



THE 7th ASIA PACIFIC BRIDGE CONGRESS FUKUOKA 2012



Friday, August 31, 2012
Bulletin Number 7

Editors: Rich Colker, Barry Rigal

Team Rankings

Rank	Group A	VPs
1	Pan-China Construction Group	226
2	Beijing Jinghua	225
3	Beijing BEIH	220
4	China Geely Automobile	218.25
5	Singapore RYLAI	200
6	Japan SAYN	198.25
7	CBLT1	191
8	Japan City Bridge	187
9	Japan NON PROBLEM	178
10	Australia Yarralumla Yabbies	169.25
11	China Hong Kong Spark	158
12	Japan KM AT	148.25
13	Japan welcome Kyushu	146
14	Japan C'est si bon	132

Rank	Group B	VPs
1	HYX CHINA	236
2	Japan well fitted	232
3	Beijing Evertrust Group	227
4	SHENZHEN NANGANG	222
5	AUSTRALIA KLINGER	218
6	Japan MIURA	190
7-8	Singapore SMJ	181
7-8	China Hong Kong VICO	181
9	Japan TANAKA	158
10	Korea GLPD	153
11	Japan Papas&Puppies	152
13-14	Beijing Dazhong Investment	146
13-14	CBLT2	146
14	Japan Gahhahha Honpo	143
15	Japan sacrum	118

Rank	Women	VPs
1	Japan SHIMAMURA	159
2	Japan SUGINO	145
3	Japan Merci	138
4	Shenyang Olystar Bridge Club	137
5	Australia BOURKE	136
6	Japan Naito	119
7	Japan TAKEUCHI	117
8	Korea Alpha	109
9	Japan Misotoma	100
10	Australia WOMEN	91
11	Japan Evolution	86

Rank	Youth	VPs
1	Beijing Yindi Junior	219
2	CHN RDFZ 1	217
3	CHN RDFZ 2	210
4	Shanghai Weiyu Bridge Club	175
5	Chinese Taipei Youth	154
6	Japan Youth A	142
7	Japan Youth K	128
8	Japan Youth B	46

Rank	Seniors	VPs
1	Japan Lycaon	221
2	Japan YAMADA	218
3	MAGIC EYES THAI	205
4	AUSSIES	192
5	Japan NOSE	163
6	Japan PSbridge	114
7	Chinese Taipei Senior	109
8	China Shanxi elderly	85

Today's VuGraph Matches

Match 10
Pan-China Construction Group vs Singapore RYLAI
Japan NON PROBLEM vs Beijing BEIH
Match 11
Singapore SMJ vs Japan well fitted
HYX CHINA vs China Hong Kong VICO
Match 12
Japan SAYN vs China Geely Automobile
Japan MIURA vs SHENZHEN NANGANG



APBF Bridge Congress on the Web

Follow the action at the 7th APBF Bridge Congress by surfing to:

<http://www.jcbl.or.jp/apbf2012/tabid/264/Default.aspx>

Follow our featured matches on Vugraph each day at: www.bridgebase.com

Conditions of Contest

The General Conditions of Contest for the 2012 APBF Congress are on the JCBL website at:

<http://www.jcbl.or.jp/Portals/0/apbf2012/english/information/General Conditions of Contest 2012 APBF Congress.pdf>

The Supplementary Regulations for the 2012 APBF Congress are on the JCBL website at:

<http://www.jcbl.or.jp/Portals/0/apbf2012/english/information/SupplementaryRegulations.pdf>

Special Notes

Self-Alerting Calls:

- All natural 1NT openings
- Stayman 2♣
- All Doubles
- All bids over 3NT except higher-level openings
- Cue-bids of the opponents' suit

NOTE: Today is the last day that the above applies. Beginning tomorrow:

- All matches will be played behind screens
- **All systemic agreements must be Alerted**
- There are NO self-Alerts

Line Ups (very important):

Line ups for the next match are due NO LATER than 10 minutes AFTER the end of the previous match

Smoking:

There is NO SMOKING in the Hilton Sea Hawk

Appeals Committee Members

Chair:	Tadashi Teramoto	(Japan)
Members:	Fu Zhong	(China)
	Denny Sacul	(Indonesia)
	Alan Sze	(China Hong Kong)
	Poon Hua	(Singapore)
	Julia Hoffman	(Australia)

Notice from APBF2012 Fukuoka Committee



We hope you enjoyed the Happy Summer Night on Wednesday evening. If by any chance you kept a "Happi coat" that is different (like those in the pictures) from the ones we gave to the APBF players here as a gift, please return it to the Hospitality Desk or the Main Office. Those Happi coats were borrowed from our sponsors for the local attendants of the "Happy Summer Night" party and they have to be returned.

Thank you very much for your cooperation. We hope you enjoy the rest of the tournament.



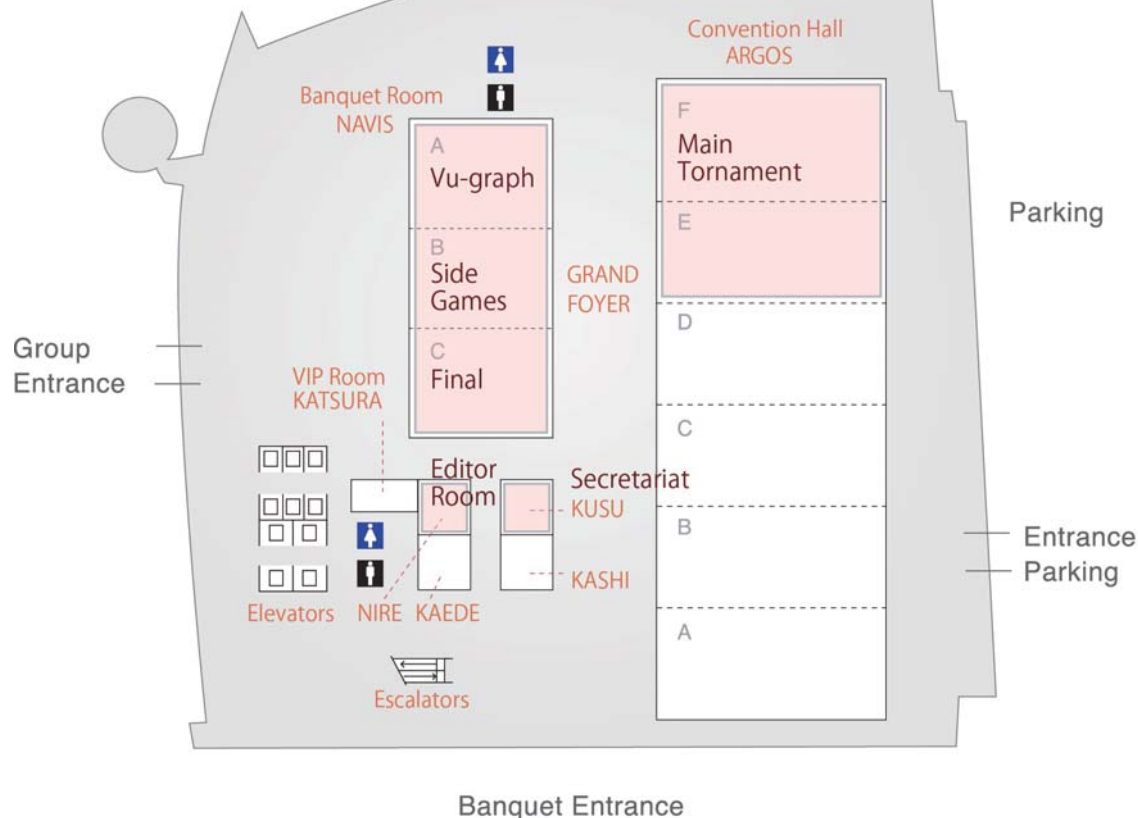
APBF Congress: General Schedule of Events

APBF Congress Championships			Side-Games	
DATE	TIME	EVENT	TIME	EVENT
8/31 (Fri)	10:00-19:00	APBF Teams Qualifying (RR) (See next page for details)	10:00-17:30	Fukuoka Team Regional (Nintendo 3DS & Wii Cup) (F1/F2) [Open/ Δ 1000MP]
			10:00-17:30	Stratified Pairs [Open/ Δ 1000MP]
9/1 (Sat)	09:00-:00	APBF Teams Semi-Finals (KO) (See next page for details)	10:00-17:30	Fukuoka Mayor's Cup (Q1/Q2) [Open Teams]
			10:00-17:30	Stratified Pairs Sectional (Δ 100MP / Δ 20MP)
9/2 (Sun)	09:00-17:30	APBF Teams Final (KO) (See next page for details)	10:00-17:30	Fukuoka Mayor's Cup (F1/F2) [Open Teams]
			10:00-17:30	TV Nishinippon Cup [Open Pairs]
			10:00-17:30	Team Sectional (Δ 100MP)
	18:30-22:00	Victory Banquet & Awards Ceremony		

PCs with Internet access will be available for player use in the Navis A Room (where line-ups are submitted, opposite the playing area)

APBF Area Floor Plan

LEVEL 1



APBF Congress: Detailed Schedule (Championship Events)

Date/Time		Open	Women	Senior	Youth
Aug. 31 Fri.	10:00 12:20	Round 13	Round 9	2nd Rd. 5	2nd Rd. 5
	14:00 16:20	Round 14	Round 10	2nd Rd. 6	2nd Rd. 6
	16:40 19:00	Round 15	Round 11	2nd Rd. 7	2nd Rd. 7
Sept. 1 Sat.	9:00 11:15	Semifinal 1			
	11:30 13:45	Semifinal 2			
	15:15 17:30	Semifinal 3			
	17:45 20:00	Final 1			
Sept. 2 Sun.	9:00 11:15	Final 2			
	11:30 13:45	Final 3			
	15:15 17:30	Final 4			
	19:00 22:00	Victory Banquet			

Fukuoka Teams/Thursday Stratified Pairs

Open (7 Teams; 4 Qualify)

Rank	Names	Total
1	Yasuyoshi Toriumi, Misako Fukazawa, Hiromu Nishida, Yoshie Nishida	109
2	Yukiko Hoshi, Megumi Takasaka, Etsuko Naito, Yukiko Umezu	99
3	Haruki Tanaka, Yoshiko Higashide, Toyoko Goto, Keiko Noda	96
4	Nobuyuki Matsuzawa, Ryuji Hatae, Hiroshi Shinjo, Koji Nakayama	93

Under 1000 (8 Teams; 4 Qualify)

Rank	Names	Total
1-2	Maki Uenoyama, Atsuko Ishikawa, Michiko Nakanishi, Yukiko Matsukawa	113
1-2	Kaoru Sento, Yasue Tajika, Atsuko Sato, Natsuko Yamada	113
3	Yoko Nishi, Yasuko Gondo, Seiko Ichinose, Keiko Sugawa	112
4	Nobuko Takahashi, Yoko Watanabe, Kanae Fujiwara, Masako Hirano	107

(H) (a) (p) (p) (y) (S) (u) (m) (m) (e) (r) (N) (i) (g) (h) (t)



Today's Open Teams Programs

Open A		Open B	
Match 13			
1 Pan-China Construction	- 2 Singapore RYLAI	1 Beijing Dazhong Inv	- 2 Australia KLINGER
3 Japan C'est si bon	- 4 Japan welcome Kyushu	3 Korea GLPD	- 4 Japan sacrum
5 Japan NON PROBLEM	- 6 Beijing BEIH	5 CBLT2	- 6 SHENZHEN NANGANG
7 China Hong Kong Spark	- 8 CBLT1	7 Japan Gahhahha Honpo	- 8 Japan MIURA
9 Japan SAYN	- 10 Japan KM AT	9 Japan well fitted	- 10 Japan TANAKA
11 China Geely Automobile	- 12 Australia Yarralumla	11 Beijing Evertrust Group	- 12 Singapore SMJ
13 Japan City Bridge	- 14 Beijing Jinghua	13 Japan Papas & Puppies	- 14 HYX CHINA
		China Hong Kong VICO	- BYE
Match 14			
1Japan welcome Kyushu	- 2 Pan-China Construction	1 Japan sacrum	- 2 Beijing Dazhong Inv.
3 Singapore RYLAI	- 4 Japan C'est si bon	3 Australia KLINGER	- 4 Korea GLPD
5 CBLT1	- 6 Japan NON PROBLEM	5 Japan MIURA	- 6 CBLT2
7 Beijing BEIH	- 8 China Hong Kong Spark	7 SHENZHEN NANGANG	- 8 Japan Gahhahha Honpo
9 Australia Yarralumla	- 10 Japan SAYN	9 Singapore SMJ	- 10 Japan well fitted
11 Japan KM AT	- 12 China Geely Automobile	11 Japan TANAKA	- 12 Beijing Evertrust Group
Beijing Jinghua	- BYE	13 HYX CHINA	- 14 China Hong Kong VICO
Japan City Bridge	- BYE	Japan Papas & Puppies	- BYE
Match 15			
1 Pan-China Construction	- 2 Japan C'est si bon	1 Beijing Dazhong Inv	- 2 Korea GLPD
3 Japan welcome Kyushu	- 4 Singapore RYLAI	3 Japan sacrum	- 4 Australia KLINGER
5 Japan NON PROBLEM	- 6 China Hong Kong Spark	5 CBLT2	- 6 Japan Gahhahha Honpo
7 CBLT1	- 8 Beijing BEIH	7 Japan MIURA	- 8 SHENZHEN NANGANG
9 Japan SAYN	- 10 China Geely Automobile	9 Japan well fitted	- 10 Beijing Evertrust Group
11 Australia Yarralumla	- 12 Japan KM AT	11 Singapore SMJ	- 12 Jap
14 Japan City Bridge	- BYE		
Beijing Jinghua	- BYE		
Women		Senior	
Match 9		Match 5 (Round 2)	
1 Shenyang Olystar	- 2 Australia Women	1 Japan Lycaon	- 2 MAGIC EYES THAI
3 Japan Shimamura	- 4 Japan Naito	3 Japan YAMADA	- 4 AUSSIES
5 Japan Takeuchi	- 6 Japan Merci	5 Japan NOSE	- 6 China Shanxi eld.
7 Japan Sugino	- 8 Korea Alpha	7 Chinese Taipei	- 8 Japan PS bridge
9 Japan Misotoma	- 10 JapanEvolution		
Australia BOURKE	- BYE		
Match 10		Match 6 (Round 2)	
1Japan Takeuchi	- 2 Shenyang Olystar	1 AUSSIES Japan	- 2 Lycaon
3Japan Merci	- 4 JapanShimamura	3 Japan YAMADA	- 4 MAGIC EYESTHAI
5 Australia Women	- 6 Japan Naito	5 Japan NOSE	- 6 Chinese Taipei
7 Japan Evolution	- 8 Japan Sugino	7 Chinese Taipei	- 8 Japan PS bridge
9 Australia BOURKE-	10 Japan Misotoma		
Korea Alpha	- BYE		
Match 11		Match 7 (Round 2)	
1 Shenyang Olystar	-2 Japan Shimamura	1 Japan YAMADA	- 2 Japan Lycaon
3 Japan Takeuchi	- 4 AustraliaWomen	3 AUSSIES	- 4 MAGIC EYES THAI
5 Japan Merci	- 6 Japan Naito	5 Japan NOSE	- 6 Japan PS bridge
7 Japan Sugino	- 8 Japan Misotoma	7 China Shanxi eld.-	8 Chinese Taipei
9 Australia BOURKE-	10 Korea Alpha		
Japan Evolution	- BYE		

Convention Regulations for Side (Pair) Games

(An explanation for foreign players)

Unlike the NEC Cup, which is an international event, and the Yokohama Swiss Teams, in which all non-brown-sticker conventions are permitted, the Yokohama IMP Pairs and Asuka Cup are rated as Japanese regional or national events, for which JCBL regulations for domestic events apply strictly. We ask for your compliance with the regulations explained below. If you have any questions about what is allowed, please ask the JCBL staff. Please note that use of unauthorized conventions may be penalized. We thank you for your cooperation.

All side games at the NEC Bridge Festival (the Yokohama IMP Pairs and Asuka Cup) are restricted to "List C" conventions as described below. The use of the Multi-2♦ is strictly prohibited and will be subject to penalty.

LIST C (Television Nishinippon Cup — Sunday)

Opening Bids

1. 1♣ or 1♦ may be used as an all-purpose opening bid (artificial or natural) promising a minimum of 10 HCP (e.g.: Precision 1♣ and 1♦; Polish 1♣, etc.)
2. 2♣ artificial opening bid indicating one of:
 - a) a strong hand, balanced or unbalanced
 - b) a three-suiter with a minimum of 10 HCP (e.g., Roman 3-suiter, etc.)
3. 2♦ artificial opening bid showing one of:
 - a) at least 5-4 distribution in the majors with a minimum of 10 HCP (e.g., Flannery, anti-Flannery etc.)
 - b) a strong hand, balanced or unbalanced
 - c) a three-suiter with a minimum of 10 HCP (e.g., Roman 3-suiter, etc.)
4. Opening suit bid at the two level or higher indicating the bid suit, another known suit, a minimum of 10 HCP and at least 5-4 distribution in the suits.
5. Opening notrump bid at the two level or higher indicating at least 5-4 distribution in the minors, 10 or more HCP.
6. Opening 3NT bid indicating:
 - a) any solid suit or
 - b) a broken minor suit.
7. Opening four-level bid transferring to a known suit (e.g., Namyats, etc.).
8. Strong opening at the two level or higher, asking Ace, King, Queen, singleton, void, trump quality.

Responses and Rebids

1. 1♦ as a forcing, artificial response to 1♣.
2. 1NT response to a major-suit opening bid, forcing for one round; may not guarantee game invitational or better values.
3. Conventional responses which guarantee game forcing or better values. May not be part of a relay system.
4. 2♣ or 2♦ response to 3rd- or 4th-seat major-suit opener asking the quality of the opening bid.
5. Single or higher jump shifts (including into notrump) to indicate a raise or to force to game.
6. All responses to;
 - a) artificial strong opening bids with 15 HCP or more.
 - b) opening bids of 2♣ or higher (weak 2s must guarantee 10 opening points: opening points=HCP + number of cards in longest suit).

7. All constructive calls starting with the opening bidder's second call.
8. Calls that ask for aces, kings, queens, singletons, voids, trump quality and responses thereto.
9. All calls after a natural notrump (including those that have two non-consecutive ranges, neither of which exceeds 3 HCP). No conventional responses are allowed over natural notrump bids with a lower limit of fewer than 10 HCP or with a range of greater than 5 HCP.

Competitive Bids

1. Any conventional balancing calls.
2. Conventional doubles and redoubles and responses (including free bids) thereto.
3. Notrump overcall for either:
 - a) two-suited takeout showing at least 5-4 distribution and at least one known suit. (At the 4 level or higher there is no requirement to have a known suit.)
 - b) three-suited takeout (as with a takeout double, at least 3 cards in each of the 3 suits).
4. Jump overcalls into a suit to indicate at least 5-4 distribution in two known suits, and responses thereto.
5. Cuebid of an opponent's suit and responses thereto, except that a cuebid that could be weak, directly over an opening bid, must show at least one known suit.
6. Comic 1NT overcall.
7. Defense to:
 - a) conventional calls (including takeout doubles).
 - b) natural notrump opening bids and overcalls.
 - c) opening bids of 2♣ or higher.
8. Nos. 5 through 9 under "Responses and Rebids" above apply to both pairs.
9. Transfer overcall to show a specified suit at the four level.

Carding

1. All leads and signaling methods are approved except for: a) odd-even signals, b) encrypted signals, c) dual-message carding strategies, except on each defender's first discard, d) any method when the pair using it are deemed to be playing it in a manner which is not compatible with the maintenance of proper tempo.

LIST D (Fukuoka Mayor's Cup — Saturday and Sunday)
Category 3 of WBF Systems Policy applies

Welcome



Yokohama, Japan



YEH BROS CUP BRIDGE INVITATION

22nd - 26th APRIL 2013

Hosted by Japan Contract Bridge League

Sponsored by Mr. Yeh Chen

Venue: PACIFICO YOKOHAMA Conference Center, Yokohama, Japan



NEC BRIDGE FESTIVAL

16th - 21st APRIL 2013

Hosted by Japan Contract Bridge League

Venue: PACIFICO YOKOHAMA Conference Center, Yokohama, Japan

Contact : Japan Contract Bridge League info@jcbl.or.jp

Bangkok

Bridge Festival Championships

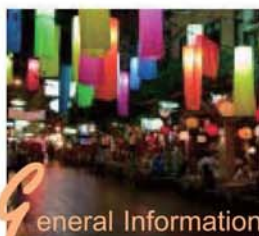
January 29 - February 3, 2013

January is the best time to visit Bangkok, "The City of Angels". Come and enjoy world class bridge; beautiful sights, shopping and good food. All within walking distance from the Montien Hotel where all accomodation and bridge events will be held.

PROGRAM

Day 1 : Tue. January 29th : Registration
 Day 2 : Wed. January 30th
 09.00 - 12.00 : Registration
 13.00 - 18.00 : BBF Pairs Championships
 19.30 - 11.30 : Finals and Consolation
 Day 3 : Thu. January 31st
 13.00 - 19.00 : BBF Open Teams Championships
 20.30 - 24.00 : BBF Swiss Pairs
 Day 4 : Fri. February 1st
 09.30 - 12.30 : Sunshine Pairs
 13.30 - 19.30 : BBF Open Teams Championships
 20.30 - 24.00 : BBF Continuous Pairs
 Day 5 : Sat. February 2nd
 13.00 - 19.00 : BBF Open Teams Championships
 20.30 - 00.00 : Happy Hours Pairs
 Day 6 : Sun. February 3rd
 13.00 - 18.30 : BBF Open Team Semi Finals and Finals
 14.00 - 18.00 : Consolation Swiss Teams
 19.30 : Victory Dinner

Prizers : Cups and gifts will be awarded to the first three placings in each event, as well as 6 prizes for the best accumulated scores in all side events.



General Information

Smoking : Smoking is prohibited inside all hotels and restaurants in Bangkok
Weather : Usually dry and pleasant summer weather
Shopping : Many, shops nearby
Restaurants : Many, many restaurants of all nationalities within walking distance

Cost of Accomodation

Double Room US\$ 75.00 per room
 Including breakfast
 Airport transfer to Hotel : Baht 1,400 per 2 persons
 Baht 1,900 per 4-6 persons

As January is the peak season, rooms must be reserved with Open Teams Registration perference.

Deposits of US\$ 400 (room 200, open team 200)

to be transferred to :

A/C Name : TWBF SWIFT : BKKBTHBK
 A/C No. 101 - 856269 - 2
 Bangkok Bank PCL., Head Office, 333 Silom Road,
 Bangkok 10500, THAILAND

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS ; DECEMBER 24, 2012

Bridge Tournament Entry Fees

BBFC Open Teams	US\$ 400	(per team)
BBFC Open Pairs	US\$ 11	(per player)
Consolation and Finals	US\$ 9	(per player)
Speed Ball Pairs	US\$ 10	(per player)
Swiss Pairs	US\$ 10	(per player)
Continuous Pairs	US\$ 10	(per player)
Happy Hour Pairs	US\$ 14	(per player)



The Montien Hotel,
 Surawongse Road,
 Bangkok is a five star hotel, right in the heart of Bangkok's commercial district, easily accessible to any parts of the city - skytrain, shops and restaurants.

REGISTRATION FORM

BANGKOK BRIDGE FESTIVAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
 BANGKOK, THAILAND : January 29 - February 3, 2013

Surname _____ First Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Country _____ Post Code _____
 Arrival (Date/Time) _____ Flight number _____
 Departure (Date/Time) _____ Flight number _____
 E-mail _____ Fax _____
Room Reservations : ☐ SGL ☐ DBL No. of Nights _____ No. of Rooms : _____
 I will share my room with : Surname _____ First Name _____
I will participate in : ☐ Open Teams ☐ BBF Pairs ☐ Speed Ball
☐ IMP Pairs ☐ Continuous Pairs ☐ Happy Hour
PAYMENTS : Deposit : No. of Rooms : ☐ Open Teams : ☐

Organising Committee : Contract Bridge League of Thailand

Esther C. Sophonpanich : Chairperson of the Organising Committee, Email : chodchoy7@gmail.com

Sunisa Vatanasuk : Honorary Secretary, Email : sunisav@truemail.co.th

34th

COME &
JOIN US!

ASEAN BRIDGE CLUB OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Bali, 5-9 December 2012

WARMING UP FOR THE WORLD BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP 2013



VENUE Sanur Beach Hotel - Bali - Indonesia

Organizing Committee

Postal Address: Stadion Gelora Bung Karno Senayan - Jakarta 10270

Telp: +6221 5738514 / 5738515, Fax + 6221 5741288

Email: oc@aseanbridge34bali.com, accomodation@aseanbridge34bali.com

Website: <http://aseanbridge34bali.com>



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THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE ASSOCIATION,
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE AUSTRALIAN
BRIDGE FEDERATION PRESENTS THE...

GOLD COAST

CONGRESS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 22ND
TO SATURDAY MARCH 2ND

2013



For further enquiries or to register, contact: KIM ELLAWAY

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APBF Teams RR: HYX CHINA vs Japan well fitted

by Barry Rigal

Match 10:

The first three boards produced no swing; same contract, same result. Was my co-editor's nightmare of a match with the same contract and result really going to come true? It is worth noting that Furuta, with ♠AKQ876 ♥64 ♦86 ♣1083, opened 3♠ in second seat non-vulnerable while Jong opened 1♠. Quite a difference in evaluation. We had to wait till Board 4 to get a deal with potential for swing:

Bd: 4	North		
Dir: West	♠ J10		
Vul: Both	♥ KQJ862		
	♦ 1054		
	♣ 84		
West		East	
♠ 964		♠ K8753	
♥ 1095		♥ A	
♦ AK3		♦ J986	
♣ QJ109		♣ 762	
	South		
	♠ AQ2		
	♥ 743		
	♦ Q72		
	♣ AK53		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Minrong</i>
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣(♥)	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣(♥)	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

Both Norths got to the same position. Ino, whose vulnerable preempts are closer to standard than his counterparts, let 3♥ go while Jingsheng went after the vulnerable game. Played by South 4♥ is close to the required vulnerable IMP odds were it not for that spade blockage. The defense led clubs, and declarer could not go after spades conveniently because of the absence of entries back to his hand (even if the spade finesse works East can block the suit — not that he would — by covering the ♠J). So declarer played a trump up, hoping it would be ducked. East won and returned a club in both rooms (yes the ♦J might have persuaded declarer to go wrong; East knows declarer rates to have two spade and one diamond honor or vice versa, in either case the ♦J either doesn't cost or might be necessary). Declarer won the second club and drew trumps. East then did

not cover the ♠10, so declarer was home.

Look what happens on best play, though (this is one of the most beautiful hands I've seen this year). Club lead, trump to the ace, club back. Declarer must ruff a club, draw trumps, lead the ♠J, covered all around, then ruff the fourth club. Now the run of the trumps executes a double squeeze in two suits:

	♠ 10	
	♥ 2	
	♦ 1054	
	♣ ---	
♠ 96		♠ 87
♥ ---		♥ ---
♦ AK3		♦ J98
♣ ---		♣ ---
	♠ Q2	
	♥ ---	
	♦ Q72	
	♣ ---	

On the last trump as South throws his small diamond, which defender keeps two spades? If neither declarer overtakes the ♠Q and scores the ♠2. If East keeps spades guarded declarer unblocks spades and leads a diamond, covering East's card, and West can either crash his partner's ♦J or lead low to him to concede the last trick to declarer. If East pitches a spade, West does best to keep two spades and pitch the ♦K. Now declarer unblocks spades, then leads a diamond and ducks East's card. West can overtake and give declarer the last two or duck and give South trick 13!

After all that excitement (at least in the bulletin office, where a two-suit double-squeeze gives the editorial staff a reason to live) HYX led 10-0. Korea GLPD racked up the same game swing and led Shenzhen Nangang 17-2. Both Korea and HYX added to their leads at once.

Bd: 5	North	
Dir: North	♠ 654	
Vul: N/S	♥ AJ72	
	♦ Q3	
	♣ 10986	
West		East
♠ A873		♠ 2
♥ 1098		♥ KQ65
♦ J105		♦ AK9864
♣ QJ3		♣ A4
	South	
	♠ KQJ109	
	♥ 43	
	♦ 72	
	♣ K752	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Minrong</i>
	Pass	1♦	1♠
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
	Pass	1♦	1♠
1NT	2♠	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass

Could (or should) Furuta have bid 3♠ over 3♦, or would that have been a concern about clubs? In the editors' opinion this would show worry about spades: "Do you want to play 3NT opposite a singleton spade?" It would have made life easy for Takano, but as it was he had to play 3NT on repeated spade leads. He ducked twice, won the third pitching hearts from dummy, then had to bring in diamonds — no problem today — and guess whether South's side card was the ♣K or ♥A. Since South had played ♠10, ♠K, ♠Q Takano took the club finesse and went down two. 5♦ wasn't cold in theory but Yong won the spade lead and took the losing club finesse. When a spade came back he ruffed, cashed the top trumps, unblocked clubs, went to the ♦J, pitched a heart on the clubs, then ran ♥8 and claimed when it held. 11 imps and 21-0 to HYX. Korea GLPD made 5♦ and defeated 6♦ to lead 27-2.

The HYX lead went to 23-0 via undertricks on an ugly partscore (−150 in one room, −200 in the other) before the storm intensified.

Bd: 7	North
Dlr: South	♠ A2
Vul: Both	♥ Q642
	♦ 108
	♣ K9742

West	East
♠ KQJ6	♠ 10754
♥ K8753	♥ AJ9
♦ Q97	♦ 52
♣ 3	♣ AQ85

South
♠ 983
♥ 10
♦ AKJ643
♣ J106

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Minrong</i>
1♥	Pass	1NT(F)	2♦
Pass	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	2♦
Dbl	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

3♥ lost the obvious four tricks, when declarer followed a straightforward line in trumps by leading the ♥K and low to the jack. 4♠ was more testing. The defenders did well by leading three rounds of diamonds, ruffed and over-ruffed. A trump to the king and ace for a club shift saw Yong win his ace and cross to a top spade for a heart to the jack. Then the last trump to dummy to finesse the ♥9 allowed declarer to claim. Carefully done, and 10 imps to lead 33-0. After a couple of pushes the one-way traffic continued flowing in the same direction.

Bd: 10	North
Dlr: East	♠ 1072
Vul: Both	♥ 643
	♦ 92
	♣ A10952

West	East
♠ K9	♠ AJ85
♥ KQ72	♥ A9
♦ AJ8	♦ K107543
♣ KJ74	♣ 3

South
♠ Q643
♥ J1085
♦ Q6
♣ Q86

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Minrong</i>
		1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
		1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

I'm a little surprised Takano didn't cue-bid 4♠ over 4♥ (unless there was some minorwood/keycard element

to the bidding, which there doesn't appear to be). In the Closed Room West's 3♥ seems unnecessarily murky but eventually the auction devolved into keycard and it appears East showed the ♦Q — which looks highly dangerous. Slam is not much better than 50% but if trumps are 2-2 you can ruff the spade loser in dummy, so you probably want to be there — particularly since on a non-club lead your chances increase dramatically. And given that Teramoto did lead the ♥J against the slam this emphasizes the point, I suppose. 12 more imps; 45-0 to HYX.

Meanwhile, Korea bid and made 6NT by West here (the ♠7 lead being fatal to the defense); up 40-10.

Bd: 11 North
 Dlr: South ♠ 1054
 Vul: None ♥ Q1053
 ♦ 4
 ♣ Q9873

West
 ♠ K93
 ♥ 9864
 ♦ K532
 ♣ J6

East
 ♠ QJ2
 ♥ K7
 ♦ AQJ876
 ♣ 102

South
 ♠ A876
 ♥ AJ2
 ♦ 109
 ♣ AK54

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takano	Jingsheng	Furuta	Minrong
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jiahong	Ino	Yong	Teramoto
1♠	Pass	1NT	DbI
Pass	2♣	2♦(!)	3♣
3♦	All Pass		

Minrong blew a trick in 1NT by putting up the ♥10 on the opening lead of the eight. Otherwise his team could have achieved the unusual symmetry of making +180 in both rooms. It looks as if Ino's double of 2♦ was intended as takeout (as it surely should be) but interpreted as penalties. Even if 2♦ doesn't show diamonds North should be able to double for takeout here: if he has shortage elsewhere he passes and defends 2♦ happily, or passes then doubles when they come to rest in his shortage. There was nothing to the play in 2♦x, of course, and the 8 imps to HYX made it 54-0.

A lead problem now. You hold your usual hand of power and quality: ♠7 ♥J1074 ♦Q109543 ♣84 and

when partner opens 1♠ at favorable you respond with a forcing notrump. With your side silent thereafter the auction proceeds to 3NT played by your RHO: 1♠ -P- 1NT-DbI; P-2♣-P-2♠; P-2NT-P-3NT. What do you lead? Furuta led a spade; this was the full story.

Bd: 12 North
 Dlr: West ♠ A654
 Vul: N/S ♥ 963
 ♦ 82
 ♣ 10965

West
 ♠ QJ1082
 ♥ Q85
 ♦ AK6
 ♣ J2

East
 ♠ 7
 ♥ J1074
 ♦ Q109543
 ♣ 84

South
 ♠ K93
 ♥ AK2
 ♦ J7
 ♣ AKQ73

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Takano	Jingsheng	Furuta	Minrong
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jiahong	Ino	Yong	Teramoto
1♠	Pass	1NT	DbI
Pass	2♣	2♦(!)	3♣
3♦	All Pass		

On a spade lead 3NT took the first nine tricks. Let he who is without sin cast the first stone. A diamond is only right if partner has three-plus cards in the suit and what is the likelihood of that? Admittedly, he rates to have a 5332 pattern but even so.... Another 11 imps to HYX, leading now 65-0. Meanwhile, SHENZHEN NANGANG picked up the same game-swing here. They then bid a couple of 3NT contracts missed in the other room to take the lead 47-40 in our other featured match.

HYX tacked on 5 imps more when a somewhat undisciplined game-try by Takano led to his turning a small positive into a small negative. Then well fitted finally got on the board with an overtrick; 70-1 now.



Bd: 16
 Dlr: West
 Vul: E/W

North
 ♠ AQ98752
 ♥ 8
 ♦ 3
 ♣ A1092

West
 ♠ 4
 ♥ K1065
 ♦ 7
 ♣ J876543

East
 ♠ J103
 ♥ Q742
 ♦ Q542
 ♣ KQ

South
 ♠ K6
 ♥ AJ93
 ♦ AKJ10986
 ♣ ---

Bd: 17
 Dlr: North
 Vul: None

North
 ♠ A73
 ♥ 2
 ♦ AK1065
 ♣ J962

West
 ♠ 104
 ♥ AQ1064
 ♦ 98
 ♣ 10874

East
 ♠ KJ98
 ♥ KJ983
 ♦ 7
 ♣ KQ5

South
 ♠ Q652
 ♥ 75
 ♦ QJ432
 ♣ A3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Minrong</i>
	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♠	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
	1♠	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

Both tables reached the grand slam and both received the club lead rather than a deadly heart. You win in hand and have a choice: do you draw trumps and play diamonds from the top, guarding against West having length, or do you play the ♦A and ruff a diamond after one top trump from hand, which guards against East having length? In favor of the first line is that you don't lose to 5-0 diamonds with East (in which case there might have been a Lightner double). In favor of the second line is that if diamonds are 4-1 you may survive East having two singletons or a doubleton spade without the J10. Suffice it to say that one line works, one line doesn't, and both our declarers followed the unsuccessful line. In fact, Fu Zhong and Ron Klinger were the only two declarers in the open event to bid and make 13 tricks and Esther Sophonpanich in the Seniors made it three players.

Korea went down in the grand slam while the Shenzhen team stopped in six; 61-40 now.

Well fitted finally scored some serious imps (yes, too little, too late) here.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Minrong</i>
	1♦	1♥	Dbl
4♥	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
	1♦	1♥	Dbl
3♥	All Pass		

4♥ was destined to fail on normal defense but when Minrong tried the ♣A at trick one that presented declarer with a club trick and gave him a road map as to how to play spades. Furuta needed no further help and wrapped up his +420. In the other room on a top diamond lead Ino did not overtake to play spades (which might have been necessary). The defenders continued diamonds and declarer ruffed and played on spades to build the discards he needed to make +140. The 7 imps made it 70-8 now.

There was one more big swing to come and it went in the direction almost all the other ones had.

Bd: 18
 Dlr: East
 Vul: N/S

North
 ♠ J1097
 ♥ AJ1098
 ♦ ---
 ♣ K842

West
 ♠ 864
 ♥ 542
 ♦ 9732
 ♣ A96

East
 ♠ Q32
 ♥ KQ7
 ♦ A1086
 ♣ J103

South
 ♠ AK5
 ♥ 63
 ♦ KQJ54
 ♣ Q75

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Takano</i>	<i>Jingsheng Furuta</i>		<i>Minrong</i>
		1♦	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♠(1)	Pass	3NT

All Pass

(1) 5♥, 4♠ GF

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jiahong</i>	<i>Ino</i>	<i>Yong</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>
		1♦	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	3NT

All Pass

In the Open Room a diamond to the ace and a club shift to the king meant that declarer was playing for overtricks. He made +630 without breaking a sweat.

In the Closed Room, where Teramoto had shown a trap pass of 1♦, Yong made a nice play to the first trick by putting in the ♦10. Declarer won, took a heart finesse and East got out with the ♣J, marking the high cards for declarer. The best he could do, though, was to win the ♣K, finesse in spades, then cash one top honor and exit with a top diamond to East. Back came the third spade to knock out South's entry, so Teramoto won and played two rounds of diamonds. When West won the ♦9 and played a heart through, that set up the defenders' fifth winner before declarer could come to hand to cash his long diamond.

That made it 82-8, at which point the set mercifully drew to a close. Meanwhile, Shenzhen cemented their win in somewhat fortuitous fashion, making 4♠ here and defeating 4♥ to defeat Korea GLPD 19-11.

APBF Teams RR: Pan China Constr. vs China Hong Kong Spark

by Rich Colker

Match 11:

Bd: 1
 Dir: North
 Vul: None

North
 ♠ A93
 ♥ AJ73
 ♦ AQ
 ♣ K1086

West	East
♠ KQ87	♠ J5
♥ K84	♥ 9
♦ 1074	♦ J9852
♣ J43	♣ Q9752

South
 ♠ 10642
 ♥ Q10652
 ♦ K63
 ♣ A

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mok</i>	<i>Li</i>	<i>Ho</i>	<i>Zhang</i>
	1♣(Prec)	1NT(♣+♦)	2♥
3♣	3♥	5♣	Dbl

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>LaForge</i>	<i>Sheng</i>	<i>Leung</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥

All Pass

In the Open Room Bubble Ho, as East, made the sort of "interference" bid that usually helps the opponents more than your side. You rarely have a good save

with such poor suits and the information you about your shape usually ends up helping the opposing side play or defend more accurately than they would otherwise. That said, C C Mok really had absolutely no reason to get involved in the auction. With a hand far more suited to defense than offense, flat shape, only three trumps, and virtually no values or shortness in partner's suits, the 3♣ bid does almost nothing to consume bidding room; plus, you really do not want to encourage partner to take a save. Zhang Yizhuo wisely chose to double 5♣ and although N/S rate to make 4♥ easily enough they were never going to bid slam — which depends on the heart finesse which works today — and can easily collect more than the value of their game — or their slam — on defense, provided they don't crash their diamonds or get their trumps tangled up. Li Rui had the sort of lead problem we'd all like to have on defense: which ace to lead (or under-lead). He chose the ♥A, not a concern since it only gave declarer a useless pitch, but then made a serious error by switching to ace and another spade. That gave Mok three pitches (the ♠KQ and ♥K) for diamond losers. Mok now called for a low club removing Zhang's reentry so the defense could no longer untangle their diamond tricks. Zhang exited with a spade. Mok pitched a diamond, then called for the ♣J. Li won the king and got out with a heart, Mok pitching a second diamond. The ♠Q was ruffed and overruffed, the defense trading a trump trick for a diamond trick, and now all Mok could take were his two remaining trumps. Down 4, -1100, and it could have been -1400.

In the other room Mark LaForge and Andy K O Leung bid unopposed to 4♥. Wu Yuwei led the ♠K. Leung won the ace, unblocked the diamonds, crossed to the ♣A, pitched a spade on the ♣K, passed the ♥10, drew trumps, crossruffed three more tricks and conceded a spade at the end for an easy +480; lose 12 imps. Pan-China 12-0.

The next board was a push (eight tricks in 1NT, nine in 3♦) and on the following two boards the teams traded overtrick imps, first in 3NT and then in 4♠. Still Pan-China, 13-1.

Bd: 5	North		
Dlr: North	♠ KJ873		
Vul: N/S	♥ 543		
	♦ AK4		
	♣ 94		
West		East	
♠ Q6		♠ A95	
♥ A972		♥ K8	
♦ Q985		♦ J10763	
♣ AJ7		♣ K102	
	South		
	♠ 1042		
	♥ QJ106		
	♦ 2		
	♣ Q8653		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mok	Li	Ho	Zhang
	1♠	Pass	1NT

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wu	LaForge	Sheng	Leung
	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♦	All Pass

If your 1NT response to a major is not forcing Leung's choice of 2♠ in the Closed Room looks the lesser of evils compared to Zhang's choice of 1NT in the Open Room. Even if 1NT is only semi-forcing (as it appear to be here) bidding 2♠ uses up valuable bidding room for the opponents, forcing them to balance at the three level, while 1NT risks your side ending up playing there going down when eight or more tricks are easy in spades. Of course 2♠ might encourage partner to bid too much but how disappointing can your dummy be with a ruffing value and two possible side sources of tricks? Anything might be right, but 2♠ seems a slightly better choice (despite BR's opinion to the contrary).

Not to toot our own horn, but in the Open Room Zhang Yizhuo was left to play in 1NT. Mok got off to the best lead of a low diamond to dummy's ace, and

Zhang played a heart. Ho rose with the king and switched back to diamonds, Zhang pitching a spade on the third round. Mok ducked the next heart, won the third, and switched to a low spade. Zhang tried the king but Ho won the ace, cashed two diamonds, switched to a club, and the defense had the rest; down four, -400. Lest anyone think that -400 is par for N/S (that E/W can make 3NT their way) please note that a spade lead from either side beats that contract.

In the Closed Room Leung led the ♥Q against Sheng Ming's 3♦. There's really not much to the play and Sheng ended up losing a spade and two diamonds for +130. That was 7 imps to Spark, trailing now 13-8.

Bd: 6	North		
Dlr: East	♠ K2		
Vul: E/W	♥ 82		
	♦ K5		
	♣ AKQ10532		
West		East	
♠ Q986		♠ AJ53	
♥ A109		♥ J763	
♦ 1084		♦ AQJ7	
♣ J64		♣ 7	
	South		
	♠ 1074		
	♥ KQ54		
	♦ 9632		
	♣ 98		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mok	Li	Ho	Zhang
		1♦	Pass

1♠ 3NT All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wu	LaForge	Sheng	Leung
		1♦	Pass
1♠	2♣	3♠	Pass
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

In theory 3NT can be set five tricks (heart to the ace, diamond through taking three tricks and ending with West on lead and now a spade through to take four spades and the last diamond) but Ho led the ♠A and now declarer had eight tricks before the defense had more than five (now the diamonds block). In practice Ho continued with a second spade and Li cashed out for down one, -50.

Against LaForge's 4♣ Sheng led the ♥6 (3rd and 5th) and Wu ducked denying declarer a late dummy entry

should he need one. LeForge drew trumps and passed the ♥8 around to the nine. When a diamond came through LaForge tried the king and when it lost to the ace he saw the handwriting on the wall and claimed down two, –100; 2 imps back to Pan-China, leading 15-8.

On the next board Pan-China picked up another overtrick imps in 3NT. There followed three push boards and then another imp to Pan-China on Board 11 when they made two overtricks in 4♠ while Spark made did the same in 3NT. Pan-China now 17-8.

Bd: 12 North
 Dlr: West ♠ 7542
 Vul: N/S ♥ A
 ♦ K107
 ♣ QJ952

West
 ♠ Q108
 ♥ 10762
 ♦ Q63
 ♣ A76

East
 ♠ AK96
 ♥ Q95
 ♦ A9842
 ♣ 8

South
 ♠ J3
 ♥ KJ843
 ♦ J5
 ♣ K1043

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mok</i>	<i>Li</i>	<i>Ho</i>	<i>Zhang</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Dbl	Rdbl	2♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
2♦	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>LaForge</i>	<i>Sheng</i>	<i>Leung</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♥
1NT	2♣	Dbl	3♣
All Pass			

Mok's heart bid in the Open Room likely contributed to Zhang's decision not to compete over 2♦. Zhang led the ♠J to the ace and Ho played ♦A, ♦9 (J, Q, A). Li now cashed the ♦10 and Ho claimed eight tricks (four spades, three diamonds and a club) for +90.

In the other room Leung got the heart suit in first and, although Wu bid 1NT behind him, competed to 3♣ over E/W's 2♦. LaForge received the ♠A from Sheng who continued with a spade to the queen. Wu switched to a diamond and when LaForge ducked he was home with nine tricks, losing just two spades and one trick in each pf the minors for +110. That was 5 imps back to Spark, who closed to within 4 at 17-13.

The next board was another push when both sides made +140 in heart contracts. Then.

Bd: 14 North
 Dlr: East ♠ K97
 Vul: None ♥ A976
 ♦ K105
 ♣ J96

West
 ♠ 654
 ♥ J54
 ♦ Q9643
 ♣ 43

East
 ♠ AQ108
 ♥ KQ832
 ♦ 7
 ♣ A85

South
 ♠ J32
 ♥ 10
 ♦ AJ82
 ♣ KQ1072

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mok</i>	<i>Li</i>	<i>Ho</i>	<i>Zhang</i>
2♥	Dbl	1♥	Dbl
3♥	All Pass	3♣	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wu</i>	<i>LaForge</i>	<i>Sheng</i>	<i>Leung</i>
Pass	2NT	1♥	2♣
All Pass		Pass	3NT

Ho's 3♣ game try looks aggressive, what with a double behind her, her partner's raise being weak (say 4-7), and both opponents competing. Consider that if her partner held ♠xxx ♥Jxx ♦Kxxx ♣QJx or ♠xxx ♥10xx ♦Axxx ♣Kxx, both hands that would rate a raise to game, she would rate to go down one or two tricks in each case. Zhang led the ♥10, ducked to the king, and Ho ducked a club to Li, who played ace and a third heart. Ho won dummy's jack and played a spade, guessing to insert the ten. Now she had to lose two clubs, two spades, and a trick in each in the other two suits for down two, –100.

In the other room it was N/S who took the aggressive actions, but this time it paid off. Sheng led the ♠A, Wu following with the six, and Sheng continued with the ♠10 to the jack. Whether E/W's signals were standard, inverted, or of some other type (Foster Echos?), West needed to discourage a spade continuation. (Not that any shift beats 3NT, though clearly a heart switch works best.) LaForge now played on clubs, Sheng winning the third round and clearing the spades. LaForge won the king, crossed to the ♦A, cashed dummy's two clubs, and played a diamond. Note that he now had a complete count on the hand: Sheng was known to have five hearts from

his opening. He followed to three rounds of clubs. And he had to have started with his actual spade holding since if West had the ♠Q he would have covered dummy's jack at trick two. So Sheng had to have a singleton diamond and LaForge had seen it when he crossed to the ♦A. So the diamond finesse of the ten was proven. But what would work especially well was that if he instead played the ♦K (which he did), cashed the ♥A, and got out with the ♦10 West had to concede the last trick to dummy's ♦J. Making three, +400, was 7 imps to Spark, who took the lead 20-17.

The next three boards were all pushes (including both teams bidding 6♦ and making seven on Board 16), so on to Board 18.

Bd: 18	North		
Dlr: East	♠ J		
Vul: N/S	♥ AJ62		
	♦ Q1083		
	♣ K973		
West		East	
♠ Q2		♠ K10853	
♥ KQ5		♥ 98	
♦ A9762		♦ KJ5	
♣ AJ6		♣ 542	
	South		
	♠ A9764		
	♥ 10743		
	♦ 4		
	♣ Q108		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Mok	Li	Ho	Zhang
		2♦(Multi)	Pass
2♠(P/C)	Dbl	All Pass	

Closed Room

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

Wu	LaForge	Sheng	Leung
		Pass	Pass
1♣(Prec)	Pass	1♦(0-7)	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♥(♠)	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Looking at all four hands it is clear that things are breaking badly for E/W in 2♠ and it's no surprise that N/S were content to defend. What is surprising is that in the Open Room Li chose to make such a thin double of 2♠ when Mok was known to prefer hearts to spades and to have at least an invitational hand opposite a weak 2♥ opening. But Zhang had him covered. Li led his ♠J to Mok's queen. Mok led a diamond to the jack and a heart back to the king and ace. Li continued with the ♦Q, covered by the king and ruffed. Zhang shifted to a low club and Mok rose with the ace to play a trump to the king and ace. Zhang now played the ♣10, intending to win the third round and get out with a heart. But the ♣10 held and when he cashed the ♣Q Li overtook and played a fourth club, ruffed and overruffed, and Mok claimed down one, -100.

Wu's 3NT was no great bargain either. However, we did get to witness one of the rarer bridge events when LaForge led a fourth-highest ♦3 and dummy's five won the trick. Wu continued, spade to the queen, diamond to the jack, ♠K, ducked, ♦K, heart to the king and ace, claim nine tricks for +400. That was 11 imps to Pan-China, who regained the lead 28-20.

Board 18 was a push when both teams scored up an overtrick in 3NT, but Pan-China picked up 2 additional imps when they played 3NT making five while Spark took 11 tricks in 5♣ on the final board. Pan-China won the match 30-20, 17-13 in VPs.



Ever wonder how all those boards get made?



APBF Teams RR: SHENZHEN NANGANG vs Australia KLINGER

by Barry Rigal

Match 12:

Bd: 1
Dir: North
Vul: None

North
♠ 95
♥ KQ7
♦ 742
♣ 76432

West
♠ KQ874
♥ 105
♦ Q8653
♣ A

East
♠ A10
♥ 8432
♦ AJ10
♣ KQ108

South
♠ J632
♥ AJ96
♦ K9
♣ J95

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Klinger	Wang	Beauchamp
	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦(FG)	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Braithwaite	Shi	Robinson	Li
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥(♠)	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

After repeated heart leads 4♠, the best game on the cards, was awkward. Declarer could do no better than ruff, draw trumps, and run the ♦Q. When it lost South could draw declarer's last trump and cash a heart for down two.

By contrast, 3NT appears to be down immediately on a hostile heart break but pretty good otherwise. After a club lead it looks clearly right to win the ♣A, cross to the ♠A and test clubs. Whether they split or not, you can now test spades and fall back on running the ♦Q as the last resort. Even though diamonds are blocked, you have nine tricks (three in each of the three key suits) if the diamond finesse works. Wang saw things differently. When Klinger dropped a neutral ♣4 at trick one declarer opted for deception and ran the ♦Q at trick two. Bingo! South won and pressed on with clubs and declarer had 11 tricks.

As an aside, was that club lead right on the auction? The one suit East surely had is clubs, even though he had shown four hearts as well. And might Klinger have been able to afford the ♣5?

Bd: 2
Dir: East
Vul: N/S

North
♠ J96
♥ KQ72
♦ A9
♣ A1062

West
♠ AKQ1073
♥ 96
♦ KQ64
♣ 7

East
♠ 2
♥ AJ1053
♦ J52
♣ J543

South
♠ 854
♥ 84
♦ 10873
♣ KQ98

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Klinger	Wang	Beauchamp
1♠	Dbl	Pass	2♣
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Braithwaite	Shi	Robinson	Li
1♠	Dbl	Pass	2♣
3♠	All Pass		

In 3♠ Braithwaite received repeated clubs leads (quite a view by North on lead). He ruffed, knocked out the ♦A, and now instead of drawing trumps played two more rounds of diamonds. North ruffed and thoughtfully played a top heart to dislodge dummy's entry and break up the impending endplay on himself and declarer was left with a diamond loser at the end. Obviously, West could have done much better in a number of ways, but it hardly mattered since Klinger quite reasonably led a top heart against 4♠ and declarer simply drew trumps and cleared the hearts with the ♦J as an inevitable entry to the suit. It was 21-0 to Shenzhen and there was worse to come.

Bd: 3
Dir: South
Vul: E/W

North
♠ A9842
♥ 94
♦ AJ3
♣ 876

West
♠ 105
♥ AK732
♦ Q65
♣ AJ2

East
♠ KJ763
♥ Q8
♦ K94
♣ K103

South
♠ Q
♥ J1065
♦ 10872
♣ Q954

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Klinger	Wang	Beauchamp
1♥	1♠	All Pass	Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Braithwaite	Shi	Robinson	Li
1♥	1♠	DbI	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Braithwaite was at the helm in a second delicate contract and received the diabolical lead of the ♦J from Shi. He won and cleared hearts rather than going after spades. South won and shifted to clubs, solving one guess. Declarer put in the jack, passed the ♠10 to South's bare queen, won the club shift in hand and led a second diamond to the nine. Given the earlier play, this assumed North had overcalled on a hand with just the ♠A and ♦J — but we've all seen worse. South won the ♦10 and the defenders had five tricks. Since 1♠ had gone four down (why no reopening double by West you may well ask) that was 7 imps to Shenzhen instead of 9 the other way; credit Shi and that opening lead. We can all find winning lines but none of them are guaranteed by any means.

Bd: 4
 Dlr: West
 Vul: Both

North
 ♠ Q65
 ♥ K53
 ♦ 107
 ♣ 98742

West	East
♠ ---	♠ 9732
♥ J108642	♥ AQ
♦ Q9843	♦ J62
♣ A3	♣ KQ105

South
 ♠ AKJ1084
 ♥ 97
 ♦ AK5
 ♣ J6

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Klinger	Wang	Beauchamp
3♥	Pass	Pass	DbI
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Braithwaite	Shi	Robinson	Li
2♦	Pass	2♥	2♠
All Pass			

It's hard to argue with success too much though this editor has a reputation of being able to argue with anyone and anything. Still and all, that 2♦ opening

seems only marginally less bizarre than the 3♥ bid in the other room; does nobody pass hands with no clear-cut action any more? And that double of 3♥ would not be my first or second choice. Klinger's 3NT bid worked extremely well so perhaps one should say that it was somewhat reminiscent of the old joke about the Western Cue-bid. That shows a solid suit and asks for a stopper in the opponent's suit. The Polish Western Cue-bid shows a stopper in the opponents suit and asks if partner has a solid suit.

Since 2♠ started with nine top tricks via the diamond ruff and made them, it was up to E/W in the other room to convert their fourth successive plus result by defeating 3NT. You may or may not like East's opening lead of the ♥A (I hate it but I'm running out of bile to pass along on the current deal) but once you lead it and get discouragement it's really not very inspired to shift to a top club as opposed to leading a low club. Partner has no heart honors; what does he have? If he has the ♣A you need to lead a low club right now in case the actual lie of the cards exists. Plus 600 and it was 28-10 now for Shenzhen.

On the next deal the two Souths held ♠74 ♥A94 ♦AQJ963 ♣105 and opened 1♦ at unfavorable. Both heard 1NT to their left and Beauchamp, who had shown diamonds, passed it out when it came back to him while Li, who had not shown diamonds, tried 2♦. Now Braithwaite, the notrump overcaller had to decide if he should re-open with a double (would that be take-out for everyone?) with a decent 3=3=2=5 hand. He didn't, and both partscores were easy to make — with 2♥ a likely make for the Australians had Braithwaite doubled 2♦. That made it 33-10.

Bd: 6
 Dlr: East
 Vul: E/W

North
 ♠ KQ
 ♥ J932
 ♦ KJ86
 ♣ KJ7

West	East
♠ 75432	♠ A98
♥ K5	♥ AQ74
♦ A953	♦ 10
♣ 106	♣ 95432

South
 ♠ J106
 ♥ 1086
 ♦ Q742
 ♣ AQ8

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Klinger	Wang	Beauchamp
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
		2♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Braithwaite</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Li</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

The Klinger team were comprehensively outbid again here when Wang's wafer-thin 1♦ opening stole the pot. Yes, Klinger could or should have doubled at his first or second turn but it isn't clear that his side would have gone plus anywhere. In 2♠ on a heart lead declarer had four red-suit winners, three spades in hand, and two ruffs for a comfortable +140 while 1NT on a club lead wrapped up +120 when declarer negotiated the diamonds easily enough. It was 39-10, and it was surely time for the Klinger team to have a little bit of luck go their way.

Bd: 8	North
Dlr: West	♠ A96
Vul: None	♥ 932
	♦ 106
	♣ AKQ104

West
♠ K4
♥ QJ5
♦ J9754
♣ J92

East
♠ Q108752
♥ 1087
♦ 83
♣ 75

South
♠ J3
♥ AK64
♦ AKQ2
♣ 863

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Beauchamp</i>
Pass	1♣	2♠	Dbl
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Braithwaite</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Li</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦(GF)
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♥
Pass	5NT	All Pass	

In the Open Room N/S never got close to slam. In the Closed Room South used Forcing Stayman and moved past 3NT to suggest delayed support. North cue-bid, showed his keycards and trump queen with no kings, and could then have the fun of playing the slam. On a spade lead the defenders were ahead of the game. Declarer could not duck a heart so he had

no choice but to play to ruff a spade in dummy after drawing a couple of trumps and West could over-ruff. This is probably the line you would follow on a red suit lead. Distinctly unlucky, but Klinger would take the 11 imps and move on, down 39-21.

Bd: 10	North
Dlr: East	♠ K6
Vul: Both	♥ 97
	♦ AKQ109
	♣ 7543

West
♠ Q1093
♥ 10853
♦ 762
♣ 86

East
♠ A854
♥ KJ42
♦ 8
♣ AQ102

South
♠ J72
♥ AQ6
♦ J543
♣ KJ9

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Beauchamp</i>
		1♦	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Braithwaite</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Li</i>
Pass	2♣	1♣	Dbl
Pass	3♦	Pass	2♦
All Pass		Pass	3NT

For the second time this set East gained by opening 1♦ with a singleton and picking off his opponent's suit — and yes, there oughta be a law against it. Here 1♦ went down four when Beauchamp did well to lead trumps. Klinger drew three rounds of trumps and then shifted to hearts to get his ruff, followed by a club through. Wang put in the ten, endplaying Beauchamp to lead a spade, which East guessed right.

In the other room 3NT by South was always going to make with the club honors right. A heart lead might have made declarer sweat a little more, but a club lead and heart shift saw declarer duck the trick to West and effectively endplay him. A heart back gave declarer his ninth trick, so Shenzhen led 44-21.



"...plan for world domination almost done..."

I'm not sure where you would say the luck went on the following deal.

Bd: 14	North	
Dlr: East	♠ K7	
Vul: None	♥ A72	
	♦ A85	
	♣ K7543	
West		East
♠ 6		♠ J8532
♥ J93		♥ Q84
♦ KJ732		♦ Q964
♣ QJ98		♣ 2
	South	
	♠ AQ1094	
	♥ K1065	
	♦ 10	
	♣ A106	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Beauchamp</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	3♣
Dbl	Rdbl	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	6♣	All Pass	5♥

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Braithwaite</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Li</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♣

Klinger showed a much better appreciation of his cards than his counterpart since Shi decided he could work out better than his partner what that player held and jumped to 4♠ rather than try to explore the hand. (Incidentally, which three-level bid best describes your hand? One editor believes 3♦ is right, a second 3♥, and no doubt there are many who would vote for 3♠). In 6♣ Klinger, who had raised clubs immediately rather than find any of the delicate three-level bids, ruffed a diamond, crossed to a top heart, ruffed his last diamond, unblocked the ♣A, then came to a spade and found the bad news in trumps. He could lead a spade up now and dispose of his heart on the last spade to get out for down one.

Against 4♠ the defenders started the force with a diamond lead. Declarer won and tried unluckily to cash the ♣A and lead up to the king. East ruffed and back came a diamond, so declarer ruffed, tested two rounds of trumps to get the bad news, and could do no better now than play on hearts. When the

defenders won they could tap him out and he never scored the fourth heart. It may not be so easy to spot but the right line after the club break comes to light is simple and effective. Cash the ♥A, ruff a diamond, take the ♥K and give up a heart. Whichever of the defenders wins the heart cannot stop you from ruffing clubs safely in hand in due course and trumping a heart with the ♠K to score all your trumps in hand en passant. No swing anyway, still 44-21.

Whether that was lucky or unlucky for Klinger (I say bad luck myself since the slam was a pretty good one) on the next hand they caught a break when they failed to lead or shift to their long suit on defense after yet another Precision diamond stole the opponents' suit. In essence Shenzhen found their opponents had turned a no-play game into one that hinged on a finesse which lost. But Shenzhen still gained 3imps for the extra undertrick earned by the accurate defense in the other room. 47-21 now.

Bd: 16	North	
Dlr: West	♠ KQ6432	
Vul: E/W	♥ 10	
	♦ 642	
	♣ K43	
West		East
♠ A85		♠ 1097
♥ Q532		♥ KJ74
♦ A85		♦ J93
♣ J96		♣ A87
	South	
	♠ J	
	♥ A986	
	♦ KQ107	
	♣ Q1052	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Beauchamp</i>
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Braithwaite</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Li</i>
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Braithwaite was not particularly tempted to balance in passout seat since his partner had had two chances to come into a Multi auction and had not done so. 2♠ played extremely well, declarer bringing home both minors for one loser. But that was not enough since 3♥ in the other room, reached after a frisky re-opening double, was lucky to escape a penalty double. And the favorable lie of the cards for N/S in 2♠ proved expensive for E/W in 3♥ at 100 points a pop. Down 300 meant 4imps to Australia,

trailing 47-25.

Bd: 17 North
 Dlr: North ♠ J9853
 Vul: None ♥ 10954
 ♦ AJ3
 ♣ J

West
 ♠ K
 ♥ AQJ72
 ♦ 92
 ♣ Q8632

East
 ♠ Q74
 ♥ 63
 ♦ 764
 ♣ K10754

South
 ♠ A1062
 ♥ K8
 ♦ KQ1085
 ♣ A9

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Klinger</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Beauchamp</i>
	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♥	2♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Braithwaite</i>	<i>Shi</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Li</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣(STR)
1♠(1)	DbI	2♠	Pass
3♣	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
(1) ♠+♦ or ♥+♣			

The Open Room auction was simple and reasonably effective but maybe South might have raised to 3♠ (and is it *really* necessary to distort such a shapely suit-oriented hand into a 1NT opening). Klinger must have feared the worst when 2♠ collected +170, but his teammates did a fine job stealing the spade suit — just retribution for all those missing diamond suits. 3NT on a club lead had seven tricks and no more. Klinger had 7 imps to trail 32-47. The set ended 49-35, a 17-13 win for Shenzhen, but each side would look back with regret on that giant swing out that could have been one in the plus column.