



## BULLETIN

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## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

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## Editorial

*The opinions expressed here are solely those of the Editor, and do not necessarily represent those of the IBPA Executive or its members.*

Bridge tournaments vary widely in popularity. There are many factors that go into the making of a successful bridge tournament but, invariably, a successful tournament has a champion organiser. It helps to have fine weather, good restaurants and great hospitality, but other key aspects are that the tournament be run well and offer something for everyone. Examples of successful tournaments are the Gold Coast Congress (Australia), Madeira, the Swedish Festival and the Gatlinburg Regional in Tennessee.

All these tournaments have a recipe for success and repeat it each year to growing attendance and renown. However, no matter that a tournament has all the attributes needed for success, there are adverse factors that can trump all of those: cost and inconvenience. Such was the case for the Fall NABC in Honolulu. Air travel has become more unpleasant than ever these days with airport angst, long lineups, security and more-cramped airplanes. In addition, hotel and food costs are so high in some places that bridge players cannot be blamed for looking elsewhere to spend their money. A case in point was the Fall NABC in Honolulu; it was simply too expensive and too far away for many. From the eastern time zone of North America, for example, Hawai'i is five time zones away – the same as London. Furthermore, most cities do not offer direct flights; one must change in Los Angeles or San Francisco. Even supposing a direct flight, it can be 11 hours or more in duration. Once one arrived, one was looking at an expensive tournament hotel. There are always cheaper alternatives available and, in consequence, bookings in the tournament hotel were so low that the ACBL appealed directly to members to book it. All this, despite the fact that Hawai'i is a very attractive location.

The ACBL is in a very difficult position: it runs three NABCs every year; if it books one of these tournaments in an attractive city such as New York, San Francisco, New Orleans or Chicago, the cost to attendees is very high. Bucking this trend are Las Vegas and Toronto, also very popular sites, but lower-cost cities than the other attractive ones.

Another factor working against the NABCs is the number of volunteers and financial support needed to run such a tournament. No local organisation has an infrastructure or a financial reserve that can support such an event every year, so it just won't work to say, "Hold the Summer NABC in Vegas every year."

For a number of years, Las Vegas and Toronto vied for the tournament attendance record: they are the only two cities whose NABCs have topped 20,000 tables and between them hold the top six attendance marks. Vegas leads the way with 24,000+ tables in 1991. In contrast, Honolulu had the second-lowest attendance at any NABC since 1960 with 6,034 tables. Previous NABCs held in Honolulu had marks of 11,697 and 8,606 tables.

What can be done? Less attractive cities, with their concomitant lower hotel prices, have a lower potential attendance mark to begin with. Smaller cities make air travel more lengthy and problematic. Another solution for the more-attractive cities is to host the tournament outside, but close to, the city, thus avoiding the crippling downtown hotel rates. But that in turn makes the venue less attractive. Reduce the number of NABCs from three to two? That may be too radical.

The Gold Coast Congress, the Swedish Festival, Gatlinburg and Madeira have proved that you can be a success with an off-the-beaten-path site, as long as the other factors going into a successful tournament are there.

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## 2018 Hainan Bridge Festival

Jerry Li, Beijing

After IBPA Awards Night on October 25, the 2018 Hainan Bridge Festival (HBF) was hosted in Sanya, Hainan Province, China, from October 26 to November 9. With 1789 tables (averaging 119 tables per day) participating in the tournament over 15 days, that was an increase of 16.2% over last year.

The HBF comprises 15 events. These are: Open Teams, Mixed Teams, Senior Teams, Three-Bid Teams, Swiss Teams, BAM Teams, KO Teams, Six-Player Teams, Open Pairs, Mixed Pairs, Pro-Client Pairs, IMP Pairs, Swiss Pairs, Match Pointed Pairs and Every-Night Pairs.

The Three-Bid Teams is a special competition at the HBF. It has a unique rule: each player can make only three bids from one club to seven notrump per board, excepting pass, double and redouble. That makes for a very interesting game; if you've used up your three bids and make a fourth, the opponents can accept it or not. If the fourth bid is not accepted, the offending side's players must both pass. If the fourth bid is allowed, the bidding simply continues.

Here is an example:

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

East has one chance remaining in the bidding: if he wants to try for slam, he needs to be very careful, because his partner is done. So East should simply bid slam or not, rather than trying Roman Key Card. If he does:

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

West must pass. Maybe North would accept a bid by West if he held queen-jack-ten-nine of spades and an outside ace.

Here are two interesting deals from HBF's Three-Bid Teams:

With both vulnerable, you are North and hold:

♠ AJ632 ♥ 96 ♦ AK9753 ♣ —

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

This is your last bid; what information do you have from South? You know he has solid hearts (three hearts would have been forcing) with a game-forcing hand. So, you can gamble on a slam – no more bids can be used; six hearts or seven hearts is ok. Here is the full deal:

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

At 12 of the 50 tables in play, North/South bid to seven hearts. The diagrammed auction was the usual route to the grand slam.

Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Here is the bidding using the Three-Bid Teams rule:

West	North	East	South
2♠	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Two spades was weak, two notrump was a relay, three diamonds showed shortage, three hearts was natural, and three notrump was natural. This time, East knew

his partner had six spades, a stiff diamond, and no support for hearts. So, West had at least four clubs. Five clubs was a reasonable bid. There was no need to worry about a misunderstanding, since Partner had to pass!

Here is another board on which the rule was exhibited:

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	Pass!	Pass	

Two diamonds was an artificial game force; three diamonds showed a five-card suit; four diamonds was a slam try. However, South forgot that his partner had used up his allotment of three bids already, and so had to pass! After three diamonds, South should have bid either five diamonds or six diamonds. Four diamonds is only better than three notrump on an opening heart lead.



The first fixture of the Norwegian League was played at Dal, north of Oslo, on the last weekend of October. It turned out to be an extremely close battle, with fewer than two Victory Points separating the top three teams.

The following deal exhibited a somewhat special bidding sequence:

**Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>B. Hagen</i>	<i>Sundseth</i>	<i>Holmbakken</i>	<i>Kjærnsrød</i>
—	1♦	2♣	Double
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

It is not very often you see a four-card suit bid three times!

East, Johnny Holmbakken, led the ace of clubs and shifted to the queen of hearts, taken by the ace. Per B. Sundseth played a trump to the knave and finessed the ten of spades. He cashed the king of spades, then played another diamond to East's ace. A low club was trumped and on the ace and queen of spades Sundseth discarded a heart and a club. He played a heart to the king, trumped a club with the king of diamonds, and the queen and nine of trumps secured the contract.

Bjørn Halderaker defended accurately to defeat a game contract on this board:

**Dealer North. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Hauge</i>	<i>Halderaker</i>	<i>Sælensminde</i>	<i>Sæterdal</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3♠ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Multi  
2. 4+ hearts

Halderaker led the five of spades to declarer's ten. Sæterdal passed the queen of hearts to Sælensminde's king. East played back the eight of clubs and Halderaker made his first good move by ducking the king. Sæterdal cleared the trumps and proceeded to cash his spades to reach this end position:

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

♠ —
♥ —
♦ A 3
♣ Q 9

When Sæterdal cashed his ace of diamonds Halderaker completed his good defence by unblocking his king, and the contract went one down.

Karl Morten Lunna demonstrated very nice declarer play on this board:

**Dealer North. Both Vul.**

♠ A J 10 5	
♥ K 2	
♦ A J 5	
♣ A K 4 3	

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

♠ 6
♥ 9 8 5
♦ K Q 9 7 6 2
♣ J 9 5

West	North	East	South
Tundal	Bartnes	Kvangraven	Lunna
—	2NT	Pass	3NT
4♥	Pass	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Tundal, West, cashed his ace of hearts and gave his partner a ruff. Kvangraven returned a trump. Lunna trumped his heart with dummy's ace of diamonds, cashed the knave of trumps and played the ace of spades and ruffed a spade. He proceeded to cash his trumps to reach this position (see top of next column):

On the seven of diamonds he threw dummy's four of clubs and East was subjected to a trump squeeze. A spade discard would allow the suit to be ruffed out while a club discard would drop the queen under the ace-king.

♠ J 10	
♥ —	
♦ —	
♣ A K 4	

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

♠ —
♥ —
♦ 7 6
♣ J 9 5



## The ACBL Fall NABC

### Honolulu

**Barry Rigal, NYC**

### The Smiles with the Knife

If Gail Greenberg looks very happy right now, it might be because she is surrounded by family who came to Hawai'i to mark a special birthday. Gail always seems happy at the table, but her opponents don't always leave in such a good mood. Witness Board 19 of the second qualifier in the Life Master Pairs.

**Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

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

♠ K J
♥ K J 7 5
♦ A 8 7 5 3
♣ K 3

West	North	East	South
—	Hand	—	Greenberg
Pass	3♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♦ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	3♥ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- 15-17
- Puppet Stayman
- No 5-card major; at least one 4-card major
- 4 spades

On any lead but a club, three notrump looks comfortable, because diamonds can be established. After the two-of-clubs lead, however, declarer risks losing the ace of spades and four tricks in the minors. How would you plan the play?

Greenberg saw she had a slim but legitimate chance. She won with the ace of clubs and led a spade to the jack and ace. Then she took the club return, unblocked the spade king, crossed to a top heart and led a low spade. When the queen appeared, the ten of spades was her ninth trick for a 90% result.

### Don't Lose Your Head

Sometimes your opponents hand you your head. More often, you are complicit in guillotining yourself. Today's deal may not have had as much slapstick as a "Carry On" movie, but the blood spilt at the end certainly produced a Grand Guignol effect.

### Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

- Clubs

East/West had reached a playable slam, one that looked a lot better to West on the lead of the eight of diamonds. He ran that to his hand, ready to take a heart ruff in hand while drawing trump and claiming. At trick two, declarer led the three of clubs ... and North showed out!

Remarkably, the contract is still cold, though it requires a specific lie of the cards and careful handling. South sensibly ducked the ten of clubs, after which the correct sequence of plays is to unblock the king of diamonds, cash the king and queen of hearts and the ace and king of spades, then the jack of diamonds, pitching the spade loser. A low spade ruff in dummy sees everyone follow. Because South started with: ♠Q109 ♥102 ♦Q43 ♣A9865, this is the ending:

## Honolulu 2018 Fall NABC Major Event Winners

### Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams

Josef Blass-Jacek Pszczola  
Sjoert Brink-Bas Drijver  
Jacek Kalita-Michal Nowosadski

### Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams:

Marty Fleisher-Chip Martel  
Eric Greco-Geoff Hampson  
Joe Grue-Brad Moss

### Marsha May Sternberg Women's Board-a-Match Teams:

Cheri Bjerkan-Pam Wittes  
Ljudmilla Kamenova-Rozanne Pollack

### Keohane Swiss Teams:

Yichao Chen, Bo Fu, Junjie Hu,  
Yan Sun, Jun Zhang

### Mixed Swiss Teams

Ida Grönqvist-Kent Mignocchi-Allison Wilson  
Richard Ritmeijer-Magdalena Tichá

### Baze Senior Knockout Teams:

Drew Cannell-Gaylor Kasle  
Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian  
Michal Kwiecien-Wlodzimierz Starkowski

### Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs:

Joe Grue-Bobby Levin

### Nail Life Master Pairs

David Grainger-Greg Hinze

### Whitehead Women's Pairs

Tatiana Dikhnova-Tatiana Ponomareva

### Senior Mixed Pairs:

John Grantham-Becky Rogers

### Super Senior Pairs

Ellen Anten-Steve Gross

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

When you lead the ace of hearts, South might as well ruff in with the eight of clubs. You overruff, ruff the last spade with the ten of clubs, and South can fold his tent and go home. (At the table, declarer took his ace of hearts prematurely and South could discard his spade to set the slam.)

## Inclusion

Playing in the quarterfinals of the Baze Senior KO, Steve Robinson and Peter Boyd employed an unusual control-asking treatment that landed them in the plum spot.

### Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Robinson</i>		<i>Boyd</i>
	1♠	Pass	4♣ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	5♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	5♠ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	5NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass	7♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter
2. 'Key-Card' ask, including a club void
3. 2 key cards (club void is a key card), no ♠Q
4. King ask; guarantees all key cards and the spade queen

A handy little gadget to have in the toolbox! Should it be called "Roman Key Card Inclusion Super Gerber"?

## A Few Pebbles from the BAM

We all know pairs isn't really bridge as we know it, Jim. And how much more-emphatically can we say that for BAM? That might explain the exploits here:

### Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

Yes, it might have been less dangerous for South to come in with two diamonds a round earlier. But three diamonds it was, and John McAllister led the king of spades. When his partner encouraged, he did very well to play two more rounds of spades. As declarer, I could see my way to nine tricks easily enough – but would that be enough? On any other defence, declarer can ruff out clubs and take ten tricks. So the BAM solution is clear-cut: Pitch a heart on the third spade. Then, win with the ace of hearts, ruff out the clubs and draw trumps ending in the dummy for plus 130 and a flat board.

At the other table, they didn't find the third spade play, so declarer wasn't tested.

## Justifying Partner's Bid

When a world champion doesn't find the winning play, it's always worthy of note. On this deal from the first final of the Blue Ribbon Pairs, Dan Jacob reached a delicate three notrump contract after a somewhat wild and gambling action by his partner. Then the defenders had a couple of chances to beat him, neither of which was easy. See what you think.

### Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

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

North brooded for a few seconds about doubling, then passed. He put the ace of spades on the table, shifting to the seven of hearts when his partner followed with a suit-preference ten. South took his king of hearts and might have contended that North's failure to make a negative double argued that West had to be 1=4=3=5. That being so, only a club exit avoids taking a finesse for declarer. On South's actual choice of the jack of hearts, declarer won with his queen, cashed four clubs ending in dummy and reached this ending:

♠ K 9 8  
♥ 3  
♦ 4 3  
♣ —

♠ —  
♥ 10 5  
♦ A Q 6  
♣ 3

♠ Q J 3  
♥ —  
♦ 10 9 2  
♣ —

♠ 7  
♥ A 6  
♦ K J 8  
♣ —

♠ —  
♥ J  
♦ 10 8 3  
♣ —

♠ 10 8 7 6  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

Irrelevant

♠ A K 9  
♥ —  
♦ 9  
♣ —

Declarer advanced the ten of diamonds, covered all 'round, then took the last club winner to force South to pitch his spade. The ten-of-hearts exit saw South cash two tricks, but he was endplayed to concede the last two tricks to the diamond tenace.

### Clash of the Titans

When the top two teams in the North American Swiss met in round six, the following deal presented the opportunity for very nice play to David Caprera, who outplayed his counterpart to bring home an excellent slam.

♠ Q J 3  
♥ J 10 7 4  
♦ A 10 8 3 2  
♣ A

♠ A K 9 4 2  
♥ A K  
♦ K 9 4  
♣ 10 6 5

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

1. Puppet Stayman
2. Five spades

Caprera won the king-of-clubs lead with dummy's ace. When he cashed the queen of spades, East showed out! Changing tack, Caprera unblocked hearts, ruffed a club and ruffed a heart. When West produced the queen, the rest was easy: ace and king of diamonds, then a club ruff in dummy produced this ending (see *top of next column*):

In the diagrammed position, Caprera led the jack of hearts, discarding the nine of diamonds and claimed the rest. Note that even if the heart queen didn't fall and West had underruffed on the previous trick, declarer would still have succeeded.

Imagine that the queen of hearts and the queen of diamonds are still out. Declarer leads the heart from dummy. If East discards, declarer is home. If he follows, declarer ruffs high and West can underruff again – but will finally be endplayed in diamonds to lead spades for declarer.

### Elegant Endplay

Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

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

1. Transfer to 2♠

When South suggested two or three spades and 5–7 HCP, East went out on a limb and doubled for penalty. North, convinced it could not be a good idea to play in a suit stacked over him, ran to three clubs, doubled for penalty, but less firmly.

The defence started very well: the queen-of-diamonds lead set up a gorgeous red herring. Declarer won in hand, cashed the ace of spades, went to the ace of hearts and led a second spade. West kept up the good work, ruffing in to shift to a trump, letting East play three rounds of the suit. Admire the elegance of the ending. If declarer wins the third club in dummy (which is critical because declarer needs to start eliminating

East's exit cards), he can ruff a heart to hand to reach this ending:

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

Declarer leads a diamond to dummy's ace, ruffs a heart and can exit with an intermediate spade to endplay East to lead spades into the tenace.

If declarer foolishly wins the third trump in hand, he doesn't have the entries to dummy to eliminate East's hearts.



Drew Casen (universally known as Drewski, even on BBO) and Jim Krekorian have been playing together almost as long as Meckwell. They had a lengthy hiatus a few years back but eventually reconciled. As members of the KASLE team in the Baze Senior Knockout and the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams, they performed admirably, taking their tricks and bidding their games, the recipe for success in any league. Their game is not spectacular, but they are tough opponents, making very few errors.

In the KASLE team's close semifinal match against the CHEEK team in the Baze Senior KO, the following deal was critical. With CHEEK leading 64-43 midway through the third quarter ...

**Board 37. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Cheek	Starkowski	Crystal	Kwiecien
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

One might ask, "If you were going to pass two hearts, why disturb one notrump?" Kwiecien won the trump lead in the dummy and played three rounds of spades ruffing the third high. He drew trumps and led the jack of clubs, queen, king, ace. Crystal returned a third-best diamond seven to the ace and Cheek continued with a low diamond. Anyone would have had a tough time getting it right since Cheek had not led the suit initially. Declarer misguessed and so lost two more diamonds for plus 140. He noted that good guesses in the minors would have produced ten tricks and a vulnerable game if they'd only bid it.

West	North	East	South
Casen	Chambers	Krekorian	Graves
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♠ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3♣ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

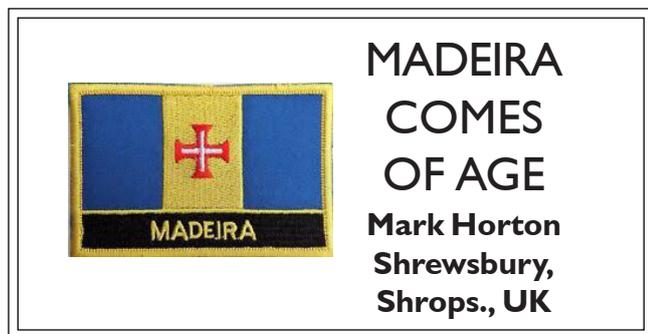
1. Range ask, possibly clubs
2. Would have accepted a 2NT invitation

Graves and Chambers (who, by the way, began playing together in the Sixties, even before Casen/Krekorian, and played in a World Championship together in 1974) did bid a game, Graves accepting the eventually revealed invitation based on his good heart suit. Casen led a spade, surrendering the eighth trick and giving Graves hope. He immediately led his low club to the king and Krekorian's ace. East, of course, returned a spade. Declarer won with the ace and led another club to West's queen. Casen shifted to, you guessed it, the six of diamonds. Graves put in the ten and, when East's jack held the trick, Krekorian wasted no time in returning a diamond for one off, minus 100, and a 6-IMP gain for KASLE.

There are a number of points of interest in the play and defence. Should Graves have led the jack of clubs instead of the seven? Had he done so, Casen might well have covered with the queen, not knowing how many club tricks were needed for the contract and perhaps hoping for ace-eight-fourth and a second club stop with partner, as was actually the case. Then, Krekorian would almost certainly have returned a spade for ten tricks and plus 630 to CHEEK. The second point is that when a good player leads through a queen-ten combination in an obvious cashout situation, should one play him for the ace-king? If the jack is onside with one of the high honours, the book play is to lead the high honour, then follow with a low one, hopefully portraying a

player with both high honours. But then, all these plays are well-known enough so that it becomes a game of cross and double-cross.

Finally, had Graves made three notrump, the 10 IMPs to CHEEK would have widened the KASLE deficit to 31 IMPs rather than narrowing it to 15, putting quite a different complexion on the match. The final score was 113 – 93 IMPs in favour of KASLE.



In November the best bridge ticket involves a trip to Madeira for the legendary Festival, this year celebrating its 21<sup>st</sup> incarnation. Each year surpasses the previous one in attendance and it's no surprise why – the location, the venue, the nightlife, the weather, the cuisine and, not least, the tournament organisation.

### Following the Law

The International Bridge Press Association's annual awards ceremony took place in October in Sanya, China, and now vies with the Oscars as one of the glitziest events of the year: [http://www.jannersten.org:1500/~server/IBPA/archive/Awards/2018\\_IBPA\\_Awards\\_HBF\\_Sanya\\_%20Hi-Res.pdf](http://www.jannersten.org:1500/~server/IBPA/archive/Awards/2018_IBPA_Awards_HBF_Sanya_%20Hi-Res.pdf)

Bridge journalists around the world are busy typing until their fingers bleed in the hope of being nominated for and then winning one of the coveted awards, thereby earning an all-expenses paid trip to Sanya in 2019. One of the categories is for the Best-Bid Deal of the Year. Here is an early candidate ...

Most people are familiar with the concept of the Law of Total Tricks:

*The total number of tricks available on a deal is equal to the total number of trumps each partnership holds in their best suits, being the sum of the number of tricks available to each side if they could choose trumps.*

Although he did not invent it, it was popularised by the brilliant American writer and player, Larry Cohen in two books, *The Law of Total Tricks* and *Following the Law*. This deal from the Warm-Up Pairs in Madeira saw one pair apply the Law in spectacular style:

### Pairs. Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Schoonen	Bocker	Hop	Schneider
—	—	—	1♣
1♦	1♠	6♦!	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East reasoned that 7+5=12 and bid the unbeatable slam, the reflex double from South giving East/West 92 of 100 match points.

### Anti-Percentage?

### Pairs. Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nedelcu	Gromöller	Micescu	Häusler
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South led the three of spades. Declarer won with dummy's king and played three rounds of hearts. When the suit behaved, he cashed two more hearts, discarding three clubs. South was under pressure and I am pretty sure that declarer would have played for a club-diamond squeeze to have operated, but North parted with a spade, so declarer cashed his winners, making sure that trick thirteen was taken by the two of spades. That gave East/West 187 of 204 match points. Two pairs bid and made seven notrumps.

**Continued on page 12...**



# IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

## 929. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

West led the ten of hearts. With 11 top tricks and 12 if spades were 4-1, declarer looked at the possibility of a spade-diamond squeeze against the defender with long spades if they were 5-0. Declarer saw that, if he cashed even one spade and ducked a diamond, a defender with five spades could win it and return a spade, killing the squeeze.

In order to cater for all eventualities, declarer won the first trick with the ace of hearts, then cashed the king of hearts and the ace-king of clubs. Then he led a low spade to dummy's queen. West's discard turned a potential 12 tricks into 11.

While taken aback by this development, declarer had prepared well. He continued with a low diamond from the table and, when East played the jack, declarer took this with the king then ran the ten of diamonds to East's queen. East exited with the jack of spades. Declarer took this in dummy with the ace. He cashed the ace of diamonds and jettisoned the queen of hearts from hand. Declarer continued with the jack of hearts and repeated the manoeuvre by discarding the queen of clubs from hand, thereby bringing everyone down to three cards.

East was reduced to the 10-9 of spades and the nine of diamonds. When the jack of clubs was played, he had no winning discard.

If East had followed to the first diamond with a low one, declarer planned to cover it with the ten. That would prove to be a winning play when East had begun with three diamonds including the nine and at least one honour. Otherwise, the same squeeze would have operated.

## 930. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

West led the king of clubs. Declarer saw that his prospects were not bright: he had nine winners and four likely losers in the minors. One possibility was that West had both the queen and jack of hearts.

After a little thought, declarer decided on a better option. He won with the ace of clubs, playing low from hand. He drew trumps with the king and ace and cashed the ace-king of hearts. After ruffing a heart he returned to dummy with a trump to the queen and ruffed dummy's remaining heart. He exited with the jack of clubs, taken by West with the queen.

As East had signalled that he held an even number of clubs (king for count) and he had discarded a club on the second round of trumps, West shifted to a low diamond. East took this with the ace and returned the eight of diamonds. Declarer went with the odds and played a low diamond (he reasoned that if East had begun both the ace and king of diamonds he might have played differently in the suit). West had to win the king of diamonds, and so declarer made ten tricks: six trumps, two hearts, the queen of diamonds and the ace of clubs.

**931. Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

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

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

1. Good raise in spades

At teams, the auction and opening lead, the queen of spades, were the same at both tables.

At the first table, declarer won with the ace of spades, throwing a club from hand, and then cashed the ace of trumps. The 4-0 break meant that the contract could no longer be made – the defenders would make three trump tricks and the ace of diamonds.

At the other table, declarer judged that from the bidding that West was likely to be short in trumps; he decided that West was unlikely to bid three spades with a doubleton or tripleton heart at the vulnerability. This suggested to declarer that he might have a couple of trump losers. If that were the case, he could afford only one loser in the minor suits.

So, after ruffing the opening lead, declarer led a low diamond. West suspected that the diamonds were more-or-less as they actually were so he rose with the ace and played a second spade. Declarer won with the ace in dummy and threw a club from hand. After ruffing a spade in hand, declarer continued to follow his plan: he played the king and queen of diamonds, throwing two clubs from dummy. After cashing the ace of clubs and ruffing a club in dummy, declarer called for dummy's remaining spade.

East saw that discarding the queen of clubs would be hopeless: declarer would ruff in hand and pass the jack of trumps. Consequently, East ruffed in with the king of trumps while declarer threw the jack of clubs from hand. East exited with the queen of clubs, his remaining non-trump. Declarer threw a diamond from hand and ruffed low in dummy. Declarer now paused to consider what to do next. Clearly, West had started with either a 6=1=3=3 or a 6=0=4=3 distribution.

Declarer saw that cashing the ace of trumps would lose whenever East started with four trumps. On the

other hand a low trump next would lose only to a singleton trump honour with West – which was improbable, as then East would not have started with the values for a cue-bid raise of his partner's overcall. Accordingly, declarer led a low trump next, which limited East to just one more trump trick. Declarer had made his contract, losing only a diamond and two trumps.

**932. Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

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

West led the three of spades, fourth-highest. Declarer saw that he needed spades to be 4-4, and realised that he could not release the king of hearts before he made a diamond trick. The only chance was to time the play in a way that would put the defenders on lead when they could cash three spades and then be forced to give him a second trick in a red suit. As the only sure way of achieving this was to endplay the defence with a spade, declarer saw that he had to take East's king of spades with the ace at trick one. Proceeding with this idea, declarer cashed the ace of clubs at trick two. He followed this by playing a low heart to dummy's ace and then ran the clubs.

Declarer threw three hearts and a diamond from hand; East threw a spade and a heart and West a low heart. Declarer led the king of diamonds, which East ducked in the hope that West had a second diamond. Declarer countered this by playing dummy's eight of spades. East rose with the jack and exited with his remaining spade. West cashed the queen and nine of spades but then had to play a heart, as he had only that suit remaining in his hand. So, declarer had nine tricks – a spade, two hearts, a diamond and five clubs.

Notice that the natural line of trying to cross to dummy with a diamond fails. East wins the trick, the defenders cash the spade suit, then exit with a heart. Declarer never makes a trick with the king of hearts: he would lose three spades and two diamonds.

## Double-Header

Saturday is a real test for the teams as they have to play six matches between 11.30 and 20.30. That's about the same length of time it takes to play back-to-back baseball games, known in baseball parlance as a double-header.

In Round 6, Gladpack faced Team Sara Silva (do you think there should be a prize for the best team name?). The first board was one of the most interesting we have seen so far:

### Teams. Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bartnes	Bilde	Bakke	Eyde
—	2♠	Double	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East led the jack of hearts. Declarer, Bilde, won with dummy's ace, pitching a club, played a diamond to the ace and ran the queen of diamonds, pitching a heart from dummy. He then discarded a club on the jack of diamonds, West ruffing. Bartnes exited with a heart; declarer ruffed and played a spade. East, Bakke, won with the ace and exited with the nine of hearts (the diamond king is a killer). Declarer ruffed, played a club to the queen, pitched a diamond on the ace of clubs and ruffed a club. When Bilde ruffed a diamond with the king of spades and played a club from dummy, that ensured a trick for the jack of spades; plus 420.

West had given declarer a chance by returning a heart rather than a spade; declarer also gave the defence a chance, as if he leaves trumps alone (at double-dummy) and takes the club finesse and cross-ruffs (using the king of spades to ruff a diamond) he will come to ten tricks.

West	North	East	South
Brian	Bogo	Hagen	Fastenj
—	1♠	Double	2♣
2♥	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Hagen also led the jack of hearts. Bogo won with the ace, pitching a club, cashed the ace of diamonds and ran the queen of diamonds, throwing a heart, as had Bilde, and then threw another heart on the jack of diamonds. Brian ruffed and exited with a spade. East won with his ace and returned a heart (as mentioned before, the diamond king is the card to defeat the contract in this position). Declarer ruffed, took the club finesse, cashed the ace of clubs and ruffed a club. He then ruffed a diamond and ruffed a club, but lost the last two tricks to West's queen-ten of spades. That resulted in a debit of 10 IMPs.

In this four-card ending ...

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

... declarer needed to cross to dummy with the king of spades and play a winning club. If West ruffs with the queen of spades, declarer throws the losing diamond away. If not, declarer executes the same *en passant* play that Bilde had at the other table.

Look closely at the trump pips. They are such that as long as declarer does not allow anyone to score a cheap ruff, only three trump tricks will be lost. Having taken a discard on the queen of diamonds, declarer can take the club finesse, then cross-ruff, using the king of spades to ruff the third diamond before ruffing the fourth round with the six of spades. West can overruff with the ten, but declarer has already scored eight tricks and the jack-nine-eight-seven of spades are worth two more. This relies on East holding the ace of spades, but the opening lead and the bidding more or less make that 100%.

This line, not playing trumps at all, will work even when East holds a doubleton ace of spades.

The winners of the main events were:

### Open Pairs

Dennis Bilde/Mads Eyde

### Open Teams

Lars Arthur Johansen, Åsmund Forfot,  
Sverre Johan Ål, Tor Evind Grude



## 2018 Chinese National Club Championship

Jerry Li, Beijing

The Chinese National Club Championship was held in Loudi City, Hunan Province, from October 17-24. Ninety-five teams participated in the tournament. The Chinese National Club Championship is one of the four top tournaments in China. The others are the Premier League, the National Teams Championship (similar to the GNT in the ACBL) and the National Tournament (similar to an NABC).

The National Club Championship has three divisions and one Women's group. The first division has 16 teams, the second division has 24 teams, the third division has 38 teams and the Women's group has 17 teams.

Teams in each of the three divisions are promoted or relegated based on these conditions: The 3<sup>rd</sup> division has eight teams promoted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> division, the 2<sup>nd</sup> division has four teams upgraded to the 1<sup>st</sup> division. The 1<sup>st</sup> division has four teams relegated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> division. The 2<sup>nd</sup> division has eight teams downgraded to the 3<sup>rd</sup> division.

The tournament format is quite complicated. In the 1<sup>st</sup> division, the 16 teams play a round robin; the top four teams go into semifinals with both winners going into the final and both losers into the other KO. The No. 5-8 teams also go into the other KO where they compete for the bronze medal. The winners play a KO match against the semifinal losers, while both losers are finished. The No. 9 and 10 teams are finished. The No. 11 and 12 teams play a head-to-head KO; the winner is finished, while the loser plays against the No. 13 and 14 KO winner. This KO winner holds its 1<sup>st</sup> division position and the loser is relegated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> division. The No. 15 and 16 teams of the Round Robin and the 13/14 KO loser are automatically relegated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> division.

In Chinese tournaments now, some foreign players join Chinese teams and compete for great honours. This year, some foreign pairs played in the National Club Championship. Two Polish pairs played in the 1<sup>st</sup> division; Jacek Kalita/Michal Nowosadski played in the Mianyang Jinshuo team (they were formerly in the Pan-China team and were defending champion of this tournament); Michal Klukowski/Piotr Gawrys played in the ORG Team (they were 1<sup>st</sup> runner-up in this tournament). One Norwegian pair, Boye Brogeland/

Espen Lindqvist, played for PD Times (with Marc Chen who is PD Times founder, Fu Zhong and Jerry Li). One Swedish pair, John Upmark /Fredrick Nyström, played in the Reignwood team; one Italian pair, Andrea Manno/ Massimiliano Di Franco, played for the Sunchen Foundation team; one Singapore pair, Hua Poon/Choon Chou Loo, played for Zhejiang Qiantang. One Bulgarian pair, Jerry Stamatov/Dilyan Danailov, played in the Shanghai Yitong team in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division. They have two Chinese players who won the Reisinger last year and were looking for promotion to the 1<sup>st</sup> division.

After five days of Round Robin, the Jinshuo team, Sunchen Foundation, PD Times and Wuhan Dongfang went to the semifinal. Jinshuo chose Dongfang, while Sunchen played against PD Times. PD Times beat Sunchen by 31 IMPs, but the other match was very close. Dongfang lost by 3 IMPs, but went to the final because they had 5 IMPs carryover. So the final was between PD Times and Wuhan Dongfang.

Unfortunately, PD Times had a big problem before the tournament's start when Espen Lindqvist became ill and had to go back home. Boye Brogeland and Fu Zhong became a new partnership, and Jerry Li then played with Mr. Hou (a new team member). They almost didn't qualify from the Round Robin and needed a swing on the last board to make it.

In the final (80 boards over 5 sessions), PD Times did very well, especially Chen and Brogeland. The final score was 206 – 154.67 IMPs for PD Times. This was the first Chinese Championship for Brogeland, finishing just before he went to Sanya to get his IBPA award.

Here are a couple of interesting deals from this tournament ...

### RR 11. Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Hou</i>		<i>Li</i>	
—	—	—	Pass
1♣ <sup>1</sup>	1♥	Pass <sup>2</sup>	Pass
Double	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass
1. 16+ HCP			
2. 0-4 HCP			

The jack of hearts was led. Dummy's ace won the first trick. Declarer cashed two rounds of diamonds and saw the 4-1 break when South pitched a spade.

Considering North's overcall of one heart, it was likely that he held the ace of spades. If declarer then set up diamonds, North could establish his hearts while he still had the spade ace. So declarer played the king of spades, which North won with the ace. North continued with the queen of hearts to the king. Declarer ran the ten of spades and cashed the queen; North pitched the eight of clubs.

At that point, declarer had eight tricks: two spades, two hearts, three diamonds and one club and knew that North was 2=5=4=2. Declarer played a low club from dummy; ten, jack, queen. South cashed his spade tricks, but then had to play clubs from his remaining king-fourth. Declarer took the known finesse for his ninth trick. (*Well played.* – Ed.)

#### Final – Session 4.

#### Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

♠ 10 5 4 2
♥ J 5 3
♦ A 2
♣ Q J 8 6

This was a very important board in the final since the match was close. At the other table, Marc Chen led the seven of clubs against six diamonds. North/South had not bid in the auction, and the declarer decided to cross-ruff. He needed the diamond nine with South to succeed. When he ruffed the third round of clubs, Chen got to over-ruff and the contract went down.

At Brogeland's table, the bidding was:

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>		<i>Fu</i>	
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Double
Pass	Pass	Redouble	Pass
4♦	Pass	6♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Artificial game-force

The seven of clubs was the opening lead. After Fu put down his hand as dummy, Brogeland thought for

ten minutes. From Boye's viewpoint, South made a lead-directing double with only the queen-jack of clubs. If he had five clubs and the ace of diamonds, the slam would be down on a club ruff. Even if North couldn't get a club ruff, the contract still had problems. Brogeland had only two spade tricks, one heart trick and two club tricks, so he would need to get seven trump tricks or set up the spade suit.

After that long thought, Brogeland decided to play at the edge. He played the club ten from dummy at trick one and won East's jack with the king. Then he played the jack of spades and let it run! When the spade jack won this trick, Brogeland ruffed a heart in dummy, cashed the ace and king of spades to pitch clubs, then played ten of diamonds from dummy. When that held, Brogeland ruffed a spade with the queen to set up another winner in that suit. Then he played another diamond to force out the ace. He had four spades, one heart, five diamonds and two clubs for 12 tricks to make the slam.

Wonderful, Boye!



Sometimes, at a decisive point of declarer's play, we have several possible lines of play to choose among. First of all, we have to reduce the number of those lines. Then, an additional problem arises quite often: one of the lines includes certain subjective components, for example, table presence. Players who present declarer-play problems at [bridgewinners.com](http://bridgewinners.com) do not always see (but often feel) that the crucial point that makes their deals difficult and worth discussing in expert forums is exactly this subjective component.

The following problem, for participants in the [bridgewinners](http://bridgewinners.com) forum, was presented by Steve Martin. In an uncontested two-over-one auction with South the dealer, the bidding was as follows:

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

After the king-of-clubs lead, we see:

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

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

At first glance, and according to Martin, the situation is difficult. One could consider finessing in spades at trick two. This line will be successful in about 50% of cases, when the finesse works. Perhaps more, if we believe West would have led a trump holding the queen of spades. However, if West's queen takes the second trick, our chances depend on so many factors that one must take into account the possibility to reject – at least for the moment – further analysis.

Chances can be significantly improved if we – instead of finessing – play the ace, king and a low spade. Then, playing on a crossruff, we need not much worse than to be able to successfully ruff the third spade low in the dummy (assuming the queen does not drop under the ace-king). The probability of that is about 70%. Yes, it is true that one can find some 4-2 breaks that defeat us, but there also exist some 5-1 heart breaks we can survive.

The crossruff line can be executed with two different beginnings, either playing spades at once, or ruffing a club at trick two. Each move has some advantages and some disadvantages.

There is another, unexpected, line. This line needs much more attention than the previous ones. What if we ruff the club lead in the closed hand and lead the nine of diamonds? At first glance, there are two important reasons not to play this way:

1. We could lose two tricks in the suit, a suit in which we only had to lose one.
2. Why try to establish a suit we are not going to use because of entry shortcomings?

There are several counterarguments, however. The first is subjective: if West has the diamond ace, it would be difficult to duck in tempo. It would be clear that declarer had one or two diamonds. In either case, ducking could be catastrophic. If declarer has two diamonds (as it is in reality), he can discard the other one on the ace of clubs after winning with the king of diamonds.

So, if we assume that West would play the ace if he had it, then we duck in dummy if West does not play it. So, in 75% of the cases, we do not lose anything by adopting this line. At least at first glance.

Playing on crossruff lines, we take many tricks at the beginning. Afterward, however, we are in danger of losing control.

The second question was posed by Mark Bartusek: <https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/percentage-play-to-find-the-queen-in-6h/?cj=709277#c709277>

In a Swiss Teams contest (where the only goal is to make the contract), with both sides vulnerable, Bartusek gives only the beginning of the auction ...

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Double	Redouble	1♠	3♥
...			

Later, the bidding, according to Bartusek, was not ideal, and South became declarer in six hearts. Six (or even seven) clubs is a better contract, as can be seen from the diagram below. After the king-of-diamonds lead, we (South) have to take 12 tricks with:

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

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

Bartusek proposed winning the diamond and then making our analysis. Here as well, one may criticize the first trick decision, arguing, with 100% conviction, that we may say that the lead was made from a king-queen combination. Therefore ducking might be helpful.

We have to look for an optimal solution from a given decision point. In this case, we have to decide what to do at trick two. Maybe this is not the clearest example, but even the most inquiring experts sometimes make 'automatic' moves that are far from optimal.

In the previous problem, a psychologically motivated line occurred AFTER the standard analysis. Here, to start a meaningful analysis, such a line has to be considered BEFORE the normal reasoning. We have no rational clue. Yes, West showed some high-card points in the bidding but, after the lead, we may say that the location of the queen of hearts is absolutely undetermined. Besides the king-queen of diamonds, West is a favourite to hold the king of spades, since his vulnerable double was spade-oriented and it was done after North/South had already showed some strength.

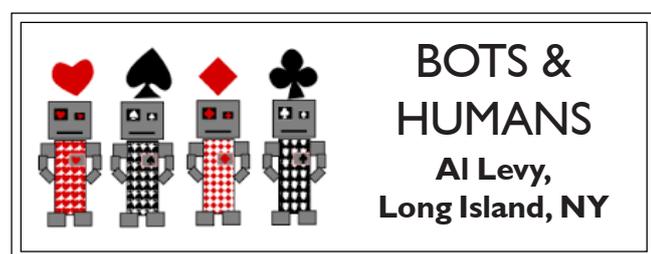
A strange (or even surprising) line starts with cashing the club ace. The explanation is quite sophisticated:

1. It would be difficult to succeed with a 3-0 club division.

- We may drop the club queen. If East has it, then we can be reasonably certain that the heart queen is in West's hand. Similar reasoning with the opposite conclusion occurs when West drops the club queen.
- If both opponents follow low (which is most probable) then the favourite to hold the club queen is West. His most probable distribution is: 4=2=5=2. Now we 'know' that East has the queen of hearts. With both queens and the king of spades, in addition to his already-revealed king-queen of diamonds, West would have opened the bidding.

This sophisticated reasoning – which assumes West has the king of spades – leads to another strange move at trick three, assuming both opponents followed low in clubs. Since West could have 4=1=6=2 or even: 5=1=5=2, in both cases, without the queen of hearts – we should play a low heart from dummy to the jack in our hand. We may need the ace of hearts as an entry to dummy (and not through ruffing spades) to take another finesse.

One of the 'normal' lines, which will be also successful if the presented 'strange' line is OK, would have an a priori probability lower than 50%. The proposed line has a higher probability, but is based on psychological assumptions.



The 22<sup>nd</sup> World Computer-Bridge Championship was held alongside the Orlando World Championships. Congratulations to Wbridge5, for three-peating, defeating Synrey Bridge in the final KO match for the second year in a row. See all the entries, results, interesting deals, and the 22-year history at [www.computerbridge.com](http://www.computerbridge.com).

**Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.**

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

This was the bidding where Shark Bridge doubled Micro Bridge in five spades ...

West	North	East	South
Micro	Shark	Micro	Shark
Pass	1♥	Double	3♥
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♥	Pass	Pass
5♠	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

This board, in the last round-robin segment was played simultaneously in the fifth segment of the three main world championship team events, the Rosenblum Open Teams, the McConnell Women's Teams and the Rand Senior Teams. In two of the bridge-bot matches, the contract was four spades at one table and five spades (once doubled) at the other. In both matches four spades went down while five spades made.

In the Computer World Championship, North led the ace of hearts. In five spades, declarer needs to pick up the diamond suit with one loser, and only has one line of play to make while, in four spades, declarer only needed to make one diamond trick (possibly early, either the first or second time led), with two options, one a winning option and the other a losing one. The losing option was reasonable and taken at both tables.

In five spades doubled, after winning the high heart at trick one, North shifted to the club queen, won by dummy's ace. Two rounds of spades followed, then a club to the king and diamond to the ten and ace. With the diamond queen falling under the king, it was plus 850 for Micro Bridge.

Synrey Bridge, also in five spades in another round robin match, received the heart ace lead. It won the club shift with the king, ruffed a heart, played a trump to hand, ruffed the last heart, played the ace of clubs, ruffed a club, pulled the last trump and led a diamond to the ten. Q-Plus Bridge ducked, and the king smothered the queen, for plus 650.

At the two four-spade tables, North opened one heart, East doubled and South raised to two hearts; West jumped to three spades and East raised to game. At both tables, a high heart was led and the club queen shifted to. It is interesting to note that the lead of the king from the ace-king-queen leaves the location of the ace or the queen unknown. If North is marked with the ace-king (queen?) of hearts) and the queen-jack of clubs, there is an even money chance that South holds the diamond ace.

In four spades by West, with trumps 3-1, declarer can't afford to pull all the trumps at the start. Even if declarer guesses right in the diamond suit, the defence will return a heart and if diamonds do not run with one loser, the defence will cash a second heart when in with the second diamond winner to beat the contract.

If declarer pulls only two trumps and plays diamonds, declarer runs the risk of a diamond ruff. However, this might well be is the best line of play.

A reasonable line for ten tricks is as Shark Bridge and Q-Plus Bridge played, ruffing two hearts, pulling trumps, and leading a diamond. This line requires declarer to ruff a club in hand, leaving declarer with only one trump, so it must guess correctly in the diamond suit. Note that Synrey Bridge, in five spades, played the same way and had no choice but to play North for queen and one diamond. In four spades, if declarer guesses right, ten tricks are guaranteed (and eleven as the cards lie), if not, down one. Both robot declarers in four spades went up with the king, and went down one.

In human play, no declarer was in four spades! Past results show that the top bridge-bots are usually more aggressive in the bidding than humans, but not on this deal.

In the Rosenblum final, ZIMMERMANN made five spades at one table and LAVAZZA was down in five spades at the other table, when declarer, at trick three, led a diamond to the king.

In the McConnell match, SMITH made five spades at one table and four hearts at the other. The declarer play in five spades was best, picking up the diamond suit with one loser. At the other table, against four hearts, a spade was cashed and a diamond led away from the king, for a make. West should overtake the spade lead and shift.

In the Rand match, MILNER picked up a small swing, defeating five hearts doubled by two tricks at one table and going down one in the same contract at the other table. MILNER, in defence, overtook the spade king, and played the club king, a club to the ace and a ruff for down two. At the other table, after a spade lead and continuation, declarer ruffed, plays three round of trumps ending in dummy and led a club. West correctly went up with the king, but erred by returning a club rather than a diamond, for down one rather than down two.

In the final match, the last board demonstrated the nature of robot play.

**Board 64. Dealer West. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
Synrey	Wbridge5	Synrey	Wbridge5
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Six clubs was reached at both tables, and at both tables the play was identical. Declarer won the two-of-diamonds lead with its ten, and set about stripping the hand: spade to the king, spade ruff, diamond queen to the king, spade ruff, diamond ace, club ace, club to the king, and spade ace. At both tables East ruffed and led a heart into declarer's ace-queen, taking declarer off the guess of an endplay or heart finesse. If defending double-dummy in the end game, East would see declarer taking the winning position in either case.

Wbridge5 won the title match 151 – 132.



There were points of interest in both the bidding and the play on this deal from the Premier League.

**Dealer West. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
1♠	Double	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

What should South have advanced? The problem with one notrump is that the heart fit may be missed, and the problem with three hearts is that partner might not expect only four hearts and a good spade stopper. At the table, South chose three hearts, thinking that if North had only three-card support and wanted to proceed he could cue-bid three spades, over which

South would bid three notrumps. Indeed, that is what happened in the other room. An initial low club lead might have given declarer a real problem, but I led a spade and, with both red suits coming in, declarer made nine tricks.

At this table, North raised three hearts to four and Heather Dhondy found herself in a rather delicate contract. West kicked off with his singleton ace of diamonds and switched to a low club. To make four hearts without defensive error, declarer has to put in the nine or ten on this trick, but it is hard to know that. Heather rose with the ace of clubs and ruffed a club. Then she played a low heart to dummy's queen, West ducking. This was an error – had he gone in with the king and played another heart (or any spade other than the ace, admittedly, double-dummy), declarer would have been down.

Declarer was home now. She ruffed another club, cashed the ace of hearts and led a diamond – West could ruff with the king of hearts or not – West just makes the trump king and the ace of spades. When he discarded, the jack of hearts brought down the two remaining trumps in the defenders' hands.



Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

This deal comes from rubber bridge at TGR's. Club manager, Artur Malinowski, sprang a novel psychological coup. His opponents erred but were no bunnies. West was Robert Sheehan, 1987 Bermuda Bowl finalist, East the subtle Swedish professional Gunnar Hallberg.

Sheehan led the ace of hearts against four spades and shifted to a diamond. His six fetched the five, queen and ace. Malinowski drew trumps ending in dummy, noting the pitch of the ten of hearts to his right. Perhaps Hallberg intended this to show four remaining hearts; perhaps as a suit-preference signal for diamonds; perhaps a bit of both.

Whatever it was, Artur felt inclined to place the ace of clubs with West. Some open routinely as dealer with ace-king, ace, but not this West player, at any rate vulnerable. If Sheehan held the ace of clubs and king of hearts as he suspected, South was looking at three more losers – two clubs and a diamond. Malinowski tried the effect of the queen of hearts off dummy, discarding the ten of diamonds from hand. Sheehan won with the king, as expected, and paused briefly to assess the situation. Surely South had no more diamonds, if the ten of diamonds were a normal rational card. It seemed like time to play on clubs. Rob cashed the ace of clubs, inspected East's eight, and continued the suit. The Pole collected the king of clubs, crossed to dummy in trumps, parked the two of diamonds on the jack of hearts and spread his hand.

In the cold light of day, as West confessed to me, the ace of clubs was a blunder. If South's shape was 7=1=2=3, East had a singleton club and there was no defence (the jack-nine of diamonds provide a ruffing finesse for South's tenth trick). East also takes a share of the blame. He could have dropped the queen of clubs under the ace, denying the king, prompting West to lead his three of diamonds for one down.

The final result was that four spades made for plus 620 to North/South. The par result was one off for minus 100.



## 2019 World Championships to Be Held in China

The 44<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Team Championships, comprising the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, d'Orsi Senior Bowl, National Mixed Teams, and the World Transnational Open Teams will be held at the Wuhan International Convention Center, Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, from Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2019. See:

<http://www.worldbridge.org/2018/11/05/wuhan-to-host-the-world-bridge-team-championships-2019/>

As more information becomes available it will, of course, be posted on the WBF Website at [www.worldbridge.org](http://www.worldbridge.org).

## Junior Bridge

The WBF has built a team to promote Junior Bridge: Gilad Ofir (WBF Youth Coordinator), Simon Fellus (WBF Secretary), Ana Roth and Fernando Lema. The team started work during Lyon last year. All bridge journalists are invited to go to the website <http://youth.worldbridge.org/> where they will find material for columns, classes and articles, as well as youth bridge news. Here are just a few of the articles that can be found at this site:

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/australia-stars-of-the-future/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/italy-the-factory-of-the-future-by-francesca-canali/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/the-university-of-chicago-bridge-club/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/silicon-valley-youth-bridge/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/acbl-uc-schools-claim-collegiate-crowns/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/wbl-bridge-in-schools-year-review/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/2018-fisu-world-university-bridge-championship-by-milan-macura/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/richard-freeman-junior-deal-of-the-year-2018/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/italy-bridge-maths/>

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/the-master-point-press-ibpa-book-of-the-year/>

## Bridge for the Vision-Impaired

Marina Lantzouni, Thessaloniki, Greece reports on vision-impaired players playing bridge. The Hellenic Bridge Federation is running a project to teach bridge to the vision-impaired. During the first weekend of October, there were three teams of vision-impaired bridge players participating in their own tournament within the Pan-Hellenic Bridge Clubs Championship (with a participation of 270 teams from all over Greece). Their teacher, Emmanuela Kaliampa, started playing bridge in 2012. She knows Braille, sign language, and teaches history of art. See:

<http://youth.worldbridge.org/a-bridge-for-the-vision-impaired-by-marina-lantzouni-greece/>

## Helgemo/Helness Appeal

*Kapital*, a Norwegian online news magazine, reports that Tor Helness and Geir Helgemo have had their prison sentences reduced from 16 and 14 months respectively, to eight and six months. Additionally, Helness and Helgemo must pay fines of 250,000 NOK and 200,000 NOK respectively. The Court of Appeal found the original charges to be less-egregious than originally stated by Norway's Ministry of Finance, thus the reduction in the defendants' sentences and fines.

## ACBL

Executive Director appointed: Joe Jones  
2019 President-Elect: Russ Jones  
2019 Honorary Members: Debbie and Michael Rosenberg  
2019 Hall of Fame inductees: Patty Tucker (Blackwood Award); Michael Seamon (von Zedtwitz Award)



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# World Bridge Calendar

<b>DATES</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>INFORMATION</b>
<b>2018</b>			
Dec 9-16	60 <sup>th</sup> Winter Nationals	Chennai, India	www.bfi.net.in
Dec 14-16	Junior Channel Trophy	Lille, France	www.ebu.co.uk
Dec 15-17	Warwick Wealth Bridge Festival	Cape Town, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
Dec 27-30	Year-End Congress	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
<b>2019</b>			
Jan 9-20	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, ACT	www.abf.com.au
Jan 24-17	Winter in Vienna	Vienna, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Jan 26-Feb 1	60 <sup>th</sup> Bermuda Regional	Southampton, Bermuda	www.bermudaregional.com
Jan 30-Feb 5	Greece Overseas Congress	Athens, Greece	www.ebu.co.uk
Jan 31-Feb 3	Reykjavik Bridge Festival	Reykjavik, Iceland	www.bridge.is
Feb 3-8	Cavendish VI	Monte Carlo, Monaco	www.cavendish.bridgemonaco.com
Feb 11-16	28 <sup>th</sup> Sun, Sea & Slams	Christ Church, Barbados, W.I.	www.barbadosbridge.org
Feb 15-23	57 <sup>th</sup> Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	www.qldbridge.com.au
Feb 19-24	22nd Yokohama Bridge Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 22-28	1 <sup>st</sup> European National Mixed Teams	Lisbon, Portugal	www.eurobridge.org
Mar 1-3	Camrose Trophy	Coventry, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Mar 8-10	Slava Cup	Moscow, Russia	www.slavacup.com
Mar 21-31	ACBL Spring NABC	Memphis, TN	www.acbl.org
Mar 28-31	Tasmanian Festival	Sandy Bay, Tasmania, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Mar 30-Apr 3	Amazing Bridge Festival	Bangkok, Thailand	www.thailandbridgeleague.com
Apr 9-13	Yeh Bros. Cup	Shanghai, China	jonkychung@gmail.com
Apr 9-14	Venice Bridge Festival	Lido, Venice, Italy	www.festivaldelbridgelidodivenezia.com
Apr 16-21	124 <sup>th</sup> Easter Regional	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Apr 26-28	10 <sup>th</sup> German Bridge Team Trophy	Berlin, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Apr 26-May 5	Jersey Festival	Jersey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
May 3-7	Schapiro Spring Fours	Stratford-upon-Avon, England	www.ebu.co.uk
May 4-12	Canadian Bridge Week	Burnaby, BC	www.cbf.ca
May 10-19	USBF Open Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
May 14-20	USBF Women's Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
May 17-25	CACBF Championships	San Jose, Costa Rica	www.cacbf.com
May 22-29	USBF Mixed Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
May 24-Jun 1	IX South American Bridge Festival	Mar del Plata, Argentina	www.worldbridge.org
May 24-Jun 2	Juan-les-Pins Festival	Antibes, France	www.festivalsdusoleil.com
May 30	39 <sup>th</sup> Bonn Cup	Bad Godesburg, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
May 31-Jun 9	USBF Senior Trials	Schaumburg, IL	www.usbf.org
Jun 11-20	52 <sup>nd</sup> APBF Championships	Singapore	competition@scba.org.sg
Jun 15-29	9 <sup>th</sup> Open European Championships	Kusadasi, Turkey	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 28-Jul 7	62 <sup>nd</sup> Slawa Congress	Slawa, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Jul 12-19	SABF Congress	Durban, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
Jul 13-15	Australian National Championships	Melbourne, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jul 18-28	ACBL Summer NABC	Las Vegas, NV	www.acbl.org
Jul 26-Aug 4	25 <sup>th</sup> Swedish Bridge Festival	Orebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 27-Aug 1	Chairman's Cup	Orebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Aug 2-11	Summer Festival	Eastbourne, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 4-10	Wachauer International Bridge Week	Mautern, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Aug 20-29	6 <sup>th</sup> World Open Youth Championships	Opatija, Croatia	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 22-Sep 1	47 <sup>th</sup> Grand Prix of Warsaw	Warsaw, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Aug 24-Sep 1	7 <sup>th</sup> German Masters Wekk	Berlin, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Sep 6-14	58 <sup>th</sup> International Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.pulabridgefestival.com
Sep 13-22	Guernsey Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 14-28	44 <sup>th</sup> World Championships	Wuhan, China	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 29	2019 IBPA Awards	Hainan Bridge Festival	lijie0511@hotmail.com
Sep 30-Oct 14	Hainan Bridge Festival	Sanya, Hainan, China	wangji_bridge@yahoo.com
Sep 28-Oct 5	NZB National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzbridge.co.nz
Nov 4-11	22 <sup>nd</sup> Madeira Open	Funchal, Madeira, Portugal	www.madeira-bridge.com
Nov 28-Dec 8	ACBL Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org