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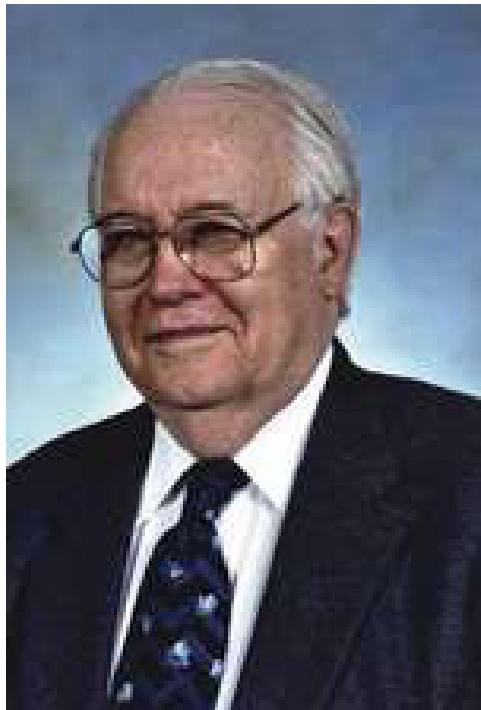
This Bulletin is published monthly and circulated to around 300 members of the International Bridge Press Association comprising the world's leading journalists, authors and editors of news, books and articles about contract bridge, with an estimated readership of some 200 million people who enjoy the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

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Henry Francis

1926-2017



Henry Francis, IBPA President Emeritus and ACBL Bridge Bulletin Editor Emeritus was one of the most popular and capable personages ever to grace the bridge world. Francis was President of the IBPA from 1996 to 2003 and its Chairman from 2003 to 2005. Upon his retirement from office, he was elected President Emeritus.

Francis was ACBL Bulletin Editor from 1970 until 1997. Upon his retirement as Editor, Francis was named Editor Emeritus and also as the ACBL Honorary Member of the Year for 1998. He was inducted into the ACBL Hall of Fame in 2003.

As a teenager in the early 1940s in Massachusetts, Francis embarked upon two careers that for six decades would enrich his own life as well as others with whom he came into contact. One endeavour was bridge (as a player, tournament reporter, club director and owner, and TD), the other was journalism.

During his years in Memphis with the ACBL, Francis edited their monthly magazine, three editions of The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge, many World Championship Books and many more WBF World Championship and ACBL NABC Daily Bulletins.

According to his dear friend and beloved Co-Editor Emeritus, Sue Emery, "It was pure serendipity when Henry's two careers came together in 1972. The Boston Herald was folding, and the ACBL was moving to Memphis and needed an editor for the Bulletin. Henry brought his considerable knowledge, great experience, talent and boundless enthusiasm to the job."

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MASTER POINT PRESS

This year's shortlist is impressive and varied, encompassing technical, teaching and pure entertainment.

Alex Adamson & Harry Smith – If I Only Had a Heart

As you might guess, *If I Only Had a Heart* takes its cue from *The Wizard of Oz*. The book details the adventures of the Tin Man, Dorothy, the Cowardly Lion, the Scarecrow and other members of the Over the Rainbow Bridge Club. The Club has been featured in *Bridge* magazine and in *Australian Bridge* over the past few years. The authors pay homage to S.J. Simon, Victor Mollo and other writers who have created their own bridge clubs and memorable casts of characters. The deals are often quirky and always interesting.

David Bird – Famous Bridge Swings

Bird has more than 100 bridge books to his name and some of the others have also been nominated for MPP Book of the Year. He won last year for *The Abbott, the Parrot and the Bermuda Bowl*. This volume looks at big-swing deals in international and other top-level play. It is rather incredible how many of the swings could have been avoided by more-careful handling of the auction or the cards. It's a lesson to all of us that Bob Hamman is correct (as usual) when he says: "We are all terrible. Some are just more terrible than others."

Sartaj Hans – Battling the Best

Hans is an Australian who has been on the international scene for a couple of decades, in Australian national teams and playing in North American Championships. He is a very good player, a tough competitor and a thoughtful writer with an eye for an interesting deal. In this book, he relates his experiences playing in top tournaments against the best players in the world. The deals are compelling and he goes into them in detail, explaining his, his partner's and the opponents' reasoning for the actions they chose.

Robert F. McKinnon – Never a Dull Deal; Faith, Hope and Probability in Bridge

McKinnon deals with probability in bridge in an accessible, interesting way. One can imagine him teaching this normally-dry subject to a class of spellbound students at the University of Victoria. Chapter headings such as "A Four-Door Monty Hall Game", "The Pyjama Game – A Winning Strategy?" and "Watching with Woolsey" will give you some idea of the unconventional way he approaches his subject matter. There are lots of bridge deals to illustrate the points he makes and these are never dull. Any bridge player can learn a few things from this book.

Frank Stewart – Keys to Winning Bridge

Stewart stresses the most important factors for advancing players to become better, winning players, and none of them involves conventions or system. He estimates that only on about one in every 50 bridge deals will one's result be impacted by system, and that impact may well be adverse, not beneficial. Stewart believes that the two most-important factors to winning bridge are "rock-solid fundamentals" and "keeping avoidable errors to a minimum". To this end, he offers many examples and much advice on how to achieve these two goals.



Toronto NABC Winners



Spingold KO Teams: Boye Brogeland/Espen Lindqvist, John Diamond/Brian Platnick

Grand National Teams: JoAnna & Lew Stansby, Debbie Rosenberg/David Grainger, Chip Martel/Kit Woolsey

Open Swiss Teams: Ai-Tai Lo/Bill Cole, Beth Palmer/Bill Pettis

Mixed Board-a-Match Teams: Marusa Basa/Thomas Paske, Sara Bell/Alexander Hydes

Senior Swiss Teams: Joann Glasson/Bob Glasson, Rick Rowland/Martin Rabinowitz

Life Master Pairs: Joel Wooldridge/John Hurd

Open Pairs: Joel Wooldridge/John Hurd

Women's Pairs: Julie Smith/Susan Humphries

College Bridge Bowl: Georgia Tech – Arjun Dhir/Santhosh Karnik, Charles Wang/Zhuangdi Xu

Online Individual: Nikolaos Delimpaltadakis



YEH BROS. CUP

Tokyo, July 3-7, 2017
Barry Rigal, NYC
David Stern, Sydney
Andy Hung, Sydney

The Yeh Bros. Cup format is unique: all teams play a Swiss Qualifying to make a bracket of 16. The top eight teams make up the 'Undefeated Bracket' and the next eight make up the 'Once-Defeated Bracket', all teams being seeded according to their finish in the Qualifying stage, except that the sponsor's (Chen Yeh's) team is seed #1, regardless of their finish in the Qualifying stage. As teams lose in the Undefeated Bracket they drop into the Once-Defeated Bracket, where one loss means they're out. To keep the event on pace, there are two instances, at the end, where the Once-Defeated Bracket teams play a three-way triangle with just one winner. When both brackets have one team remaining, they play in the final, the undefeated team having a 6.5 IMP carry-forward. Oh yes, and the winning team gets US\$175,000.

The field this year was extraordinarily good, attracted by the generous travel subsidies and prize money available. The top eight or ten teams would have rivalled the top eight or ten in a Bermuda Bowl or an Olympiad, for example.

Nothing else in bridge gives quite the same satisfaction as a well-defended deal. Witness ...

Qualifying Round 1 – Indonesia v. Kokish

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

♠ Q 8 5

♥ A K 8

♦ K Q 8 5

♣ A 5 2

♠ 9 2

♥ Q J 4 3

♦ A 10 9 6 2

♣ Q 9

♠ A K 6

♥ 10 6 5

♦ J 7 3

♣ J 8 7 4

♠ J 10 7 4 3

♥ 9 7 2

♦ 4

♣ K 10 6 3

West	North	East	South
Karwur	Bertens	George	Cheek
—	1♣ ¹	Pass	1♦ ²
Pass	INT ³	Pass	2♥ ⁴
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Strong (16+), artificial, forcing
2. Negative (0-8)
3. 18-19 balanced
4. Transfer to spades



The delighted winners of the 2017 Yeh Bros. Cup: Eric Kokish, Curtis Cheek, Huub Bertens, Fred Gitelman

A good deal for a strong club, to be able to stop in two spades (or for transfer responses where opener's one notrump rebid shows 18-19 – end of commercial).

Bertens received the lead of the seven of clubs. He took the nine in hand with the ace and led a trump towards dummy and, when the jack held, a diamond (with the ace ducked) to his king. Then a club to the king, a heart to hand, and a third club up left the defenders unable to prevent nine tricks. Had East ducked this, his partner could have ruffed but would not have had a trump to return. When East took the jack of clubs, the best he could do was cash the king of spades, hoping his partner was the one with three spades; no luck today.

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Parasian	Gitelman	Taufik
—	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥ ¹
Pass	3♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Transfer to spades

In the other room, Gitelman also led the seven of clubs and Parasian won with dummy's king to lead a diamond to his king as Kokish also ducked his ace of diamonds. Now declarer played the ace and another club. Gitelman let Kokish ruff, and back came a trump to permit Gitelman to play three rounds of that suit, leaving dummy with a heart and club loser for down one; very nicely done and 5 IMPs to Kokish.

Qualifying Round 2 – Sweden v. Monaco

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

♠ Q 5 3

♥ 9 2

♦ K 10 9 2

♣ Q 8 7 4

♠ K J 7 4 2

♥ K Q 6 3

♦ Q J

♣ 10 3

♠ A 9 8

♥ J 8 5 4

♦ A 8 5 4

♣ K 2

♠ 10 6

♥ A 10 7

♦ 7 6 3

♣ A J 9 6 5

West	North	East	South
Sylvan	Martens	Wrang	Filipowicz
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. Relay			

The Editors spoke just a little too soon when they indicated that declarer needed second sight to succeed in his game here. As Geir Helgemo (and at another table Eric Kokish) indicated, basic numeracy might suffice, in the right circumstances. A total of ten declarers brought home 420 or more – though twice from the East seat, when there were perhaps different considerations. In Sweden v. Monaco ...

The play in four hearts in the Open Room saw Martens lead a diamond rather than a club; reasonable enough, but declarer did not maximize his chances when, after winning cheaply in hand, he played on trumps and won the next diamond, then completed drawing trumps and led out the king of spades. Perhaps at this point he realized the avoidance play of a low spade to the nine would fail if South won and tapped him out with a third diamond, as the spades would then be blocked. So he played the ace and a third spade. This avoided losing to the queen-doubleton in North but, as the cards lay, Martens could win and play a club through, to doom the contract.

In a similar position, Eric Kokish started spades by leading low to the nine. Now when South forced him, he could ruff and run the spades.

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Upmark	Helness	Nyström
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Geir Helgemo received the toughest defence, of a low club lead (the seven, playing third-from-even and lowest-from-odd) to trick one. Sure that the ace of clubs was wrong, he nonetheless put up dummy's king, reasoning that North would never underlead the queen-jack. South, Nyström, won, cashed the jack of clubs and, when he later showed up with the ace of hearts, it was then impossible for him to hold the queen of spades as well, having passed initially. Backing his judgment, Helgemo ran the jack of spades from his hand after drawing trumps, and had an elegant plus 420 as well as a 'Bien joué' from his opponents.

In Round 2, this board produced a swing worthy of discussion.

Qualifying Round 2 – Bul/Ger v. Pepsi

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Stamatov	Hampson	Danailov	Greco
2♣ ¹	2♠	3♦ ²	4♠
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
1. 6+ clubs or 5+ clubs and 4M			
2. Game-forcing			

Danailov, East in the Closed Room, must have thought they had a poor diamond fit, knowing that his partner could hold four hearts and five clubs and, with his spade void, some spade fragment. What he didn't know was just how well their combined cards fitted. Indeed, the king of clubs instead of the queen would have made six diamonds an excellent contract. Indeed, it was quite playable as it was.

Declarer, Hampson, in four spades doubled by North, ruffed the second diamond, drew trumps and played a heart in an attempt to establish a discard for his clubs, West won the heart and immediately forced Hampson to guess clubs extremely well by playing the nine, which he did, thus preventing the defence from establishing a second club trick before the hearts were set up. That was one down and minus 200.

West	North	East	South
Nowosadzki	Auken	Kalita	Welland
1♣ ¹	1♠	2♣ ²	3♠
Pass	4♠	5♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. Three-way: (1.) natural; (2.) 12-14 balanced; (3.) 18+			
2. Diamonds			

Kalita in the Closed Room showed that he appreciated the value of the eight-card suit and the void in the opponent's suit. With 11 top tricks, that was plus 600. Those 9 IMPs saw Pepsi win the match by 15 IMPs and 13.43 VPs to 6.57.

Muller-de Wijs in another match actually bid and made six diamonds on the following auction. Played by West on the jack of spades lead, declarer had enough entries to ruff out the club suit.

West	North	East	South
de Wijns		Muller	
1♦ ¹	1♠	2♣ ²	4♠
Pass	Pass	4NT ³	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 2+ diamonds, 11-15
2. Diamonds
3. Either diamonds and hearts OR a good five-diamond bid

Qualifying Round 6 – Poland v. Pepsi

A case of Internecine strife; Pepsi comprises Greco and Hampson plus four current or ex-Poles (Poles apart you might say ... or maybe not) against the current national Polish squad.

The following deal saw Poland take the lead in the match for good:

Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Greco	Gawrys	Hampson
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣ ¹	Pass	1♦ ²
Pass	2♡ ³	Pass	2♠ ⁴
Pass	2NT ⁵	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♡	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 16+
2. 0-8
3. Big balanced
4. Forced
5. 25+ balanced

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Jassem	Nowosadzki	azurkiewicz
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣ ¹	Pass	1♦ ²
Pass	2♦ ³	Pass	2♡ ⁴
Pass	2NT ⁵	Pass	3♡ ⁶
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Three-way: (1.) natural; (2.) 12-14 balanced; (3.) 18+
2. 0-6
3. Game force
4. Second negative with no 5-card major
5. 25+
6. 4-card spade suit

On a diamond lead, both declarers won in hand and tested clubs from the top (Rats!) but then the paths diverged. Hampson played hearts from the top, then eventually fell back on the spade finesse. Jassem crossed to the queen of diamonds and led a heart to the jack. If that had lost, the heart ten would have been the entry to dummy for the spade finesse. Had West turned up with queen-to-four hearts, declarer could have run his winners and exited in hearts. Whether diamonds were 4-4 or 5-3, one defender or the other would have had to lead a spade at the end, to give declarer the chance of the finesse. Jassem's line looks right to me; it certainly produced 12 IMPs.

Yeh Cup Qualifying Round 9

With two matches to go, the leaderboard was quite congested, with just 9.88 VPs covering the top 8 and 34.12 VPs the top 16.

This report sees Bul/Ger, first with 104.4 VP (Roy Welland/Sabine Auken, Jerry Stamatov/Dylan Danailov) matched against Kranyak, second on 103.6 VP (John Kranyak/Vincent Demuy, John Hurd/Joe Wooldridge). The other BBO Match saw Pepsi, third, play IsPolta, fifth.

Our featured match started off comfortably for both teams, with four spades bid and easily made at both tables, just as it was at 22 of the 26 tables in play.

The following deal proved to have a touch of pizazz.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Auken	Hurd	Welland
—	—	1♦	INT
Pass	2♡	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West	North	East	South
Stamatov	Kranyak	Danailov	Demuy
—	—	1♦	INT
Pass	2♥ ¹	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣ ¹	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Transfers

In the Open Room, the defence started with a somewhat-friendly heart lead. Declarer, Welland, won and played the spade king, followed by the spade nine (covered by West and dummy), and the spade jack, leaving West with his spade winner. Having heard the bidding, he smoothly played the three of diamonds off the table, and when the four appeared from East, put in the five from his hand! This left him in control, to lose just two diamonds and a trump. Because of declarer's need to establish his long diamond, a club lead would have left the defence in control, as was demonstrated in the Closed Room.

In the Closed Room, a club was indeed led. Declarer won with the ace and also cashed the spade king and led the nine, covered and won, and then led a heart to his hand. Next came a diamond towards dummy's king and East's ace. East forced dummy with a club and now a diamond to the queen allowed West to ruff and force dummy down to the bare jack of spades while West still held a trump himself. Declarer now played a diamond towards his eight, ducked by East and ruffed by West. Declarer ended up losing two diamonds and two diamond ruffs for one down.

Board 27. Dealer South. Neither Vul: None

♠ 8 5 3

♥ J 6 5 2

♦ 10 7 2

♣ Q J 5

♠ A 2

♥ 10 9 4

♦ A Q 9 6 4 3

♣ 7 6

♠ K Q 9 7

♥ 8 7

♦ K 8 5

♣ A 10 9 3

♠ J 10 6 4

♥ A K Q 3

♦ J

♣ K 8 4 2

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Auken	Hurd	Welland
—	—	—	1♣ ¹
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 2+ clubs if balanced

Wooldridge, West in the Open Room for Kranyak, clearly appreciated the value of his long diamonds, notwithstanding his limited values. A funny thing happened on the way to the forum when Welland,

South, led the queen of hearts, followed by the three to dummy's nine, ducked by Auken, thereby allowing declarer to rack up 11 tricks.

In the other room, we got a taste of modern bridge, courtesy of Demuy and Kranyak's three SOS redoubles on one sequence ...

West	North	East	South
Stamatov	Kranyak	Danailov	Demuy
—	—	—	INT
Pass	Pass	Double	Redouble ¹
Pass	2♣	Double	Pass
Pass	Redouble ¹	Pass	2♦
Double	Pass	Pass	Redouble ¹
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
3♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. SOS

John Kranyak isn't someone who will die wondering what might have been. With only 18 of the combined 40 points in the pack, North/South went on an exploratory expedition to see where they could find safety after being doubled in one notrump, two clubs and two diamonds. This is another deal where there appears to be a limited number of losers but, equally, not that many winners. It would appear that repeated trump leads may hold declarer to four heart tricks and two club tricks for 300. Anyway, the net 350 gave 8 IMPs to Kranyak.

Undefeated Bracket Match 2 –

Kokish v. Bul/Ger

With 16 boards to go in the match, Bul/Ger had led 38-27, having trailed early in the first set by nearly 20 IMPs, but with 12 more deals played and Bul/Ger in front by 12, the match was just about to explode into life.

Board 29. Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ A K 5 3 2

♥ J 7 5

♦ K 10 9

♣ A J

♠ 10 8

♠ 7 6

♥ Q 10 4 3

♥ 9 8 2

♦ 6 5

♦ Q J 8 7 2

♣ Q 9 8 7 6

♣ 10 4 3

♠ Q J 9 4

♥ A K 6

♦ A 4 3

♣ K 5 2

West	North	East	South
Stamatov	Bertens	Danailov	Cheek
—	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	4♣ ¹
Pass	4NT ²	Pass	5♣ ³
Pass	5NT ⁴	Pass	6♣ ⁵
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass

1. Balanced slam try for spades
2. Key card ask
3. 2 key cards and the queen of spades
4. Specific king ask; grand slam cooperation, just in case that was South's goal
5. King of clubs

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Auken	Gitelman	Welland
—	INT	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the six of spades. Declarer drew trumps in two rounds, then cashed the ace-king and led a third heart to West's queen as East followed with the eight, two and nine (showing an odd number). What should West play and why?

West can be sure declarer is 3-2 one way or the other in the minors. The only reason he can have, I think, for not stripping off one minor is that he has precisely ace-jack in that suit. If you play a club and he has the ace-jack, it will be fatal, since you give him a free finesse. Can he have king-jack-ten in one minor or the other? No; if he did, he would have stripped off the other suit. In summary, a diamond can never clear up a guess for declarer – if that were so you wouldn't be in this position.

Stamatov's decision to play clubs was fatal. At the other table Auken stripped off clubs before going for the heart play, and that didn't work today.

Both tables in the other undefeated match let through six spades by North on a diamond lead.

Undefeated Bracket Match 3 – Kranyak v. Kokish – The Youngsters Versus the Old Guard

Two teams were left in the No-Loss Bracket – Kranyak (John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, John Hurd and Joel Wooldridge) and Kokish (Eric Kokish, Fred Gitelman, Curtis Cheek and Huub Bertens). The winner of this 32-board encounter would go into the final guaranteed prize money of \$US48,000 and a chance at the main prize of \$US175,000. The upside of being a four-person team is clear – a 50% greater prize than you get from playing on a team of six. The downside: no hiding, no sitting out and full focus required, after already having played 164 boards over the past three days.

The following deal saw the catch-me-if-you-can style of Kranyak/Demuy, but this time with a negative outcome.

In the Closed Room (see top of next column), you can select your own adjective for Kranyak's overcall of one heart – he certainly had good intermediates; 'imaginative'? Your editors had some slightly more emphatic terms for it as they gathered around the garbage bin – especially in the context of the

vulnerability. Demuy, clearly holding the best hand at the table, was certainly looking for blood with his first pass – little did he suspect it would be his own.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Bertens	Hurd	Cheek
1♦	Pass	1♠	INT
Double	2♦	3♦	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Kranyak	Gitelman	Demuy
1♦	1♥	Double	Pass
1♠	Pass	Pass	Double
INT	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Double	Redouble
Pass	Pass	Pass	
1. 3-card suit			

When Demuy doubled West's one notrump, Kranyak had to 'fess up' to the quality of his overcall by bidding two hearts, after which Demuy (still not entirely in on the joke) raised to game. Gitelman, finally, having had enough, doubled four hearts, after which Demuy had the final say with a redouble. Declarer could not avoid losing three clubs and a heart for minus 400, which together with the minus 140 in the Open Room gave Kokish 11 IMPs and a handy 28-0 early lead. I'm sure Kranyak would point out how unlucky he was to find the jack of clubs wrong and Demuy would tell you that the redouble stood to gain much more than it lost here if they were in partscore in the other room; me, I'm not entirely convinced.

Final – Kokish v. Pepsi

Four days of play had all come down to this: a 48-board final, featuring Kokish (Eric Kokish/Fred Gitelman, Curtis Cheek/Huub Bertens) against Pepsi (Geoff Hampson/Eric Greco, Jacek Pszczola/Josef Blass, Jacek Kalita/Michal Nowosadzki) with \$US175,000 for the winners and \$US48,000 for the runners-up. The bronze-medal match saw Monaco play against Kranyak.



Mr. Yeh Chen,
Yeh Bros. Cup
Tournament
Sponsor

We suspect the following deal will appear in a Koach K training exercise sometime in the future.

Board 33. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Bertens	Nowosadzki	Cheek
—	Pass	1♦	Double
I♥	Pass	1♠	2♥
Pass	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West's mild psyche discouraged North/South from competing further and three clubs resulted in plus 150 for East/West.

West	North	East	South
Kokish	Hampson	Gitelman	Greco
—	Pass	1♦	Double
1♠ ¹	Pass	2♣	Double
3♣	3♥	3♠	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	
1. No major			

As the cards lie, five clubs is cold on the successful double diamond finesse, but Kokish was reluctant to be pushed into a 'save' with a slow trump trick. When Gitelman led the ace of clubs, should Kokish have dropped the king to ask for a spade shift (or the queen, perhaps ambiguous)? When he followed with the six, Gitelman could not be sure it wasn't his lowest. East played the ace of diamonds, and declarer made ten tricks and 11 IMPs.

This board notwithstanding, Kokish won the match 121.5-103, having led most of the way.

OZ BRIDGE

Keith Ogburn, Canberra
Paul Lavings, Sydney
Ron Klinger
Northbridge, NSW
www.ronklingerbridge.com



Not So Straight Lines by Keith Ogburn

This deal arose in the Australian National Championships (ANC) Open Interstate Teams. New South Wales (NSW) faced the Australian Capital Territory (ACT).

Round 1. Board 11. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Paul	Hashmat	David	Richard
Lavings	Ali	Hudson	Hills
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣ ¹
Pass	7♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. One key card for clubs

North's choice of four notrump would strike you as unusual until you were informed that the one-club opening showed six-plus clubs and 10-14 high-card points (not your standard system).

There are eleven tricks on top. The extra tricks can come from (i) a successful spade finesse; (ii) ruffing two diamonds in dummy, (iii) a ruffing finesse in diamonds, or (iv) discarding a spade on a high heart and playing for spades to be 3-2. Relying on the spade finesse or playing for two diamond ruffs fails. Ruffing a diamond with the king of clubs would set up a trump trick for West and if you play off the club king and diamond ace, you need three entries to hand, two to ruff diamonds and one to draw trumps. That also creates a trump trick for West.

Hills won the opening trump lead and drew two more rounds of trumps. Then came the ace of hearts, the king of hearts, discarding a spade, followed by the ace-king of spades and a spade ruff, diamond to the ace

and two winning spades to ditch two diamonds; thirteen tricks, plus 1440 and plus 10 IMPs. At the other table, Andrew Korenhof/Maurits Van Der Vlugt played in six spades for plus 980.

A Matter of Timing by Paul Lavings

Playing for New South Wales in the ANC Youth Interstate Teams event, Matt Smith faced this problem in Round 7 of the Qualifying Round Robin on a board where many declarers failed to make their four-spade contract:

Round 7. Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Ranson	—	Smith
Pass	2♥ ¹	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	4♣

1. Transfer

Smith played with great foresight. West led the eight of hearts; Smith won with the king, cashed the ace of clubs, finessed to the jack of hearts and pitched the ten of clubs on the ace of hearts. He then ruffed a club high, came back to hand with a low trump, ruffed a second club high, came back with another low trump and ruffed a third club. In all, he scored three trump tricks with ace-king-jack, three club ruffs in dummy with the queen-ten-nine, three hearts and a club for ten tricks and 10 IMPs.

If you let the heart lead run to the jack, the timing is gone for the three club ruffs in dummy. Smith's line succeeds when the heart finesse wins (by no means a certainty), hearts are no worse than 5-3 and the club ace stands up.

Trump Cards by Ron Klinger

In the 2017 Springold quarter-finals, the following deal arose in the DIAMOND versus PIEDRA match (see top of next column).

West led the king of hearts. Declarer ruffed in dummy (seven from East, five from declarer). Whether the seven was reverse count, suit preference or attitude, it was not helpful to West.

Board 30. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Igla	Diamond	Piedra	Platnick
INT	2♣ ¹	4♦ ²	Pass
4♥	Double ³	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	
	1. One major and one minor		
	2. Hearts		
	3. Takeout		

With dummy short in the suit led, many play third hand's card as suit-preference. With diamonds futile, East might have played the four of hearts as suit-preference for clubs. East could hope to collect a club ruff.

Brian Platnick played the king of diamonds at trick two. West won and returned the ten of diamonds, queen. Declarer continued with a diamond ruff to hand and led the seven of spades to the six, king and four, followed by another diamond ruff and another heart ruff. This was then the position:

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

Declarer cast himself adrift with the nine of spades. West won and, with only black cards left, could not prevent South from taking four club tricks to make his contract for plus 420.

At the other table, the auction was similar, except that North passed over one notrump, but doubled West's four hearts for takeout after East's four-diamond transfer. Against South's four spades, Espen Lindqvist (West) led the king of hearts, ruffed in dummy. Boye Brogeland (East) played the recommended heart four, suit-preference for clubs. Declarer played the king of diamonds: three – six –

ace and West switched to the five of clubs: eight – jack – queen. On South's two of spades, West rose with the ace and gave East a club ruff. East returned the ace of hearts, forcing dummy to ruff and thus creating the setting trick for West's queen of spades.

Both North/Souths did well not to sell out to four hearts, which is cold. With West declarer, the defenders cannot prevent West from coming to seven hearts, two diamonds and a spade, unless North produces an impossible low club lead to the queen and a spade switch from South.

Alas, since the ACBL persists in not having duplicated boards for the various stages of the Spingold, there was no opportunity for the other quarter-finalists to match the Brogeland/Lindqvist defence or Platnick's declarer play.



The monastery of Santa Maria a Ripa was established in the early sixteenth century when a group of devoted women living in the castle of Montecatini Alto decided to escape from the world and retire in prayer. Escape is something that is also common to bridge, although sometimes not a success, as for the nuns of Santa Maria a Ripa. This board from the Round of 16 of the Open Teams at the 2017 European Championships is an example.

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ K J 8 7 5 4

♥ —

♦ J 10 8 5 2

♣ 8 4

♠ 9

♥ K Q 10 9 8 4

♦ K Q 6 3

♣ 10 6

♠ A 2

♥ J 3

♦ A 9 4

♣ A K Q J 5 3

♠ Q 10 6 3

♥ A 7 6 5 2

♦ 7

♣ 9 7 2

West	North	East	South
Michielsen	Auken	Upmark	Welland
2♥	2♠	2NT ¹	4♠
Pass	Pass	4NT ²	Pass
5♣	5♣	6♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. Transfer to clubs			
2. Retransfer			

Auken led a spade. Michielsen won with dummy's ace and ruffed the other spade low. She cashed the ten of clubs, crossed to dummy with a diamond to the ace, then drew the trumps and claimed 12 tricks.

At the other table things were a little different ...

West	North	East	South
Molson	Campanile	Pszczola	Willenken
1♥	2♠	3♣	4♠
Pass	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Double	6NT	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At this table, South had the lead. Pszczola visualized the void in North and 'escaped' to six notrump. The escape was not good this time, down two on a spade lead for minus 500 and a loss of 18 IMPs.

So, if, after the championships, someone had needed to escape for some rest, an alternative way to experience Tuscany would have been to sleep at the Monastery of Santa Maria a Ripa, where the escape would have been low cost. Monasteries provide inexpensive lodging; sometimes they are even free, as several monastic orders take hospitality as one of their vows, along with poverty and charity.



En Garde

Mark Horton,
Sutton Benger,
Wilts., UK

With millions of bridge hands being dealt every day, it is inevitable that sooner or later the opportunity for a brilliant play will occur. Here is one such from a weekly duplicate in a remote village in France:

Dealer West. NS Vul.

♠ K J 9 6 4 3

♥ 8 7 6 5

♦ Q

♣ 9 5

♠ 10 8

♥ A J 9

♦ J 9 5 3

♣ K Q J 8

♠ 7 5 2

♥ K Q 3 2

♦ 4 2

♣ 7 6 4 3

♠ A Q

♥ 10 4

♦ A K 10 8 7 6

♣ A 10 2

Following the advice of Larry Cohen, Ron Tacchi and his partner, Jean-Paul Géré, had recently agreed to use one notrump in the sandwich position to show a

strong-notrump type rather than a distributional hand. Thus:

West	North	East	South
Dr. Oleronge	Géré	Libby Lule	Tacchi
1♦	Pass	1♥	INT
Pass	2♥ ¹	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Transfer

West led the king of clubs – what's your plan?

The club lead attacks the potential entry to the diamonds. If declarer wins, crosses to the queen of diamonds and comes to hand with a trump, planning to try and cash two diamonds, the contract will fail as East will be able to ruff the third round of the suit.

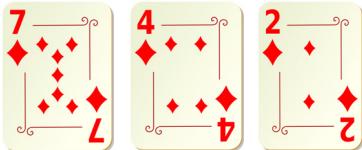
Realising that West was likely to hold at least four diamonds for his opening bid, Tacchi ducked the king of clubs, took the next club and played a heart, hoping to be able to ruff a heart. West won with the jack and promptly switched to the ten of spades. Realising that playing a second heart would be countered by a further trump play, Tacchi won with the ace, overtook the queen with the king and played off dummy's remaining trumps. On the last of these, he threw a heart, leaving him with the ace-king-ten of diamonds and the ten of clubs in hand opposite dummy's eight-seven-six of hearts and the queen of diamonds.

Obliged to guard both minor suits, West had to throw the ace of hearts in order to keep the jack-nine-five of diamonds and the jack of clubs, but now Tacchi overtook the queen of diamonds and exited with a club, forcing West to lead into his diamond tenace.

Bien joué!

GUARD THE SPOT CARDS

Erdal Sidar, Istanbul



This deal (see top of next column) has been presented earlier to some acclaim. Here's how Ismail Kandemir played seven hearts during the Round Robin of the Open European Teams competition in Montecatini. Kandemir's team, Shokolata, faced Mazurkiewicz.

Golebiowski led the three of clubs. Declarer played the jack from dummy and ruffed North's king. He cashed the queen of hearts, led a heart to the king and ruffed another club.

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kolata	Starkowski	Kandemir	Golebiowski
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Double	Redouble ¹	Pass
4NT ²	Pass	5♦ ³	Pass
5♠ ⁴	Pass	6♦ ⁵	Pass
7♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. First-round club control
2. RKCB
3. 0 or 3 key cards
4. Trump queen ask
5. Queen of hearts and the diamond king

Kandemir crossed to dummy with a diamond to the ace to draw the last trump with dummy's ace; North had to discard a spade, as did declarer. On the ace-queen of clubs, North followed suit and, this time, South discarded a spade. Declarer again discarded spades.

When Kandemir cashed the last heart in dummy, North had to release his second spade to keep the diamond and club guards. Declarer pitched a spade and South let go one of his 'useless' low diamonds. Declarer led the queen of diamonds and overtook it with the king in hand. When he cashed the jack of diamonds at trick 11, South showed out, discarding a spade. Declarer threw dummy's nine of clubs as North followed. At this point, Kandemir knew that North had the ten of diamonds and the ten of clubs remaining, so he knew the spade finesse would succeed. Of course, he had retained the four of spades, having pitched all the higher ones from hand, to finesse the ten successfully.

Had South hung on to all his diamonds, declarer would have been in doubt about the location of the ten of diamonds.

There was no swing on the board as seven hearts was bid and made in the other room also.



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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865. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

On a plain-suit lead, declarer would win and lead a spade to the queen. On this layout, East would win the trick with the king of spades and shift to the king of trumps. Declarer would allow that to hold and, after winning the trump continuation, he would cash the ace of spades and ruff a spade for his tenth trick. He would lose only two trump tricks and a spade.

At the table, West found the annoying lead of the ten of trumps. East followed with the jack of trumps and declarer found the necessary move of playing low from hand. After winning the trump continuation with the ace, declarer cashed the ace of diamonds, played a low club to dummy's queen and ruffed a diamond. Dummy was re-entered with a low club to the king for a second diamond ruff. Next a club to dummy's ace allowed declarer to ruff a third diamond.

When declarer cashed the ace of spades, he had made one trick in spades, the ace of trumps, three diamond ruffs in hand, the ace of diamonds and three clubs for a total of nine tricks. Finally, he advanced the jack of clubs. Either this would be declarer's tenth trick or, if ruffed, dummy's six of trumps would fill that rôle.

866. (See top of next column.)

West led the ten of diamonds and the declarer foresaw no traps in the play. He took the first trick with the ace of diamonds and led a trump to East's five and his ten.

Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ 9 6 4 3	♠ A 8 7 5
♥ A K 8 7 5	♥ 4
♦ A K	♦ Q 7 6 3
♣ K Q	♣ J 10 9 6
♠ —	♠ K Q J 10 2
♥ Q 10 9 3 2	♥ J 6
♦ I 0 9 8 2	♦ J 5 4
♣ 8 5 4 2	♣ A 7 3

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Declarer next led a diamond to the king and a second trump to East's seven and his jack. After ruffing the jack of diamonds with dummy's nine of trumps declarer advanced dummy's last trump. East stepped up with his ace of trumps and returned a club. Declarer had to win this in dummy and try to get back to hand by ruffing a heart. While the ace hearts stood up the king did not: East ruffed it and the contract was down one.

"A 5-1 heart break! Now that was really unlucky," offered declarer somewhat mournfully.

As ever, dummy was unmoved. "Luck had nothing to do with the outcome," he rebutted. "The only danger to the contract was bad breaks in both major suits and you should have acted accordingly. At trick two, you cash the king of diamonds and play a trump. When the 4-0 break comes to light, you ruff your diamond loser in dummy with the nine of trumps and cash the king-queen of clubs, followed by the ace of hearts. Only then do you play a second trump. East would have let you win the trick but, when he wins the next trump, he has no heart to play. No matter which suit he returns, you would win the trick in hand, draw the outstanding trump and claim the last two tricks with the ace of clubs and the king of hearts."

"And, if by chance East had had a second heart, his lead of that card would have put you safely in dummy,

whereupon a heart ruff would have allowed you to pull his last trump. In that way, you would only have needed East to follow to one heart and two clubs."

867. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A K Q J
♡ K 9 7 5 2
♦ 4
♣ A 7 2

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♡	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♡
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♡
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West found the effective lead of a trump, killing declarer's crossruff chances. Rather than relying on hearts or diamonds to be 3-3, declarer decided to play for trumps 3-2 and the red suits no worse than 4-2. After winning the first trick with the jack of trumps, declarer played a diamond to his ace and ruffed a diamond. Next, he cashed the king of hearts and played a heart to his ace. After ruffing a second diamond in dummy, declarer ruffed a heart and ruffed a diamond with dummy's last trump, setting up two diamond winners in hand. After ruffing another heart, thereby establishing dummy's nine of hearts, declarer drew a second round of trumps with the ten, throwing a low club from dummy. Then he led a good diamond and threw dummy's remaining club on it as West ruffed. He took the last two tricks with the ace of clubs and the nine of hearts.

868. Dealer West. EW Vul.

♠ 7 4 3
♡ A 3
♦ A 8 6 4
♣ K 9 7 3

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

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

This deal came up in a teams match and, after identical auctions, both West players led the king of hearts.

At the first table, declarer took the trick with the ace of hearts and played a trump. After East discarded an encouraging club, declarer rose with the ace of trumps and continued with the queen of that suit. West took this with the king of trumps and shifted to the queen of clubs. Declarer called for dummy's king of clubs but East won with the ace of clubs, then cashed the jack of clubs. A third round of clubs gave declarer no winning option: West would make his ten of trumps for the setting trick.

At the other table, the declarer took the first trick with the ace of hearts and continued with the three of hearts at trick two, discarding a club from hand. West won and shifted to clubs but this time declarer was able to ruff the second round of the suit. Declarer cashed the ace of trumps at trick five and continued with the queen of trumps. West took his king of trumps and exited with a diamond. Declarer won the trick in hand with his queen of diamonds and then played the jack of trumps to draw West's remaining last trump. Declarer claimed ten tricks: six spades, one heart and three diamonds.

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EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Šamorín, Slovakia, July 8-15, 2017

Micke Melander, Stockholm

Dániel Gulyás, Hungary

Kees Tammens, Amsterdam

Brian Senior, Nottingham

Erdem Öztürk, Turkey

Gold-Medal Winners

Under-26 Open Teams: Sweden

Martin Löfgren (NPC), Tom Gårds (Coach), Ida Grönkvist, Mikael Grönkvist, Adam Stokka, Ola Rimstedt, Simon Hult, Mikael Rimstedt

Under-26 Women's Teams: Netherlands

Esther Visser, Sandra Kolen, Merel Bruijnsteen, Anneke Simons (NPC), Janneke Wackwitz, Aarnout Helmich (Coach), Mette Lejeune

Under-21 Open Teams: Sweden

Lars Nilsson (Coach), Alexander Sandin, Teo Bodin, Sanna Clementsson, Erik Hansson, Castor Mann, Martin Loefgren (NPC)

Under-16 Open Teams: Poland

Marcin Kuflowski (Coach), Kacper Kuflowski, Adam Pigulski, Katarzyna Dufrat, Maciej Racewicz, Franciszek Kurlit, Przemyslaw Pasinski, Bartosz Zbik, Roland Lippik (NPC)

A Real Masterpiece (MM)

In the U-26 Open Teams, this might be a candidate for Junior Play of the Year. Victor Todd-Muir of Denmark was the author of the play.

Round 3 – Serbia v. Denmark

Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

♠ A 7

♥ K 4 3

♦ 10 8 3

♣ A Q J 9 5

♠ 8 6 3 2

♥ Q 9 6 5

♦ Q

♣ 8 7 4 3

♠ K J 10 4

♥ A 10 8 7 2

♦ A 2

♣ K 6

♠ Q 9 5

♥ J

♦ K J 9 7 6 5 4

♣ 10 2

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

B-Thomsen	Trnavac	Plejdrup	Vejla
—	—	—	I ♥
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Double	5 ♥
Pass	6 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

Pepic	Bune	Zoranovic	Todd-Moir
—	—	—	I ♥
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	3 ♥	4 ♦	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦	Double	6 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Before checking the brilliancy, let's examine the Open Room where Vejla got the queen of diamonds lead. The curtain fell when he won the opening lead with the ace to play a heart to the king and a trump towards his hand. There was then no way to escape having two trump losers for one down.

Todd-Moir in the Closed Room was on high alert when East not only bid four diamonds, but also doubled five diamonds. Again, the queen of diamonds was led, which went to the three, king and declarer's ace. A heart to the king followed, the jack falling from East.

Todd-Moir then played as if he'd been looking at the deal in double-dummy. He cashed the ace of spades, played a spade to the king and ruffed a spade, this time the queen falling from East. A club to the king and the ten of spades followed, whereupon dummy and East pitched diamonds. With seven tricks in the bag for declarer, this was what remained:

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

Todd-Moir played a club to the ace, cashed the queen of clubs with a diamond discard from his hand and ruffed a club. Declarer then finished it off with a low heart, throwing West on lead to lead a trump into declarer's tenace! Very well played and a real masterpiece executed by Victor Todd-Moir!

That was 14 IMPs to Denmark, who eventually won the match by the small margin of 45-41.

The Underlead (DG)

One of the first things we learn when we are taught what to lead is not to underlead aces against suit contracts. This is a nice rule of thumb but, of course, the rules are there to be broken, especially when it comes to a high-level competition like this championship.

So it was that the mighty Dutch, who had just beaten Italy in front of the Vugraph audience, happened to play one of the other pre-tournament favourites, Sweden, who were a bit behind them in the rankings after three matches.

Board 27. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

At both tables, West opened the bidding with one spade, and ended up declaring in four spades after a sequence which had let both Norths know that declarer did not have a diamond control.

Simon Hult had no doubt in his mind: this was the time to break the rule, so he placed the diamond two on the table! Declarer, not having x-ray vision, played the jack. South won, returned a heart to North's ace, and Simon shot back a second low diamond! Declarer gave this an even funnier look (after all, if North held the ten, he could have played it now, in case partner had the nine), but decided to go with the odds, and played low yet again, finessing against the ten – and down he went!

Interestingly, our other North, Veri Kiljan of the Netherlands, found the same lead! Before doing so, he asked a few questions about the bidding (or at least this is what we assumed, his final pass showing up very slowly in the Vugraph), so this may have given away the whole show – the Swedish declarer put up the king from dummy, and soon scored up an overtrick to gain 11 IMPs for his efforts. In the end, Sweden blitzed the Netherlands to climb all the way to fourth, while the Dutch had to be content with tenth.

Dutch Diary (KT)

Youp Caris (West) in the U-16 Teams impressed me with elegant declarer play on this deal from the first Round.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

North led the three of clubs and declarer, needing entries to dummy, played the queen. South covered with the king and declarer won with his ace. The jack of spades was successfully run and a second spade went to the ace. A diamond to the jack and ace was next, followed by the diamond return to the king. Four rounds of spades followed, putting pressure on North who held on to the ace-queen of hearts and the ten-four of clubs. Declarer finished off with the jack and another club to North's ten, and North had to give declarer the game going trick with the king of hearts.

Israel v. Norway Round 10 (BS)

Board 27. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sæther	Toledano	Gundersen	Urman
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	1♠	2♥	2♠
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
West	North	East	South
Zamir	Bakke	Ezion	Flått
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	1♠	2♥	2♠
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Twenty Wests declared the heart game in the U-26 Open, the contract making 13 times and being defeated only seven times. Both our North/South pairs found the killing defence. Both Toledano and Bakke led ace and another club to their partner's king. Now it was necessary that South cash the ace of spades before playing a third club and both Urman and Flått rose to the occasion – spade ace, third club – and that promoted a trump trick for North for down one and an honourable pushed board.

Turkish Throw-in (EÖ)

Fatih Aydin of Turkey found an excellent piece of declarer play to bring home his notrump game on this deal from Turkey's Round 17 match against Estonia in the U-26 Open championship.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ Q

♥ Q 10 4 3

♦ J 8 6 3

♣ J 9 6 2

♠ 8 7

♥ K 9 6 2

♦ Q 10 7 4

♣ A K 4

♠ A K J 6

♥ A 8

♦ 9 5 2

♣ 8 7 5 3

♠ 10 9 5 4 3 2

♥ J 7 5

♦ A K

♣ Q 10

West	North	East	South
Aydin		Akbiyik	
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The lead was the three of hearts. Aydin won with dummy's ace and led the nine of diamonds. South won and continued with the jack of hearts, ducked, and his last heart to Aydin's king. Aydin crossed to the ace of spades, collecting the good news along the way when the queen appeared on his left, and played a second diamond up. South again had to win and this time played the queen of clubs. Aydin won with the ace and cashed the two spade winners, discarding a club from hand, while North discarded two clubs. A club to the king drew North's last club and now a heart exit threw him in to lead into the queen-ten of diamonds at trick 12 to give the ninth trick and the contract. Nicely played!

26th EUROPEAN YOUTH
BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



8 - 15 July 2017
SAMORÍN, SLOVAKIA

PRECISE TIMING

Uttam Gupta,
Bangalore, India



Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ A 10

♥ Q 10 8 6 3

♦ 4

♣ K Q 8 7 4

♠ K 9 7 4

♥ A 9 4 2

♦ K 5 3 2

♣ 2

♠ 8 3 2

♥ K 7

♦ Q 9 8 7

♣ A 10 9 5

♠ Q J 6 5

♥ J 5

♦ A J 10 6

♣ J 6 3

West	North	East	South
Gupta			
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	Double	INT
2♠	3♣	3♦	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

North led his diamond and South put his ten on dummy's eight. I won with my king and led a low spade. North won with his ten (South could not afford to overtake to lead more trumps since that would have established a finessing position against his spade queen) and cashed the ace. He exited with a low club; I won with dummy's ace and ruffed a club, led a heart to the king, ruffed another club, cashed the king of spades and the ace of hearts and ruffed my last spade in dummy.

At this point, we were down to three cards: South had the ace-jack-six of diamonds and dummy, the queen-nine of diamonds and a club. When I led the last club, South had to ruff it and surrender a trick to the diamond queen. That was plus 470 for us.

After the diamond lead, the defence's only chance to defeat three diamonds went adrift when South did not win with his ace and return a heart, not an obvious play to make.



When Things Don't Quite
Go as Planned ...
Okan Zabunoglu,
Ankara

The following deal came up in the Turkish National Knockout Teams Championship in May 2017 in Kusadasi. Suppose you are South, holding:

Board 27. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Berk	Okan	Ataman	Ahmet
Gökçe	Zabunoglu	Aydogdu	Kahraman
—	2NT	Double ¹	4♦ ²
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 5+/5+ in hearts and clubs or spades and diamonds
2. Clubs

Over North's four-heart bid (control-showing and positive for clubs), South had a problem. Although, while preparing the system, the four-diamond bid was intended to make the two-notrump opener the declarer of a possible six-club contract, now it didn't look so easy in practice (as presumed). If South bid four spades over four hearts, North would very likely ask for key cards with four notrump. South's response to that would be five clubs (one key card) or six clubs (one key-card plus a void). So, South would be the declarer.

As another option, South could bid four notrump himself to ask for key cards. In this case, if North had three key cards, he would bid five diamonds, and again South would have to declare in six clubs. In addition, five diamonds might be doubled for the lead, which seemed pretty undesirable. On the other hand, if North had four key cards, he would bid five clubs. This seemed to be the only possible way to make North the declarer at six clubs. But South could not risk that and, without prolonging the bidding, he announced the final contract of six clubs, bidding what he thought he could make.

West led the nine of diamonds and the dummy came down:

♠ A Q 9 4
 ♥ A J 9 7
 ♦ A Q 4
 ♣ K 10

Things had not gone as planned at all. The system had failed because the continuations (after the first bid) had not been thought through. (As you can see, six clubs by North is much better.) The effort of South not to telegraph the lead had turned out to be in vain. West made the lead offering the best chance to kill the contract.

Declarer contemplated his possible lines of play for a few minutes, then won the lead with ace of diamonds and cashed all the trumps. With four cards to play, the following position had been reached:

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

When declarer went to the ace of hearts, East had to discard a jack and chose diamonds. Declarer called for the queen of diamonds; East put his cards away and commented, "Gee, what a play!" The whole deal:

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

Despite the fact that I had held half the deck, the other three players at the table had made their presence felt, enjoying the deal regardless of the score. As the dummy, I was left to put the board into writing.



2017 GNT Semifinal

COREN (District 9) v. SHORE (District 6)
John Carruthers, Kingsville, ON

The Morehead Grand National Teams is unique among ACBL events, perhaps world events. Each of the 25 ACBL Districts produces a team champion to play in the National Final, immediately preceding the Summer NABC. All team members must be residents of the District in which they compete. The District representatives play a one-day Swiss to produce the

top 16 teams for knockout play, all teams then being seeded according to their position in the Swiss qualifying. The perennial favourites are from Florida and include Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell, with many different supporting cast members over the years. Prior to this year, Meckstroth had won 13 GNTs and Rodwell 12, one fewer, since Meckstroth had moved to Florida a year before Rodwell. They had also finished as runners-up three times.

This year, Meckwell's team was COREN (Kevin Bathurst/Richie Coren, Keven Dwyer/Russ Ekeblad, Jeff Meckstroth/Eric Rodwell), again representing Florida. They faced SHORE (Michael Gill/Noble Shore, Ai-Tai Lo/Bill Pettis, Beth Palmer/Sylvia Shi), from Maryland and Virginia, in one semifinal. The teams produced one of the more exciting matches in recent memory. Naturally, much of the adventure centred around slam decisions.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Shi	Ekeblad	Palmer	Dwyer
—	—	—	3♣
Double	5♣	6♥	7♣
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Gill	Meckstroth	Shore
—	—	—	4♣
Double	5♣	6♥	Pass
Pass	7♣	7♥	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Purists might be appalled at Dwyer's taking another bid in front of Ekeblad, but consider that he achieved par for his side on the deal when Shi led the ace of hearts and shifted to the king of diamonds. That resulted in a ruff and a trick in every suit for the defence: minus 1100 North/South instead of the 1430 or 1460 coming the East/West way in six hearts.

At the other table, Shore bid one more initially, then left all future decisions up to Gill. Meckstroth played a little poker with them, but Shore was not bamboozled – he led the ace of clubs to garner a wonderful plus 100. That was 15 IMPs to SHORE.

One can see that North might well have bid diamonds at some point to direct the lead. That could have been disastrous for Shore/Gill as a diamond lead would have resulted in minus 2210.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Shi	Ekeblad	Palmer	Dwyer
—	1♣ ¹	Pass	1♥ ²
Pass	2♥ ³	Pass	2♠ ⁴
Pass	3♠ ⁵	Pass	4♣ ⁶
Pass	5♦ ⁷	Pass	5♠ ⁸
Pass	7♥ ⁹	Pass	Pass

1. “The Ultimate Club”: strong, artificial, forcing
2. 8+, no shortage or 12-14 with shortage
3. 5+ spades with a shortage somewhere; transfers captaincy to South
4. Relay
5. 6 spades, 4 hearts and diamond shortage
6. Sets hearts as trumps; asks North’s opinion
7. Loves his hand; 2 key cards and the queen of hearts
8. Side king ask; guarantees all key cards and trump queen
9. This must be enough for 7

Ekeblad was right and wrong: he was right that seven hearts was a great contract, but mistaken in his belief that it would make. On a spade lead, when trumps split horrendously and the spades failed to break well enough, Dwyer was forced to try the club finesse. When that too failed, he was one off, minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Gill	Meckstroth	Shore
—	1♣ ¹	Pass	INT ²
Pass	2♣ ³	Pass	2♦ ⁴
Pass	2♥ ³	Pass	2♠ ⁵
Pass	2NT ³	Pass	3♣ ⁶
Pass	3♦ ³	Pass	3♥ ⁷
Pass	3♠ ³	Pass	4♦ ⁸
Pass	4♥ ³	Pass	5♦ ⁹
Double	7♥	Pass	Pass

1. Strong (16+), artificial, forcing
2. GF, 4+ hearts
3. Relays
4. 5+ hearts and 4+ clubs
5. 5/5 at least
6. 0 or 1 spades
7. 1=5=2=5 exactly
8. 12+ HCP and 5 controls (A=2, K=1)
9. A or K in hearts, A or K in diamonds, A or K in clubs, no heart queen

Gill/Shore had a perfect relay auction to the unfortunately-doomed grand slam, declared by North. The queen of diamonds lead produced a noble push at minus 100.

At the end of the first quarter, the score was, a bit surprisingly, SHORE 42 – COREN 3; at the half, the score was, even more remarkably, SHORE 70 – COREN 16.

Board 33. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Shi	Coren	Palmer	Bathurst
Meckstroth	Lo	Rodwell	Pettis
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Shi led the ace of hearts and shifted to the five of clubs. Bathurst won with dummy's ace and led the seven of diamonds to West's jack. Shi shifted back to hearts, leading the nine to dummy's king. She could tell from Palmer's seven that continuing clubs would not be fruitful. Bathurst continued with diamonds, leading the eight to East's queen. Palmer shifted to the three of spades to the two, ten and king. Bathurst led a spade to his ace and cashed the king of clubs. His first, perhaps critical, decision was what to discard from dummy on the king of clubs. He chose a heart, correctly reading that layout. Next, he led the nine of diamonds; the moment of truth had arrived. Bathurst got it right, finessing the ten for nine tricks and plus 400.

Had Shi won the first diamond with the deceptive, but no-cost, king (the king would have been doomed in any case if declarer had held the queen-nine-four,

or even the queen-four-three), Bathurst would almost certainly have gone wrong.

At the other table, Meckstroth found a better lead, the seven of spades. Declarer, Pettis, won with dummy's king, cashed the ace of clubs and led the king of hearts. Meckstroth ducked with the nine, so Pettis came to hand with the spade ace, cashed the king of clubs, discarding the spade nine, and led a heart toward the dummy. Meckstroth was forced to take his ace and he exited with the ten of spades, setting up Rodwell's jack. At this point, with the defence having taken one trick, but having the jack of spades and the queen of clubs ready to go, there was no way home for declarer. He cashed the top heart, hoping the jack would fall. When it did not, the ace of diamonds was his eighth and last trick; minus 50 resulted in 10 much-needed IMPs for COREN.

At the end of the third quarter, COREN had closed the gap to a more-manageable 16 IMPs, 80-64.

Board 48. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Shore	Rodwell	Gill	Meckstroth
—	—	1♦	4♡
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Meckstroth ruffed the spade-ace lead, crossed to the club ace, took a diamond finesse, cashed the ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond. He lost just a club trick and the king of hearts; made five for plus 990.

West	North	East	South
Bathurst	Palmer	Coren	Shi
—	—	1♦	4♡
Pass	Pass	Double	Redouble
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Shi made an extraordinary redouble with five potential losers if the defence was able to lock her in her hand. Nevertheless, on the nine-of-clubs lead, she made the same 11 tricks as had Meckstroth, but Shi's score was plus 1480 for a 10-IMP pickup.

Continued on page 23 ...



INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 31 December 2016

Approval

These financial statements were approved by the President and Treasurer on 31 July 2017 and are signed by:

Barry Rigel
PRESIDENT

Richard Solomon
TREASURER

Management of International Bridge Press Association, 611 Pleasant, Miles City, Montana 59301 USA

I have audited the accompanying balance sheet of the International Bridge Press Association ("the Association") as of December 31, 2016 and the related statements of income, retained earnings, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

Scope

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United Kingdom. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

Qualification

In common with similar organisations, it is not feasible for the association to institute accounting controls over cash collection from donations, subscriptions and fund raising prior to initial entry of the collections in the accounting records. Accordingly, it was impracticable for me to extend my examination beyond the receipts actually recorded.

Subscriptions in advance are shown as income in the profit and loss account which is necessary for US reporting, but is not consistent with UK GAAP. The details are contained in note 1.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In my opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the matter referred to in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at December 31, 2016, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Fleet".

**Richard Fleet,
Westcombe, Moorcourt Close,
Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 8SU
United Kingdom
4 July 2017**



**INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION
INCOME STATEMENT
For the year ended 31 December 2016**

Actual	Income		2016	2016	2017
			Actual	Budget	Budget
8697	Subscriptions Email	\$42 see note 1	8034	10500	8000
645	Subscriptions Printing	\$45 see note 1	780	900	800
2500	WBF Grant		2500	2500	2500
4875	Award Sponsors		4712	5000	4700
29	Interest Received		6	100	0
16746	Total Income		16032	19000	16000
	Expenditure				
9000	Bulletin Editor's Fee		9000	9000	9000
1000	Bulletin Editor's Allowance		1000	1000	1000
1200	Bulletin Editor's Travel		1200	1200	1200
960	Bulletin Hands Columnist		960	1000	1000
949	Bulletin Printing and Postage		780	900	800
500	President's Allowance		500	500	0
1200	President's Travel		1000	1000	1000
500	Treasurer's Allowance		500	500	500
0	Treasurer's Travel		0	1000	0
400	Member Advertising		0	0	0
1000	Membership Secretary Allowance		500	500	500
1776	IBPA Award Prizes		1650	2400	1700
174	IBPA Award Costs		19	200	200
329	Credit Card Charges		281	500	400
374	Bank Charges		314	500	400
0	Miscellaneous Costs		138	400	400
3459	Loss on Exchange		1136	0	0
22821	Total Expenses		18978	20600	18100
-6075	Excess Income (Expenditure) for the yr.		-2946	-1600	-2100
	Note: Subscriptions				
5001	Subscriptions due		5094		
495	Subscriptions due (printing)		720		
3696	Subs. Paid in advance	see note 1	2940		
150	Subs paid in advance (printing)	see note 1	60		
9342	Total		8814		
8697	Subscriptions Email		8034		
645	Subscriptions Printing		780		
9342	Total		8814		



**INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31 December 2016**

	2015	2016
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	67,056	63,513
Trade Debtors	0	262
Total Assets	67,056	63,775
Current Liabilities		
Award money in advance	1,000	2000
Trade and other payables	1815	480
Total Current Liabilities	2,815	2480
Net Assets	64,241	61,295
Reserves		
Retained profit brought forward	70,316	64,241
Profit and Loss Account	-6,075	-2,946
Total Reserves	64,241	61,295

**INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31st December 2016**

	\$	\$
Cash Funds as at 1st January 2016	72,566	67,056
Net Inflow of Cash during the year	-2,051	-2407
Exchange Gain / (-Loss) in Euro account	-3,459	-1,136
Cash Funds as at 31st December 2016	67,056	63,513

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31st December 2016

- | | | | |
|---|--|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | Subscriptions paid in advance | | |
| | Subscriptions paid in advance according to the income statement confirm a liability for the year ended 31 December 2016 to the extent of \$3,000 | | |
| 2 | Assets | | |
| | Computers, printers and fax machines are all written off to Nil in the year of purchase. | | |
| 3 | Cash Funds 31st December 2016 | US\$ | US\$ |
| | HSBC Euro Account (2015=27,767Euro & 2016=29,034Euro) | 30,150 | 30,533 |
| | HSBC US\$ Account | 27,039 | 23,117 |
| | Paypal | 9,867 | 1,737 |
| | Per Jannersten, in Trust | 0 | 8,116 |
| | US Deposit | 0 | 10 |
| | Per Balance Sheet | 67,056 | 63,513 |

With one board to play and the score 96-86 for SHORE ...

Board 60. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Shore	Rodwell	Gill	Meckstroth
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	7NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

With 14 top tricks, this board was all about the North/South auction, Meckwell getting to the top spot without breaking a sweat; plus 1520.

West	North	East	South
Bathurst	Palmer	Coren	Shi
—	—	Pass	1♦
INT	Double	2♣	Pass
Pass	6NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Bathurst's attempt to sow confusion succeeded spectacularly, even though Palmer's leap to six notrump was premature and a bit naïve. It was plus 1020, but 11 IMPs away. That made the final COREN 97 – SHORE 96.

It appeared that COREN was the team of destiny. However, they were beaten in the final by the District 21 team of David Grainger/Debbie Rosenberg, Chip Martel/Kit Woolsey and JoAnna and Lew Stansby, COREN withdrawing after three quarters facing a huge deficit.

Correspondence

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

To the editor:

Henry was my first boss at the ACBL when I went to work there in 1989. He was the best boss I ever had. We got along well because of our love of bridge and

nearly identical backgrounds in the newspaper business. Henry was always supportive and patient with my missteps as I learned about magazine editing and production. He was a good teacher and he was a role model for me as a manager. I learned a lot from him. Our skills matched well in producing countless issues of Daily Bulletins at the NABCs before and after his retirement in 1997.

Regards,
Brent Manley, Arlington, TN

Indeed, Henry was also uniformly supportive and complimentary to me in my role as IBPS Bulletin editor. – Ed.

Hi John,

When the New South Wales Bridge Association faced the problem of a cheating pair, a general meeting was called to change the constitution. Membership of the NSWBA was established as “by invitation only” in the future. All existing members were invited bar two. Maybe the WBF and NCBOs could do the same?

Cheers,
Ron Klinger, Northbridge, NSW

John,

Congrats on having the courage to say it the way it is in the June editorial. The rest of them have got their heads in the clouds.

Kind regards,
Paul Marston, Sydney

NEWS & VIEWS



Funbridge

Funbridge, which bills itself as the European leader in online bridge, will be broadcasting matches live via its app for the 43rd World Bridge Team Championships held in Lyon this month. Funbridge has 450,000 members in 150 countries and 55,000 daily online players. It is available in 12 languages for Mac, PC, tablets and Smartphones. Contact jerome.rombaut@goto-games.com for details.

School for Bridge

The Serbian Under-26 Open team at the European Youth Teams Championships was unique in that all six players were from the same high school, with four from the same class. Their coach in Šamorín, Ivica Bosnjak, is the professor from that school who taught all six how to play the game.

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2017			
Aug 4-12	International Baltic Congress	Sopot, Poland	www.eurobridge.org
Aug 4-13	EBU Summer Meeting	Eastbourne, UK	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 7-13	Norsk Bridge Festival	Drammen, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
Aug 9-13	Riga Invites to Jurmala	Jurmala, Latvia	www.rigainvites.lv
Aug 12-26	World Team Championships	Lyon, France	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 14, 16	Pro-Youth Simultaneous Pairs	Clubs Worldwide	www.worldbridge.org
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 19-24	World Computer Championship	Lyon, France	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 24-27	Budapest Open	Budapest, Hungary	www.kibicbridge.com
Aug 26-Sep 3	Festival La Grande Motte	La Grande Motte, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Sep 1-3	Isle of Man Congress	Douglas, Isle of Man	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 2-13	56 th International Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.pulabridgefestival.com
Sep 8-10	Menpora & Governor KEPRI Cup	Batam, Indonesia	bert_toar@hotmail.com
Sep 8-17	Guernsey Congress	St. Peter Port, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 8-17	Brazilian Open	Bahia, Brazil	www.bridgesaopaulo.com.br
Sep 12-17	15 th HCL International	New Delhi, India	www.hcl-bridge.com
Sep 15-17	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	www.vilniuscup.lt
Sep 19-24	5 th Euro University Championships	Fuengirola, Spain	www.fuengirola2017.eusa.com
Sep 29-Oct 1	11 th Minsk Cup	Minsk, Belarus	www.sportbridge.by
Sep 30-Oct 4	21 st International Bridge Festival	Azores Is., Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
Sep 30-Oct 7	New Zealand National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzbridge.co.nz
Oct 6-8	Northern Lights Bridge Festival	Siglufjördur, Iceland	www.bridge.is
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 th International Festival	Madeira, Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
Nov 8-11	Lido International Festival	Venice, Italy	www.festivaldelbridgelidodivedevedia.com
Nov 9-11	4 th Marbella International	Marbella, Costa del Sol, Spain	www.marbellabridge.com
Nov 9-11	16 th European Champions Cup	Riga, Latvia	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 9-19	23 rd Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	www.redseabridge.com
Nov 20-23	Euro Small Federations Championship	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 23-Dec 3	ACBL Fall NABC	San Diego, CA	www.acbl.org
Nov 30-Dec 3	18 th Int'l Schools & Jr. Championships	Hluk, Czech Republic	www.bkuh.eu/mistrovsty
Dec 1-3	Babenberger International	Klosterneuberg, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Dec 2-10	2 nd International Festival	Barcelona, Spain	www.sunwaybridgefestival.com
Dec 6-12	2 nd SEABF Championships	Jakarta, Indonesia	bert_toar@hotmail.com
2018			
Jan 10-21	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jan 27-Feb 2	59 th Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.bermudaregional.com
Feb 14-18	Commonwealth Nations Championships	Broadbeach, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Feb 16-24	57 th Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Feb 17-23	2 nd European Winter Games	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.eurobridge.org
Feb 23-25	International Festival	Cannes, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Mar 8-18	Spring NABC	Philadelphia, PA	www.acbl.org
Mar 27-Apr 1	123 rd Easter Regional	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Apr 26-30	Australian Autumn Nationals	Adelaide, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Apr 27-May 6	Lambourne Jersey Festival	Jersey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
May 4-13	International Festival	JuanOles-Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Jun 6-16	54 th European Team Championships	Ostend, Belgium	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 26-Aug 5	Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	www.acbl.org
Jul 27-Aug 5	24 th Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	mme@svenskbridge.se
Jul 29-Aug 3	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	mme@svenskbridge.se
Aug 9-18	17 th World Youth Team Championships	Wu Jiang, China	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 22-Oct 6	11th World Bridge Series	Orlando, FL	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 29-Oct 6	New Zealand National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzbridge.co.nz
Oct 25-28	9 th World University Championships	Xuxhou, China	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 22-Dec 2	Fall NABC	Honolulu, HI	www.acbl.org