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Editorial

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

I'll be retiring as IBPA Editor at the end of the year. One of the projects I'm considering taking on is establishing a Bridge Writers Hall of Fame under the aegis of the IBPA. Before I do that, I'd like to know if there is any interest among our membership in such a Hall. If there is, I'll do it, if not, I shan't. So, if you'd like to see the establishment of an IBPA Bridge Writers Hall of Fame, please let me know. If enough of you do so, I'll take it on. If there's a lack of interest, I'll shelve the idea and concentrate on other things. Email me at ibpaeditor@sympatico.ca if this idea appeals to you. If I don't hear from you, I'll assume that a Bridge Writers Hall of Fame does not interest you.

One of the ideas I had was to model entry to our putative Hall of Fame on a similar basis to that of the Baseball Hall of Fame. There, a Hall of Fame Committee establishes a list of likely inductees based on success in their playing careers. Once the ballot is established, it is sent to the 401 eligible voters of the Baseball Writers Association of America. Only members of the BBWAA can vote on induction; to be eligible to vote, one must have been a member of the BBWAA for ten years. I think a similar procedure would work well for us, perhaps without the ten-year requirement.

Another idea is to seed a Bridge Writers Hall of Fame similar to the start of ACBL Hall of Fame. There, *The Bridge World* established the Bridge Hall of Fame with three inductees each year for three consecutive years. After that beginning, the idea went dormant for a few years until the ACBL revived it, beginning with the nine original members, then establishing a Hall of Fame Committee and a voting procedure somewhat similar to Baseball's. Only prominent ACBL members get to vote on induction.

Baseball also has an Oldtimers' Committee (now called the Era Committee) to ensure that they, the 'oldtimers', are not victims of 'recency bias' due to voters believing that current players are intrinsically worthier of induction than their predecessors. With that in mind, the ACBL established the von Zedtwitz Award, to be given to living or deceased individuals who have achieved prominence in the game of bridge and have an outstanding tournament record, but who may not have been in the limelight for a significant period of time. Both baseball and bridge also have a mechanism to elect builders, executives, administrators and others deemed worthy of induction.

One of the issues we'll face if we do establish a Bridge Writers Hall of Fame is books written in languages other than English. Even if we nominate, say, a French or Swedish writer for the ballot, how would our membership determine the writer's worthiness of induction unless he or she had been translated into English? Baseball has a similar problem in that no person other than those whose careers were in North America has ever been inducted. Players and their accomplishments from baseball-mad countries such as Japan and Cuba are totally ignored by the BBWAA, to the Hall's detriment.

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2022 GOLD CUP BRILLIANCE

Marc Smith
Southampton, Hants., U.K.



2022 Gold Cup Winners

(l. to r.) Gunnar Hallberg, Andrew Black, David Gold,
Andrew McIntosh, Tom Paske, Simon Hult

In the second quarter of their semifinal match (BLACK vs, ALLFREY) in this year's Gold Cup, Simon Hult and Gunnar Hallberg seemed to have switched seats. Hallberg is widely known for his wonderful imagination and it was evident from this deal that Simon Hult had learned at the feet of the master, earning his side a significant swing. Here's the deal:

Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Crouch</i>	<i>Hult</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♥!	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥!!	Pass	Pass
Pass			

I suspect that most players would pass with the North hand without even really considering alternatives. However, rather than making things easy for his LHO, Simon Hult

chose to respond one heart and heard his partner raise to the two-level. With Gunnar Hallberg showing a minimum opening bid with a heart fit, it was now clear to Hult that the opponents were likely to have a game. His solution was a bold leap to the four-level on his flat zero-count. With the opponents' honours perfectly divided, each of them holding 14 HCP, there was no reason for either to think his partner had anything at all.

Of course, four hearts did not play well for declarer, but at 50 a trick, who cares? Four down was a perfect steal for the young Swedish star: East/West plus 200.

In the replay, South opened a two-or-more-cards one club and Andrew Black, West, upgraded his hand to a one-notrump overcall, duly raised to game by David Gold. Declarer had nine top tricks: East/West plus 600 and 9 well-deserved IMPs to the BLACK team.

BLACK defeated ALLFREY (Alexander Allfrey/Andrew Robson, Simon Cope/Peter Crouch, Espen Eriksen/Richard Plackett) in this match and followed it up by beating SENIOR (John Holland/Alan Mould, Vladislav Isporski/Rumen Trendilov, Sandra Penfold/Brian Senior) in the final.

The 2022 Norwegian Pairs Championship

Knut Kjærnsrød
Tored, Norway



The tournament was held in Larvik, on the southeast coast of Norway, in late September, with 54 pairs on the starting line. After all of us had been herded through 159 boards, favourites Geir Helgemo and Kåre Bogø emerged with a convincing victory.

Bogø is an excellent declarer and the following two boards, which clearly demonstrate his skill, contributed comprehensively to the pair's victory.

Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

The bidding was simple:

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

Two diamonds was forcing to game and the jump to four hearts indicated a minimum hand. West started with the ace of clubs and shifted to a spade, fetching the queen and ace.

Bogø played a trump to the ten and queen, and a second spade was taken by the king. Ace, king of diamonds with a spade pitch followed, and a heart to the knave revealed that East had a second trump trick. This left:

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

Bogø cashed the ace of trumps, played a club to dummy and trumped a diamond. Another club went to dummy and, when declarer led dummy's last diamond, he had to make his last trump *en passant*.

The next board fetched even more tricks and an even higher score:

Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

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

1. Drury, invitational with a 3-card spade

West started with a club to the ace, and a second club was won by the king. Declarer advanced his singleton heart and, when West played low, he rose with dummy's king. The ten and knave of trumps won the following two tricks, and Bogø trumped his last club in dummy. He ruffed a heart, and when he drew the rest of the trumps, West was squeezed between hearts and diamonds. Twelve tricks netted a 92% score.



The 2022 Hongchuan Cup was held in Jiaxing, Zhejiang Province, China. It's a good tournament with more than ten years of history in China. Here's an interesting deal from the tournament.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zhang Boxin	Zhu Minrong	Zhao Fangchen	Gao Jian
—	—	—	2♣ ¹
2♥	2♠ ²	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥ ³	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT ⁴	Pass	5♥ ⁵
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass

1. Precision
2. FIR
3. Game-force; agrees clubs
4. Key-card ask
5. 2 key cards without trump queen

The play started with two rounds of hearts. Gao ruffed the second round, cashed the king and ace of diamonds, and ruffed a diamond with king of clubs, hoping that East had a doubleton queen in the suit. When West pitched a heart on the first round of clubs, Gao found that he needed to lose another trick; down one, minus 50.

West	North	East	South
Yu	Hu	Wang	Jiang
Guoxing	Zhaohui	Yiwei	Baozhuo
—	—	—	1♣
1♥	1♠	2♥	3♣
4♥	6♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Here, the bidding was quite straightforward. After winning the first trick by leading the ace of hearts, West paused for a while and shifted to a diamond.

Jiang, the declarer at this table, felt a bit relieved after winning his first trick with the jack of diamonds. However, the contract was not home yet. South still had a heart and a diamond loser. Dummy's spade could only provide a pitch for one of them. In addition, he also needed to find the queen of clubs.

After due consideration, instead of cashing the king of clubs, Jiang led a low club from dummy to his jack! As the defenders had only 15 HCP, he felt it was strange that West had jumped to four hearts at unfavourable vulnerability after East had made a simple raise to two hearts. It was very probable that West had some shape and clean values. Therefore, Jiang felt that West was very unlikely to have the queen of clubs, as this might have discouraged him from bidding four hearts.

When West showed out of clubs, the rest was easy. Declarer crossed to dummy with the king of clubs, finessed clubs again, and drew East's last trump. Then he cashed the top spades and ruffed a spade. When spades broke three-two, he could use his well-preserved diamond entry in dummy to cash all his spades for plus 920. Had declarer cashed the king of clubs first, dummy would have been short of entries to both finesse clubs and establish spades.

Among the 32 tables, six played in six clubs or six clubs doubled, and Jiang, a 21-year-old player, was the only declarer to make it. His brilliant play brought in 14 IMPs and a victory for his team!



**TURKISH
WINTER
TEAMS**

**Erdal Sidar
Istanbul**

The Turkish Winter Open Teams Championship was held in Izmir in April, with 160 participating teams. It was won by MY DEAR BROTHER (Nafiz Zorlu, Ali Ucar, Nezh Kubac, Gokhan Yilmaz, Erhan Demiraslan, Ahmet Dedeheyir), who defeated OUTSIDERS (Can Berktaş,

Fatih Lale, Burak Baskan, Isin Kandemir, Yusuf Sohtorik, Kenan Ozkurt) by 186-103 IMPs in the 64-board final.

OUTSIDERS did well on this deal from their quarterfinal match...

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Kandemir	Gurkan	Baskan	Yavuz
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥ ¹
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣ ²
Pass	3♠ ³	Pass	4♦ ⁴
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Transfer to spades
2. Natural, game-forcing
3. 3-card spade support
4. Spade slam try; diamond control

With South bidding toward a potential slam, it seemed to Burak Baskan that an aggressive lead was called for, so he led the six of clubs! Declarer tried the jack, but Isin Kandemir, West, took his queen and returned the three of spades, won by declarer's queen. Declarer led the king of diamonds, discarding a heart when East followed low. West won with the ace and returned his second spade to declarer's ace. North led his remaining club from hand and, when East innocently played the eight, declarer ducked in dummy, hoping for ace-queen-third originally in the West hand. West won with the nine and continued with his third club. When declarer discarded, Baskan won with his ace, the fourth trick for the defence. Declarer had taken just nine; minus 100 and 12 IMPs to OUTSIDERS.

Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ozkurt	Ucar	Sohtorik	Zorlu
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♣	Pass(?)	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦
Pass	5NT(?)	Pass	6♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

This deal is from session two of the final.

Ali Ucar's five-notrump bid was rather brave, I think. Or perhaps foolhardy?

Kenan Ozkurt, West, led the ace of diamonds to have a look at the dummy and gather more information. When the dummy's clubs appeared, he didn't like the look of his king-ten-third onside. Could his partner really have four spades to the queen-ten and not have raised? He thought not, and tried to cash the ace of spades.

This was enough for Nafiz Zorlu. He ruffed the spade ace, cashed the jack of diamonds, and took a club finesse. He ruffed a spade, ruffed a low heart, returned to hand by ruffing the jack of spades, collected the last opponents' trump, cashed the ace and king of hearts, and collected 12 tricks by taking a second club finesse. That brought in a lucky 11 IMPs to MY DEAR BROTHER.

Why lucky? Because Zorlu certainly did not take the best play for his contract. He could have combined his many chances: either major-suit queen-third, hearts four-four and finally, the club finesse combined with a showup squeeze: ruff the spade ace, ruff a heart, cash the spade king, pitching a club, ruff the nine of spades and ruff another heart. Since the queen of spades has not appeared, ruff the spade jack, draw the remaining trumps and cash the ace-king of hearts. Lo and behold, they were four-four and the fifth heart was the twelfth trick, avoiding the club finesse entirely.



There were 78 pairs contesting the 2022 Dick Cummings Open Pairs (Swiss Pairs with match-point scoring), held while the semi-finals and final of the Spring National Open Teams were underway. The event was cancelled in 2020 and had 102 pairs in 2021 (held online), 127 in 2019, 126 in 2018 and 134 in 2017.

The 2022 results: 1. Joe Haffer/Phil Markey 2. Jenny Thompson/David Hoffman 3. Sue Ingham/Andrew Peake 4. Mathew Vadas/Michael Whibley

Dealer West. Neither Vul.

West	North	East	South
Haffer		Markey	
Pass	2NT ¹	Pass	4♠ ²
Pass	5♣ ³	Pass	6♦
Pass	6NT	Double	Pass
Pass	7♦	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

- 20-22 balanced
- Sets diamonds, asks for key cards
- 0 or 3 key cards, clearly 3

What would you lead as West from:

♠ 7 6 5
♥ 5 4 3
♦ 7 6
♣ 9 8 7 6 5

Haffer/Markey had seven 100% boards and 15 scores from 95% to 99%. This was one of their 100% results:

Round 8. Board 11. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

♠ Q 9 4
♥ A 7 6
♦ K Q 10
♣ A K Q 2

♠ 7 6 5
♥ 5 4 3
♦ 7 6
♣ 9 8 7 6 5

♠ A J 10 8 3
♥ K Q J 9 8
♦ 9
♣ 4 3

♠ K 2
♥ 10 2
♦ A J 8 5 4 3 2
♣ J 10

There are 12 top tricks in notrump. Had North passed the double, North/South would have scored 98% (there was one score of East/West minus 1700 in six spades doubled). Markey (East) doubled six notrump, judging that six notrump making would be an awful result. He was right. Fearing East had the ace-king of spades on lead, North ran to seven diamonds to put West on lead. Haffer led a spade; East/West plus 100 and 100%.

Did you lead a spade? A heart will also defeat the contract, but watch what happens on, say, a club lead. Declarer runs the clubs and diamonds, coming down to this position with one diamond left to cash:

♠ Q
♥ A 7
♦ —
♣ —

♠ 7
♥ 5 4
♦ —
♣ —

♠ A
♥ K Q
♦ —
♣ —

♠ K
♥ 10
♦ 8
♣ —

When South plays the last diamond and discards the queen of spades from dummy, East is squeezed. Pitching the ace of spades leaves South's king high. If East throws a heart, declarer plays the H10 to the ace and the seven of hearts takes trick 13.

Amazingly, none of West's hearts is high enough to prevent East from being squeezed. Swap North's heart seven and West's five and the squeeze would not operate. The actual spade lead defeated seven diamonds at once. A heart lead has the same ultimate effect, as it destroys the entry to dummy's heart menace.

Have you noticed two extremely unusual features about the West hand? Yes, you are right, it is a Yarborough (a 13-card hand with every card lower than a ten). The odds against picking up a Yarborough are 1827 to 1.

I expect that the odds about the other unusual feature will be in the realm of millions to one. Did you notice that every card in every suit in the West hand is in sequence? Have you ever seen such a hand before?



Here, we'll have a look at some interesting deals from this year's (and one from last year's) Championships that were not reported the first time around. They are presented in chronological order.



One of the many tragedies resulting from the COVID curse is the demise of the most-famous partnership in the world. This is one of the news items in a recent issue of *Bridgerama U.S.* – leading players and personalities are regular guests on the Bridge Partner Podcasts presented by Catherine Harris and Jocelyn Startz “Sorry, Partner” (sorrypartner.com). In June, Jeff Meckstroth featured in two episodes in which he talked about a wide range of bridge topics. In one of them, he refers to Eric Rodwell as his former partner and says the partnership is over. If you want to discover Jeff's

favourite tournaments and conventions and get an insight into bridge at the top, make sure you listen to the Podcasts!

That coincided with the publication of a terrific deal from the final match in the second Round Robin of the 2021 USBC Open Championships between LEVINE and HENNER, reported by Andrew Robson in his daily column in *The Times*.

Board 80. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Passell	Henner	Lair	Ivatory
Pass	Pass	1♦	Double
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

East led the ace of clubs and continued with the eight. Declarer won with dummy's king and erroneously ruffed a club with the seven of hearts, East's overruff holding her to eleven tricks, plus 450 North/South.

West	North	East	South
Zolotow	Meckstroth	Tebha	Garner
Pass	Pass	1♦	Double
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♦ ¹
Pass	5♦ ²	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Splinter
2. First-round diamond control

The bidding made it clear to East that her diamonds were paste, so rising-star Anam Tebha found the devilish lead of the eight of clubs!

This is what Robson wrote:

Meckstroth will have reasoned as follows: 'Where my play matters, East has led from the queen or ace of clubs. Would East really lead from the queen – much more likely to cost than gain?' Declarer will have reflected that if East had not led a club, he would have had to play East for the ace of clubs and lead towards the king.

Meckstroth went up with dummy's king and returned a club. East won and exited with the two of hearts and declarer won in dummy, cashed another heart, and claimed, plus 980 and 11 IMPs.

LEVINE won the match by a single IMP, 16-15, and secured the last of the eight qualifying places in the knock-out phase. If the contract had failed, HENNER would have been the team to advance.



A report of the Spring Nationals was published in a previous issue of the IBPA Bulletin, but we always have time for another good board. It was one of the best-bid deals of the championships – in the Jacoby Swiss Teams, Burn’s Law was violated when Włodzimierz Starkowski and Michal Kwiecien bid and made slam with a five-one trump fit. Watch their Polish Club in action:

Round I. KASLE vs. WILSON
Dealer West. Both Vul.

<p>♠ J ♥ A K 7 4 3 2 ♦ A 8 ♣ A J 8 5</p> <p>♠ 9 8 4 3 ♥ 8 6 ♦ 7 6 3 ♣ K 7 6 2</p>	<p>♠ 6 5 2 ♥ J 10 9 5 ♦ K J 9 4 ♣ Q 4</p> <p>♠ A K Q 10 7 ♥ Q ♦ Q 10 5 2 ♣ 10 9 3</p>
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The only makeable slam by South (although North can make six notrump) is six spades, but how can it be bid in a sensible way? The Polish champions showed how:

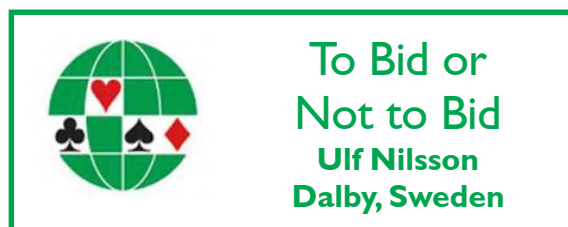
West	North <i>Starkowski</i>	East	South <i>Kwecien</i>
Pass	1♣ ¹	Pass	1♠ ²
Pass	2♥ ³	Pass	2♠ ⁴
Pass	3♣ ⁵	Pass	3♦ ⁶
Pass	3♥ ⁷	Pass	3♠ ⁷
Pass	3NT ⁸	Pass	5NT ⁹
Pass	6♠ ¹⁰	Pass	Pass

1. Polish: (i) 12-14 HCP, balanced (ii) 15+HCP, natural with 5+ clubs (iii) strong, 18+HCP, any
2. 7+ HCP, 4+ spades, forcing to INT
3. 18+ HCP, 5+ hearts, game forcing
4. Extra length
5. 4+ clubs
6. Waiting, usually asks for a diamond stopper (4th-suit forcing equivalent)
7. Natural
8. Diamond stopper, so the delayed 3NT makes it clear that three hearts showed a six-card suit
9. Pick a slam
10. Perhaps spades?

West led a club. Declarer won with the ace, played a heart to the queen, a spade to the jack, ruffed a heart, cashed the spades and made 12 tricks.

Declarer’s line of play was about 52%, needing four-three spades and three-three or four-two hearts. Ducking the club at trick one might have increased his chances.

At the other table, the North/South pair stopped in three notrump.



In the fourth segment of the 2022 Bermuda Bowl quarterfinal match between Netherlands and Italy in Salsomaggiore, Berend van den Bos and Giovanni Donati had the following decision:

Board 26. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ K J 8 7 4 3
♥ 7 6 4 3
♦ 5 3
♣ 5

Their RHO opponents opened one of a minor (one club against van den Bos, one diamond versus Donati) and they had to decide whether or not to get involved. Considering the vulnerability, most casual players, and maybe most serious players too, would think this a non-problem and pass without giving it a second thought.

The primary reasons for overcalling are (a) buying the contract, hopefully making, or conceding less than whatever the opponents would have otherwise achieved, or (b) directing a lead. A secondary reason is to jam the auction and help the opponents reach an inferior contract. Here, Donati passed and van den Bos overcalled one spade, thereby achieving another objective: finding out what NOT to lead against the final contract.

The complete auction at van den Bos’ table:

West	North	East	South
<i>van den Bos</i>			
—	—	—	1♣
1♠	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Partner’s failure to double made it clear that the spade lead was futile, so he naturally led his second suit, a heart from four low.

At Donati’s table, the auction was, with his side silent:

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bohnsack</i>	<i>Vazic</i>	<i>Weber</i>	<i>Velja</i>
—	—	1♠	INT
Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Stayman

Here, there was little reason to stay away from the spade lead and the aggressive action had generated a swing for the active side, winning 11 IMPs for three notrump down two versus three notrump making. This was the full deal:

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



Here are four deals from this year's 28th European Youth Team Championships, held in Veldhoven, Netherlands this past July. Results and Daily Bulletins can be found at eurobridge.org.

Nice Card-Reading

This board is from Round 3 of the Under-31 European Youth Team Championships. Serbia's Stefan Velja was at the helm in four hearts.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Velja received the lead of the two of spades and, of course, his first attempt was to put up the jack in the hope of getting a cover. No, Weber got that one right by playing low. Velja won with the ace of spades and, reading from the auction that the ace of hearts was almost certainly offside, led the nine of hearts and, when Bohnsack played low, ran it. Weber won with the ace and returned the ten of diamonds, so Velja rose with the ace and led a heart to the queen, a spade to the king, and a third heart to the king.

Certain that he now knew the lie of the missing cards, Velja led a low club off the dummy, won by Weber, who returned a second diamond. Velja rose with the king and played a club to the ace and another club, setting up the jack of clubs for his tenth and game-going trick – three hearts, two spades, two diamonds, two clubs, and a spade ruff.

Not bad to read the position in hearts, diamonds and clubs from East's opening bid. Plus 420 was worth 10 IMPs to Serbia as they defeated three notrump by one trick at the other table, and that helped them on their way to a 52-27 IMP, 16.55-3.45 VP victory.

Eighteen Tricks in Notrumps

In Round 4 of the Under-21 series in the European Youth Team Championships, the Swedish team contracted for a total of 17 tricks in notrump – and made 18! Here it is.

Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Lichtenstein</i>	<i>Carletti</i>	<i>Warlenius</i>	<i>Lombardi</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	3♦	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

At our first table, the auction was quite normal, Alexandro Carletti for Italy opening three diamonds in third seat and Sweden's Harry Hjorth Warlenius overcalling three notrump and playing there.

Matteo Lombardi led the jack of hearts to the queen and a duck, so Carletti switched to the king of diamonds, also ducked, then the eight of clubs for the nine and jack. Lombardi now switched to a spade, so the defence had led each of the four suits to the first four tricks.

Warlenius won the spade in hand and cashed the two red aces before running the rest of the spades. Lombardi could see that, if he came down to the king of hearts and the king-low in clubs, he would be endplayed with a heart to lead into declarer's ace-queen of clubs at trick 12, so he bared the club to keep two hearts. Alas, Warlenius had been watching his opponents' discards carefully and now led a club to the ace, felling the king and making the last two tricks with the queen and three of clubs; plus 630. Well done.

West	North	East	South
<i>Gardenghi</i>	<i>Abragi</i>	<i>Draghi</i>	<i>Asplund-Sivelind</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦ ¹
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Transfer to hearts

Nobody could accuse the auction from table two of being normal. Sweden's Andreas Abragi saw two passes to him and, with the favourable vulnerability, decided to try a psychic 15-17 one notrump opening with the long diamonds. Had Luca Draghi doubled, that would not have been for penalty, so he passed, and saw his opponents follow a transfer sequence to two notrump. Well, whatever double would have meant now, Draghi wasn't risking it, and two notrump became the final contract.

Abragi had already scored a huge goal, and Sweden were about to gain a substantial swing however many tricks he managed to come to in two notrump, but it was to get even better for Sweden. Draghi led the three of clubs, which Abragi ran to his eight. He played the queen of hearts and, when that was ducked, Abragi next played the ten of clubs and Draghi ducked again, so Abragi overtook with the jack and played the king of hearts, pitching a diamond from hand. Draghi won the ace of hearts and, still playing for declarer to have all the remaining high cards, got out passively with a heart. Abragi won that and cashed the rest of the hearts, coming down to three low spades and the king-queen-ten of diamonds in hand. He led a diamond to the king and ace, and Draghi returned the jack of diamonds, so Abragi had two diamond tricks and eight in all – just made for plus 120 and 13 IMPs to Sweden!

I guess that we can enter Abragi's effort into the auction-of-the-year competition, not to mention that of Junior Deal of the Year.

More Auctions of the Tournament

The next deal comes from the Under-26 Round 6 match between Estonia and Hungary in the European Youth Team Championships.

Here, Hungary contracted for 20 tricks in diamonds, nine at one table and eleven at the other. Unlike the Swedes earlier in two notrump, the Hungarians fell six tricks short, going for 800 at both tables. More interestingly, both Estonian pairs got to open two hearts, weak with both majors.

Board 15. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Biborka</i>	<i>Piirisild</i>	<i>Nagi</i>	<i>Zvorovski</i>
—	—	—	2♥ ¹
Pass	2♠	3♦	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Weak, at least 4-4 in the majors

That was down four for minus 800.

West	North	East	South
<i>Piibeht</i>	<i>Vagi</i>	<i>Maide</i>	<i>Jalsovsky</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2♥ ¹	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Weak, at least 4-4 in the majors

The Hungarian North regretted his bid when his partner responded five diamonds and Rasmus Maide knew what to do to that. This time the diamond contract was only down three, but that meant a second plus 800 for Estonia.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Carletti	Kemeny	Lombardi	Argay
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Our final exhibit was presented to us by Hungary's Mark Kemeny, and comes from Hungary's Under-21 match against Italy in Round 11.

Six clubs is well short of being a 50% shot on this deal, as there is the heart guess to be taken, while 22% of the time the clubs will be three-zero. So, six clubs is a poor contract, but Mark Kemeny's thought processes during the auction are worthy of a wider audience, so...

Zsolt Argay's one-club opening was his better minor. Systemically, Kemeny could have responded one notrump to show a balanced 8-10, but that hardly looked appropriate, or an inverted raise, when he could have chosen the pre-emptive raise (4-7 with five or more clubs) or one which was invitational-plus.

None of these appealed when holding such exceptional club length, so Kemeny instead opted for a one-diamond response, forcing for one round, and promising two or more diamonds. His logic was that this way he would get to know what sort of hand his partner held in a way which would not be possible if he pre-empted.

Argay jumped to two notrump, 18-19 balanced, and now Kemeny was definitely thinking of slam. He jumped to four clubs, which they play as an optional key-card ask in clubs. Had Zsolt responded four diamonds, that would have shown a positive interest in slam, while his actual four-heart reply showed three key-cards but was discouraging regarding slam prospects.

Kemeny, however, was still interested. He bid four spades to ask for the queen of trumps, hoping that the answer would be no. His logic was that, with at least a 10-card club fit, the queen of clubs would usually not be required, so that would be two wasted points, hence a yes response would be bad news. A no response, however, would be good news, as it would mean two extra points in a side-suit to help to produce 12 tricks.

Well, as you will have guessed by now, Argay's four-notrump response denied the queen, so Kemeny jumped to the slam, and was rewarded when West cashed the ace of hearts, taking away the guess, and clubs were two-one.



A recent article in *New in Chess* by James Altucher entitled *How to Beat Kids*, in which he reflects on how to beat the youngsters who are omnipresent in tournaments nowadays, before concluding that it can't be done.

The youngsters playing bridge are no less capable than their counterparts in the chess world. Look at this deal, the final one from the third session of the World Under-16 Pairs this year in Salsomaggiore:

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Hands where one player holds all the aces can be tough to evaluate and bid. Here is how one American pair coped:

West	North	East	South
Chen	Page	Zhang	Miozzi
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT ¹	Pass
5♦ ²	Pass	5♥ ³	Pass
6♣ ⁴	Pass	6♥	Double
7NT	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. RKCB
2. 0 or 3 key cards
3. Spade queen?
4. Spade queen plus club king

Appreciating the value of his club suit, Andrew Chen judged that, opposite Brian Zhang's grand slam try of six hearts, he could afford to go 'all in'. South's double meant the score was plus 1790, which did not affect the matchpoint result as the only other grand slam was the seven spades reached by Albert Pedmanson and Jasper Vahk.



Jens Otto "Charles" Pedersen
Odense, Denmark

From the Pairs Championships at the World Youth Championships in Salsomaggiore this summer...

Qualifying Round 4.

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

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

In the Under-26 Pairs...

West	North	East	South
Grossack	Kikuchi	Luba	Hino
—	—	1♠	2♥
Pass	2♠	3♣	Double
3♠	5♠ ¹	Pass	5NT ²
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Exclusion key-card ask
2. 1 key card outside spades

A heart lead and diamond switch allowed the defence to make two spade tricks (the second on a promotion) and one each in hearts, diamonds and clubs for plus 1100 and 26 out of a possible 46 matchpoints, 56.52%. How would that have compared with allowing six hearts to play?

Let's switch over to the Under-21s to see Léo Rombaut's and Christian Lahrmann's optimum defence against that contract.

West	North	East	South
Rombaut	Farwig	Lahrmann	Faupel
—	—	1♠	2♥
Pass	2♠	4♣	Pass
4♠	6♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Léo Rombaut obediently put the queen of clubs on the table. Christian Lahrmann won with his ace and switched to his diamond, severing declarer's transportation and ensuring the defeat of the contract. When declarer tried a cross-ruff instead of playing diamonds, he allowed West to take two trump tricks for plus 200 and a 100% score for Rombaut/Lahrmann.



I was commentating on the Rosenblum Swiss Qualifying match between LEBOWITZ and GOLDEN AGE. The first nine of the ten boards had been excessively dull, with a total score-line of 10-0. I suggested to the kibitzers that we should all cross our fingers, hoping for something special on the final board. As if by magic, this deal appeared:

Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Madala	Barantiev	Grossack	Trendafilov
Pass	1♣ ¹	Pass	3♠ ²
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

1. Strong: 16+ HCP
2. Good 7-card suit, 4-7 HCP

Expecting a four-spade rebid, I was surprised when six spades appeared on the screen. Agustin Madala led the king of clubs and down went the dummy. Ten top tricks were visible, plus an eleventh if a long card could be established in hearts. Where was a twelfth trick?

Trendafilov won with dummy's ace of clubs and led the only possibly winning card from the dummy, the spade five to his ace. At trick two he led the jack of hearts, running it when Madala declined to cover. The slam was now there. He cashed the trump king, ruffed a heart to his hand and drew the last trump. He then crossed to

Continued on page 16...



IBPA Column Service

Tim Bourke, Canberra



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1117. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

North's cue-bid of two spades promised a limit-raise-or-better in hearts. South checked for key-cards with four notrump and, when North admitted to two of them, bid the slam.

West led the king of spades. Declarer had 12 sure tricks if trumps were three-one or two-two. There was still a chance if they were four-zero with East, and that was to make all the low trumps in hand by ruffing spades. Since entries were short, declarer won the first trick with the ace of spades and ruffed a spade.

Next, declarer cashed the ace of trumps, noting that the suit was indeed four-zero. After cashing his queen of trumps, declarer took his non-trump winners to reduce the chance of their being ruffed if East had only two spades, finishing with a club to the king. When East followed to the next spade, declarer ruffed it and led a trump to dummy's king for his eleventh trick.

Declarer remained with the seven of trumps and a diamond while East had the jack of hearts and a

diamond. Declarer led dummy's nine of spades. East was fixed: if he discarded his diamond, declarer would make the seven of trumps for his twelfth trick. In practice, East ruffed the spade and declarer threw his diamond loser, making his remaining card, a trump, for his contract.

Note that, on the above layout, if declarer fails to ruff a spade at trick two, the defenders will eventually make two tricks, a trump and a diamond.

1118. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West led a fourth-highest five of hearts. Declarer saw that his best chance for nine tricks was to make four spades and three diamonds.

Declarer played dummy's nine of hearts at trick one, East covered with the ten and declarer won it with the queen. He then played the jack of spades to dummy's king and led the queen of diamonds. When East followed with a low diamond, declarer unblocked the jack from hand. After winning this trick, declarer continued with the ten of diamonds, which was also allowed to win. Next, declarer led the nine of spades and ran it.

After that held, declarer took a second winning finesse in spades. Now declarer had nine tricks – four spades, one heart, three diamonds and one club.

Apart from the order of the finesses in the pointed suits, the main lesson of this deal was the unblocking plays made in spades and diamonds, crucial to the success of the contract.

1119. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

South's three-notrump rebid promised about twenty-five high-card points. North judged his hand was not as likely to be of as much value in a notrump contract as it would be in a heart contract, so he transferred to that denomination.

West led the ten of diamonds. East took the ace and king and continued with the eight of diamonds, clear suit-preference for spades. West ruffed the third round of diamonds and exited with a spade to East's queen and declarer's king. Declarer then cashed the ace and king of trumps, noting that both opponents followed.

Declarer saw that the contract would depend on playing the club suit without loss. While the *a priori* odds favoured cashing the ace and king of clubs, declarer decided to gather more information, despite the very slight risk of suffering an adverse ruff: he cashed the ace of clubs and the ace of spades. When these passed off uneventfully, declarer ruffed the ten of spades high in dummy. After East discarded a diamond on this trick, declarer drew East's remaining trump with dummy's queen of hearts.

Declarer now knew that East had begun with two spades, three trumps and five diamonds, leaving that defender with an original length of three cards in clubs. So declarer led a low club from dummy. East followed with a low club and declarer brought home his contract by playing the jack from hand.

Many declarers would have overlooked the possibility of gathering more information about the defenders'

hands. They would have ruffed the ten of spades instead of cashing the ace first, and drawn the last trump before playing clubs from the top and finding themselves one trick short of making the game.

1120. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

West began proceedings with the ace, king and eight of hearts. Declarer ruffed the third round of hearts and cashed the ace-king of trumps, discovering that he had a loser there. Now declarer had to play the diamond suit without losing a trick.

The only chance for that outcome was to endplay West with a trump at the point where he had only diamonds left. So, declarer cashed the ace, king and queen of clubs and continued with the eight of clubs, ruffing West's nine in the dummy. Next, declarer ruffed dummy's remaining heart. West saw that he would be endplayed if he overruffed and so discarded a diamond. However, it was to no avail, for declarer led his remaining trump to West's queen.

West exited with the nine of diamonds. There was no guess here as West could not hold the king: West had shown up with the queen-jack of trumps and the ace-king of hearts, a total of ten points. If West had had the king of diamonds, he would surely have opened the bidding, so declarer's only hope for two diamond tricks was that West had begun with the jack of diamonds and East with the king. As this was the case, East had no winning option. If he had played low, declarer's ten would have won the trick and, if he had played the king, dummy's queen of diamonds would have been declarer's tenth trick.

If West had begun with 3=4=3=3 instead of the actual 3=3=3=4, shape he might have ruffed the fourth round of clubs in the hope of avoiding an endplay. However, declarer had the neat countermove of discarding dummy's remaining heart, stripping that suit from both hands. Then West would have had the additional losing option of conceding a ruff-and-discard by leading a heart: declarer would have ruffed in dummy and discarded the ten of diamonds from hand.



Life on the Road

Larry Cohen
Delray Beach, FL

Torturing Partner

How much do you trust your partner? Do you hate your partner? Would you like to torture him in the auction? All of these thoughts ran through my mind after I (as North) picked up:

Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ A
♥ K Q 10 4
♦ A Q 9 8
♣ K Q 10 2

Playing in a 2007 tournament, my partner, David Berkowitz, opened one notrump, showing 14-16 balanced HCP. What should I have done with my 20-count?

This depends on methods. I had available a bid of three spades to show a three-suiter with short spades (one or zero) and a game force. I had a lot in reserve, but this seemed a reasonable way to start. After my three spades, David bid three notrump. That meant he had some spade cards. I knew we had 34-36 HCP so, surely, we would get to at least a small slam. The only question was whether or not we could bid seven. Opposite spade wastage, was there still a chance? I thought so. I made a further try by bidding four spades. This presumably showed first-round control (a void or singleton ace).

David bid five clubs, admitting to a suit. If he had had long spades and no other four-card suit, he would have tried to sign off in four notrump. Now that he had clubs, I was interested in reaching seven clubs. What next?

I tortured him again with five spades! I had bid three spades, four spades and five spades. Was I afraid he would think we were having a mix-up? No. This must have been a try for seven (since we were pretty much committed by now to a small slam). David bid five notrump. I wasn't sure what this meant. Maybe he was trying to sign off? Maybe he meant it as 'pick-a-slam'? This is the most common use of five notrump in such auctions with no suit agreed. Maybe he meant it as forward-going? I didn't know for sure.

Nevertheless, I couldn't resist making the 'master bid'.

You guessed it. I bid six spades! This must have been a try for seven clubs. If he weren't interested, he could play in six notrump. This is the ultimate trust (and torture) for partner. I had bid three spades, four spades, five spades and six spades with a singleton ace! I still wasn't worried.

David bid seven clubs and we played there. Here had been our tortuous, and tortured, auction:

West	North Larry	East	South David
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♠	Pass	7♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

These were all the cards:

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

After a trump lead, David drew three rounds and claimed (ruffing a spade in dummy for the thirteenth trick). "Sorry, partner, for the torture in the auction," I said. "Thanks for keeping the faith!" David just glared at me, perhaps plotting his revenge.

NEWS & VIEWS



The Intersection of Music and Bridge

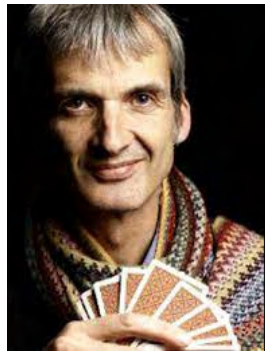
Samantha Punch, Stirling, Scotland

The crafts of bridge and music share common ground: tempo, sequence, creativity, pressure, technique, mathematical underpinnings and uncertain futures. Some of you may be interested in this BAMSAs guest blog by pianist and bridge writer (ACBL columnist and book author) Augie Boehm, who discusses the similarities of bridge and music.

<https://bridgemindsport.org/bridge-and-music/>

Country Life

Andrew Robson
London



Bluffs and Smokescreens

We begin a series on bluffs and smokescreens: representing a better or worse feature than you actually hold, for tactical reasons.

Our first deal from the U.S. Nationals features a fine bluff show of weakness by declarer to prevent the opponents from finding the suit in which he was really weak.

Dealer South Neither Vul.

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

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

1. A bold player would bid one spade; an inspired one might chance one heart for the lead.
2. 15-17 balanced

If West had led a heart, there'd have been no story – the defence scoring four heart tricks and the ace of diamonds in double-quick time. Totally reasonably, West opted to lead the four of spades, unwilling to lead from his ace-queen. Declarer played low from dummy, East played the ten and declarer gratefully scooped up the knave.

No, he did not! If declarer had advertised such good spades, West would surely have switched to hearts (as the only chance) when he won with his ace of diamonds. Declarer instead hid the knave of spades and won with the ace. At trick two, he led the queen of diamonds,

forcing out the ace as soon as possible. West won that card and, naturally, convinced his partner held the knave of spades (and had played the lower from knave-ten) – or declarer would surely have beaten the ten with the knave – continued with a low spade.

Declarer ran the lead to his knave – West wincing, knowing then he'd been hoodwinked – and could quickly cash four clubs, the promoted king-knave of diamonds and dummy's king of spades. Nine tricks and game made.

On our second deal, it was West on defence who found the key bluff (sounds like a coastal promontory).

Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

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

North showed his delayed (i.e., three-card) support for spades and offered a choice of games. It is a marginal choice given the barren 3=3=4=3 shape; with no ruffing value, there is much to be said for simply raising two notrump to three no trump.

West led the knave of hearts, declarer winning with dummy's ace (East signalling encouragement with the seven). At trick two, declarer led and ran the knave of spades, and we had reached the key moment. If West had won with the normal queen – and continued with the ten of hearts to the king – declarer would have had no choice but to try to discard his remaining heart loser on the third diamond, requiring diamonds to split four-three, but by now a necessary risk. This would have passed off successfully, the heart disappearing on that third diamond, and then declarer could have forced out the ace of spades, ruffed the heart return, drawn trumps and forced out the ace of clubs: ten tricks made.

Looking ahead and envisaging his doom if he won trick two's knave of spades with the queen, West won it with the ace (the key play). Declarer won West's ten-of-hearts continuation with the king and, believing he could now

Continued on page 16...

...Robson continued

pick up East's presumed queen of spades, he did not need to risk a four-three diamond break. He led a diamond to dummy's ten and then confidently ran the ten of spades. He was soon a sadder but wiser man.

Trying not to gloat (always important in these situations, where your gambit has been successful), West won with the queen of spades, led a heart to his partner's promoted queen and was soon scoring his ace of clubs. Down one.

...Bird continued

the diamond ace to discard three minor-suit losers on the ace-king-nine of hearts.

"It's always there if declarer guesses the hearts correctly," a kibitzer told me.

Suppose the heart jack is covered by the queen and won with the ace. Declarer will be faced with a guess in this heart position:

♥ 9 7 2
♥ 8 ♥ 10 6
♥ —

One side entry remains to the dummy, and the winning play is to lead the nine of hearts, which will pin West's eight. However, it is twice as good to lead a low card, since you might then ruff out the ten of hearts on either side of the table.

So, it seems that declarer would have gone down if Madala had chosen to cover with his queen of hearts.



Rosenblum QF2. Board 25. Dealer North. NS Vul.

♠ 10 5 4 3 2
♥ A 7
♦ Q J 9 5
♣ K 2

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

♠ Q
♥ Q 9 8 3
♦ 10 8 6 4
♣ Q 10 6 4

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Gawrys	Hult	Klukowski
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

On this deal from the BLACK vs. ZIMMERMANN match in this year's Rosenblum Cup in Wrocław, Michal Klukowski and Piotr Gawrys made a fine recovery after faltering in the defence earlier in the play.

Michal Klukowski, South, led the four of diamonds. The king won in dummy, and declarer led a heart to the jack and South's queen. South went on with the six of diamonds, perhaps as a suit preference. Simon Hult returned to his hand with a spade, saw the singleton queen and played a low heart to South's nine, dummy's ten and Gawrys' bare ace. It was do or die time for the defence.

Declarer has three spades, one heart, two diamonds and one club and needs one more trick for his contract. If North had shifted to:

(a.) the king of clubs after cashing his side's two diamond tricks, Hult ducks, wins the second club and squeezes South by cashing two spade winners in this four-card end position:

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

(b.) Instead, if Gawrys plays the king of clubs after cashing just one diamond, Hult ducks again and wins the second, now the remaining cards are:

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

In this position, on the second spade, South is helpless. Declarer needs four tricks; on the first spade, South discards a club; on the second he must discard his diamond. Declarer then plays a club to the jack and queen and South must lead a heart into the tenace. Klukowski could have avoided this by retaining the nine-eight of hearts.

Piotr Gawrys, without taking his last diamond trick, shifted to the two of clubs instead of the king. Klukowski gained the lead with his club ten and played his last diamond. Gawrys won and exited with the king of clubs in this position (the defence had taken two hearts, two diamonds and one club; declarer needed all the remaining tricks for his contract):

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

Now, with the threats in East in front of the guards in South, no squeeze could operate. Had declarer discarded a spade from dummy to keep a club threat there, Gawrys would have exited with a spade to destroy the transportation for the squeeze.

Even better would have been for Gawrys to take no diamond winners when in with the ace of hearts. Then South would have no discarding problems at all.

At the other table, two notrump just made; 6 IMPs to ZIMMERMANN.



Kerri Sanborn has a claim to being the best women's player of all time (although she is *much* too modest to assert that herself). She has won ten (yes, 10!) World Championships in six different decades, with six different partners. That puts her in the Hamman/Belladonna league. Kerri's latest win was in the Women's World Pairs in Wroclaw this year.

Deals on which both defenders guard all three suits are notoriously difficult to defend, and so it proved here:

Dealer South. Both Vul.

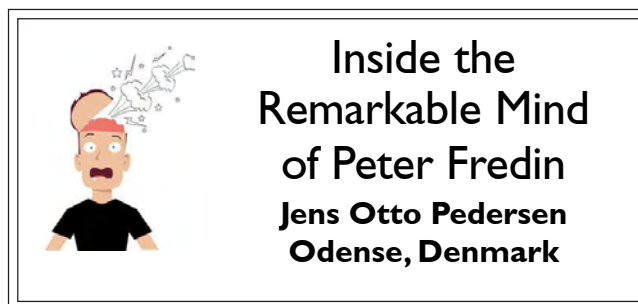
	♠ Q 9 6 2	
	♥ A 8 3	
	♦ K 7 2	
	♣ A 8 6	
♠ A 3		♠ —
♥ Q 10 4		♥ J 9 7 5 2
♦ 10 9 5 3		♦ Q J 8
♣ K Q J 10		♣ 9 7 4 3 2
	♠ K J 10 8 7 5 4	
	♥ K 6	
	♦ A 6 4	
	♣ 5	

In the Women's Pairs in Wroclaw, Kerri opened four spades and everyone else passed. West led the king of clubs. After knocking out the spade ace and facing a club continuation, Kerri ruffed and ran the trumps. With two spades to go, this was the position:

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

At this point, both defenders still guarded all three suits. When declarer cashed the penultimate spade, West pitched a diamond, constricting East's choices – dummy discarded a diamond and it was over to East. To hold declarer to one overtrick, East had to unguard whichever red suit West kept, in this case hearts. When East instead pitched her nine of clubs, she allowed a double squeeze to operate.

Kerri took the top two diamonds, ending in hand, then led the last spade; West had to keep her club, so had to part with a heart; East had to keep her diamond guard, so she also let go a heart. Dummy's eight of hearts was thus the twelfth trick for a huge matchpoint score.



In 1999, Denmark's Jeppe Juhl won the MPP IBPA Book of the Year Award with "*Master of Bridge Psychology: Inside the Remarkable Mind of Peter Fredin*".

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Fredin</i>	<i>Saur</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦ ¹
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT ²	Pass	5♥ ³
Pass	6♠	Pass	Pass

1. 4+ diamonds
2. RKCB
3. 2 key cards, no spade queen

The WBT Champions Cup VI was played on BBO in the beginning of September. The team of Peter Fredin, Alon Apteker, Dorthe Schaltz and Peter Schaltz won the Round Robin by a wide margin.

This deal from the tournament will be a candidate for a possible next edition of Juhl's book.

Apteker led the four of diamonds (third from even, low from odd). When Fredin saw the dummy, he realised that it did not look great for the defence. He knew that the lead was probably a singleton and that an unusual defence was needed.

Declarer won the first trick with queen of diamonds, upon which Fredin followed with the jack! Declarer feared that the jack was a singleton, and that the lead was from five low diamonds. If that were the case and, if the spade finesse lost, East would get a diamond ruff. Declarer, looking to play as safely as possible, played a spade to the ace and a deceptive ten of spades to East's king.

Declarer had made certain that Fredin did not get a diamond ruff, but instead Fredin was able to give a surprise diamond ruff to Apteker. Six spades was down one.

At the other table, the Schaltzes had a rare misunderstanding, ending in seven spades. West led a trump, although nothing else was better, so that was plus 1510 and 17 IMPs to Fredin's team.



**The
Visionary
Mark Horton
Shrewsbury,
Shrops., U.K.**

To be an expert defender, you must try to envisage the layout of the cards you cannot see. This usually becomes apparent as the play progresses, but sometimes you need to appreciate what is happening at an early stage. Here is a brilliant example from the OCBL September Cup:

Board 8. Dealer West. Neither Vul.

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

Peanuts vs. Pigot

West	North	East	South
<i>Coyne</i>	<i>Franceschetti</i>	<i>Pigot</i>	<i>Setton</i>
<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Milne</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>O'Brien</i>
1♥	2♦	2♠	5♣
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Pass		

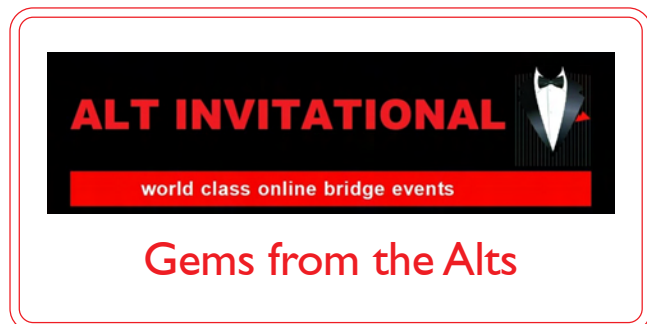
Coyne led the king of hearts. When East followed with the three, he switched to the queen of spades. Declarer took dummy's ace and cashed three clubs before running the ten of diamonds, East winning and cashing the spade king for one down, minus 100 to North/South.

When West selected the queen of spades at trick two, declarer could have taken dummy's ace and settled down to the clubs to reach this position:

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

If declarer now cashes the last club pitching a diamond, East is forced to throw the jack of hearts, after which he can be thrown in to lead into the diamond tenace.

Do you see the winning defence? So did Cédric Lorenzini – at trick two he switched to the three of spades! He could then win any spade exit and play a diamond.



Elegance
Martin Cantor
Hamm, North Rhine-Westphalia,
Germany

From the New Co 1 event, this deal won the Alt Bidding of the Year award...

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Tatyana	Goblin2000	Fredrik	bookie_It
Trendafilova		Jarlvik	
—	—	1♠ ¹	2♦
3♦	Pass	5♣ ²	Pass
5♦ ³	Pass	5NT ⁴	Pass
6♥ ⁵	Pass	7♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Limited to 15 HCP
2. Exclusion key-card ask
3. 1 or 4 key cards
4. King ask
5. Heart king

Three other pairs managed to get to seven spades, but this was the shortest, most-elegant, auction. Well done Trendafilova and Jarlvik.

3NT in Flames
Jan van Cleef
Maastricht, Netherlands

This board, from the New Co 4 event, won the prize for the Best-Defended Deal of the Year...

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Giacomo	Gé	Giovanni	Onno
Percario	Sprinkhuizen	Donati	Eskes
1♥	Pass	2♣ ¹	Pass
2♥ ²	Pass	2NT ³	Pass
3♣ ⁴	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Artificial, game-forcing
2. 4-card spade suit
3. Relay; no heart fit
4. 12-14

Onno Eskes, former captain of the Dutch Open Team, kicked off with the four of spades to the seven, six (upside-down count and attitude) and queen.

When declarer led the five of clubs to the ace, Eskes made the far-sighted play of following with the six. Donati continued with the five of diamonds to the four, nine and king. South cashed the top hearts, upon which declarer discarded a club. Eskes exited with the ten of clubs to the queen and king and, when declarer cashed the jack of clubs, Eskes unblocked the nine.

East could take two more club tricks (five in all), but had to lose two diamond tricks to North, Sprinkhuizen, for one down.

There are a few ways for declarer to succeed and this was the only time three notrump failed. It was great defence by Eskes.

50

Half a Century Later... Barnet Shenkin Glasgow, Scotland

In 1972, I played for the Great Britain Juniors in Delft, Netherlands in the European Junior Teams Championship. In one of the matches, my partner, George Cuthbertson and I, (*IBPA's own Phillip Alder was also in the GB team – Ed.*) faced Denmark, with Peter Schaltz, playing and his cousin, Knud-Aage Boesgaard. In the recent World Bridge Tour online, I again faced Peter, some 50 years later, this time playing with another family member, Dorthe, his wife, in the Fredin team. The Schaltzes are one of the longest-surviving married couples who have played internationally for their country, surviving both partnerships! My partner this time was Nils Kvangraven of Norway.

We encountered this deal...

Dealer East. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Dorthe	Kvanengren	Peter	Shenkin
—	—	1♣ ¹	Pass
1♦ ²	Pass	1NT ³	Pass
2♠ ⁴	Pass	2NT ⁵	Pass
3NT ⁶	Pass	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

1. Strong: 14+ unbalanced; 18+ balanced
2. Any 6+
3. Balanced game-force
4. 5+ hearts
5. Denies 3-card support
6. Minimum

Peter and Dorthe play two different systems – a strong club when not vulnerable, as here. I was on lead against the slam. With the blacks well held, I decided to lead the nine of hearts – in retrospect, perhaps a diamond would have been safer. Peter made short work of the play: he cashed three top clubs, North pitching a diamond. Then followed three diamonds, North pitching a heart. After the fourth diamond, Peter crossed back to the heart ace and played a fourth club, making the

contract regardless of who held the king of spades. Perhaps I had given him the road map, but it was still well executed.

Here's another deal from the current World Bridge Tour, this one from the last regular event of the 2022 season. Teams are awarded points for each event, and the final was played face-to-face over a week in Copenhagen in October.

Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Harris	Kvangraven	Malhasyan	Shenkin
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

This board was declared mainly in six diamonds and often the lead was the spade ace. Declarer had no further problem.

On a passive heart lead, declarer had to guess which heart to play from dummy. Two defenders led the eight of hearts. One of the two declarers tried the jack and, when this was covered, won and played the king of clubs. When West won and returned a heart, declarer won in dummy with the ace and led the king of spades, hoping for a cover – but, no luck, West played low. Declarer ruffed, cashed a top diamond, hoping to see the ten, and then took a heart discard on the queen of clubs, before trying to ruff a heart and two clubs in dummy. Unfortunately, East ruffed in with the ten of diamonds on the fourth club and North was down one.

The second declarer took the clue from the high heart lead and rose with the king before leading a club from dummy. He had no further problem whether West rose with the ace of clubs or not.

Nils Kvangraven of Norway received the lead of the three of hearts, so he had no clue about the location of the queen. *A priori*, it seemed that one line depended on the queen of hearts being onside and the other the ace of clubs being onside. Kvangraven rose with the king of hearts to play a club and scored up his contract. How did he guess to play this way? Kvangraven reasoned

that if the ace of clubs was over the king, there was certainly more chance of the ace of spades being right – otherwise, East would have had two aces on lead and may have led one. With just one ace, East also may just have led the club ace.

That seemed to me sound logic, and reason enough to rise with the king of hearts at the first trick. In our match, it was a flat board as East at the other table led the ace of spades.

The Lucky Kibitzer

George Retek, Montréal



Ever since I was a kid, I have loved kibitzing. Sometimes it was a favourite team, sometimes an individual. Since I usually kibitzed great sportsmen who often won (like Bobby Wolff, Montréal Canadiens and the Boston Celtics) I convinced myself that I am a great kibitzer who brings good luck to the players. Probably my greatest ‘achievement’ was in the IOC Cup in Salt Lake City just prior to the 2002 Winter Olympic Games: the Canadian Bridge Team finished on top of the world competition.

Fast forward to Wrocław in 2022 to the 16th World Bridge Series. First, our Canada Women’s Team captured the limelight. The field of ten teams played a complete round-robin to qualify four teams for the semifinals. After the penultimate round, Team Canada was in fourth place, 1 VP ahead of the Baker Team. Just a tie would be sufficient for the semifinal qualification. This dream soon disappeared after the arrival of Superkibitzer George to the table. Our team lost.

Next, I ventured to kibitz Nick Gartaganis and Michel Lorber in the Open Pairs Final where, after the sixth session (out of the eight-session final), their remarkable play had carried them to second place in standings behind the eventual Polish winners of Buras/Lutostanski. Once again my karma at the table deserted me, and ‘inspired’ my favourites to drop in the standings.

Finally, we come to the McConnell Cup Women’s Team Final, where the Brody Team included Brigitta Fischer, who is a member of one of the most prestigious clubs, MTK, in Hungary. By coincidence, this is the same club where I had played chess in my teens, and whose soccer team in the 1950s was world-famous. The Brody Team, consisting of three terrific experts from Sweden and one each from the USA and Hungary, won the McConnell Cup. Together with the popular, newly-elected President of the World Bridge Federation, Jan Kamras, I was honoured to present the gold medals to the winning team. When the reason of the team’s success was discussed, I quietly remarked: “It was easy, I did not kibitz them.”



Confessions of a Bridge Addict (8)

Joseph Silver
Hampstead,
Québec

(from Bridge Winners)

Despite my four-and-a-half-year vacation since graduating from law school, I managed to get hired by a civil law firm in the autumn of 1968. The pay was \$100 per week (more than I was worth). Looking back 50 years, I cannot remember the particulars of this stage of my legal career (not that they interested me much – bridge was my love, and I was a faithful lover). The one incident that does stand out is when my law firm sent me to arraignment court. (As a public service, law firms offered lawyers from their office to the criminal courts to help the indigent. In most cases, the lawyer sent was the dimmest and most-ignorant in the firm, which best described me.) Arraignment court is the accused’s first court appearance; he pleads guilty or not guilty. If the plea is not guilty, bail is set; if guilty, a sentence is imposed.

I arrived early to familiarize myself with the process. (I had never been in court before because, until that time, most of my spare time was taken up by bridge, and I had had no time for such trivialities.) I observed that when the accused pled not guilty, bail was usually set between \$500 and \$5,000. However, I noticed that a guilty plea was followed by a suspended sentence, meaning, upon pleading guilty, the accused was immediately released from jail.

Finally, it was my turn: some poor ‘schmuck’ who could not afford a lawyer was assigned to me (lucky him!). He’d been charged with breaking and entering. He told me it was a misunderstanding with a former roommate and that he had no money for bail. I figured if he pled not guilty, bail would be set at something that he could not afford, the result being that he would have to stay in jail. However, a guilty plea would result in a suspended sentence and instant release. So I had the ‘bright’ idea that he would plead guilty, get a suspended sentence, and be immediately released from custody! He foolishly followed my advice, and the next thing I knew, the prosecutor was handing something to the judge; it turned out to be my client’s criminal record (who knew?) and, after reading it over, the judge sentenced the accused to two years in jail.

Can one doubt that what I achieved in court that morning captured the true spirit and intent of public service?

To make a long story short, after six months, I wondered about my suitability for working in a civil law firm. Looking for advice, I discussed my doubts about my career choice with the law firm's junior partner, with whom I had become buddies during the previous half-year. On hearing me out, she said to me, "So when are you leaving?" I took the hint, and quit that Friday!

A chance meeting with a classmate from my time at the University of Montréal changed my life. He had recently been hired at the newly opened Public Defender's Office, and suggested that I apply as well, which I did. The fact was that an English Québécois fluent in French was quite rare in 1970, and it got me hired. My monumental ignorance of the law was overlooked (or those who hired me never truly understand the enormous depth of my ignorance.) I was to begin working the day after Labour Day, September 8, 1970.

The weekend before I was to start in the Public Defender's Office, Kokes and I travelled to play a regional in Washington D.C. In order to return in time for my first day on the job I had to take the red eye overnight flight to Montréal, arriving just in time to show up at the office at 9 a.m. I had not slept the night before and was exhausted. I spent the day nodding off while the lawyer whose job it was that day to explain the purpose of the Public Defenders and show me around the office kept having to wake me up. I was told later that the impression I made my first day on the job was quite remarkable!

As a rookie, during my first month on the job, I was kept out of harm's way, running errands, including going to lockup to interview detainees for the other lawyers. On one such visit, I spoke to a prisoner who complained to me that his lawyer was pressuring him to plead guilty at his trial the next day for something he had not done. Well, I was shocked, the man was innocent; after all, he had told me so. On returning to the office, I expressed my outrage to his lawyer, who then replied, "If you think he is so innocent, then you plead his case tomorrow!"

Thus it came about that in the first criminal trial that I had ever witnessed, I was the defence lawyer, and to put me more at my ease, it was also in French! However, I need not have worried because justice was done and, in consequence, I had lost my first-ever criminal trial.

Back at the office, I was telling a confrère about the case when he stopped my recitation, and said, "Why didn't you object at this point?" I asked him on what grounds? He answered that because the statement I was talking to him about was a clear case of hearsay. With a puzzled look on my face, I asked him, "What's hearsay?" (To put my monumental ignorance into perspective, I, the prize-winning criminal law student in my law class, had not the faintest idea of what hearsay was, one of the basic tenets of criminal law! Even a



AGM Notice

The 2022 IBPA Annual General Meeting and Awards Presentation will be on Zoom (link to be sent later):

**Saturday, December 10
at 14:00 hours GMT.**

That is Saturday at:

06:00 in Los Angeles

09:00 in NYC & Toronto

14:00 in London

15:00 in Amsterdam, Paris, Oslo,

Rome & Warsaw

19:30 in New Delhi

22:00 in Beijing

And Sunday the 11th of December at:

01:00 in Sydney and Canberra

03:00 in Auckland

random person on the street knew as much about the law as I did.)

Soon after this incident, I was in court representing a client on a drug charge when the prosecutor pulled me aside for a private conference and made me a good offer on sentencing if my client would plead guilty. This sort of wheeling and dealing resonated with me, the light bulb flashed on and, at this moment, my work as a P.D. turned from being just a job I had to suffer through into a passion! (Through nearly 50 years of my law practise, I maintained that passion for both my work, and the way I defended my clients.) I said to myself, "Criminal law is for me!" That day, I vowed I would do whatever it took to become a first-class trial lawyer. I had fallen in love again! (Bridge would always remain my first love, but litigating was second. Sex of course had its own category.)

Being a trial lawyer suited my personality, and with the prices the Public Defender's office charged (nothing) I had a lot of opportunity to practice and improve my craft. I never refused a case. Over 80% of our clients were French-speaking and, in addition to my share of those cases, I would also get most of the English-speaking clients as well. (In the early years, I was the only Anglophone trial lawyer in the office.) There was a time in the Public Defender's Office when I had the most cases of any criminal lawyer in Montréal, so learn I did. I couldn't write a coherent brief, nor did I shine when it came to "The Law", but put me in court and I was at home, just like Brer Rabbit in the briar patch. (For those of you who, in your ignorance, have never heard of or read that children's story, look it up. That is what Google is for, or so I am told.)

TO BE CONTINUED (God willing)

David Rex-Taylor (1929-2022)



Former IBPA Executive Editor David Rex-Taylor died on Friday the 21st of October at 10:10 a.m. The funeral will be held in Torquay on Thursday the 10th of November.

Born on the 25th of January 1929, David was 93 years old when he died.

David spent five years' service in the Royal Air Force in the early 50s, including many nervous moments at the East German border. He was subsequently offered the post of manager/interpreter of British European Airways (now British Airways), setting up BEA in Moscow.

David created a furore in 2005 when he revealed in an article published simultaneously in the UK and the USA that Terence Reese had allegedly admitted to him that he and Boris Schapiro had indeed cheated in Buenos Aires in 1965, the idea being that Reese would write a book about cheating at World Championships. However, Reese left no evidence with his publisher, his wife or his solicitor that that was the case. Reese extracted a promise from David that this revelation would not be published until after the deaths of both Reese and Schapiro, which David honoured.

Stewart Green & John Carruthers

Gaylor Kasle (1941-2022)



Gaylor Kasle of Boca Raton, Florida, winner of the 1994 Rosenblum in Albuquerque and the 2003 d'Orsi Trophy in Verona, as well as several other medals in world championship play, died in Phoenix last month.

Kasle also won the Sunday Times Invitational and 12 North American Championships, including the Vanderbilt. He is best-known as the godfather of professional bridge, helping to create and shape it as we know it today. Kasle was the first to find sponsors and match them up with professional partners; he was a great deal-maker and businessman.

Gaylor was beloved. He was charismatic, friendly and charming, a born salesman. He is survived by his wife Barbara, his brother Dennis, 12 children, 19 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Josh Donn & *The Arizona Daily Star*



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If you have forgotten your access code: thorpe.katie@gmail.com

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World Bridge Calendar

2022

Nov 10-12	European Champions Cup	Helsinki, Finland	eurobridge.org
Nov 10-13	Hütteldorf Trophy	Vienna, Austria	bridgeaustria.at
Nov 10-20	Red Sea International Festival	Eilat, Israel	bridgeredsea.com
Nov 11-13	Golden West Congress	Greenfields, Australia	abf.com.au
Nov 24-Dec 4	ACBL Fall NABC	Phoenix, AZ	acbl.org
Nov 25-27	Badenberger Bridgetage	Vienna, Austria	kbc.at
Nov 28-Dec 3	International Bridge Festival	Alexandria, Egypt	alexbridgefestival.com
Dec 2-4	Torneo de Bridge Lanzarote	Arrecife, Spain	aebridge.com
Dec 2-10	Festival de Mar del Plata	Mar del Plata, Argentina	aba.org.ar
Dec 3-4	Nintendo Cup	Osaka, Japan	jcbl.or.jp
Dec 9-11	Polish Grand Prix Teams Final	Poznan, Poland	pzbs.pl
Dec 9-11	17 th Union Cup	Alba Iulia, Romania	cupaunirii.albabridge.ro
Dec 16-18	Polish Grand Prix Pairs Final	Starachowice, Poland	pzbs.pl
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 7-9	Asahi Shimbun Cup	Yokyo, Japan	jcbl.or.jp
Jan 9-18	81 st International Bridge Festival	St. Moritz, Switzerland	bridgestmoritz.ch
Jan 10-15	8 th National Day Bridge Festival	Dubai, UAE	bridgewebs.com/4jacks
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 st 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 10-12	SBU Peebles Congress	Peebles, Scotland	sbu.org.uk
Mar 14-19	Abano Bridge Festival	Abano Terme, Italy	federbridge.it
Mar 17-19	Fuengirola International Tournament	Costa del Sol, Spain	fuengirolabridge.com
Mar 23-26	Tasmanian Festival	Hobart, Tasmania, Australia	abf.com.au
Mar 23-26	Torshaven Bridge Festival	Torshaven, Faroe Islands	bridge.fo/bridgefestival2023
Apr 7-10	Easter Festival	London, England	ebu.co.uk
Apr 12-16	Palace Cup	Warsaw, Poland	pzbs.pl
Apr 12-16	PCU International University Trophy	Antwerp, Belgium	pcucommittee.com/bridge
Apr 14-22	XI South American Bridge Festival	Buenos Aires, Argentina	bridgeargentina@gmail.com
Apr 28-May 1	Barrier Reef Congreaa	Edge Hill (Cairns), Australia	abf.com.au
Apr 28-May 2	Schapiro Spring Fours	Scotland (Venue TBD)	ebu.co.uk
May 2-7	Lambourne Jersey Festival	St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Is.	ebu.co.uk
May 4-8	Australian Autumn Nationals	Adelaide, Australia	abf.com.au
May 6-7	Swiss Open	Opfikon, Switzerland	fsbridge.ch
May 6-13	23 rd German Bridge Festival	Wyk-auf-Föhr, Germany	bridge-verband.de
May 9-15	SBU Overseas Congress	Rhodes, Greece	sbu.org.uk
May 12-21	70 th Festival Juan-les-Pins	Antibes, France	ffbridge.fr
May 18-21	3 rd Gümüslük Bridge Festival	Gümüslük, Turkey	gumusluksporbric.com
Jun 3-17	10 th Euro Transnational Championships	Strasbourg, France	eurobridge.org
Jun 8-12	Victor Champion Cup	Melbourne, Australia	abf.com.au
Jul 8-15	Danish Bridge Festival	Svendborg, Denmark	bridgefestival.dk
Jun 30-Jul 11	International Bridge Festival	Biarritz, France	ffbridge.fr
Jul 8-20	Australian National Championships	Perth, Australia	abf.com.au
Jul 13-23	ACBL Summer Nationals	Chicago, IL	acbl.org
Jul 28-Aug 6	27 th Swedish Bridge Festival	Örebro, Sweden	svenskbridge.se
Jul 29-Aug 3	Chairman's Cup	Örebro, Sweden	svenskbridge.se
Aug 6-12	International Bridge Festival	Tulln, Austria	bridgeaustria.at
Aug 11-20	72 nd International Bridge Festival	La Baule-Escoublac, France	festivalbridgelabaule.com
Aug 18-27	Warsaw Grand Prix	Warsaw, Poland	pzbs.pl
Aug 20-Sep 2	World Team Championships	Marrakech, Morocco	worldbridge.org
Sep 1-3	International Women's Tournament	Augsburg, Germany	bridge-verband.de
Sep 22-24	Vilnius Cup	Vilnius, Lithuania	bridgecanner.com
Sep 30-Oct 7	NZB National Congress	New Zealand	nzbridge.co.nz
Oct 6-8	Citta di Bologna	Bologna, Italy	federbridge.it
Oct 18-27	Sydney Spring Nationals	Canterbury, Australia	abf.com.au
Nov 23-Dec 3	ACBL Fall Nationals	Atlanta, GA	acbl.org