



BULLETIN

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There are signs of a return to normalcy in the world at large as well as in the world of bridge. Some organisations are beginning to return to live bridge events, the ACBL being among the first to do so. The Fall NABC was held face-to-face in Austin, Texas from November 25 to December 5, 2021, after the previous five NABCs had all been cancelled. Vaccinations and masks were required of all competitors, officials, and administrators; attendance was about half the usual participation level. All three NABCs in 2022 are expected to go ahead as planned. Lower-level Sectional and Regional tournaments are also making a comeback. ACBL Regionals in the USA, Mexico and Canada are scheduled to be held with face-to-face bridge in 2022. By contrast, the annual January Bermuda Regional was cancelled again this year.

After holding its qualification tournament for this spring's World Championships in Salsomaggiore online last summer, the European Bridge League plans to hold live Championships this year in Madeira to qualify for next year's World Championships. The EBL is also intending to conduct European Youth Championships this year in the Netherlands. Similarly, the South American Confederation will hold its Championships live this May in Colombia. BFAME held its Salsomaggiore qualification tournament online this past December, as did the CACBF in October and the African Bridge Federation in June.

Some NBOs are barging ahead with live bridge events in 2022, among them Russia, Australia, Turkey, and China, while others such as New Zealand and Canada are being more cautious, continuing to hold their national congresses online. Most of the online organisation such as the Alts, the OCBL and the WBT plan to continue with their events in 2022.

Prospective attendees to any live tournament are urged to check websites and contact organisers to ensure that the event is still being held.

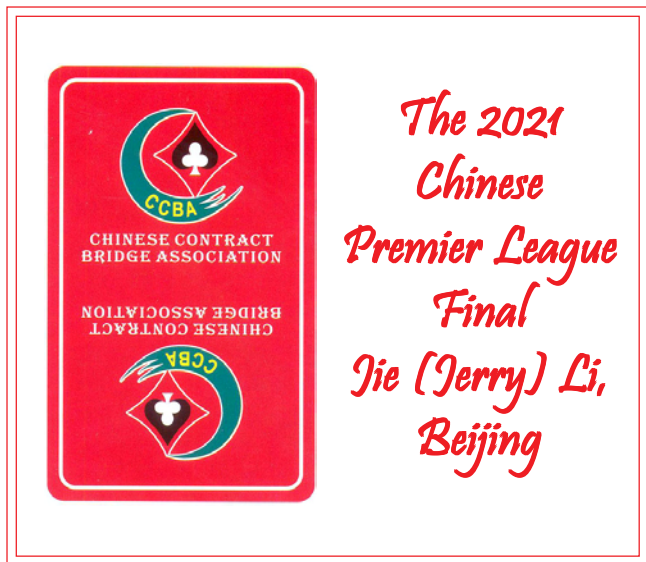
Following are the planned face-to-face major 2022 championships that we know about so far:

Dates	Sponsor	Event	Location
Mar 9-20	ACBL	Spring NABC	Reno, NV
Mar 27-Apr 9	WBF	World Team Championships	Salsomaggiore, Italy
May 21-29	CSB	South American Championships	Cali, Colombia
Jun 12-22	EBL	European Teams Championship	Funchal, Madeira
Jul 14-24	ACBL	Summer NABC	Providence, RI
Jul 19-26	EBL	European Youth Championships	Veldhoven, NED
Aug 19-Sep 3	WBF	World Bridge Series	Wroclaw, Poland
Sep 10-25	OCA *	Asian Games	Hangzhou, China
Sep 12-17	FISU **	World University Championships	Antwerp, Belgium
Nov 24-Dec 4	ACBL	Fall NABC	Phoenix, AZ

* Olympic Council of Asia

** Fédération Internationale du Sport Universitaire

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The 2021 Premier League Tournament Final was held at Jinshuo Resort Hotel, Mianyang, Sichuan Province, China from the 6th to the 12th of December.

After two legs of the competition, these teams had qualified for the final:

PD TIMES

Marc Chen, Zhong Fu, Hou Xu,
Dong Lidang, Sun Gang, Zhang Yongge

JINSHUO

Shi Zhengjun, Ju Chuancheng, Jiang Tong,
Shi Miao, Dong Chunhui, Shen Guanyu

ZHEJIANG QIANTANG

Zhuang Zejun, Jing Liu, Dai Jianming,
Zhang Yu, Chen Gang, Qian Jinsong

PIONEERS

Jerry Li, Shen Qi, Rock Yan, Xin Li,
Xie Zhaobin, Liao Zhengjiang

The final format was an Upper-Lower Bracket KO, essentially a double knockout.

ZHEJIANG QIANTANG won their first two matches and went to the final a day earlier than PIONEERS.

PIONEERS defeated PD TIMES in their first match but lost to ZHEJIANG QIANTANG in their second match. Nevertheless, in the third match, they beat JINSHUO and so also went to the final.

The final was 96 boards, played over six sessions. Last year, the final was very close (and play was very slow by both teams) and was shortened to 95 boards. The final score was 171–170 IMPs to WUHAN DONGFANG over ZHEJIANG QIANTANG. This year, ZHEJIANG QIANTANG had a comfortable final win, 244–135 IMPs, their first Premier League Trophy.

Here are three great deals from the PIONEERS versus JINSHUO match:

1. Good Lead

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Shi	Liao	Ju	Xie
Zhengjun	Zhengjiang	Chuancheng	Zhaobin
—	—	1♠	Pass
2NT ¹	3♦	4♦	5♦
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. Limit raise

Ju led the ace of spades. Shi followed with the two, suit preference, so Ju shifted to the ace of clubs and another club. Five diamonds was thus down one.

At the other table...

West	North	East	South
Shen	Shen	Jerry	Dong
Qi	Guanyu	Li	Chunhui
—	—	1♠	Pass
3♥ ¹	5♦	6♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Limit raise

Six spades would have been a decent contract if declarer had been allowed to start play. But, of course, that was not the case. Dong thought that since he had four good diamonds, and Partner had bid a vulnerable five diamonds, declarer would not have a diamond loser. So, Dong led the ace of hearts and, upon seeing two diamonds in the dummy, continued with the queen of hearts. North ruffed the king for down one.

2. Lightner Double? Yes and No!

Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

This was an amazing deal.

West	North	East	South
Shi	Liao	Ju	Xie
Zhengjun	Zhengjiang	Chuancheng	Zhaobin
—	—	2♥	Pass
4♥	Double	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

At this table, the PIONEERS North/South pair missed the diamond/spade slam. At the other table...

West	North	East	South
Shen	Shen	Jerry	Dong
Qi	Guanyu	Li	Chunhui
—	—	2♦ ¹	Pass
3♥ ²	Double	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT ³	Pass	5♣ ⁴
Pass	5♦ ⁵	Pass	5♥ ⁶
Pass	5NT ⁷	Pass	6♦ ⁸
Pass	7♠ ⁹	Double ¹⁰	Pass
Pass	7NT ¹¹	Pass	Pass

1. Multi
2. Pass or correct
3. RKCB
4. 1 or 4 key cards
5. Trump queen ask
6. No queen
7. Grand slam try
8. Something in diamonds
9. Planning on the spade-queen finesse
10. Lightner double
11. Being safe?

Shen Guanyu knew his partner did not have the queen of spades but thought that he could have a five-card suit for bidding four spades. When West bid three hearts, she had to have three spades as well, so Shen wanted to play a grand slam on a finesse which he 'knew' would work.

East, Jerry Li, also knew his partner had to have three spades, so also knew that North/South were on a four-four fit. So, Li decided to double seven spades, thinking:

- 1 Teammates wouldn't bid seven spades on a 4-4 fit missing the trump queen, so there was going to be a big swing either way.
- 2 If the opponents were afraid he had a void, perhaps they'd run to seven notrump and would not have 13 tricks.
- 3 Most importantly, please don't lead a trump, Partner.

Yes! Shen Guanyu and Jerry Li were thinking along the same lines.

When Li doubled seven spades, Shen was afraid Li did have a void, so did run to seven notrump as hoped.

Dummy's diamond suit was a pleasant surprise for declarer. If he had dropped the queen of spades, he could have made his grand slam, but he followed his original plan, finessing the jack of spades.

Seven notrump was thus down three.



The Runners-up: PIONEERS

3. Good Play and Defence

Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

♠ J 9 7 3
♥ Q 10 5 3
♦ A J 5
♣ K 3

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

♠ A 8 2
♥ A 7
♦ K Q 6 3
♣ J 9 6 2

West	North	East	South
Shi	Liao	Ju	Xie
Zhengjun	Zhengjiang	Chuancheng	Zhaobin
Pass	1♣ ¹	1♠	Double
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Double	Pass	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

I. 2⁺ clubs

West led the queen of spades and three notrump went one down. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Shen	Shen	Jerry	Dong
Qi	Guanyu	Li	Chunhui
Pass	1♦ ¹	1♠	Double
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

I. 1⁺ diamond, 10-15 HCP

East led the five of spades. Declarer ducked in dummy to West's queen. West shifted to the nine of hearts, declarer covered with the ten, East played the king, and declarer won with the ace in dummy. Declarer continued with a diamond to the jack in hand and a low club toward dummy's jack. East didn't rise with his ace, instead playing the ten. Dummy covered with the jack and West won with the queen. West keep going with hearts, leading the jack,

ducked by declarer. Now if West continued with a heart, declarer could have won, stripped East of diamonds, and played a club to East's ace, ending play him. But West played a club to East while East still had exit cards, so three notrump was down one for a push.



The 2022 NBF Paradise Park Bridge Festival

Knut Kjærnsrød
Tored, Norway

Despite the spectre of COVID-19, the Norwegian Bridge Federation still managed to arrange their annual January festival in Los Cristianos, Tenerife. This was the twelfth edition, and its popularity continues unabated. Almost 250 players visited the venue during the three weeks of play and, luckily enough, there was no significant outbreak of the virus.

The motto of the festival is "Bridge for Everybody" and it certainly lives up to its name. The participants ranged from beginners to world champions. Among others, superstar Geir Helgemo spent two weeks here with his girlfriend, Swedish international player Jessica Larsson.

To begin, here's a bit of a horror story:

Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ K Q J 10 9 3 2
♥ 8
♦ 10
♣ K Q J 10

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

♠ 8
♥ A 4 3
♦ A 9 7 6
♣ A 9 6 5 2

At every one of the fifteen tables where this board was played, South opened one club and, at fourteen of them, the final contract was four spades plus two. At the fifteenth table, the North player dared to employ Blackwood, got a positive answer showing three aces, and happily placed the six-spade card on the table. Was that a happy ending? Not for North/South! South converted to six notrump, four down after a heart lead!



On the following board, Rolf Sjødal took the right view to land eleven tricks in his three-notrump contract.

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

The bidding was simple:

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

A spade was led to declarer's knave. Four rounds of diamonds were played, North winning with the knave and South parting with a club and a heart. A low club from North was won by the king and the king and ace of spades followed. The fifth diamond was cashed, South discarding another heart and North a club

This was the ending:

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

After due consideration, Sjødal played a heart to his king and a club to North's now-lone ace, North then being forced to lead into dummy's heart tenace for a complete top board for East/West.

Sjødal's daughter, Sofie Græsholt Sjødal, 19, is one of the most-promising young players in the entire bridge world, having already won both world and European titles. Here she landed a precarious contract of four hearts against very able opponents:

Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Sofie was in the North seat, and the bidding went:

West	North	East	South
—	1♥	3♣	3♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the three of clubs. Declarer won with the queen and led the ten of hearts, covered by the knave and queen, revealing the bad trump distribution. Sofie continued with a club to the ace, and the nine of hearts was covered by the king and ace. Three rounds of diamonds put West in, and he continued with a low heart to Sofie's six. She played the two of trumps and West, who saw the looming endplay in spades, won with his eight and played back the five of hearts to Sofie's seven. To no avail. Sofie played a spade to the eight, and West had no defence.

Great Expectations

Sally Brock, London

Our teammates were understandably chuffed with their result on this deal from an online match:

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

♠ A Q 3
♥ 8 5
♦ A 8 7 3 2
♣ 9 7 5

♠ K J
♥ A 4
♦ K 10 6
♣ K Q 10 8 4 2

♠ 10 6
♥ K 9 7 6
♦ Q J 9 5
♣ A J 3

♠ 9 8 7 5 4 2
♥ Q J 10 3 2
♦ 4
♣ 6

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

South was rather pleased with himself for choosing a weak-two-heart opening when it resulted in East declaring three notrumps. South led a spade and North/South were plus 150. Note that with West declaring, East/West can make either three notrumps or five clubs.

However, they had not reckoned with what we managed to achieve with the East/West cards! This was our auction:

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

Maybe I should have overcalled two clubs rather than one notrump. I certainly should not have doubled four spades – who was I to put partner off bidding on in a minor? However, I am sure partner, with his balanced hand, would have doubled anyway. South here was also satisfied.

I led a top club which partner overtook to switch to a spade. Declarer won, played a heart to my ace and I played a second spade. Declarer shortly claimed his contract. Losing 590 when we were cold for plus 400 in either three notrumps or five clubs was not a good board.

Do you see how we could have done better on defence? We needed to get in three rounds of hearts before declarer drew trumps. Then I could ruff a heart with one of my top spades, promoting a trick for partner's ten of spades. To

do that genuinely, I need to lead (or switch to) the ace and another heart, but declarer had given us a second chance.

This year, the English club knockout competition for teams-of-eight (the Garden Cities) was played online on RealBridge. The following deal is from the semifinal of that event.

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

♠ A Q 5 2
♥ 5 2
♦ Q 8 5 3 2
♣ Q 10

♠ 10
♥ A Q 9 8 7 6 4
♦ J 6 4
♣ 9 7

♠ 7 6 4
♥ K 10 3
♦ A 7
♣ A 8 4 3 2

♠ K J 9 8 3
♥ J
♦ K 10 9
♣ K J 6 5

Imagine you hold the South hand and see the bidding go: three hearts – pass – four hearts to you. Would you dare bid? 'Yes', said English expert Jon Cooke. This was their auction:

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

West led the ace and another heart. Declarer surveyed the rather good dummy. (*In Canada, we call this a "Thorpe Dummy": one in which, unsolicited, partner produces four-card trump support and honours in the bidder's side suits, and whatever else is needed. Katie is the best 'dummy-putter' in the country. – Ed.*) Cooke ruffed the second heart, played two rounds of trumps ending in dummy and played the queen of clubs. East won with the ace and played a third round of trumps. Declarer now played three more rounds of clubs. When West showed out on the third round, declarer had a complete count of the hand (West being 1=7=3=2 and East 3=3=2=5) and knew that East had started with ace-doubleton of diamonds. So he ruffed his last club and played a low diamond from the dummy. Whether East went in with the ace or not, declarer was home, without needing to guess who had the diamond jack.

This was an interesting play deal from an online knockout match:

♠ Q 8 6 2
♥ 10 7 5
♦ A 7 6 4
♣ Q 5

♠ 4
♥ K Q J 8 4
♦ K 10 9 2
♣ 10 8 2

♠ J 10 9
♥ A 9 6 2
♦ 5
♦ K J 9 7 6

♠ A K 7 5 3
♥ 3
♦ Q J 8 3
♣ A 4 3

South opened one spade, North raised to three spades, a constructive four-card raise, and South went on to game.

West started with two rounds of hearts, the second of which was ruffed by declarer, who led a low club. East won with the king and switched to a diamond to the jack, king and ace. Reading this for a singleton, declarer, Graham Osborne, played the hand perfectly. He drew trumps ending in hand, cashed the ace of clubs and ruffed a club, followed by a heart ruff to hand. Declarer, dummy and West had only diamonds left, so declarer exited with a low diamond which West had to win and was endplayed at trick 12.

Our opposing declarer did not do quite so well. After a similar auction, West again started with two rounds of hearts. Here, declarer ruffed and played three rounds of trumps ending in hand, West discarding two hearts. Declarer now played a club to the queen and king. East won and played a third round of hearts. Declarer ruffed and ran the queen of diamonds, covered, and played a diamond back. When the suit did not break, he had to lose two diamonds. One down.

Note that declarer could have reached the same position as at the other table by cashing the ace of clubs and ruffing a club, before playing a diamond, but he had not been alerted by the diamond switch. However, had West kept an extra heart this would have been the position:

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

When declarer ruffs the club in the dummy, West discards a diamond, and then cashes a heart when he makes his diamond trick.

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	6NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Most Monday mornings see my friend Jovi Smederevac from Vienna and me playing online against my friend Gilly Clench from Wales and one of her regular female partners. It is always fun and a good start to the week. This deal is an example of our exuberant bidding!

After investigating for a 4-4 major-suit fit, North's four notrumps was quantitative (and an overbid!). South accepted the slam invitation, and then had to plan the play on the jack-of-spades lead. She tried ducking a diamond early on and then had to go down.

As usual in such situations, we all quickly looked to Deep Finesse to show us how the play should have gone ... so, win with the king of spades and play four rounds of clubs. If West pitches a major-suit card, there is an obvious route home, so West throws a diamond; East throws a heart (if she throws a spade, West gets squeezed in the majors). Declarer cashes the ace of diamonds and plays three rounds of hearts:

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

Notice East still has five cards! If she pitches a diamond declarer plays king and another, establishing dummy's ten. So East discards a spade. Now declarer plays a spade to the ace and a diamond, playing the eight if East plays low or the king and then the eight if East plays the nine. Now that would be well played!

The Young Chelsea Bridge Club is one of the best in London. However, in recent years they have struggled to find a good venue ever since they had to leave their premises in Earls Court. Now they have purchased a permanent home in an ex-Salvation Army church in Ravenscourt Park. At the moment, of course, all the play is online, but hopefully that is only a temporary setback. This is a deal well-bid and played by the then-manager Ollie Burgess in an online game.

Continued on page 11...



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra



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

1081. Dealer South. EW Vul.

<p>♠ A 5 3 2 ♥ Q J 10 4 ♦ 9 6 5 ♣ 4 2</p> <p>♠ 9 4 ♥ 9 8 ♦ K J 3 2 ♣ A 9 8 6 3</p>	<p>♠ 6 ♥ K 7 6 5 2 ♦ Q 10 8 ♣ Q J 10 5</p> <p>♠ K Q J 10 8 7 ♥ A 3 ♦ A 7 4 ♣ K 7</p>
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West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

This deal was used in an intermediate class on play. The bidding was designated to be the same at every table, as was the lead – the nine of hearts.

At one table, the heart was covered by the queen, king, and ace. Declarer drew trumps with his king and dummy's ace then led a club from dummy. The defenders took two clubs and had to make a diamond trick: four spades making.

At a second table, the nine of hearts was again covered by the queen but, here, East was cannier, playing the two of hearts. Then declarer had to lose two clubs and two diamonds for a one-trick set.

The correct play was found at a third table. Declarer played the four of hearts from dummy at trick one. After taking his ace of hearts, declarer drew trumps with the king and queen then played his remaining heart to dummy's ten and East's king. East's continuation of the queen of clubs was covered by the king and ace. After winning the club continuation with the ten, East shifted to the ten of diamonds. Declarer won with the ace and crossed to dummy with a trump to the ace to throw his losing diamonds on the queen and jack of hearts.

1082. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

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

1. At least 5-5 in the majors

West led the king of diamonds against the optimistic slam. Declarer won with the ace and cashed the ace and king of hearts. When West discarded a diamond on the second round of trumps, the slam was in jeopardy.

Declarer needed to discard dummy's diamonds on his spades before East could ruff in and lead a diamond. That meant that a 3-3 spade break would be useless to him. The best chance for 12 tricks was for East to hold four low spades and West the doubleton queen.

So, declarer cashed the ace of clubs and ruffed a club. Next, he led a low spade to dummy's ten. When that held, he cashed the ace of spades and was pleased to see West's queen appear (even though it could have been a falsecard from queen-third). After ruffing a club back to hand, declarer played his spades from the top and was able to discard dummy's remaining diamonds on them before East could ruff in with his queen of trumps. Declarer made four spades, four trumps, the minor-suit aces and two club ruffs for a total of 12 tricks.

1083. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A K 6
 ♥ J
 ♦ K Q J 10 8 2
 ♣ A 7 6

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

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

1. 5+ diamonds, short hearts, game-forcing
2. Club control, no spade control
3. RKCB
4. 2 key cards for diamonds without the queen
5. Grand slam try, asking for specific kings, guarantees all 5 key cards and the trump queen
6. King of clubs, but not enough to accept a grand slam

West led the four of spades. Declarer counted 11 tricks and the contract seemed to depend on the location of the queen of clubs. However, declarer saw an extra chance – an elimination.

So, after taking the opening lead with the king of spades, declarer played the jack of hearts to his ace and ruffed a heart. Next, declarer cashed the king and ace of trumps then ruffed his remaining heart in dummy. Declarer had intended to play the ace and another spade in the hope that West would win the trick and be forced to lead a club or concede a ruff-and-discard.

Alas, that plan came to nought when West discarded a heart on the ace of spades. Obviously, playing another spade would see East gain the lead and declarer would be forced to rely on a winning finesse in clubs. Declarer observed that East had ten known cards to West's six, giving West seven places for the queen of clubs to East's three, approximately 70%.

As it was against the odds to play East for the queen of clubs, declarer continued with the ace, king, and jack of clubs. West won the queen of clubs and had to lead a heart or a club to the next trick. Declarer claimed 12 tricks saying that he would throw dummy's last spade on the return and ruff it in hand; his spade loser had disappeared.

1084. Dealer South. Both Vul.

♠ A K 7 2
 ♥ 7 4 2
 ♦ K Q 2
 ♣ A K 5

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

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

1. Weak, 6-9 points, 6-card suit
2. Ogust, asking about suit quality and strength
3. Minimum in points and a poor suit in context (defined as not holding 2 of the top 3 honours)

This was another deal from a team game and the contract was the same at both tables, with both North players doing well to avoid three notrump, a contract that fails on a heart lead.

At the first table, West led the jack of diamonds, covered by the king, and won with the ace. East shifted to the queen of hearts, covered by the king and won by West's ace. West then exited with the six of hearts. East won with the ten and continued with the jack of hearts. Declarer ruffed high and drew trumps with dummy's ace and king but still had to lose a club for down one.

At the other table, the lead was the same, the jack of diamonds. The difference here was that declarer called for dummy's two of diamonds.

What could East do? If he played the ace of diamonds, he saw that declarer would have ten tricks outside the heart suit: six trumps and four tricks in the minors. However, if declarer had started with 6=3=1=3 shape with the king of hearts then playing the ace of diamonds and shifting to a heart was crucial. That's what East did, but declarer ruffed the third round of hearts, drew trumps ending dummy and threw two clubs on the king and queen of diamonds. South claimed ten tricks: six trumps and four tricks in the minors.

If East had let the jack of diamonds hold, declarer would have ruffed out the ace on the next round of diamonds, then drawn trumps with the queen and ace. After discarding a heart on dummy's good diamond, declarer would have played the ace, king, and another club. The defenders could then have taken the ace of hearts, but that would have been all. Declarer would have had ten tricks: six trumps, a diamond, two clubs and a club ruff in dummy.



Real Life

Larry Cohen
Delray Beach, FL

15 Years Later

In the 1985 USA Bermuda Bowl Team Trials, I was the victim of one of the best defensive plays of all time. In a well-documented deal, Bob Hamman refused to overruff dummy and thereby gained trump control. His play resulted in 7 extra IMPs in a match that his team won by 5.

It took 15 years, but in the first session of the 2000 Life Master Open Pairs, my partner, David Berkowitz, put me on the winning side of just such a defensive ploy:

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Cohen</i>		<i>Berkowitz</i>
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

West's four-heart bid might not be to everyone's taste, but the final contract was fine. I led diamonds and declarer ruffed the second round. He cashed the ace of spades and crossed to the ace of clubs to play the spade king and then the spade jack in this position:

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

I followed with the nine of spades, and declarer would have succeeded had he guessed to discard from dummy. But spades could have been 3-3, so he ruffed. Now came the moment of truth. Declarer had ruffed with dummy's heart jack, but even if the ruff had been with a low heart, it wouldn't have made a difference. In either case, if David makes the normal-looking play of overruffing, the defense is finished.

Let's see what happens if David overruffs. Declarer ruffs David's minor-suit return and ruffs another spade in dummy. Declarer would still have the ace-nine-eight of hearts. David could overruff this fourth round of spades, but declarer would be in full control. Even if David pitched on the fourth round of spades, declarer could play a heart to the ace and another heart to make his contract.

Back to the position where dummy ruffed the spade jack with the jack of hearts. Emulating Hamman's famous play, David discarded a club! Now the defense was in control. Declarer played a heart to his ace and ruffed another spade in dummy. Again, if David had overruffed, declarer would have been in control (he could ruff any return and play a trump). So, David pitched again, this time a diamond.

Finally, the defense could rest. Declarer ruffed a club to hand, but he was doomed. If he played a trump, David would draw all the trumps and get a club trick at the end. Declarer played a winning spade, but I ruffed with the seven of hearts and David still had the heart king-queen for a hard-fought down one.

One last thought: had declarer ruffed a diamond to hand instead of playing a heart to the ace, leading to this position:

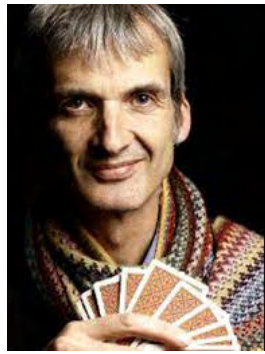
<p>♠ 10 7 4 ♥ A 9 8 ♦ — ♣ —</p>	<p>♠ Q ♥ 7 4 ♦ Q J ♣ K</p> <p>♠ — ♥ 6 3 ♦ 10 ♣ Q 9 8</p> <p>♠ — ♥ K Q 10 ♦ — ♣ J 10 7</p>
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David would have overruffed the fourth round of spades and led the seven of clubs. Declarer ruffs and, then, depending on how declarer played, the defense would score either two more trump tricks, or one more trump trick and a minor-suit trick.

Here's how that would go: if declarer plays the ace and another heart to David, we'd get a club or a diamond. If instead, declarer plays a spade, we'd get two more trump tricks.

Country Life

Andrew Robson
London



Helping the Defence

I was struck by the Big Society in action in Seattle, destination of the 2011 ACBL Fall Nationals, attracting all the best players in the world. Friendly conversations with complete strangers in the street were commonplace and there was an all-pervading desire to help others, who were lost on a bicycle, for example (in my case, frequently, on my morning rides around the city).

Helping the defence wasn't on the agenda for this Seattle declarer, however.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

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

Three notrump was a gamble, but not an outrageous one. The diamond suit looked huge and South would have accepted any invitation.

West kicked off with the ten of clubs. Declarer immediately saw that he had not much chance of making his three-notrump game – he'd have to lose (at least) a diamond trick, whereupon a heart switch would defeat him most of the time. How to prevent the defence from finding that heart switch was the key, and declarer decided to win the first club in hand with the knave. This was clever in a subtle way, as most declarers would win with the king or ace from this holding, so perhaps winning with the knave would suggest the ace or king was missing.

At trick two, declarer led the queen of diamonds and West played low; this was not so much because he thought declarer would rise with dummy's ace (he didn't), but rather because if declarer had no outside entry to dummy, he'd need to duck the queen to sever the transportation (after queen, king, low, low, declarer could finesse the ten, cash the ace, felling the knave, and enjoy dummy's three long cards). After the queen held, declarer led a second diamond to West's knave and the key moment had arrived.

At one table, declarer won with dummy's ace and led a third diamond. This gave East the chance to signal violently for hearts, discarding the nine. West duly switched to the ace and a second heart, defeating the game by one trick.

At our featured table, declarer wisely let East's jack of diamonds win. Without a signal to guide him, West, perhaps naïvely, continued with a second club. A grateful declarer could win with dummy's queen, cash the diamonds, cross to his spades and enjoy two more clubs.

Eleven tricks and game made plus two.

...Sally Brock (Continued)

Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

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

South's one-spade rebid showed an unbalanced hand and North's jump to three clubs was non-forcing. South, with significant extra values, bid three diamonds, but when it was obvious there was no diamond stopper, North showed a minimum with four clubs, raised to five by South.

West led the king of diamonds, followed by the queen, overtaken by East with the ace. He now switched to the ten of hearts. Declarer cashed two top clubs, unblocked the second heart from his hand, drew the

last trump ending in dummy, cashed the ace of hearts, pitching a spade, and played off his last two trumps. His last three cards in dummy were the king-jack of spades and a heart, while he had ace-third of spades in hand. East couldn't keep three spades and a heart winner.

Note that the best achievable score for North/South was to play in four hearts on the 4-2 fit. Best defence is three rounds of diamonds, but declarer just ruffs in the North hand, unblocks the king-queen of hearts, crosses to the jack of clubs, draws one more round of trumps and plays his clubs. At some stage East must ruff and lead a spade.



A Camrose to and fro

Here is a deal played in a recent Ireland versus England Camrose match.

Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Fitzgibbon</i>	<i>Townsend</i>	<i>Mesbur</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East led the three of hearts. Declarer rose with the ace, although ducking might have been better as, then, West may have shifted, making the acquisition of ten tricks clear sailing.

North crossed to hand with the ace of diamonds, both West and East signalling an even number. The king of spades was allowed to hold, so declarer led the jack of spades, East discarding an encouraging two of clubs. West won with the ace of spades, cashed the king of hearts and, following his partner's signal, shifted to his club.

Declarer won with the ace then had an entry in the queen of spades to make the diamond king, his tenth trick.

East/West were playing low-even spot cards as encouraging on their first discard and odd spot cards as suit-preference. Perhaps East should have pitched the club six, the second-highest even card (eight-six-four-two, not counting the ten). If East has counted Declarer for $6=2=1=4$, he could also have afforded to discard a diamond. West might then have got the message to duck his ace of spades a second time.

Having won the jack of spades, if declarer had continued with a spade, West could have won and cashed the heart king, then shifted to a club. East would not have been under any pressure as he had retained a heart. If, instead of a third spade, declarer had tried the ace and king of clubs, West allows that to hold. Then, when East wins the third club, he can cross to his partner's queen of hearts. Now the ace of spades can be cashed and a heart played. Declarer still has a losing club and must go down one.

If declarer, instead, tried the club ace and a low club, East could have won and put his partner in with a heart to draw the last trump.

Nevertheless, after the spade ace is ducked a second time, declarer, from the carding, should have worked out that West was $3=5=4=1$. If that were the case, declarer could have cashed one high club and then played a third spade for West's ace. West must then cash the king of hearts and play another. Declarer can ruff this and play a low club from hand. East would win the jack for his third trick, but would have had to give declarer an extra club trick or the king of diamonds for his tenth trick.

The board was flat in four spades making. In fact, at all three tables where declarer won the ace of hearts at trick one, the defence followed a similar route, not giving declarer a problem.

The Masked Man

My wife Maggie and I went to Austin, Texas for the first ACBL Nationals since the start of Covid. The ACBL ran the event well, with the players in a 'bubble'. Only those with proof of vaccinations and wearing masks would be admitted to the playing area.

I was playing in a six-member team in the NABC Swiss Teams; Michael Rosenberg was playing in the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams. I had a couple of matches off and went down a floor, to where the Reisinger was being held. I managed to spot Rosenberg at a table, recognizing him even though his face was covered with his mask. Playing behind screens, on his side was one of his old partners, Chris Willenken. On the other side of the screen was Rosenberg's partner Zack Grossack and

Willenken's partner, Jan Jansma. Jansma had been one of Zia's partners for a few years. I pulled up a chair behind Rosenberg, hoping to witness a good deal. Scoring was point-a-board, in which a single overtrick can win or lose the board.

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Willenken	Grossack	Jansma	Rosenberg
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♦ ¹	Pass	4♥ ²
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter raise
2. Last train (a general last effort for slam)

Willenken led the nine of spades to Jansma's queen and Rosenberg's king. South gave the hand some thought, then crossed to the spade ace. Next, he ruffed a heart, crossed to the ace of diamonds and ruffed a second heart. A low diamond was ruffed in dummy. He then played the ace of hearts and led the penultimate heart in this position.

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

On the play of the eight of hearts, East was squeezed first: pitching a diamond would have allowed the fifth diamond to be set up. He thus pitched a club. A diamond ruff, a club to the king and the king of diamonds then squeezed West in hearts and clubs. That was a non-simultaneous double squeeze

Declarer took all his chances. Either red suit could have split favourably to set up a long card, or a squeeze could have emerged. There were also some other squeezes that could have developed: West with five-

five in the minors or East with five clubs and five of either red suit.

Had East held three spades, unlikely on the lead, a similar line of play, cashing clubs earlier would have worked, declarer making his last trump *en passant*.

At the table, while Jansma (East) was thinking for some time of pitching a diamond on the fourth heart, Rosenberg said that it makes no difference. Declarer stated that he had a non-simultaneous double squeeze if the diamond was retained.

After the game, Rosenberg remarked that he also could have squeezed West without cashing the ace of hearts: spade king, spade ace, diamond ace, heart ruff, diamond king (pitching a club), diamond ruff, heart ruff, diamond ruff (squeezing West out of the club guard); then, club ace, heart ace (squeezing East in the minors). Rosenberg remarked, "I have never before seen a deal where the non-simultaneous squeeze can be done in *either* direction."

My luck had been in – I had witnessed a deal I could use in my next book.



Cheating Investigations, Part 4: How Many Cheating Pairs? Nicolas Hammond, Johns Creek, GA

What is the incidence of cheating in bridge across the world? I have processed approximately 100,000,000 individual boards played in various National Bridge Organizations' (NBOs) online events in the last two years. A summary of the data is at: <https://www.detectingcheatinginbridge.com/statistics/countries.html>.

This page is updated automatically every day. In late 2020, I conducted an experiment using volunteers from Bridge Winners to help set a threshold to determine when a bridge player was cheating. This experiment yielded both a minimum number of boards to review and how blatant the cheating would be before the volunteers would 'convict' a pair. This process is now fully automated and, using a high threshold, I am able to predict a minimum number of cheating pairs in any organization. Every pair is ranked based on a cheating metric. I can predict with

some confidence that pairs over a certain threshold are most likely cheating. The further over this threshold, the more likely they are to be cheating. I frequently do manual checks on the data to verify this statistic and the threshold works well. I currently use a minimum of 1,000 total boards played for a partnership, though the actual threshold set by the volunteers was approximately half that.

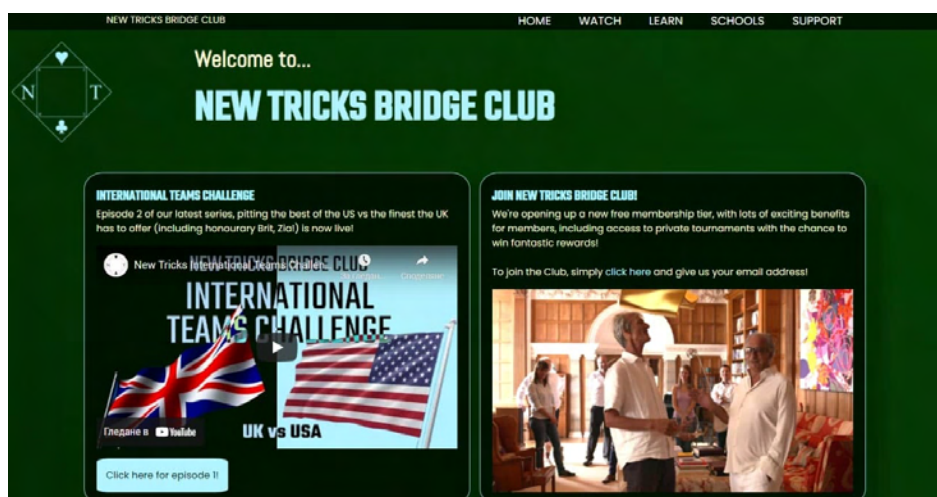
Based on the 1,000 board limit, I have over 48,000 pairs with at least 1,000 boards played. At least 1,000 of these pairs are cheating. This is a minimum value. This is a cheating rate of at least 2%. I put all of this information in a video last year, see:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXCjihOVzZs>.

As with all statistical data, we must always be very careful about the data and what the results mean. From the video and the URL above, the implication is that France and Italy have very high cheating rates. This is not necessarily so. Cheating players tend to play more than non-cheating

players. Therefore, the cheating pairs are often the first pairs to go over 1,000 boards and be ranked. Once the first group of cheating pairs has passed my arbitrary 1,000 board threshold then the cheating rates will drop. Over the last few months, the percentage rate for France and Italy has been dropping. I expect it to continue to drop.

The test I am using is very good for detecting cheating by average bridge players. World class bridge players are both a little harder to detect and also more difficult to prove. However, it seems reasonably certain that there will be some players in the WBF events in March, 2022 that have been cheating in the last 12 months. There are estimated to be about 500 players/managers going to Salsomaggiore Terme. Assuming a 2% cheating rate, this predicts there to be about 10 participants that have likely been cheating online over the last year. A casual review of the data of the actual players scheduled to play in Salsomaggiore Term indicates that this number will be approximately correct. The number of cheating players would be higher if you include online data from 2020.



Making Master Classes Fun: A New Way to Learn from the Best

Sue Johnson, London

Back when most of today's top players were growing up, enthusiasts who wanted to learn from competing experts sat or stood behind them in rows, barely able to see what was happening at the table, let alone what was going on in the minds of the competitors. The leap from there to the content of the New Tricks International Team Challenge is extraordinary.

These videos take you inside the heads of world-class players as they talk through their thinking in real time, during play as well as in the post-match barroom banter as they discuss the deals they have just completed.

New Tricks has been leading the charge in providing online content for the last two years, initially with the Tournament series and the Battle of the Partners series

and, more recently, with the in-depth analysis of great deals in Vugraph's Greatest Hits and, now, the International Teams Challenge.

They plan to bring to bridge what online chess has had for some years: the development of a virtual community where players from around the world can play together, challenge each other and experts, win rewards, and contribute ideas for new content. The best thing about all this is that all funding contributed by viewers making voluntary donations goes to developing the next generation of bridge players.

New Tricks is a registered non-profit that uses funds raised in this way to run their Bridge for Schools project, providing free bridge teaching to children in schools – bringing a love of the game to the next generation.

Find out more at: www.newtricksbridge.club or by contacting the founder, Sue Johnson, at: mailsuejohnson@gmail.com

NEWS & VIEWS



Marcin Lesniewski 1949-2022



On February 2nd, Marcin Lesniewski finally lost his battle with COVID. Lesniewski was a three-time World Champion (World Open Pairs in 1994, Transnational Teams in 1997 and 2005) and three-time European Champion (Open Pairs 1989, Open Teams 1993, Mixed Pairs 1992), plus many more medals and tournament wins, as well as numerous Polish National Championships.

Attention Journalists

Anna Gudge has notified us that journalists planning to attend the World Championships in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy, in March must pre-register with Marina Madia of the World Bridge Federation. Marina can be reached at: marina.madia@worldbridgefed.com

Anna also notes that the WBF website is being frequently updated, so all participants, whether players, officials or journalists, should refer to it frequently for visa, Covid vaccination and registration requirements. See...

<http://championships.worldbridge.org/the-45th-world-2021-bridge-team-championships/covid-19-protocols-and-precautions>

Another Italian Scandal

Massimo Ortensi, the long-time coach of the Lavazza team and Italian Tournament Director, has been accused of illegally getting hold of a key to the room housing the duplicated boards and duplicating machines during the Italian Teams Championship last fall. In their prosecution, the FIGB Prosecutor asked for expulsion. However, the FIGB Court ruled that, although he admitted entering the room, nothing further was proved, so Ortensi was acquitted.

Better Italian News

Norberto Bocchi has been appointed Assistant Coach of the Nickell team (USA2) for the Bermuda Bowl in Salsomaggiore.

Even Better Italian News

Giovanni Capelli, Vice-Chairman of the WBF Medical and Prevention and Commission, has been appointed Director of the National Centre for Disease Prevention and Health Promotion of the Italian National Institute of Health.

Japan in Salsomaggiore

Bob Geller, a member of the Japanese Senior Team slated to play in Salsomaggiore, has reported that the Japanese team has had to decline their invitations. Although it is simple to get into Italy (vaccinations and negative Covid-19 test), travellers from abroad need to quarantine for 14 days upon returning home to Japan. Since that would mean at least one month absent from family, work and other commitments, the Japanese teams have had to withdraw. Other teams, such as China, may face a similar dilemma.

2022 Asian Games

With the imprimatur of the Olympic Council of Asia, bridge will be an official, medal-granting sport at the 2022 Asian games, to be held from September 10th through September 25th in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China.



Correspondence

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

To the Bulletin mailbox:

Frank Stewart's message in the January Bulletin begs for clarification. First the facts: 46 hours before the AGM Frank sent an email to the Membership Secretary asking:

"Has the IBPA ever taken a position on cheating and the appropriate penalties for cheating, such as by passing a resolution in the AGM? If it were up to me, I would propose something like below." (...)

The Membership Secretary promptly forwarded Frank's question to the Editor, who consulted the Secretary, the President and the Chairman.

The immediate answer to Frank's question was that matters requiring action by an AGM must be sent to the President no later than two months before the meeting. Frank was further informed that he could raise any question during the AGM when the Agenda reached "Other" (Business). Although Frank did not attend the AGM, we discussed the question how to address cheating in his absence.

Note that neither the Officers, nor the Executive, censor any member. The subject would have been added to the agenda for the AGM without further ado if Frank's petition had been filed in time.

Per Jannersten, Uppsala, Sweden

Tournament Guide

Here is information about planned tournaments, both live and online, for 2022. The worldwide calendar will be reinstated as soon as more tournaments return to live play.

WBF – The next World Team Championships will be held in Salsomaggiore from March 27 to April 9, 2022; the World Bridge Series will be held in Wroclaw September 2-17, 2022. See <http://www.worldbridge.org> for details.

ACBL – Some pair and team events are on BBO. See <https://www.acbl.org> and <https://www.bridgebase.com>. Plans to begin live bridge again in 2021. The Reno Spring! NABC is currently scheduled to be held face-to-face.

EBU – Has announced plans to hold the 2022 European Championships in Funchal, Madeira June 12-22 and the Youth Championships in Veldhoven, Netherlands, July 19-26.

Zonal Organisations – Some Zones of the World Bridge Federation have run and will continue to run online championships until the pandemic ends. Check the Zonal websites for information.

NBOs – Many National Bridge Organisations have organised, and are continuing to organise, online events for their own members. Check the NBO websites for specifics.

Reynolds Knockouts – TD Tom Reynolds has been organising monthly knockout tournaments and quarterly double elimination knockouts since April, 2020. Information can be found at:

<http://www.reynoldsteammatches.com>

Alt Invitationals – Invitational tournaments, usually lasting five to seven days, have been organised by bid72 and netbridge.online. To date, there have been Alt Invitationals (open team tournaments), Alt Mixed events (all comprising eight teams), Alt Majors (32 teams) and Alt BAMs. Information can be found at <https://bid72/events>. Each event has a daily bulletin. Email info@netbridge.online for an invitation (Jan van den Hoek).

OCBL – The Online Contract Bridge League organises events. Details can be found at <https://ocbl.org>. OCBL also produces a daily journal. See also <https://www.worldbridgetour.org>

ACT Bridge & Bridgehouse – Arranges online team events with daily bulletins. Information can be found at <https://bridgehouse.club>

Monthly Invitational Teams – Organised by Christina Lund Madsen (clm@christina-bridge.com) and Denis Dobrin. See <https://mit.bridgeresults.org>. They also organise open mixed events.

All of the online tournaments named above are on BBO (<https://www.bridgebase.com/>) or RealBridge (<https://realbridge.online>). Other useful sites are <https://bridgescanner.com> and <https://bridgewinners.com>

Anyone organising an online tournament can submit details to Marek Wójcicki at marek.wojcicki@bridge.com.pl for inclusion on the IBPA website (www.ibpa.com).



www.ibpa.com

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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