



BULLETIN

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Pot Pourri

Geir Helgemo's and Tor Helness' move to Monaco may have been accepted as legitimate by the World Bridge Federation, but apparently not by the Norwegian Tax Administration or the Oslo District Court. On May 27, 2017, *Dagens Næringsliv* first reported that Helgemo and Helness had been indicted on charges of aggravated tax fraud and hiding revenue of 18 million Norwegian kroner (about \$2.3 million) over a period of eight years from their bridge careers. Both denied culpability based on their residency in Monaco and their thus being subject to Monaco's tax laws rather than those of their birth-country, Norway. Monaco has no personal income tax.

On September 27, 2017, *Dagens Næringsliv* further reported that the Oslo District Court agreed with the tax authorities, sentencing Helness to 16 months in prison and a fine of 340,000 kroner and Helgemo to 14 months and 280,000 kroner. Both players expressed disappointment at the outcome and indicated their intention to appeal the convictions.

The WBF has a new website dedicated to young players, containing photos and videos to share with friends and relatives. There is also a library with bridge articles. See <http://youth.worldbridge.org/> and the notice on page 15.

If IBPA members send the webmasters any news or articles about youth bridge or bridge players, the webmasters will add them to the site as authors with a link to their books. Anyone interested should send an email to Fernando Lema: ferlema50@hotmail.com or to Gilad Ofir: gilado.wbf@gmail.com

Here's a pet peeve: the numbering of bridge boards in knockout team events. Currently, bridge boards throughout the world are numbered from 1 to 32. However, knockout matches can comprise anywhere from 24 to 128 (or even more) boards in length. Surely it cannot be too onerous a task for the manufacturers (at the behest of bridge administrators) to produce boards numbered 1 through 128. This would allow us scribblers to know that the number of a board played in a match was accurate and we'd not have to figure out whether board 20 was actually board 20 or was board 52, board 84 or board 116. This small change would have no effect on round-robin matches or on pairs events, where board numbers are inconsequential. Similarly, in a 24-board knockout match, if the boards were numbered 25-48, no matter.

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15TH HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

SEPTEMBER 12-17, 2017

JW Marriott Hotel, New Delhi Aerocity, India

Subir Roy, Mumbai

This year, the tournament's sponsors, Shiv and Kiran Nadar of HCL, increased the prize money of their HCL tournament to attract more top-quality overseas teams. They succeeded, with teams from Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, Italy, Israel, Poland, Russia, Indonesia and Oceania travelling to New Delhi to compete against top Indian squads such as Formidables, Bangur Cement, Poddar Housing, Dhampur Sugar Mills, Shree Cement and Hemant Jalan. The 58 teams entered played a two-day Swiss Qualifying, with the top 16 making it through to full-day knockouts. The non-qualifying teams had various Pair events with which to console themselves.

Swiss League Match I Lavazza vs. Shree Radhey

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sementa	V. M. Lal	Bocchi	Bhiwandkar
1♠	Double	Pass	2♦
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	
West	North	East	South
Karmakar	D. Bilde	Lewis	Duboin
1♠	Double	1NT	3♦
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Bhiwandkar lost just a spade and the minor-suit aces to make an overtrick, plus 130.

Shree Radhey's East/West, Finton Lewis and Sandip Karmakar, bid their hands to the hilt. That's half the story. Karmakar played the deal smartly, taking full account of the bidding. He won the three-of-diamonds lead with the ace in the dummy and led the eight of

spades to the ten in hand. North won with his ace and led another diamond. Karmakar was able to ruff that, draw the trumps and lead the jack of clubs from hand. North covered with his king. Despite the fact that any North worth his salt would have played a club honour, irrespective of his club holding, on this play, declarer was forced to duck, playing North for both the king and queen of clubs. Declarer needed a second club trick for his contract. Today, fortune favoured the brave.

The defence was all about timing: an initial club-honour lead would have defeated four spades. Then, North would have been able to both take a club trick and knock out the dummy's aces while South retained a trump to ruff the third round of clubs. On a diamond lead and club shift upon winning with the ace of spades, declarer can win with the ace of clubs, ruff a diamond, draw trumps and lead a club. North can win and exit with his third diamond, but the lucky heart position allows declarer to exit with the nine of hearts, forcing North to resurrect the dummy or lead into the ace-queen of hearts.

After 14x4 boards of their Round-of-16 match, Formidables were tied with Iceland at 103 IMPs each. A four-board tie-break was mandated. What a nail-biter it was, with plenty of action ...

Round of 16, Tie-break Formidables vs. Iceland

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sigurjonsson	Anklesaria	Ingimarsson	Chokshi
—	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Three notrump was touch-and-go, even when South did not find the heart lead. With no help from the bidding, Choksi led the five of spades. Ingimarsson made a good play, winning with the queen in dummy to lead a club, hoping to entice North into winning the ace immediately to continue spades. No, South beat the king with the ace and led another low spade. Declarer won with the ten and played a club to the queen and another club, North discarding the encouraging two of hearts. South took his two spade winners (heart,

heart, diamond discards) and shifted to the three of hearts to the king and ace. On the last club, South erred in discarding the six of diamonds. That enabled declarer to guess the doubleton-queen of diamonds offside for a super plus 400 to Iceland.

West	North	East	South
Satya	Einarsson	Tewari	Jorgensen
—	2♦ ¹	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Multi

Einarsson's Multi allowed Jorgensen to find the heart lead. After an immediate misguess in diamonds, declarer lost four heart tricks and one in each of the other suits for down three, minus 150 and 11 well-deserved IMPs to Iceland.

On the next board, the Icelander loss was equally well-deserved.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sigurjonsson	Anklesaria	Ingimarsson	Chokshi
—	—	1♣ ¹	1♠
2♣ ²	4♥	5♦	Pass
6♣	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. 2+ clubs

2. Intended as natural (by West), but thought to be diamonds (by East)

It is a very pleasurable experience when Partner doubles a slam and you have the ace and king of trumps. On a heart lead, the Icies lost one heart, one diamond and two clubs for minus 500.

West	North	East	South
Satya	Einarsson	Tewari	Jorgensen
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♣	2♥	2NT	Pass
3♣	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the queen of diamonds. West won with his ace and backed another diamond. That allowed declarer to discard his spade loser on the clubs, but when he next led a diamond, Satya ruffed, for two good reasons: (i.) in case declarer had the ten of

diamonds, and (ii.) in order to lead a trump through declarer's hand, and indeed led his second trump. East won with his ace and led another, for one shy, minus 100 and 12 IMPs to Formidables, ahead by one and back in business.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sigurjonsson	Anklesaria	Ingimarsson	Chokshi
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♠	2♣	2♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the two of clubs. East took two clubs and tried the ace of spades. Declarer ruffed, took a heart finesse and made 11 tricks for plus 450.

West	North	East	South
Satya	Einarsson	Tewari	Jorgensen
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Here, West led the two of diamonds. With a ruff threatened and with no indication that the ace of clubs was offside, declarer won the diamond lead and played the ace and another heart. Luckily for him, the defence could not then take two club tricks and a diamond ruff. He felt a bit fortunate to lose only 1 IMP. That meant that Formidables was up by 2 with a board to play.

When God was Indian ...

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sigurjonsson</i>	<i>Anklesaria</i>	<i>Ingimarsson</i>	<i>Chokshi</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
Pass	Double	Redouble	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the diamond three, ducked to the queen. East shifted to the five of hearts, nine, ten, spade deuce. West also shifted, to the nine of clubs. ducked to the king. The defence played its fourth suit in four tricks: three of spades, king, four, five. Choksi led the jack of clubs and, when it was not covered, went up with dummy's ace, dropping the queen. He then cashed two clubs and led a spade to East's ace. With just red cards left, East played the king of diamonds to dummy's ace. Declarer had had to pitch a spade and a diamond on East's heart plays, so when he led a spade from the dummy to West's queen, that was the sixth trick for the defence (two spades, two hearts, one diamond and one club). However, dummy had a good spade and a good diamond left for plus 90.

Events were much more dramatic at the other table – the outcome of the match rested in the balance ...

West	North	East	South
<i>Satya</i>	<i>Einarsson</i>	<i>Tewari</i>	<i>Jorgensen</i>
Pass	1♠	Double	Redouble
2♦	Double	2♥	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In this room, Formidables were in two hearts doubled. The club ace, maybe two diamonds and one spade to lose. That's for starters. The main course was still to follow; South was sitting with ace-jack-nine-eight-four of trumps over declarer's hearts. Careful play might see East go one down for minus 200 and 3 IMPs to Iceland – that would give them a 1-IMP victory.

But there was divine intervention: South led the spade king (manna from heaven!). Now it looked like three trump losers and the minor-suit aces might allow the contract to be made. There are a few ways in which the defence can prevail. However, the play continued as follows: declarer won trick one with the ace of spades and played a low trump. South won with his jack and shifted to the diamond eight. North won with his ace (he needed to duck to beat two hearts) and went back to spades, leading the ten to dummy's queen. Declarer led the heart ten to South's ace and South continued with the nine of hearts. Declarer indeed lost three trump tricks and the two minor-suit aces for plus 670 and 13 IMPs to Formidables. That meant a 15-IMP win in extra time. Surely God must have been an Indian that night!

Formidables continued to live on the edge in their Quarterfinal match as well, losing narrowly 136-132 (with a 3-IMP penalty!) to Oceania.

Quarterfinal Pharma Services vs. Bridge Plus

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Graversen</i>	<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Clemmensen</i>	<i>Danailov</i>
—	—	—	1♦ ¹
Pass	1♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	4♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 10-15 HCP, 0+ diamonds

East led the heart ace, king and a third heart, which West ruffed with the queen of spades and was over-ruffed by the king. Stamatov, of Bridge Plus, played a low club to the king, cashed the diamond ace and played a spade back to his ten, which held. He now played the club ace, on which both East and South pitched diamonds. He continued with the club queen and jack. The defence could thus only get the trump ace, due to the over-ruff situation; plus 620.

West	North	East	South
<i>Vanchev</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>	<i>Zahariev</i>	<i>M. Bilde</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	4♥	Double
Pass	4♠	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Zahariev also played three rounds of hearts, West again ruffing with the queen of spades. Jepsen over-ruffed and played the spade ten from hand, which held the trick, and a low club to the king. He then played the spade nine, which Zahariev also ducked, a very good play. Declarer cashed his top two diamonds and played a third diamond, ruffing with dummy's last trump, the spade jack. East over-ruffed with the ace, killing declarer's hand. Dummy had to eventually concede a diamond. Down one and 12 IMPs to Bridge Plus.

Final – Zwederland vs. Lavazza

The final pitted two of the fancied teams against one another. Zwederland: Fredrik Nyström/Johan Upmark (Sweden) and Rico van Prooijen/Louk Verhees (Netherlands) versus the Italian/Danish side, Lavazza: Norberto Bocchi/Antonio Sementa, Dennis Bilde/Giorgio Duboin.

Board 27. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Prooijen</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Rico van Prooijen, playing a Strong Club, took a slight view in passing one spade. Sementa led the jack of diamonds. Verhees won in hand and played a low club, ducking in the dummy. Bocchi won and continued with diamonds. Declarer won with dummy's ace and ruffed a club, bringing down the ace. After he'd led a heart to the queen, his fourth trick, the play of the queen of clubs guaranteed at least eight tricks: East could ruff, but declarer would over-ruff, cash a diamond and wait for two more trump tricks; if East discarded a diamond, declarer would remain in dummy to ruff another club and again take two more trump tricks. That was plus 110 for Zwederland.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Bilde</i>	<i>Upmark</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the other room, North/South stretched to game. West led a diamond to declarer's king. Declarer played his singleton club to dummy's queen, which East won. The defence tried to scuttle the impending cross-ruff by shifting to a trump. West won with the heart ace and continued with another trump. Declarer won in hand, ruffed a spade on the table, and ruffed a club in hand, dropping East's ace. Declarer cashed the diamond queen and played a diamond to dummy's ace. On the thirteenth diamond, East ruffed while Duboin threw a spade. On the forced spade shift, declarer won with the ace and ruffed a spade on the table dropping West's king. On the club queen, declarer threw a spade, then ruffed a club in hand. The spade queen was the tenth trick. Well played; 7 IMPs to Lavazza.

It was a final worthy of a World Championship. Zwederland ran out fairly-comfortable winners by the score of 108-76.



The World Youth Open Championships were held in conjunction with the main World Championships in Lyon.

The first deals are from Round 6 of the Junior Teams Qualifying, with China RDFZ Synrey (Si, Sun, Wei, Xiong, Yin and Zhou) facing the multi-national Villa Fabbriche (Christian Bakke–Norway, Maximo Cruzio–Argentina, Guillermo Minutti–Uruguay, Shivam Shah–England). The teams lay first and third, respectively, at the time.

Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Yin</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Si</i>	<i>Shah</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦ ¹	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Artificial, forcing to game

Yin, West, ducked the diamond lead to the queen and played a heart toward dummy, won immediately by North to continue with another diamond. Declarer won, played a club to the king and ran the hearts, on which North threw his second club, a spade and a diamond. With seven tricks in and the ace of spades to come, declarer played a spade toward his hand in this fascinating position (see top of next page).

When declarer plays the two of spades from dummy, the defence is helpless. If South plays low, declarer plays the nine. When North wins the trick with the ten of spades, he has a choice of who he'd like declarer to endplay for his ninth trick.

A diamond gives up the ninth trick immediately.

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

If North plays a spade upon winning the ten of that suit, West wins and endplays whoever has a spade honour remaining, making an extra diamond or club trick in the end.

If, instead, South plays the king of spades on the lead of the deuce from dummy, declarer wins with his ace and can play any card in his hand to endplay North. Well done to Yin, who picked this ending to make the contract.

West	North	East	South
<i>Minutti</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Crusizio</i>	<i>Wei</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	1♥	Double
Redouble	1♠	2♣	Pass
2♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Declarer won the opening king-of-hearts lead and tried a club to the ten and king. West continued with hearts, won by East, who shifted to a low spade, won by declarer's ten. On the lead of the jack of clubs to the ace and the eight of diamonds from dummy, West failed to split his honours. Declarer ran the eight to East's ace. Declarer ruffed the queen-of-clubs return and played the king and another diamond, ruffing in the dummy. When he led a heart from dummy, West was able to discard his last diamond, but declarer could not be prevented from making another trump trick with the queen opposite the king-eight. Plus 670 and plus 600 at the other table added up to 15 IMPs to China.

Board 24. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Yin</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Si</i>	<i>Shah</i>
INT	Pass	Pass	2♦ ¹
3♣	3♥ ²	3NT	4♠
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. One major suit			
2. Pass or correct			

Yin led two high clubs. Shah ruffed the second and played the ace and another spade, producing difficulties for West. That player exited with the nine of hearts to East's ace. Crusizio shifted to a diamond, won by declarer with his ace. Declarer got out with a diamond and West won and continued hearts, beating the contract by one trick; plus 100 to East/West.

West	North	East	South
<i>Minutti</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Crusizio</i>	<i>Wei</i>
INT	Pass	Pass	2♦ ¹
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. One major suit			

Sun led the ace and another spade. We must admire Wei, South, for his foresight in the following ending where he is set to discard on the last club:

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

Declarer had taken six tricks: one spade and five clubs. Realising that he was about to be thrown in with the ace of diamonds to cash spades and lead a heart into the ace-queen, South cunningly bared to the king of hearts and was rewarded when declarer finessed the hearts for his ninth trick. Two down and plus 100 to China RDFZ. Showing a one-suited major hand rather than both majors had worked brilliantly; 5 IMPs to China.

The USA dominated the event, winning the Swiss Qualifying by more than a match over second-place Egypt, then, after beating Norton (England/RSA) by 11 IMPs in the quarterfinal, doubled their opponents' IMP totals in their semifinal (China RDFZ Synrey) and final (Japan) matches. Here is a deal where the Grossack brothers bid aggressively to a more-or-less 50% slam, then, after Adam had scrambled his entries a bit at trick one, managed to recover nicely with careful play.

Junior Teams Final – USA vs. Japan

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Imakiire</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Kobayashi</i>	<i>Jolly</i>
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Z. Grossack</i>	<i>Neo</i>	<i>A. Grossack</i>	<i>Sonoike</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♥ ¹	Pass	2NT ²	Pass
4♥ ³	Pass	5♣ ⁴	Pass
6NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Strong, artificial diamond raise
2. Balanced minimum
3. Key card ask in diamonds
4. 2 key cards, no queen of diamonds

Grossack won the opening jack-of-spades lead with the queen in dummy and cashed two diamonds, finishing in hand. When he played the jack of hearts, South played the ace, clearing up that issue for Grossack, who said later he was always going to play the king if South followed low. There was more work to do, however. This was the position with South on lead.

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

At the table, South continued with a spade. At that point, declarer must be very careful. He has to win with the king in hand, unblock the clubs, play the queen of diamonds and a diamond to the ten, cash the ace of clubs, discarding the nine of hearts, then cross back

to the king of hearts. The ace of spades is the twelfth trick.

What if South exits with a heart? Again, East must exercise care. He wins the with the king of hearts, unblocks the king-queen of clubs, crosses to the king of spades to cash the ace of clubs, followed by a diamond to the queen. When he cashes the ace of spades, he must unblock the remaining diamond in hand, allowing dummy to win the last two tricks with the seven and five of diamonds.

Mind you, had declarer won the first trick with the king of spades, his later machinations would have been rather simpler.

Gold-medal winners: USA – Adam Grossack, Zachary Grossack, Christian Jolly, Adam Kaplan, Kevin Rosenberg, Anam Tebha

Runners-up: Japan – Takayuki Hino, Eishi Imakiire, Koki Kobayashi, Derek Neo, Sanekata Sonoike, Ryoichi Yamada, Hireaki Miura (npc)

The Joan Gerard Youth Award winners, given to these who best exemplify the character traits of good sportsmanship and team spirit, were: Juniors – Christian Bakke; Youngsters – Martin Nataf; Kids – Anshul Bhatt; Girls – Jinyi Ma & Sarah Combesure.

A Promising Youngster, Tom Townsend, London

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

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

1. 18-19 balanced
2. Deserved to concede a number
3. Ambitious game invitation
4. 3NT would have been easier because the hearts run

China flew in 180 young players, supplying almost half the total field in the various pair and teams events in

Continued on page 10...



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

873. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

After this fairly simple auction, West led the four of hearts (low from odd) to dummy's queen and East's ace. As there was no chance of stopping a heart ruff in dummy, East exited with a heart to dummy's king. The success or failure of the contract seemed to depend on the location of the ace of diamonds. However, declarer found an extra chance. After cashing the ace of trumps, declarer played a club to the ace and another club. East won the trick with the queen of clubs and got off play with his remaining trump. Declarer won in dummy with the nine of spades and led the eight of clubs. When the king of clubs appeared, declarer ruffed it and had a tenth trick that did not depend on who held the ace of diamonds.

Declarer took five trump tricks, one heart, one heart ruff, one diamond and two clubs.

Only an initial diamond lead defeats the contract. Declarer can even foil a low diamond shift from East by leading clubs from the dummy to deny East the opportunity to unblock a club honour (declarer ducks), as he could do if declarer starts clubs by leading the ace from hand. In the latter case, declarer would have to either allow West to gain the lead in clubs or for West to guard the suit by covering West's ten of clubs with dummy's jack.

874. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	2♥	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East opened a standard weak two in hearts and South made a natural strong jump overcall in his main suit. After a couple of control-showing bids, North used Roman Key Card Blackwood to discover that his partner had three key cards along with the king of diamonds and the queen of trumps.

West led the five of hearts. Declarer could count eleven winners – the problem was finding a safe twelfth. At first sight it seemed to be one of those deals where declarer thinks he would probably have to guess which squeeze to execute in the endgame. Then rather suddenly a new idea struck him and he called for the two of hearts at trick one. East took the trick with the king of hearts and exited with his singleton three of clubs.

Declarer made no mistake at this point. He took the trick with dummy's king of clubs and, as there was only one entry left to dummy, he called for the nine of hearts next. East played the jack and declarer ruffed it with his eight of trumps. After drawing trumps with the ace, king and queen, declarer claimed twelve tricks – six trumps along with two tricks in each of the side suits.

875. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Both North players in a team game made the same aggressive drive to what turned out to be quite a dodgy game.

The lead was the same at both tables, a fourth-highest three of spades. Both declarers played dummy's ten of spades at trick one. Both Easts took the trick with the king of spades and returned the jack of spades to dummy's ace, suggesting that the spade suit was originally 5-3.

At the first table, declarer decided that his best chance for nine tricks lay in clubs rather than diamonds. At trick three he cashed the ace of clubs and then led a club to the jack. West took this with the queen and then cashed three spade tricks to defeat the contract.

The declarer at the other table was a more experienced operator. He knew that in this type of situation it was normal to cash the ace-king of one of the minors and, if the relevant queen did not appear, using the fallback position of working on the other minor for five tricks. As a doubleton queen would only yield one extra trick in diamonds compared to three in clubs, declarer cashed the ace and king of clubs. When the queen of clubs fell he had nine tricks – the major suit aces, the two top diamonds and five clubs.

What are the odds of the plays chosen by the declarers? On the assumption that the spades are indeed 5-3, the first line has a little less than a one-in-four chance of success. The second declarer's combination play raised his chance of making nine tricks to nearly one-in-three.

876. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

West did not want to lead from an honour as that might be to declarer's benefit. Instead he led the five of trumps. Declarer won in hand with the queen and crossed to the king of diamonds to take the heart finesse. West won with the king and exited with a second trump. Declarer won in hand with the king of trumps and played the ace and another club. East won the trick and played a third trump to declarer's ace. Declarer now ducked a diamond, letting West's eight hold. West continued with the king of clubs. Declarer ruffed in dummy and then cashed the ace of diamonds. When the diamonds proved to be 4-2 he was down one.

Declarer offered a weak apology to his partner and then muttered, "Nothing was right in the red suits."

North was not impressed. "You had nine top tricks," he said. "A dummy reversal would have given you a tenth. All you had to do was cash the ace of hearts at trick two and play the queen of hearts at trick three. West wins and leads a second trump to your king. Then you cross to dummy with a low diamond to the king and ruff its remaining heart with the ace of spades. You would have a choice of suits to play next but I would try the ace and another club. After a defender wins this trick he cannot prevent you from entering dummy with a high ruff of a club to draw the last trump. You would have ten tricks – five trumps, one heart, a heart ruff and the three minor-suit tops."

the 5th World Youth Open Championships. English participation comprised four players only: Michael Alishaw, Stephen Kennedy, Ben Norton and Shivam Shah, playing off their own bats. The EBU must save its pennies for next year's representative World Championships in China.

Shah won silver and bronze in two separate events on Team Villa Fabbriche, with Christian Bakke (Norway) and their South American teammates. Norton partnered the 15-year-old South African Noah Apteker, alongside Alishaw-Kennedy. What Apteker lacked in experience, he made up for in burgeoning talent. Take this deal from their match against Finland. The path to four hearts was that familiar old cliché – typical junior bidding – exuberant and optimistic. At their age, what other style is possible?

Apteker (South) ducked the eight-of-spades lead. East took the queen and shifted to the king of clubs, followed by the nine of clubs. West won and returned a low club, ruffed and overruffed. South could already see his way home. East held the king of spades and West the jack of clubs; neither would be able to keep a diamond guard on the run of the trump suit.

To reach a double-squeeze ending, Apteker had to find two clever technical plays. Even though the heart finesse was marked by East's failure to ruff with the queen of that suit, declarer couldn't take it for lack of re-entry to hand. Key play one was therefore a heart to the ace, rewarded when East followed suit.

Having drawn the last trump, the young South African cleared the second hurdle by cashing the ace of spades. To enact the double squeeze, the jack of spades had to be a threat against East. Unblocking the ace (known as the Vienna Coup since whist days) tightened up the position, and allowed the squeezing to begin.

Three hearts later, the defenders were on the rack. Neither could hold diamonds while retaining his black-suit winner, and the four of diamonds became South's tenth trick. Apteker had won 8 IMPs for his side when his East/West teammates at the other table went two off in one no-trump for minus 100.

A Small Circle

Jean-Paul Meyer, Paris



In the tenth round of the Swiss Qualifying phase of the Funbridge Transnational Teams, when the French team Mon Bazilou opposed the Russian team Gromov, many declarers stumbled over Board 10. At the 102 tables in play, only 37 pairs reached game in hearts and 32 of those went down, occasionally doubled, and sometimes two or three tricks. Philippe Chottin of

Mon Bazilou was one of the small circle of successful declarers.

Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Gromov	Chottin	Dubin	Kasler
—	—	1♦	Double
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East led the ace of clubs, followed by the ace and king of diamonds, dropping West's queen. East continued with a third diamond. Take the reins.

First (good) decision: Chottin ruffed with the ace of hearts (West discarding a spade). Declarer next led the jack of hearts, covered by the queen and king, then the sneaky nine of clubs from hand, holding the trick (second good decision). The queen of clubs was covered by the king and ruffed with the four of hearts, not the eight, which would certainly have been an error (third good decision). Chottin cashed the ace and king of spades, discarding his last two diamonds, then presented West with his secret weapon, the eight of hearts. West was muzzled: if he'd covered, Chottin would have drawn the trumps and tabled the master ten of clubs. So West furnished declarer with a low heart, whereupon the queen of spades hammered the final nail into the coffin of the defence – if West had declined to ruff, his two remaining trumps would have been surrounded by declarer's ten-seven.

Had East covered the nine of clubs with the king, Chottin would have joined the ranks of those who had failed in four hearts.



Letter from Norway

Knut Kjærnsrød,
Tored, Norway

We tee off with a deal from the Kansas City Vanderbilt in March of this year, with Geir Helgemo, playing for the Zimmermann squad of Monaco, in the driving seat.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1♣	1♠	2♦
4♠	5♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the spade king, ruffed. Helgemo crossed to the queen of hearts and ruffed dummy's remaining spade. The ace and king of hearts were followed by a club to the ace and the queen of diamonds to East's ace. As East was down to only black cards, he exited with a spade, ruffed in dummy while Helgemo discarded a club from his hand. Declarer cashed the king of clubs; West declined to ruff, but was endplayed with a trump to his lone king and had to return a major suit for a second ruff-and-discard.

Christian Bakke is one of our most capable juniors, which he proved on this deal from the European Championships in Italy:

Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

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

1. Puppet Stayman
2. At least one 4-card major
3. 4 spades

West led the knave of clubs to the ace. Bakke cashed five diamond tricks, discarding two hearts and a spade from his hand. East discarded two hearts and West a club and a heart. Dummy's queen of clubs was cashed, followed by the ace and king of hearts, leaving Christian with a pretty good picture of the distribution. He played the king of clubs followed by the nine, and West had to lead away from his king of spades.

The Norwegian Bridge Festival moved to Drammen this year, collecting the largest number of players for some years. The Festival Prize for the best played deal during the week went to Stig Dybdahl for this brilliant performance:

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1♣
3♦	Double	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the king of diamonds. Dybdahl captured it with his ace and immediately played a heart to dummy's ace, making it difficult for West to unblock his queen. Dummy's remaining diamond was ruffed and, after the king and ace of trumps, Dybdahl played another heart, allowing West a trick with his queen. West was endplayed and exited with a spade on which dummy's ten was played, forcing East to play his king.

Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

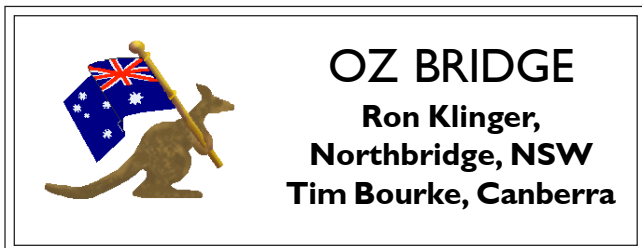
Norway and Sweden parted as nations more than a hundred years ago, but we still enjoy close relations. As a consequence, I incorporate a deal by the young Swede Ola Rimstedt, from this year's World Championships in Lyon:

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	Double	1♥	1♠
1NT	Double	2♥	2♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Ola Rimstedt was North and his brother Mikael South. East led the nine of spades to the knave and queen. If West plays a heart or a club, I think Rimstedt cannot land his contract, but West exited with a diamond to the queen. The ace and king of clubs were cashed and a club led to dummy's nine. A diamond was taken by West's ace, and he played the king of hearts, taken by the ace. Ola now cashed his remaining clubs and, before the last one, the position was:

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

On the last club, West was squeezed in three suits. If he threw his remaining heart, Rimstedt would have exited with two the king and nine of diamonds, forcing West to concede the last trick to dummy's spade king. West could obviously not discard a diamond, and when he finally let his ten of spades go, Rimstedt played a heart to East's queen. Declarer would eventually get his ninth trick with the jack of hearts or the nine of diamonds.



Caught in the Backwash (RDK)

From *The Sydney Morning Herald*
www.ronklingerbridge.com

In 1965, the late Tim Seres as South was declarer in six clubs on this deal:

Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West led the five of clubs, taken in dummy. South played dummy's heart six: four – queen – seven, and cashed the ace of spades. Next came a diamond. West won with the ace and continued with the four of clubs. Declarer again took this in dummy and, this time, ruffed a spade. He crossed to dummy's king of diamonds and ruffed another spade. After cashing the ace of hearts, South ruffed the two of hearts in dummy. This was now the position:

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

When South played the seven of spades from dummy and ruffed it with the ace of clubs, West was squeezed in three suits. This triple squeeze was highly unusual, because one of the defenders still had a trump. If West had discarded a red jack, South would have played the established winner in that suit to squeeze West again. If West had under-ruffed with the three of clubs, dummy would have been high.

This play became known as the Sydney Squeeze and subsequently the Seres Squeeze, as recorded in *The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge*. Nowadays it is described as a backwash squeeze.

One would be lucky to execute a backwash squeeze once in a lifetime of bridge play. Warren Lazer did so in the second stage of the 2017 National Butler Trials in Canberra at the end of July on this deal. (See top of next page.)

West led the eight of diamonds, taken by the ace. Next came the jack of diamonds. East played the king and South discarded the seven of spades.

Round 16. Board 7. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Gumby	—	Lazer
—	2♥	1♦	1♥
2♣	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	—	—	—

East switched to the jack of clubs: four – nine – three, followed by the ace of spades and the four of spades. South ruffed with the four of hearts and exited with the five of clubs: ten–eight–diamond four. West continued with the club deuce: diamond two–heart three–club six.

The defenders have taken five tricks. If East now reverts to a diamond, declarer will be two down. However, East brought back the jack of spades. South ruffed with the five of hearts, cashed the ace of hearts and played the seven of clubs, queen, ruffed with heart eight and over-ruffed with king. These cards remained:

♠ Q
 ♥ 10
 ♦ 10
 ♣ —
 ♠ K
 ♥ 9
 ♦ —
 ♣ A
 ♠ —
 ♥ —
 ♦ 9 7 6
 ♣ —
 ♠ —
 ♥ Q 7
 ♦ —
 ♣ K

East played a diamond perforce and South ruffed with the queen of hearts. If West discards the king of spades, dummy's queen is high. To under-ruff allows South to cross-ruff the rest. West pitched the ace of clubs. South played the king of clubs, ruffed with the nine of hearts and over-ruffed with the ten. South's seven of trumps took trick 13. A beautiful ending just to go one down.

Interstate Interplay (TB)

On this deal from Round 11 of the 2017 Australian Interstate Teams, there were 21 declarers in four spades. Only three were successful, one each in the Open, the Women's and the Seniors.

Board 16. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

From the Open series ...

West	North	East	South
—	Hudson	—	Lavings
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥ ¹
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	—

1. Transfer to spades

South's sequence, a transfer to three spades, then a raise to four spades, was a mild slam try. North was not interested. With no slam interest, South would have jumped to game over two notrump.

West led the two of clubs: four – king – seven. East switched to the four of diamonds: nine – queen – ace. After the king of spades, receiving the bad news, South played the seven of hearts to the ace, then the eight of clubs: three – nine – ace. East shifted to the three of hearts: jack – queen – king. Declarer cashed the queen of clubs and the king of diamonds, pitching a heart. Then came a heart ruff and a spade to dummy's queen, leaving these cards:

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

Lavings played a diamond from dummy and ruffed with the eight of spades. West could overruff, but had to give the last two tricks to South in trumps. That was ten tricks to North/South, plus 620 and 12 IMPs in versus four spades one off at the other table.

On the next deal, from Round 19, there were nine pairs in six diamonds, three in six notrump, two in five diamonds and eight in three notrump, all making. Two pairs played in seven diamonds, but only one was successful. That was Margaret Bourke of Canberra in the Open series:

Board 16. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

North (Brad Coles) opened two notrump. South bid four diamonds, natural, and ended in seven diamonds. There are twelve tricks on top and a 4-3 break in hearts would make declarer's task easy. As you see, that was not to be.

West led the queen of clubs, taken by the ace. Bourke cashed the ace of hearts and ruffed a low heart with the jack of diamonds. She crossed to the ace of diamonds and played another low heart. East discarded a club and South ruffed. Then came five more rounds of trumps, leaving:

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

West had already had to discard his club protection in order that his queen of spades not fall on the first round of the suit after all the diamonds had been played. That left East as the sole guardian of that suit. However, when South played the six of diamonds, West had to let go a spade, as did dummy and East. The eight of spades went to the ace and the king of hearts finished off East in clubs and spades: the king-ten of spades took the last two tricks for plus 2140 and 13 IMPs against the six-diamond contract reached at the other table.

Desi Bridge

**Anant Bhagwat,
Thane,
Maharashtra,
India**



Here are two deals from a couple of India's top players.

The late Suhas Vaidya was India's tournament organiser *par excellence*. He died last year, much too early.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The four-of-diamonds lead went to East's king and Vaidya's (South's) ace. A benign layout in hearts and perhaps some kindness in the black suits would see him home. So, Vaidya led a heart to dummy's ten and East's queen. East returned the diamond eight, (fatal!) ducked to West's ten and dummy's nine. As West could not then profitably continue with diamonds, he shifted to a spade: nine, four, two, king. Vaidya played the heart jack to East's ace. Winning the diamond return in hand, Vaidya led a heart to the king; hearts didn't oblige. In spite of four spade tricks, his tally still came to only eight tricks.

Vaidya cashed the spade ace and came to hand with the queen, temporarily stranding the last spade winner on the table. He exited with his last diamond to West. With only clubs remaining, West had to grant access to the table with the queen of clubs. Declarer cashed his good spade and the club ace for nine tricks and plus 400.

Guess what? It was a pushed board! Another champion player, Ajay Khare, had cloned Vaidya's play.

Anil Padhye needs no introduction to Indian bridge players. In a tournament or on the 'net, he always attracts a large number of kibitzers with his flair. Here, he was playing on the 'net with Nandu Oke.

Online Youth Bridge Magazine

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Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Oke	—	Padhye
INT	Double	3♦	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♦	Pass
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

Holding such a good hand, West could not digest that his opponents had stopped in partscore and had then bid a game. He expressed his low opinion of their bidding and led the ace of diamonds. Padhye ruffed and played the ten of spades; West covered with the jack (winning with the king defeats the contract), the queen in dummy winning. The club king was played, which West won. He persevered with the diamond queen, ruffed again. Declarer played the queen of clubs and ruffed a club in

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dummy. The clubs broke 3-2, so the rest of the clubs were good. Padhye cashed the ace and king of hearts. That gave him seven tricks. When he played the six of clubs from hand, West ruffed and played the queen of hearts. Padhye ruffed with his penultimate trump, his eighth trick, having lost two.

In the three-card ending, West had the king-eight of trumps and a diamond; dummy had the three of trumps and two hearts; declarer held the ace of trumps and two established clubs. When Padhye played a good club, West had to ruff with the eight of spades to prevent the three of spades from making a trick in dummy. Then, if he'd backed the king of spades, Padhye would have won with his ace and the last trick would have been taken by a master club. If, instead, West backed the diamond nine, as he did, dummy would ruff with the three of spades and the last trick would be won by the trump ace. That must tie a record of some sort, the trump ace winning the thirteenth trick!

World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
2017			
Oct 9-15	EBU Overseas Congress	Halkidiki, Greece	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 15-22	4 th World Women's Elite Tournament	Beijing, China	www.worldbridge.org
Oct 16-19	2 nd Merit International Bridge Festival	Kyrenia, North Cyprus	www.bridgemerit.com
Oct 18-26	Australian Spring Nationals	Sydney, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Oct 25-29	36 th Jordan International Festival	Amman, Jordan	www.jordanbridgefederation.com
Oct 27-29	Bridge@Linz	Linz, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Oct 28-Nov 11	Hainan Nanshan Bridge Festival	Sanya, China	www.ccba.org.cn/hainan2017
Nov 6-12	20 th International Festival	Madeira, Portugal	www.fpbridge.pt
Nov 8-11	Lido International Festival	Venice, Italy	www.festivaldelbridge lidodivenezia.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 13-19	Puerta Vallarta Regional	Puerta Vallarta, Mexico	www.acbl.org
Nov 13-25	NBF's Bridge in Tenerife	Tenerife, Canary Is., Spain	www.bridge.no
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 29-Dec 3	UAE National Day Bridge Festival	Dubai, UAE	amir.mekky@hotmail.com
Nov 30-Dec 3	18 th Int'l Schools & Jr. Championships	Hluk, Czech Republic	www.bkuh.eu/mistrovstyj
Dec 1-3	Babenberger International	Klosterneuberg, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Dec 2-10	2 nd International Festival	Barcelona, Spain	www.sunwaybridgefestival.com
Dec 5-10	Lanzarote Festival	Lanzarote, Canary Is., Spain	harvensurf@gmail.com
Dec 6-12	2 nd SEABF Championships	Jakarta, Indonesia	bert_toar@hotmail.com
Dec 8-15	IMSA Elite Games	Huai'an, China	www.imsaworld.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 11-18	27 th Sun, Sea & Slams	Christ Church, Barbados, W.I.	roglyn@caribsurf.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
Feb 24-25	Lederer Memorial Trophy	London, England	www.metrobridge.weebly.com
Feb 27-Mar 4	San Miguel Allende Regional	San Miguel Allende, Mexico	www.acbl.org
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 4	South African National Congress	Cape Town, South Africa	www.sabg.co.za
Apr 27-May 6	International Festival	Juan-les-Pins, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
Apr 27-May 6	Lambourne Jersey Festival	Jersey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
May 11-19	68 th South American Championships	Bahia, Brazil	http://comandatuba2018. csabridge.org/?lang=en
May 11-20	United States Bridge Championship	Houston, TX	www.usbf.org
May 26-Jun 3	Canadian Bridge Week	Montréal, QC	www.cbfc.ca
Jun 6-16	54 th European Team Championships	Ostend, Belgium	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 29-Jul 10	Biarritz International Festival	Biarritz, France	www.festival-bridge-biarritz.com
Jul 26-Aug 5	Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	www.acbl.org
Jul 27-Aug 5	24 th Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	mme@svenskbbridge.se
Jul 29-Aug 3	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	mme@svenskbbridge.se
Aug 9-18	17 th World Youth Team Championships	Wu Jiang, China	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 18-Sep 2	18 th Asian Games	Jakarta, Indonesia	www.ocasia.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