



2017 YEH BROS CUP

3rd-7th July, 2017 Tokyo JAPAN

Bulletin Editors: Barry Rigal and David Stern ♦ **Co-Bulletin Editor:** Andy Hung ♦ **Bulletin #2 Tuesday 4th July 2017**

Message from the President Asia Pacific Bridge Federation

The bridge world is indeed very fortunate to have an illustrious Bridge patron and World Life Master, Mr. Chen Yeh, who has devoted his life to playing and supporting the development of bridge at the top level. Mr. Yeh, instituted the Biennial Yeh Brothers Cup, bringing together, by invitation only, world champions from different parts of the world to compete for the grand total of US\$302,000 prize money.

One of Bridge's most prestigious international tournament, this year's Yeh Brothers Cup will be held between July 3 and July 7, in Tokyo, and I am sure bridge players from all over the world will be watching the Live Vue-graph competition, not only to cheer their favorite teams, but also to learn from the masters and develop their own games. I am particularly interested in encouraging our young players to watch and learn.

Thank you Mr. Yeh, for bringing world class players to our Zone. Thank you for your generosity and continued support of our game of bridge. May you continue to enjoy the challenges that bridge brings to you... at the bridge table as well as in the management and organizing it.

My best wishes to all participants. The bridge world will be looking forward to see you all in action!!

Esther C. Sophonpanich
President, APBF

(Apologies for the delay of this message from the APBF President)



One of Seven Gods of Fortune (in case anyone is in need)



Huub Bertens and Curtis Cheek (Team Kokish)

Link to the tournament livenesscores (click below):

<http://www.jcbl.or.jp/home/English/yehbros/tabid/1457/Default.aspx>



STANDINGS (after 5 of 10 Rounds Qualifying)

Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs
1	Pepsi	84.39	14	Kranyak	61.99
2	Poland	78.45	15	Germany	56.12
3	Norway	75.72	16	BulGer	55.83
4	Monaco	72.15	17	India	55.20
5	Japan 1	69.96	18	Pharon	54.77
6	Netherlands	68.53	19	Pertamina Indonesia	54.21
7	IsPolta	68.13	20	Sweden	52.84
8	France	66.48	21	Shanghai Finance	50.51
9	YBM	66.27	22	PD Times	48.05
10	Kokish	65.71	23	Chinese Taipei	45.32
11	Beijing BEIH	64.90	24	Singapore	44.46
12	Australia	63.83	25	Japan 3	40.63
13	China Open	62.49	26	Japan 2	33.06

MATCH RESULTS DAY 1

Match 1		IMPs		VPs	
(20) YBM	(26) Pepsi	1	47	0.14	19.86
(22) Kokish	(25) Pertamina Indonesia	7	7	10	10
(1) Netherlands	(9) Chinese Taipei	17	7	13.43	6.57
(2) Kranyak	(6) Beijing BEIH	27	5	16.39	3.61
(3) Japan 2	(18) Monaco	5	28	3.41	16.59
(4) Japan 3	(16) BulGer	12	39	2.66	17.34
(5) IsPolta	(7) India	5	13	7.17	12.83
(8) Pharon	(12) Singapore	7	3	11.5	8.5
(10) France	(13) PD Times	23	9	14.54	5.46
(11) China Open	(17) Sweden	0	22	3.61	16.39
(14) Germany	(15) Australia	14	19	8.15	11.85
(19) Shanghai Finance	(21) Poland	0	22	3.61	16.39
(23) Japan 1	(24) Norway	9	9	10	10

Match 2		IMPs		VPs	
(26) Pepsi	16 BulGer	15	5	13.43	6.57
(18) Monaco	17 Sweden	41	15	17.16	2.84
(21) Poland	2 Kranyak	10	18	7.17	12.83
(10) France	1 Netherlands	2	29	2.66	17.34
7 India	8 Pharon	30	3	17.34	2.66
15 Australia	22 Kokish	3	28	3.03	16.97
23 Japan 1	25 Pertamina Indonesia	19	21	9.23	10.77
24 Norway	14 Germany	32	0	18.15	1.85
12 Singapore	(5) IsPolta	9	23	5.46	14.54
9 Chinese Taipei	(13) PD Times	8	8	10	10
6 Beijing BEIH	(11) China Open	19	23	8.5	11.5
19 Shanghai Finance	(3) Japan 2	25	13	14	6
4 Japan 3	(20) YBM	7	51	0.34	19.66

Match 3		IMPs		VPs	
1 Netherlands	7 India	9	18	6.86	13.14
2 Kranyak	24 Norway	14	46	1.85	18.15
18 Monaco	26 Pepsi	30	28	10.77	9.23
22 Kokish	16 BulGer	38	23	14.8	5.2
21 Poland	5 IsPolta	16	13	11.14	8.86
25 Pertamina Indonesia	20 YBM	13	45	1.85	18.15
23 Japan 1	17 Sweden	18	17	10.39	9.61
19 Shanghai Finance	10 France	16	9	12.51	7.49
9 Chinese Taipei	11 China Open	9	42	1.7	18.3
13 PD Times	8 Pharon	9	27	4.48	15.52
15 Australia	12 Singapore	31	14	15.29	4.71
6 Beijing BEIH	14 Germany	25	1	16.78	3.22
3 Japan 2	4 Japan 3	16	16	10	10

Match 4		IMPs		VPs	
5 IsPolta	15 Australia	32	16	15.05	4.95
19 Shanghai Finance	8 Pharon	6	14	7.17	12.83
24 Norway	18 Monaco	13	4	13.14	6.86
7 India	26 Pepsi	0	32	1.85	18.15
22 Kokish	20 YBM	7	24	4.71	15.29
1 Netherlands	21 Poland	18	42	3.22	16.78
11 China Open	2 Kranyak	23	33	6.57	13.43
23 Japan 1	16 BulGer	24	22	10.77	9.23
17 Sweden	6 Beijing BEIH	28	26	10.77	9.23
10 France	25 Pertamina Indonesia	35	20	14.8	5.2
13 PD Times	3 Japan 2	36	13	16.59	3.41
12 Singapore	9 Chinese Taipei	24	18	12.18	7.82
14 Germany	4 Japan 3	21	12	13.14	6.86

Match 5		IMPs		VPs	
20 YBM	21 Poland	10	35	3.03	16.97
17 Sweden	10 France	7	33	2.84	17.16
26 Pepsi	24 Norway	41	30	13.72	6.28
18 Monaco	22 Kokish	14	12	10.77	9.23
5 IsPolta	2 Kranyak	25	18	12.51	7.49
7 India	23 Japan 1	2	49	0.04	19.96
8 Pharon	1 Netherlands	4	32	2.49	17.51
11 China Open	16 BulGer	30	23	12.51	7.49
6 Beijing BEIH	19 Shanghai Finance	27	3	16.78	3.22
13 PD Times	15 Australia	4	40	1.29	18.71
12 Singapore	25 Pertamina Indonesia	23	45	3.61	16.39
14 Germany	3 Japan 2	58	13	19.76	0.24
9 Chinese Taipei	4 Japan 3	5	7	9.23	10.77

Championship Diary

The Editors wanted to express their thanks to Chen Yeh for his choice of hotel. Accustomed as we are to the finer things of life (Bulletin Editors being used to staying at the best of hotels, of course) but not only is the hotel more than luxurious, the gardens are remarkable. We hope that the pictures in the bulletin will give our readers some idea of their historic charm.

We had dinner with David Beauchamp of the Australia team on the evening before the tournament started. He told us that he was staying at an Air BNB in Tokyo close to the venue, but having trouble locating the precise location. When he asked a passer-by they insisted on coming with him for a couple of streets to the precise location. Once there he was struggling with the padlock on the door, which required entering a combination to open it, and again a passer-by on a motorcycle came to his rescue, spending five minutes working on its intricacies. As David said, 'Only in Japan!'

Seen and heard: from the Captain's meeting, a puzzled Irish voice "Can you explain the rules and regulations as they relate to the quarter-finals?" Interruption from the back : "Don't worry Tom, you won't be getting there..."

We are never sure whether it is a good idea to peak early (witness the Master Par three competition – the winner has never gone on to capture the main event). However we should note that Chen Yeh won the Japanese national BAM event last week; his team included Yalan Zhang and J-Y-Shih, together with Dawei Chen and Tadashi Teramoto.



KOKISH VERSUS PERTAMINA INDONESIA

The first match started with a decision based on Pierson's Law. Both Wests had a chance to pass out a deal, but both opened their 13-count – and regretted it.

Dealer: North
 Vul: None
 Brd 1
 Yeh Qual R1

♠ Q J 8 7 4
 ♥ A K 9 7
 ♦ 10 8 4
 ♣ 2

♠ K
 ♥ J 10 6 5
 ♦ A Q 7
 ♣ Q J 10 6 5

♠ 10 9
 ♥ 4 3 2
 ♦ K 6 5 3
 ♣ A K 9 7

♠ A 6 5 3 2
 ♥ Q 8
 ♦ J 9 2
 ♣ 8 4 3

West Karwur	North Bertens	East George	South Cheek
	Pass	Pass	Pass
2♣	Double	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♠	All Pass	
Kokish	Parasian	Gitelman	Taufik
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	Double	3♠
All Pass			

Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
-	2	-	2	♠
-	-	-	-	♥
2	-	2	-	♦
3	-	3	-	♣



Huub Bertens

Bertens did well to compete to 3♠, and was not taxed to make 10 tricks on the lead of ♠K. Gitelman as East led a club against 3♠. Now he shifted to diamonds. Even had Kokish cashed out the diamonds before they went on the hearts, declarer would have seen East as a passed hand turn up with ten HCP in the minors. As it was, Kokish played a club at trick three and now declarer cashed ♠A before playing hearts and was delighted with the results.

Two tables got off to a hot start by bidding and making game here, five went down in 4♠; it is certainly easier to defeat 4♠ when South is declarer, but of course even if E/W do not cash out it may not be clear to play for the drop in spades. Seeing all of the cards, the perfect defence would be for the defence to play *four* rounds of diamonds after cashing one club – that would promote West's ♠K! Only two pairs found this defence (both against 4♠ to rub salt to injury), by team Sweden (Johan Sylvan – Frederic Wrang) and Germany (Martin Rehder – Michael Groemoller).

The second deal was a flat 3NT (in our other match Ping Wang gave J Y Shih a chance to play 2♣xx for +560 after a lead-directing double, but it was too early in the morning for Shih to relish the chance of that so he too settled for the mundane +430).

On board three Pertamina broke in front when a weak no-trump let them transfer to 2♠ on a 5-3 fit, which played a lot better than 1NT – off the whole club suit and an unfavourably placed ♥AQ. In a sense this was just a quirk of no-trump ranges; after 1♦-1♠-1NT North has a 5-3-3-2 ten-count with weak spades and no reason to suspect the problems.

Pride of place went to Norway here; Brogeland/Lindqvist bid and made 4♠ with 10 facing 12 (off ♣AK and ♥AQ+ a ruff, but who's counting?).



Julius A George

Dealer: West
 Vul: Both
 Brd 4
 Yeh Qual R1

♠ 7 5 2
 ♥ A Q J
 ♦ 8 6 5 4 2
 ♣ Q 6

♠ 10
 ♥ 9 7 4
 ♦ A K Q 10 7
 ♣ A K J 10

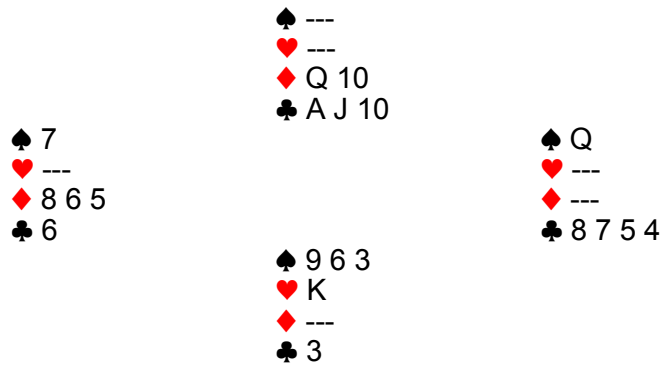
♠ A Q J 4
 ♥ 10 8 6
 ♦ 3
 ♣ 8 7 5 4 2

♠ K 9 8 6 3
 ♥ K 5 3 2
 ♦ J 9
 ♣ 9 3

West	North	East	South
Karwur	Bertens	George	Cheek
Kokish	Parasian	Gitelman	Taufik
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♥*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
-	3	-	4	NT
-	1	-	1	♠
-	2	-	2	♥
-	3	-	4	♦
-	1	-	1	♣

Both tables then bid smoothly to 3NT on the auction 1♦-2♥-3NT, where 2♥ was mini-Flannery, showing 5-4 in the majors and less than invitational values. A standard auction would have accomplished the same today, but slower – at least it would appear that way. However not everyone managed the feat. For example, Mikael Rimstedt as East overcalled 1♠ over a strong club, and when Ola Rimstedt raised him to 2♠ North doubled and South passed it out. The defence started well enough, with a club lead and spade switch. Declarer put in the jack, and South won to return a top spade. Declarer won in hand, finessed in hearts, and played a diamond. North won to return the suit, so declarer ruffed, cashed two hearts, and had reached this ending.



When declarer played a club North had to win. He next led a diamond, and declarer ruffed high to lead a club and make the ♠7 en passant. Curiously in this ending North must lead a third club to let South ruff high and lead a trump, whereupon the defenders have the rest for 500 instead of 200.

I was surprised at the variations in results here:

Dealer: North
 Vul: N-S
 Brd 5
 Yeh Qual R1

♠ Q J 8 6 4
 ♥ A Q 2
 ♦ 9 2
 ♣ K Q 10

♠ 5
 ♥ 10 6 5 4 3
 ♦ A K 8 6 5
 ♣ 9 4

♠ K 9 7 3
 ♥ 8
 ♦ Q J 7
 ♣ J 8 6 5 3

♠ A 10 2
 ♥ K J 9 7
 ♦ 10 4 3
 ♣ A 7 2

West	North	East	South
------	-------	------	-------

Makeable Contracts				
2	-	2	-	NT
4	-	4	-	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
-	-	-	-	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

More than a quarter of the field went minus here; one pair played 3NT – presumably when West did not check back for spades after South bid hearts and East showed a balanced hand. Unluckily that put South on lead to attack diamonds. One unlucky (well, not THAT unlucky) pair played hearts, and five pairs went down in 4♠. It is hard to see why you would reject the spade finesse, since even if you spot the heart ruff looming, the finesse is surely a better option than ace and another spade to prevent the ruff?

Dealer: South ♠ Q J 9 2
 Vul: Both ♥ A 10 8
 Brd 7 ♦ Q 7
 Yeh Qual R1 ♣ A 7 6 2
 ♠ A 4
 ♥ 9 6
 ♦ K 10 6 4 3
 ♣ Q 9 5 3

West North East South

♠ 6 3
 ♥ K Q J 4 3
 ♦ A J 8 5 2
 ♣ K

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

Makeable Contracts				
-	3	-	3	NT
-	2	-	2	♠
-	4	-	4	♥
-	3	-	3	♦
-	1	-	1	♣

In a peculiar mirror-image of the hand above, this time it was the responsibility of N/S to avoid the side-suit ruff in their major-suit game. The field played game (with the exception of one optimistic pair who had climbed to 5♥) and while three rounds of spades might prove challenging, declarer can overcome that defence by simply ruffing high and drawing trumps ending in dummy – which works, although it isn't clear that this is necessarily best.

However, most Wests led clubs since that was the unbid suit. It looks normal to win, cross to a heart and pitch a spade on the ♣A. Then do you draw all the trumps – as Pete Hollands did (making even more painlessly than he would otherwise have done when West pitched a diamond) or do you lead a diamond and...?

At many tables the sight of the ♦9 persuaded declarer to go up with the ace and play back a low diamond, and when West won his ♦K from here on in there were ten tricks whatever the defenders did (five hearts, two diamonds two clubs and a diamond ruff). If West ducks his ♦K the defence is far more challenging. East ruffs but what is he to do next? If the defenders do not play trumps declarer, who has four tricks in, can take six trumps. So East plays his last trump and declarer wins in dummy, ruffs a club, and reaches this ending:

♠ Q J 9 2
 ♥ 8
 ♦ ---
 ♣ 7

♠ A 4
 ♥ ---
 ♦ K 10 6
 ♣ Q

♠ K 10 8 7 5
 ♥ ---
 ♦ ---
 ♣ J

♠ 6
 ♥ K Q
 ♦ J 8 5
 ♣ ---

Declarer leads a spade from hand and West ducks this to East, who wins to play a club. Declarer can now ruff this and lead a diamond, discarding from dummy to endplay West to concede the rest.

Let's rewind, and see what happens if declarer had finessed on the first round of diamonds. Jerry Stamatov played back a club and declarer drew trumps and had now blocked himself. But again, it looks natural for West to win to return a diamond for the ruff. East must again return a trump to kill the cross-ruff. Now declarer wins in dummy, ruffs a club, ruffs a diamond, ruffs a club,

and reaches a parallel but equally elegant end-position to the above position:

Declarer ruffs a club to hand and leads his last trump to catch West in what Terence Reese elegantly named a Winkle. If West discards a diamond declarer cashes two tricks in that suit, if a low spade he is endplayed in spades to lead diamonds. So he discards his spade ace, and declarer cashes ♦A and builds a spade trick for his tenth winner.

If the play at anyone's table worked out like this, please let us know!

♠ Q J 9 2
 ♥ ---
 ♦ ---
 ♣ 7

♠ A 4
 ♥ ---
 ♦ 10 4
 ♣ Q

♠ K 10 8 7
 ♥ ---
 ♦ ---
 ♣ J

♠ 6
 ♥ K Q
 ♦ A 8
 ♣ ---

Dealer: North
 Vul: E-W
 Brd 9
 Yeh Qual R1

♠ Q 8 5
 ♥ A K 8
 ♦ K Q 8 5
 ♣ A 5 2

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

♠ A K 6
 ♥ 10 6 5
 ♦ J 7 3
 ♣ J 8 7 4

West Karwur	North Bertens	East George	South Cheek
	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♥(♠)
Pass	2♠	All Pass	
Kokish	Parasian	Gitelman	Taufik
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥(♠)
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts

-	2	-	2	NT
-	3	-	3	♠
-	1	-	1	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
-	2	-	2	♣



Robert Parasian

A good hand for strong club, to be able to stop in 2♠ (or for transfer responses where opener's 1NT rebid shows 18-19 – end of commercial).

Bertens received the lead of ♣7. He took the ♣9 in hand and led a trump towards dummy, and when the ♠J held, a diamond (ducked) to his ♦K. Then a club to the ♣K, a heart to hand, and a third club up left the defenders unable to prevent nine tricks. Had East ducked this, his partner could have ruffed but would not have had a trump to return. When East took the ♣J, the best he could do was cash ♠K hoping his partner was the one with three spades; no luck today.

In the other room Gitelman led the ♣7 and Parasian won the king to lead a diamond to his king as Kokish also ducked his ♦A. Now declarer played ♣A and another club. Gitelman let Kokish ruff, and back came a trump to permit Gitelman to play three rounds of that suit, leaving dummy with a heart and club loser for down one; very nicely done and 5 IMPs to make it 7-5. Two overtrick IMPs to Kokish saw the match end 7-7.

APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Appeals Committee will comprise of Patrick Huang (Chairman), Barry Rigal and David Stern and other members seconded from time to time. However players are reminded that, in general terms the Committee's opening position is that the Director's Ruling is correct and it will be the obligation of the appellants to prove to the Committee that the Director has erred in his ruling.

LUNCH

Every day the organisers will order 40 Japanese box lunches (bentos) and 40 sandwich sets. These will be available for 1000Yen each outside the playing area. First come, first served.

YEH CUP QUALIFYING ROUND 2

Round two of the ten match qualifying saw the leaders, Team Pepsi (Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco, Jacek Pszczola, Josef Blass, Jacek Kalita and Michal Nowosadzki) on 19.86 VPs matched against Team BulGer (Roy Welland, Sabine Auken, Jerry Stamatov and Dylan Danailov) running second on 17.34 VPs.

Ten board matches don't allow much room for error since the possibility of recovering from one bad board is strictly limited. Board 11 (the first board) saw E/W, Stamatov-Danailov for BulGer in the Open room, reach 4♥ after an uncontested auction while a light (OK VERY light) opening by Auken, North in the Closed Room, led to a contested auction allowing E/W to settle in 3♥. It isn't hard to imagine that 4♥ might make on a good day, losing a heart and two spades, but today just wasn't one of those days.

Dealer: South
 Vul: Nil
 Brd 11
 Yeh Qual R2

♠ J 10 4
 ♥ A J 8 7 6 4
 ♦ 8 3 2
 ♣ 2

♠ 9 3
 ♥ K Q 3
 ♦ J 7 4
 ♣ Q J 10 8 7

♠ A Q 5 2
 ♥ 10 5
 ♦ K 9 5
 ♣ 9 6 4 3

♠ K 8 7 6
 ♥ 9 2
 ♦ A Q 10 6
 ♣ A K 5

West Stamatov	North Hampson	East Danailov	South Greco
			Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass
Nowozadski	Auken	Kalita	Welland
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1NT	Pass
2♦(♥)	Pass	2♥	Double
Redouble	3♣	Double	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
2	-	2	-	♠
2	-	3	-	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
-	2	-	2	♣

The good news for the Bulgarians is that a trick for the defence went missing when Greco cashed the ♠A after winning the ♠Q, so both tables scored -50 for a flat board.

It's no secret that Auken/Welland like walking on the wild side, and that proved to be the case on Board 12, although one could reasonably argue that their judgement was superior in this case.

Dealer: West
 Vul: N/S
 Brd 12
 Yeh Qual R2

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

♠ 10 2
 ♥ J
 ♦ A J 6 2
 ♣ A K Q J 7 3

♠ Q J 7 3
 ♥ A 9 4
 ♦ Q 10 4
 ♣ 5 4 2

♠ K 9 8
 ♥ K 7 3
 ♦ 9 7 5
 ♣ 10 9 8 6

West Stamatov	North Hampson	East Danailov	South Greco
1♥	2♣	2♥	3♣
4♥	5♣	All Pass	
Nowozadski	Auken	Kalita	Welland
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Double	2♦	2♥	Double
3♥	Double	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
-	5	-	5	NT
-	1	-	1	♠
1	-	1	-	♥
-	3	-	4	♦
-	5	-	5	♣

Hampson-Greco, N/S in the Open Room, accurately bid to 5♣ over 4♥ (-300 or -500 on the less likely spade lead) which seemingly relies on the diamond finesse. However there can be further complications on a heart lead if diamonds do not break and certainly if the ♦K is wrong you can write down minus 100. On the other hand, in 3NT on a heart lead, you are forced to take the immediate

diamond finesse and, if that loses, you will be writing -400. If however that finesse does work, like it did for Auken, then you pick up 2 IMPs for making 11 tricks in NT – BulGer leading 2-0.

After a flat 4♠ with 10 tricks in both rooms, Auken-Welland, no doubt having seen my comments above, and perhaps guided by the opponents being prepared to play in one of their suits, sold out too short.

Dealer: East
 Vul: Nil
 Brd 14
 Yeh Qual R2

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

♠ 3
♥ A J 6 4 2
♦ K J 9 5 2
♣ A J

West	North	East	South
Stamatov	Hampson	Danailov	Greco
		1♦	1♥
Double	2♥	Double	3♦
Pass	3♥	All Pass	
Nowozadski	Auken	Kalita	Welland
		1♣	1♥
Double	1♠	Double	Redouble
2♣	2♥	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Makeable Contracts				
-	1	-	1	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
-	2	-	2	♥
-	4	-	4	♦
2	-	2	-	♣



Eric Greco

In the Open Room Hampson-Greco had a relatively easy path to 3♥, against which, surprisingly, West chose to lead a spade rather than his singleton diamond. That allowed declarer to lose a spade, two hearts and a diamond. On a diamond lead, however, declarer will lose a diamond, a spade and two diamond ruffs, and with careful play in the club suit to avoid giving declarer an entry to dummy the defenders will also score a heart trick for one down.

The real opportunity came in the Closed Room. What would you bid on the South hand in the pass-out seat over 2♠ on the South hand? Given that partner has more than likely shown a three-card heart suit, 3♦ doesn't seem like a major risk. Anyway some of us write and some of us play and perhaps seeing all four hands makes it easier. 2♠ lost the 'obvious' 6 tricks for -50 and 3 IMPs to Pepsi who now led 3-2.

Board 15 offered clairvoyants the opportunity for 10 IMPs for making 4♥ if they could play this combination ♠ K J 7 4 2 opposite ♠ A 9 8 by running the jack and if covered then finessing the ♠10 on the way back for no loser. Nobody in our match found this brilliancy and it was 50 at both tables.

Board 16 was flat with both pairs playing 3♠ making four when spades lay favourably. Board 17 continued the sedate session with 4♠ making at both tables. So with seven boards played and only 5 IMPs changing hands I was expecting the organisers to come to the Bulletin Office to ask for a partial refund of fees.

Board 18 saw the IMP turnover increase by almost 60% when Pepsi racked up 3 IMPs for finding a 'better' part-score



Jerry Stamatov

Dealer: East
 Vul: N/S
 Brd 18
 Yeh Qual R2

♠ Q J 8 6 4 2
 ♥ 8 4 2
 ♦ K 7 4
 ♣ 8

♠ K 7 5 3
 ♥ 7 5
 ♦ J 6
 ♣ 10 9 6 3 2

♠ 9
 ♥ A Q J 3
 ♦ A 9 3 2
 ♣ K Q 7 5

West Stamatov	North Hampson	East Danailov	South Greco
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	2♠	All Pass	1♥
Nowozadski	Auken	Kalita	Welland
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♦	All Pass	1NT

Makeable Contracts				
2	-	2	-	NT
-	2	-	2	♠
-	-	-	-	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

2♠ went down one trick while 2♦ in the Closed Room failed by two tricks. Pepsi 6 BulGer 2
 Board 19 saw those same 3 IMPs come back.

Dealer: South
 Vul: E/W
 Brd 19
 Yeh Qual R2

♠ A 8
 ♥ A 4 3
 ♦ K 7 5
 ♣ Q J 8 7 2

♠ K J 7
 ♥ 6 2
 ♦ J 9 8 6 3
 ♣ 10 5 4

♠ 9 4 3
 ♥ J 9 7 5
 ♦ A Q 2
 ♣ K 9 3

West Stamatov	North Hampson	East Danailov	South Greco
1♠	Double	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Nowozadski	Auken	Kalita	Welland
1♠	Double	2♠	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
-	2	-	2	NT
2	-	2	-	♠
-	1	-	2	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
-	3	-	3	♣

In the Open Room the play to 3♥ saw declarer duck the first spade, win the second spade, knock out the ♣A and ruff the third spade. When he then tried ♥A and another heart the roof fell in. He lost three spades, three hearts and a club for -150.

After a spade lead in the Closed Room against 3NT, the defence took four spade tricks and the club ace for -50 and 3 IMPs. Pepsi 6 BulGer 5.

Patience is a virtue that I wasn't blessed with, but the last board finally produced a swing worthy of discussion.

Dealer: 20
 Vul: All
 Brd 20
 Yeh Qual R2

♠ A K Q J 4
 ♥ Q 9 5 4
 ♦ 4
 ♣ K J 9

♠ ---
 ♥ 8 7 6
 ♦ A Q J 9 8 7 5 3
 ♣ A 6

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

West Stamatov	North Hampson	East Danailov	South Greco
2♣ ^{6 or 5/4}	2♠	3♦ ^{GF}	4♠
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass
Nowozadski	Auken	Kalita	Welland
1♣	1♠	2♣	3♠
Pass	4♠	5♦	All Pass

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	1	-	NT
-	3	-	3	♠
3	-	3	-	♥
6	-	6	-	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

Danailov, East in the closed room, must have suspected a poor diamond fit knowing that his partner possibly held four hearts and five clubs and, with his spade void, some spade fragment. What he didn't know was just how well their combined cards fitted. Indeed the ♣K instead of the ♣Q might have made 6♦ quite playable for example.

Muller-De Wijs in another match actually bid and made 6♦ on the following auction:



Simon de Wijs

West	North	East	South
De Wijs		Muller	
1♦	1♠	2♣(♦)	4♠
Pass	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♦	All Pass

4NT by East showed either ♦s + ♥s OR a good 5♦ bid. Played by West on the ♠J lead declarer had enough entries to ruff out the club suit.

Declarer, Hampson in 4♠x by North, ruffed the second diamond, drew trumps and played a heart in an attempt to provide a discard for his clubs, West won the heart and forced Hampson immediately to pick clubs extremely well by playing the ♣9 which he did thus preventing the defence from establishing a second club trick before the hearts were established. That was one down and -200.

Kalita in the Closed Room bid 2♣ showing diamonds and then showed that indeed he did appreciate the value of the eight-card suit and the void in the opponent's suit. With 11 top tricks that was +600. Those 9 IMPs saw Pepsi win the match by 15 IMPs and 13.43 VPs to 6.57.

For those interested in these things Hampson-Greco were +4 IMPs overall versus Datums while Nowosadzki-Kalita, their teammates were plus +3 IMPs. After the match the teams were running Pepsi 2nd and BulGer 8th.

ROUND THREE KRANYAK VERSUS NORWAY

The first board of our round three match saw life in the fast lane. As a paid up member of AARP (the American Association of Crumblies) I found my dinner rising in my gorge as I got to admire the overcalling style, and response thereto.

Dealer: N
 Vul: N-S
 Brd 21
 Yeh Qual 3

♠ A K 10 4
 ♥ K J 6 5
 ♦ J 4
 ♣ 10 8 6

♠ Q 9 7 5
 ♥ 10 4
 ♦ K 8
 ♣ A K 7 4 3

♠ J 6
 ♥ 8 2
 ♦ A Q 10 7 6 2
 ♣ Q 9 2

♠ 8 3 2
 ♥ A Q 9 7 3
 ♦ 9 5 3
 ♣ J 5

West	North	East	South
Aa	Kranyak	Livgard	Demuy
	1♣	1♥	2♣(♦)
Double	Pass	2♥	Pass
Pass	2NT	All Pass	
Wooldridge	Lindqvist	Hurd	Brogeland
	1♣(2+)	1♥	2♣(♦)
Double	2♦	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	2♠	3♦
All Pass			

Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
1	-	1	-	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
-	1	-	1	♦
1	-	1	-	♣

Against 3♦ Hurd led a low spade. Declarer covered with the jack and won the ♠Q with his ace then finessed in trumps. Wooldridge took the first trump, gave his partner the club ruff and Hurd cashed ♥A. I suppose Wooldridge might have cashed only one top club before playing hearts but Hurd might have had a had a singleton club, I suppose (or ♥KQ and the spade ten or ♠K).



Joel Wooldridge

In the other room 2NT had plenty of play after the spade lead. Kranyak also put up ♠J, covered all round. Here the diamond finesse succeeded, but instead of repeating it, the ever-suspicious Kranyak played a club himself; an interesting choice. When Lindqvist won and shifted to ♥10, covered all round, Brogeland reverted to spades, the ♠8 covered by Lindqvist's ♠9. Kranyak won and eventually repeated the diamond finesse after the ritual pause as if to indicate that even if it lost, he was wise to his opponent's wiles. Now a second heart let Brogeland cash his hearts and play a third spade, leaving the defenders with seven tricks for two down and 3 IMPs.

Both pairs in our featured match then played 6NT on a hand where the Grand Slam hinged on finding a side-suit missing ♣QJ10 breaking 2-2; it did. Singapore bid the grand slam, Israel/Poland missed slam.

Then the same pairs had the chance to bid to an inelegant game in a 7-0 fit, needing a 3-3 break plus something else nice to happen, and again found the cards cooperating. After a 0463 11-count opened, the other hand was almost certain to drive to game; elsewhere on this deal, one table went down in the spade game, one played 3NT and regretted it.

Dealer: W ♠ 8
 Vul: Nil ♥ 10 9 7 5
 Brd 24 ♦ 9 5 3
 Yeh Qual 3 ♣ K 10 8 7 2

♠ K 7 6
 ♥ Q J 8
 ♦ Q 10 8 7 6 4
 ♣ Q

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

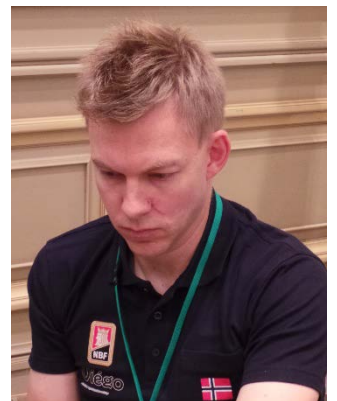
West	North	East	South	
Aa	Kranyak	Livgard	Demuy	
1♠	Pass	2♠	2NT*	
4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass	
Wooldridge	Lindqvist	Hurd	Brogeland	
1♠	Pass	2♠	3♥	
4♣	5♥	Double	All Pass	
Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
3	-	4	-	♠
-	5	-	5	♥
5	-	5	-	♦
-	4	-	4	♣

Lindqvist's 5♥ call was certainly an extremely brave call, particularly given a partner who isn't afraid to pre-balance. In a sense Hurd judged the level of competition well (assuming that South was going to double 5♠ -- but would the defenders have been able to manoeuvre their diamond ruff?). in 5♥x Brogeland ruffed the opening diamond lead, took one round of trumps, and ducked a spade. When he ruffed the next diamond he cashed the second top trump, and after considerable deliberation advanced the ♣J and put the king on it. When the queen appeared he could claim 11 tricks. Had it not done, I assume he was planning to ruff the diamond and lead out clubs to ensure no worse than down one.

In the other room Demuy showed hearts and another and took a long time to pass out 4♣, knowing about the short spades opposite. If you could see the back of the cards you would find the diamond lead (but I wouldn't advise that with Brogeland in the other team ...☺). After a heart lead Norway had +480 and 15 IMPs to lead 18-0.

In our other featured match Muller-De Wijs were allowed to play 4♣ for +480...losing 7 IMPs when after (1♠)-Pass-(2♠)-3♥-(Double)-4♥-(4♣) Brink guessed to double rather than bid on. Not an easy hand.

All told, nine of our 26 tables reached 5♥x, 16 tables played game making the other way. That adds up to 25 of our 26 pairs, so who were the exception? Answer, Welland-Auken, since after Welland had overcalled in hearts as South, Auken made a fit lead-director with the North cards. Now can you blame Welland for competing to 6♥ over 5♠? A good partner would have given him the ♥Q in addition to that ♣K and 12 tricks would have rolled home.



Boye Brogeland

Most of the IMPs from the previous hand were up for grabs on the next deal when one side bid slam and the other side doubled the opponents' sacrifice in 4♠. Which side of the results do you want to take?

Dealer: N
 Vul: E-W
 Brd 25
 Yeh Qual 3
 ♠ 9 7 2
 ♥ ---
 ♦ Q 10 4 2
 ♣ K Q J 10 8 7

♠ A Q
 ♥ A 7 6 5
 ♦ 6 5
 ♣ A 9 5 3 2

♠ 5 4
 ♥ K Q J 9 2
 ♦ K J 9 8 3
 ♣ 4

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

West	North	East	South
Aa	Kranyak	Livgard	Demuy
	1NT	Pass	2♦(♥)
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	6♥	All Pass	
Wooldridge	Lindqvist	Hurd	Brogeland
	1♣	1♠	2♦(♥)
3♠	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
-	2	-	1	NT
2	-	2	-	♠
-	4	-	4	♥
-	2	-	3	♦
1	-	1	-	♣

As the diligent bulletin reader will have inferred even from getting as far as the third match of this event, transfer advances in response to opening bids when in competition are fast becoming the norm at the expert level. Here Brogeland refused to be pushed to the five-level, but the defence to 4♠x appears to be far from straightforward. However, Lindqvist made a nice play when he won the ♣A and underled his ♥A.

Hurd ruffed and tried to cash a top club from dummy, pitching a diamond. That let Brogeland ruff and lead another low heart. Now Hurd could ruff a third heart in dummy but when he tried to discard his last heart on a club Brogeland could ruff in with the remaining low trump. Declarer was still left with two spades to lose. In all he lost four trump tricks and a club for a slightly unlucky -500 (it could have been even unluckier had Brogeland switched to a trump – now declarer would be stuck in his hand to lose an additional trick!).

Demuy's 3♠ call showed a minimum slam-try, and over 3NT his 4♦ call promised a singleton club, hence Kranyak's jump to slam. All entirely reasonable, if a fraction optimistic, but as it was, the combination of the 4-0 trump break and unhelpful lie of the diamonds gave declarer very few tricks on a heart lead. When Kranyak led a diamond to the jack early on, he was doomed to two down. 12 IMPs to Norway, up 30-0.

Dealer: E
 Vul: All
 Brd 26
 Yeh Qual 3
 ♠ Q J 9 8
 ♥ Q 8 7 5 3
 ♦ 8 6
 ♣ 9 6

♠ 7 3 2
 ♥ A 2
 ♦ A K J 10 3
 ♣ K Q 3

♠ A 6 4
 ♥ K 10 9 4
 ♦ Q 5
 ♣ A J 5 2

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

West	North	East	South
Aa	Kranyak	Livgard	Demuy
Wooldridge	Lindqvist	Hurd	Brogeland

Makeable Contracts				
-	6	-	6	NT
-	3	-	3	♠
-	3	-	3	♥
-	7	-	7	♦
-	6	-	6	♣

The 14-16 no-trump worked much better on the next deal, when Demuy opened one with 14 and Kranyak used keycard with a balanced 17-count and five diamonds, then drove to 6NT, a contract that had 12 top winners. In the other room Lindqvist opened the same hand and rebid to show 12-14. Brogeland showed a game force with diamonds, then temporized with 2NT but neither side made a slam try and they settled in 3NT. Not unreasonable but with 31 HCP and two balanced hands it was not entirely surprising that only six of our 26 pairs reached the slam.

Just as Kranyak appeared to have got back in the match, they got hit with a hammer blow:

Dealer: W ♠ 9
 Vul: N-S ♥ J 10 9 4
 Brd 28 ♦ 8 7 5 3
 Yeh Qual 3 ♣ J 9 8 3

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

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

West	North	East	South	
Aa	Kranyak	Livgard	Demuy	
1♣	Pass	1♠*	Pass	
2NT	Pass	3♣(♦)	Pass	
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass	
4♥(KC)	Pass	5♦	Pass	
6NT	All Pass			
Wooldridge	Lindqvist	Hurd	Brogeland	
2NT	Pass	4♣	Pass	
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass	
5♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass	
Makeable Contracts				
6	-	6	-	NT
2	-	2	-	♠
-	-	1	-	♥
5	-	5	-	♦
1	-	2	-	♣



John Kranyak

If 6♦ was the worst slam you bid this week you would probably win first prize, but in the other room it worked out far better for West to take control not East, since the former could count the tricks at no-trump.

Aa could see that he wanted to protect his tenaces, and although the 6-1 spade break was highly unlucky it wasn't so entirely unpredictable, was it? The 14 IMPs to Norway gave them a 46-14 win.

Half of the field got this wrong – four pairs missing slam, eight pairs going down in 6♦, and one pair being allowed to make +920. The rest all reached 6NT; well done.

YEH CUP QUALIFYING ROUND 4

Our Round 4 match sees 11th placed IsPolta 40.57 VPs (Ehud Friedlander, Inon Liran, Ron Pachtman, Piotr Zatorski, Massimiliano Di France and Andrea Manno) pitted against 12th placed Australia 40.17 VPs (Justin Mill, Peter Hollands, Andrew Peake, Peter Gill, David Beauchamp and Matthew Thomson)

Board 1 started well for IsPolta when they reached 4♠ with four top cashing losers, while Australia rested in 2♠ making the 'normal' nine tricks.

Dealer: North ♠ A 4 3
 Vul: None ♥ Q J 9
 Brd 1 ♦ A J 9 5 2
 Yeh Qual R4 ♣ Q 7

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

♠ K Q 8 7 6 2
 ♥ 8 6
 ♦ K 3
 ♣ J 9 5

West	North	East	South	
Beauchamp	Franco	Thomson	Manno	
	1NT	Pass	4♥	
Pass	4♣	All Pass		
Zatorski	Mill	Pachtman	Holland	
	1♣	1♥	Double	
1NT	Pass	2♥	2♠	
All Pass				
Makeable Contracts				
-	3	-	3	NT
-	3	-	3	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
-	2	-	2	♦
2	-	2	-	♣

In the Open Room, Thomson, East for Australia led the unfortunate singleton diamond which was enough to give declarer a chance. Declarer cashed the ♠K and ♠Q, unblocked the ♦K and crossed to

the ♠A followed by taking a heart pitch on the ♦J. He wasn't finished with his work yet, having now to play a club to the nine to establish his tenth trick in clubs. 7 IMPs to IsPolta who lead 7-0.

More IMPs on the next board when Australia bid to a slam with moderate chances.

Dealer: East ♠ Q 10 6 5
 Vul: N-S ♥ Q 4
 Brd 2 ♦ Q 9 6 4
 Yeh Qual R4 ♣ 10 9 2

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

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

Makeable Contracts				
6	-	6	-	NT
3	-	3	-	♠
6	-	6	-	♥
5	-	5	-	♦
6	-	6	-	♣

Unfortunately Beauchamp didn't have his X-Ray glasses on to find the ♥Q doubleton offside, and that was 11 more IMPs to IsPolta who lead 18-0 after just two boards.

The tide turned on Board 3 when Franco, North, was caught napping on defence.

Dealer: South ♠ Q J 5
 Vul: E-W ♥ 9 8 3
 Brd 3 ♦ A J 8 7
 Yeh Qual R4 ♣ Q J 6

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

♠ 8 6 3
 ♥ A J 10 7 5 2
 ♦ 3 2
 ♣ 9 5

West	North	East	South	
Beauchamp	Franco	Thomson	Manno	
Zatorski	Mill	Pachtman	Holland	
				3♥
Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass	
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass	
Makeable Contracts				
-	-	1	-	NT
3	-	3	-	♠
-	-	-	-	♥
3	-	3	-	♦
4	-	4	-	♣



Justin Mill

In the closed room the defence was deadly accurate. Mill, North, led a heart to the king and ace. Declarer won the heart continuation with the ♥Q and tried a diamond towards the king. North jumped on that and played his last heart, with the defence taking five hearts and a diamond for two down and +200 for Australia.

The real action took place in the Closed Room where North led a heart and South, on winning the ace switched to a club, Declarer won the ♣A and played a spade towards dummy on which North played low and Beauchamp inserted the ♠10 in desperation.

When this won and spades broke he seemingly had 10 tricks although the score shows 11 and the play record appears to have subsequently disappeared into the ether. IsPolta 18 Australia 13.

Boards 4 and 5 provided some respite for both teams with 1 and 2 overtrick IMPs respectively to Australia who now trailed by 16-18.

Dealer: East
 Vul: E-W
 Brd 6
 Yeh Qual R4
 ♠ 10 7 5 4
 ♥ K 6
 ♦ J 10 8 6 4 2
 ♣ 5

♠ J 3
 ♥ 9 8
 ♦ Q 7 5
 ♣ Q 10 9 7 6 4

♠ K 9 8 6
 ♥ A Q 10 4 3
 ♦ 9
 ♣ A K 8

♠ A Q 2
 ♥ J 7 5 2
 ♦ A K 3
 ♣ J 3 2

West Beauchamp	North Franco	East Thomson	South Manno
		1♥	1NT
Pass	2♠	Double	3♣
3♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
Zatorski	Mill	Pachtman	Holland
		1♥	1NT
2♦	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Makeable Contracts				
-	-	-	-	NT
3	-	3	-	♠
2	-	2	-	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
-	2	-	2	♣

The defence in the Closed Room was spot on. Against 3♣, West led the ♦J. East, on winning the top club played the ♥4 to his partner's king, got his diamond ruff, and that was one down +50 for IsPolta.

In the Open Room, Beauchamp was lucky to avoid the axe in 3♦. With two spades and a spade ruff and three top trumps to lose for two down E/W escaped for -200, That was 6 IMPs to IsPolta who led 24-16 after seven of the ten boards.

Board 7 was an overtrick IMP to IsPolta in 4♥ at both tables, while board 8 saw both teams reach 5♣, losing the obvious three tricks. Board 9 was a flat 3NT failing by two tricks in both rooms Ispolta 25-16.

Board 10, however, sealed the deal for IsPolta.

Dealer: East
 Vul: Both
 Brd 10
 Yeh Qual R4
 ♠ A 9 7 6 4
 ♥ J 10
 ♦ Q 8
 ♣ Q J 10 5

♠ J 8 5 2
 ♥ A 8 7
 ♦ K 3
 ♣ K 8 6 3

♠ 3
 ♥ 6 5 3 2
 ♦ A J 7 4 2
 ♣ 9 4 2

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

West Beauchamp	North Franco	East Thomson	South Manno
		1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass
Zatorski	Mill	Pachtman	Holland
		1♣	Pass
1♥ ^{Tfr}	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Makeable Contracts				
2	-	2	-	NT
3	-	3	-	♠
-	-	-	-	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
1	-	1	-	♣

E/W certainly look to have the resources for 4♠ and Beauchamp, West in the Open Room, would count himself unlucky to get the bad trump break although the working club finesse was certainly a bonus. By my maths this is approximately a 37% chance (no correspondence will be entered into).

Still, it would be hard to find fault with West's actions in the Closed Room for not inviting on his ten count with short honours, together with not much in the way of spots in the trump suit. 170 and 100 earned IsPolta 7 IMPs for a final score of 32-16 15.05 VPs versus 4.95 VPs.

Again for those who are interested in these things, and I certainly am, the datums for the pairs in this match Franco-Manno +8 IMPs with Beauchamp-Thomson -8IMP with Mill-Hollands -4 IMPs and Zatorski -4IMPs.

After this match Ispolta were running 7th to play Kranyak and Australia 20th to play PD Times.

A SECOND LOOK AT SECOND SIGHT

In reporting on this deal the Editors spoke just a little too soon when they indicated that declarer needed second sight to succeed in his game here. As Geir Helgemo (and at another table Eric Kokish) indicated, basic numeracy might suffice, in the right circumstances. A total of 10 declarers brought home 420 or more – though twice from the East seat, when there were perhaps different considerations.

Dealer: S
 Vul: N-S
 Brd 15

♠ K J 7 4 2
 ♥ K Q 6 3
 ♦ Q J
 ♣ 10 3

♠ Q 5 3
 ♥ 9 2
 ♦ K 10 9 2
 ♣ Q 8 7 4

♠ 10 6
 ♥ A 10 7
 ♦ 7 6 3
 ♣ A J 9 6 5

♠ A 9 8
 ♥ J 8 5 4
 ♦ A 8 5 4
 ♣ K 2

West Sylvan	North Martens	East Wrang	South Filipowicz
			Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass
*relay Helgemo	Upmark	Helness	Nystrom

1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Makeable Contracts				
1	-	2	-	NT
4	-	4	-	♠
4	-	5	-	♥
1	-	1	-	♦
-	1	-	1	♣

The play in 4♥ in the Open Room saw Martens lead a diamond rather than a club; reasonable enough, but declarer did not maximize his chances when after winning cheaply in hand he drew trumps and won the next diamond, then completed drawing trumps and now led out the ♠K.

Perhaps at this point he realized the avoidance play of a low spade to the ♠9 would fail if South won and tapped him out with a third diamond as the spades would be blocked. So he played ♠A and a third spade. This avoided losing to ♠Qx in North, but as the cards lay Martens could win and play a club through, to doom the contract.

In a similar position Eric Kokish started spades by leading low to the nine. Now when South forced him, he could ruff and run the spades.

Geir Helgemo received the toughest defence, of a low club lead (the ♣7 playing 3rd and low) to trick one.

Sure that the ♣A was wrong, he nonetheless put up dummy's king, reasoning that North would never underlead ♣QJ. South, Nystrom won, cashed ♣J then unlikely to hold ♠Q as well.

Backing his judgment Helgemo ran ♠J from his hand after drawing trumps, and had an elegant +420 as well as a 'Bien Joue' from his opponents.



Tor Helness and Geir Helgemo

MEET PAUL HACKETT



Paul Hackett has been a stalwart of the bridge world for close to 60 years playing professionally for more than 260 days a year – he notes this being a reduction from his peak of 320 days. Born 76 years ago in Peshawar India his mother made their way back to Manchester, England during WW2 after his father was killed as a Squadron leader over Singapore. He currently lives with his wife of 48 years, Olivia.

If you know Paul Hackett, you probably also know his twin sons Jason and Justin, who are also regulars on the international bridge circuit either professionally or representing England. They are equally indebted to their mother Olivia who taught them at the age of nine. The family bridge tree is completed by his daughter-in-law Barbara who is a German medal-winning bridge player.

Looking back on his life, he is probably grateful to his mother for teaching him bridge at the age of 15, and allowing his game to expand by playing with her at the local golf club. Unlike many top level bridge players, Paul didn't allow the game to disrupt his studies at Summerhill, Marlborough College and Trinity Dublin which resulted in a First Class degree in Social Studies.

Success came quickly when Paul qualified with Malcolm Morgan to represent England at the age of twenty. His major successes since then have included winning the D'Orsi Seniors Bowl in Sao Paulo, The Senior World Championship in Philadelphia and the Phillip Morris European Pairs with Martin Hoffman. He notes he probably has the widest geographical spread of bridge wins of any player in the world. As bridge players we easily remember our successes but equally our major failures and in Paul's case that came recently when, playing with John Holland, he burned a comfortable lead in the Seniors Pairs to finish ninth.

Away from the table, Paul has been active in building an impressive range of tournaments including, The Buffett Cup, The Commonwealth Nations Cup, Molex, the NatWest Trophy and The Grand Tour and others. "I am proud of these achievements. But my greatest achievement is that my sons are prepared to play on a team with me and I have the pleasure of socialising with them on a regular basis – not many parents have this fantastic opportunity and I am particularly proud of my twin sons".

We probably all know the names of bridge greats Giorgio Belladonna, Geir Helgemo, John Collings, Zia Mahmoud, Martin Hoffman and Barry Crane, but unlike Paul we have not had the joy of playing with these stars of the game. These days however, when playing on a sponsored team, Paul usually plays with the sponsor – this being testament to his even temperament at the bridge table. Current partners are Brian Senior in the Seniors (of course), David Price in the Open and Justin more than Jason when he plays with his sons. He would have loved to play with Helen Sobell who was considered by many to be the greatest woman player but someone also somebody who was able to beat the best players of the day - male or female.

When playing with illustrious bridge partners it is always good to demonstrate that you learn from the best. Giorgio Belladonna is accredited with having discovered this safety play:

♠ A 8 7 6 3 2

♠ K 10

Playing with Belladonna in Morocco he executed Belladonna's safety play of running the ♠10 finding this layout and the only way to hold his losers to one trick in that suit.

♠ A 8 7 6 3 2

♠ Q J 5 4

♠ 9

♠ K 10

Always good to impress the maestro.

On the subject of system, Paul is true to his roots in the game, preferring natural and relatively basic systems, more specifically four-card majors, strong no-trump and two over one game force. It is a very aggressive system requiring a lot of judgement which he enjoys. Competitive bidding judgement is that part of the game which is the most challenging to Paul especially at the five level where you have less 'security' than playing 5 card majors, although you do have an advantage in clubs.

When asked about an amusing bridge story, "about two years ago I was travelling on a train and a fellow passenger finding out I played bridge informed me that he had a great friend who played bridge - Paul Hackett. I also often get asked if I am one of the Hackett twins".

His favourite tournaments are the Yeh Bros Cup, the NEC and European tournaments with one session a day and reasonable prizemoney (Deauville and Biarritz as an example). Given that his hobbies include dancing, genealogy, travel as well as good food and wine, the attraction of the one session a day tournaments allows him to enjoy fine dining surrounded by his bridge friends. He is looking forward to the Commonwealth Nations Cup which will be held next February at the Gold Coast, Australia.

On the future of the game...."while there are pockets in the world like China where it is on the increase and seniors tournaments, bridge is holding its own. However there are simply too many distractions to attract a large younger audience. However I do believe that the internet may well increase numbers at some point, but am less than optimistic hopeful about the future of the game we all love. National Bridge Organisations have failed to create "superstars" of the game promoting them as identities of the game. I am not talking purely about bridge ability but rather personalities who can appear and on their websites and in their magazines with photos of them every month so that the ordinary player will want to be associated and identify with them – like heroes of the game".

In terms of the growth of bridge in England "the game is on the way down. With an ever expanding calendar of events and poor promotion of those tournaments they are becoming less and less attractive to players. English bridge is administered by well-intentioned volunteers in a world where professionalism is paramount to success. It has one of the largest staffs of any federation but there seems to be a lack of structure and accountability. Locally, in Manchester we do have bridge in some schools and there is a university bridge club all of which are active only because of local volunteers".

Looking forward Paul look forward to continue to enjoy the game for as long as he can and to try and win more titles especially in the Senior category, combined with his motto for enjoying the game – "at the end of session telling my partner that I enjoyed that lets do it again while your results or the behaviour of your opponents remains unimportant".

It would be remiss in the current environment not to ask Paul about the recent cheating scandals that have rocked the world...."it's very sad. In all sports, when there is money involved, there will always be a small minority who will do anything they can to gain an advantage. While it has certainly cost many players their medals and prizemoney as well as opportunities for my sons, we have to continue to look at the positive side of the game and look towards the future of the game with positivity and search for 100% integrity".

The Magical Garden

Christina Lund Madsen



One of the unique things about the Chinzanso Hotel is the hotel garden in the middle of Tokyo. Barry Rigal sent me on an excursion in the oasis with the 7 Gods of Fortune, the secret gates, the waterfall and the fireflies.

As a surprise to no one, I got lost in the garden. Luckily, I found transport back.



TEAM ROSTERS: 2017 Yeh Bros Cup

#	TEAMS	PLAYERS
1	Netherlands	Simon de Wijs, Bauke Muller, Bas Drijver, Sjoert Brink
2	Kranyak	John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge
3	Japan 2	Kyoko Shimamura, Makiko Sato, Megumi Takasaki, Yuki Fukuyoshi, Akiko Yanagisawa, Toshiko Kaho
4	Japan 3	Kotomi Asakoshi, Tadashi Teramoto, Masaaki Takayama, Takeshi Niekawa, Shugo Tanaka, Hiroaki Miura
5	IsPolta	Ehud Friedlander, Inon Liran, Ron Pachtman, Piotr Zatorski, Massimiliano Di Franco, Andrea Manno
6	Beijing BEIH	Deng Zhuodi, Kang Meng, Sun Shaolin, Liu Jing, Liu Yinghao, Yin Jiashen
7	India	Bendre Kaustubh Milind, Majumder Debabrata, Mukherjee Sumit, Nandi Kaustabh, Kirubakara Moorthy, Ramaratnam Krishnan
8	Pharon	Justin Hackett, Jason Hackett, Tom Hanlon, Paul Hackett, Alex Hydes
9	Chinese Taipei	Herstein Liu, Edward Yeh, Mou Chen, David Yang, Jiang Gu
10	France	Thomas Bessis, Frederic Volcker, Ola Rimstedt, Mikael Rimstedt
11	China Open	Jin Zhan Jie, Bi Shu Guang, Wei Yu, He Wen Jiong, Jing Xu, Shi Bin
12	Singapore	Kelvin Ng, Poon Hua, Loo Choon Chou, Zhang Yukun, Fong Kien Hoong, Lam Cheng Yen
13	PD Times	Marc Chen, Fu Zhong, Li Jie, Hou Xu, Patrick Huang, Zhao Yanpei
14	Germany	Michael Gromöller, Martin Rehder, Christian Schwerdt, Julius Linde
15	Australia	Justin Mill, Peter Hollands, Andrew Peake, Peter Gill, David Beauchamp, Matthew Thomson
16	BulGer	Roy Welland, Sabine Auken, Jerry Stamatov, Dylan Danailov
17	Sweden	Frederic Wrang, Fredrik Nyström, Johan Upmark, Johan Sylvan
18	Monaco	Geir Helgemo, Tor Helness, Pierre Zimmermann, Krzysztof Martens, Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace
19	Shanghai Finance	Shan Baisong, Huo Shiyu, Shi Haojun, Wang Xiaojing, Li Xiaoyi, Chen Jun
20	YBM	Chen Yeh, Ya Lan Zhang, Juei Yu Shih, Ping Wang, Dawei Chen, Diego Brenner
21	Poland	Piotr Gawryś, Michal Klukowski, Krzysztof Jassem, Marcin Mazurkiewicz, Krzysztof Buras, Grzegorz Narkiewicz
22	Kokish	Eric Kokish, Fred Gitelman, Curtis Cheek, Huub Bertens
23	Japan 1	Akihiko Yamada, Kyoko Ohno, Masayuki Ino, Kazuhiko Yamada, Kazuo Furuta, Hiroshi Kaku
24	Norway	Allan Livgard, Terje Aa, Boye Brogeland, Espen Lindqvist
25	Pertamina Indonesia	Taufik Asbi, Beni J Ibradi, Franky Karwur, Robert Parasian, Julius A George, Kurniadi Djauhari
26	Pepsi	Geoff Hampson, Eric Greco, Jacek Pszczola, Josef Blass, Jacek Kalita, Michal Nowosadzki

2017 Yeh Bros Cup Schedule

TUESDAY 4TH July

09:30 – 10:50	Qualify Swiss Round 6	Bds 21-30
11:10 – 12:30	Qualify Swiss Round 7	Bds 01-10
	<i>Lunch Time</i>	
14:00 – 15:20	Qualify Swiss Round 8	Bds 11-20
15:40 – 17:00	Qualify Swiss Round 9	Bds 21-30
17:20 – 18:40	Qualify Swiss Round 10	Bds 01-10

LUNCH

Every day the organisers will order 40 Japanese box lunches (bentos) and 40 sandwich sets. These will be available for 1000Yen each outside the playing area. First come, first served.

WEDNESDAY 5TH July

09:30 – 11:40	Knockout 1, Seg. 1	Bds 01-16
12:00 – 14:10	Knockout 1, Seg. 2	Bds 17-32
	<i>Lunch Time</i>	
15:30 – 17:40	Knockout 2, Seg. 1	Bds 01-16
18:00 – 20:10	Knockout 2, Seg. 2	Bds 17-32

09:30 - 10:50	Consolation Swiss Rd 1	Bds 01-10
11:10 - 12:30	Consolation Swiss Rd 2	Bds 11-20
12:50 - 14:10	Consolation Swiss Rd 3	Bds 21-30
	<i>Lunch Time</i>	
15:40 - 17:00	(4 teams) Cons. Swiss R4	Bds 01-10
17:20 -18:40	Consolation Swiss Rd 5	Bds 11-20

THURSDAY 6TH July

09:30 – 11:40	Knockout 3, Seg. 1	16 bds
12:00 – 14:10	Knockout 3, Seg. 2	16 bds
	<i>Lunch Time</i>	
15:30 – 17:40	Knockout 4, Seg. 1	16 bds
18:00 – 20:10	Knockout 4, Seg. 2	16 bds

09:30 - 10:50	(4 teams) Cons. Swiss R6	Bds 21-30
11:10 - 12:30	Consolation Swiss Rd 7	Bds 01-10
12:50 - 14:10	Consolation Swiss Rd 8	Bds 11-20
	<i>Lunch Time</i>	
16:20 - 19:50	Open Pairs Qualification	Bds 01-27

FRIDAY 7TH July

09:30 - 11:40	Final & Play-off, Seg 1	Bds 01-16
	<i>Lunch Time</i>	
13:10 – 15:20	Final & Play-off, Seg 2	Bds 17-32
15:35 – 17:45	Final & Play-off, Seg 3	Bds 33-48

09:30-13:00	Pairs Semi-Final	Bds 01-27
	<i>Lunch Time</i>	
14:00-17:30	Pairs Final & Consolation	Bds 01-27

19:00 **** Victory Dinner ****

VENUE LOCATIONS

Hotel	Hotel Chinzanso Tokyo (the former Four Season Tokyo)
Captain's Meeting	Bamboo Room, Hotel 2F
Welcome Dinner	Wisteria Room, Hotel 1F
Yeh Cup Bridge	Ballroom, Hotel 1F
Victory Dinner	Jupiter, Plaza 4F (in the Plaza, located at another part of Chinzanso)

Pair Datums after Round 5 of 10 Qualifying

Rank	Pair	Team	Rounds
1	Geoff Hampson – Eric Greco	Pepsi	5
2	Piotr Gawrys – Michal Klukowski	Poland	5
3	Dawei Chen – Diego Brenner	YBM	4
4	Boye Brogeland – Espen Lindqvist	Norway	5
5	Kazuo Furuta – Hiroshi Kaku	Japan 1	3
6	Bi Shu Guang – He Wen Jiong	China Open	3
7	Geir Helgemo – Tor Helness	Monaco	4
8	Akihiko Yamada –Kyoko Ohno	Japan 1	5
9	Tom Hanlon – Paul Hackett	Pharon	5
10	David Beauchamp – Matthew Thomson	Australia	4