



Sorry, English only.

Editors:Eric Kokish  
Beverly Kraft

The rankings after 6 rounds:

Table with 2 columns: Rank and Name/Score. (1) EUROPE 118, (2) CANADA 104, (3) INDONESIA 99, (4) NEW ZEALAND 97, (5) JAPAN (YAMADA) 93, (6) JAPAN (GELLER) 89, (7) JAPAN (HISATOMI) 87, (8) CHINESE TAIPEI 86, (9) JAPAN (YOUTH) 61, (10) JAPAN (TATAI) 55

Round 4

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. GELLER ( 87) 22 - 8 ( 51) CHINESE TAIPEI, TATAI ( 47) 11 - 19 ( 68) HISATOMI, YOUTH ( 54) 10 - 20 ( 76) CANADA, YAMADA ( 35) 9 - 21 ( 65) EUROPE, NEW ZEALAND ( 65) 19 - 11 ( 48) INDONESIA

Round 5

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. TATAI ( 48) 14 - 16 ( 53) NEW ZEALAND, CHINESE TAIPEI ( 81) 25 - 11 ( 3) YOUTH, HISATOMI ( 25) 3 - 25 ( 88) EUROPE, INDONESIA ( 59) 23 - 7 ( 21) CANADA, YAMADA ( 25) 14 - 16 ( 30) GELLER

Round 6

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. EUROPE ( 25) 11 - 19 ( 49) CANADA, GELLER ( 62) 19 - 11 ( 45) TATAI, HISATOMI ( 37) 12 - 18 ( 53) CHINESE TAIPEI, NEW ZEALAND ( 63) 23 - 7 ( 26) YOUTH, HISATOMI ( 58) 16 - 14 ( 50) INDONESIA

DANCE LIKE A BUTTERFLY: STING LIKE A BEE

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: I-1 S:875, DEALER: N H:Q96, VUL: NONE D:AK75, C:862

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:None, H:AJ1093, D:J986, C:Q1097, EAST S:SJ642, H:K54, D:104, C:A:J54

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:AK1093, H:72, D:Q32, C:K3

This is a true story. Board One: Match One. Nice relaxing afternoon. Nothing weird. Just play some normal bridge. CANADA vs GELLER. Open Room.

Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. Habert Geller Silver Ogihara, WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH, P P IS, 2H 2S 3H 3S, P P 4H P, P DBL All Pass

Okay, so you're not vulnerable and partner is a passed hand. Does 2H have to be the end of the world? Well, if you're playing with an eager beaver, perhaps it does. Note the pristine beauty of Joey's check-raise 3H-4H sequence, waiting for the opponents to tell him that Rhoda is likely to be void in hearts (as if this was the key to the deal ...), and note too that anyone could have raised to 4H over 2S, a fair shot opposite most sound two-level overcalls. But what fun would that be, dear readers. Better to do later what could have been done earlier, and add the irritation factor to one's impeccable bidding.

Turn now to Mrs Habert, who has been doubled by Mr Geller. This figures to be very bad for the declaring side, and the appearance of the dreaded three-trump dummy does nothing to cheer our heroine's spirits. Ace of diamonds lead, spade switch, Rhoda ruffs and runs the CQ to the king. Miss Ogiwara cashes the DQ (nine from Rhoda) and exits with a spade. Rhoda ruffs, then slips the D8 past the king, discarding a spade, then the HJ, which also holds. Now ace of hearts and everyone follows. Oh my, we're getting close to making this silly contract, aren't we. Club to dummy, spade ruff with the H10. Club to dummy as poor Bob has to follow, king of hearts to extract the queen, and the last trick is a club winner. Declarer has managed to reverse the dummy and perhaps reverse her fortune. She has not, however, been able to reverse her partner's upside down approach to the game.

But it's only Board One and there are 179 more to play in the round robin of the NEC CUP. Who can tell what will happen next?

Note that N/S happen to make 4S, which is a pretty good contract. At the other table, the Canadian N/S pair scored an unimpressive plus 170. Should South try for game after 1S-(P)-2S-(P)?

SIMPLE, BUT BEAUTIFUL

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: III-1 S:KQJ10, DEALER: N HK3, VUL: NONE D:AQJ10, C:973

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:887, H:AQJ2, D:3, C:108542, EAST S:A643, H:75, D:98654, C:AQ

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:52, H:109864, D:K72, C:KJ6

Three notrump is pretty pushy with those N/S cards, but in CANADA vs TATAI in ROUND 3, both Joey Silver-Rhoda Habert and Yasuhiro Shimizu-Tadashi Yoshida bid it. The cards are quite friendly for N/S, but the defense can prevail if given the opportunity.

In the Open Room, Silver got home with an overtrick when the defenders (Nose-Tatai) did not get around to hearts in time. In the Closed Room, Etsuko Miyashi led a diamond against Shimizu, who won in hand to lead the SK (South had transferred to hearts over 1NT and continued with 2NT, North accepting the invitation). Etsuko ducked the first two spades and Yasu, not being clairvoyant, played a third spade rather than a club. Etsuko won and switched to the H7, ten, deuce from Kyoko Shimamura (who had followed seven-nine-eight in spades), three. The heart was Yasu's eighth trick, but when he played a club up for his ninth, Etsuko won her ace and led the H5 over to Kyoko, who took the ace, queen, and jack to set the contract.

TOO TEMPTING

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: I-9 S:KQ1072, DEALER: N HQ, VUL: E-W D:Q1076, C:K53

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:A86, H:AJ8, D:AJ9543, C:7, EAST S:S543, H:K9754, D:K8, C:A108

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:J9, H:10632, D:2, C:QJ9642

There was The Great Silver in 4H from the East side in the OUCHI CUP qualifying. That looks very tough to make, especially on a club lead. Silver won the CA and led a trump to the ace, a good start. Now DK, diamond, South discarding, DA, diamond ruff with the H9. That looked good to South (too good!), who overruffed and switched to a spade, but Silver won, ruffed the diamonds good with the HK, fished the H8, HA. Plus 650!

TOUGH WAY TO MAKE A LIVING

Round Five was a roller coaster ride in all but one of the contests. In Geller versus Yamada, the score was 25-30, and it was indicative of very tough bridge.

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: V-2 S:AK, DEALER: E HQ10964, VUL: N-S D:6, C:AJ1063

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:972, H:85, D:AK108742, C:2, EAST S:Q1063, H:KJ, D:Q5, C:KQ975

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:J854, H:A732, D:J93, C:84

Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. A Yamada Geller Ohno Ogihara, WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH, 1D 1H 1S 2H, 3D 4H///

When Kyoko Ohno led the DQ against four hearts, Akihiko Yamada overtook with the king to return the C2. Bob Geller had a wild idea about the distribution and rose with the ace. He crossed to the HA and ruffed a diamond to hand, eliminating East's exit card in that suit. Now he cashed ace-king of spades and exited with a heart, playing East for four-two-five, as she figured to be. When Kyoko won the king of trumps, she was endplayed. If she played a spade, she would set up dummy's jack, and if she played a club, she would allow declarer to avoid a further club loser. Another variation on "draw trumps and claim," but a pretty one. Plus 620.

At the other table, East signalled with the nine of clubs and declarer's spots were soon good enough to see him home. Just another flat board.

WHAT IS THIS GUY DOING?

ROUND FIVE

East and West are playing weak notrumps. This is the auction ...

Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. Giovanni Eric Santje Beverly, WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH, 1NT P P DBL, RDBL 2C P P, DBL P 2D All Pass

Giovani likes to bid, it's true, but how can a man with 11-14 HCP do all of that? Well, to start with, redouble showed two four card suits. Then, when North escaped to 2C, it seemed to Giovanni that N/S were limited. Hence Giovanni's takeout double. How did he do? Splendidly. See NEXT PAGE ...

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: V-16 S:85, DEALER: W H9753, VUL: E-W D:J83, C:J1087

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:A102, H:KQ84, D:K1076, C:95, EAST S:K94, H:J1042, D:Q942, C:Q6

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:QJ763, H:A, D:A5, C:AK432

How's that for bidding, momma?

EXIT CARD

by Hiroya ABE

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: III- 2 S:A732, DEALER: E H:76, VUL: N-S D:AQ653, C:106

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:9, H:AQJ83, D:K4, C:AKJ53, EAST S:KQ84, H:1042, D:J7, C:9742

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:J1085, H:K95, D:10982, C:Q8

GELLER vs EUROPE, Round III. The bidding in the Closed Room was:

Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. Ophir H Abe Ilan H Chen, West North East South, 1H P 1S P, 3C P 4H All Pass

I was sitting North and led H7 against West's 4H. With this favourable lead, declarer played the ten of heart from dummy and easily took eleven tricks.

In the Open Room replay, Kurt Feichtinger, sitting North, led SA after a similar auction, and exited with a club. Declarer did not survive against this fine, thoughtful defense and we lost 11 imps on this board. Europe played very well indeed in this match and won convincingly

Going over this hand later that evening, an idea struck me; even against this excellent defense, declarer could have made the contract. Cash a second club, then exit with a small diamond (actually either diamond will do. On this lie, North can take two diamond tricks but then he has no safe card of exit. Declarer can ruff a diamond continuation in dummy (or a spade play) and take the trump finesse for the contract. The same ending position develops no matter which defender wins the second diamond trick.

THE KIBITZER'S DEFENSE

by Hikoe Enomoto

Watching the third round of the NEC CUP, the following hand drew my attention in Indonesia vs. Japanese Youth.

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: III-18 S:73, DEALER: E H:J8, VUL: N-S D:108842, C:Q109842

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:J86, H:962, D:AJ965, C:76, EAST S:AK109, H:KQ75, D:Q2, C:KJ5

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:Q542, H:A1043, D:K74, C:A3

In the Open Room, the auction went:

Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. West North East South, DBL P P 1C\* 1S\*, DBL 2C P P 1INT 1C=strong or minors, DBL All pass P P

Although I wouldn't think of leading anything other than a spade, East actually chose the C5. Although South's bidding looked dangerous, I've been told that you have to be aggressive playing in an international match, so I guess he was just playing the game the modern way.

The play went, C5, 3, 6, 8, and it appeared that you had lost a trick or so. Next, declarer led H8, if East has inserted HQ, the contract would still have been off one trick for sure, but instead he played the five, and dummy's 10 won the trick; the situation had become grim for the defense. Now declarer played CA (seven from West), HA and ruffed a heart, led S7 from HQ. As East could not afford to let SQ win, he went up SK. It seemed that DQ was not well-placed in front of dummy's K, so he cashed SA and exited with HK. Declarer ruffed and led D3. East put up the queen. Dummy K, and partner won with DA. As declarer had 10 and 8 of diamond, the contract was now unbeatable.

With this defense, West had to hold AJ10 in diamond (AJ4 would have been OK if East leads DQ when in with SK, that is, after DK, A. West leads a spade and declarer has to lead diamond from hand after ruffing HK). However, this defense came to my mind only on my way back home and I would not have thought of it at the table). Maybe, you have to think of it at the table to win an international match!

I only watched eight boards, but this was a good lesson for me.

INDONESIA vs CANADA

ROUND FIVE

Bridge on the edge. Rock 'n roll. Action that never stops:

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: 1 S:J7, DEALER: N HKJ108, VUL: NONE D:KJ109, C:Q105

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:K1065, H:A3, D:4, C:KJ9832, EAST S:Q93, H:Q2, D:A108653, C:74

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:A842, H:97654, D:Q2, C:A6

Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. Giovanni Eric Santje Beverly, WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH, P P P 1H, 2C 3C\* 3D 3H\*\*, 3S/// 5C///

Years of experience notwithstanding, the junior editor led the HK against Giovanni Watulingas' 3S contract. The senior editor was amused, as were the Indonesians. In fact, Kraft was pleased that she had not doubled ... maybe. Giovanni succeeded in the HA, crossed to HQ, and played club to the king. club. In with the CA, Kraft switched to a club trump - S2,SJ,Q. Giovanni continued with the S3 which South won to continue the suit. Declarer had his problems. With trumps 4-2 and the club suit not yet established, he could only manage two more tricks - the DA and SK. Down two. That miserable heart lead paid off after all. Just goes to show you, Indonesia starts their run with a 1 imp gain when Lusjie Bojoh played 3H for nine tricks at the other table.

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: 6 S:QJ9, DEALER: E HK10865, VUL: E-W D:AJ4, C:73

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:A106542, H:A, D:9, C:QJ1054, EAST S:3, H:Q9743, D:976, C:AK86

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:K106, H:J10732, D:A, C:Q962

The weak-two bid is one of the most useful tools in the bridge player's arsenal," she said. We have tried and rejected the many toys on the market. Accordingly, Kraft opened a classic weak 2D in second seat. And see how we run.

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: 7 S:982, DEALER: S H5, VUL: BOTH D:QJ8642, C:K73

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:54, H:Q94, D:K953, C:A1054, EAST S:AKQJ73, H:AK66, D:107, C:J8

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:K87, H:J2, D:KQ10532, C:92

Kokish led the C3, 8, Q, A. Giovanni played a spade to the queen, king, and continued with the S3 which South won to continue the suit. Declarer had his problems. With trumps 4-2 and the club suit not yet established, he could only manage two more tricks - the DA and SK. Down two. That miserable heart lead paid off after all. Just goes to show you, Indonesia starts their run with a 1 imp gain when Lusjie Bojoh played 3H for nine tricks at the other table.

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: 12 S:None, DEALER: W H:AQ9543, VUL: N-S D:K1073, C:K43

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:K1065, H:A3, D:4, C:KJ9832, EAST S:Q93, H:Q2, D:A108653, C:74

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:A842, H:97654, D:Q2, C:A6

Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. Giovanni Eric Santje Beverly, WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH, P P P 1H, 2C 3C\* 3D 3H\*\*, 3NT///

Kraft cashed the C3, 8, Q, A. Giovanni played a spade to the queen, king, and continued with the S3 which South won to continue the suit. Declarer had his problems. With trumps 4-2 and the club suit not yet established, he could only manage two more tricks - the DA and SK. Down two. That miserable heart lead paid off after all. Just goes to show you, Indonesia starts their run with a 1 imp gain when Lusjie Bojoh played 3H for nine tricks at the other table.

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Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. Giovanni Eric Santje Beverly, WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH, P P P 1H, 2C 3C\* 3D 3H\*\*, 3NT///

Kraft cashed the C3, 8, Q, A. Giovanni played a spade to the queen, king, and continued with the S3 which South won to continue the suit. Declarer had his problems. With trumps 4-2 and the club suit not yet established, he could only manage two more tricks - the DA and SK. Down two. That miserable heart lead paid off after all. Just goes to show you, Indonesia starts their run with a 1 imp gain when Lusjie Bojoh played 3H for nine tricks at the other table.

INDONESIA vs JAPAN (HISATOMI)

ROUND SIX

Namya's strikes again. Played from the short side, 4S is no bargain and would fall on the lead of the HK. But...

NORTH

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. BOARD: 12 S:None, DEALER: W H:AQ9543, VUL: N-S D:K1073, C:K43

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. WEST S:K1065, H:A3, D:4, C:KJ9832, EAST S:Q93, H:Q2, D:A108653, C:74

Table with 2 columns: Name and Score. SOUTH S:A842, H:97654, D:Q2, C:A6

Table with 4 columns: Name, Name, Name, Name. Giovanni Eric Santje Beverly, WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH, P P P 1H, 2C 3C\* 3D 3H\*\*, 3NT///

Kraft cashed the C3, 8, Q, A. Giovanni played a spade to the queen, king, and continued with the S3 which South won to continue the suit. Declarer had his problems. With trumps 4-2 and the club suit not yet established, he could only manage two more tricks - the DA and SK. Down two. That miserable heart lead paid off after all. Just goes to show you, Indonesia starts their run with a 1 imp gain when Lusjie Bojoh played 3H for nine tricks at the other table.

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