



BULLETIN

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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.

The United States Bridge Federation does a fantastic job of running the Trials for their international representatives (with the exception of the Bermuda Bowl Trials, for which they run two separate events). For example, in this year's Senior Trials, 12 teams entered. They played a complete, two-day round robin to determine the top eight teams for the USA1 bracket and the other four for the USA2 bracket. The teams in each bracket played 90-board KO matches. The losing teams in the USA2 bracket were eliminated (as they continued to be throughout the Trials), while the USA1 losers dropped into the USA2 bracket. That left four teams in the USA1 bracket and six in USA2.

In order to keep the timing of the matches in each bracket consistent, the six teams in the USA2 bracket played another round robin to reduce to four, while the USA1 bracket continued in knockout fashion. The semifinal losers in the USA1 bracket dropped into USA2 and were joined by the top four from the round robin. These six played KO matches to produce three winners, to be joined by the USA1 final loser, which chose its opponent from among the three USA2 survivors. The winner of the USA1 bracket punched its ticket to Wuhan while the remaining four USA2 bracket teams had another two matches to play to determine the identity of USA2. It was as near a perfect setup as could have been devised. One could argue that 120-board matches, as were played in the Open Trials, would have been more appropriate, but these were delicate Seniors, after all.

The gruelling event was designed to produce the best teams possible to compete in the d'Orsi Trophy in China and it succeeded in doing so, producing the following teams: USA1 – Peter Boyd/Steve Robinson, Bart Bramley/Kit Woolsey, Gaylor Kastle/Dan Morse; USA2 – David Berkowitz/Alan Sontag, Steve Garner/Jeff Wolfson, Mark Lair/Michael Rosenberg. Although one could argue that there were three other teams in the event which would have produced equally-good representatives.

The problem with the USBF Trials, however, was with the timing of the four events: Open (USA2), May 10-19; Women's, May 14-20; Mixed, May 22-29; Senior, May 31-June 9.

Note that only the Open and Women's team events overlapped. That meant that, with no restrictions on the number of events one could enter, players could play in as many as three separate events. Some did so: Steve Garner, Michael

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20th BFAME Championships T.C. Pant, New Delhi

The 20th Bridge Federation of Asia and the Middle East Championships were held at the Bristol Hotel, Amman, Jordan from Sunday, 23rd June till Sunday, 30th June, 2019. It was the fifth time the Jordan Bridge Federation and Amman had hosted the BFAME Championships.

Seven nations in the Open Teams event, four in the Women's Teams, six in the Senior Teams and five in the Mixed Teams participated for the coveted Zakaria Adamjee Memorial Trophy, the Vinodini Goenka Trophy, the Nawzad Shaker Trophy and the Mazhar Jafri Trophy, respectively. The Open teams played a double round-robin and the Women's teams played a quadruple round-robin, whereas the Senior and Mixed teams played a triple round-robin qualification series, all of 16-board matches. After the qualification round-robin, the top four teams in the Open event qualified for the 64 board semi-final, while the top two teams in the other events went straight to their finals. Since the top two teams in each series qualified for the World Championships in Wuhan, the final of each event was of just 24 boards.

The Chief Guest, Professor Khaled al-Atyat, the representative of His Royal Highness Prince Feisal bin al-Husseini, President of the Jordan Olympic Committee, inaugurated the championship on 23rd June 2019.

Some of the interesting deals are detailed here:

MIXED TEAMS, Round Robin 1, Match 2 – JORDAN v. INDIA

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North <i>Marwan</i>	East	South <i>Sreen</i>
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♣
Pass	7♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West	North <i>Rajeev</i>	East	South <i>Himani</i>
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

In the Open Room, the Jordanian pair bid well to reach the grand slam. Alas, it was not their day as the spades misbehaved. The grand slam is almost cold on a 2-1 break.

The Indian pair was in six spades only, which had no problem. South must have been worried after seeing the dummy, but the bad break must have given him quite some relief. That was a 17-IMP loss to Jordan.

OPEN TEAMS, Round Robin 1, Match 5 – KUWAIT v. BANGLADESH

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West <i>Kamruz-zaman</i>	North <i>Alrefae</i>	East <i>Moshiur</i>	South <i>Imaran Ali</i>
—	2♦	2♠	3♦
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Ibrahim</i>	<i>Haque</i>	<i>Numan</i>	<i>Monirul</i>
—	1♦	Double	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the Open Room, the East/West Bangladeshi pair did well to reach the slam after the weak two-diamond opening by North. The question now was how to play it.

South led a low diamond. Declarer won in dummy with the ace, discarding a heart from hand. A low trump was pulled, North winning with the ace and returning another diamond, declarer ruffing with the spade ten. When he correctly took the trump finesse in dummy he had no problem in scoring the contract.

The other table was only in four hearts, making 11 tricks, for an 11-IMP gain to Bangladesh.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kamruz-zaman</i>	<i>Alrefae</i>	<i>Moshiur</i>	<i>Imaran Ali</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	2♥	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Ibrahim</i>	<i>Haque</i>	<i>Numan</i>	<i>Monirul</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	4♥	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Both rooms reached slam, but in different black suits. In the Open Room, East showed his club fit by bidding three hearts and they could therefore play in their 5-4 club fit. In the Closed Room, North made life difficult for East/West by barging in with four hearts. Now over four spades, four notrump was taken as for spades and the club suit vanished from the scene.

In the Open Room, the lead of North's diamond six would have defeated the contract as the ace and

another diamond would have seen North ruff in with the ten of clubs. However, North, not unreasonably, led the king of hearts. Declarer won with the ace, played a club to the ace and pulled a low diamond to his king. South won the trick with ace and played back the jack of diamonds. Declarer won with the queen and when North could not ruff it, the location of queen of clubs was discovered and the contract made.

In the other room, with spades not breaking and declarer not going for the club finesse, the contract went two down and that was a massive 17-IMP swing for Bangladesh.

OPEN TEAMS, Round Robin 1, Match 7 – INDIA v. BANGLADESH

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

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

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

The bidding in the Open Room by the Indian North/South was simple and they never tried for slam. But in the

Closed Room, the Bangladeshi North/South bid their cards to the hilt, getting to slam missing the spade queen and heart king. The chances of six spades making were very slim. Though hearts behaved and the queen of spades also fell singleton, after a diamond lead, there was no way to enjoy the hearts as the fourth heart was ruffed and a diamond could not be ruffed in dummy. The contract went one down for an 11-IMP loss to Bangladesh.

But, double dummy, this turned out to be the deal of the day. Let us say West leads a low club (the best lead). Declarer wins with the ace. There is more than one way to take 12 tricks; one way is to play a diamond to the king, and ruff a club. Then the queen of hearts, king, ace. Another club is ruffed, a heart is led to the jack and ruff the last club. Now ruff a diamond in dummy and ruff a heart in hand. The last four cards are:

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

You are in hand and have taken all the tricks till now. When a diamond is played, West is forced to ruff and you over-ruff with jack, ruff the heart with ace of spades and ruff another diamond with king of spades to score your 12 tricks. But no one in the field played this way. Of course.

Another clever way to make 12 tricks is to set up hearts, cashing the king of spades and the side-suit winners along the way, ruffing two diamonds and one club, then playing a heart to discard the last diamond, trump-endplaying West. No one played that way either.

OPEN TEAMS FINAL – BANGLADESH v. INDIA

This was one of the key deals in the final:

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West for India, with his 11 HCP and flat hand, passed and, when North pre-empted, East found it difficult to take action opposite a passed partner. Though he

had 5-5 in the majors, he did not fancy the risk of bidding and, when West did not take action either, the Bangladeshi North was left to declare. He had an easy time of it on the ten-of-spades lead, losing one spade, two hearts and one diamonds, making nine tricks for plus 110.

At the other table ...

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

1. Drury

In the Closed Room, the Indian North did not pre-empt in clubs and it was East who struck gold when he opened with his 9 HCP and 5-5 in majors, thus gaining 11 IMPs for Bangladesh.

The 24-board final of the Open Teams was won by Bangladesh, beating India by 60-46 and winning the **Zakaria Adamjee Memorial Trophy**, the symbol of BFAME supremacy. Both teams qualified for the **Bermuda Bowl**.

Bangladesh: Abdullah al-Zahir (NPC), Rashedul Ahasan, Mohammed Asifur Rahman Chowdhury, Shah Zia-ul Haque, Mohammad Monirul Islam, A.H.M. Kamruzzaman, M.A. Quddus, Moshir Rahman Mohan
India: Debasish Ray (NPC), Aniruddha Bhattacharya, Dipak Santra, Keyzad Anklesaria, N.R. Kirubakaramoorthy, Rajeshwar Tewari, Uttam Gupta

The 24-board final of the Women's team was won by Pakistan, who beat India by 53 IMPs (86-33) to win the coveted **Vinodini Goenka Trophy**. Both teams qualified for the **Venice Cup**.

Pakistan: Rubina Agha (Captain), Qudsia Dosa, Rubina Saeed Hai, Shahnaz Pirzada, Fatime Raza, Najm Abid
India: Subhash Gupta (NPC), Alka Kshirsagar, Asha Sharma, Meenal Thakur, Nikita Kamal, Puja Batra, Rupa



The victorious Pakistani women. They will contest the 2019 Venice Cup. -Rubina Agha (Captain), Qudsia Dosa, Rubina Saeed Hai, Shahnaz Pirzada, Fatime Raza, Najm Abid

The 24-board final of the Senior Teams was won by UAE, beating India by 66-31 IMPs and winning the **Nawzad Shaker Trophy**. Both India and the UAE Senior teams will represent Zone 4 in the **d'Orsi Trophy**.

United Arab Emirates: Ahmed al-Midfa, Darshan Valrani, Akiel al-Madi, Mohammed al-Agamawi, Humayun Sumar, Nermeen Norani

India: Anal Shah (Coach), Dipak Poddar (Captain), Jitendra Solani, Ramamurthy Sridharan, Subhash Dhakras, Sukamal Das, Subrata Saha

The 24-board final of the Mixed Teams was won by India, beating Pakistan by 52-14 IMPs and winning the **Mazhar Jafri Trophy**. Both teams will represent Zone 4 in the **Mixed Trophy Cup** in China.

India: Ramratnam Krishnan (NPC), Bharati Dey, Bindiya Naidoo, Himani Khandelwal, Priya Ranjan Sinha, Rajeev Khandelwal, Sujit Kumar Basu

Pakistan: Ahsan Qureshi (Captain), Nilofar Aslam, Zia Hyder Naqvi, Rehana Saigol, Fehmida Sarfraz, Saeed Uz Zafar Shah



Casa 2019 The African Zonal Trials

Casablanca, Morocco, June 7-14, 2019
Dilip Gidwani, Mumbai

The Trials decided the Zone's two qualifiers for the World Championships later this year in Wuhan, China. There was a two-day preliminary warm-up event, the African Open Pairs, in which, extraordinarily, the top three places were taken by the pairs in the Moroccan Senior team. Was it a portent?

Dealer South. Board 15. NS Vul.

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

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

1. Multi: weak two in either major or strong, balanced
2. Pass or correct
3. 21-22 balanced
4. Minor-suit Stayman
5. Redwood key-card ask for clubs
6. 0 or 3 key cards

West	North	East	South
—	Fick	—	Der Kinderen
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠ ¹
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦ ²
Pass	5♦ ³	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Minor-suit Stayman
2. Control-bid
3. Eliciting some confusion

This deal is from the African Open Pairs, Session 2. Two of the pairs on the South African team used Minor-Suit Stayman to telling effect. They were the only pairs to bid slam on the board.

Slam is pretty good – a major-suit lead would make it even better. On the actual diamond lead, both declarers had to draw trumps to avoid the impending ruff. After that, they had two main chances, the heart ace onside or the spade king onside. When they eventually led a heart toward the closed hand and West did not put up the ace, both declarers finessed the jack, losing to the queen. On the second diamond lead, they took the precaution of first ruffing a heart and were rewarded by the appearance of the ace, obviating the need for the spade finesse. Well-bid and well-played.

From the Teams ...

Round 11. Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

At both tables of the Tunisia-Réunion match on BBO, the North/South pairs wended their way to six hearts via a transfer sequence after South had opened one notrump. That left West to kick off and, unfortunately for declarer, he had an obvious standout lead. The trump layout meant that declarer could not get rid of his diamond loser quickly enough; two off for a push.

The Réunion Senior pair of Philippe Simon and Patrick Hamel did better than their Open team counterparts, getting to six clubs via this sequence:

West	North <i>Simon</i>	East	South <i>Hamel</i>
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦ ¹	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣ ²	Pass	4♥ ³
Pass	4♠ ⁴	Pass	4NT ⁵
Pass	5♣ ⁶	Pass	5♠ ⁷
Pass	5NT ⁸	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Artificial game-force
2. I like clubs; let's bid on – North makes a move toward slam
3. Control-bid; denies diamond control
4. Spade control; also promises diamond control (since had South denied one)
5. RKCB
6. 0 or 3 key cards
7. King ask; looking for more – guarantees all key cards and the club queen
8. Further interest (a red king) but denies the ability to bid seven

North informed me that with the king-queen of hearts, he would have bid the grand slam. Indeed, the grand slam is pretty good, even on a diamond lead, needing only a 3-2 heart break, or heart length with East to allow the queen to be ruffed out.

On the following board from the Senior Teams, after West had intervened, East made a subsequent ill-advised double. He paid a heavy price for his indiscretion.

Round 14. Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	1♥	Pass	3♦ ¹
3♠	4♥	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		
	1. 4-card limit raise		

North was Amr Askalani of the Egypt Seniors, a player with tons of experience and talent. After the ace of spades lead and a diamond shift, declarer led the queen of hearts out of his hand and followed with the ten of hearts. East covered with the jack, so Askalani won with dummy's king. Declarer led the queen of clubs next. East won with his ace (ducking would not have helped) and led another club to declarer's king. Askalani took his two high diamonds before leading another trump. The finesse for the nine of hearts allowed declarer to draw East's remaining trumps. The jack of diamonds was declarer's tenth trick; he finished with five trumps, four diamonds and a club for plus 790. The three-spade bid West and the double by East had given declarer the clues he needed to succeed.

At the other table, declarer went one off in four hearts after receiving no help from the bidding.

Qualifiers for Wuhan

Morocco's success in the Pairs was a portent as they thrashed Egypt in the last match to come away winners of the Senior Teams gold. Egypt easily hung on to the silver. Those teams were represented by ...

Seniors

1. Morocco: Abdella el-GHRARI, Jean HAYAT, Abes ALAMI, Guy CAMBOURNAC, Mohamed Said BERRADA, Abdel Kamel RERHAYE.

2. Egypt: Mohamed TANBOLI, Mohamed FADEL, Mohamed el-BAZ, Tarik METWALY, Amr ASKALANI, Bernard PASCAL

Those same two nations also qualified for the Bermuda Bowl in the Open Trials, in the reverse order of finish.

Open

1. Egypt: Abdelrahman MOSAAD, Mohamed ABDELZIM, Ahmad ZEIN, Tarek SALAH, Baher Ahmed RAMADAN, Ashraf SALAH

2. Morocco: Joseph Alain BOTBOL, Pierre SIBONY, Abdellatif BELKOUCH, Mohammed DINIA, Stéphane DAHAN, André O. HANA

Only the Venice Cup qualifiers broke the Morocco-Egypt monopoly:

Women's

1. South Africa: Beverley HEWITT, Patricia CROSSE, Diana ROSSLEE, Carol STANTON, Tania RAWSON, Vanessa AMSTRONG

2. Tunisia: Hedia SELLAMI, Ferdaous TRABELSI, Hedia BACCAR, Najet SFAR, Lilia DALDOUL, Mariem DORA



South American Zonal Trials

Fernando Lema, Buenos Aires

This was the best deal from the 69th South American Zonal Championships, which ended on Friday, May 24. The Zone 3 Trials were used to qualify Open, Women's and Mixed teams for the World Team Championships to be held in China in September 2019.

All events played the same deals. During the sixth Round Robin match, there was a contract that was made only by South American Grand Master Monica Angeleri of Argentina. Let's see it ...

Argentina A vs. Argentina B. Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Scanavino	Siano	Angeleri	Alonso
—	—	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
6NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Almost all East/West pairs arrived at the same contract of six notrump and received the lead of the ten of spades. In general, the declarers won the lead in their hand with the trump king, continued with the king of hearts and another heart, ducking to let North win this trick. After that, they had to lose the contract.

Angeleri, after winning the opening lead, also played the heart king and another heart. Here, when North followed with the queen, declarer thought that

the suit might be poorly distributed, so she won with the ace as South discarded a diamond. Declarer cashed the spades and clubs to reach the following three-card end-position:

♠ —	♠ —
♥ —	♥ —
♦ A 9 2	♦ Q 8 3
♣ —	♣ —

♠ —	♠ —
♥ —	♥ —
♦ K J 10	♦ —
♣ —	♣ —

At the eleventh trick, knowing the diamonds had been 5-2 initially, Angeleri played a diamond to her eight. South had to win, and was irremediably stuck in his hand with no escape.

What a beautiful play, master!

Now, what is the correct play by North at trick three? The queen or the jack of hearts? Should it make a difference to how declarer plays?

South American Qualifiers for Wuhan

Open: Argentina (won the trial) and Chile (won the match against Brazil for second place).

Women: Argentina (won the trial) and Brazil (won the match against Venezuela for second place).

Mixed: Brazil (won the trial) and Argentina finished second.

Senior: Brazil and Chile, this trial was played last year during Comandatuba (BRZ).

South American Pairs Championships

Open

Gold: Joaquín Pacareu (CHI)/Antonio Palma (POR)

Silver: Fernando Tiscornia/Martin Zonca (ARG)

Bronze: Jorge Veas/Sergio Tampier (CHI)

Women

Gold: Maria Loreto Cuevas/Manana Robles (CHI)

Silver: Paula David/Lucia Doria (BRZ)

Bronze: Malena Iacapraro/Charo Garateguy (ARG)

Mixed

Gold: Maria Teresa Falk/Renato Fernandes (BRZ)

Silver: Perla Sultan (VEN)/Alejandro Bianchedi (ITA)

Bronze: Irene Gomes/Marcos Thoma (BRZ)

All results: <http://mardelplata2019.csabridge.org/2019/05/20/>



The 2019 Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championships were held in Singapore from June 11-20. The Australian Open Team did rather well on this problem deal from their match against China Hong Kong:

Round 22. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Hung</i>		<i>Edgton</i>	
—	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	2♦	2♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

With Australia East/West and Hong Kong North/South, Andy Hung (West) led the three of clubs to the queen, king and ace. Declarer ruffed a club, finessed the queen of spades, ruffed his last club and played the king of hearts: eight – three – two and the nine of hearts: diamond three – heart four – heart ace. Hung continued with clubs and had trump control. The result was one down, East/West plus 50.

At the other table ...

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Gill</i>		<i>Hans</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West led the jack of clubs: queen – king – ace. Sartaj Hans (South) also ruffed a club, led a spade to his queen and ruffed his last club. However, when the king of hearts held, Hans continued with a diamond from dummy. East followed with the ten, Hans played his king and West ruffed in. West cashed the ace of hearts and led another club for Hans to ruff, East discarding

a diamond on the heart and a spade on the club. These cards remained:

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

When South played the queen of hearts to draw West's last trump and discarded the six of spades from dummy, East was squeezed in an odd way. While East was considering his discard, Hans claimed, stating, "If you ditch a diamond, I shall play the ace of diamonds and another diamond. If you pitch a spade, I'll cash the ace of spades and then endplay you with the nine of diamonds." When Hans discarded a spade from the dummy, he was left with just one threat suit, diamonds. However, East still had two material suits and had to unguard one of them. That was ten tricks, plus 420 and 10 IMPs to Australia.

Additionally, had declarer discarded a diamond on the queen of hearts, East would still have been squeezed, but in that situation, it would have been a criss-cross squeeze without the count, another oddity. A diamond discard would have allowed Hans to set up his fourth diamond as a winner, with the ace of spades as an entry, while a spade discard would have meant that the ace of that suit would then have dropped the king. The ace of diamonds would have been the entry for the established jack of spades. In either case, it was very nice card-reading, a very-well-played deal and an elegant ending.

Why did Sartaj Hans play as he did? The natural move, after the king of hearts held the trick, was to continue hearts. That would have succeeded if hearts had been 3-2; if they'd been 4-1 and diamonds 3-2, Hans would still have been alright. However, after South had opened one notrump West, his screen-mate, had thought for some time before passing. Hans commented: "Since West held at most the ace of hearts, the queen-jack of diamonds and the jack of clubs in high-cards, a 5=4=2=2 or a 5=4=3=1 shape would not have warranted such a pause. He must have had six clubs and four hearts for the hesitation. The absence of a singleton diamond lead suggested to me that he was 3=4=0=6. To cater for my legitimate make when he had 2=4=1=6 shape, I led a diamond to my king. If both opponents had followed, I'd need to have continued with the ace of spades and then another

diamond through West before playing any more trumps.”

I had watched the play on BBO and the next day I asked Hans, “Would you have played the diamond nine if West had played low on the two of diamonds from dummy?” He replied: “Not sure what I would have done. There was some chance LHO had a singleton queen or jack that he did not elect to lead. Playing the nine of diamonds would have worked very well on the actual deal (if East had not split) as I could then have neutralized his trumps, whatever defence he chose. In practice, however, players always split the queen-jack-ten, so perhaps the discussion is academic.”

East’s rising with a diamond honour on the diamond two from dummy was not fatal to the defence. However, after West ruffed South’s king and cashed the heart ace, a spade shift instead of a club would have laid declarer low.

In the Open Series, there were 11 declarers in four hearts, but just two of them were successful.

The Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championships also determined the teams which qualified for the 2019 World Championships in Wuhan, China. They were:
Open: Singapore, Indonesia and China Hong Kong
Women: Chinese Taipei, Japan and China Hong Kong
Mixed: Chinese Taipei, Thailand and Indonesia
Seniors: Indonesia, Chinese Taipei and Japan
China, as host nation, will also represent Zone 6 in Wuhan in all four categories.



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The 30th CACBF Championships Jack Rhind, Bermuda

The Championships were held in San José, Costa Rica, from May 18th – 25th, 2019. The six-team Open field saw Guadeloupe and Barbados triumph over Bermuda, Costa Rica, Jamaica and Panama to play in the 64-board final where Guadeloupe emerged as the winners.



Bermuda Bowl-bound Guadeloupe Open Team:
l. to r.: Luc Soudan, Jean-Claude Pelletier, Phillipe Mathieu, Charles Garnier, Alain Kempinsky,
Seated: Dominique Gérin.

The four-team Women’s field saw Trinidad & Tobago defeat Guadeloupe in the final after Barbados and Costa Rica were eliminated. The winners were Denise Rosa, Kalifa Howard, Lisa DeMelliac, Deborah Fletcher, Alana Xavier, Patricia Howard.

The four-team field for the Mixed Teams saw Costa Rica defeat Guadeloupe in the 32-board final after Barbados and Jamaica were eliminated in round robin play. The winners were Steve Allan, Norma Ogryzlo, Isabelle Chaplet and John MacGregor.

In the Transnational Teams, the six-team field was whittled down to two teams for the 48-board final. Gary Gottlieb, Peter Fredin, Simon Ekenberg and Simon Hult (USA and Sweden) were victorious.

The Open Pairs Champions were Luc Soudan and Phillipe Mathieu from Guadeloupe.

9th EUROPEAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Istanbul, Turkey • 15th - 29th June 2019



Ron Tacchi, La Loupe, Eure-et-Loir, France
Mark Horton, Shrewsbury, Shrops., U.K.
David Bird, Eastleigh, Hants., U.K.
Barry Rigal, NYC
Ram Soffer, Tel-Aviv
John Carruthers, Kingsville, ON

West	North	East	South
<i>Popilova</i>	<i>Rudakov</i>	<i>Sagiv</i>	<i>Rudakova</i>
—	—	—	1♣ ¹
2♠	Double	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	
1. 2+ clubs			

In Istanbul, the European Bridge League announced that, henceforth, these (Open) Championships will be called the “European Transnational Championships”, while the Championships which are restricted to national teams and which qualify NBOs to the World Team Championships will be called the “European National Championships”. By doing so, the EBL hoped to eliminate the confusion caused by calling both tournaments “Open Championships”. Each Championship is played in alternate years.

Mixed Teams Round 2 – MNEPO v. SAGIV (Tacchi)

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

After a normal auction, West passed the first test in not leading a spade, as that would immediately have given declarer her contract. However, not having the gift of second-sight, she did not find the club lead, but tried the eight of hearts.

Declarer took the trick in hand and continued with a diamond, which was ducked, but East had no choice but to take the second. He switched to a spade, but declarer hopped up with the ace and cashed her three diamonds. West could afford to discard one club but not two, which, unfortunately for her team, is what she did. Declarer now read the cards well and played the ace and another club, whereupon West was forced to concede the ninth trick in spades.

Had West unblocked the king of clubs under the ace, East could have taken his club tricks, but then would have had to concede a heart trick. The only successful defence is for West to retain three clubs so that when declarer plays the ace and a club West can win with her king, cash the king of spades and then exit with a club for partner to cash the setting tricks.

An easier way to defeat three notrump would have been for East to shift to the queen of clubs when in with the ace of diamonds, but how was he to know that?

West	North	East	South
<i>Orlov</i>	<i>Sagiv</i>	<i>Pavlushko</i>	<i>Orenstein</i>
—	—	—	1♦
3♠	4♦	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The minor-suit game contract just did not have enough tricks and was two off, giving MNEPO 13 IMPs.

Mixed Teams Round 3 – BRENO v. FULLHOUSE (Horton)
Board 29. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Tuncok</i>	<i>Franchi</i>	<i>Hotamislig</i>	<i>Paoluzi</i>
—	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

With no way to make use of dummy's clubs, declarer drifted three off, minus 300.

West	North	East	South
<i>Attanasio</i>	<i>Eiriksson</i>	<i>Manara</i>	<i>Smederevac</i>
—	1♥	Pass	4♥
5♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

North led the two of hearts. Declarer took dummy's ace, South dropping the queen, and played a club to the king and ace. North switched to the king of spades – a great play, attempting a Merrimac Coup – but declarer could duck, win the next spade in hand, and draw trumps for a 14-IMP pick up.

In Round 4, the East/West pairs were confronted with a problem:

Mixed Teams Round 4 – BRIDGESCANNER MIXTE v. MNEPO (Horton)

(See top of next column.) West led the two of hearts. When declarer played low from dummy, East put in the ten and declarer won with her queen and drew trumps, East following with the four and six. Now came a club for the three, eight and queen. After some thought, West switched to the king of diamonds, taking

both declarer's play and Partner's plays in the trump suit into account.

Board 1. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Matushko</i>	<i>Vainikonis</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Levitina</i>
—	2♦ ¹	Pass	2NT ²
Pass	3♣ ³	Pass	3♦ ⁴
Pass	3♠ ⁵	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Multi
2. Relay
3. Any maximum
4. Asks which suit
5. Hearts

So, declarer lost three clubs and a spade for one down.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kowalski</i>	<i>Rudakov</i>	<i>Sobolewska</i>	<i>Rudakova</i>
—	2♦ ¹	Pass	4♣ ²
Double	4♦ ³	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Multi
2. Which major?
3. Hearts

The first four tricks were identical but, here, West switched to the five of spades, and that gave declarer her tenth trick and 10 IMPs.

The key to this deal revolves around East's play in the trump suit. The first question to address is what card East should play at trick one. Partner cannot be leading away from the queen so there is little point in playing the ten, unless you are attempting to convey something to partner. If you were trying to convey something about the spade suit might you play the ten (and then follow with the six, followed by the four).

If, however, you believe that partner will attach no significance to the play of the ten then playing the six followed by the four should show some interest in spades, with the four followed by the six being neutral. If you follow to the first heart with the four you can play the ten on the next round to suggest interest in spades, with the six being neutral.

Continued on page 14 ...



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra

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

957. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

This deal was the last one played in an intermediate class on suit combinations. All four tables played in four hearts and each defence began with three top spades. After ruffing the third spade, three of the declarers played the trump suit correctly in isolation: ace of trumps then a trump to the queen. If East had begun with four trumps, these declarers would have made an overtrick. However, on this layout, West could ruff the third club and exit in spades if declarer had drawn a third trump or in trumps if he had not. So South lost a trump and a diamond for a one-trick set.

What happened at the fourth table? After ruffing the third spade, this declarer cashed the ace and king of trumps and, after the 4-1 break was revealed, he tried to run the club suit. West ruffed the third club but could do no better than exit with a spade. Declarer ruffed this then crossed to dummy with a trump to the queen, thereby drawing West's remaining trump. Declarer then had ten tricks: five trumps, a diamond and four clubs.

The teacher asked the student why he had played the way he did. The declarer replied, "It was the last deal of the night and I thought that, if it were true to those in earlier classes, it would be a counter-example to what we have been studying. So, as we would have been expected to play the trumps in the classic fashion to avoid a loser in the suit, I reckoned it would turn out that West would have four trumps. If that were the case, there would be no point in making the standard play."

The teacher replied, "The reason this line works is that when West ruffs in, there is still a trump entry to dummy. Also, if it turned out that East had held the trump length, declarer would still have survived, for the same reason. So, the correct play of a suit in isolation is not necessarily the correct play on the deal."

958. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

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

West led the queen of diamonds to dummy's bare king. Declarer counted at least nine tricks if the trumps played for no loser, with finesses in the major suits as fallbacks. The common practice of trying to set up the long suit (spades) seemed to declarer to be fraught with danger as there just didn't seem to be enough entries to do so unless the spades were 3-3 or the king of spades were onside. It was for similar reasons that declarer rejected the heart finesse by leading a heart to the ace at trick two.

After throwing dummy's remaining heart on the ace of diamonds, declarer ruffed a heart. Next he cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade low. When he was able to ruff a second heart in dummy, declarer was almost home. He continued by ruffing a spade with the ace of trumps, and followed this by trumping the nine of diamonds in dummy. After ruffing a spade

with the king of trumps, declarer led the queen of hearts and ruffed it in dummy. That was his tenth trick and he had to make two tricks from his jack-ten-seven of trumps: all he would lose was a trick to the queen of trumps.

Once declarer had embarked on a crossruff, it was vital that he ruffed the third and fourth rounds of spades high, for otherwise West could have overruffed with his queen and returned a trump to defeat the contract.

959. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

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

1. At least 5-5 in the minors
2. Competitive, weaker than 3♦

This deal was from a team game. The auction and opening lead were the same at both tables. Each West guessed well to lead the ace of spades, which was clearly revealed as a singleton when West shifted to the king of clubs. Both declarers took the club shift in hand with the ace and pondered how to make a tenth trick with a diamond ruff.

At the first table, declarer led the queen of diamonds from hand. West played low and East won with the ace of diamonds and exited with a trump. Declarer took this on table and led a diamond. East produced the ten of diamonds, which was allowed to hold, and killed the contract by playing his remaining trump. Declarer had to lose three diamonds and a trump.

At the other table, the declarer saw that if he led a diamond from hand at trick three there was a real danger that East would be able to win both the first and second rounds of diamonds and return a trump each time. So, declarer led a low heart to dummy's ace to lead a diamond. East rose with the ace of diamonds and returned a trump, which was taken in dummy with the ten. Declarer continued by leading a low diamond to the ten, queen and king. West tried to cash the queen of clubs but this was ruffed by declarer, who ruffed a diamond in dummy with the king of spades

for his tenth trick. Declarer made ten tricks: five trumps, three hearts, a diamond ruff and the ace of clubs.

960. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

1. 18-19

West led the five of spades. East took this with the ace and returned the queen of that suit – he did not want to be thrown in later with a spade to lead a diamond. Declarer took the queen of spades with the king and saw that he would always make 12 tricks as long as he could make five tricks in diamonds. So, declarer led a low diamond to dummy's king and the two of diamonds back to his ace.

West's discard was an unpleasant, but not unexpected, sight, leaving declarer with the problem of making five heart tricks. East had started with six spades and four diamonds. Declarer knew that he could go with the odds and cash the king of hearts and then lead the ten of hearts intending to run it if was not covered – but that would lead to an embarrassing situation if East had been dealt a doubleton heart jack.

Instead, declarer decided to complete the count on East's hand by cashing his three club winners. After East threw a spade on the third round of clubs, his original shape was known by declarer to be 6=1=4=2. Accordingly, declarer led the ten of hearts next with the intention of running it if West played low. In practice, West covered with the jack of hearts and the trick was won by dummy's queen of hearts. Declarer continued with a low heart from dummy to his king then claimed 12 tricks: a spade, five hearts and the six tops in the minors.

You should note that if East had an unlikely singleton in clubs then the hearts would have been 3-2, guaranteeing that declarer could take five tricks in that suit. While this line would have lost to East holding a singleton jack of hearts, it picks up the other four singletons with East.

Judging by what happened at the tables, one West thought playing the ten at trick one suggested something in spades.

Mixed Teams Round 6 – ZIMMERMANN v. BRENO (Bird)

Board 29. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zimmermann	Manara	Ponomareva	Attanasio
—	INT	2♠ ¹	Double
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Spades and a minor

You are puzzled by the double of three notrump and would very much like me to clarify the issue? Er... well, the normal meaning of such a double is (a.) to ask partner to lead her bid suit and not try her luck elsewhere, or (if partner has not bid a suit) (b.) to try to find the doubler's good suit, by leading a weak suit of her own. Even if the present double did request a heart lead in the East/West methods, it looks questionable to me. East has advertised a two-suiter and is quite likely to have a singleton heart. What use will a heart lead be in that case? I suppose it could allow West to win and lead through declarer's single stopper in one of East's suits, but that's a long-shot.

Ponomareva led the eight of diamonds to West's nine and declarer's jack. For a moment, it seemed that declarer had only eight tricks and would go down if she played a heart, allowing West to win and return a diamond. However, Manara had no intention of going down! She placed East with long spades and diamonds and realized that she would come under pressure when five club tricks were run. Declarer was marked with at least a doubleton spade after the one-notrump opening, so Ponomareva knew that West had no guard in that suit. East therefore had to hold on to the queen-ten-nine of spades. She could spare one diamond but, if she threw another, declarer would be able to establish a ninth trick in hearts safely. If East discarded her singleton heart instead, this would allow declarer an easy endplay on her. (She could play practically double-dummy after the bidding and play so far.) Eventually East opted to throw a second diamond, retaining her four of hearts.

Now assured of the contract, declarer played a heart to the queen and West's ace. Zimmermann had to find a return from the spade seven-two, the heart jack-ten and the diamond seven-five. A diamond would have given his partner three diamond tricks, but declarer would then have had nine tricks for plus 750. When he chose to play a spade (a heart would have been no better), an even bigger number was looming. Declarer's jack of spades was covered by the queen and dummy's ace. A heart to the king forced East to throw the ten of diamonds. She was then thrown in with king and another spade to concede an overtrick to declarer's king of diamonds. That was plus 950.

West	North	East	South
Lanzarotti	Zmuda	Golin	Klukowski
—	INT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Klukowski's three-diamond response showed a diamond shortage and 4-4 in the majors. The ten-of-spades lead was run to the jack and declarer emerged with plus 660, disappointed to lose 8 IMPs on the board.

Mixed Teams Round 7 – REESS v. KOSKOY (Tacchi)

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Seker	Soulet	Adiguzel	Reess
—	—	1♥	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Theoretically, South was correct in not going on, as four spades should fail. And, in fact, at her table, declarer did not take the route to the maximum number of tricks but ensured her contract.

West	North	East	South
Frey	Koksoy	Mauberquez	Tokcan
—	—	1♥	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

South's overcall to show spades and another suit elicited a two-spade response from partner (he was reasonably certain the other suit was diamonds) and, when he was raised, tried the game contract. I suspect the state of the match influenced him to take a gamble. On the lead of the ace of hearts, he played the eight from hand and, on the heart continuation, dropped the jack. This nice little minor deception persuaded East to switch to the queen of clubs. Declarer took three rounds of clubs, discarding diamonds. The ace of diamonds and a diamond ruff was followed by finessing the queen of trumps and brought home an unlikely game and a much-needed 11 IMPs. At the end, the score was 52- 22 in favour of REESS.

**Mixed Teams KO Round of 32 –
ZIMMERMANN v. ROBERTSON (Rigal)
Board 17. Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

♠ Q J 7 5
♥ K 10 9 5 2
♦ A 3
♣ A 7

♠ K 9 6 3
♥ 6 4
♦ Q 9 6 5 2
♣ 9 3

Simon Cope brought this deal to the Daily Bulletin Office. Consider it as a single dummy problem.

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Robertson	Zmuda	Cope
—	1♥	Pass	1♠
INT	2♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Michal Klukowski found a low trump lead, his best chance to give declarer a problem. Declarer won cheaply in hand and led a heart; Klukowski played low and the king lost to the ace. Zmuda returned a trump and Klukowski played two more rounds of the suit, leaving declarer in hand to lead a low heart up. How would you play when West produces the seven?

At the table, Cope decided to play West for the queen-eight-seven-six of hearts of hearts and East for ace-jack doubleton. So, he ducked, planning to let East win. On the club return he would win in dummy and pass the ten of hearts, pitching a club.

But these were the East/West hands:

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

Zmuda won with her heart eight and returned the club jack and, try as he might, declarer still had to lose three more tricks whatever he did, for down one. Cope said: "You can criticize my judgment in the play, but if

Michal hadn't made the best play in perfect tempo, the contract would have rolled home."

**Mixed Teams Final, Set 1 – REESS v. GOOD
SIX (Horton)**

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ K 5 4 2
♥ Q J 10 5
♦ 5 4 2
♣ 9 7

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

♠ 9 3
♥ 3
♦ 10 8 7
♣ A K Q J 10 8 2

West	North	East	South
D'Ovidio	Soulet	Bompis	Reess
—	Pass	1♦	4♣
Double	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

South cashed two clubs and, seeing no danger, switched to the seven of diamonds. Declarer won in hand and played a heart to the ace, leaving North with two trump tricks, plus 100. However, if declarer wins the diamond switch in dummy and plays a low heart, North will have to put up an honour, otherwise declarer can put in the eight (*but there are three honour singletons and just two low singletons - Ed.*). Declarer wins and, considering the bidding, might find the way to get home by leaving the trump suit well alone. In the endgame that develops, North will be down to queen-jack-five in hearts and declarer will play dummy's last diamond, forcing North to ruff high and lead into dummy's heart ace-nine.

West	North	East	South
Frey	Drijver	Mauberquez	Madsen
—	Pass	1♦	4♣
Double	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Here too, South started with two top clubs. It was obvious that East/West had a 4-4 fit in trumps, marking North with four hearts. It was very unlikely that the defenders had a diamond trick and any spade honour that North might hold was under the gun. Appreciating that the defenders' best chance might be to take two trump tricks, Lund Madsen found the play of the queen of clubs, offering up a ruff and discard. If declarer discards from dummy, North can pitch a diamond and now there is no way to reach a winning ending. Declarer tried ruffing with dummy's six, but North overruffed with the jack. Declarer overruffed with the king and played a heart to the seven, but North won and still had a trump trick to come.

Mixed Teams Final, Set 4 – REESS v. GOOD SIX (Rigal)

Board 26. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>D'Ovidio</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Reess</i>
<i>Frey</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Mauberquez</i>	<i>Lund Madsen</i>
—	—	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Both Easts' refusal to open a strong notrump got them to three notrump the wrong way up, as the cards lay. With a 16-count can you really hope to describe your assets accurately if you don't make the value bid? Yes, the small doubleton and five-card major aren't ideal, but this looks as if it is more about telling the smallest lie.

Soulet led a heart. D'Ovidio ducked the first two hearts, won the next, and took the top clubs to discover she had no re-entry to hand outside diamonds. She was thus reduced to her 25% chance of finding both diamond honours onside. When Reess split her honors on the first round of the suit, d'Ovidio ducked, and when she finessed on the next round, she had plus 630.

Frey also received a heart lead and decided not to risk ducking two hearts and getting a spade shift: not unreasonable. She led a diamond at once and Lund Madsen hopped up with the king, so Frey won with the ace, crossed to a club, and played a second diamond. Madsen got this right again, winning with her queen and cashing out the hearts.

You could argue that d'Ovidio earned her 12-IMP gain by reading her opponents well; but it certainly seemed that Frey was rather unlucky to have played the technically superior line and suffered a game swing in the process.

Open Teams Round 1 – ZIMMERMANN v. ICELAND (Bird)

(See top of next column.) At both tables, two clubs was strong, two diamonds was waiting and the two-heart rebid showed hearts or a strong balanced hand

(Birthright). North's two spades was forced and two notrump showed the balanced hand, unrelated to hearts.

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kristinsson</i>	<i>Multon</i>	<i>Erlingsson</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Eiriksson</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Sigurjonsson</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠*	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

A club lead to the ace, followed by a spade switch would have spelt immediate defeat for the game. An unwise lead of the three of spades into the known strong hand would have given declarer a ninth trick. Kristinsson chose to lead the six of hearts. This was okay on the surface, since declarer had only eight top tricks. Zimmermann won East's jack with the king and ran five diamond tricks. In other circumstances, West might have found it difficult to retain his ten-high heart guard. Here, he discarded the three of spades and three clubs. Declarer played two more high hearts and exited with the two of hearts to West's ten. If Kristinsson had retained all four spades, he would have been endplayed, forced to give declarer a spade trick. Since he had accurately kept three spades and a club, he could cross to Erlingsson's ace of clubs and win three spade tricks on the return. Well defended!

At the other table, Klukowski led a second-best eight of hearts, showing a poor suit. This is so much better than leading fourth-best, as at the other table. Imagine that East had held the ace of hearts. He might well have returned a heart instead of switching to spades. Rather than run the diamonds, Sigurjonsson tried to steal a trick in clubs; would the defenders duck the queen of clubs? No, Gawrys won immediately with the ace and switched to the six of spades. If the play record is to be believed, South did not commit his king to this trick. He played low, hoping that West would win and switch elsewhere. Klukowski won with the jack of spades and ... did not switch elsewhere. The defenders scored four more spade tricks to put

three notrump two down. Again, well-defended. ZIMMERMAN collected 2 IMPs.

Open Teams Round 5 – ROSENTHAL v. ADDAURA (Soffer)

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Willenken</i>	<i>Di Bello</i>	<i>Jansma</i>	<i>D'Avossa</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♦*	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	7♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At first sight, the jump to seven spades looks crazy, but once the bidding is explained we can see that the Italians had it worked out.

Two clubs was artificial, starting a relay. Two hearts was natural. Two spades continued the relay and the three-diamond response showed a 6-4 shape (a highly important piece of information). Three spades agreed trumps and initiated control-bids. The key bid was four notrump, which did not ask, but showed an even number of key cards.

How did D'Avossa know that his partner had four key cards rather than two? The answer is that, up to that point, South hadn't promised more than a minimum opening, so North had no business going beyond the four level with only two key cards. Of course, once South knew his partner had six spades, four hearts and four key cards, he could count 13 tricks: six spades, two hearts, two heart ruffs, the ace of diamonds and the ace-king of clubs. A nice plus 2210 to ADDAURA.

West	North	East	South
<i>Failla</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>De Michelis</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	5NT*	Pass	6♥*
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

The Norwegian bidding proceeded along more traditional lines. South's two notrump agreed spades

and was game-forcing. Then, the three-spade bid asked for opener's shortage and control-bidding and Roman Key-Card Blackwood followed. North could not locate the doubleton heart in the South hand necessary for the grand slam.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Willenken</i>	<i>Di Bello</i>	<i>Jansma</i>	<i>D'Avossa</i>
—	—	Pass	3♦
3♥	3NT	Pass	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Having first bid three hearts and then four hearts, which looked like a sacrifice, Willenken attracted a penalty double. That should have been favourable as the defence can take only three tricks against precise play.

Di Bello led the king of diamonds, ruffed, and then ducked a low heart to dummy's jack. Declarer had to find a way back to his hand in order to continue drawing trumps. The missing eight of hearts represented a danger, but declarer played a spade to his ace. Di Bello took the heart queen with his king and played a diamond. After taking the ten of hearts with the ace he finally found the right path: queen of spades, overtaken by South's king. The nine of spades continuation promoted the heart eight into the setting trick, East/West minus 200.

West	North	East	South
<i>Failla</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>De Michelis</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	—	Pass	3♦
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Failla jumped straight to game. Even though the bidding was less informative, he took all the necessary precautions against a trump promotion.

The lead was once again the king of diamonds, ruffed. The jack of hearts won the second trick. Failla came back to his hand via the ace of clubs and led the queen of hearts, taken by the king. North switched to the queen of spades, but Failla ducked, cutting the defenders' transportation. Plus 620 and 12 IMPs to ADDAURA.

Open Teams Round 6 – CBC ATAKOY v. LEYLA (Rigal)

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bahadir</i>	<i>Schmidt</i>	<i>Salman</i>	<i>Smederevac</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
2♣	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Jovanka Smederevac and Pierre Schmidt managed to reach a delicate three notrump when both players had a good appreciation of their values. Now all Schmidt had to do was make it. He ducked the club lead when West false-carded with the king, won the club return with the jack and advanced the jack of diamonds, covered all round. Bahadir, West, reluctantly let go a low heart, so Schmidt decided to play him for a 4=3=0=6 shape and found a line to make, regardless of how many spade honours Bahadir held. He played the ace then the queen of hearts and won the club return, reducing East to seven cards. That player had to keep four diamonds and two hearts, thus only one spade. Pierre led to the ace of spades and played four rounds of diamonds to endplay East to surrender a heart trick.

Yes, the contract could have been made by leading a spade to the ten because East had a doubleton spade honour as opposed to two low cards, but that does not detract from the elegance of the line chosen.

Open Teams Round of 32 – LESLIE v. TEXAN ACES (Bird)

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>S. Bell</i>	<i>Venkatesh</i>	<i>M. Bell</i>	<i>Padhye</i>
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT ¹	Pass	3♦ ²	Pass
4♥ ³	Pass	4♠ ⁴	Pass
5♣ ⁵	Pass	5♦ ⁶	Pass
6♣ ⁷	Pass	6♦ ⁸	Pass
7♥ ⁹	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. GF heart raise, 4+ trumps
2. Natural
3. Minimum game raise
4. Key card ask
5. 1 or 4 key cards
6. Queen of hearts ask
7. Queen of hearts and either (i.) the king of clubs, or; (ii.) the kings of diamonds and spades
8. Grand slam try
9. Both pointed kings

The Bells play an interesting variant of the queen-of-trumps ask (and the king-ask). With one side-suit king, you name it; with two, you name the suit without the king. Normally the player asking for the trump queen (or side-suit kings) will hold a side-suit king and can tell whether partner has one king or two. Very unusually, here, Mike Bell had no side-suit king and could not therefore tell what his wife held. So, he marked time with a grand-slam try of six diamonds.

Sarah Bell deduced that Mike could not tell which of the two possibilities she held. Since she had two kings rather than one, a grand slam was warranted. She would have bid seven diamonds with a four-card diamond suit since Mike had shown the suit earlier. Without it, she knew that Mike would have at least one discard on the diamonds. Thirteen tricks were easily made, with dummy's club loser vanishing on declarer's fourth diamond: plus 2210.

It would now be up to East/West at the other table to duplicate it.

West	North	East	South
<i>Srinivasam</i>	<i>Byrne</i>	<i>Sridharan</i>	<i>Dyke</i>
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT ¹	Pass	3♣ ²	Pass
4♥ ³	Pass	4NT ⁴	Pass
5♦ ⁵	Pass	5♠ ⁶	Pass
6♥ ⁷	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. GF heart raise, 4+ trumps
2. No shortage; no good 5-card side suit; non-minimum
3. Minimum game raise
4. Key card ask
5. 1 or 4 key cards
6. Queen of hearts ask
7. Queen of hearts and two side kings

It seems that Kickback Blackwood had paid off at the other table. Here, there was inadequate space left to diagnose 13 tricks. It looked to Sridharan that the grand slam would depend, at the best, on the diamond finesse, and might have no play. LESLIE gained 13 IMPs.

Senior Teams Final – LALL v. FOX (Carruthers)

At the halfway mark, LALL had been up 52 IMPs. FOX, with massive local support, had whittled that lead down to 15 with two boards to play. There was still time, but FOX needed a big swing and a small swing on the last two deals. The penultimate board was indeed swingy ...

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Karadeniz</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Demirbas</i>
—	2♠ ¹	Pass	3♠
Double	Redouble ²	4♦	4♠
5♦	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Weak, 5 spades and 4+ of either minor
2. Maximum

Starkowski did not let a void in clubs deter him from entering the auction with a double and, when Kwiecien was able to volunteer diamonds, Starkowski knew from their takeout-double style that Kwiecien had real length there. That was all he needed, with his own great diamonds, aces and a club void, to raise to game. Demirbas knew that his side had the balance of the high cards, so he expressed doubt. Earlier, Karadeniz might have been better off to show his other suit rather than redoubling to show a maximum.

Demirbas led the four of spades. Kwiecien won with dummy's ace and led the king of diamonds. South won and led his other diamond. Declarer won in the dummy and led a heart to the nine and king. Demirbas shifted to a low club, tapping the dummy. The contract hung in the balance. Kwiecien had two options: trying to drop a now-bare heart queen with South or running the jack to pin the known ten in North. When he ruffed a spade and, with a nod to Gabriel Chagas, led the jack of hearts, plus 750 was his reward.

West	North	East	South
<i>Kokten</i>	<i>Martens</i>	<i>Ince</i>	<i>Mahmood</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
2♣ ¹	3♣	Pass	Pass
Double ²	Pass	3♥ ³	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. 5/4 either way in the majors
2. Intended to bring diamonds into play
3. Believing that double merely showed extra strength

Kokten got to show his three-suiter (he thought), but Ince was not convinced. Even though Mahmood led clubs at every opportunity, tapping the dummy, the 3-2 heart break meant that Ince lost just two hearts and a diamond for plus 170 and a loss of 11 IMPs to make the score 139-113.

The last deal of the match was a flat three notrump, so 139-113 to LALL was the final score.

Deals from the Pairs

Counting the Distribution (Rigal)

Board 9. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Yildirim</i>		<i>Sahin</i>
—	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the Rusinow queen of spades. South, Dr. Prof. Ahmet Rifat Sahin, took this with the ace and played the king of clubs: four, eight, three; then the queen of clubs: heart six from dummy, spade two from East. West took the queen with the ace and played the two of hearts: four, queen, eight. East played back the nine of spades to the jack and king, declarer throwing the three of diamonds from the dummy. Back came a heart from West: the seven. Sahin took it with the ace (pitching the four of spades from hand), came to hand with the ace of diamonds, cashed the ten of spades (throwing the heart nine from dummy) and played off the jack of clubs. He discarded not the jack of hearts from dummy but, instead, the seven of diamonds.

The reason was that Sahin knew West to have begun with 4=3=1=5 pattern. He played the six of diamonds to the king, West, as expected, discarding. And finally, Sahin played the jack of hearts to endplay East. That defender could win the trick but was then forced to lead away from his jack-eight of diamonds round to dummy's queen-ten. Plus 400 brought declarer 85%.

Note that had West ducked the second spade, the defence could have prevailed.

Better Late than Never (Rigal)

When you keep as many pieces of paper on your desk as I do, even the best submissions tend to have a habit of vanishing into the ether. Sometimes the documents reappear at the very last possible minute for publication, as was the case here.

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>O. Rimstedt</i>	<i>P. Saporta</i>	<i>Fischer</i>	<i>R. Saporta</i>
—	Pass	1♠	2♣
2NT	4♣	4♦	5♣
Pass	Pass	5♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Renata Saporta believed that for her partner to jump to four clubs at this vulnerability, he must have a singleton. And where would that be, since it wasn't in a black suit? Surely in diamonds. So she led a diamond to the first trick, won her ace of spades and cashed the ace of clubs, then gave her partner the ruff for down one. That was a 95% board; the field made 450 here.

Creating a Wrong Impression (Horton)

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Caspersen</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Graversen</i>
2♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Here is a great deal from the Pairs – maybe the best defence of the event:

North found the spectacular lead of the queen of diamonds, which was to have unforeseen consequences as the play unfolded. South followed with the two and North continued with the ace of diamonds, ruffed by declarer, who ran the queen of spades, then played a spade to the ace. He ruffed a diamond and exited with a spade, North winning and exiting with the ten of diamonds as South pitched the eight of hearts.

Declarer ruffed the diamond and paused to reconstruct North's hand. He was marked with king-to-three spades and, from the lead and play, appeared to have the ace-king-queen-jack-ten of diamonds. That made it virtually impossible for North to hold the king of hearts, so declarer played four rounds of clubs, throwing South in to lead into dummy's heart tenace. As expected, South held a red king – but when he produced the king of diamonds, the contract was one down. As you might have guessed, this was a complete top.

Pairs Qualification (Rigal)

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	<i>Green</i>		<i>Khandelwal</i>
Pass	1♣ ¹	Pass	1♦ ²
Pass	1NT ³	Pass	2♣ ⁴
Pass	2♦ ⁵	Pass	2NT ⁶
Pass	3NT ⁷	Pass	Pass

1. (i.) Natural; (ii.) 11-13/17-19 balanced; (iii.) any 17+
2. Denies a 5-card major
3. 17-19 balanced
4. Requests 2♦
5. Forced
6. Asks majors
7. No major

East made his natural if unfortunate lead of the jack of diamonds. Declarer won in hand and passed the queen of clubs as East gave count to West's king. Now back came the jack of hearts. East had a tough decision but might perhaps have foreseen the ending and taken her ace but, when she ducked, declarer cashed off the spades and guessed clubs to arrive at this ending:

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

The thirteenth club forced East to discard a low heart, whereupon she was endplayed with her ace of hearts to lead a diamond and allow declarer an eleventh trick for an impressive plus 660 and a 97% result.

ISTANBUL WINNERS

OPEN TEAMS

Jason Hackett, Justin Hackett, Alexander Hydes,
David Mossop, Edward Jones, Thomas Paske (ENG)

OPEN PAIRS

Diyan Danailov, Jerry Stamatov (BUL)

WOMEN'S TEAMS

Tatiana Dikhnova, Tatiana Ponomareva (RUS),
Catherine d'Ovidio, Sylvie Willard (FRA),
Katarzyna Dufprat, Justyna Zmuda (POL)

WOMEN'S PAIRS

Simonetta Paoluzi, Margherita Chavarria (ITA)

MIXED TEAMS

Marc Bompis, Catherine d'Ovidio (FRA),
Tatiana Dikhnova, Mikhail Krasnosselski (RUS),
Christina Lund Madsen (DEN),
Sebastian Drijver (NED)

MIXED PAIRS

Cecilia Rimstedt (SWE), Shen Yu Xiong (CHN)

SENIOR TEAMS

Hemant Lall, Zia Mahmood, Reese Milner (USA),
Michal Kwiecien, Włodzimierz Starkowski (POL),
Krzysztof Martens (MON)

SENIOR PAIRS

Sverre Johnsen, Åsmund Stokkeland (NOR)

Editorial (continued...)

Rosenberg and Kit Woolsey. Here's where the USBF came under fire (some would call it a blitzkrieg). If a player won an event, he or she was not disqualified from playing in another subsequent event. We're certain the USBF Board hoped that would not happen, but it did: Steve Garner was a member of the USA1-winning team in the Mixed, while Michael Rosenberg was on the successful USA2 team. Later they teamed up to qualify for USA2 in the Seniors.

What was the USBF to do in such a case? It had been decided before the Trials that the successful player would have to play on the team which won its representation at the latest date. That meant that the Mixed teams of which Garner and Rosenberg were members would have to replace them. In those far-from-ideal circumstances, that was a better solution than making their Senior team look for last-minute replacements or even withdraw from the event. A winning team would certainly have a wider range of choice than one of a dozen teams in some event which was just about to start.

How do other countries handle this controversial situation? England spaces out its Trials, with a gap of a month or so between each. That way, a team with a player already qualified (and thus not eligible for subsequent Trials in another event) can reasonably hope to replace him or her with a comparable player. France has an even simpler solution: no player is allowed to enter more than one Trial if those events are being run simultaneously at the World Championships, as are all four of these events.

There's no doubt that it is logistically and financially advantageous to hold all the Trials in one location and as close together as possible. As we have observed, however, that causes other problems. It will be interesting to see what the USBF does next time.

NEWS & VIEWS



Zimmermann

Jean-Charles Allavena of the Fédération Monégasque de Bridge and Pierre Zimmermann report that Zimmermann will return to Switzerland to play for his birth country as soon as WBF and EBL regulations allow it. Zimmermann's new team will include Sjoert Brink/Sebastian Drijver and Piotr Gawrys/Michal Klukowski, who are already in the process of relocating



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to Switzerland. Franck Multon's status with the Zimmermann team is yet to be determined.

Erratum

The photo credit for the USBF Open Trials winners on page 2 of the June number should have gone to Stan Subeck, not to Peg Kaplan. It has been changed in the online version, but we were too late to make the change in the printed version.

Le Bridgeur

GOTO Games (owner of FunBridge) have just announced the purchase of *Le Bridgeur*. BBO and GOTO Games merged late last year.

5-Card Majors – The Scanian Way

Peter Ventura reports that Mats Nilslund and friends have sponsored 204 juniors with Nilslund's book, free! These are the happy ones: <http://www.itbolaget.nu/bridge/register.asp>

<https://www.bridgeforlaget.se/utlandsk-litteratur-1/n-1/nilslund-5-cards-major-the-scanian-way>

ANANT BHAGWAT

IBPA member Anant Bhagwat from Mumbai, India, passed away peacefully on June 7, 2019 of liver cancer, having accepted the reality of his situation.

Anant worked for a Government-run bank for most of his working life. He was a state-level badminton player and badminton coach. He started his bridge career in Mumbai in the 80s and went on to win several local and state championships. He also taught bridge and was a national-level Tournament Director. Anant's bridge books with "Badhir" as the central character were inspired by Victor Mollo's *Rueful Rabbit* and were fun to read. Some years ago, one of these books made the shortlist for the Master Point Press IBPA Book of the Year. He was fond of writing and wrote a few books in the local language, Marathi, that carried real anecdotes from his life. This year, his article "The Shoe is on the Other Foot" was shortlisted in the "Defence of the Year" category.

Anant's wife is a Marathi stage actor; she interrupted her theatre activities some years back to look after Anant as he was ailing.

Dilip Gidwani, Mumbai



Correspondence

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

John,

It seems unfair that four of the six nominated books (for the Master Point Press IBPA Book of the Year - Ed.) were featured on the front page and two rather buried inside the issue. May I suggest you consider continuing on page two in future or, better still, fit them all on the front page if at all possible.

Kind regards, Peter Hasenson, London

I replied to Peter that I always list the books alphabetically by author's surname and that Aaron Aarons as an author's name would ensure being listed first. Further, that there was not room for the writeups on page 1 unless I reduced the font size or shortened the blurbs. Nevertheless, Peter's suggestion is a sound one and I shall follow his suggestion in the future, continuing on page 2.

Peter countered that surely Terje Aa would be first.



The International Bridge Press Association.

IBPA Annual General Meeting

Monday, September 23, 2019, Wuhan China

1. Establishing if we have a quorum
2. Election of the Chairman of the AGM
3. Approval of the agenda
4. Remembrance of deceased members
5. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on October 1 2018 Orlando USA
6. Officers' Reports
7. Appointees' Reports
8. Treasurer's Report
9. Budget for 2019
10. Approval of membership fee for 2019 & sponsored membership
11. Elections
Officers elected until AGM 2020 are President: Barry Rigal (USA);
Chairman: Per Jannersten (Sweden); Vice-President: David Stern
(Australia) Organisational Vice-President: Dilip Gidwani (India); Treasurer:
Richard Solomon (New Zealand) Secretary: Elisabeth van Ettinger
(Netherlands)

Proposed for annual re-election are:
Hon. Auditor: Richard Fleet (England)
Hon. General Counsel: David Harris (England)

Proposed for election to the Executive until 2022 are:
Jan van Cleeff (Netherlands)
Brent Manley (USA)
Francesca Canali (Italy)
12. The IBPA Annual Awards
13. Any other competent business

World Bridge Calendar

2019

Jul 2-13	International Summer Festival	Biarritz, France	www.festival-bridge-biarritz.com
Jul 4-11	27 th European Youth Team Championships	Oslo, Norway	www.eurobridge.org
Jul 5-7	11 th Kuching Bridge Congress	Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia	www.kuchingbridgecongress.com
Jul 5-14	Dansk Bridgefestival	Svendborg, Denmark	www.bridgefestival.dk
Jul 6-11	International Festival	Ajaccio, Corsica, France	www.corsebridge.com
Jul 11-14	Czech Open	Pardubice, Czech Republic	www.czechopen.net
Jul 12-19	SABF Congress	Durban, South Africa	www.sabf.co.za
Jul 13-25	Australian National Championships	Melbourne, Australia	www.abf.com.au
Jul 16-21	Hong Kong Intercity	Hong Kong, China	www.hkcba.org
Jul 17-25	61 st Deauville Festival	Deauville, France	www.festival-bridge-deauville-mondial-2019.com
Jul 18-28	ACBL Summer NABC	Las Vegas, NV	www.acbl.org
Jul 19-28	Hanko Bridge Week	Hanko, Finland	www.bridgefinland.fi
Jul 24-28	EUSAMindsport Championship	Budapest, Hungary	www.eusa.eu
Jul 26-28	PA Winter Tournament	Port Alfred, South Africa	www.ecbridgeunion.cpm
Jul 26-28	Dublin Summer Congress	Dublin, Ireland	www.cbai.ie
Jul 26-Aug 4	25 th Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 27-Aug 1	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	www.svenskbridge.se
Jul 29-Aug 4	Viru Bridge	Võsu, Estonia	toomaskork@gmail.com
Aug 1-4	1 st Tomohon International	Tomohon, N. Sulawesi, Indonesia	www.bridge.konitomohon.org/#
Aug 2-4	Pesta Sukan Bridge Tournament	Singapore	www.bridgewebs.com/scba
Aug 2-10	Norwegian Bridge Festival	Drammen, Norway	www.bridgefestival.no
Aug 2-10	Baltic Congress	Sopot, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Aug 2-11	Summer Festival	Eastbourne, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Aug 3-8	Festival d'Aix-les-Bains	Aix-les-Bains, France	lameremichaud@wanadoo.fr
Aug 4-10	Wachauer International Bridge Week	Mautern, Austria	www.bridgeaustria.at
Aug 5-10	HCL International Championships	New Delhi, India	www.hcl-bridge.com
Aug 12-18	International Festival	Varna, Bulgaria	www.bridge.bg
Aug 14-18	13 th Riga Invites You to Jurmala	Jurmala, Latvia	www.rigainvites.lv
Aug 16-25	International Festival de la Baule	La Baule, France	www.festivalbridgelabaule.com
Aug 20-29	6 th World Open Youth Championships	Opatija, Croatia	www.worldbridge.org
Aug 21-30	Buzios Bridge	Armacao dos Buzios, Brazil	www.frankiebridgeholidays.com
Aug 22-25	7 th Kibic Open	Budapest, Hungary	kbbo.kibicbridge.com
Aug 23-25	16 th Batam International	Batam, Riau Islands, Indonesia	http://bridgekepri.com
Aug 23-Sep 1	47 th Grand Prix of Warsaw	Warsaw, Poland	www.pzbs.pl
Aug 24-Sep 1	7 th German Masters Week	Berlin, Germany	www.bridge-verband.de
Aug 24-Sep 1	43 rd International Festival	La Grande-Motte, France	www.bridgeclub-lagrandemotte.com
Aug 26-Sep 8	Mamaia International Festival	Mamaia, Romania	office@frbridge.ro
Sep 6-11	Festival du Liban	Baada, Lebanon	bridgeliban@cyberia.net.lb
Sep 6-15	Guernsey Congress	Les Cotils, Channel Is.	www.ebu.co.uk
Sep 6-18	58 th International Festival	Pula, Croatia	http://pulabridgefestival.com/
Sep 13-15	Northern Lights Festival	Siglufordur, Iceland	www.vikingbridgeiceland.com
Sep 14-28	44 th World Championships	Wuhan, China	www.worldbridge.org
Sep 18-22	9 th Internationales de Marrakech	Marrakech, Morocco	www.bridgemarrakech.com
Sep 21-22	Città di Roma	Rome, Italy	www.torneocittadiroma.it
Sep 26-29	7 th Bodrum Festival	Bodrum, Turkey	www.tbricfed.tr
Sep 27-Oct 5	NZB National Congress	Hamilton, New Zealand	www.nzbridge.co.nz/congress/
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 2-6	Festival Internacional dos Açores	Azores Is., Portugal	https://fpbridge.pt
Oct 8-14	Sicily Overseas Congress	Palermo, Sicily, Italy	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 9-13	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	www.bridgescanner.com
Oct 9-16	The British Club International	Las Palmas, Canary Is., Spain	www.aebridge.com
Oct 11-12	Gold Cup Finals	London, England	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 16-20	Jordan International Festival	Amman, Jordan	www.jordanbridgefederation.com
Oct 20-23	European Small Federations Champ.	Novi Sad, Serbia	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 4-11	22 nd Madeira Open	Funchal, Madeira, Portugal	www.madeira-bridge.com
Nov 7-9	6 th Marbella International	Marbella, Spain	www.aebridge.com
Nov 14-16	18 th European Champions Cup	Bucharest, Romania	www.eurobridge.org
Nov 28-Dec 8	ACBL Fall NABC	San Francisco, CA	www.acbl.org