overcome with pity. This time the insults at the bridge table seemed to have gone too far. I tried to commiserate with him, by saying, "Forget it, sir. This world is cruel."

He replied, "I don't mind if they insult me, but to be sarcastic when I play elementary bridge is something I abhor."

I asked him what had happened. This was the tale that unfolded.

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

"I was playing against this guest of the President. He is an expert bridge player. He was playing this deal in one notrump."

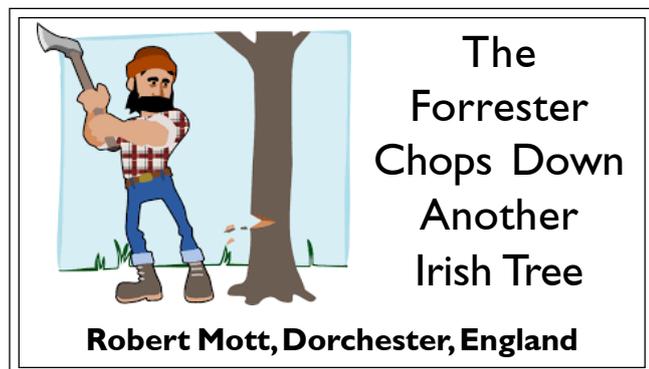
"I was West and the guest was South. I led the king of spades. My partner won with the ace. I was waiting for him to back a spade so that I could cash my five tricks but, for some obscure reason, he shifted to the king of diamonds. The declarer won with ace and took a long pause before playing a low club from hand. I put up the jack. The declarer looked a bit surprised at this. He wore an expression of despair on his face. Then he won with the king and played a diamond. My partner took this with his jack and returned a heart. This skirmish continued for some time and, finally, the guest conceded two down, being able to take just his top aces and kings."

"Suddenly the kibitzers and the guest, and even my partner, were applauding my sparkling defence: 'Entry destroying play,' somebody muttered. 'Great vision,' another said. This I found too much to swallow and I walked out of the room."

"But, sir," I replied, "indeed it was a great play. If you don't play the jack, declarer would have ducked the club to your partner and would have made the contract."

At this, Mr. Badhir looked hurt. "*Et tu Brutus,*" he said. "What is so great in showing partner that you have a doubleton in dummy's suit?"

I was rendered speechless.



This deal comes from the Camrose (British Isles home internationals) match between England and Ireland, where Tony Forrester found a brilliant deceptive defence to defeat a cold game.

When the second half of the match got under way, the Irish were looking to increase their 30-IMP lead.

**Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Carroll	Forrester	Garvey	Bakhshi
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	

In the other room, David Gold and Mike Bell had played in a safe three clubs making four, so it looked as if the Irish were set for a big gain when they bid aggressively to reach a Moysian four hearts, the only makeable game contract (three notrump is down on the obvious diamond lead). Forrester started with the king of spades. When this was ducked (eight from David Bakhshi, reverse attitude), North switched to the queen of diamonds – necessary if declarer's singleton was the jack. John Carroll won with his ace of diamonds and played a trump to the king, which was ducked. Declarer ruffed his losing diamond in hand, Bakhshi following with the ten, and played the jack of trumps to the queen and ace (he needed trumps to be 3-3 anyway). Bakhshi returned the jack of diamonds, which Carroll won with dummy's king, and declarer drew the remaining trumps with the ten.

On these last two tricks, declarer had had to find discards from the dummy. He'd had a choice of playing for the needed extra tricks in either black suit – it had looked to declarer that the spades were not breaking. Consequently, Carroll had discarded two spades from dummy on the king of diamonds and the ten of hearts.

Carroll played a club to the ace. The contract looked an easy make, but Forrester had other ideas and dropped his king of clubs under the ace. If this were a true card, the contract could still be made if Bakhshi had started with precisely 3=3=3=4 shape, so Carroll cashed the ace of spades, ruffed the jack of spades and exited with a club, hoping to endplay Bakhshi, who would now be down to jack-ten-third of clubs. No such luck; Bakhshi won and led a diamond so that Forrester could take the last two tricks with the six and seven, earning a beer in the process.

I have pinched the title of this article from Eamon Gall's very apt comment on BBO Vugraph.



Trials to determine the teams that will represent Brazil in the next South American Zonal Championship, Santiago 2017, were played at the headquarters of the

Federação Paulistana de Bridge between January 23 and 28. In the Open category, the final, between the teams LEÃO (Marcos Thoma, Pablo Ravenna, Ricardo Sabbag, Rafael Duque Dias, Leão Carvalho and João Dib) and BETO (Miguel Villas Boas, Diego Brenner, Roberto Barbosa and Adriano Rodrigues), was played in six sets of 15 boards each. After five sets, the BETO team were in charge by 40 IMPs, 176 to 136. However, in the last set, Team LEÃO deployed aggressive play and managed to prevail by 41 to 1, leaving the match tied at 177 IMPs and adding a share of drama.

Accordingly, an 8-board tie-breaker was played where the drama lasted until the last deal: the teams were tied with 19 IMPs each after seven boards. On that last board, the contract was the same, four hearts by East, at both tables. Let's see the deal:

**Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Brenner</i>	<i>Duque</i>	<i>Villas Boas</i>	<i>Sabbag</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Double
3♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Diamonds and hearts

Sabbag led the king of clubs (four, three, discouraging, queen) and shifted to a trump. Villas Boas won with the ace, drew another trump with the queen, then played a spade to the ace and ruffed a spade. He crossed back to hand with the ace of diamonds, drew the last trump and led a club toward the jack for plus 420.

West	North	East	South
<i>Thoma</i>	<i>Barbosa</i>	<i>Ravenna</i>	<i>Rodrigues</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Double
2♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Good raise to two hearts

The lead at this table was the ace of clubs: four, three, queen. Rodrigues also switched to a heart. Ravenna, knowing that the match was really close, decided on more ambitious card play. After winning trick two in the dummy, he cashed both high spade honours and ruffed a third round of spades with the trump queen, returned to his hand by playing a diamond to the ace and ruffed his fourth spade with the ace of trumps.

He returned to his hand by ruffing a diamond, drew trumps and led a club, losing only two club tricks for a total of 11. Team LEÃO thus earned 1 IMP and the ticket to Santiago 2017. The score was 20 to 19.

In the Women's Teams, the PAULINHA team: Sylvia Mello, Paula David, Heloisa Nogueira, Agota Mandelot, Isabella Vargas and Leda Pain, defeated LAURITA: Irene Gomes, Laura Marchioni, Lucila Pereira & Lia Casabona, winning by a wide margin.



**Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
1♥ <sup>2</sup>	2♥	2♠ <sup>3</sup>	3♥
Double <sup>4</sup>	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 2+ clubs
2. 4+ spades
3. Minimum opening with 4 spades
4. Game try

Some contracts look pretty good when the dummy comes down. However, four spades, from the 2016 World Youth Teams Bridge Championships, is not one of them. South leads the queen of hearts and continues with the jack of hearts. How should you, as East, play?

There are a number of issues to consider. To start, there are three unavoidable top losers. You can't afford to lose a second trump trick, so you'll need a doubleton ace somewhere. In addition, your side suit needs a bit of love: you need clubs 3-2, and there is the small matter of locating the club queen. Finally, you are in danger of losing trump control: the opponents have led hearts and they'll get in at least once more to shorten the trumps in East.

With his dubious heart holding, the overcaller is more likely to have the trump ace than his partner. If you ruff at trick two, cross to the king of clubs, lead a spade to the queen, then duck a spade to North's ace, he can continue with the ace of hearts to make you ruff again. Having contributed trumps to tricks two through five, you will be out of trumps at this point, while South still holds one and dummy the king-low. If the club queen started life as a doubleton, you will make it home from here by running clubs through South – a trump substitution play. You'll over-ruff South in the dummy and get back to hand in diamonds.

What if the clubs aren't so generously laid out for you? If a defender holds the queen-third of clubs, drawing trumps straight away is not going to work because of the continuing heart tap. If South holds the protected lady, the key move will be to finesse the ten of clubs at trick two. Drawing trumps (through East) will work fine after the clubs are set up. However, if North holds Her Majesty, things are more difficult. North holding the queen-third of clubs is inconvenient because it seems to require too many entries to the dummy. After ruffing at trick two and crossing to the king of clubs, if you lead trumps, you won't be able to take a finesse in clubs through North – there is no convenient way back to the dummy. You could try crossing to the king of clubs and leading the club ten. If you run it and it wins, you are back in the money by leading trumps. Your clubs are good and the trump substitute play works here as well.

However, if North does have a doubleton queen of clubs, you will be in your hand without having drawn any trumps and in the wrong hand to do so. South might have the doubleton spade ace instead of North, which would allow you to succeed by drawing trumps the other way, but this can't be the most likely layout.

At the table, declarer was not content with guessing whether the queen of clubs was doubleton or third and found a different line: after he ruffed the second heart, he played a club to the king, a spade to the queen, the ace of clubs and then another club, ruffing it in the dummy (South discarding a heart). After playing a diamond to his king, declarer was left with:

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

Declarer could no longer play trumps – North would win and tap out the last trump in the East hand. Then, the hearts would be good after dummy over-ruffed South on the run of the clubs. Instead, declarer started the trump substitution by running clubs through South, being careful to discard the same suit from dummy as South discarded, to prevent an eventual promotion of the jack of spades. Declarer lost one spade, one heart and one diamond.

Could the defence have prevailed? Yes. The defence had two chances. East could have risen with the ace of spades and continued the force; that would have made life too difficult for declarer, but was not an obvious play. The real chance was missed at trick six, when declarer ruffed his third club; South discarded a heart, but had he thrown a diamond instead, he would have been ahead in the trump promotion race. Eventually, he'd have made a trick with the jack of spades (after following to the king of diamonds with his second and discarding a third diamond on the fourth round of clubs as North ruffed with his ace of spades). The ace of diamonds and another diamond from North would then have allowed South to make his jack of spades.

Declarer's line avoided taking a club finesse, so that as well as retaining the chance of the club queen doubleton in either hand, he had the very real chance of coming home after the club queen turned out to be protected. Had South held the queen-third of clubs, he would have succeeded and, with North holding the queen-third, he needed a not-so-obvious defensive error. Note that, after South's heart discard, North could no longer defeat four spades. Assuming South discards his last heart, dummy lets go the king of hearts and North ruffs with the ace of spades. Now, no matter which red ace North plays, South plays his six of diamonds and gets home by surrounding South's trumps.

Well done to Nabil Edgton (who gently guided this deal home for 12 IMPs to Australia in the World Juniors last year). Nabil used a bit of imagination to find the trumps lying well, a bit of intuition to decide to ruff out the clubs, then a touch of technique at the end to execute the unusual trump substitution play with both opponents still holding trumps.

### Double Dummy App

A Double Dummy app in 35 languages -these are the links for downloading it on iOS and Android:

<https://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewSoftware?id=1175059505&mt=8>  
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.znop.kidapuzzle01>

## NEWS & VIEWS



# 8<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



Montecatini Terme, Italy

10<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2017

Venue: Congress Centre & Palavinci

### Format

Medal events (Mixed, Open, Women and Seniors for Pairs and Teams) and side events for Pairs and Teams. Information available at:

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/17montecatini/microsite/information.htm>

### Schedule

10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June – Mixed Teams

13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June – Mixed Pairs

17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> June – Open Teams

17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June – Women's & Seniors Teams

20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> June – Open Pairs

20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> June – Women's & Seniors Pairs

### Entry fees

Open/Women's/Senior/Mixed Pairs – €400 per pair

Women's/Senior/Mixed Teams – €720 per team

Open Teams – €800 per team

Juniors (born in 1992 or later) – 25% discount.

Entry fees for all side events are €70 per pair and €140 per team, per day. No discounts apply for these events.

### Registration

The registration process is now open and all entries to the various competitions must be submitted electronically via the EBL website (not by e-mail), latest seven days prior to the starting date of the respective event, at:

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/17montecatini/microsite/Participants.htm>

Entry to Teams and Pairs side events are to be made latest the evening prior to the start of the respective event through an electronic procedure.

No registrations will be accepted the same day of the start of any competitions.

Bridge players from all WBF zones are entitled to participate in these Championships provided they are

members in good standing of their National Bridge Federation.

For Open, Women and Seniors Teams the players must only apply for one event. No player may be registered in two teams. The same also applies to Open, Women's and Senior Pairs.

### Payment

<http://www.eurobridge.org/repository/competitions/17montecatini/microsite/Information.htm#Entries>

Onsite at the tournament Reception & Registration Desk at the venue.

### Hotel accommodation

<http://book.intoscana.it/bookintoscana/html/index.php#>

### Contact

Catherine Vitry – EBL Secretariat

E-mail: [secretariat@europeanbridge.org](mailto:secretariat@europeanbridge.org)

### Website

[www.eurobridge.org](http://www.eurobridge.org)



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# World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
<b>2017</b>			
Feb 7-12	21 <sup>st</sup> NEC Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 13-18	26 <sup>th</sup> Sun, Sea & Slams Tournament	Christ Church, Barbados, W.I.	www.cacbf.com
Feb 14-16	Cavendish Invitational Teams	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.cavendish.bridgemonaco.com
Feb 17-19	Cavendish Invitational Pairs	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.cavendish.bridgemonaco.com
Feb 18-25	56 <sup>th</sup> Gold Coast Congress	Surfer's Paradise, Australia	www.qldbridge.com/gcc
Feb 22-26	Cannes Festival	Cannes, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Feb 25-26	Lederer Memorial Trophy	London, England	www.metrobridge.weebly.com
Mar 9-12	XIV International Festival	Casablanca, Morocco	www.casablanca-bridge.com
Mar 9-19	ACBL Spring NABC	Kansas City, MO	www.acbl.org
Mar 16-19	Tasmanian Festival of Bridge	Sandy Bay, Tasmania, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Mar 10-12	3 <sup>rd</sup> International Teams Festival	Lisbon, Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
Mar 26-31	25 <sup>th</sup> White House Junior International	Amsterdam, Netherlands	kornelistammens@gmail.com
Mar 26-Apr 1	XXX International Bridge Festival	Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife	www.asociacioncanariabridge.com
Apr 3-11	19 <sup>th</sup> BFAME Zonal Championships	Dubai, UAE	azwer46@gmail.com
Apr 4-9	Kitzbüheler BridgeWeek	Kitzbühel, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Apr 5-9	Amazing Bridge Festival	Bangkok, Thailand	www.thailandbridgeleague.com
Apr 11-16	122 <sup>nd</sup> Canadian Nationals	Toronto, Ontario	www.unit166.ca
Apr 17-23	Gatlinburg Regional	Gatlinburg, TN	www.gatlinburgregional.org
Apr 21-30	Lambourne Jersey Festival of Bridge	Jersey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Apr 27-May 6	29 <sup>th</sup> CACBF & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Open Championships	Antigua, Guatemala	www.cacbf.com
Apr 28-May 2	Schapiro Spring Foursomes	Stratford-upon-Avon, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Apr 28-May 1	10 <sup>th</sup> Slavonice International	Slavonice, Czech Republic	www.chaosbridge.com
Apr 28-May 9	USBF Open Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
Apr 29-May 1	German Bridge Team Trophy	Berlin, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 3-8	67 <sup>th</sup> South American Championships	Santiago, Chile	www.confsubridge.org
May 3-9	USBF Women's Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
May 4-8	Australian Fall Nationals	Adelaide, Australia	www.abf.com.au
May 5-13	All Africa Zonal Championships	Capetown, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
May 9-13	7 <sup>th</sup> South American Transnationals	Santiago, Chile	www.confsubridge.org
May 9-14	32 <sup>nd</sup> Grand Prix of Portugal	Estoril, Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
May 13-29	South African Nationals	Capetown, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
May 17-25	USBF Senior Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
May 19-28	Festival de Bridge de Côte d'Azur	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
May 25	Bonn Cup	Bad Godesburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 27-Jun 7	50 <sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Championships	Seoul, South Korea	www.abf.com.au
Jun 10-18	19 <sup>th</sup> German Bridge Festival	Wyk-auf-Föhr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Jun 10-24	8 <sup>th</sup> Open European Championships	Montecatini, Italy	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 30-Jul 2	English Riviera Congress	Torquay, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Jun 30-Jul 6	51 <sup>st</sup> Tel-Aviv Bridge Festival	Tel-Aviv, Israel	www.ibf-festival.org
Jul 3-7	Yeh Bros. Cup	Tokyo, Japan	cpc2013228@gmail.com
Jul 7-16	Danish Bridge Festival	Svendborg, Denmark	www.bridgefestival.dk
Jul 8-15	26 <sup>th</sup> European Junior Team	Samorin, Slovakia	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 10-19	Alaska Regional	At Sea	www.acbl.org
Jul 15-27	Australian National Championships	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jul 20-30	ACBL Summer NABC	Toronto, Ontario	www.acbl.org
Jul 28-Aug 6	23 <sup>rd</sup> Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se/festival-2017
Jul 29-Aug 3	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se/eng
Jul 30-Aug 5	49 <sup>th</sup> International Bridge Week	Mautern, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Aug 4-6	2 <sup>nd</sup> Marit Sveaas Tournament	Oslo, Norway	www.bridge.no
Aug 4-13	EBU Summer Meeting	Eastbourne, UK	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 7-13	Norsk Bridge Festival	Drammen, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
<b>Aug 12-26</b>	<b>World Team Championships</b>	<b>Lyon, France</b>	<b>www.worldbridge.org</b>
Aug 15-24	World Open Youth Championships	Lyon, France	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 18-27	EBU Summer Meeting	Eastbourne, UK	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 23-Sep 3	Festival La Grande Motte	La Grande Motte, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Sep 2-13	56 <sup>th</sup> International Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.pulabridgefestival.com
Sep 8-17	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 29-Oct 1	11 <sup>th</sup> Minsk Cup	Minsk, Belarus	www.sportbridge.by
Sep 30-Oct 4	21 <sup>st</sup> International Bridge Festival	Azores Is., Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
Sep 30-Oct 7	New Zealand National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzbridge.co.nz
Oct 9-15	EBU Overseas Congress	Halkidiki, Greece	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 18-26	Australian Spring Nationals	Sydney, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Nov 6-12	20 <sup>th</sup> International Festival	Madeira, Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
Nov 9-11	4 <sup>th</sup> Marbella International	Marbella, Costa del Sol, Spain	www.marbellabridge.com
Nov 23-Dec 3	ACBL Fall NABC	San Diego, Ca	www.acbl.org