



## BULLETIN

[www.ibpa.com](http://www.ibpa.com)

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[1546340545@qq.com](mailto:1546340545@qq.com)

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[ibpa@jannersten.com](mailto:ibpa@jannersten.com)

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[tommy@sandsmark.org](mailto:tommy@sandsmark.org)

### President

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+1 212 366 4799  
[barryrigal@mindspring.com](mailto:barryrigal@mindspring.com)

### Executive Vice-President

David STERN (Australia)  
[david.stern.bridge@gmail.com](mailto:david.stern.bridge@gmail.com)

### Organizational Vice-President &

### Bulletin Production Manager

Dilip GIDWANI (India)  
+91 98214 53817  
[dilipgidwani@hotmail.com](mailto:dilipgidwani@hotmail.com)

### Secretary

Elisabeth van ETTINGER  
(Netherlands)  
+31 655 680 120  
[e.ettinger@chello.nl](mailto:e.ettinger@chello.nl)

### Treasurer

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+64 9 232 8494  
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+1 519 981 9248  
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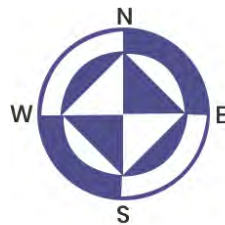
## THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE PRESS ASSOCIATION

Editor: John Carruthers

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

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# MASTERPOINT PRESS

## THE BRIDGE PUBLISHER

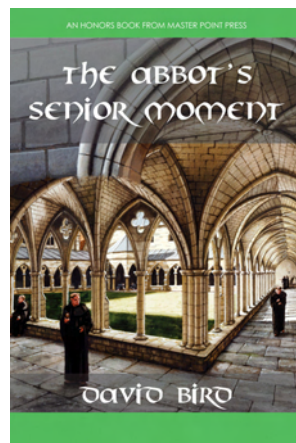
## 2022 MPP IBPA BOTY

This year, 2021-2022, we have five diverse shortlisted candidates for the Master Point Press IBPA Book of the Year. IBPA members will be familiar with all five authors.

Here are the shortlisted books, with their publishers' blurbs:

**David Bird, *The Abbot's Senior Moment*, Master Point Press, Toronto, Feb. 8, 2022; 198pp, paperback and e-book, ISBN 978-1-77140-249-1; US\$19.95.**

For forty-three years, David Bird's tales of the bridge-crazy monks of St. Titus have appeared in magazines around the world. They have been translated into several languages. In this fourteenth collection of stories in book form, the pompous and self-important Abbot wonders for the first time if old age is starting to affect his play.



The Mother Superior of St. Hilda's Convent forms a contentious partnership with the Abbot on her visit to the monastery. The St. Titus monks play a Crockford's Cup match in East London, against a team captained by Angie Brooker, proprietor of the Shoreditch Escort Agency. Hoping to enjoy some excellent cuisine, the Abbot agrees to teach the game to the wealthy order of St. Geofric's. A mixed pairs at St. Hilda's has the monks partnering a nun or a novice.

Brother Jasper rises from his deathbed to request one last game of bridge – with a surprising outcome.

Regular followers of David Bird's work will know what to expect in these tales – a first-rate mixture of amazing bridge, entertaining characters and sparkling dialogue.

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

**John Carruthers, *Bridge with Another Perfect Partner*, Master Point Press, Toronto, Mar. 1, 2022; 220pp, paperback and e-book, ISBN 978-1-77140-072-5; US\$19.95.**

*Bridge with a Perfect Partner*, by P. F. Saunders, was published in 1976. Many read and delighted in Saunders' articles in *Bridge Magazine* (UK), and Saunders' character Wilson, according to the flyleaf of the book, is "... an austere character, whose scholarly discourses are enlivened by frequent flashes of mordant wit." The anonymous narrator comments, "He is very kind in explaining, when I go down in a contract, just how I could have made it and, when he goes down, just how my bidding misled him." We've all played with partners like that, though few of them have had Wilson's devastating, articulate wit. In this sequel, one of the world's top bridge journalists takes the reader through a brilliant series of deals, collected from tournaments all over the world. The style is highly reminiscent of Sanders' original and will give its readers just as much pleasure.

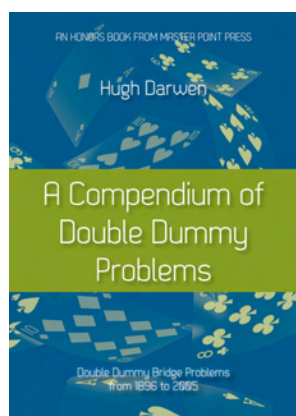


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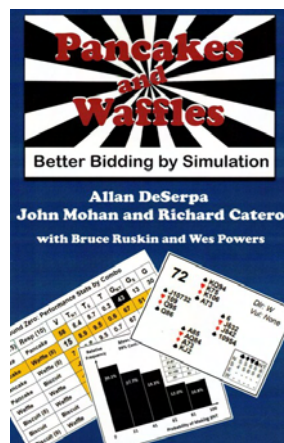
**Hugh Darwen, *A Compendium of Double Dummy Problems: Double Dummy Bridge Problems from 1896 to 2005*, Master Point Press, Toronto, Oct. 22, 2021; 336pp, paperback and e-book, ISBN 978-1-77140-244-6; US\$39.95.**

Almost 1000 double dummy problems, ranging from 'very easy' to 'fiendishly difficult', collected by the acknowledged expert in the field. Double dummy problems are to bridge players what chess problems are to lovers of that game: exercises in ingenuity, unexpected maneuvers, art and beauty. Some of the problems in this book were created before bridge — they come from its precursor, whist, but the principles are the same. The most recent ones come from the author's fifty-odd years of contributions to various UK bridge magazines. Any puzzle fan will find hundreds of hours of entertainment in these pages.



**Allan DeSerpa, John Mohan and Richard Catero, *Pancakes and Waffles: Better Bidding by Simulation*, Self-published, Dec. 2021; paperback and e-book, 197pp, ISBN 978-168524265-7; US\$17.95.**

If not your first, then your second bidding lesson taught you how to find major-suit fits and take extra tricks with trumps. No one ever explained when and why it might be better to do without trumps. Until now. With



the aid of careful scientific investigation, the authors focus on combinations of balanced hand patterns (4-3-3-3, 5-3-3-2, 4-4-3-2, and 6-3-2-2), all appropriately nicknamed (for their flatness) as pancakes, waffles, biscuits, and scones. Pancakes matched with waffles are powerful trick-taking machines that deliver reliable games with 24 HCP and, more surprisingly, perform better

at notrump with not only eight-card, but also nine-card major-suit fits! Learn why some 34-point slams fail while other 32-point combinations are destined to succeed.

**Mark Horton, *Misbid These Hands with Me*, Master Point Press, Toronto, Nov. 15, 2021; 200pp, paperback and e-book, ISBN 978-1-77140-068-8; US\$19.95.**

In 2007, Mark Horton wrote *Misplay These Hands with Me*, a deliberate homage to Reese's classic, *Play These Hands with Me*. The difference was that the declarer in Horton's book always made an error, sometimes obvious, sometimes not so much.



This successful book was the basis of a long-running column in the ACBL's *Bridge Bulletin*, a sequel in 2019, and earlier this year, *Misdefend These Hands with Me*. Now the same author turns to the topic of bidding, and once again gives the reader a chance to learn from someone else's mistakes. All the deals are taken from top-level play.

Horton is one of the two or three best-known bridge journalist/authors in the world with dozens of books and tournament daily bulletins to his credit.



## Summer NABC Major Title & Award Winners

### Nathan B. Spingold Knockout Teams



The 2022 Spingold champions (l. to r.): Bas Drijver, Fernando Piedra, Pierre Zimmermann, Michal Klukowski, Piotr Gawrys, Sjoert Brink

### Albert H. Morehead Grand National Teams

Jerry Helms, Olin Hubert, Samuel Marks, Dwight Meredith, B. Wayne Stuart III, George Woltman

### Alvin Roth Open Swiss Teams

Dennis Bilde, Adam Grossack, Zach Grossack, Laurence Lebowitz, Agustin Madala, Michael Rosenberg

### Richard Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match Teams

Kevin Dwyer, Joyce Hill, Shan Huang, Amber Lin, Mikael Rimstedt, Signe Buus Thomsen

### Alan Truscott / United States Playing Card Co. Senior Swiss Teams

Alexander Allen, Daniel Boye, Meyer Kotkin, Abe Pineles

### Waldemar von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs

Ralph Katz, Nick Nickell

### Derrick J. Wernher Open Pairs

Andrew Cavalier, Christian Jolly

### Margaret Wagar Women's Pairs

Margie Cole, Sandra Rimstedt

### Harry J. Fishbein Trophy

Ralph Katz, Nick Nickell

### Mitch Dunitz Collegiate Bridge Bowl Championship

University of Chicago – Raphael Hallerman, Cynthia Huang, Zihan Tan, Ilan Wolff

### ACBL Educational Foundation & BridgeWhiz National Youth Open Swiss Teams

Andrew Chen, Charlie Chen, Eric Xiao, Rory Xiao, Jeffrey Yin, Brian Zhang

### Collegiate Pairs

Richard Jeng, Bo Han Zhu

### Hall of Fame Inductees

Marty Bergen, Larry Cohen, Lynn Deas, Beth Palmer (von Zedtwitz Award), John Sutherlin (von Zedtwitz Award), Sol Weinstein (Blackwood Award)

### Sydney Lazard, Jr., Sportmanship Award

Scottish National Team

### High School King of Bridge

Arthur Zhou

### ABTA Teacher of the Year

Linda Tuff

## 2022 SPINGOLD

### Barry Rigal, NYC

John Carruthers, Kingsville, ON

Ercan Cem, Istanbul

Katie Thorpe, Kingsville, ON

Phillip Alder, Hobe Sound, FL

Mark Horton, Shrewsbury, Shrops., U.K.

As usual, the Spingold exhibited some sparkling play, defence and, especially, bidding. Here are some examples that caught our collective eye.

### Round of 64 (BR)

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

Tim Leslie declared in four spades on the South cards after the auction:

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

Leslie might have been more aggressive over the Michaels Cue-Bid, but his partner made up for it with an aggressive raise to game.

West led the nine of hearts. Assuming this was from shortage, Leslie won with the ace and started drawing trumps, cashing the ace, followed by the king and queen as West followed all the way, revealing the jack on the third round. Next came the king of hearts as, not unexpectedly, West showed out. Leslie now sought to endplay West in the minors, who presumably had most, if not all, of the missing minor-suit strength on the bidding.

Declarer drove out the ace of clubs and won the club return. With West's safe exit-cards in clubs having been extracted, South led a diamond to the ten. Upon reluctantly winning with the jack, West was endplayed. He tried to escape his predicament by leading the jack of clubs, but Leslie discarded from dummy, leaving West on play to resurrect the South hand. That was good for a game swing. This was the full deal:

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

In the same round...

When you win a match by single digits, every board might make the difference between triumph and disaster. On the following deal, one declarer followed a good line while the other took a sure-trick approach. That turned out to be crucial.

**Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

Both Souths ended up in four hearts. Both Wests led a top spade (yes, a trump is considerably more challenging for declarer, but not easy to find).

One declarer saw a line that would bring home ten tricks against many lies of the diamonds. He won the spade, used the trump entry to pitch his spade loser, then led a diamond to the king after drawing trumps. The defenders took it and returned a diamond and West claimed down one in due course.

In the other room, Jeff Aker won the spade lead, drew trumps, then led a spade up. West correctly won and shifted, more in hope than expectation, to the queen of diamonds. Aker covered and East won and returned a diamond. Aker ducked and could now claim. Though West could win cheaply, he now had to return a diamond into the tenace or give dummy an entry in a black suit.

### Round of 32, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Nickell vs. Hans (JC)

**Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3♣ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	3♦ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	3NT <sup>4</sup>
Pass	4♣ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	4♦ <sup>6</sup>
Pass	5♣ <sup>7</sup>	Pass	5♦ <sup>8</sup>
Pass	5♠ <sup>9</sup>	Pass	7♣ <sup>10</sup>
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 95% forcing
2. Any jump shift, including a very strong spade single-suiter
3. Asks
4. Club jump shift, but okay for 3NT
5. Sets trumps
6. Key-card ask
7. 2 key cards and the club queen
8. Anything else you're proud of?
9. My spades – I'd bid 7 with the queen, so probably the jack
10. I am delighted to hear that!

At the other table, Sartaj Hans and Peter Gill had a strong-club auction to six clubs, so Nickell won 13 IMPs.

A few boards later, Peter Gill made a great bid to give his side a chance to reach a pretty decent slam.

**Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.**

♠ A 3 2  
♥ 9  
♦ K Q 10 9 4 3 2  
♣ A 4

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

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

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Gill	Greco	Hans
—	1♦	1♥	2♣
2♥	4♦	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

As I watched on BBO, thinking that three diamonds was the normal bid with the North hand at his second turn, Gill showed me how wrong I was: three diamonds is the reflex bid, whereas four diamonds was the imaginative, value-bid. Could (should?) Hans have done anything different other than bid five diamonds? He was reluctant to bid four hearts on ten-third since, on the bidding, Gill could well have had two low hearts. Four spades and five clubs would have shown extra length there, and four notrump would have been a key-card ask. So, four hearts would have been his only slam try and the question is, was he worth it? Six diamonds is pretty good, depending on little more than three-two clubs, so long as all the missing diamonds are not with East.

A look at the auction at the other table reveals just how good Gill's bid was, winning 10 IMPs:

West	North	East	South
Edgton	Levin	Whibley	Weinstein
—	1♦	1♥	2♣
2♥	3♦	3♥	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

**Round of 16, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter  
Zimmerman vs. Rogoff (EC)**

**Board 59. Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Marcinski	Drijver	Saxe	Brink
—	INT	Pass	2♠ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2NT <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♠ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. (i.) Invitational in notrump; (ii.) minors; (iii.) weak diamonds
2. Minimum; pass or correct
3. Shortage, game-forcing, both minors
4. Pick a minor

West led the jack of spades and continued with a second spade, upon which East played the ace. Brink ruffed and cashed the king and queen of clubs. Seeing the bad break in the trump suit, he anticipated uneven breaks in both red suits, but recognized that he could still bring in the contract provided that East held the length in them and the outstanding spade king. But the timing had to be perfect.

Brink led a diamond to dummy's king, finessed the jack on the way back, played a heart to dummy's king, a heart back to queen, and a third heart to dummy's ace. That left:

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

The lead was in dummy when the ace of clubs was cashed. East was squeezed in all three suits – when he discarded a diamond, declarer claimed 11 tricks.

**Quarterfinal, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter  
Donner vs. Wolfson (KT)**

**Board 28. Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Mahmood	Moss	Gold	Grue
2♠ <sup>1</sup>	3♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	5♣ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	5♥ <sup>4</sup>
Pass	5♠ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	6♣ <sup>6</sup>
Pass	6♠ <sup>7</sup>	Pass	7♦ <sup>8</sup>
Double(!) <sup>9</sup>	7NT <sup>10</sup>	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Looked upon with scorn by the BBO commentators
2. Key-card ask in diamonds
3. 2 key cards, no diamond queen
4. King ask
5. King of spades (or as good as)
6. King of clubs
7. Okay for 6NT; not quite enough for a grand slam, but still interested
8. I can count 13 tricks, perhaps with a club ruff
9. Don't know if you can make it but, if you want to play for some arcane layout...
10. Just in case a normal person has invaded your body

Zia said he'd have run to seven spades if Moss had redoubled. Moss revealed that he was always bidding seven notrump over seven diamonds anyway.

At the other table, Donner opened three spades, passed to South, who doubled. North bid three notrump and there they played – 17 IMPs to Donner.

### Quarterfinal, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Amoils vs. Zimmermann (KT)

Board 39. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Lorenzini	Gawrys	Bessis
—	Pass	Pass	INT <sup>1</sup>
2♦ <sup>2</sup>	2♠ <sup>3</sup>	2NT <sup>4</sup>	4♠
4NT <sup>5</sup>	Pass	5♦	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. 14+ -17
2. 4+ diamonds and 4+ either major
3. Non-forcing
4. Bid your major
5. Pick a suit, extra length

Lorenzini led the two of spades to the ten, jack and a ruff by declarer. Klukowski led the ten of hearts to the queen and ace. Bessis returned the two of hearts to dummy. Drumroll ... yes, MK got this right – low diamond! He reasoned that Bessis would not have bid four spades with king-third of diamonds, leaving North with a singleton jack, the only other layout which would leave declarer with a shot at a make.

### The Final, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Zimmermann vs. Street

The following deal was reported almost simultaneously by Phillip Alder and Mark Horton. Here is Phillip's report:

#### Reading the Deal Par Excellence (PA)

This was surely the best-played deal of the Spingold Knockout Teams – and perhaps the whole tournament. It was Board 52 of 60 in the final. At the time, Street led by 10 IMPs (105-95) over Zimmermann.

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Zatorski	Gawrys	Pachtman
—	—	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Klukowski led the eight of diamonds, covered by the jack, king and ace. Declarer ran the ten of hearts, Gawrys smoothly playing the nine as a suit-preference signal for spades. South played another trump, going up with the ace when West discarded a diamond. Then came three rounds of clubs. West won with the queen, cashed his spade ace and played another spade for down two, minus 100.

At the other table, Brink could not open one notrump as that would have shown 12-14 at this vulnerability.

West	North	East	South
Manno	Drijver	Di Franco	Brink
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	3♦ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	4♥ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Alert explanations top of next page...

1. Mixed raise – 4 trumps, 6-9 points and 9 losers
2. “Do you like your hand?”
3. “Yes.”

The play began the same way at this table: diamond to the king and ace, ten of hearts ducked, with East playing the nine. What did Brink do now?

East had paused slightly over the ten of hearts, so declarer was sure he had the king. East had also produced the king of diamonds and had to have a high spade; otherwise, West would have led the ace of spades. Thus, West had to have the queen of clubs; else, East would have opened the bidding.

At trick three, Brink led the five of clubs from his hand! Manno, as would we all, played low, so dummy’s jack took the trick. Still not out of the woods, declarer played a club to his ace, cashed the king of clubs, crossed to the ace of hearts and discarded a spade on the thirteenth club. Brilliant!

That gave the Zimmermann team 11 IMPs and the lead by 106-105. Over the next seven boards the teams traded 10-IMP swings, while five boards were pushed. Then...

### Brinkmanship (MH)

The last session of the 2022 Spingold final was a classic, full of thrilling deals. Here is the final board, on which Sjoert Brink tried to bamboozle his opponents, Massimiliano Di Franco and Andrea Manno, much like Zia had against Brad Moss and Joe Grue two days earlier in the quarterfinals:

#### Board 30. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Manno	Drijver	Di Franco	Brink
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♣ <sup>1</sup>	Pass	2♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass
2♠ <sup>3</sup>	Pass	2NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass
3♣ <sup>5</sup>	Pass	3NT <sup>6</sup>	Pass
4♣ <sup>7</sup>	Pass	4♥ <sup>8</sup>	Pass
4NT <sup>9</sup>	Pass	5♥ <sup>10</sup>	Double <sup>11</sup>
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Alert explanations top of next column...

1. Game forcing relay
2. Not four hearts
3. Relay with fit
4. Balanced or one-suited
5. Relay
6. Balanced (‘I guess’ Al Hollander)
7. Relay
8. 5=3=3=2 (‘I guess’ MH)
9. Key-card ask
10. 2 key cards, no spade queen
11. The Bamboozle Double (Brink was on lead)

As you can see, on this layout, there is no way to go down in six spades.

However, suppose South was looking at the ace-queen of hearts and the king of clubs? Then, declarer could get home by cashing five spades and five diamonds. South would be forced to unguard the king of clubs or blank the ace of hearts, exposing himself to an endplay. South’s double of five hearts was an attempt to create a losing option – either in the bidding or the play.

South led the two of diamonds. Declarer won with the jack, cashed four rounds of spades, crossed to dummy with a diamond and played the jack of hearts. When North took the ace East claimed.

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Zatorski	Gawrys	Pachtman
—	—	1♠ <sup>1</sup>	Pass
2NT <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♣ <sup>3</sup>	Pass
3♦ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	3♥ <sup>5</sup>	Pass
3♠ <sup>6</sup>	Pass	3NT <sup>7</sup>	Pass
4♣ <sup>8</sup>	Pass	4♥ <sup>9</sup>	Pass
4NT <sup>10</sup>	Pass	5♥ <sup>11</sup>	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

1. 5+ spades; maximum 17 HCP
2. Game forcing; usually 4+ trumps, but 3 is allowed if you have direction, as here
3. Any minimum
4. Do you have any shortage?
5. No
6. Slam try
7. Okay hand in context
8. Club control
9. Heart control; no diamond control
10. Key-card ask
11. 2 key cards, no spade queen

South led the jack of clubs. Declarer won with dummy’s ace, drew trumps, cashed the jack of diamonds and a fourth spade, cashed four more diamonds to dispose of a club and a heart and played the three of hearts, claiming when North produced the ace.

Flattening the deal was enough to see Zimmermann’s reigning World Champions home by a single IMP, 116-115!

# OTHER PROVIDENCE DEALS

**Barry Rigal, NYC**  
**Peter Crouch, Oxted, Surrey, U.K.**

## A Simple Plan (BR)

This deal comes from the second final session of the Life Master Pairs, and it features a defensive problem for you as West:

### Board 6. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

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

Two hearts was a one-round force. Playing upside-down signals and third/low leads, you elect to lead a low diamond. (You wouldn't? Sue me.) This goes to the king, seven and five. Declarer then plays a club: three, two, king, ace. Over to you.

The winning defence is remarkably straight-forward. Play back the ace of diamonds and another. (*The ten of diamonds works as well.* – Ed.) Declarer is in dummy for the last time, and playing the fourth diamond is hopeless. If he does (pitching a club), you will ruff and exit with the queen of clubs. Declarer will have to lose a spade and a heart no matter what he does.

## Von Zedtwitz LM Pairs Final Nickell and Katz at Work (BR)

### Board 9. Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nickell		Katz	
—	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

When Nick Nickell was West, he saw North open with a weak two diamonds and South respond with a non-forcing three-club call. That was passed back to Ralph Katz, who balanced with a double, which Nickell left in.

Nickell led a low heart. Katz put in the ten and declarer won with his king. South played the ace and jack of clubs, ducked, as Katz pitched a discouraging spade, the two. Nickell won the next club as Katz pitched a present count spade three. Now came a diamond, ducked to the king, a heart to the queen, then the ace of spades – Nickell knew the count in the suit. Finally a heart to the ace saw the thirteenth heart promote the club eight for two down.

## Day 2 of the Roth Swiss Teams (PC)

### Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Crouch		Berg	
—	—	Pass	1♣
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

At the other table, Garner/Wolfson (North/South) had stopped in four spades.

At this table, Lorenzini/Bessis climbed up to five spades. Bessis had taken a very long time to pass five spades so, when West led the queen of diamonds, Erik Berg (East) inferred that declarer surely had a diamond control, and he already knew that declarer had no hearts.

So, when Bessis ducked the diamond queen, Berg overtook it and shifted to a low club. After Crouch ruffed and exited with a top heart, declarer needed to find the spade queen. It was only poetic justice, one could argue, that he got it wrong for 12 IMPs to Berg's team.





## Viking Bridge

**Knut Kjærnsrød, Tored, Norway**  
**Nils Kvangraven, Kristiansand, Norway**  
**Marc Smith, Southampton, Hants., U.K.**  
**Ben Norton, Loughborough, Leics., U.K.**  
**Harald Gjellestad, Kristiansand, Norway**  
**Ulf Nilsson, Dalby, Sweden**

### The Norwegian Teams Championship (KK)

The beautiful Kragerø Golf Resort and Spa was the venue for the 2022 Norwegian Teams Championship final, played in the latter days of May.

Studentene Trondheim grabbed a commanding lead early among the eight teams and was never really challenged, despite losing their final two matches. The team consisted of Kåre Bogø, Christer Kristoffersen, Tor Eivind Grude, Geir Helgemo, Åsmunf Forfot and Karl Morten Lunna.

Two slams contributed essentially to Studentene's victory. In this grand slam, the level of preemption made a lot of difference:

**Dealer South. NS Vul.**

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

With Studentene East/West, West jumped to four hearts after South's one-spade opening, and North/South came off the track and stopped in four spades when North bid just game. At the other table, Christer Kristoffersen was South and, with partner Kåre Bogø, they climbed aggressively to the grand slam in the following way:

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

1. Good raise in spades
2. Key-card ask
3. 0 or 3 key cards
4. Grand-slam try; guarantees all the key cards and the queen of trumps

The heart knave went to the queen and ace and, after cashing the ace and queen of trumps, Kristoffersen played three rounds of diamonds with a ruff. A club to the ace and two more trumps left this ending:

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

On the last trump East was squeezed in the minors, and Studentene gained 17 IMPs.

The next board was a small slam where Kåre Bogø managed to master an unkind distribution better than his counterpart:

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

Both teams missed the laydown six notrump, landing in six diamonds. The Klepp declarer went down, but Bogø landed the precarious contract in the most professional way.

The bidding, with Bogø East, went:

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

1. Natural, game-forcing
2. Key-card ask
3. 1 or 4 key cards
4. Diamond-queen ask
5. I have it

After the two-of-clubs lead to the queen and the diamond king, I suppose Bogø cursed his choice of contract, but an inspired and competent declarer never gives up until he's tried all possibilities. The spade king went to the ace, and the heart continuation was taken by dummy's ten. The ace and king of clubs were discarded on the remaining spade honours, and the queen of hearts was followed by a spade ruff. The king of hearts was ruffed low. Leaving this position:

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

A spade ruff, the heart ace ruffed with the queen of diamonds, and North's possible trump trick disappeared into thin air, giving Studentene 14 IMPs.

## The Helgemo Preempt (NK)

Geir Helgemo is an icon of Norwegian bridge. As a member of team Charlsen, he won this year's Norwegian Premier League. Facing one of the chief competitors for the title, Helgemo found a perfect preempt that I can't remember ever having previously seen.

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Andresen	Simonsen	Helgemo	Johansen
—	—	INT	Pass
Pass	Double <sup>1</sup>	2NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Both majors or either minor

Helgemo took advantage of the uncertainty of South not knowing what his partner's hand was when he bid two notrump – he preempted South from finding out. South knew Helgemo had a hand based on tricks in a solid minor suit, but he could not tell if his partner had the other minor or both majors! I don't think we can blame North/South for letting Helgemo play in two notrump.

With eight tricks on top, it was a huge plus 120 to Helgemo. To prevent North/South from making ten tricks in hearts, the defence needs to duck a spade in order to set up a spade ruff. Helgemo won 7 IMPs on the board when his counterparts at the other table went three off in five diamonds.

## The 2022 Lederer Memorial Trophy

The Lederer Memorial Trophy has been a feature of the London Metropolitan Bridge Association's calendar for more than 75 years. Typically, eight or ten top-class teams are invited for the two-day event. Its scoring system is unique, with 50 VP available in each 10-board match. The uniqueness derives from the fact that 20 of those 50 VP come from the board-a-match result of each deal, 2 points for a win on the board, 1 for a draw, and zero for a loss. The other 30 VP come from the IMP results, converted to Victory Points, on a more-sensible, whole-VP scale, than the current "every-IMP-counts" decimal-madness scale currently in vogue. The scoring system can be found in detail here:

<https://lederertrophy.com/lederer-scoring/>

## A Viking in King Artur's Court (MS)

This deal was pretty exciting, with both sides at each table being presented with chances to win the board and with Thor Erik Hoftaniska finally prevailing...

Board 14. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Robson	Malinowski	Allfrey	DeBotton
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

When Alexander Allfrey raised to three spades, there was little doubt where the auction would end. Artur Malinowski did not double four spades, but probably only because his opponents were in the one game contract that he was fairly certain was going down.

A club lead to South's ace established two heart discards from dummy on high clubs. Janet DeBotton switched to a diamond, taken by declarer in hand, and a spade to the jack revealed the bad news in that suit. When Andrew Robson then led the king of hearts from dummy, Artur Malinowski won with the ace and exited safely in the same suit. After pitching dummy's remaining hearts on his high clubs, Robson tried to cash a diamond, but Malinowski ruffed. North had safe club exits, the ruff-and-discard proving no assistance to declarer. North still had to make two more trump tricks: East/West minus 100.

At the other table...

West	North	East	South
Hoftaniska	Osborne	Bakhshi	Forrester
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Double
Redouble	3♣	3♠	Pass
3NT	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

After the same start, David Bakhshi raised only to two spades on the East cards. Tony Forrester had an easy takeout double at this level, and Thor Erik Hoftaniska redoubled to show his extra values. Graham Osborne bid his clubs and now Bakhshi competed to three spades. This is not a regular partnership, so both Hoftaniska's three notrump bid and Bakhshi's pass of North's double showed admirable faith in his partner. And quite right they both were too, as three notrump doubled was made with an expert declarer at the helm. Part of the reason for Osborne's double of three notrump was based on the hope that the opponents would run from three notrump to four spades, where he'd have been (he thought) on firmer ground in doubling.

The jack-of-clubs lead was allowed to run around to declarer's queen, South discouraging. The queen of spades was covered by the king and ace, and declarer crossed back to hand with the ace of diamonds (allowing the defence a chance to prevail) to lead a second spade, ducking when North inserted the nine. Osborne exited with the ten of hearts, which ran around to declarer's queen. Declarer now took the marked spade finesse and cashed the jack of spades. Three rounds of diamonds then left South on play. Forrester could cash his two aces, but had then to surrender the ninth trick either to declarer's club

king or dummy's heart king. That was plus 550 to East/West and 12 IMPs and a win on the board to the DeBotton team.

Even double-dummy, three notrump is quite complicated. As the defence went, declarer needed to lead a heart from dummy after winning the ace of spades – South must duck to prevent declarer winning two heart tricks. As it went, after a diamond to the ace and a spade ducked, a club continuation by North beats the contract.

## WBT Masters Lillehammer Embarras de Richesse (BN)

Here are two defensive problems from the first live WBT Masters event held in picturesque Lillehammer, Norway in late May. Twelve teams full to the brim of well-known experts entered, all vying to qualify in the top four places through a four-day round robin. After 220 boards, the field was split into three groups of knockout matches. These deals are from the semi-finals, both demonstrating a common theme.

With neither side vulnerable, as East, you pick up:

♠ Q 10 8 4  
♥ K 10 5  
♦ A K Q J  
♣ A 10

North, your right-hand opponent, opens one spade and it is you to speak. You have too much for a one-notrump overcall with 19 high-card points, fine intermediates and a useful spade holding over North's suit. In such cases, the traditional solution is to double, then bid notrump at your next turn. That doesn't really appeal here when your next bid will have to be two notrump though. That could easily be too high.

No one would argue with double, but at this vulnerability, there's a great deal to be said for passing. South will strain to respond, surely with one notrump, and you can double that for penalty if North passes. If North bids two clubs instead, you could perhaps issue a takeout double. You are happy defending two diamonds, and if North introduces hearts, you were unlikely to make anything anyway. In short, this hand is well-suited for defence.

So, you pass and, as you expected, South responds one notrump, which is passed back to you. Your penalty double ends the auction, which has been:

West	North	East	South
—	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Expecting you to have strong spades, partner leads the spade jack and you see this dummy:

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

♠ Q 10 8 4  
 ♥ K 10 5  
 ♦ A K Q J  
 ♣ A 10

Declarer wins with the ace of spades in hand as you follow with the four-spot. South exits with a diamond. Partner flies in with the ten, but you unhappily overtake with the queen (no need to tell declarer what's going on in that suit). You then play the queen of spades to establish your sixth winner, happy to see the king of hearts sitting over dummy's ace for the setting trick.

Upon winning the king of spades, both South and West following, declarer plays another diamond. You win, as both declarer and partner follow suit, and cash a third diamond, hoping to see partner follow suit. You could then cash your last diamond to avoid an endplay, and exit passively with the ace and another club to await your seventh trick. However, you must recalculate when, as expected, partner pitches a discouraging club on the third diamond, dummy shedding a spade.

You can see five tricks for declarer once he knocks out your ace of clubs: two spades, one heart and two clubs. The trouble is that you are going to be a bit stuck for exit-cards. Say you were to play the ace of clubs and another club now. That would be good enough when partner has the jack of clubs, but if declarer has it, he could win with the jack and give up a diamond. You would then have to surrender the seventh trick in a major. Nor would it help to cash your diamond before getting off play with a club. Declarer would win the king of clubs, cash his diamond and play a club to dummy's queen, reducing to a spade and the ace-queen of hearts on table. You would be caught in a strip-squeeze, forced to keep parity with dummy and be thrown in with a spade to lead around to the heart tenace.

No, you must succumb to the endplay as soon as possible. Switch to a heart at trick six, angling to establish a heart trick to go with a spade and your five minor-suit tops. Declarer will not have time to establish all of his tricks on this defence, as long as partner has the jack of hearts. This defence will even work when declarer has the heart jack but not the club jack, for he can win with the queen of hearts and play a club, but then you would play low. Declarer would win and play a diamond to you, but you could simply cash the ace of clubs and exit with the ten of spades and another, eventually getting your heart trick.

The full deal, as you are playing for, is:

**Dealer North. Neither Vul.**

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

♠ J 7  
 ♥ J 6 4 3  
 ♦ 10 6  
 ♣ 8 7 6 5 4

♠ Q 10 8 4  
 ♥ K 10 5  
 ♦ A K Q J  
 ♣ A 10

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

Alas, partner had neither the jack of clubs nor the jack of hearts on the actual deal, so the contract came home. And yes, the jack of spades was the only card in partner's hand that he could lead to let the contract through. Perhaps you should have gone quietly after all...

Next case. This time, sitting West, you hold:

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

At favourable vulnerability, you open one diamond and see your left-hand opponent overcall two clubs. Partner passes and the next player advances with two hearts. You pass, North bids two spades and South makes the encouraging call of two notrump, raised to game. Well, your opponents are vulnerable, so surely aren't messing around. You resist the urge to double and it's your lead. The full auction has been:

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

Partner won't have much, but you try a diamond lead all the same. A top spade has some appeal, but that could simply concede a tempo, with North's having bid the suit. You are greeted by this dummy:

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

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

Partner produces what is surely his only honour-card; the diamond queen, declarer winning with the king then laying down the jack and another club. What is your defensive plan?

You can count eight tricks for declarer, and his jack

of diamonds is most likely guarded. You're going to have to find five discards on the clubs, and the first four are easy; two diamonds, a heart and a spade. On the last, you won't be able to afford either a top spade or the ten of diamonds, which would allow declarer to duck out your ace, so it will have to be another heart.

Before committing yourself, you can see what partner does on the run of the clubs. Perhaps if he follows upwards all the way, you can place him with four diamonds and pitch down to two cards in each major. You therefore start with the four of hearts, then the jack of spades, but partner, having followed with a count eight of clubs on the first round, plays the six, then the four, as declarer shows out. Partner is playing middling cards to show no preference, in which case declarer's jack of diamonds must be guarded, as you suspected.

You let go of a diamond on the fourth club, followed by another diamond as declarer sheds three hearts and partner the seven of diamonds. Next comes the final club, partner letting go the spade three and declarer the spade deuce. Your only chance now is to pitch the jack of hearts. Letting go a low heart would see you thrown in to lead around to the jack of diamonds. Of course, the same thing might happen anyway, but not if partner holds the ten of hearts!

Declarer now leads the queen of hearts to his ace and your king. Partner wins the next heart with his hoped-for ten and returns a diamond through the jack to set the game. Had declarer ducked the queen of hearts instead, you would have cashed your spade tops to squeeze him down to one heart and two diamonds, whereupon a heart exit would have endplayed him.

The full deal (you hope):

**Dealer West. NS Vul.**

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

There was no way for declarer to succeed on this defence, unless East were to pitch both of his diamonds (or a heart). Unfortunately, in real life, things weren't so friendly. Declarer held the ten of hearts and your defence let through an overtrick.

In bridge, virtue often has to be its own reward.

## Superb Declarer Play (NK)

Rune Brendeford Anderssen has been among the top Norwegian players since the 1980s. He is still going strong and is a man to respect at the table.

During the Norwegian Bridge Federation Realbridge Teams, Anderssen came up with this beautiful play, one of the best I've seen so far in 2022. Anderssen's team faced last year's winners in the Round of 32 in a knockout match of 32 boards. Anderssen's team was close to winning, but had to settle for losing by 6 IMPs.

**Dealer North. Both Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Brekka</i>	<i>Berg</i>	<i>Saur</i>	<i>Anderssen</i>
—	Pass	1♦	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

A heart lead would have sealed the fate of the contract, but who can blame West for leading a diamond, won by East with the ten. The ace of diamonds came next, ruffed by Anderssen with the ten of spades. It looks like there are two hearts, a diamond and a club for the defence – can you see how Anderssen made his contract?

He played the ace of spades and the eight of spades to the nine, then a club to the king. West took his ace and returned a heart to the four, queen and six. East returned a club, won by the queen. Anderssen played the carefully preserved four of spades to the five and tried the queen of diamonds in case the jack dropped. Sadly, West produced the eight.

Anderssen didn't give up; he ran the trumps down to:

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

**Continued on page 18...**



# IBPA Column Service

**Tim Bourke, Canberra**



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

## 1105. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

1. 20-22 points

With his square shape, North opted to bid a direct three notrump rather than investigate the possibility of a four-four heart fit and tell the defence more about the North/South hands.

West led a fourth-highest seven of spades, which declarer ran to his queen, taking East's nine. South counted eight tricks and judged that the best hope for a ninth was in hearts. So, at trick two, he led the four of hearts to dummy's king and the three of hearts back toward his hand. East's low club discard was obviously unwelcome news. Declarer played the jack of hearts from his hand to mark time. West won with the queen and returned a heart to declarer's now-bare ace.

Declarer paused to consider his options. West was marked with five hearts and might have led that suit if he had held only four spades. So, West likely began with five-five or six-five in the major suits. The best hope was that he held the king-to-five or -six spades along with at most one diamond. So, declarer cashed the ace and king of clubs followed by the ace of diamonds, noting that West had followed to all three cards.

Declarer crossed to dummy with a club to the queen and led dummy's remaining heart, discarding a diamond

from hand. West was able to take two heart tricks, but then had to lead a spade; declarer called for dummy's jack and, when it held, it was the ninth trick.

## 1106. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

1. Transfer
2. 3+-card spade support

Both North/South pairs in a team game reached four spades via a transfer auction where the bid of two spades promised at least three-card support.

Incidentally, both South players did well not to redouble two hearts even though there are eight defensive tricks available there. West would surely have made a rescue move and East/West can make nine tricks in clubs simply by playing North for the queen of clubs.

The defence at both tables began with a heart lead from West. East cashed the queen and king of hearts, then continued with the eight of hearts. Declarer played the nine from hand and West ruffed with his nine of trumps.

At the first table, declarer overruffed with the ten of trumps and drew two rounds of trumps with the queen and ace, discovering that the suit was originally four-one. Declarer knew there were nine major-suit cards

on his right to two on his left. So, on a vacant-places argument, he knew that the odds were very much in favour of the king of clubs being on his left.

Accordingly, declarer drew East's trumps with the king and jack, cleverly jettisoning his ace of clubs in the hope that the queen of clubs would provide the entry to dummy's jack of diamonds. Declarer continued by cashing his three top diamonds and then led the three of clubs. Unfortunately, it was East who had the king of clubs and declarer finished with only eight tricks.

At the second table, declarer played as safely as possible. Accordingly, he discarded a club from dummy on the third round of hearts. West shifted to a diamond in the hope of giving his partner a ruff. Declarer won with the queen of diamonds and drew East's trumps in four rounds. Next, he cashed the ace and king of diamonds and the ace of clubs before ruffing a club in dummy to take his tenth trick with the jack of diamonds.

### 1107. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

West led the king of diamonds, which declarer allowed to hold the trick. West continued with the queen of diamonds, which South took with the ace as East discarded a discouraging heart.

Declarer saw that he had eight tricks and that he had two choices as to how to proceed. The first was to hope that East held both the queen and jack of spades, which was a little better than a one-in-three chance. Instead, at trick three, he decided to lead a low spade toward dummy, inserting the nine when West followed with a low card. East won with the queen and exited with a low heart. Declarer won and played a low spade to dummy's now-bare ace and returned to hand with a heart to his king. When he cashed the king of spades and West's jack fell he had nine tricks, six in the major suits and three in the minors.

The likelihood that West would have one spade honour at most third is only a little better than playing East for the queen and jack of spades. However, there were two extra chances in playing this way. East could have both of

the missing spade honours and only two or three cards in the suit. The other one comes from clubs; the main one being that the clubs were three-three and that East held both the queen and the jack, for then declarer could have succeeded by running the ten of clubs to East. Overall this offered about a 45% chance of success.

### 1108. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

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

Both North/South pairs in a team match pressed on to what proved to be a rather-doubtful spade game.

The opening lead at both tables was the nine of hearts. Both East defenders played the ace, king and eight of hearts, strongly suggesting a diamond return. Both West players ruffed the third heart and exited with the three of diamonds. Both declarers won with dummy's ace of diamonds but, then, their paths diverged.

At the first table, declarer continued with the king of trumps. After noting the fall of West's eight of trumps, declarer played a club to the queen. If that had held, he planned to cash the ace of clubs and ruff a club in dummy. Alas, West took the queen of clubs with the king and declarer was down one.

At the other table, declarer found an extra chance: he led the seven of trumps to his nine and then advanced the queen of hearts. When West did not ruff in, declarer threw a club from dummy. Then after cashing the ace of clubs he could crossruff the next four tricks. The last of these was his eighth trick and he still had the ace and jack of trumps to come; making four.

Of course, if West had ruffed the queen of hearts, declarer would have overruffed and taken the club finesse, planning to ruff a club in dummy.

Finally, you may have seen that if, instead of cashing the ace of hearts, East had led a low heart at trick two, declarer would have had no road to a tenth trick. If declarer draws a round of trumps to pull West's remaining trump, East will win the heart continuation with the ace and lead a second trump, forcing declarer to rely on the club finesse for his contract.



# Real Life

Larry Cohen  
Delray Beach, FL

## One Out of Two Ain't Bad

At the end of 2005, my partner, David Berkowitz, seemed to pick up a lot of unusual hands. This hand, from the Atlanta Regional in December was one of the best you will ever see:

**Dealer West. Both Vul.**

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

David was South, in fourth seat, with both sides vulnerable (playing IMPs in a Swiss Team match). The bidding started with a pass on his left, two spades by his partner (that would be me), and pass on his right. Now what?

Obviously, it was just a question of six clubs or seven clubs. I think the chances for seven would have been better had partner passed. The fact that Partner has six spades doesn't improve your hand. Had he opened with a diamond preempt, that would have been more encouraging. Anyway, here you are – what should you do?

I think it might make sense to bid two notrump to ask for a feature. If partner shows a diamond feature, bid seven clubs – otherwise content yourself with six clubs. However, David just took a chance and jumped directly to seven clubs on the first round of bidding. This certainly drew some amused looks from around the table.

Here was the (disappointing) dummy:

♠ K J 9 7 5 2  
♥ 4  
♦ J 10 9 7  
♣ 9 7

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	Cohen 2♠	Pass	Berkowitz 7♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the king of diamonds. There was not much hope. David won and played a club (LHO playing the eight). He won with the nine in dummy and tried a low spade. Nothing good happened. He floundered around (running all his winners), but it was easy for the defense to keep the setting trick in diamonds, down one. This was the full deal:

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

So, how unlucky was David to find this dummy? To make seven clubs, he needed one of the following, some more likely than others:

- the king of diamonds in dummy
- a club entry and the ace of spades in dummy
- a club entry, the queen-jack of diamonds in dummy and a winning finesse
- two club entries and a ruffing spade finesse with the king-queen of spades in dummy
- three clubs in dummy (then David's top four red cards would exhaust dummy's red cards and a diamond could be ruffed)
- a defensive error.

In a space of two months, I twice saw David bid a grand slam on the first round of the bidding.

At least he made one of them.

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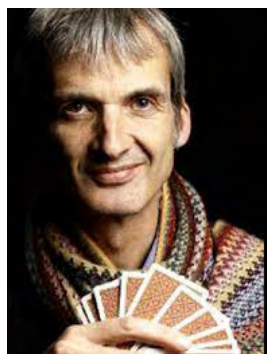
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# Country Life

Andrew Robson  
London



It was off to the Windy City in May, 2010 to watch perhaps the best-quality bridge in the calendar: the U.S. Trials. Personally, I was rooting for the number-one-seeded Nickell team because of the presence on their team of Clapham's and Sunningdale Golf Club's Zia Mahmood.

Let's examine this deal as a declarer-play problem.

### Dealer South. Neither Vul.

♠ A 10 5  
♥ 10 8 5  
♦ A Q 5 2  
♣ A J 8

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♥ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	2NT <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass	6NT <sup>5</sup>
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 4-card majors, 12-14 notrumps
2. Natural, 4+ diamonds, ~10+ HCP
3. 15-19 balanced in modern Acol style (but usually a 15-17 notrump); game-forcing
4. Quantitative notrump slam invitation (assuming 15-17)
5. One more point than the minimum promised and useful club intermediates

This deal saw some typical magic from Mr. Mahmood as South. Normally you should have the full 33 partnership points – without compensating length – to contract for six notrumps. Unsurprisingly, this 31-point attempt needed some good fortune. How should declarer play on West's opening three-of-clubs lead?

You have a one-way diamond finesse, which you will take early-ish, and a two-way spade finesse, which you will take late-ish (delay and you are more likely to take it the right way).

First, let's consider trick one. It looks normal to play low from dummy – after all, the chances of East holding

a singleton king are pretty minuscule. Small as they might be, it is even less likely that West has led a low club from the king-doubleton or king-third, the only occasions whereby playing low from dummy would secure a fourth club trick.

Thus reasoning, declarer rose with the ace of clubs – and down fell the king! These were all 52 cards:

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

A chuffed declarer crossed to his hand in hearts and led a diamond to the queen. When this won, he had 12 top tricks and had the luxury of guessing the location of the queen of spades for his overtrick. He had not travelled all the way to Chicago to misguess, playing the defender with the fewer clubs for more spades (and therefore, hopefully, the queen). He cashed the ace and led to his knave, soon claiming all 13 tricks.



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Anderssen led the king of spades, West discarding a club and dummy a heart, but what was East to do?

He had to keep the jacks of diamonds and clubs, so a heart needed to go. Anderssen read the cards perfectly when he continued with a heart to the ace dropping the king to make the contract.

That was perfect declarer play: Anderssen tested all his chances before producing a three-suit trump squeeze on East. I was impressed; it was beautiful play by the expert Anderssen.

Could the defence have made it tougher on Anderssen by holding back the ace of clubs? No, it would have been much the same ending when declarer ran his trumps down to this:

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

On the king of spades, West and North can discard diamonds, but what about East? If he discards a heart, declarer just plays the ace of hearts and another heart to set up the jack. If East discards the king of diamonds the queen is good and, if East discard a club, declarer plays the queen of clubs, dropping the jack from East to set up the ten to make the contract.

### Kristiansand Bridge Club (HK)

The following two deals turned up in Kristiansand Bridge Club in November 2021. The club is not among the largest, but the quality of play is high. A considerable number of the players are national champions and those include European Champion Nils Kåre Kvangraven. Recently Nils Kåre won the big teams competition on the World Bridge Tour with team Scorway, partnered by another clubmate, Geir Brekka.

### An Additional Chance

**Dealer East. Both Vul.**

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

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

The bidding was straight-forward and the same contract was reached at all tables.

West led the king of clubs. Declarer considered the situation before he played to the first trick. He had two club losers and, if both major-suit finesses failed, the contract would be in jeopardy. Could the chances be improved?

The king of clubs was allowed to win the first trick. West shifted to a low diamond to the four, ten and ace. The ace and six of clubs followed. West unblocked the queen and East's jack won. East returned a low heart, but declarer won with the ace, played a trump to the ace (both defenders following low), and discarded the queen of hearts on the established nine of clubs. Declarer didn't take either of the major-suit finesses, but he made the contract.

When the clubs broke three-three, declarer's line could only fail if the trumps broke three-zero. It was crucial for declarer to duck the first club, enabling him to discover the club distribution before he decided what to do on a heart shift from East.

The East/West hands :

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

### Keeping the Dangerous Hand Off Lead

The following cards got North/South a little too high for comfort.

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

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

When North jumped to game, South thought he had enough to make a slam try, but his partner had nothing to spare, to say the least, and the bidding ended at the five level.

West led the king of clubs, won by the ace. South could see that if West had the ace of hearts – not unlikely based on his two-club bid – the contract would fail if East got in to play a heart. It was necessary to prevent East from winning the lead. This could be achieved if West had either the king or jack of diamonds.

Declarer played a trump to dummy and led the queen of diamonds, East playing the seven, South the eight and West the two! West could hardly have had a singleton diamond two since that would have left East with the king-jack-nine-seven, with which he would surely have covered the queen. South therefore led another diamond to the ace, while West followed with the jack.

A trump to dummy and a diamond ruff set up the suit, and declarer's hearts were discarded on high diamonds for twelve tricks. Unless East had both the king and jack of diamonds, declarer's heart holding would have been protected by his play. The East/West hands were:

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

If East had covered the king of diamonds, West would have scored his jack, but declarer would still have made the contract.

## Counting on Count (UN)

During the pandemic I've spent a considerable amount of time on Funbridge with robots, comparing myself to other humans. One of the distinct features of the robot engine, Argine, is the consistently honest length signals, which help to resolve some tricky choices.

In the monthly team ladder, I found myself in six diamonds, which was not quite laydown...

**Dealer South. EW Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	2♠ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	3♥ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	3NT <sup>5</sup>
Pass	4♦ <sup>6</sup>	Pass	4NT <sup>7</sup>
Pass	5♣ <sup>8</sup>	Pass	5NT <sup>9</sup>
Pass	6♣ <sup>10</sup>	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

- 3+ diamonds
- 4+ clubs, forcing one round
- 5+ diamonds, 4 spades, extra values
- Good hand
- Heart stop
- Sets trumps
- Key-card ask
- 1 or 4 key cards
- Grand-slam try, guarantees possession of all key cards and the queen of trumps
- Club king

West led the king of spades and East played the jack; I won with the ace. It looked like the best chance for making was finding the queen of clubs onside, as a finesse would secure two spade discards. I could ruff my third heart in dummy. There was no hurry to decide and I started with three rounds of hearts, ruffing the third in dummy, which revealed that suit splitting five-three. Remember, reliable length signals. If there had been the risk of an overruff, I'd have known. I played the ace and king of trumps and saw East discard the two of clubs, coming to this position:

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

The club discard was pretty revealing, showing an odd number, and I now decided to play for the actual layout, exiting with a spade from hand, ducked to the ten. East was now end-played, either to give me a ruff-sluff or an extra club trick for 14 IMPs versus the large field.

I wish I could count on honest count every day.

## Gravity

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.

That gravity joke is getting a bit old, but I fall for it every time.



## TURKISH MIXED TEAMS

Erdal Sidar, Istanbul



2022 Turkish Mixed Teams Winners NATURAL  
(l. to r.) TBF President Yasemin Mercil, Hatice Özgür,  
Yusuf Kahyaoglu, Emre Kaya, Dilek Yavas

The Championship was held in the holiday city of Bodrum from July 25-27 with 36 teams participating.

### NATURAL vs. SHELL PASS: (54 to 6 IMPs)

RR8. Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Kaya</i>		<i>Yavas</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣ <sup>2</sup>
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	5NT <sup>4</sup>	Pass	7♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 2+ clubs
2. Natural
3. Sets trump
4. Trump quality?

Emre Kaya's five-notrump bid was not 'choice of slam', but asking about club quality or extra length for a grand slam. Dilek Yavas understood this and bid seven clubs; it was not a partnership understanding, just cooperative judgement.

### NATURAL vs. CRRAZONE (25 to 4 IMPs)

RR8. Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	<i>Kaya</i>		<i>Yavas</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East led the four of clubs. West took the ace and continued with the ten, declarer holding the trick with the jack. Declarer cashed the king of hearts, crossed to dummy's heart ace, East discarding the five of spades, then took his two heart tricks. When East discarded two diamonds on these, declarer was convinced that the queen of spades was offside and protected. Thus Kaya led a diamond to the ace, a spade to the ace and exited with his club queen. East could take his club tricks but then had to lead a spade away from the queen for declarer's ninth trick.



## OZ BRIDGE

**Ron Klinger,**  
Northbridge, NSW  
[www.ronklingerbridge.com](http://www.ronklingerbridge.com)

### The Lead-Directing Takeout Double (from Ron Klinger: The Real Deal Workout)

As West, how would you handle this dummy at IMPs?

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Drijver	van den Bos	Brink	van Lankveld
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2NT <sup>1</sup>	Double
4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

1. 3+-card spade raise, either invitational or a very poor game-force

North leads the three of hearts (third/fifth): two – queen – six. South returns the heart four: jack – seven – ten. All follow low when you cash the ace of spades. All also follow low when you cash the king of diamonds. How would you continue?

After you have made up your mind, suppose the West/East bidding had instead been one spade – two notrump – four spades, with North/South passing throughout. This time, North leads the three of diamonds, (third/fifth), How would you plan the play now?

This was Board 8 in all four finals of the 2022 World Team Championships. In the final of the Bermuda Bowl, Netherlands v. Switzerland, after one spade – pass : two notrump, one South doubled two notrump and the other passed. This was the full deal:

**Dealer South. Neither Vul.**

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

When Netherlands was North/South, Bauke Muller, South, did not double two notrump.

Simon de Wijs led the diamond three against the Swiss declarer Fernando Piedra. West won with the king, cashed spade ace and the diamond queen, and played a spade. This is the best line after the diamond lead. If trumps are two-two, you make 11 tricks by pitching two hearts on dummy's diamond winners. You lose just a spade and a club. If trumps prove to be three-one, so that you are going to lose two spades and a club, if a heart switch comes, you take the ace play the diamond winners from the dummy. You hope that the player with the third spade has three or more diamonds.

At the table, when North won with the spade king, he switched to the three of hearts. West played a low heart from dummy and made only 10 tricks, plus 420 to Switzerland.

With Switzerland North/South, Sjoert Brink, a Dutchman playing for Switzerland, did double, and van

Lankveld jumped to four spades. Sebastiaan Drijver led the three of hearts, ducked to the queen. The four-of-hearts return was won by the jack and, again, the spade ace was followed by the diamond king.

Declarer here had a significant dilemma. If the deal were as diagrammed, the queen of diamonds and a second spade would bring in ten tricks. Given South's takeout double, how likely was it that this was the layout. What if North had the king-queen-third of spades and South were 1=4=4=4? Then, cashing the two top diamonds, the spade ace, going to the heart ace for two more diamond plays, discarding clubs, would be the winning line.

One cannot blame West for adopting this line. Wouldn't South be more likely to have a singleton spade for the takeout double of two notrump than the king- or queen-doubleton, especially when the double was made on minimum values?

When declarer adopted this line on the actual layout, it proved fatal. South ruffed with the queen of spades, cashed the ace of clubs, and North's king of spades was the setting trick. North/South plus 50 and 10 IMPs to Switzerland. It would have been 11 IMPs had West made the overtrick at the other table.

Note the potential from South's takeout double. With West opening and East having a game-invitational hand, South does not have the values to compete for the contract. South also does not have a suit strong enough to make a lead-directing overcall. Most players would pass and you would not criticize them for that.

Give full credit to Sjoert Brink for Switzerland. He looked more deeply into the situation. Giving West a likely 12-plus points and East about 10-12 and adding his own 12 HCP, that came to 34-36 points. That meant partner would at best have six points and probably a bit less.

Brink therefore doubled two notrump. That functioned as a takeout double of spades. The lack of diamond support did not bother him. West was about to bid three or four spades and North would not have enough to bid. In the meantime, the one thing that partner would expect from the takeout double was some values in hearts. Brink's psychological coup worked when North led the three of hearts and it started the defence's path to success.

There was a secondary reason for South's takeout double: the holding of queen-doubleton. A takeout double normally shows shortage in the suit doubled. In this auction, the double was a takeout of spades and so, a lot of the time, declarer would place South with a singleton or maybe a void in spades. Declarer could easily lose a two-way finesse to South's spade queen. (This was one of Eric Murray's favourite ploys: making a takeout double with queen-low in the suit doubled. – Ed.)

The huge plus for the double is that it might give declarer a losing option. It certainly did that in the Bermuda Bowl final.

Compare Brink's triumph with what happened in the other six finals tables where North/South passed throughout at every table: in every case, West made ten or eleven tricks in four spades. When you compare what happened at these other tables, you can appreciate even more the excellence of Sjoert Brink's double.

### 2022 Australian Open Team Playoffs (from *The Sydney Morning Herald*)

The field for the 2022 Australian Open Team Playoffs originally consisted of 12 pairs; two pairs withdrew due to Covid factors. The infected players had been at the World Championships in Italy which had ended 10 days prior to the start of the Playoffs.

The reduced 10-pair field played a double round-robin of 14-board matches. At the end of Stage 1, the leaders were 1. Simon Zhang / Wayne Zhu (105.62 Victory Points), 2. Mike Doecke / Will Jenner-O'Shea (98.78), 3. Renée Cooper / Ben Thompson (97.57), 4. Peter Gill / Sartaj Hans (97.12) 5. Paul Dalley / Tony Nunn (92.99).

Mike Doecke reported this expert declarer play by Simon Zhang:

#### Round 14. Board 14.

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

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

1. 2+ diamonds, 11-15
2. Weakest game raise
3. Weakest raise to game
4. Spade slam try; diamond control; no club control

West led the two of hearts, clearly a singleton. South took the heart ace, cashed the spade ace, diamond ace, the top clubs, discarding the seven of diamonds,

and ruffed dummy's second diamond. He then exited with a spade. West had the nine of clubs and diamonds left. In with the king of spades, West could lead the club nine. This was the second trick for the defence as, on it, South discarded a heart. West then had to play a diamond. South ruffed in dummy and discarded his remaining heart for 11 tricks, North/South plus 450. Only one other declarer made 11 tricks; all were in four spades.

#### Round 11. Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Gill		Hans
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the nine of hearts: three – two – six, and switched to the four of clubs (fourth-highest): king – seven (discouraging) – nine. Declarer continued with ace-king and a fourth heart, putting East on lead. West discarded the two and five of clubs. East shifted to the five of diamonds: seven – ten – king. Declarer cashed dummy's two heart winners, West discarding the nine of spades and the three of diamonds. This was the position:

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

Unable to afford another black-suit discard, West had been triple-squeezed down to a singleton diamond. South crossed to the ace of diamonds and continued with the ace and jack of clubs; West was in with the queen of clubs. He could cash the ace of spades, but South's spade king was his ninth trick for plus 400 and

10 IMPs. Well played! No one else made game, even though all North/South pairs were in four hearts or three notrump.

### 2022 Australian Senior Team Playoffs (from *The Sydney Morning Herald*)

In the 2022 Australian Senior Team Playoffs, the top scorers were: 1. Richard Brightling / David Hoffman (218.98), 2. Neil Ewart / Ian Robinson (188.22), 3. Robert Gallus / Stephen Weisz (181.22), 4. Robert Krochmalik / Paul Lavings (179.80), 5. Geoffrey Johnson / Alan Race (179.40). There is a remarkable fact about these placings: the margin between first and second, 30.76 VP, was greater than the margin between second and last, 24.85 VP. Have you ever seen that before?

#### Round Robin 2. Round 9.

#### Board 14. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
—	Hoffman	—	Brightling
Pass	1♦ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	1♥ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	2♦ <sup>4</sup>	Pass	2♥ <sup>5</sup>
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. 2+ clubs
2. 4+ hearts
3. 3 or 4 hearts
4. Artificial, game-force
5. 4 hearts and a minimum opening

West began with the diamond ace and king, then switched to the jack of clubs: queen – king – ace. Declarer drew trumps, East pitching a diamond on the third heart. Next came the nine of clubs. West won with the ten and returned a club, South's eight winning.

South paused to take stock. West had turned up with nine HCP. With the queen of spades as well, West would be close to taking some action. The normal way to play the spades is the ace first, then finesse the jack. Backing his judgement that the queen of spades was probably with East, South crossed to the queen of diamonds and led the jack of spades: four – three – five, ten tricks, plus 420 and 8 IMPs. Had East covered the jack of spades, South would have won and finessed the spade nine next.

## The One & Only (Salsomaggiore Redux)

Jian-Jian (J.J.) Wang,  
Clarksville, MD



There were many exciting, fight-to-the-end, well-played matches in the 45<sup>th</sup> World Team Championships. Here, from a different angle, I would like to report and analyze a few deals on which a high percentage of the experts failed to find the correct/winning solution. Therefore, a big round of applause to the only ones who succeeded.

### The One and Only Bidders

#### D'Orsi Trophy – Final: India vs. Poland

#### Board 68. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

It is easy for us to point out that there are 13 easy tricks available for North/South in notrump. However, it proved to be difficult for the players to realize that when looking only at their own 13 cards. Among eight tables in four championship finals, three stopped at three notrump (including both tables of the Bermuda Bowl final), three played in six clubs, and two reached the grand slam (one each in seven clubs and seven notrump).

Rajesh Dalal/Anil Padhye of the India Senior Team were the only pair who found the top spot of seven notrump.

West	North	East	South
<i>Starkowski</i>	<i>Padhye</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Dalal</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Double	Pass
Pass	Redouble	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT <sup>1</sup>
Pass	5♣ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	7NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Key-card ask
2. 3 key cards

The factors relevant to their success were that South emphasized playing power in clubs and North appreciated his three aces, even though having a minimum hand based on high-card points. That's exactly what they did: Dalal bid clubs three times and Padhye made a couple of forward-going control-bids. Even more impressive, it was a natural, no-frills, auction that everybody can understand (a rare animal in 'modern' bridge). That resulted in a well-deserved 13-IMP pickup when their opponents chose six clubs at the other table.

## The One and Only Declarer

### Bermuda Bowl – Semifinal: Netherlands vs. Norway

Try this one as a declarer-play problem:

#### Board 17. West. Neither Vul.

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

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

West	North	East	South
Bakke	Van den Bos	Brogeland	Van Lankveld
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The three of clubs (attitude) was the opening lead. How would you have played?

You have five tricks in the minors. Building three heart tricks, bringing the total to eight, seems to be the right start.

Most declarers, including two other Bermuda Bowl semifinalists, started this way, by leading the heart jack after winning trick one with the club king. East grabbed the heart ace and continued clubs. It would have been the same down one if East had shifted to diamonds.

This was the layout:

<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ 9 7 5 ♥ K 10 9 4 ♦ J 9 4 ♣ Q 10 6</p> <p>♠ A K 8 ♥ 7 ♦ 10 8 7 2 ♣ J 8 7 5 3</p>	<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ J 2 ♥ A 6 5 3 2 ♦ Q 6 5 3 ♣ 9 4</p> <p>♠ Q 10 6 4 3 ♥ Q J 8 ♦ A K ♣ A K 2</p>
---	---

Although the declarers established eight tricks when playing on hearts immediately, there was no chance for the ninth.

Joris van Lankveld had a different idea. He opted to win trick one in dummy and tried a spade to the ten. When West decided to duck the trick, declarer was home, since he could then play on hearts (ready to revert to spades if East denied dummy an entry to the long heart). Van Lankveld's way may not have succeeded every time, but it did provide an extra chance at no cost. And these kind of extra chances may add up quickly.

We can have sympathy with West's decision. When declarer tries to set up his main suit, it is usually fine to duck (not here though). And, even had West won the spade immediately, only a diamond shift could have set the contract, which might not be that obvious at trick two.

Van Lankveld was the only declarer who brought three notrump home after opening the bidding with one spade. There were some declarers who opened two notrump and succeeded after being treated to an early spade play by the defence.

## The One and Only (Almost) Defender

### Wuhan Cup – Semifinal: USA I vs. Italy

Let's switch gears to an 'easy' defensive problem, at least on paper.

#### Board 47. Dealer South. NS Vul.

<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ A 6 ♥ K J 8 7 5 ♦ K 7 5 ♣ J 9 2</p> <p>♠ J 10 7 4 ♥ 10 2 ♦ Q J 8 4 ♣ A 10 7</p>	<p style="margin-left: 40px;">♠ Q 8 3 2 ♥ A 4 ♦ A 9 6 3 2 ♣ 6 4</p> <p>♠ K 9 5 ♥ Q 9 6 3 ♦ 10 ♣ K Q 8 5 3</p>
---	---

West	North	East	South
Willenken	Gandoglia	Lin	Baroni
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	3♦ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	4♣ <sup>3</sup>
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass

1. Any splinter
2. Where? Range?
3. Diamonds; minimum



Among the 16 tables in the semifinals, 14 of them saw North playing a heart contract (four hearts 11 times, and three hearts three times). With the majority playing the same contract, the auctions had a lot of similarities too. After North opened one heart, most Souths drove to the heart game, while a few timid souls contented themselves with an invitation only.

In order to take four tricks, the defence has to manage a club ruff for East. Nine Easts cleared the first hurdle by leading a club. However, six Wests won the first round of clubs with ace, which ended any hope of a club ruff. The remaining three Wests, including a Bermuda Bowl semifinalist, thoughtfully ducked the club lead, giving attitude. A BBO commentator claimed: "easily down".

That was a premature claim! Twice when declarer won the club in dummy with the queen and tried the heart three, deuce from West, king from declarer, East captured declarer's king with the ace, then switched to ... the deuce of spades! How could this happen? Because they played for partner to hold the spade ace instead of the club ace.

Paper and real-life are not equivalent. If we exchange West's club ace for the spade ace, a spade shift becomes the killing defence, if West has the spade jack as well, or if declarer misguesses. How could East know which ace partner had? One possibility is that West could interpret East's heart at trick two as a suit-preference signal, though it might well have been a singleton. East still has a last chance if that inference is missed or uncertain – cashing the diamond ace. That was the play found by Amber Lin of USA1. Because dummy had a singleton diamond, her partner Chris Willenken's diamond four was surely a suit-preference signal. Lin duly reverted back to clubs and got a club ruff as the setting trick. They were one of the only two pairs who defeated four hearts.

### d'Orsi Trophy – Semifinal: Poland vs. Denmark

The other pair to defeat four hearts was was Michal Kwiecien and Włodzimierz Starkowski of Poland. This was the auction they had to contend with:

West	North	East	South
Starkowski	D. Schaltz	Kwecien	P. Schaltz
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	Double	2NT <sup>1</sup>
3♥ <sup>2</sup>	Pass	3♠	4♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. 4-card heart raise, limit+
2. 4 spades, maximum pass

Kwecien led the four of clubs (low from a doubleton), three, seven, nine. East rose with the heart ace on the first round of the suit, cashed the diamond ace and led another club to the ace, then received his ruff for one off.

## The One and Only Opening Lead

### Bermuda Bowl – Semifinal: Netherlands vs. Norway

Finally, test your opening lead acumen on the following deal.

#### Board 30. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

West	North	East	South
v. Lankveld	Bakke	Van den Bos	Brogeland
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♥ <sup>1</sup>
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter

You, West, hold:

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

What would you lead?

The opponents seem to have a double fit with sufficient power to make game. As a result, you may need some unexpected tricks to set the contract. A diamond lead hoping for a ruff by partner looks like a reasonable shot. This was the full deal:

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

Van Lankveld not only found the diamond lead, but also a terrific one – the deuce instead of a royal. Declarer put on dummy's ace immediately, as everyone would. But to his big surprise, it was ruffed by van den Bos. When the deuce of diamonds also functioned as a suit-preference signal, van den Bos returned a club accordingly. After taking his club ace, van Lankveld was able to cash two diamonds and continue the fourth for van den Bos to ruff again. With club king still to come, that was down three.

When four spades by South was the final contract at 15 out of 16 tables in semifinal matches, 11 declarers brought it home (two of them even managed an overtrick), and three declarers failed by one trick. Although not every West had the same information as van Lankveld got, it was a great effort to be the only pair to limit declarer's trick total to seven.



## Confessions of a Bridge Addict (6) Joseph Silver Hampstead, Québec

*(Originally published  
in Bridge Winners)*

In Paris, one other incident from the Elysée Bridge Club comes to mind: I was playing with Léon Tintner, a French internationalist (a two-time European champion and member of France's 1967 Bermuda Bowl team). We bid ourselves to a small slam on a four-three fit; when dummy came down it looked impossible to make. While I was studying the deal, Léon, as was his wont, got up from his seat and circled the table looking at all four hands and then, instead of returning to his seat (which he would have done if I could not have made the hand), stationed himself behind one of the opponents, looking interested. So, at that moment, I knew it was possible to make the contract. I sat there until I figured it out and made the slam, to an approving smile on Léon's face. At the time, I didn't quite know the ethics of the situation but, hey, that was rubber bridge in the jungle.

(As a side note, in 1967, the French were one of the teams in the Bermuda Bowl – when I talked to some of the players afterwards about the tournament, they told me how impressed they were with Kaplan/Kay, who they considered America's top pair!)

After close to two years of living in France, my weekend was drawing to a close and it was time to return to the real world. I had vastly improved my bridge game but, more importantly for both my ego and my future law career, I had improved my French to the point where I could communicate in that language intelligibly. (After rereading this article, I wish I could say the same thing about my English.) So, in late June 1967, I booked passage on a steam liner to return home. I would have liked to have stayed longer but, that August, my home town was hosting the Summer Nationals, so Montréal was calling!

After a six-day crossing of the Atlantic, I returned to Montréal in early July, having spent almost two years in Europe. I successfully passed through customs without being searched, perhaps having omitted mentioning to them the \$10,000 worth of perfume filling my steamer trunk had something to do with it. (My uncle had bought the perfume in Paris while on his honeymoon, and then gave it to me to take home for him.) I landed in the

midst of Expo67, and a much-changed city because of it.

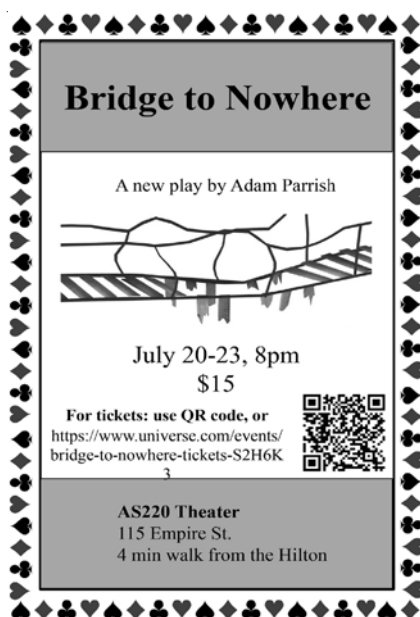
I was not looking forward to having to live in my parents' house. I had been spoiled by my time away from home but, much to my delight, my mother had rented me a one-room furnished apartment in the west end of Montréal. Along with an allowance and a car that my father supplied, I was all set up. (Being born into a middle-class Jewish family certainly had its advantages.)

The highlight of the Montréal Summer Nationals was playing with the late Jim Linhart in the Life Master Pairs but, despite his stature (6 feet 10 inches), we did nothing. September was approaching, time to make my plans for Bar School, and eventually my Bar exams. The fourth year of law consisted of nine months working (called 'articling') for a law firm as an apprentice (for no salary, about what I was worth) while, at the same time, attending either the English-language Law School at McGill (my 'alma mater') which had evening classes (so that one could work in a law firm for the whole day), or the French-language Law School at the Université de Montréal, which had morning classes, (so that one only had to work half-days, leaving the nights free.) The courses lasted from September to May. My choice was easy, it was the U. de M. for me. In addition to the convenient school hours (which didn't interfere with my true love, bridge) I got to practice my new toy, French, while plunging into a society with which I had no previous experience, having been brought up exclusively among the English speakers in Québec (except, of course, for my brief affair in first-year law with Muriel, who became my wife 50 years later.) My last year of university life was both new and exciting, especially when compared to the stuffy, uptight atmosphere I had endured at McGill.

Early that autumn, I was playing in a local duplicate when a fresh-faced skinny kid came to my table, and with a big smile introduced himself to me. He was a student at McGill and his name was Eric Kokish! (Going out at midnight EVERY night for pizza or Chinese food, after playing bridge, has rounded him into the shape we see today.) We started talking and, for some reason which I do not now recall, the conversation turned sour and, when the round was over, I was glad to see the back of him. Weeks later someone mentioned to me that he was a good young player and maybe we should add him to our Montréal Bridge League team (our team at that time was the chalk of the league, and playing with us would have been a good opportunity for the up-and-coming player that he was at that time). My response was "NO"; I didn't like him and certainly did not want to play bridge with him! The telling of this story over the years has given me much pleasure, and a lot of laughs.

**To be continued (if I feel up to it).**

## NEWS & VIEWS



### “Bridge to Nowhere” Opens

“Bridge to Nowhere,” a new play by Adam Parrish, opened during the Summer NABC at AS220 Theater in Providence. In addition to being an IBPA member, an ACBL Bridge Bulletin columnist, and a bridge teacher and player in New York, Parrish has been a playwright for 25 years and has had some of his shows produced off Broadway.

“Bridge to Nowhere” is about two professional bridge players; one of the actors likened it to “The Odd Couple” for bridge. Parrish compares it to “Copenhagen” by Michael Frayn, about a conversation between Niels Bohr and Werner Heisenberg concerning the ethical ramifications of nuclear physics. Though they’re talking entirely about something completely foreign to almost everyone in the audience, it makes sense to them.

“My idea was to map the course of a bridge partnership like the arc of a romantic relationship,” says Parrish. “There’s humour, drama and poignant moments.”

Parrish wrote his first play in high school with some friends and went to Wesleyan. “I realized I wasn’t good



Adam Parrish

enough as an actor to get cast in anything, so I kept writing plays,” he said. He has previously written a TV pilot and a couple of screenplays, including one about Edith Rosenkranz’s kidnapping at the 1984 Summer NABC.



[IntoBridge.com](https://www.intobridge.com)

IntoBridge will launch its online platform in August. Similar to existing platforms such as Bridge Base Online, OKbridge and Swan Games, IntoBridge will feature casual tables, team matches, and pairs tournaments, as well as audio-visual communication while playing, and discussion rooms for private and group post mortems and analysis. Stefan Skorchev, the platform’s promoter, who attended the Providence NABC, says IntoBridge will be completely free for all basic services. There will be a subscription fee for enhanced services such as audio-visual communication and the discussion areas, although all of these services will be free during the site’s introductory period, which lasts through the end of September.

Additionally, there will be fee-based tournaments, classes and other features. Skorchev says that the audio-visual elements are critical, as the social camaraderie that bridge creates is the most important aspect of the game. “IntoBridge will allow players to enjoy talking with their partners, opponents and teammates. The discussion rooms permit partners to discuss their systems and have post mortem chats,” he says. Skorchev also says that players who visit the site now can subscribe to the IntoBridge newsletter and be notified of the official launch date in advance. The platform’s address is [IntoBridge.com](https://www.intobridge.com).

### Invitation to Wroclaw

There is a video, made by the Polish Bridge Union, inviting players to the 16<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Series, to be held in Wroclaw from 19 August–2 September, 2022. See it at: [Invitation to World Bridge Series – Wroclaw2022 – YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

### BridgeTV

In March 2022, the Australian Bridge Federation launched its new platform, BridgeTV ([bridgetv.com.au](https://www.bridgetv.com.au)). Bridge TV is a new Australian television program that regularly presents news from the bridge world, interviews leading players and personalities in Australia and internationally, provides master classes on how to improve at bidding, defence and card play, and reviews tournament results, people and upcoming events.

# World Bridge Calendar

## 2022

Aug 11-14	Summer Meeting	Eastbourne, U.K.	ebu.co.uk
Aug 12-15	India Masters	Online	bridgefromhome.com
Aug 12-21	Festival Internationale de Bridge	La Baule, France	festivalbridgelabaule.com
Aug 16-25	Buzios Bridge	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	frankiebridge@hotmail.com
<b>Aug 19-Sep 3</b>	<b>World Bridge Series</b>	<b>Wroclaw, Poland</b>	<b>worldbridge.org</b>
Aug 20-28	Erasmus Bridge Week	Rotterdam, Netherlands	denksportcentrumrotterdam.nl
Aug 20-28	Festival La Grande Motte	La Grande-Motte, France	festival-bridge-lagrandemotte.fr
Aug 22-Sep 3	Black Sea Bridge Festival	Mamaia, Romania	frbridge.ro
Aug 23-28	65 <sup>th</sup> International Festival du Touquet	Le Touquet, France	letouquet-festivaldebridge.com
Aug 24-28	Territory Gold Bridge Festival	Darwin, Australia	ntba.com.au
Aug 25-28	6 <sup>th</sup> International Festival	Saint-Malo, France	bridgeclubstmalo.fr
Aug 25-28	Budapest Open	Budapest, Hungary	kbbo.kibicbridge.com
Aug 25-30	World Computer Bridge Championship	Wroclaw, Poland	worldbridge.org
Aug 27-Sep 11	HRH Princess Bajrakitiyabha Cup	Khlong Nueng, Thailand	thailandbridgeleague.com
Sep 2-4	Northern Lights Bridge Festival	Siglufjörður, Iceland	vikingbridge.is
Sep 2-4	International Women's Tournament	Augsberg, Germany	bridgezentrum-augsberg.de
Sep 5-8	Munzur Bridge Festival	Tunceli, Türkiye	atabric.com
Sep 8-11	3 <sup>rd</sup> Gümüşlük Autumn Festival	Gümüşlük, Türkiye	gumusluksportbridge.com
Sep 9-21	60 <sup>th</sup> International Festival	Pula, Croatia	pulabridgefestival.com
Sep 10-18	Takamatsunomiya Festival	Tokyo, Japan	jcbl.or.jp
Sep 12-17	FISU World University Championships	Antwerp, Belgium	fisunet/sport-events/fisu-calendar
Sep 12-18	Abano Bridge Festival	Abano Terme, Italy	termebridgefestival.com
Sep 14-18	36 <sup>th</sup> Uluslararası Bridge Festival	Mersin, Türkiye	tbricfed.org.tr
Sep 14-23	19 <sup>th</sup> Asian Games	Hangzhou, China	hanzhou2022.cn/En
Sep 16-22	Greek Islands Festival	Benitses, Corfu, Greece	bridgefestival.gr
Sep 19-25	Guernsey Bridge Congress	Guernsey, Channel Is.	ebu.co.uk
Sep 22-25	Bodrum Bridge Festival	Mugla, Türkiye	tbricfed.org
Sep 23-25	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	bridgescanner.com
Sep 23-25	Grand Prix of Slovakia	Poprad, Slovakia	new.bridge.kosice.sk
Sep 28-Oct 3	39 <sup>th</sup> Jordan International Festival	Amman, Jordan	bridgewebs.com/jbf/jordan
Sep 30-Oct 3	Canberra in Bloom	Canberra, ACT, Australia	abf.co.au
Oct 1-8	NZB National Congress	Mt. Maunganui, NZ	nzbridge.co.nz
Oct 4-11	International Bridge Festival	Las Palmas, Canary Is., Spain	laspalmasbridge.com
Oct 5-11	Turkey Overseas Congress	Side, Türkiye	www.ebu.co.uk
Oct 8-15	Brazilian Championships	São Paulo, Brazil	bridge.esp.br
Oct 9-15	4 <sup>th</sup> Asia Cup	Jakarta, Indonesia	hkcba.org
Oct 11-16	18 <sup>th</sup> HCL Bridge Championships	New Delhi, India	hcl-bridge.com
Oct 14-16	Bulgarian Open Masters Championship	Albena, Bulgaria	bridgealbena.org
Oct 19-23	IX Los Cocos Teams Tournament	Los Cocos, Argentina	aba.org.ar
Oct 19-28	Australian Spring Nationals	Sydney, Australia	abf.com.au
Oct 28-30	KCBL Open Teams	Seoul, South Korea	kcbl.org
Oct 29-30	Princess Tatamatsu Memorial Cup	Tokyo, Japan	jcbl.or.jp
Nov 1-3	European Small Fed's Championship	Larnaca, Cyprus	eurobridge.org
Nov 7-13	Madeira International Open	Funchal, Madeira, Portugal	bridge-madeira.com
Nov 10-20	Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	bridgeredsea.com
Nov 24-Dec 4	ACBL Fall NABC	Phoenix, AZ	acbl.org
Dec 2-4	Torneo de Bridge Lanzarote	Lanzarote, Spain	aebribe.com
Dec 2-10	Festival de Mar del Plata	Mar del Plata, Argentina	aba.org.ar
Dec 16-18	Channel Trophy	Lille, France	ebu.co.uk
Dec 16-18	Cape Town Festival of Bridge	Cape Town, South Africa	wcbridge.co.za
Dec 18-23	SEABF Championships	Bangkok, Thailand	thailandbridgeleague.com
Dec 27-30	Year End Congress	London, England	ebu.co.uk

## 2023

Jan 9-18	81 <sup>st</sup> International Bridge Festival	St. Moritz, Switzerland	bridgestmoritz.ch
Jan 10-22	Summer Festival of Bridge	Canberra, Australia	abf.com.au
Jan 26-29	Reykjavik Bridge Festival	Reykjavik, Iceland	reykjavikbridgefestival.com
Feb 1-7	EBU Overseas Festival	Kyrenia, Cyprus	ebu.co.uk
Feb 17-25	61 <sup>st</sup> Gold Coast Congress	Broadbeach, Australia	qldbridge.com.au
Feb 20-26	Festival de Bridge	Biarritz, France	festival-bridge-biarritz.com
Mar 9-19	ACBL Spring Nationals	New Orleans, LA	acbl.org
Mar 23-26	Tasmanian Festival	Hobart, Tasmania, Australia	abf.com.au
Apr 12-16	PCU International University Trophy	Antwerp, Belgium	pcucommittee.com/bridge
Jul 13-23	ACBL Summer Nationals	Chicago, IL	acbl.org
Nov 23-Dec 3	ACBL Fall Nationals	Atlanta, GA	acbl.org