



BULLETIN

www.ibpa.com

President

Barry Rigal (USA)
+1 212 366 4799

barryrigal@mindspring.com

Chairman

Per Jannersten (Sweden)
ibpa@jannersten.com

Executive Vice-President

David Stern (Australia)

david.stern.bridge@gmail.com

Organizational Vice-President & Bulletin Production Manager

Dilip Gidwani (India)
+91 98214 53817

dilipgidwani@hotmail.com

Secretary

Elisabeth van Ettinger
(Netherlands)
+31 655 680 120

e.ettinger@chello.nl

Treasurer

Richard Solomon (NZ)
+64 9 232 8494

rksolomon@xtra.co.nz

Awards Secretary

Brent Manley (USA)

brentmanley@yahoo.com

Membership Secretary

Katie Thorpe (Canada)
+1 519 981 9248

thorpe.katie@gmail.com

Honorary Auditor

Richard Fleet (England)
richardjfleet@gmail.com

Honorary General Counsel

David Harris (England)

davidrharris@ntlworld.com

President Emeritus

Tommy Sandmark (Norway)
tommy@sandmark.org

THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: John Carruthers

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

Bulletin No. 649

February 8, 2019

Editorial

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

Dr. Samantha Punch is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Stirling and a successful Scottish international bridge player. In 2018, after Professor Punch established the financial wherewithal and necessary support, the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University inaugurated a Ph.D. programme in the Sociology of Bridge. Funding and support for the programme comes from both academic and bridge organisations: for example, the University has just engaged its first Ph.D. candidate in the Sociology of Bridge; and the European Bridge League has contributed 6000 euro to the programme. Professor Punch plans to dedicate the next 15 years of her academic career to establishing and developing this new academic field.

According to the University's literature, sociology is defined as a way of exploring and understanding how society works, so the sociology of bridge is about understanding how the bridge world works: what motivates players, the dynamics of the game and how the game offers opportunities for skills development. It says, 'The Sociology of Bridge is a research project and an emerging academic field exploring interactions within the mind sport, well-being, healthy ageing and social connection as experienced in the bridge world.'

Professor Punch declares that by doing research which highlights the benefits and skills that playing bridge provides, we can develop an evidence base to persuade governments and employers to consider investing in establishing more bridge in schools, universities, and local communities. As part of the sociology of bridge initiative, Professor Punch has started a 'Keep Bridge Alive' campaign. She believes, as do many others, that bridge is on the decline, that fewer people are playing, and that the game will become extinct unless we recruit a new generation of players.

The benefits of bridge are many, varied and well-known. The game:

- teaches teamwork
- encourages immersion in its culture
- promotes focus and clear thinking
- helps keep the brain active and young
- offers a welcome distraction from worries
- facilitates communication
- helps develop social connections
- promotes an intergenerational society.

The 'Keep Bridge Alive' campaign needs players, bridge clubs and organisations, and other supporters, to join them so they can publicise and promote bridge more widely. They would be delighted to hear from you if you can make a financial contribution, have research ideas or expertise, or even if you have the time to support the campaign. Contact them at alumni@stir.ac.uk. Donations will go towards funding researchers to work alongside Professor Punch.

We salute Samantha Punch and wish her all the best in her campaign.

Address all IBPA Bulletin correspondence to: JOHN CARRUTHERS
1322 Patricia Blvd., Kingsville, Ontario, N9Y 2R4, CANADA
Tel: +1 519-733-9247 email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca



The 2018 Premier League Tournament Final took place in Taicang, Jiangsu Province, from November 14 to November 21. Six teams qualified through the first (20th Apr-24th Mar) and second legs (7th July-13th July). They were:

1. Hengzhou Jinrongjia (Thomas Bessis/Cédric Lorenzini, Wang Kui/Shen Siyuan, Liu Haitao/Zhang Yizhuo)
2. Zhejiang Qiantang (Pan Hua/Lu Jinzhou, Dai Jiaming/Yang Lixin, Chen Gang/Qian Jinsong)
3. ORG (John Kranyak/Vincent Demuy, Hu Linlin/Liu Yinghao, Chen Yichao/Hu Junjie)
4. Jinshuo (Jacek Kalita/Michal Nowosadzki, Ju Chuancheng/Shi Zhengjun, Shi Haojun/Zhuang Zejun)
5. PD Times (Marc Chen/Do Lidang, Fu Zhong/Jerry Li, Sjoert Brink/Sebastian Drijver)
6. Pioneers (Patrick Huang/Yan Shi, Sun Gang/Zhang Yongge, Simon Hult/Simon Ekenberg).

As well as all the Chinese, players from France, the USA, Canada, Poland, Chinese Taipei, the Netherlands and Sweden reached the final. The Premier League has become truly international.

In the final, Teams 1 and 2 have a first-round bye – Teams 3 through 6 play the first match, with third picking its opponent from Teams 5 and 6, with the other two teams paired in that KO. The matches are three sessions of 16 boards each for a total of 48 boards. The winners go on to the next stage; the losers enter a playoff in which the winner is ranked fifth in the Premier League and the loser, sixth.

In the next stage, the first- and second-leg winners (No. 1 Hengzhou Jinrongjia, and No. 2 Zhejiang Qiantang), meet the first-round knockout winners; No. 1 picks its opponent and No. 2 meets the other team. The format is a double knockout: an upper and a lower bracket KO. The first match of the double KO is a head-to-head, 96-board encounter. The winners of that first match play another 96-board match with the winner going through to the final match, while the loser goes into the lower bracket.

In the lower bracket, the losers of first match play a 64-board match, with the winner surviving. The loser is placed fourth in the Premier League. The loser of the upper bracket and the winner of the lower bracket

then play a 64-board match with the loser being third in the Premier League. The winner goes through to the 96-board final.

On Day One, Team No. 3 from the regular season, ORG, picked Pioneers as their opponent. Thus, No. 4 of the regular season, Jinshuo, played against PD Times; those two were the two top teams a few years ago. After the 48-board match, ORG had won by 14 IMPs (107-93) over Pioneers and PD Times had won by 17 IMPs (102-85) over Jinshuo. ORG and PD Times went to the next stage in the Upper/Lower Bracket.

No. 1 Hengzhou Jinrongjia chose ORG; Zhejiang Qiantang played against PD Times. After these 96-board matches, Hengzhou Jinrongjia had won by 16 IMPs (187-171) over ORG; PD Times crushed Zhejiang Qiantang: after five sets, PD Times was ahead 206-134, so Zhejiang Qiantang conceded to prepare for their next match.

In the Upper Bracket, PD Times were still in good form. After five sessions, they were 74 IMPs up (170-96), so Hengzhou Jinrongjia also conceded and went to the Lower Bracket – their opponent was ORG. Again they were beaten by Zhejiang Qiantang 186-133 IMPs. PD Times was the first team to reach the final and they got one day off as a reward.

When Hengzhou Jinrongjia met ORG, the match was very close: after the third of four sessions, ORG was leading, but Hengzhou Jinrongjia did very well in the fourth set and won their way to the final against PD Times.

In the final, Bessis and Lorenzini played very well but still, PD Times led by 29 IMPs after two stanzas. In the third set, Hengzhou Jinrongjia got back 40 IMPs to go into the lead by 11. They won the fourth set to lead by 26 IMPs. PD Times won the fifth set by 10 IMPs, so they were down by 16 IMPs going into the final session.

In the sixth set, Hengzhou Jinrong didn't give PD Times any openings and won that session 20-9. The total score was Hengzhou Jinrong 187 – PD Times 160. The Premier League Final champions of 2018 were Thomas Bessis/Cédric Lorenzini, Wang Kui/Shen Siyuan, and Liu Haitao/Zhang Yizhuo. PD Times have been to the final for the last two years, but have lost both times. The PD Times team members are Marc Chen/Do Lidang, Fu Zhong/Jerry Li, and Sjoert Brink/Sebastian Drijver.

Here are some interesting deals from this tournament.

(See top of next page.) In the Hengzhou Jinrongjia vs. ORG match, at one table, the Hengzhou team's East/West pair were in three notrump by East. South led the three of spades to the jack and queen. North continued with the six of spades to the nine and king. Declarer played a diamond to the ace and set up his

club trick with the king of clubs to North's ace. The defence cashed their spades. Declarer won the club shift and cashed the king of diamonds. When they were 2-2, he had nine tricks. Had the diamonds not broken, declarer had planned to take the heart finesse for the contract. That was plus 600 to Hengzhou.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

In this room, Thomas Bessis executed an excellent defence. He led the seven of diamonds. Demuy won with the ace and ran the heart ten to North. Bessis ducked this card very smoothly. Demuy continued with another heart to the jack and queen. Now Bessis shifted to the eight of spades, won by Lorenzini's (South's) ace. Lorenzini continued with spades. From Demuy's point view, it appeared that diamonds were 3-1 with the queen offside, so he needed spades and clubs to be good for him, but when Demuy chose to finesse the spade jack, the contract went down.

Bessis's defence was very beautiful: duck the heart, erase the dummy's ruffing value, then shift to spades, attacking declarer's weakness.

Well done by Bessis!

Final Session 3. Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

On this deal, North/South could make three notrump and five diamonds. Three notrump needed only the heart finesse, while five diamonds needed the red suits to play for just two combined losers.

West	North	East	South
<i>Li</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>
—	—	1♠	Double
Pass	1NT	2♠	Double
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Bessis, with no stopper in spades, thought that even one stop with Lorenzini would not be enough, so bid four clubs, non-forcing in their methods. Lorenzini knew his partner's hand: balanced, some values, no stopper in spades; so he bid five diamonds directly.

Lorenzini's play was very interesting. He won the spade lead and played the jack of diamonds. His plan was to play West for the doubleton queen of diamonds or East for the doubleton ace. When West covered the jack with the queen, Lorenzini ducked. On the next diamond, low toward the dummy, West played the ten and the contract was easily made with the successful heart finesse.

On the next board, both a Chinese and a French pair did very well.

Final Session 4. Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Shen</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♥
Double	3♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

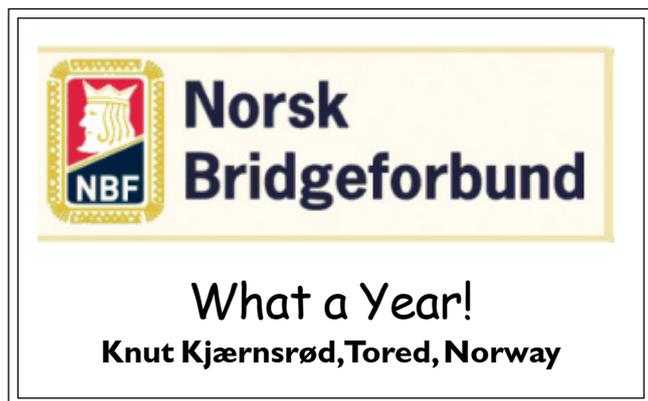
At this table, both East and West might have bid over three hearts. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
<i>Li</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♥
Double	3♥	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♣	Pass
5NT ¹	Pass	6♦	6♥
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Pick a slam

In contrast with the other table, Fu did bid four diamonds. Lorenzini did the right thing as well: six hearts went down four, minus 800, against the 1370 that six diamonds would have surrendered.

Was that the right thing to do in practice? Maybe yes, maybe no. If South's opening lead had been the jack of clubs, what should Fu have done? If he finessed in diamonds, a club ruff would have meant one off. If he instead played the ace and another diamond and South had had the king-third, a third diamond from South would have meant some good fortune in spades was required. Who knows how Fu would have played?



Two thousand and eighteen was a year to remember for Norwegian bridge. With three international-championship gold medals and lots of other brilliant achievements, it went down in history as one of our most successful. Here are some of the deals worth remembering:

We tee off with a deal by Roger Træet, from the Scandic Maritim Cup in October:

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

♠ 6
♥ A Q 8 3
♦ J 9 6 5 2
♣ Q 4 3

♠ A K Q J 5 2
♥ 4
♦ A
♣ A 10 9 6 2

West	North	East	South
—	Pass	1♣	Træet Double
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East's opening bid could have been made on a singleton. When North jumped to three notrump, Træet correctly assumed that his partner would have at least one of the honour cards in East's opening suit.

East led the seven of diamonds to the queen and ace. Træet led the ace of spades and ruffed his low spade. The queen of clubs was covered by the king and won by the ace, West contributing the eight. Roger thought it was more likely that the eight was a singleton than from eight-seven. He backed his judgement by playing a heart to the ace and led dummy's last trump. When East played the five, he put in the six, and was fully rewarded when the opposing cards were:

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

The knave of clubs was the opponents sole trick, and the successful slam contributed significantly to Træet's team's win.

During the Norwegian Teams Championships in May, Tom Johansen successfully conned his opponents on this board:

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Aaseng	Jensen	Johansen	Bjerkan
Pass	Pass	1♣	INT
3♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

South led the diamond five to the queen. At trick two, Johansen played dummy's spade three and when North followed low, he played an innocent-looking six, won by Bjerkan's seven. The nine of diamonds went around to Tom's ace, and the seven of clubs rode uncovered around the table. He then played the king of spades, ace and ruff, and the king of diamonds was the entry to cash the queen of spades for a heart discard. A club toward dummy secured the contract and a 6-IMP gain, since the contract at the other table was two spades by South making three.

One of our European champions, Nils Kvangraven, performed well in this one-notrump contract from a training session before Christmas:

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Voll</i>	<i>Tundal</i>	<i>Kindsbekken</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦ ¹
Pass	1♠ ²	Pass	INT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
1. 2+ diamonds, 11-16 HCP			
2. 4+ hearts, 6+ HCP			

Voll started with the three of diamonds. Kindsbekken put in the ten and cashed the king before switching to a spade, won by the knave. West led the queen of diamonds and another to East's ace; Kvangraven discarded a club and a heart from hand and a heart from dummy. Kindsbekken shifted to the queen of hearts, taken by the king, and a heart to the ace brought good news when the knave fell. Since East had an opening pass, he could not hold the king of spades and more good news emerged when the king fell under the ace. This was the position:

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

On a spade to dummy's ten, West had to discard a heart. Nils cashed dummy's ten of hearts, discarding his queen of spades! He then played a club, inserting the ten. Voll won with the knave, but had to lead away from his king of clubs at trick 12 and declarer had seven tricks.

Finally, we take a look at one of our other superstars, Terje Lie, showing his skill in a three notrump

contract. The board was played against very competent opponents at a training session prior to the Marit Sveaas International Tournament.

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

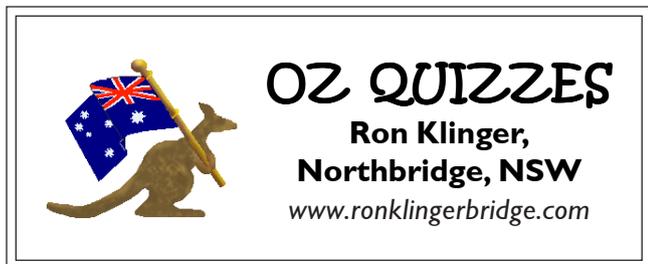
West	North	East	South
<i>Hantveit</i>	<i>Kvangraven</i>	<i>Dale</i>	<i>Lie</i>
1♠	2♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Helge Hantveit started with the king of clubs. Wishing to avoid a diamond switch, Lie took it with his ace and played a heart to the king and ace. East won the next trick with the queen of hearts and continued with a club to West's ten. The king-of-diamonds shift was won by dummy's ace, and Terje ran dummy's hearts. Before the ultimate one, the position was:

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

On the five of hearts, East discarded a club, Terje let his knave of spades go, but what should West have done? If he had discarded a spade, the ace and queen would have landed the contract, and if he had thrown his queen of diamonds, he would have been endplayed with two rounds of spades, forced to surrender the ninth trick to the knave of clubs.

West finally threw his six of clubs, but Terje played the three of diamonds from dummy, discarding his nine of clubs. West could cash his two queens, but then had to lead away from his king of spades to allow the contract to make.



See how your play and defence stack up against the actual declarers and defenders on the following deals from recent Australian Championships.

The Brighter Bucheneer

'The Saint' series, by Leslie Charteris, included a book called 'The Brighter Buccaneer'. This deal could be titled 'The Brighter Bucheneer'.

After the diagrammed auction, West leads the ten of diamonds and you, South, see:

♠ A K J 8 6
♥ K Q 4
♦ K 8
♣ Q 8 7

♠ 9 7
♥ A J 7 5
♦ 4 2
♣ A 10 9 6 4

West	North	East	South
—	<i>T. Brown</i>	—	<i>P. Buchen</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	2NT ¹	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Artificial, forcing to game

You put up the king of diamonds, holding the trick, as East follows with six, reverse count. Plan the play.

You have eight tricks on top, but where is the ninth to come from? Your best chance is the spade finesse, but can you spot an extra chance? Here is the full deal:

Round 3. Board 9. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A K J 8 6
♥ K Q 4
♦ K 8
♣ Q 8 7

♠ 10 4
♥ 10 9 8 6
♦ A Q 10 9 7 5
♣ K

♠ Q 5 3 2
♥ 3 2
♦ J 6 3
♣ J 5 3 2

♠ 9 7
♥ A J 7 5
♦ 4 2
♣ A 10 9 6 4

At trick two, Peter Buchen, playing in the Australian National Seniors' Teams, cashed the ace of spades

(maybe there was a singleton queen) and then ran four rounds of hearts. The instinctive next move is to finesse the jack of spades, but before doing so, Buchen cashed the ace of clubs, a tiny extra chance that the king of clubs was singleton.

When the king of clubs dropped, Buchen had nine tricks and plus 400.

A Terry Towelling

Try your defence on the following deal ...

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ Q 9
♥ J 5 2
♦ 10 7
♣ A J 10 9 7 2

♠ K 5
♥ Q 8 4 3
♦ K 8 6 5
♣ 8 4 3

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

You lead the heart three: two – ace – six. East returns the heart nine: king – four – five. South plays the six of clubs: three – ace – five and the ten of diamonds: queen – ace – six, followed by the diamond deuce: eight – seven – four. You cash the queen of hearts: jack – seven – ten. What do you play at trick seven?

The deal arose on Board 10 of Round 8 in the 2019 Australian National Seniors' Teams.

Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ Q 9
♥ J 5 2
♦ 10 7
♣ A J 10 9 7 2

♠ K 5
♥ Q 8 4 3
♦ K 8 6 5
♣ 8 4 3

♠ 10 8 7 2
♥ A 9 7
♦ Q 9 4
♣ K Q 5

♠ A J 6 4 3
♥ K 10 6
♦ A J 3 2
♣ 6

After the first six tricks, this was the position for Brown:

♠ Q 9
♥ —
♦ —
♣ J 10 9 7 2

♠ K 5
♥ 8
♦ K 5
♣ 8 4

Suppose West exits passively with a club. South ruffs, ruffs a diamond, ruffs a club and ruffs his last diamond, with East forced to under-ruff. South has made seven tricks and has the spade ace for his eighth. He can try for an overtrick by leading a club from dummy and hoping to be able to ruff with the six of spades from his remaining ace-jack-six, endplaying West.

Terry Brown of Sydney gave declarer no chance. At trick seven he exited with the king of spades! South won, ruffed a diamond and ruffed another club, but could make only one more trick, the jack of spades. South lost two spades, two hearts and two diamonds for one down.

At the other table, after the same auction, Ian Thomson of Canberra was South. West led the three of clubs, third and fifths. Declarer took the ace of clubs and played the seven of diamonds: four – two – eight. West continued with the eight of clubs: nine – king – spade three. Then came the ace of diamonds, a diamond ruff with the nine of spades, a club ruff, and a diamond ruff with the queen of spades, East shedding the seven of hearts. South then played the two of hearts: nine – ten – queen. West returned the heart three: five – ace – six. These cards remained:

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

East played the ten of spades: ace – five – club nine. South exited with the king of hearts. East ruffed and played the seven of spades. South ducked; West's king won and the jack of spades was South's eighth trick; plus 110 and 5 IMPs.

Right On

The 2019 Australian National Open Teams was won by LEIBOWITZ (Ashley Bach, Matthew Brown, Michael Cornell, Peter Gill, Tony Leibowitz, Michael Whibley) over MILNE (Sophie Ashton, James Coutts, Sartaj Hans, Shane Harrison, Andy Hung, Liam Milne). Here are some deals from the qualifying rounds ...

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
1♠	Double	Pass	2♣
2♠	Pass	Pass	2NT ¹
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Choose a minor

As West, you lead the ace of spades: three – seven – four, and follow it up with the king of spades: five – two – jack. You play high-low as encouraging. What do you play at trick three?

Here is the full deal:

SWPT, Session 4, Board 17. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

At trick three, after some thought, Martin Bloom of Sydney switched unerringly to the king of hearts. East won the next heart and returned a heart to give West a trump trick.

How did West find this seemingly risky switch? East would not have had the diamond king-queen-jack or king-queen. With that holding, East would have discouraged spades. With the king of clubs doomed, the defence had no prospects if South had the ace of hearts and the king of diamonds and probably not if South had the heart ace and diamond queen. The card that could have given the defence hope was the ace of hearts with East and West acted accordingly.

Deep Finesse

This match was between the teams that finished first (MILNE) and second (BUCHEN) after the 12 qualifying rounds.

SWPT, Round 6, Board 2. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Brown	Coutts	Buchen	Milne
—	—	—	INT ¹
Pass	2♦ ²	2♠	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 14-16 HCP
2. Transfer to hearts

West led the five of spades: six – seven – jack. As East/West lead top from doubletons, South knew from the auction and the lead (lowest spade) that the spade five was a singleton. With one trick in and six more tricks on top, South needed to develop two more tricks. At trick two, declarer played the four of clubs: two – eight – six. Then came the jack of hearts: three – five – queen. West switched to the four of diamonds: five – seven – ten. South cashed the ace of hearts, dropping the king and had one spade, two hearts, two diamonds and four clubs, plus 400. That held the loss on the board to 3 IMPs, as East was minus 500 in two spades doubled at the other table.

West might have inserted the ten of clubs at trick two, but that would have looked silly if East had begun with queen-or jack-doubleton or similar. Even if West had inserted the ten of clubs, declarer could still have survived. West might also have ducked the jack of hearts or shifted to a club instead of a diamond, but again, declarer could have survived.

Flying High

South West Pacific Teams, Round 11 Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

West	North	East	South
3♦	Double	6♦	?

What would you do as South with:

♠ K 7 2
♥ 2
♦ A 6 4
♣ A 10 9 5 4 2

The percentage bid is to double and take the money, but Liam Milne of Sydney felt that the opponents were out to rob North/South. If East were pre-sacrificing, it meant that he thought North/South could make a slam. Given the South hand, it is not hard to imagine that North/South have a slam available. It also follows that if East thinks North/South have a slam, then North figures to have a strong hand for the takeout double. Backing his judgement and his hopes, Milne bid seven clubs. Maybe seven clubs was making. If not, maybe the

opponents would save in seven diamonds doubled. That could be a pick-up against five diamonds doubled or six diamonds doubled at the other table. Here is what Milne faced when seven clubs was passed out:

♠ A J 10 4
♥ A K J 10 8 4
♦ —
♣ K 7 6

♠ K 7 2
♥ 2
♦ A 6 4
♣ A 10 9 5 4 2

West	North	East	South
3♦	Double	6♦	7♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West leads the king of diamonds. Plan the play.

Milne considered the possible lie of the East/West hands. East figured to have only four diamonds. With a balanced hand and four diamonds, he would hardly have jumped to six diamonds. Therefore, East figured to have a singleton or void. Unless West had opened three diamonds with six diamonds plus five spades or five hearts, East's shortage had to be in clubs.

Accordingly, Milne won trick one with the ace of diamonds, cashed the ace of clubs, East playing the queen, and continued with the ten of clubs, finessing against West on the second round of trumps. It won. He drew West's remaining trump and led the ace of hearts from dummy. Declarer planned to continue with the king of hearts and a ruffing finesse against East, but he was spared any further anxiety when the heart queen singleton dropped from West.

This was the full deal:

♠ A J 10 4
♥ A K J 10 8 4
♦ —
♣ K 7 6

♠ 9 5 3
♥ Q
♦ K Q J 10 9 2
♣ J 8 3

♠ Q 8 6
♥ 9 7 6 5 3
♦ 8 7 5 3
♣ Q

♠ K 7 2
♥ 2
♦ A 6 4
♣ A 10 9 5 4 2

Seven clubs, plus 2140, was worth 16 IMPs vs four hearts, plus 650, at the other table.

Keep Bridge Alive

The Sociology of Bridge is a research project and an emerging academic field exploring interactions within the mind sport, well-being, healthy ageing and social connection as experienced in the bridge world.



Professor Samantha Punch,
UK Bridge Player

How you can help

We need players, bridge clubs and organisations and other supporters to join us in the Keep Bridge Alive campaign so we can publicise and promote bridge more widely. We would also be delighted to hear from you if you have research ideas, expertise or even time to support the campaign.

Please contact us at alumni@stir.ac.uk

“I totally support the Keep Bridge Alive Campaign which hopefully will become a global campaign by generating momentum to get people together to tackle the sustainability issues that the game faces.”

Zia Mahmood,
International Bridge Player

“I welcome the Keep Bridge Alive initiative to reach out to young people - indeed everybody - informing them of all the reasons why they have to play bridge. Any research to confirm to all my students what they feel already - that bridge is a life-enhancing activity for so many reasons - is very welcome.”

Andrew Robson,
English Bridge Player

For more information, search:
'Keep Bridge Alive Crowdfund'



@soc_of_bridge

BE THE DIFFERENCE



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

937. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	INT
Pass	3♣ ¹	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Transfer to three diamonds

North's raise to four diamonds was a mild slam-try (eight-card suits tend to encourage such actions). South accepted by simply leaping to slam.

West led the king of hearts. Declarer could count 11 tricks: eight in trumps plus the three aces. He saw that, if East held at least one of the missing club honours, the slam would come home via a double finesse in that suit. However, declarer looked for an extra chance. He discarded the jack of spades from dummy on the king of hearts and won the trick in hand with the ace. Declarer ruffed a low spade, then cashed the ace and queen of trumps. After throwing a low club on the ace of spades, declarer ruffed another spade.

While the extra chance of the king and queen of spades falling in three rounds had failed to materialise, another one had. When declarer continued with a low club to the nine, West took this with the queen, but was endplayed – West had just hearts and clubs remaining. Hoping for the best, West continued with a low heart. Declarer discarded a club from dummy and won the trick with the jack of hearts: now he had his twelfth trick and his contract.

Note that if West had started with four spades, he would have been just as endplayed. A spade exit would have seen declarer ruff in dummy and take his twelfth trick with the thirteenth spade.

938. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

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

North/South reached what proved to be a somewhat threadbare slam in hearts after North's aggressive bidding in the face of South's minimum.

West led the king of spades. Declarer saw that even with trumps 3-2 he would only have 11 top tricks. After rejecting as hopeless the idea of ruffing a spade in dummy and acknowledging that the likelihood of a squeeze in spades and a minor suit against West was only fractionally better, declarer saw the answer, a dummy-reversal elopement.

Declarer won with the ace of spades at trick one and cashed the ace and king of trumps, followed by the ace and king of clubs. After ruffing a club, declarer returned to dummy with a diamond to the queen to lead a fourth round of clubs. East followed suit and declarer ruffed. Next, declarer cashed the ace and king of diamonds, then ruffed dummy's fourth diamond with his last trump. Declarer had made 11 tricks (the spade ace, five trumps and the five minor-suit tops) and still had the master queen of trumps to come for the contract-fulfilling winner.

Declarer's plan had a little less than a 50-50 chance of succeeding, but was his best available chance.

939. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

The bidding was the same at both tables in a team match and each declarer received the lead of a fourth-highest three of clubs. Both declarers played the jack from dummy and both Easts covered it with the king. Since neither declarer wanted a diamond shift at this point, they both won the first trick with the ace of clubs and led a low trump. After winning with the ace of trumps, both Wests exited with the eight of clubs to East's ten. The continuations were the same at both tables too: the ace of spades, then the two of clubs.

At the first table, declarer ruffed the third club in the dummy, then drew trumps with the jack, king and ace. After cashing the king and queen of spades, declarer led a low diamond to the queen. Alas, East discarded a spade on the ace of diamonds and declarer conceded a diamond trick for a one-trick set.

The declarer at the other table was more careful. He ruffed the third round of clubs with the nine of trumps and continued with the jack of trumps. When East followed low, declarer overtook the jack of hearts with the queen. He was then in the correct hand to take a diamond finesse, which he did. When that succeeded, declarer led dummy's four of trumps, winning with the eight when East followed with the seven. After drawing the last trump with his king, declarer cashed his spade winners and then led a diamond to the jack. Declarer had the ace of diamonds for his tenth trick.

940. (See top of next column.)

West led the nine of spades; declarer could count 12 tricks. He saw that unless trumps were 4-0, he could ruff a diamond in dummy to make his contract. So, declarer took the opening lead with the ace of spades and led a low trump from dummy to his king, as East showed out.

940. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2NT ¹	4♠	4NT ²
Pass	5♣ ³	Pass	5NT ⁴
Pass	6♦ ⁵	Pass	7♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Forcing-to-game raise in hearts
2. RKCB
3. 0 or 3 key cards
4. Grand-slam try; guarantees all key cards and the trump queen
5. King of diamonds

The opening lead was consistent with an original holding of a singleton or doubleton spade in the West hand. Declarer tentatively placed East with eight spades and five cards in the minors. As there were six cards outstanding in each minor, West had to have at least one card in each suit if he were 2=4 in the majors and had seven minor-suit cards. Consequently, declarer cashed the ace of clubs followed by a diamond to the ace in the knowledge that neither card could be ruffed.

Declarer noted that East had at least one card in each minor and that left three unknown minor-suit cards in his hand. Declarer could thus lead a club to the king and a diamond to the king in complete safety: there were four cards in each minor remaining in the defensive hands and East could hold at most three of them in either suit, which therefore meant that West had to have at least one card remaining in each minor.

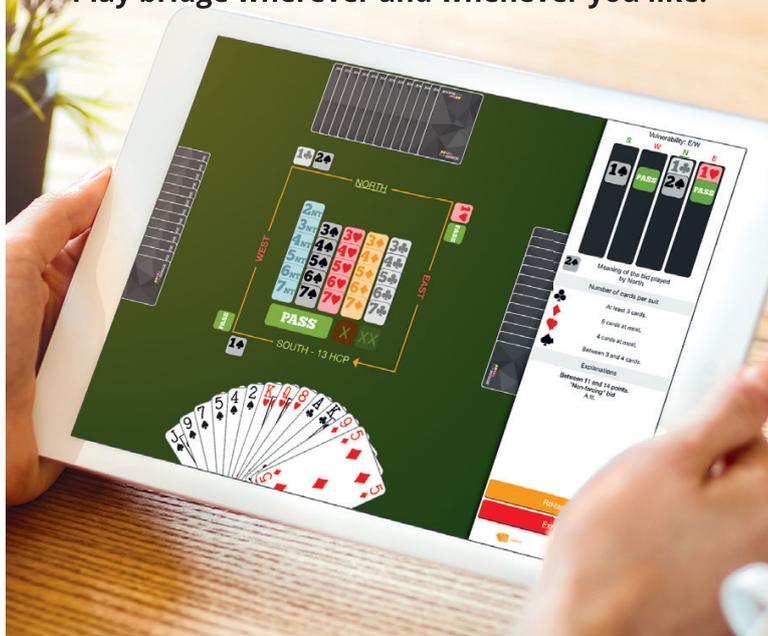
Declarer ruffed his spade loser with the queen of hearts, cashed the queen of clubs and led a heart to the eight and ten. He then ruffed his fourth club high, led a heart to the seven and drew West's last trump with the ace. The queen of diamonds was the thirteenth and contract-fulfilling trick.

Note that if East had followed twice in each minor, it would have been safe to cash the queen of both minors, at which point declarer would have known what to do next. Finally, if East had discarded on the second diamond, then a diamond could have been ruffed safely in dummy for the thirteenth trick.



FUNBRIDGE.COM

Play bridge wherever and whenever you like!



Daylong MP and/or IMP

Become a WBF robot world master

Download for free at www.funbridge.com



iPhone, iPad, Mac, PC, Android, Amazon



IBPA, WBF & FUNBRIDGE

IBPA, WBF and FUNBRIDGE have entered into a double-pronged agreement:

(1.) Firstly, IBPA members are eligible for five free plays in FUNBRIDGE online tournaments Here is the offer:

IBPA JOURNALISTS SPECIAL OFFER

Get 5 WBF Robot Tournaments for free with this gift code: IBPA19

You can download FUNBRIDGE for free at: www.funbridge.com and follow the instructions there. to play or simply to try it for free.

(2.) Secondly, FUNBRIDGE and WBF have agreed to sponsor three new IBPA awards for play in online events: Best Declarer Play, Best Defence and Best Bid hand. The agreement is that these awards will carry the same cash value to journalists and players as do the regular annual IBPA awards.

Players and journalists are encouraged to submit their award candidates to the IBPA Bulletin for publication. Players may write up their candidate deals themselves, have a journalist write about them or submit them directly to the editor of the IBPA bulletin at: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

In addition to the IBPA and World Bridge Federation, FUNBRIDGE has agreements with the European Bridge League, *Le Bridgeur* and eleven National Bridge Organisations to provide their online tournaments.



Last Point on the Board

Mark Horton,
Shrewsbury, UK

The Reisinger is the toughest event in North America. Two days of qualifying reduces the field to ten teams hoping to capture this prestigious title. Here are the ten successful teams with their carry-over:

1. Josef Blass/Jacek Pszczola, Jacek Kalita/ Michal Nowosadzki, Sjoert Brink/Bas Drijver 4.61
2. Gaylor Kasle/Drew Cannell 3.53
Jim Krekorian/Drew Casen
Michal Kwiecien/Wlodzimierz Starkowski
3. Roger Lee/Michael Rosenberg 3.11
Simon de Wijs/Giovanni Donati
4. George Mittelman/Ken Bercuson 3.05
Ron Pachtmann/Piotr Pawel Zatorski
5. Daniel Zagorin/Peter Bertheau 2.70
Per-Ola Cullin/Marion Michielsen
6. Andrew Rosenthal/Aaron Silverstein 2.50
Migry Zur-Campanile/David Berkowitz
Chris Willenken/Eldad Ginossar
7. Fu Zhong/Jerry Li, Michael Polowan/ Alex Hydes 2.26
8. Marty Fleisher/Chip Martel, Eric Greco/ Geoff Hampson, Brad Moss/Joe Grue 1.20
9. Pierre Zimmermann/Franck Multon 1.14
Michal Klukowski/Piotr Gawrys
Fredrik Helness/Tor Helness
10. Pratap Rajadhyaksha/Venkatrao Koneru 0.11
Allan Falk/John Lusky

Round 3/Session I

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bercuson</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♥	2♠	Pass
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East found the devilish lead of the three of diamonds. Declarer went up with dummy's ace, West following with the seven, and played the six of clubs for the two, queen and king. If East had then played the queen of diamonds and West had overtaken it, a third diamond would have ensured a trump trick or a club trick for the defenders, but East returned a club for the nine, ten and ace. Declarer ruffed a club with dummy's queen of hearts (good!) and played a heart. Was it possible that East had started with two red singletons? Dismissing that idea, declarer put up the jack (bad!) and was one down.

To make five hearts without giving the defenders a chance, declarer had to play a top spade at trick two, pitching his diamond loser. East would have won and would have exited with a spade or a diamond, but declarer could then have played two rounds of clubs, subsequently ruffing a club high and then playing a heart to the nine – wouldn't that have been something?

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Zatorski</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Pachtmann</i>
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♥	1♠	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the ace of spades. Declarer ruffed, crossed to dummy with a diamond and pitched a diamond on a spade before taking a club finesse. He finished with 11 tricks; plus 650. Ten would have been enough to win the board.

Round 5/Session I

Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Campanile</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	1♦	1♠
Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			
1. Hearts			

When North/South subsided in two spades West felt entitled to compete; North disagreed. Drijver led the ace of spades and continued the suit, South winning

and switching to the king of hearts when West followed with the jack. Declarer won and made the natural-looking play of cashing dummy's diamonds to get rid of his losing spade, but when an honour did not fall under the ace of clubs, he was two down for minus 300.

If declarer had played a club at trick four, putting in dummy's seven if North did not play an honour, he would have been only one down – and North/South were going to make two spades.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Rosenthal</i>	<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>Silverstein</i>
—	—	1♦	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the ace of diamonds. When declarer dropped the ten, East switched to the four of hearts, West taking the ace and returning the deuce of clubs. East took the ace and does best to cash the king of diamonds, after which declarer would almost certainly have finished two down. However, East played a spade, and then declarer could have cashed three rounds of the suit to get rid of the losing diamond, which would have saved a trick. Instead, he tried the ten of hearts. East won with the queen and exited with the nine of hearts. That allowed declarer to win and play three rounds of spades, disposing of a diamond and a club for plus 110, but still a comfortable loss.

Round 8/Session 1

Board 23. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	Double	2♠
3♦	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the seven of diamonds. Would East have doubled without the queen of diamonds? Declarer though so and, without a useful discard if East had the diamond queen, went up with dummy's king, played a club to the ace and ruffed a club with the six of spades. West overruffed with the seven and returned the three of diamonds for the queen and ace. Declarer came to hand with the ace of hearts and ruffed another club, this time with the ten of spades. Again

West overruffed and played a third diamond, declarer ruffing and running the eight of spades. Although that held, there was no longer a route to ten tricks.

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Cannell</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Kasle</i>
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	Double	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East also led the seven of diamonds at this table. This time, declarer played dummy's five and won in hand with the jack. He cashed the ace of clubs and ruffed a club with the ten of spades, West overruffing and switching to the eight of hearts. Declarer won with the ace, ran the eight of spades, drew the outstanding trump and ruffed a heart for 12 tricks.

Round 9/Session 1

Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bercuson</i>	<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>	<i>Zagorin</i>
—	—	1♠	Double
2♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

South led the king of hearts. North overtook it with the ace and switched to the six of spades. Declarer won with the ace and played the jack of hearts. When South obligingly covered, declarer had a useful second overtrick.

West	North	East	South
<i>Michielsen</i>	<i>Zatorski</i>	<i>Cullin</i>	<i>Pachtmann</i>
—	—	1♣ ¹	1♥
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Double	3♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Strong

On the face of it, stopping out of game looks reasonable, as how can declarer come to ten tricks after a trump lead? Well, declarer wins in hand and plays the three of hearts. If North wins that with the ace, declarer will win the trump return in dummy, pitch a losing club on the ace of diamonds, draw trumps and knock out the top hearts. So, I hear you say, South wins with the seven of hearts and continues with a spade. Declarer wins in dummy, ruffs a diamond, draws

the outstanding trump and plays the ace of clubs, followed by the jack. South can win, but North's ace of hearts is in the way.

Round 10/Session 2

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Hydes</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Polowan</i>
—	1♠	1NT	2♥
3♣ ¹	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. Diamonds			

South led the ten of spades. Declarer won with the queen and played a diamond to the king, continuing with the three when it held. North won and returned the seven of spades (having played the eight on the first round) and declarer won and played three rounds of hearts. South won and decided it was safe to exit with a heart. Declarer won and cashed another heart, squeezing North in three suits. He threw the six of spades, but declarer exited with a diamond and, at trick 12, North had to lead into the split club tenace.

West	North	East	South
<i>Li</i>	<i>T. Helness</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>F. Helness</i>
—	1♠	1NT	2♥
3♣ ¹	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		
1. Diamonds			

At this table, North's first two spades were the two and five. The play went the same way but, when South came in with the queen of hearts, he returned the eight of clubs, and that was one down.

Round 11/Session 2

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

♠ Q 7 2
♥ Q J 9 5 4 2
♦ J 10
♣ J 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Cannell</i>	<i>Pratap</i>	<i>Krekorian</i>	<i>Koneru</i>
1NT	Pass	2♥ ¹	Double
2♠	3♥	Double ²	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Transfer to spades
2. Takeout

South's double showed hearts, but his partner obviously thought it also showed some high cards. For most people, West's two spades would have promised three-card support but, here, Cannell liked his hand for spades. East led his heart. Declarer won with the jack and played the jack of diamonds to East's king. The club return went to the king and ace and declarer continued with a diamond, West taking the ace and playing two rounds of spades. East won, cashed the queen of clubs, and played a spade; three down, minus 800.

West	North	East	South
<i>Lusky</i>	<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Falk</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>
1NT	Pass	2♥ ¹	Double
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Transfer to spades

North led the heart three. Declarer took the third round of the suit, discarding a diamond and a club from dummy. He cashed the ace of spades and played a spade to the jack; three down.

If the queen of spades had been onside (and the suit 3-3) North would have been squeezed in the minors and declarer would have emerged with an overtrick.

Round 13/Session 2

Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

♠ K Q J 3
♥ Q 8 6
♦ 6 3
♣ K 9 8 4

West	North	East	South
<i>Kalita</i>	<i>T. Helness</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>F. Helness</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
2♦ ¹	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Hearts

South led the queen of spades and, when North followed with the nine, declarer won with the ace and played the king of diamonds. North took the ace and returned a spade, South winning and playing two more rounds of the suit, North discarding the ten and six

of clubs. When declarer led the three of clubs, South went in with the king, the defenders' fourth trick. At this point, South needed to exit with a heart, destroying declarer's transportation. It does not appear to be a difficult play to find, but South returned the nine of clubs and declarer claimed.

Starkowski, as North against Campanile and Berkowitz, and defending against three notrump, ducked the first diamond, won the next round and returned the two of hearts, making life very easy for the defenders. (Their teammates were in four spades, down three, so they had to be content with a moral victory.)

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2♥ ¹	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2NT ²	Double	3♣
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

- 6-10 HCP, 5+ hearts and 4+ of either minor
- Scramble: no long suit

West led the ace of hearts and switched to the deuce of diamonds, East winning with the jack and returning the king (a low club is the route to four down). Declarer won in dummy and does best to ruff a diamond and play a top spade, which should lead to seven tricks. He tried a spade to the king and continued with the queen, East taking the ace and returning the diamond queen. Declarer ruffed, and might now have ruffed a spade and played the ten of clubs, again leading to seven tricks. When he preferred to cash the jack of spades and play another spade, West ruffed with the jack of clubs and that was three down, minus 500.

Round 14/Session 2

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bercuson</i>	<i>de Wijs</i>	<i>Mittelman</i>	<i>Donati</i>
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♥ ¹	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

- Transfer to spades

West led the nine of clubs and the critical point was already at hand. If declarer plays low from dummy and then plays on spades he is likely to take nine tricks. However, the lead could have been from a suit headed by the king-ten-nine, so declarer put up dummy's queen, covered by the king and ace. Declarer cashed the king of diamonds and then played the nine. West followed with the eight and four and when declarer finessed, he finished three down.

West	North	East	South
<i>Lee</i>	<i>Zatorski</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Pachtmann</i>
—	—	—	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠ ¹	Pass	Pass
Pass			

- Invitational

East led the king of hearts and, unable to tell whether West had two or four, continued with the ace (although nothing else is better). Declarer ruffed and led a spade to the ace, followed by the jack, overtaking with the queen. East won and exited with the eight of clubs. Declarer won with the queen and drew trumps, pitching two diamonds from dummy. A diamond to the king was followed by the winning hearts and the ace of clubs. According to the BBO operator, East followed to that with the jack, so his last two cards had to be a diamond and the king of clubs. However, the record says declarer now played a diamond to the ten, thereby losing the last two tricks, plus 140. Little did he know he was playing with the house's money.

Round 15/Session 2

Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Li</i>	<i>Zatorski</i>	<i>Zhong</i>	<i>Pachtmann</i>
—	1♥	2♥ ¹	4♥
4♠	5♥	Pass	Pass
5♠	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- Spades and a minor

North led his club and South won with the ace and returned the five. North ruffed and cashed a top heart, but declarer got the spades right and was only two

down, minus 300. To collect 500, North needed to get South in to lead a third club. Knowing that South almost certainly held four hearts, should North have underled his ace-king-queen of hearts? Should South have returned the queen of clubs at trick two, suggesting that his only possible entry was in hearts?

West	North	East	South
Mittelman	Hydes	Bercuson	Polowan
—	1♥	2♥ ¹	2NT
3♠	4♥	Pass	Pass

Pass

1. Spades and a minor

Declarer lost two spades and a diamond.

The leaders met in the penultimate round ...

Round 17/Session 2

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Zatorski	Nowosadzki	Pachtmann
—	—	Pass	INT ¹
2♦ ²	Double ³	2♥ ⁴	Pass ⁵
Pass	Double ⁶	Pass	Pass

1. 15-17 HCP, 5-card major possible

2. One major

3. Invitational or better, usually balanced

4. Pass or correct

5. Rejects if invitational

6. Takeout

South led the three of hearts for the ten, jack and queen. Declarer played a club for the three, king and ace. North returned the eight of hearts; South won and switched to the two of clubs, the defenders taking their top tricks for two down, minus 500.

West	North	East	South
Bercuson	Drijver	Mittelman	Brink
—	—	Pass	1♣
2♥	Double	Pass	2NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the nine of hearts. Declarer took the third round of the suit, pitching a diamond from dummy, played a club to the queen, a spade to the queen and

a club to the jack. When East discarded the three of diamonds, declarer played dummy's jack of diamonds, overtook it with the ace, cashed the ace of spades and exited with a diamond. West could win with the queen and cash two hearts, but then had to lead into the split club tenace; plus 120 for declarer. Mittelman 1 – Blass 0.

On Board 23, a more effective defence by Kalita/Nowosadzki held Pachtmann to ten tricks in two spades, while Brink made eleven tricks to even the round at one point each.

Board 24. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kalita	Zatorski	Nowosadzki	Pachtmann
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

According to the convention card, a response of two notrump would have been invitational with three (10-11 HCP) or four spades (5-11 points). To what extent that influenced West's subsequent bidding is unclear, but when I asked the man on the Clapham bus what he would have done with the West cards, he bid four spades.

North led the ten of spades. Declarer won with the ace and ducked a heart to South's queen. Declarer ducked the club shift and North won with the king. He returned the two, South ruffing and switching to the two of diamonds, which allowed North to win and give South another ruff for one down.

West	North	East	South
Bercuson	Drijver	Mittelman	Brink
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

North led the jack of hearts. When South overtook it with the queen declarer ducked. South switched to the six of clubs and declarer won with the ace, drew trumps and played a club, soon claiming ten tricks and a vital win for Mittelman, who won the round against Blass, 2-1. With three deals to play, the Mittelman team's score was 34.55, putting them .44 ahead of Blass. These

two were so far ahead of the third-placed team that the title lay between them.

The last three fateful boards were reported last month. Blass outscored Mittelman 2-1 on those boards to secure the title.

It was tough luck for the Mittelman foursome, who joined the 1993 and 1994 runners-up Jimmy Cayne, Chuck Burger, Bobby Goldman, Paul Soloway, Mark Lair and Mike Passell as the only teams to have come second in successive years. For George Mittelman, it was his fourth second-place finish in the event without a win.

This was how the teams finished:

1.	Blass	36.11
2.	Mittelman	35.55
3.	Rosenthal	31.50
4.	Fleisher	29.70
5.	Lee	29.61
6.	Kasle	29.03
7.	Zimmermann	27.64
8.	Rajadhyaksha	27.00
9.	Fu	24.76
10.	Zagorin	23.20



Correspondence

The Editor reserves the right to abridge and/or edit correspondence.

Email: ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca

Dear John,

The University of Stirling has just set up a Keep Bridge Alive Campaign which is now live and had its official launch events at the University of Stirling on Tuesday, 5 Feb (running until 31 March).

I attach the Keep Bridge Alive materials and we're happy for you to circulate them around your networks. In particular, might you put something into the IBPA Bulletin?

A common question people ask is 'what's in it for me?' The easy answer is that all bridge players have a vested interest in attracting new players to our game and we need innovative, collaborative approaches to do that. Keep Bridge Alive is about taking action to share best practice, pool resources and develop an evidence base to grow the bridge community.

We are hoping that individuals, clubs and bridge organisations will join us in donating to the campaign, and we are hoping it will have a global reach.

Please spread the word about any of this – including putting up posters in your club and ideally, seeing if the below information could go onto your club/district's website (feel free to adapt), which could be hyperlinked to our banner.

The University of Stirling is launching a global 'Keep Bridge Alive' CrowdFund campaign to establish the Sociology of Bridge and to communicate messages about the benefits of bridge beyond the bridge world. This emerging academic field explores interactions within the mind sport, well-being, and health.

Best wishes, and many thanks, Sam Punch, University of Stirling, Scotland

Dear John,

For the last 15 or more years, we have invited international teams to come and participate in the Chairman's Cup, which is played during the Swedish Bridge Festival. The dates for Bridgefestival 2019 are July 26th to August 4th, and the Chairman's Cup will be played from July 27th to August 1st. The Chairman's Cup, the Festival's main event, comprises two days of Swiss qualifying, with the top 32 teams going through to the knockout stage.

Last year, we made a successful change, deciding that, although everyone is of course welcome, we would issue a special invitation to the first ten junior teams to enter the Chairman's Cup, and that we would support them with entry fees and accommodation (two double rooms at the Scandic Väst Örebro Hotel, including breakfast).

You can view the Festival Programme, with all the information about the event that you need from:

http://www.svenskbridge.se/sites/default/files/field_sb_upload/festivalreklam_engelska_2019.pdf

The Swedish Bridge Festival offers a wide variety of events to play in (pairs and teams).

If you have any questions or want to enter, contact: Micke Melander at mme@svenskbridge.se.

Regards, Micke Melander, Swedish Bridge Federation

Hi John,

I have a question from a friend of mine. He is an avid collector of bridge literature and was asking if I knew about anyone holding the 20 first years of the IBPA bulletin. The online archive is great, but starts at No. 405. Do you know if there is a plan to scan the older issues (*Not at the moment. – Ed.*), or if there is anyone holding more, older copies? I would also have interest in the whole collection of IBPA Bulletins – they

contain a lot of information about bridge history, so if there is a chance to get a pdf copy I would be very happy.

Maybe you could put a notice in the coming Bulletin asking if any members have extra copies of older Bulletins they would be willing to scan and share?

Best regards, Nils Kvangraven, Dalsbygda, Østerdalen, Norway nils@kvangraven.no

Dear IBPA,

Your suit symbols ♡ and ♦ are very faded. Below are better symbols which I made especially for bridge writing. They are in the font A_Bridge, attached to this email.

Lukasz Slawinski, Poland

Lukasz' suit symbols look like this:

font A_Bridge



I can send the font to any interested member. My current plan is to move to coloured suit symbols if and when we eliminate hard copy Bulletins altogether – the coloured suit symbols do not translate well to grayscale. – Ed.

Dear John,

Thank you very much! You did brilliant work correcting my poor English. (I wish my Polish were as good as your English. – Ed.) As a result, my analysis – while very complicated from a technical viewpoint – could be understood by readers of the Bulletin.

Sincerely, Andrzej Matuszewski, Warsaw

Andrzej's articles were in December and January. – Ed.

Dear Katie,

The 42nd International Budapest Bridge Festival in the Hotel Flamenco from the 13th to the 17th of February, 2019 will be played by using a revolutionary and safe off-line computer tablet system instead of cards and bidding boxes.

Please make the website <http://ibbf/hulen/> of this international festival public in your IBPA publication and try to motivate your best players to be the first who gain experience with this technological solution for bridge.

The advantages of the technology are:

1. The software blocks many game-disturbing technical irregularities.
2. The actions of all players are registered by a connected database in Germany without human intervention or error.
3. The players, kibitzers and TDs can follow the broadcast from every table, and capture everything that happened during the game, with time stamps.
4. This system has an internet viewgraph for every table of the tournament, which is also accessible after the tournament.

This new bridge tournament technology is considered excellent by most players who tried it in Ostende, Orlando and Budapest and at the national championships of the Hungarian Bridge Federation.

If you, your colleagues or top players participate in the 42nd International Budapest Bridge Festival, you'll be able to form your own opinion about this development and you can decide, in your own country, how quickly you can assess the cards, the duplication, the bidding boxes and the Bridgemates for a much more reliable and, for the players, a more enjoyable game. The difference between this and the current internet-based systems is, on the one hand, better data security and, on the other hand, increased human contact with one's screen-mate, since the players are at a table with a closed screen aperture at all times.

If you have any question, or you need help to organise the journey to Budapest, please contact Peter Talyigás - peter.talyigas@visoft.hu

With friendly greetings, Josef Harsanyi, Germany



www.ibpa.com

This Bulletin:

You can access an electronic copy of this Bulletin at www.ibpa.com/649tx.pdf

Subscriptions:

You can apply to join the IBPA or renew your subscription on the website by clicking on the appropriate button on the top of the homepage.

Members' Addresses:

You can find fellow members' contact details at: www.jannersten.org. If you have forgotten your access code: thorpe.katie@gmail.com

The 2018 Handbook:

To access the electronic version of the Handbook, go to the IBPA website: www.ibpa.com

Personal Details Changes:

Whenever your contact details change, please amend them as appropriate in the database found at: www.jannersten.org or inform the Membership Secretary, Katie Thorpe: thorpe.katie@gmail.com

World Bridge Calendar

2019

Feb 11-16	28 th Sun, Sea & Slams	Christ Church, Barbados, W.I.	www.barbadosbridge.org
Feb 13-17	42 nd International Bridge Festival	Budapest, Hungary	http://ibbf.hu/en/
Feb 15-17	Barcelona Open	Barcelona, Spain	www.bridge.cat
Feb 15-23	57 th Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	www.qldbridge.com.au
Feb 19-24	22 nd Yokohama Bridge Festival	Yokohama, Japan	www.jcbl.or.jp
Feb 21-26	32 nd Cairo International Festival	Cairo, Egypt	www.egyptbridge.org/cairo-2019
Feb 22-28	1 st European National Mixed Teams	Lisbon, Portugal	www.eurobridge.org
Mar	World University Online Champ'ship	BBO	www.worldbridge.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 5-7	Swiss Open	Zurich, Switzerland	aschoellkopf@bluewin.ch
Apr 5-11	23 rd ABPF Youth Championships	Bangkok, Thailand	http://www.bridgewebs.com
Apr 9-13	Yeh Bros. Cup	Shanghai, China	jonkychung@gmail.com
Apr 9-14	Venice Bridge Festival	Lido, Venice, Italy	www.festivaldelbridge.com
Apr 16-21	124 th Easter Regional	Toronto, ON	www.unit166.ca
Apr 26-28	10 th 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	69 th 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 th 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 nd APBF Championships	Singapore	competition@scba.org.sg
Jun 15-29	9 th Open European Championships	Istanbul, Turkey	www.eurobridge.org
Jun 23-30	20 th BFAME Championships	Amman, Jordan	http://bfi.net.in/20th-bfame-championships-2019/
Jun 28-Jul 7	62 nd Slawa Congress	Slawa, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Jul 4-11	27 th European Youth Team Champ'ships	Oslo, Norway	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 6-11	International Festival	Ajaccio, Corsica, France	www.corsebridge.com
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 17-21	Hong Kong Intercity	Hong Kong, China	www.hkcba.org
Jul 18-28	ACBL Summer NABC	Las Vegas, NV	www.acbl.org
Jul 24-28	EUSAMindsport Championship	Budapest, Hungary	www.eusa.eu
Jul 26-Aug 4	25 th 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 th World Open Youth Championships	Opatija, Croatia	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 22-Sep 1	47 th Grand Prix of Warsaw	Warsaw, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Aug 24-Sep 1	7 th German Masters Wekk	Berlin, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Sep 6-14	58 th International Festival	Pula, Croatia	www.pulabridgefestival.com
Sep 6-15	Guernsey Congress	Les Cotils, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 14-28	44 th 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	wangjj_bridge@yahoo.com
Sep 28-Oct 5	NZB National Congress	Hamilton, NZ	www.nzbridge.co.nz
Oct 8-14	Sicily Overseas Congress	Palermo, Italy	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 9-13	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	www.bridgescanner.com
Oct 11-12	Gold Cup Finals	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Nov 4-11	22 nd Madeira Open	Funchal, Madeira, Portugal	www.madeira-bridge.com
Nov 28-Dec 8	ACBL Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org