



## BULLETIN

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## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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Bulletin No. 637

February 5, 2018

## Editorial

Mere hours after publishing last month's Bulletin, the news reached us that the Court of Arbitration for Sport had overturned the European Bridge League's conviction of Claudio Nunes and Fulvio Fantoni's for cheating. The CAS released a 39-page judgement, supplemented by a press release, on January 10, 2018, declaring that the EBL had not proven its case and vacating the sentence. A link to the judgement has been emailed to all IBPA members. In summary, the CAS declared...

"...the majority of the Panel concludes that the exchange of information through the Code has not been proven to its comfortable satisfaction and rules that the appeal filed by the Players shall be upheld. Such conclusion does not mean that the Players are innocent of any wrongdoing, it only means that the EBL did not manage to prove to the comfortable satisfaction of the majority of the Panel that the Players committed an infraction of the EBL Rules. The Panel realizes how difficult it is for the EBL to establish the existence of a "code" between players, given the multiple possibilities of potential signs (moves, gestures, sounds, etc ...). However, sanctions cannot be imposed on the basis of incomplete evidence. The present decision does not mean that the system of control provided by the EBL Rules is invalid or that it cannot be used again. This decision is based on the evidence provided to the Panel in this particular case. Future investigations by the EBL, based on more consistent and reliable data, may lead to a different outcome than in the present matter."

"The Court of Arbitration for Sport rules that:

1. The appeal filed by Messrs. Fulvio Fantoni & Claudio Nunes against the decision rendered by the Disciplinary Committee of the European Bridge League (EBL) on 18 July 2016 is upheld.
2. The Decision rendered by the Disciplinary Committee of the European Bridge League (EBL) is set aside.
3. The arbitration costs, to be determined by the CAS Court Office and notified separately to the parties, shall be paid as follows: 20% of the costs by Messrs. Fulvio Fantoni & Claudio Nunes and 80% by the European Bridge League (EBL).
4. The European Bridge League (EBL) is ordered to pay Messrs. Fulvio Fantoni & Claudio Nunes a total amount of CHF 2,000 as contribution towards the expenses incurred in connection with this arbitration procedure.
5. All other motions or prayers for relief are dismissed."

On February 3, 2018, the EBL sent this letter to all NBOs:

Dear Presidents,

Please find below the notification of the EBL by the Federazione Italiana Gioco Bridge of the suspension of two players within their jurisdiction. The notification was made on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The term of suspension will end on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

Dear President,

*I inform you that the FIGB Federal Court handed down its sentence ordering the suspension for 3 years from all federation activities of the Italian players Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes.*

*Yours sincerely, Il segretario degli Organi della Giustizia Sportiva, Dott. Francesco Natale*

Each NBO is asked to recognise this action in accordance with Article C. 3 (b) of the By-laws of the EBL (reproduced below for your convenience):

Each NBO within the EBL must accept and respect all decisions taken by the EBL and other NBOs in disciplinary matters. In particular, all NBOs within the EBL shall recognize the EBL's and each other's suspensions and expulsions, without examining the reason therefore.

Kind regards, Paul Porteous, EBL Honorary Secretary

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# CANBERRA Summer Festival OF BRIDGE



January 10-21, 2018

**Andy Hung, Sydney**  
**Ron Klinger, Northbridge, NSW**  
**Peter Gill, Sydney**

As usual, the Summer Festival was in Melbourne, but this year at a new venue, the Canberra Rex Hotel, ACT. Events included the National Open, Women's, Senior, Non-Life Master and Novice Teams, as well as a plethora of Pairs events. There was something for everyone.

## Senior Teams Semifinals – Andy Hung

It was KOZAKOS: George Kozakos/Ian Robinson; George Smolanko/David Anderson vs. DE LUCA: Attilio De Luca/David Lusk; Russell Harms/Peter Chan and KANETKAR: Avinash Kanetkar/Bruce Neill; Warren Lazer/Pauline Gumby; Arjuna De Livera/Andrew Braithwaite vs. FREE: Jonathan Free/Ron Klinger; Robert Krochmalik/Paul Lavings; Kim Morrison/Paul Wyr. After 49 of 64 boards, FREE led by 32 and DE LUCA by 44. There was excitement, misunderstanding and foolishness on this board to make both matches closer:

### Board 50. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

In KOZAKOS vs. DE LUCA

West	North	East	South
Lusk	Smolanko	De Luca	Anderson
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	5♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	5♠	Pass	Pass

1. Roman Key-Card Blackwood
2. 1 key card

After Smolanko's unwise key-card ask, he could not diagnose which one Anderson had, so settled conservatively and very fortunately for five spades. This contract was untouchable on the club lead into North's tenace. Smolanko discarded a heart from the dummy and ran the queen of spades; Lusk won with his king and returned a diamond. Declarer rose with the ace, drew trumps and continued with the clubs. When they proved to be 6-1, North was able to set up a diamond trick in the dummy for one club discard, then ruff a club to reach the established diamond. That was plus 650 for KOZAKOS.

West	North	East	South
Robinson	Harms	Kozakos	Chan
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Double	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass

1. Natural or an artificial game-force

Kozakos matched his teammate Smolanko in foolishness when he perpetrated a fatuous double of two clubs. Despite that warning, there was no holding Harms back. Harms received the two of diamonds lead and his chances looked superb. Dummy's queen won at trick one; declarer led a diamond to his ace and followed with the queen of spades. Robinson allowed that to win. Harms now ruffed a club low, ruffed a heart back to hand, and ruffed another club with the ten of spades. This was overruffed by West's king, who led another trump. The nasty 6-1 club break meant that Harms still needed to lose one more club for one down, minus 100 and 13 IMPs to KOZAKOS.

In FREE vs. DE LUCA:

West	North	East	South
Morrison	Kanetkar	Wyr	Neill
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	5NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	6♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass

1. Josephine Grand Slam Force
2. One top spade

Kanetkar was temporarily charmed to receive a club lead. He discarded a diamond from the dummy, won with his club ten and ran the queen of spades to Morrison's king. West shifted to a diamond. Kanetkar won with his ace and played a high club to discard dummy's third diamond. West ruffed (unlucky!) but declarer could still ruff a club and a diamond with high trumps in the dummy. That was minus 100.

West	North	East	South
Lazer	Klinger	Gumby	Free
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	1♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	5NT <sup>3</sup>	Pass	6♥ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	7♠ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	Pass

1. 2+ clubs
2. 4+ hearts
3. Intended as Josephine Grand Slam Force in spades...
4. ...but interpreted as 'Pick a slam'...
5. ...and interpreted as two high honours in spades

Lazer was probably in agony looking at his spade king sitting in front Klinger's hand, but the ace in dummy made him joyful. Gumby led the nine of spades, ducked to Lazer's king (why not duck to give declarer a charge?). West shifted to a heart, ruffed by declarer. Klinger drew another round of trumps and played two high clubs to discard a diamond from the dummy. West ruffed and led a diamond; with four more losers in hand and only two trumps left in the dummy, declarer had to lose two more tricks for four off and 7 IMPs to KANETKAR.

This result notwithstanding, FREE won the match and defeated DE LUCA in the final.

### South-West Pacific Teams - Ron Klinger

There were 122 teams in the South-West Pacific Teams in Canberra in January. That was down from 126 teams in 2017 and 136 in 2016, but that might have been due to space restrictions. The format was 12 rounds, Swiss method, with the leading eight teams reaching the quarter-finals, aka the National Open Teams.

#### Match 1. Board 20. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

With no bidding by East-West, Andrew Peake (North) and Liz Adams (South) began pass—one heart—one notrump—three diamonds and then reached six diamonds. West led the eight of diamonds: three – two – ten. South cashed the ace and king of hearts, then ruffed a low heart in dummy. After the diamond seven to the queen, Adams cashed the ace of diamonds, followed by the good hearts and the jack of diamonds. Everyone was down to two spades and two clubs. South played the ace of clubs and exited with a club. West won and was endplayed.

If West had unblocked the club king, East would have been endplayed to lead from the jack of spades.

Also from the SWPT:

#### Match 2. Board 2. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

North opened one club, East showed 5+/5+ in the majors and South ended in six notrump. West led the nine of spades: three – seven – ace. On four rounds of clubs, ending in South, East discarded two hearts and a spade. After the queen of spades and the queen of diamonds: king – ace – ten, South cashed the nine of diamonds, East discarding another heart. This was the position:

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

Next came the nine of hearts: five – four – ten. If West had returned the heart king, South would have had a claim. A diamond return instead was won by dummy's jack, simultaneously show-up squeezing East in the majors.

Had East covered the nine of hearts with the jack, declarer may well have finessed the queen. The ten-of-hearts return would then have killed the squeeze.

This was a nice deal in Round 5:

**Round 5. Dealer North. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	Double <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1. 4+ hearts			

West led the queen of spades (asking East to unblock or give count), ducked, and continued with the king of spades. East played the five and eight, reverse count. Peter Newman (South) of Sydney won the second trick with the ace and took his only reasonable chance for success. At trick three, he played the ace of clubs. This would work if West had the king of clubs bare or East failed to unblock from king-low. It is not often that such virtue as South's is rewarded. When the king of clubs dropped under the ace, South played a low club to the eight and ten. He won the heart return with the ace, cashed the diamond king, crossed to the king of hearts, cashed the ace of diamonds and finessed the nine of clubs for plus 400.

**The National Open Teams Semifinals – Andy Hung**

The KANETKAR team also made it to the semifinals of the NOT where they faced COURTNEY: Michael Courtney/Paul Wyer; Craig Gower/Alon Apteker. In the other match, CORNELL: Mike Cornell/Ashley Bach; Michael Whibley/Matthew Brown; Tony Leibowitz/David Beauchamp squared off against APPLETON: David Appleton/Peter Reynolds; Khokan Bagchi/Justin Williams; Joachim Haffer/Philip Markey.

With the matches in their infancy, the following lead problem arose, after three tables bid as diagrammed:

**Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.**

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

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

Andy Braithwaite (for KANETKAR) chose the five of diamonds; Michael Courtney, the seven of spades; and Michael Cornell, the king of diamonds. Phil Markey had a different problem as his partner had opened the bidding with two hearts (weak, 4+/4+ in the majors); his RHO had overcalled two notrump and had been raised to game. He led the jack of hearts. Here was the full deal:

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

On the five-of-diamonds lead, declarer (Craig Gower, for COURTNEY) was in business. After winning with the jack, Gower played a spade to the jack and queen. Nothing else looked attractive to De Livera, who returned his partner's suit, the eight of diamonds, devastating the defence. Gower ducked the diamond to Braithwaite's nine, and he continued with the king (nothing else helps), which was allowed to hold. Braithwaite switched to the seven of spades to Gower's ace, who played a heart to the king. Back came a club to the ace and the diamonds were cashed. When West led a heart towards the dummy, that secured the ninth trick, via two spades, two hearts, three diamonds, and two clubs. That was a magnificent plus 600 for COURTNEY.

The passive spade lead worked well. Lazer won with the ace and led a heart to the king. When that held, he tried a diamond to the jack. Courtney won and continued spades: four, jack, queen, three. Wyer switched to the eight of clubs. When Lazer won that and played the ace and another diamond, the defence had five winners for plus 100; 12 IMPs to COURTNEY.

In the other match, Cornell's king-of-diamonds lead went to the two, ten and three. Cornell shifted to a spade: four, six, nine, ace. Declarer led a heart to the king and a diamond, ducked to North, who continued spades. Declarer finessed and lost the same five tricks as had Lazer in the other match; minus 100.

Joachim Haffer's (for APPLETON) bold two-heart opening bullied Markey into the jack-of-hearts lead; it also convinced Michael Whibley (CORNELL) that the ace was offside and the ten (possibly) onside. The king of hearts held at trick one; declarer led a diamond to the jack and queen and the seven of spades went to the ace. Declarer played off the ace of diamonds and

another diamond, South letting go the eight of clubs. North won and continued with the four of spades, won by the king. Declarer crossed to hand with a club and knocked out the last diamond stop in North, two of hearts from South. At long last, Markey led a second heart and declarer naturally misguessed. That meant one spade, two hearts and three diamonds for the defence, for a hard-earned 3 IMPs to APPLETON.

### The National Open Teams Final – Andy Hung

Although KANETKAR did not advance beyond the semifinals of the Senior Teams, they made it to the final here. Obviously, that must mean that Senior bridge in Australia is stronger than Open bridge, yes? Did I hear you say something about sample size?

#### Board 49. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

1. 2+ clubs; if balanced, 11-13 or 17-19

Whibley led the queen of diamonds, which held, followed by the king of diamonds, taken by the ace. Lazer played a spade to the nine and queen, and back came a club to the eight, ten, and ace. The king of spades was allowed to hold, and Brown took the third round of spades to switch to a heart. When Lazer won with the king, he had nine tricks for plus 400.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kanetkar</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Neill</i>	<i>Bach</i>
—	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass

1. 4 spades, invitational

Neill tried a club lead. Cornell misguessed, playing the eight, which was covered by the ten. Cornell now had to use (and waste) the king of hearts entry to lead a spade to the nine and queen. When Neill got in with the queen, he accurately switched to the ten of diamonds. When Cornell ducked, Kanetkar also

defended accurately by overtaking the diamond to play a club through. This allowed the defence to set up two clubs, one diamond, and two spades to take the contract one down. A nicely defended hand for 10 IMPs for KANETKAR.

### 'Two Men' Pairs – Peter Gill

No, the name does not refer to the conditions of entry, but to its sponsor 'Two Men and a Truck Australia Pty.' a Gold Coast moving company. This board was from the second of two sessions – I'll present it as a declarer play problem as it occurred to my partner, Liz Sylvester...

#### Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Gill</i>	<i>Mace</i>	<i>Sylvester</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The ace of clubs is led. Plan the play. Here is the full deal:

<p>♠ J 7 4 3 ♥ K 9 4 ♦ Q 6 4 ♣ 10 4 2</p>	<p>♠ A 9 5 ♥ 8 7 ♦ K 7 5 ♣ Q 9 7 6 3</p> <p>♠ K 8 6 ♥ A Q 5 3 2 ♦ J 10 9 8 3 ♣ —</p> <p>♠ Q 10 2 ♥ J 10 6 ♦ A 2 ♣ A K J 8 5</p>
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Suppose you ruff and draw trumps. You'll need them to be 3-2 to have a chance to make three hearts but, even so, the opponents will lead clubs at every opportunity and you'll lose control, making no more than five hearts and a spade, a terrible result, whatever the scoring.

It must be better to play to set up your side suit, in any case a valuable general principle. So, you ruff and lead a diamond; South ducks to North, who continues with a club. You ruff and play another diamond to South's ace. South continues with a club to North's queen. This time, you have another trusted arrow in your quiver – the loser-on-loser play. The defence cannot then continue clubs, or you would ruff in dummy, draw trumps and claim. Instead, North leads a low spade; you play the king, (South can hardly have ace-king, ace, ace and have passed one heart), draw trumps and claim. There is nothing more to do but await congratulations from your partner, and here they are.

Plus 140 was worth 7 IMPs to East/West. Had North/South carried on to four clubs or defeated three hearts, they'd have moved from third to second overall. (*Peter Gill is a very modest guy. This level of play propelled Sylvester and Gill to first place overall. – Ed.*)

### Major Event Winners

#### National Open Teams Championship

Michael Cornell/Ashley Bach, Michael Whibley/  
Matthew Brown, Tony Leibowitz/David Beauchamp

#### National Seniors' Teams Championship

Jonathan Free/Ron Klinger, Robert Krochmalik/Paul  
Lavings, Kim Morrison/Paul Wyr

#### National Women's Teams Championship

Margaret Bourke/Sue Lusk, Jessica Brake/Jodi Tutty

#### National Open Swiss Pairs Championship

Craig Gower/Alon Apteker

Bridge  
Great  
Britain





## Camrose Crackers

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

The first match of the United Kingdom's 2018 Camrose Trophy series was one of the most exciting on record, involving a series of deals where slams were paramount. These were the most discussed...

#### Dealer North. Both Vul.

<p>♠ 7 6 2 ♥ 9 8 4 ♦ K Q 9 8 3 ♣ Q 6</p> <p>♠ A J 4 ♥ 10 ♦ A J 10 7 ♣ A K 9 7 4</p> <p>♠ Q 10 9 8 5 ♥ 7 6 ♦ 5 4 2 ♣ J 8 5</p>	<p>♠ K 3 ♥ A K Q J 5 3 2 ♦ 6 ♣ 10 3 2</p>
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The common auction saw East open one heart and rebid three hearts, West then driving to six hearts or

six notrump. That is what Ireland did in their match against the Contract Bridge Association of Ireland team (the host of the second of the two weekends of competition gets an extra team to obviate the need for bye matches). This was what happened at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Coyne	Garvey	Goodman	Carroll
—	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	5♠ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
5NT <sup>3</sup>	Pass	6♠ <sup>4</sup>	Pass
7♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. RKCB
2. 2 key cards plus the heart queen
3. King ask
4. Spade king

Expecting his partner to hold an eight-card suit, vulnerable, West thought it safe to ask for kings.

South led the seven of hearts and declarer could see that at the very worst the contract would depend on the spade finesse. However, he had a number of additional chances. He won with dummy's ten of hearts, cashed the ace of diamonds, ruffed a diamond high, drew trumps, cashed dummy's top clubs, ruffed a diamond and played trumps, pitching three clubs and a diamond from dummy. The queen-jack of clubs had not fallen, nor had the king-queen of diamonds appeared, but the last trump caught South in a show-up squeeze for a 13-IMP pickup.

Everyone was talking about my second offering:

With neither side vulnerable, your partner deals and passes. West opens with four hearts. Your modest collection as North is:

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

What do you bid?

At five of the six tables, North overcalled seven spades. That went back to West, who doubled. Time to check out the full deal:

#### Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Somerville	Byrne	Tranmer	Dyke
—	—	—	Pass
4♥	7♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Redouble	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Four Norths passed the double; Michael Byrne was the fifth. It might be that Byrne's redouble was an attempt to get his partner to convert to seven notrump if he happened to hold the ace of hearts.

East was not hard-pressed to lead the jack of clubs and every declarer suffered a ruff.

At the sixth table, Scotland's Mike Ash started with five hearts and, when his partner bid six clubs, he went on to the doomed seven spades.

The advantage of starting with five hearts is that every once in a while South will respond six diamonds, whereupon North can happily raise to seven diamonds. After the response of six clubs, suppose North bids six hearts? If South takes that as asking for a choice between spades and diamonds will he not bid seven diamonds?

At least one World Champion thought seven hearts was the right bid over four hearts – it must be asking South to bid seven spades – but I think five hearts is superior. After all, East might have something like five spades to the ten.

If I ever get around to writing a series called *Misbid This Hand with Me* I might just include this one.



The Michael Seamon United States Junior Bridge Championships took place in Atlanta from December 27 to 31, 2017. The strongest team was Adam Kaplan/Christian Jolly, Zachary Grossack/Oren Kriegel and Benjamin Kristensen/Kevin Rosenberg. Four of them, Kaplan, Jolly, Grossack and Rosenberg, won the World Under-26 Youth title last August in Lyon, France. (The other two players on that team, Anam Tebha and Adam Grossack, are now too old to compete.)

In Atlanta, the Kaplan team won the USA I spot easily. Their opponents conceded the final with 15 of the

120 boards to be played, with Kaplan ahead by 228 IMPs to 166. They will surely be the favourites for the World Championship, which will be played in Suzhou in August. That town is some 65 miles west of Shanghai.

Grossack's play on this deal caught my eye.

#### Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Kriegel	—	Grossack
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At the other table, South had ended in five clubs doubled and lost 800, so the result in three notrump did not matter much—but Grossack did not know that.

Grossack's one-spade rebid indicated an unbalanced hand, a style I really like. So Kriegel, knowing his partner had five or more clubs, was happy to invite game with his three-club rebid. Then South, with hearts held, went for the nine-trick game.

West led the heart six: three, jack, king. Declarer cashed his club king, then played a club to dummy's ace. Strangely, this sort of squeezed East. Knowing South had four spades, East did not want to pitch from that suit, and he wished to keep his hearts. So he discarded the diamond deuce.

The significance of this card was not wasted on Grossack. Surely this meant that East had started with at least five diamonds. So, declarer played a spade to his queen, returned a diamond to dummy's ace to denude West of that suit, then ran the heart eight. West cashed his hearts to leave this position:

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

Cont. on p. 10 ...



# IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

## 889. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

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

1. At least 5-5 in the minors

The game was matchpoint pairs and this particular West was incapable of passing on two-suited hands such as the one he held. North cue-bid in diamonds to show a limit raise or better in spades and went on to game when his partner signed off.

West did not want to lead either of his minors, fearing that to do so would cost a trick. As a singleton trump is usually an awful choice for the opening lead, that left him selecting the nine of hearts to begin the play. Declarer took this in hand with the ace to lead a club. West played low and dummy's queen won the trick. After returning to hand with a low trump to the king, declarer led a second club. West rose with the ace of clubs and exited with a club to dummy's king. Declarer threw a heart from hand and now had to decide how to continue.

If West had a second trump, then it would be difficult to succeed unless the queen of trumps was a doubleton. Instead, declarer went with the odds (as there were more hearts outstanding than spades) and cashed the king of hearts. When West followed with the four of hearts he was marked with an original 1=2=5=5 shape. This meant East had started with 4=4=2=3 distribution. Declarer's saw that his only hope was to make the jack of trumps by reducing his

trump length to two, one fewer than the number East now held.

So, declarer ruffed a heart low then crossed back to table with the ace of diamond to ruff a second heart, reducing everyone to four cards. Then declarer exited with the queen of diamonds. West took this with the king and tried to cash a second diamond. Alas, for the defence, East had only the queen-ten-nine of trumps remaining, and had to ruff the third round of diamonds and then lead a trump, ensuring that dummy's jack of trumps would make a trick. Declarer took three trumps, two hearts, two heart ruffs, a diamond and two clubs for a total of ten tricks.

## 890. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

This deal is from an intermediate class on entries. West led the queen of hearts, and all of the declarers failed to make the contract. All four took the first trick in hand with the king and thereafter did not have the entries to make the contract (thanks to the teacher's instructing West to take the ace of clubs on the third round of the suit). In the review, the teacher explained that declarer should make four tricks in spade, two in hearts and three in clubs provided that the entries were used appropriately.

The teacher continued by pointing out is that if you are to make certain of three club tricks declarer may need a side-suit entry to cash an established club winner. So, as the spade suit will need to be unblocked if declarer is to make four tricks when the suit is not

3-3 (as expected), the only late entry to the closed hand will be in hearts. Accordingly, the teacher pointed out that the first trick must be won with dummy's ace of hearts. The next move must be to cash three spade winners in hand. Then a club is played to the ten, which holds. After cashing the king of spades and throwing a low diamond from hand, declarer continues with the jack of clubs. When that holds, declarer plays a third club to the queen and West's ace. West now shifts to a diamond. East wins the trick with the ace of diamonds and switches to a heart. Declarer rises with the king of hearts, then cashes the king of clubs: he makes four spades, two hearts and three clubs for a total of nine tricks.

**891. Dealer North. EW Vul.**

♠ 6 4  
♥ 8 6 4 2  
♦ A K Q 3  
♣ K 6 3

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

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

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

West began with the ace and king of hearts. Declarer ruffed the second heart and drew trumps in three rounds, throwing a heart from the table. Declarer saw that he would always have ten tricks if either diamonds were 3-2 or West had the ace of clubs, so he considered what could be done if both of these possibilities failed. He saw that the only hope in such circumstances was that East had the queen of clubs. Accordingly, he crossed to dummy with the ace of diamonds and led a low club toward his hand.

East rose with the queen of clubs and led a third heart. Declarer ruffed and led the jack of clubs which was taken by East with the ace. (South was pleased to see that East had that card too.) East continued with a fourth round of hearts; declarer ruffed in hand and threw the three of diamonds from dummy. He then played a diamond to the king and was chuffed when East discarded a club. Declarer made six trumps, three diamonds and a club for a total of ten tricks.

You should note that nothing is lost by this approach of not playing a second diamond when West turns up with the queen of clubs. You can still have the original chances of the ace of clubs being onside or diamonds

being 3-2. The danger of playing a second diamond before leading a low club can be seen just by transferring the ace and queen of clubs to West: West wins with the queen of clubs and plays a third round of diamonds, making the king of clubs unreachable; West would make a heart, two clubs and a diamond.

**892. Dealer East. NS Vul.**

♠ Q 9 6 3  
♥ 6 5 2  
♦ Q J 6  
♣ Q 5 2

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

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

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

1. Penalty-oriented
2. Forces East to rebid 2♣

West led the ten of diamonds. After inspecting dummy, declarer noted he had nine certain tricks. He observed that from East's opening bid that the missing aces and kings were all on his right. Declarer saw a plan that enabled to put that knowledge to work to make a tenth trick.

After declarer called for the jack of diamonds at trick one, East took this with the king and switched to the jack of hearts. Declarer won with the ace and led his jack of trumps to dummy's queen. East won with the ace and exited with the ten of hearts to declarer's king. Declarer's next move was to draw the outstanding trump by leading his eight of trumps to dummy's nine so that he could ruff dummy's six of diamonds with his king of trumps. After cashing the queen of hearts, thereby eliminating the suit, declarer led his carefully preserved four of trumps to dummy's six and called for dummy's queen of diamonds. When East covered this with the ace declarer discarded the four of clubs from his hand instead of ruffing.

East was endplayed and had no winning option. If he led a club, then dummy's queen of clubs would make a trick and see declarer home. The alternative was to concede a ruff-and-discard with a red-suit return; declarer would discard the six of clubs from hand and make his tenth trick by ruffing in dummy. Accordingly East folded his cards, conceding the rest, and said, "Well played."

West led the spade ten, ducked to South's jack. Then Grossack cashed his club queen and played another club. He claimed the last two tricks with the spade ace and club ten. Very nicely done.



It is often very difficult, if not impossible, to play in a superior seven-card fit rather than an inferior eight-card fit. This is mainly because players generally rate the shape of the hand higher than the location of the high-card points.

Qi Shen and Wenfei Wang, playing as the anchor pair for the Chinese Women's Team, showed us a perfect example of how to accomplish this tough task on the last board of their final Venice-Cup round-robin match against USA2.

### 43<sup>rd</sup> World Bridge Team Championship (August 19, 2017)

#### Venice Cup Round Robin, Round 21 (China vs. USA2)

#### Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Shen	Jenkins	W.Wang	Winestock
1♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	1♠ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT <sup>3</sup>	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	4NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass
5♦ <sup>6</sup>	Pass	5NT <sup>7</sup>	Pass
7♥ <sup>8</sup>	Pass	7♠ <sup>9</sup>	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 16+ HCP
2. 5+ spades, 8+ HCP
3. Waiting
4. Diamond control

5. Roman Key-Card Blackwood
6. 0 or 3 key cards
7. Asks for specific kings
8. I believe we have 13 tricks in hearts
9. Here is the best spot

The play was simple, and Wenfei soon recorded plus 2210.

The key moments in the auction were:

- (i) Two notrump and three spades. Both players showed great ability in hand evaluation and keen table sense by focusing on their strong primary suit rather than introducing the mediocre second suit, in this case the four-card diamond suit.
- (ii) The control-bid of four diamonds with the singleton king of spades in support. This confirmed spades as trumps, paving the road to the best contract.
- (iii) The two-round Roman Key-Card Blackwood bids are very clear-minded.

At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Moss	Huang	Goldberg	N.Wang
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
4 <sup>2</sup>	Pass	4NT <sup>3</sup>	Pass
5♥ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	6♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Asking
2. Control in spades
3. Roman Key-Card Blackwood
4. 2 key cards without the diamond queen

It was somewhat lucky for Moss to find Huang's singleton diamond to be the ten, as she might even have gone down if the singleton had been the king or a low card. Making six diamonds was good for plus 1370, but 13 IMPs to China.

Among the 22 teams in the quest for the Venice Cup, half of them made six diamonds the final contract, and two declarers went down. Two pairs played in six hearts, three in six spades, and one in six notrump. Two stopped in three notrumps, and one in four spades. Only two pairs reached a grand slam, and Qi and Wenfei were the only pair landing in seven spades, the best contract. The other grand-slam bidders chose seven hearts, which required some good fortune after a club lead.

This deal helped China en route to a 67-5 win, which converted to 20:0 in VP.



Just three days into 2018, the first candidate for the Worst-Played Deal of the Year came to my attention. To put a more positive spin on it, the first in the Best-Defended category.

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The scene was the £30 game at TGR's. East was the rubber bridge predator of Brighton, Sven Gunnar Hallberg, two-time senior world champion. Many have reason to curse the uneven service delivered by Southern Rail, but not the TGR set. Every minute that the Swede is delayed on his way to London Victoria is one in which they remain unparted from their loose scratch. Of course, for Hallberg, the transfer of funds is a cultural experience. What his customers yield in monetary terms, they recoup in exposure to the beauty of the game. He says the same about backgammon.

North, with only 18 facing a possible 14, pushed the boat out with four notrump. His values were crisp though – no jack, and his only queen was in opener's suit. He had a third card in diamonds rather than clubs and the ten of spades had to be an asset. South accepted readily with his good diamonds. The hands fitted well and six notrump appeared to be no worse than on a finesse.

South took the jack-of-clubs lead with the king and led the king of diamonds, getting the bad news in that suit. With only four tricks in diamonds via the finesse, declarer needed four spades, one heart and three clubs

to get up to 12. Making a fourth spade meant finessing the ten or dropping the jack. As the suit lay, South couldn't go wrong. Scoring a heart trick meant leading to the king, a play that was also due to succeed.

All seemed set fair for declarer, but look what happened. South took the queen of diamonds and finessed the ten, West discarding clubs. On the ace of clubs at trick five, Hallberg shed a devious ten of hearts, creating an Idiot's Finesse position for his opponent in hearts. If declarer could finesse for West's queen of hearts, South calculated, he wouldn't need the fourth spade trick. What he thought East had thrown the ten of hearts from is not on record. South advanced the jack of hearts and ducked in dummy when West played low. Hallberg collected the queen of hearts and played a heart to West's ace for one down. That was hilarious to all but South.



In the play-off for third place in the Australian Youth Team, this deal proved crucial to the successful pair.

**Dealer East. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	McGrath	Pass	Cooper
1♣ <sup>1</sup>	INT	Double <sup>2</sup>	2♣
Pass	Pass	Double <sup>2</sup>	Redouble <sup>3</sup>
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 2+ clubs
2. Penalty
3. SOS, please pick some other suit

With respectable clubs, Francesca McGrath, North, toughed it out in two clubs redoubled. After all, partner, Renée Cooper, had to play it. West led the three of diamonds: ace – jack – four. South played the four of spades: five – nine – queen. West switched to the ace and four of clubs, ducked to the queen. East continued

with the ace of spades, then the jack of spades (fatal), ruffed in dummy. These cards remained:

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

So far, the defence had two spades and two clubs. South cashed the king of clubs: eight – spade ten – spade queen, and the jack of clubs: nine – diamond two ... if West discarded a diamond, the diamond king and the diamond six would endplay him to give South three heart tricks. When instead West discarded the four of hearts, South exited with the six of diamonds. East had to win and had to play a heart. That also gave South three hearts tricks and two clubs redoubled for plus 760 and plus 14 IMPs.

If Cooper had gone down on that deal, she and McGrath would have missed out on the Australian Youth Team.



## TOURNEY DOMINATED BY HOOVES AND ANTLERS

At the fifty-second annual North Pole Regional, local reindeer are invited to attend. This has caused complaints from the Eskimos who cite 'hoofings' and 'antler gougings' as reasons for barring the reindeer; but the truth is that no Eskimo has won since the reindeer were admitted in 1976.

At one table (See top of next column) Mush, the top Eskimo player, opened the South hand with four notrump, Blackwood. (Eskimo bidding left a lot to be desired.) His partner, Slush, showed no aces (what a surprise!) and Mush continued with five notrump to ask for kings. When Slush showed one king, Mush still had no idea what to bid and he took a stab at six notrump.

## Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Slush</i>	—	<i>Mush</i>
Pass	5♣	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	6NT

West led a spade and Mush was...well, in the slush. He had ten top tricks in his hand and two in dummy, but there was no way to reach the dummy. He played skillfully (end-playing East) to escape for down one. After the session he asked some of the reindeer what they had done on this annoying deal.

"Oh, we bid seven spades," said Randolph, "and I made it on a trump coup. After ruffing three times in the North hand, I ended with South on lead and West's spade jack was trapped in the end position. Not much to it really."

"We bid seven hearts," exclaimed Raymond. "West led a spade and I had to hope for miracles. I ruffed the third round of diamonds in dummy then, fearing a bad spade break, I led the club ten for a finesse. When this held I took the heart finesse and all of a sudden my hand was good. Making seven!"

"How about that!" echoed Ralph. "We bid seven diamonds and I made it the same way."

"Guess what?" chimed in Rudolph. "We bid seven clubs...some kind of Gerber malfunction as I recall. I won the spade lead, cashed all my red-nosed...er, red-suit winners, and ruffed a heart. The spade king was ruffed and over-ruffed, then a diamond ruff gave me thirteen tricks. Rather easy."

## ESKIMO HOSPITALIZED BY NORTH POLE REGIONAL DEAL

This deal from the North Pole Regional caused havoc for many North/South pairs who bid too much with their 31 high-card points. Indeed, one Eskimo was hospitalized after he bid a slam – it seems the reindeer sitting East-West celebrated the defeat with

too much glee, dealing the Eskimo an antler in the ear. Latest reports indicate he is recovering.

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

Most of the reindeer duplicated the auction of Randolph and Raymond, as shown in the following diagram. Randolph, South, opened one club and Raymond bid his diamond suit after West's overcall. Randolph rebid two notrump to show his spade stopper and Raymond raised to four – a quantitative slam try (not Blackwood), which Randolph correctly refused with his lousy 14 points. An excellent auction, but even four notrump proved to be too high.

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Raymond</i>	—	<i>Randolph</i>
1♠	2♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	2NT
Pass			Pass

West cagily led the nine of hearts, rather than present declarer with a spade trick, and Randolph had nine sure tricks: three in every suit but spades. The ace of spades was obviously offside, so he first tested hearts, then diamonds, to see if either suit broke favourably. No luck.

Randolph then cashed his club winners ending in dummy and made one last attempt by leading the nine of spades. If East had played low, Randolph would have ducked it to West who remained with ace-queen-jack-six; but East alertly played the ten and Randolph was defeated.

A discussion was held later to determine if four no trump could be made, but the reindeer failed to find a solution. Even Rudolph, with his inspired play, could win no more than nine tricks after a heart lead. Can you make it?

This was a job for Master Mouse. The reindeer chipped in for a long-distance phone call to the rodent's home, and the answer came forthwith: "Yes...your basic holdup play. Duck the nine of hearts completely, then cash all your red-suit winners on which West discards one spade and two clubs (best). Cash your clubs ending in dummy and West must keep either ace-

queen-jack or ace-queen-six in spades. Either way you can force a spade trick in the end."

## RUDOLPH WINS AGAIN

At the fifty-second annual North Pole Regional Bridge Tournament, Rudolph, the famous reindeer, had returned to defend his championship in the Open Pairs. He and his partner Randolph were the hottest pair on hooves; but they now faced their arch rivals, Mush and Slush (inventors of the vaunted, but dreaded, Eskimo Club System).

**Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Slush</i>	<i>Randolph</i>	<i>Mush</i>	<i>Rudolph</i>
—	1♣	INT	7♦
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Randolph, North, opened one club and Mush overcalled one no trump. This might have influenced the bidding of many South players; but not Rudolph, who had diamonds coming out of his antlers.

"Seven diamonds," he said with defiance.

"Double," shouted Mush after two passes.

The excitement had drawn a large crowd to Rudolph's table and the kibitzers were buzzing.

"Rudolph's bitten off too much this time," said one.

"It can't be made," whispered another.

Slush led the eight of hearts and the contract seemed doomed, as the club finesse was clearly offside. But reindeer have a magic of their own and, to Rudolph, an 'impossible' contract only means that he has to play a little harder.

How did Rudolph make his grand slam?

The heart eight lead was covered by the nine and queen, and Rudolph ruffed with the seven of trumps. Dummy was entered with a spade to lead the diamond four: three; two (East cannot gain by playing his king). Then the ten of hearts was led, covered by East and ruffed.

Rudolph led all but one of his diamonds, discarding clubs from dummy, and then led a spade to dummy in this four-card ending:

♠ A  
 ♥ J 3  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ A  
 ♠ —  
 ♥ 7 6  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ 7 5  
 ♠ —  
 ♥ A 2  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ K 8  
 ♠ 8  
 ♥ —  
 ♦ 5  
 ♣ 3 2

North remained with the heart jack-three and the ace of clubs. There was no defence. East had to keep the ace-two of hearts (else a low heart lead would ruff out the ace); West had to keep the seven-six in hearts (else the heart jack lead would force East to cover and establish the heart three!); so each defender could keep only one club.

Rudolph cashed the ace of clubs, playing the three, and won the last trick with his club two.

And yes, his name will go down in history.



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Do you ever have bridge dreams? I wrote this years ago just prior to a US Senior Championship, in which I played with Ronnie Rubin. One night I dreamt we were back at the Hilton Hotel in New York, playing against the Italian Blue Team of 1975. That was 43 years ago! We really had been there and had played such a match, called the Lancia Teams, and our young squad (with Alan Sontag and Peter Weichsel) had won four Lancia automobiles. The match had been a promotion for the car company and Omar Sharif had played for the Italian team. Here is the deal I'd recalled in the dream.

Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rubin	Forquet	Granovetter	Sharif
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
2♦	3♦	Double	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Rubin led the seven of diamonds (third-best from an even number) and my queen was taken by Sharif's ace. Sharif quickly played the ace of hearts followed by the jack in an attempt to draw the trumps in two rounds, but I won with the queen of hearts and returned the eight of diamonds. My partner won, cashed the ace of clubs and led a third round of diamonds. Omar ruffed with the eight of hearts and I overruffed with the nine to set the contract.

At the other table in the match, Benito Garozzo, sitting West, chose not to overcall, and when our teammates, Alan Sontag and Peter Weichsel, bid to four hearts, Garozzo did not have the same information my partner had. He led a spade at trick one, and declarer made the game.

In my dream, I forgot to double three diamonds!



## Correspondence

The Editor reserves the right to abridge and/or edit correspondence.  
Email: [ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca](mailto:ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca)

Hi John,

Can't believe how much on spot your latest editorial has been. Impeccable timing also! Happy New Year to you and Katie,

Sabine Auken, Copenhagen

John,

Good editorial. You inspired my upcoming column in *The Australian*, attached.

Regards, Paul Marston, Sydney

*Here is a link to Paul's Jan. 20-21 column. You'll need to copy and paste it into your web browser. – Ed.*

[https://webmail.bell.net/appsuite/api/mail/Review\\_20180120\\_031\\_0.pdf?action=attachment&folder=default0%2FINBOX&id=112489&attachment=2&delivery=view](https://webmail.bell.net/appsuite/api/mail/Review_20180120_031_0.pdf?action=attachment&folder=default0%2FINBOX&id=112489&attachment=2&delivery=view)

*However, not everyone agreed with Sabine, Paul and me.*

John,

While I agree completely with the contents of this month's editorial, I do not agree with the conclusion. If we want to be called a sport, then we need to adhere to all that this entails. The Turkish case illustrates only one thing: we need to make sure that our rules and regulations include references to cheating, and fix the penalties accordingly. We do not need to drop out of the sporting world, we need to teach the IOC that specific sports have specific forms of misconduct.

Cheating, as we know it, is almost impossible in other sports. The only other case that springs to mind is that of Modern Pentathlete Boris (dis)-Onishchenko, who in the fencing section at the Montréal Olympics was found to have a switch in his glove to record hits that hadn't actually been made. He was banned for LIFE. When talking of cheating allegations, maybe that case could be recalled so that people realize how bad these actions really are.

Herman De Wael, Wilrijk, Belgium

*As I told Herman, I would agree, IF we were able to 'teach the IOC that specific sports have specific forms of misconduct'. However, I have seen not one scrap of evidence that we are able to do so, and plenty of evidence that the opposite is true. If that is the price we have to pay, my view is that it is not worth it being called a sport.*

Hi John,

I want to inform you about Salim Yilankiran, convicted of cheating with a kibitzer by the Turkish Bridge Federation and barred for life. Believe it or not, he played on Vu-Graph in the Istanbul Open Team Championship last night.

Yilankiran's sentence was shortened to six months (already served) by the Turkish General Directorate of Sports.

Also, Mr. Mehmet Siriklioglu, who partnered Yilankiran for more than 10 years, will play in the Turkish Senior Team at the European Championships this summer. You will ask, "How can it be?" I don't know either and I am very tired of talking about these matters and writing of them in every issue of *Briç* magazine. I am sure (as are many other players) that Siriklioglu was aware of the cheating going on between his partner and the kibitzer Zafer Tigan during the matches. Tigan had been told on at least one occasion by opponents of Yilankiran/Siriklioglu that he was not allowed to kibitz their match. But nobody talked officially, until the conviction.

Regards, Erdal Sidar, Istanbul

Dear John,

It seems whenever non-bridge rules of law get applied, it's impossible to prosecute those who from the bridge community's POV are clearly guilty. In our (second) edition of *The Great Bridge Scandal* by Alan Truscott, there's an interesting Appendix by Allan Falk about why 'beyond a reasonable doubt' is an inappropriate legal criterion for bridge cheating cases.

Ray Lee, Toronto

## NEWS & VIEWS



### WBF Robot Tournaments

WBF Robot Tournaments began on February 1, 2018. BBO, Funbridge and Ourgame have been licensed to run the tournaments. WBF Robot Bridge Points will be allocated at the time of play based on the number of participants and tournament boards. The data from the provider tournaments will be sent to a WBF server and combined with existing data to give an overall WBF ranking based on Robot Bridge Points.

The top players of this overall ranking of Robot Bridge Points will, periodically, be awarded WBF Masterpoints in this new category. WBF Masterpoint totals will appear in a separate WBFRT Ranking with titles of World Robot Tournament Master and World International Robot Tournament Master, in the same way as 'conventional' bridge tournament awards. At the start of the WBF Masterpoint year (just after the WBF World Championships) the top 20 players will be awarded WBF Masterpoints in the main WBF Open Masterpoint rankings.

More information can be found on the WBF website, [WBF Robot Masterpoints Page](#).

# World Bridge Calendar

DATES	EVENT	LOCATION	INFORMATION
<b>2018</b>			
Feb 12-17	27 <sup>th</sup> Sun, Sea & Slams	Christ Church, Barbados, W.I.	roglyn@caribsurf.com
Feb 14-18	Commonwealth Nations Championship	Broadbeach, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Feb 16-24	57 <sup>th</sup> Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Feb 17-23	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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	ACBL Spring NABC	Philadelphia, PA	www.acbl.org
Mar 16-18	48 <sup>th</sup> Kitzbuhl Bridge Days	Kitzbuhl, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Mar 22-25	Tasmanian Festival of Bridge	Launceston, Tasmania, Australia	www.tasbridge.com.au
Mar 25-30	White House Junior Invitational Teams	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	whjuniors2018@gmail.com
Mar 27-Apr 1	123 <sup>rd</sup> Easter Regional	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Mar 28-Apr 1	Nordic Junior Pairs Championship	Falkenberg, Sweden	kansliet@svenskbridge.se
Apr 1-10	Asia Cup	Dhaka, Bangladesh	www.pabf.org
Apr 19-22	XIX President's Cup	Starachowice, Poland	www.senatorbrydz.pl
Apr 25-29	5 <sup>th</sup> Palace Cup	Warsaw, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
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 3-7	Autumn Nationals	Adelaide, Australia	www.abf.com.au
May 4-8	Schapiro Spring Foursomes	Stratford-upon-Avon, England	www.ebu.co.uk
May 5-7	German Bridge Team Trophy	Berlin, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 10	38 <sup>th</sup> Bonn Cup	Bad Godeburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 11-19	68 <sup>th</sup> South American Championships	Bahia, Brazil	http://comandatuba2018.csabridge.org/?lang=en
May 11-20	United States Bridge Championship	Houston, TX	www.usbf.org
May 19-27	Turkish Summer Open Championships	Kusadasi, Turkey	www.tbricfed.org
May 26-Jun 3	Canadian Bridge Week	Montréal, QC	www.cbf.ca
Jun 1-3	31 <sup>st</sup> OECS bridge Tournament	Fort de France, Martinique	www.cacbf.com
Jun 6-16	54 <sup>th</sup> European Team Championships	Ostend, Belgium	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 9-17	20 <sup>th</sup> German Bridge Festival	Wyk-auf-Föhr, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Jun 19-Jul 1	36 <sup>th</sup> International Bridge Festival	Albena, Bulgaria	www.bridge.bg
Jun 29-Jul 10	Biarritz International Festival	Biarritz, France	www.festival-bridge-biarritz.com
Jul 26-Aug 5	ACBL Summer NABC	Atlanta, GA	www.acbl.org
Jul 27-Aug 5	24 <sup>th</sup> Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	mme@svenskbridge.se
Jul 28-Aug 9	Australian National Championships	Hobart, Tasmania, Australia	www.abfevents.com.au
Jul 29-Aug 3	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	mme@svenskbridge.se
Aug 3-7	Summer Festival Pairs	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 3-12	Norsk Bridgefestival	Drammen, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
Aug 8-18	17 <sup>th</sup> World Youth Team Championships	Suzhou, China	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 15-19	Summer Festival Teams	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 18-Sep 2	18 <sup>th</sup> Asian Games	Jakarta, Indonesia	www.ocasia.org
Aug 29-Sep 2	Territory Gold Bridge Festival	Darwin, NT, Australia	www.ntba.com.au
Sep 7-16	Guernsey Congress	Les Cotils, Guernsey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 8-16	57 <sup>th</sup> International Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.pulabridgefestival.com
<b>Sep 22-Oct 6</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Series</b>	<b>Orlando, FL</b>	<b>www.worldbridge.org</b>
Sep 28-Oct 1	Canberra in Bloom Bridge Festival	Canberra, ACT, Australia	www.abfevents.com.au
Sep 29-Oct 6	New Zealand National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzbridge.co.nz
Oct 19-21	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	www.vilniuscup.lt
Oct 25-28	9 <sup>th</sup> World University Championships	Suzhou, China	www.worldbridge.org
Nov 5-11	21 <sup>st</sup> Madeira Bridge Festival	Madeira, Portugal	www.bridge-madeira.com
Nov 8-10	5 <sup>th</sup> Marbella International	Marbella, Costa del Sol, Spain	www.marbellabridge.com
Nov 22-Dec 2	ACBL Fall NABC	Honolulu, HI	www.acbl.org
Dec 27-30	Year-End Congress	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk