



# NEC Bridge Festival

Sunday, February 9, 2003  
Bulletin Number 7

Editors: Eric Kokish  
Richard Colker

## Chen-Ting Win 2003 Asuka Cup; Nakao-Anazawa Take JCBL Cup

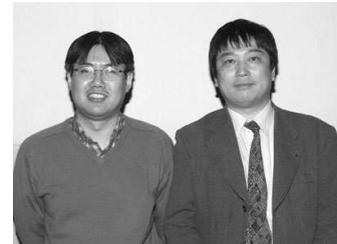
Walter Chen-Michael Ting, from Chinese Taipei, nosed out Peter Lakatos-Geza Hominnay from Hungary for the 2003 Asuak Cup. Hideo Nakao-Shinzo Anazawa finished first in the JCBL Cup.



2<sup>nd</sup>: Lakatos-Hominnay



Asuka 1<sup>st</sup>: Chen-Ting



3<sup>rd</sup>: Jomura-Hirata

Rank	Pair	Score
1	Walter Chen – Michael Ting	2996.50
2	Peter Lakatos – Geza Homonnay	2921.00
3	Takahiko Hirata – Tadashi Jomura	2896.00
4	Shoichi Kojitani – Mitsuru Yamashita	2832.50
5	Judith Gartaganis – Nicholas Gartaganis	2812.50
6/7	Bobby Wolff – John Sutherlin	2805.50
6/7	Sachiko Ueno – Kazuo Furuta	2805.20
8	Chen Dawei – Shozo Murata	2795.00
9	Craig Gower – Strong Huang	2746.50
10	Masayuki Ino – Tadashi Imakura	2743.50

## Honored Guests at Asuka Cup



Mr. Hiroyuki Hosoda  
Minister of Science Technology  
& Information Technology



Mr. Carlos Ghosn  
President, Nissan Motor Co.

# NEC Cup Bridge Festival 2003

## Domo Arigato

On behalf of all the participants, we would like to congratulate our corporate sponsor **NEC** for once again joining with **JCBL** to produce a bridge event of the highest quality and competitiveness. As we have mentioned before, the **NEC Bridge Festival** now regularly attracts the interest of the best players in the world. Many of this year's participants have told us that this tournament has been one of their best bridge experiences. Congratulations to the sponsors and especially the **JCBL** staff.

Yokohama, and especially the Pacifico, are wonderful places and this year we have learned that the Exhibition Hall is as wonderful a playing venue as the Convention Center across the courtyard. The weather was pleasant this year and the people were warm and friendly, as always. It is our continuing great pleasure to be reunited each year with our many friends and to share once again the happy times, the fun and the excitement of this tournament. Your kindness and generosity warm our hearts.

The significant prizes and broad participation have made the **NEC Bridge Festival** an important event on the bridge calendar, one which continues to grow in size and prestige. And we have it on the best authority that next year plans include an expanded field of some 50 teams, including even more foreign teams.

The Bulletin Editors are grateful to those who helped us with deals, stories and other material to keep you informed. Many thanks to *Nakatani-san*, for his peerless leadership and enduring friendship. To *Richard Grenside*, tormented director, who as always dealt with the thorny problems accompanying a tournament of this scope and surmounted them all. To *Omasa-san*, who this year went beyond the usual call of duty in providing us remarkable technical and computer support. To *Nakamura-san*, for his wonderful pictures (which as usual we subjected to our peculiar sense of humor) and other technical assistance. To *Hayashi-san* and *Suzuki-san* for their help with many things, both technical and otherwise. To the many who brought us gifts, especially the food which was especially welcomed during our late-night work sessions. Thanks also to the many other volunteers who performed the myriad functions critical to this tournament's success, while we were hopelessly absorbed in our work. Our thanks also to the players, who produced a rich source of exciting, top-level bridge to write about.



Warmest regards, **Eric and Rich**

## Test Your Forcing Pass Agreements

Your partnership is awesome, one of the world's best. You have more agreements than the United Nations. These questions will be easy for you. Right?

Would this pass be forcing in each vulnerability scenario?    Unfav    None    Both    Fav

What does this pass mean or imply?

What would a double (by both partners) mean?

**West    North    East    South**

(1)    1♥    P    2NT\*    3♠

Pass?

\*Artificial (forcing or limit+) raise of hearts

(2)    1♣    1♦    1♥    P

3♣    3♦    3♥    4♦

Pass?

(3)    2NT    3♥    Pass?

(4)    4♥    4♠    5♥    Pass?

(5)    1♣    3♠    4♥    4♠

Pass?

(6)    1♣    2♠    4♥    4♠

Pass?

(7)    1♥    2♠    4♥    4♠

Pass?

(8)    4♥    4NT    5♥    Pass?

(9)    2♥    4♠    5♥    Pass?

(10)    3♠    4♥    5♣    Pass?

(11)    1♥    1♠    4♥    4♠

Pass?

(12)    P    P    P    1♥

1♠    4♥    4♠    Pass?

(13)    P    P    3♦    DBL

5♦    Pass?

(14)    1♣    1♦    1♥    2♦

2♥    3♦    4♥    5♦

Pass?

(continued)

**West North East South**

(15) 1♥ 1♠ 2♥ P  
 4♥ P P 4♠  
 Pass?

(16) 1♥ P 2♥ 2♠  
 3♣ 3♠ 4♥ 4♠  
 Pass?

(17) 1♠ P 2♠ 3♦  
 4♣ 4♦ Pass?

(18) 1♥ 1♠ 3♥ 3♠  
 3NT 4♠ Pass?

(19) 1♥ 1♠ 2♥ 2♠  
 4♥ 4♠ Pass?

(20) 1♥ 1♠ 2♥ 2♠  
 4♥ P P 4♠  
 Pass?

(21) 1♥ 2♦ 2♥ 2♠  
 4♥ 4♠ Pass?

(22) 1♥ P 2♥ 2♠  
 4♥ P P 4♠  
 Pass?

(23) 1♠ 2♦ 2♠ 3♣  
 4♠ P P 5♦  
 Pass?

(24) 1♥ 1♠ 2♥ 2♠  
 3♣ 4♠ Pass?

(25) 1♠ 2♣ 2♠ 3♥  
 4♦ 4♥ Pass?

If both you and your partner agree on the nature of all these passes and all doubles in both direct and reopening position you're sure to be ahead of nearly everyone else. If you're not on the same page you have hours of productive discussion awaiting you. Enjoy.



"This stuff is hard!"



"Not so hard, really."

## The Twilight Zone Department

Here's another exercise to test your partnership. It involves unusual situations that you may not have encountered in your bridge experience. For maximum effectiveness, ask your partner to complete the exercise on his own, then get together and see whether your thinking and his are in synch.

### Problem One

Dir: East	North				
Vul: N/S	♠ AK94				
	♥ AQ102	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	♦ Q			1♦	Pass
	♣ AJ97	2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
		Pass	???		

Should North act over 2♣?

If North passes, should he act after 3♣/P/P?

Should North ask if 3C was forcing?

Is a double for takeout or for penalty?

Should the meaning of a double depend on whether 3♣ was forcing?

Do you have any rules on reopening doubles in auctions where someone:

(a) has confirmed a psych?

(b) may very well have psyched?

If one of you reopens with a double in such situations, how does his partner respond with a fair hand or a good hand? How much does it take to cue-bid?

### Problem Two

Dir: West	<b>North</b>				
Vul: None	♠ 4				
	♥ 9873	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	♦ KQ64	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
	♣ QJ65	2♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl
<b>West</b>		Pass	Pass	2♠	Dbl
♠ AK8	<b>East</b>	All Pass			
♥ AJ10	♠ 109652				
♦ AJ8	♥ K52				
♣ 10974	♦ 10532				
	♣ 2				
	<b>SOUTH</b>				
	♠ QJ73				
	♥ Q64				
	♦ 97				
	♣ AK83				

The Bidding:

		<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
		1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
		2♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl
		Pass	Pass	2♠	Dbl
		All Pass			

East made an overtrick

Should South double 2♦?

Should North pass it?

When East runs to 2♠, are N/S in a forcing situation?

Should South double 2♠?

Should North pass it?

Can you solve this (and other related ones) problem by making some rules for the partnership that will help to cover ambiguous cases such as this?

### Problem Three

Analyse the bidding at both tables...

Dir: East	<b>North</b>	Open Room			
Vul: N/S	♠ 52	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	♥ AQJ6543			3♦	3NT
	♦ 9	Pass	4♥	Pass	5♥
	♣ 732	Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
West	East	7♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl
♠ Q987	♠ J3	All Pass			
♥ 1082	♥ 7				
♦ 1085	♦ KQJ7642	Closed Room			
♣ J104	♣ Q96	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	South			4♦	Dbl
	♠ AK1064	7♦	Pass	Pass	7♠
	♥ K9	Pass	7NT	All Pass	
	♦ A3				
	♣ AK85				

3♦ vs 4♦?

South's initial action at both tables?

West's 7♦ at both tables?

North's actions in the Closed Room?

How would you have bid the E/W cards after 3♦ and 4♦?

### Problem Four

Dir: East	North		Open Room		
Vul: Both	♠ K4	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	♥ 65			1♥	1♠
	♦ 105	4♦(1)	Pass	4♥	4♠
	♣ KJ109765	All Pass			
West	East	(1) hearts and diamonds			
♠ 65	♠ 97	Closed Room			
♥ 107432	♥ KJ98	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
♦ AQJ872	♦ K964			1♥	1♠
♣ ---	♣ AQ4	2♥(1)	3♣	Pass	3♥
	South	Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
	♠ AQJ10832	4♦	Pass	Pass	4♠
	♥ AQ	5♦	Pass	Pass	5♠
	♦ 3	All Pass			
	♣ 832	(1) just walking the dog			

In the Open Room West led a heart: 620; In the Closed Room West led ♦2, East returned ♣2: -200

Would you be comfortable with either/both of the E/W actions?

Would the actions of the Closed Room West be deemed "great bridge" or "playing for the New York Times" by your partner?

Should someone bid to the five-level in the Open Room?

Who should do it?

Should South overcall 4♠ in your partnership?

If South does bid 4S directly, what should West do?

What would 4NT mean?

## Bene and the Jet's Wonderful Adventure

Bd: 12 Dir: West Vul: N/S	North ♠ AJ10732 ♥ J852 ♦ 97 ♣ 5
West ♠ K4 ♥ --- ♦ K8632 ♣ Q108643	East ♠ --- ♥ AK10963 ♦ AQJ ♣ AK97
	South ♠ Q9865 ♥ Q74 ♦ 1054 ♣ J2

of, and we were privileged to learn about this one from the second session of the Asuka Cup from Benedicte (Bene) Cronier, who arrived in the Bulletin Office out of breath after a long run from the Annex. Before we knew it, she was gone. Whooooooosh.

West	East	North	South
<i>The Jet</i>		<i>Bene</i>	
Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT*	Pass	7♣	All Pass

\* A minor two-suiter with some strength in the long suits.

Trop facile.



Benedicte Cronier  
"Bene"



Philippe Cronier  
"The Jet"

Grand slams don't grow on trees and it's always exciting to bid one, even for jaded veterans who have seen it all. But bidding a grand slam in only three bids is almost unheard

### Peter Nagy (1942-2002)



Peter Nagy

We were shocked to learn on Friday that Peter Nagy had suffered a heart attack and died while playing poker at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas. where he had lived for many years.

Peter's life filled with peaks and valleys. He escaped from Hungary in 1956, following a script line that would not be out of place in a dramatic movie. Speaking virtually no English when he arrived in Canada with his Uncle, Peter learned quickly and was the valedictorian of his High School Class. He earned a degree at Princeton University and tried the straight and narrow lifestyle for a short period before concentrating on bridge and other card games to earn his living. He was "adopted" by the late and great Sam Gold in Montreal and under his guidance became a sound technical player willing to act on his instincts at the table.

While he lived in Canada, Peter played in serious partnerships and teams with Joey Silver, George Mittelman and Eric Kokish, achieving considerable success in major North American and international events. When he married Donna Hay in the middle eighties and

moved to Chicago, Peter went into the Options business at a time when it was easier to lose a fortune than make one. At one point, Peter was doing very badly in the market and was about to give it up altogether, but at just that moment he guessed right on the direction the market was headed and in a few months had earned enough to retire. He, Donna, and their son David, moved to Las Vegas and enjoyed a more relaxed lifestyle, although some major heart problems created some uneasiness for the family.

Peter had been making his way back into serious competition and was in good spirits although his life had taken some difficult turns in the past few years.

Among his bridge successes were two silver medals in the World Open Pairs (1978 and 1990), a feat no one has duplicated. He also won a bronze medal in the Rosenblum Teams in 1982 and was always a serious contender at North American Bridge Championships. He was a very special player.

Peter played in the 1984 Epon Intercity Teams Championship and made many friends in Japan, as he did all over the world.



# A Special Thank You

To the treasured patrons of the **2003 NEC Bridge Festival**

JAPAN Beverage

NEC Corporation

Yusen Cruise

## Same Place, Different Time Next Year

The **2004 NEC Bridge Festival** will be held from February 9-15, right back here at the Pacifico Yokohama. For more information contact Tadayoshi Nakatani, at:

*[nakatani@jcbl.or.jp](mailto:nakatani@jcbl.or.jp)*



Thursday's test of LTPB project

## LTPB Translation Project

Fred Gitelman, under commission from the ACBL, developed highly successful instructional software for novices, called "Learn to Play Bridge" (LTPB). This program, available at no cost from the ACBL has been downloaded over 250,000 times. With Fred's cooperation, the JCBL is now preparing a Japanese translation. Bob Geller is the project coordinator and Setsuko Ogihara is the translator. The final Japanese version is tentatively scheduled for release in June 2003. A developmental version was tested Thursday by attendees of the JCBL Bridge classes being held at the tournament site, with highly positive results.

## NEC Cup Bridge Festival on the Web

Call your friends and tell them that your exploits are being chronicled on the World Wide Web. They can follow all of the action at the 8<sup>th</sup> NEC Cup Bridge Festival by surfing to:

<http://bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/necfest.html>

– or –

<http://www.jcbl.or.jp>