



2013 YEH BROS CUP

22nd-26th April, 2013 Yokohama JAPAN

Tuesday, April 23, 2013
Bulletin Number 2

Editors: Rich Colker, Barry Rigal

Denmark leads the 2013 Yeh Bros Cup after Day 1

Averaging almost 16 VPs per match, at 79.38 VPs. Denmark is more than half a match ahead of second-place Hungary Senior, who is in the clubhouse with 67.98 VPs. Italy, who did not qualify for last week's NEC Cup knock-out stage, is a close third with 65.28 VPs. And USA Cheek, with 60.35 VPs, is fourth. Rounding out the top seven (teams which would qualify for the top bracket in the knockout stage if they started today), are Sweden, China Blue and USA Kranyak. The complete Day One rankings are in the table below while the results for all five Day-One matches may be found on page 4.

Yeh Bros Cup: Standings After Day One (Five Matches)

Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs
1	Denmark	79.38	9	Netherland	54.19	17	China Red	44.36
2	Hungary Senior	67.98	10	India	53.30	18	Poland	43.63
3	Italy	65.28	11	Yeh Bros II	50.46	19	New Zealand	38.27
4	USA Cheek	60.35	12	Russia	49.76	20	Indonesia Senior	37.80
5	Sweden	60.30	13	Chinese Taipei	48.02	21	Australia Youth	37.52
6	China Blue	59.72	14	Japan Ladies	47.03	22	Australia	33.29
7	USA Kranyak	58.79	15	South Africa	45.43	23	Japan Open	31.65
8	England+Pharon	57.16	16	Yeh Bros I	44.78	24	England Ladies Plus	31.55

PCs with Internet access are available for player use in front of the Secretariat (Room 511), along the wall to the right of the door.

Today's 1st VuGraph Matches will feature Sweden (1) vs The Netherlands (9) and England plus Pharon (15) vs USA Cheek (19)

Yeh Bros Cup on the Web

Follow the action at the Yeh Bros Cup by surfing to:

<http://www.jcbl.or.jp/home/English/yehbros/tabid/1027/Default.aspx>

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

2013 Yeh Bros Cup: Conditions of Contest

The complete CoC are on pages 2-4 of Monday's Yeh Bros Cup daily bulletin. Additional copies of the CoC only may be obtained in the Secretariat. Please be aware that some "minor" changes and corrections have been made to the conditions since the first bulletin was published.

Yeh Bros Cup Smoking Policy

Team Events:

Once play in a match starts, smoking is prohibited at ALL times (including when a player leaves the playing room to go to the bathroom), until the player completes the play of all boards in the match or session. (For those wishing to smoke at other times, smoking rooms are located on the 3rd and 5th floors of the Conference Center.)

Other events:

Once a session has started, and until the player has finished all boards in the session, smoking is prohibited at ALL times other than a single designated smoking break, which may be announced at the option of the Director.

Smoking areas:

Smoking is only permitted in the smoking rooms located on the 3rd and 5th floors of the Conference Center.

Penalties:

Penalties for violations are on page 4.

Team Rosters (and assigned numbers): 2013 Yeh Bros Cup

#	Team Name	Members
1	Sweden:	Fredrik Nystrom, Johan Upmark, Krister Ahlesved, Jonas Petterson, Frederik Wrang, Johan Sylvan
2	Chinese Taipei:	Nelson Ho, Jerry Huang, CM Lin, Walter Chen, Kirk Shen
3	Russia:	Andrey Gromov (PC), Evgeny Gladyshev, Alexander Dubinin, Mikhail Krasnosselski, Sebastiaan Drijver, Sjoert Brink
4	Japan Open:	Masayuki Ino, Takahiko Hirata, Tadashi Teramoto, Hiroshi Kaku
5	Italy Lavazza:	Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Guido Ferraro, Agustin Madala, Antonio Sementa, Maria Teresa Lavazza
6	China Blue:	Lian Ruoyi, Shi Haojun, Shi Zhengjun, Ju Chuancheng, Gao Fei, Wang Xiangyang, Hu Jihong (NPC)
7	South Africa:	T.Cope, C.Bosenberg, L.Chamaly, R.Stephens
8	Yeh Bros II:	Patrick Huang (PC), Fu Zhong, Jie Li, CJ Zhuang, JM Dai
9	Netherlands:	Ricco van Prooijen, Louk Verhees, Bauke Muller, Simon de Wijs
10	China Red:	Zhang Bangxiang, Wang Weimin, Shen Jiexiang, Li Jianwei, Gan Xinli, Wang Rui, Wang Xiaojing (Coach)
11	Denmark:	Sabine Auken, Roy Welland, Morten Bilde, Dennis Bilde
12	India:	Subhash Gupta, ArunJan, M.Mukherji, S.Mukherji, S.Majumdar, D.Majumdar
13	USA Kranyak:	John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, John Hurd, Joel Wooldridge
14	Yeh Bros I:	Chen Yeh (PC), JY Shih, Chen Dawei, Kazuo Furuta, Yalan Zhang, Wang Ping
15	England plus Pharon:	Paul Hackett, Tom Hanlon, David Bakhshi, Jason Hackett, Justin Hackett, Hugh McGann
16	Australia Youth:	Justin Howard, Peter Hollands, Michael Whibley, Liam Milne
17	Hungary Senior:	Géza Szappanos (PC), Miklós Dumbovich, Mihály Kovács, Péter Magyar
18	New Zealand:	Peter Newell, Martin Reid, Matthew McManus, Michael Ware, John R Wignall, Bob Scott
19	USA Cheek:	Curtis Cheek, Ishmael Del'Monte, Joe Grue, Justin Lall
20	Japan Ladies:	Kyoko Shimamura, Michiko Ono, Natsuko Nishida, Akiko Yanagisawa, Makiko Sato, Yuki Fukuyoshi
21	England Ladies Plus:	Nicola Smith, Sally Brock, Heather Dhondy, Fiona Brown, Nevena Senior, Brian Senior
22	Australia:	Sartaj Hans, Tony Nunn, Peter Gill, Paul Gosney
23	Poland:	Adam Zmudzinski, Krzysztof Buras, Grzegorz Narkiewicz, Jacek Pszczola
24	Indonesia Senior:	Munawar Sawiruddin, Donald Gustaaf Tuerah, Bert Toar Polii, Memed Hendrawan, Mochamad Apin Nurhalim

Appeal Committee Members

Barry Rigal (Chairman)

Members:

Paul Hackett	Sabine Auken	Munawar Sawiruddin	John Wignall
Guido Ferraro	Curtis Cheek	Richard Colker	

Convention Regulations for Side (Pair) Games

Pairs playing against Mr. Yeh in the Yeh Bros Cup will be asked to play a natural/standard system and are restricted to methods that are consistent with JCBL's "List C" (see below). Note: the use of the Multi-2♦ is prohibited.

LIST C

Opening Bids

- 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♣ artificial opening bid indicating one of:
 - a strong hand, balanced or unbalanced
 - a three-suiter with a minimum of 10 HCP (e.g., Roman 3-suiter, etc.)
- 2♦ artificial opening bid showing one of:
 - at least 5-4 distribution in the majors with a minimum of 10 HCP (e.g., Flannery, anti-Flannery etc.)
 - a strong hand, balanced or unbalanced
 - a three-suiter with a minimum of 10 HCP (e.g., Roman 3-suiter, etc.)
- 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.
- Opening notrump bid at the two level or higher indicating at least 5-4 distribution in the minors, 10 or more HCP.
- Opening 3NT bid indicating:
 - any solid suit or
 - a broken minor suit.
- Opening four-level bid transferring to a known suit (e.g., Namyats, etc.).
- Strong opening at the two level or higher, asking Ace, King, Queen, singleton, void, trump quality.

Responses and Rebids

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

- All constructive calls starting with the opening bidder's second call.
- Calls that ask for aces, kings, queens, singletons, voids, trump quality and responses thereto.
- 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

- Any conventional balancing calls.
- Conventional doubles and redoubles and responses (including free bids) thereto.
- Notrump overcall for either:
 - 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.)
 - three-suited takeout (as with a takeout double, at least 3 cards in each of the 3 suits).
- Jump overcalls into a suit to indicate at least 5-4 distribution in two known suits, and responses thereto.
- 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.
- Comic 1NT overcall.
- Defense to:
 - conventional calls (including takeout doubles).
 - natural notrump opening bids and overcalls.
 - opening bids of 2♣ or higher.
- Nos. 5 through 9 under "Responses and Rebids" above apply to both pairs.
- Transfer overcall to show a specified suit at the four level.

Carding

- 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.

Category 3 of WBF Systems Policy applies

Monday's Match Results

Match 1

1 Sweden (44)	19.44 - 0.56	2 ChineseTaipei (2)
5 Italy (0)	8.15 - 11.85	6 China Blue (5)
3 Russia (17)	15.05 - 4.95	4 Japan Open (1)
7 South Africa (8)	2.16 - 17.84	8 Yeh Bros II (38)
9 Netherlands (17)	10.00 - 10.00	10 China Red (17)
11 Denmark (18)	10.00 - 10.00	12 India (18)
13 USA Kranyak (36)	15.29 - 4.71	14 Yeh Bros I (19)
15 England+Pharon (42)	19.33 - 0.67	16 Australia Youth (1)
17 Hungary Senior (47)	18.15 - 1.85	18 New Zealand (15)
19 USA Cheek (6)	4.95 - 15.05	20 Japan Ladies (22)
21 England Ladies+ (21)	11.85 - 8.15	22 Australia (16)
23 Poland (4)	5.72 - 14.28	24 Indonesia Senior (17)

Match 2

13 USA Kranyak (15)	6.28 - 13.72	18 New Zealand (26)
4 Japan Open (1)	3.22 - 16.78	23 Poland (25)
5 Italy (22)	12.18 - 7.82	10 China Red (16)
7 South Africa (11)	2.16 - 17.84	12 India (41)
9 Netherlands (36)	16.39 - 3.61	14 Yeh Bros I (14)
11 Denmark (44)	19.66 - 0.34	16 Australia Youth (0)
1 Sweden (18)	7.82 - 12.18	6 China Blue (24)
15 England+Pharon (9)	8.86 - 11.14	20 Japan Ladies (12)
17 Hungary Senior (31)	13.72 - 6.28	22 Australia (20)
19 USA Cheek (17)	12.51 - 7.49	24 Indonesia Senior (10)
21 England Ladies+ (10)	4.48 - 15.52	2 ChineseTaipei (28)
3 Russia (19)	12.51 - 7.49	8 Yeh Bros II (12)

Match 3

17 Hungary Senior (49)	19.55 - 0.45	8 Yeh Bros II (6)
13 USA Kranyak (53)	19.44 - 0.56	3 Russia (11)
1 Sweden (25)	10.77 - 9.23	15 England+Pharon (23)
20 Japan Ladies (19)	11.14 - 8.86	24 Indonesia Senior (16)
6 China Blue (33)	13.72 - 6.28	21 England Ladies+ (22)
11 Denmark (28)	17.51 - 2.49	9 Netherlands (0)
10 China Red (39)	9.23 - 10.77	12 India (41)
22 Australia (0)	0.00 - 20.00	5 Italy (51)
23 Poland (16)	4.48 - 15.52	19 USA Cheek (34)
4 Japan Open (26)	7.49 - 12.51	14 Yeh Bros I (33)
7 South Africa (39)	16.78 - 3.22	18 New Zealand (15)
16 Australia Youth (34)	14.00 - 6.00	2 ChineseTaipei (22)

Match 4

1 Sweden (44)	19.44 - 0.56	2 ChineseTaipei (2)
5 Italy (0)	8.15 - 11.85	6 China Blue (5)
3 Russia (17)	15.05 - 4.95	4 Japan Open (1)
7 South Africa (8)	2.16 - 17.84	8 Yeh Bros II (38)
9 Netherlands (17)	10.00 - 10.00	10 China Red (17)
11 Denmark (18)	10.00 - 10.00	12 India (18)
13 USA Kranyak (36)	15.29 - 4.71	14 Yeh Bros I (19)
15 England+Pharon (42)	19.33 - 0.67	16 Australia Youth (1)
17 Hungary Senior (47)	18.15 - 1.85	18 New Zealand (15)
19 USA Cheek (6)	4.95 - 15.05	20 Japan Ladies (22)
21 England Ladies+ (21)	11.85 - 8.15	22 Australia (16)
23 Poland (4)	5.72 - 14.28	24 Indonesia Senior (17)

Match 5

11 Denmark (25)	15.05 - 4.95	5 Italy (9)
24 Indonesia Senior (11)	7.17 - 12.83	10 China Red (19)
17 Hungary Senior (25)	13.72 - 6.28	13 USA Kranyak (14)
12 India (7)	9.23 - 10.77	1 Sweden (9)
6 China Blue (24)	14.80 - 5.20	15 England+Pharon (9)
20 Japan Ladies (16)	6.86 - 13.14	3 Russia (25)
19 USA Cheek (21)	11.85 - 8.15	9 Netherland (16)
23 Poland (5)	8.15 - 11.85	8 Yeh Bros II (10)
21 England Ladies+ (10)	3.22 - 16.78	14 Yeh Bros I (34)
2 ChineseTaipei (19)	14.80 - 5.20	18 New Zealand (4)
7 South Africa (23)	11.50 - 8.50	4 Japan Open (19)
16 Australia Youth (11)	10.00 - 10.00	22 Australia (11)

I hate Ben Green!

by Brian Senior

The views contained in this article are solely those of the author. The editors take no responsibility for any distress that may be caused to the subject of this article by random unsubstantiated implications.

The European and world champion English Ladies team has been honored by being invited to take part in the prestigious Yeh Bros Cup. However, this pales into insignificance compared to the honor extended to me — a mere male — who has been invited to represent the English Ladies.

Five members of the regular team were able to come to this tournament. The sixth, Susan Stockdale, could not get time off work, and we all know how messy teams of five can be (not to mention issues of how to line up five players in the pairs event if they fail to qualify for the later stages of the teams event). So I was asked to partner Fiona Brown.

Fiona and I had never played a board together, so we agreed to play the one-day British Mixed Pairs Championship last month. As I always play professionally in the UK, this meant that I was going to have to give the English Bridge Union some of my hard earned money — for the first time in 10 or 15 years. Well, we all have to make sacrifices at times, but I avoided breaking my run when my car was snowed in and I couldn't make the event. Thus, with no over-the-table play together possible, we turned to BBO. I am not a big fan of Internet bridge, but have to admit that BBO certainly has its uses when it comes to partnership practice. And our second session threw up a deal which made the whole exercise worthwhile — or it would have if it weren't for Ben Green.

Bd: 33
 Dir: South
 Vul: Both

North
 ♠ 543
 ♥ AK853
 ♦ J10
 ♣ Q74

South
 ♠ K87
 ♥ QJ1076
 ♦ A7
 ♣ AJ5

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ben	Fiona	Simon	Brian
Green	Brown	Cope	Senior

2♠(1)	3♦(♥)	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
(1) Spades plus a minor			

Despite South's five-card support for partner, it looks wrong to jump to 4♥ over the invitational-plus transfer, since the South hand has a lot of losers, an evaluation confirmed by the fact that 4♥ is indeed a poor contract even when partner has the extra values to drive to game. West, Ben Green, led the ♦K and I

won the ace and drew trumps in two rounds, unblocking trump honors from hand, with West pitching the ♠Q on the second round. What next?

An inexperienced declarer might throw West in with a diamond, but even if West holds king-doubleton of clubs, and so can never lead the suit, the three-suit endplay is an illusion. West could, for example, exit with the ace and jack of spades, win the third spade, and give a ruff and discard in either spades or diamonds and score his ♣K at the end.

Thus, after drawing trumps it is correct to lead a club to the jack and when it wins cash the ♣A, then exit in diamonds. At the table Ben returned the ♠J, but I won the king and exited with a spade. Even though Simon Cope held the ♠9 the defenders could do no better than choose which one of them would take two black-suit winners and then concede a ruff and discard, on which the last loser would disappear. This was the full deal:

	North	
	♠ 543	
	♥ AK853	
	♦ J10	
	♣ Q74	
West		East
♠ AQJ106		♠ 92
♥ 4		♥ 92
♦ KQ953		♦ 8642
♣ 109		♣ K8632
	South	
	♠ K87	
	♥ QJ1076	
	♦ A7	
	♣ AJ5	

Can you see how the defenders might have made my life more interesting? Green needed to exit with a third diamond after winning his queen. Declarer throws a club from dummy, and (if West is going to remain on lead, he pitches a spade from hand and West has to surrender. If East is going to win the diamond, declarer ruffs high, ruffs his last club in dummy, and advances the heart eight, underplaying the seven from hand. This is the new position with West still to play:

	North	
	♠ 543	
	♥ A	
	♦ ---	
	♣ ---	
West		East
♠ AJ106		♠ 92
♥ ---		♥ ---
♦ 3		♦ 6
♣ ---		♣ 8
	South	
	♠ K87	
	♥ 6	
	♦ ---	
	♣ ---	

(Continued on page 19, bottom)

Match One: Sweden vs Chinese Taipei

by Barry Rigal



Chen



Pettersson



Ahlesved



Huang



Sylvan



Ho



Shen



Wrang

Bd: 1
Dlr: North
Vul: None

North
♠ 109872
♥ 4
♦ 73
♣ A10983

West
♠ K65
♥ AKQ10
♦ A9
♣ K742

East
♠ ---
♥ 986532
♦ Q854
♣ Q65

South
♠ AQJ43
♥ J7
♦ KJ1062
♣ J

declarer's diamond misguess was understandable. Sweden had a nice 14-imp start.

Russia started well, beating 5♥ on the club lead while making 5♥ in the other room on the ♠A lead, exactly the same swing as Netherlands registered. Pharon-UK bought the hand in 4♠ and 5♥ to gain 9 imps and Hungary achieved a similar pair of results (except they played 4♠x).

On Board 2 both N/S pairs bid accurately to 5♦ (needing one of two finesses). On Board 3 a quirk of 2NT ranges saw Ho-Chen play 3NT with a combined 30-count where a cue-bidding auction after a strong club got Pettersson-Ahlesved to 6♦ holding:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Chen	Pattersson	Huang	Ahlesved
4♥	4♠	2♥	2♠
Pass	5♠	5♥	Pass
6♥	Pass	Dbl	Pass
Dbl	Rdbl	Pass	Pass
		All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sylvan	Ho	Wrang	Shen
	2♠	Pass	4♠
Dbl	Pass	5♥	5♠
Dbl	All Pass		

♠ 53
♥ K983
♦ QJ652
♣ KQ

♠ AKQ10
♥ 102
♦ AK98
♣ A53

"When in doubt bid one more." "The five level belongs to the opponents." "It is easier to take three tricks than eleven." These are all pieces of good advice; you just have to choose the right moment to apply them. In the Open Room East's 5♥ bid was wild, though West would surely have saved had he passed. But his double of 5♠ is inexplicable with negative defense. West no doubt expected the same sort of hand East had but with the ♦K in addition, such that slam could never go more than one down.

The defenders led and continued clubs, ruffed, and the ♦Q was an inevitable third loser. Down 600, which went nicely with +300 from 5♠x in the Closed Room where the bidding was far more logical, and

It is a delicate point as to whether you'd rather reach 6♦ by South after a relay auction when North has cue-bid 4♥ and not been doubled. (You might get a spade lead or a spade discard since the South hand is concealed.) Equally, if played by North they might lead a heart or a revealing spade and you can take your major-suit chances in order. Pettersson played 6♦ as South on a trump lead and ran four diamonds, then two clubs, on which West came down to three spades and four hearts — his best chance to beat the slam, in practice. However, declarer resisted the temptation to take the spade finesse, cashing his spades from the top and claiming 12 tricks for 10 more imps. With the ♥A onside, it is easy to make 6♦ but 6NT is more challenging: If you go for the combination play of testing spades, then leading a heart up, West can win his ♥A and cash the spade (as the Indian declarer discovered against Denmark).

On the next deal a quirk of notrump ranges saw Wrang-Sylvan stay low with 13 facing 11 and make +90, while in the other room 3NT went down two and Sweden led 31-0. Is 3NT hopeless? Yes, but...

Dlr: West ♠ 86
 Vul: Both ♥ 1097
 ♦ AJ64
 ♣ KJ73

West
 ♠ KQ72
 ♥ J3
 ♦ K75
 ♣ Q1042

East
 ♠ 1094
 ♥ AK85
 ♦ Q2
 ♣ A965

South
 ♠ AJ53
 ♥ Q642
 ♦ 10983
 ♣ 8

Paul Gosney declared 3NT as West after opening that hand a Precision diamond and received the ♥10 lead by North to the queen and his jack. (Technically only a diamond lead beats the hand though declarer has to go up with the ♥K at trick one to keep South off play while going for three tricks in each red suit plus two hearts and a diamond.) Next came a spade shift from South. Gosney won the ♠K, led a club to the nine, a spade to the queen, and without cashing off the hearts played a third spade. South cashed her fourth spade, North pitching a card from each red suit, and the ♦10 came back in this ending:

♠ ---
 ♥ 9
 ♦ AJ6
 ♣ KJ7

West
 ♠ ---
 ♥ 3
 ♦ K75
 ♣ Q104

East
 ♠ ---
 ♥ AK8
 ♦ Q2
 ♣ A6

South
 ♠ ---
 ♥ 642
 ♦ 10983
 ♣ ---

To defeat the game North had to win and return a red suit (and even if declarer had not unblocked the ♥J a heart back scrambles the entries). But when

North ducked the ♦A declarer ran the hearts and caught her in a strip squeeze. The best she could do was pitch the ♣J and ♦J to leave declarer with a guess, but her failure to lead a diamond at the first trick suggested her actual hand pattern so Gosney threw her in with a diamond to lead a club at the end, for 9 tricks. Datum here was +80 to N/S since 3NT down at least a trick was the most common result.

It got worse on the next deal for Chinese Taipei, when Chen-Huang went chasing after rainbows and bid to 5♥ with a trump suit of Q10876 facing K52 with a ruffing finesse to take.

Bd: 6 North
 Dlr: East ♠ A6543
 Vul: E/W ♥ 3
 ♦ Q74
 ♣ Q863

West
 ♠ KQJ987
 ♥ K52
 ♦ A8
 ♣ 74

East
 ♠ ---
 ♥ Q10876
 ♦ K1053
 ♣ AK109

South
 ♠ 102
 ♥ AJ94
 ♦ J962
 ♣ J52

The ruffing finesse succeeded but with ♥AJ94 offside declarer needed to read the cards pretty well to make, and did not do so. That made it 44-0 to Sweden (and as the editors remarked the last time they saw that score, both teams were full value for their imps scored). The final match score was 44-2, Sweden, 19.44-0 0.56 in VPs.

Even 4♥ turned out to be something of a problem on this deal when David Bakhshi and Paul Hackett were defending. After an auction where East had shown his three-suiter (1♥-1♠; 2♣-2♦; 3♦-3♥; 3NT-4♥). Bakhshi led the ♠10, covered by the jack and ducked by Hackett as East threw a club. Declarer played a heart to the queen and ace. Bakhshi shifted to a diamond to the king, for a heart to the king, getting the bad news. Declarer passed the ♠K and ♠Q, both ducked again as declarer pitched a diamond and a club, as Bakhshi ruffed in, cashed the ♥J, and got out with a diamond, leaving declarer with a club loser at the end.



"I can't help looking down on you, I'm tall!"



"That says 3.61. Is that really our GPA?"

Match Two: USA Kranyak vs New Zealand

by Rich Colker



McManus



Demuy



Kranyak



Ware



Wooldridge



Newell



Reid



Hurd

Bd: 11
Dlr: South
Vul: None

North
♠ 87
♥ A643
♦ Q52
♣ Q862

West
♠ AQJ54
♥ K102
♦ KJ73
♣ 4

East
♠ 103
♥ Q75
♦ 1094
♣ AKJ103

South
♠ K962
♥ J98
♦ A86
♣ 975

Open Room

West	North	East	South
McManus	Demuy	Ware	Kranyak
1♥(♠)	Pass	1NT(♣)	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Newell	Hurd	Reid
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	All Pass

As usual the antipodes got everything reversed, bidding things they did not have to show what they had. 3♦ might not be everyone's choice of contract, being a level higher than the more usual 2♠, but it worked well enough here. Demuy led a diamond to the ace and Kranyak switched to the ♥J, won with the queen. McManus now played the ♦10 to the queen and Demuy returned the suit. McManus won, led a spade to the ten and king, and the defense cashed the ♥A for their last trick; +110.

Against Wooldridge's 2♠ contract Newell led a club. Wooldridge rose with the ace, passed the ♠10, played a spade to the queen, cashed the ace, and got out with a spade to the king, forcing Reid to break one of the off-suits. Reid chose the ♥J, ducked to the ace. Wooldridge won the heart return in

dummy, passed the ♦10, then claimed nine tricks for +140 and 1 imp to USA; 1-0.

3NT was popular contract here after East responded 1NT, then rebid 2NT to invite and West accepted, often patterning out via 3♥. This looks easy enough but at least two declarers received what looked like a high heart spot lead (how unlucky that South was dealt ♥J98) and went for the newspaper play of putting up the king to kill the heart suit. All that this play achieved was to kill the contract instead as North won, cleared hearts, and now when declarer passed the ♦Q he was down.

Bd: 12
Dlr: West
Vul: N/S

North
♠ AK984
♥ K7
♦ J1053
♣ Q6

West
♠ Q6
♥ J109543
♦ 2
♣ 9874

East
♠ J1032
♥ Q
♦ AQ864
♣ K103

South
♠ 75
♥ A862
♦ K97
♣ AJ52

Open Room

West	North	East	South
McManus	Demuy	Ware	Kranyak
3♥	3♠	Pass	3NT

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Newell	Hurd	Reid
Pass	1♥(♠)	Pass	1♠(1)
2♥	Dbl	Pass	3NT

All Pass

(1) Forcing (does not necessarily show a ♠ fit)

McManus cannot be accused of lacking the aggressiveness which we have come to recognize as typical of the antipodes psyche, though perhaps the

vulnerability here played a (minor) role. McManus led the ♣7 to the queen, king and deuce. When Ware returned the ♣10 Kranyak won the ace in hand, crossed to the ♠A, and called for the ♦J. Ware rose ace and switched back to the ♣3. Kranyak ducked (really?), won the club return, crossed to the ♥K and led a diamond to the...king (West was known to be six-four when Ware followed to a heart, which may have persuaded Kranyak to reconsider the diamond finesse and play for the ♦Qx offside as the only way to make nine tricks), claiming eight tricks when the ♦Q failed to appear; -100.

Wooldridge led the ♥10 to the queen, ducked, and Hurd returned the ♦6. When Reid's ♦7 held, he played a spade to the eight and ten, followed to the ♦A, won the third diamond, and played a club to the queen. Hurd won, cashed two more diamonds, and now Reid claimed down two for -200; 3 imps to USA, ahead 4-0.

Bd: 13
Dlr: North
Vul: Both

North	♠ Q42
	♥ Q65
	♦ J10
	♣ AK862
West	♠ AK6
	♥ A9832
	♦ Q743
	♣ 9
South	♠ 875
	♥ K10
	♦ AK85
	♣ QJ107

Both N/S pairs played 3NT here and Reid emerged with a 1-imp overtrick to make the score 4-1, USA. We wouldn't normally report on what was basically a flat board round the room except that when Simon de Wijs held the West cards he led a heart against 3NT to the jack and king. Declarer led a club to dummy and passed the ♦J to him, so he innocently returned a low spade and declarer fell from grace and ducked. Oops!

Bd: 15
Dlr: South
Vul: N/S

North	♠ Q97
	♥ 1073
	♦ J9
	♣ AK943
West	♠ AK103
	♥ A
	♦ Q10754
	♣ 1075
South	♠ 862
	♥ 8654
	♦ 3
	♣ QJ862
East	♠ J54
	♥ KQJ92
	♦ AK862
	♣ ---

Both E/W pairs reached 6♦ but neither even sniffed at the cold grand. Another push at +940; still 4-1.

Half the field got there (well done; you know who you are) while three pairs played game (boo!). A simple enough route was the one found by Zmudzinski-Pszczola — a partnership that will give the bulletin editors fits if we have to keep typing it. After East set up a game force at his second turn he could agree diamonds, then jump to 5♣, Exclusion Blackwood, and bid 7♦ over the response.

Bd: 16
Dlr: West
Vul: E/W

North	♠ 108
	♥ KQ3
	♦ AQ32
	♣ AJ84
West	♠ AJ32
	♥ J4
	♦ J10865
	♣ 76
South	♠ Q954
	♥ 92
	♦ K974
	♣ 532
East	♠ K76
	♥ A108765
	♦ ---
	♣ KQ109

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>McManus</i>	<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
Pass	1NT	2♥	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Newell</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Reid</i>
Pass	1♣	1♥	Pass
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

It is difficult for West to envision game opposite a 2♥ overall of 1NT (less so if 2♥ showed hearts and a minor since now E/W are even more likely to be in a five-two fit) but with trumps breaking with both honors onside, plus the spade and club honors all favorably placed, ten tricks was easy — especially after Kranyak led a club to the ace and Demuy returned the ♠10. Ware won the jack, crossed to the ♣K, ruffed a club high, and played ace and a second heart to score +170.

Newell could not have been happy at the sight of dummy, and he was unlikely to cheer up when he discovered the diamond position and the locations of the black-suit honors. He won the opening heart lead with the king and cashed the ♦A to get the bad news there. Next he led the ♠8. Hurd flew king (as most of us would, not knowing where the ace was) and shifted to the ♣Q, ducked, then the ♣K. That was one trick that Newell had stolen to get up to six, but that was the end of the road and he finished at -50; 3 imps back to New Zealand, who drew even at 4-4.



"Hey guys, c'mon. It's time to start."

Bd: 17
 Dir: North
 Vul: None

North	♠ KQ1098
	♥ J4
	♦ AKJ65
	♣ Q

West	♠ J53
	♥ AK85
	♦ Q93
	♣ 873

East	♠ A642
	♥ Q103
	♦ 10874
	♣ 96

South	♠ 7
	♥ 9762
	♦ 2
	♣ AKJ10542

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McManus</i>	<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
	1♣(STR)	Pass	1♥(1)
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦(♣)
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥(2)
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣

All Pass
 (1) Positive (8-11, any)
 (2) Waiting

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Newell</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Reid</i>
	1♣(STR)	Pass	1♦(Neg)
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT

All Pass

As the cards lie 3NT is playable, but only if played by North (the heart suit blocks if East leads a low heart). But Wooldridge led the ♥A and now the defense was in a position to untangle its winners when East played the ♥10. However on the continuation of the king and a third heart (there may have been some confusion as to whether East had played an anti-systemic card to unblock or had ♥109xxx) Newell had a tenth trick to go with his seven clubs and two diamonds; +430.

If you're not going to play 3NT from the North side then 4♣ is as good a contract as there is here. Kranyak won the club lead in hand, played off all but one of the remaining trumps, then took the diamond finesse and claimed 10 tricks for +130, but 7 imps to New Zealand, who took their first lead at 11-4.

Bd: 18
 Dir: East
 Vul: N/S

North	♠ 10
	♥ Q76
	♦ 8754
	♣ AJ752

West	♠ K93
	♥ KJ10832
	♦ A10
	♣ 93

East	♠ AQJ652
	♥ A5
	♦ Q92
	♣ K4

South	♠ 874
	♥ 94
	♦ KJ63
	♣ Q1086

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McManus</i>	<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>

Final contract: 4♠ by West

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Newell</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Reid</i>
		1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

Here Ware relayed over the 1♥ transfer opening bid, getting spades played the wrong way up. He found precisely a 6=2=3=2 pattern with five controls and now, since it was going to be played the wrong way up, slam could hardly be better.

In the Closed Room Wooldridge-Hurd sailed into 6♠ via a key-card auction. Reid led a club to the ace and Newell returned the suit to Hurd's king. Hurd drew trumps, played the ♥A, and when everyone followed claimed 12 tricks; +980. That was 11 imps back to USA, ahead now 15-11.

This was an honorable flat board in Sweden-China Blue in matching +980s, but in total only four pairs bid the slam.

Bd: 19
 Dir: South
 Vul: E/W

North	♠ QJ107
	♥ KQ10
	♦ 97
	♣ 10985

West	♠ K865
	♥ J2
	♦ KQJ108
	♣ K7

East	♠ ---
	♥ 98763
	♦ A6532
	♣ J42

South	♠ A9432
	♥ A54
	♦ 4
	♣ AQ63

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>McManus</i>	<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Ware</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
			1♠
2♦	3♦	5♦	Dbf
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Newell</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Reid</i>
			1♠(STR)
1♦	Dbf	4♦	Pass
Pass	Dbf	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Demuy-Kranyak got a level too high and went down one in 5♠; it is not clear (and maybe only the shadow knows) if Kranyak's double of 5♦ in a Forcing Pass auction was encouraging partner to bid again with pass a transfer to double. If that is the way they play — and most players under 40 are required legally to

do so — then both the South and North cards are somewhat difficult to evaluate.

In the Closed Room Newell-Reid managed to stop in 4♠. There was nothing much to the play (the defense led two rounds of diamonds, declarer losing the spade finesse but passing the ♣10 to claim 10 tricks). That was 10 imps back to New Zealand, as they regained the lead at 21-15.

The datum here was +240 to N/S, about half the field reaching 5♦ and either playing there or pushing their opponents to 5♠.

Bd: 20
 Dlr: West
 Vul: Both

	North
	♠ 732
	♥ 10
	♦ KQJ2
	♣ K10762

West
♠ 6
♥ K95
♦ A1064
♣ AQJ54

East
♠ KQ10984
♥ 8762
♦ 75
♣ 9

South
♠ AJ5
♥ AQJ43
♦ 983
♣ 83

Open Room

West	North	East	South
McManus	Demuy	Ware	Kranyak
1♠(1)	Pass	Pass	2♥

(1) 4+diamonds (could have longer clubs)
 All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Newell	Hurd	Reid
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Ware did not balance with 2♠ in the Open Room but he may have been deterred by his heart holding. Whatever the case, he was spot-on to sell out. McManus led his spade and Kranyak, unable to read the six-spot for the singleton it was, ducked the queen. Ware returned his lowest spade and Kranyak inserted the jack as McManus ruffed, then played ♣A, ♣Q. Ware ruffed out the king and returned a third spade for the defense's third ruff. Next McManus cashed the ♦A and continued the suit but Kranyak won and played a heart to the ace, dropping McManus' now stiff king, and claimed the rest for -100.

The Closed Room gives us a sense of why Ware's pass of 2♥ in the Open Room was a winning action. Reid led a low diamond, ducked to the jack, and Newell switched to the ♥10, errantly ducked to the king. Hurd now cashed the ♣A, then played the ♣Q, covered and ruffed, followed by a diamond to the ace. He now played the ♣J, pitching a heart, but Reid ruffed and cashed two more top hearts (he might have played a lower heart on the third round for Newell to ruff). But Newell, alert to the position, ruffed the second heart anyway and played the ♣10 to promote an extra trump trick for down one, -100. That was 5 more imps to New Zealand, who won the match by 11 imps at 26-15, 13.72-6.28 in VPs.



"Would you believe I used to have hair up to here?"



"You get one shirt per team member. Your wife doesn't count if she's not on the team!"



"Look! NEC is up 3 points."

Match Three: Hungary Senior vs Yeh Bros II

by Barry Rigal



Dai



Szappanos



Magyar



Zhuang



Kovacs



Jie



Fu



Dumbovich

The Hungarian players had arrived virtually as the event was starting; would the jet-lag affect them? Apparently not, since they were leading after two matches.

Because of line-up problems the first deal (where Hungary had been about to pick up a game swing) was canceled and a substitute board played. The second deal saw a better (or luckier) opening lead score a goal for the Hungarians.

Bd: 22
Dir: East
Vul: E/W

North
♠ 86
♥ K8
♦ K75
♣ AQJ632

West
♠ A42
♥ J65
♦ Q10864
♣ 84

East
♠ K975
♥ Q109742
♦ A9
♣ 7

South
♠ QJ103
♥ A3
♦ J32
♣ K1095

Open Room

West <i>Dai</i>	North <i>Szappanos</i>	East <i>Zhuang</i>	South <i>Magyar</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

Closed Room

West <i>Kovacs</i>	North <i>Jie</i>	East <i>Dumbovich</i>	South <i>Fu</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♦(Pre)
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♦(1)
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♥
All Pass		Pass	3NT

(1) Minimum balanced hand

Magyar's 3NT was easy enough to make on a diamond lead. Declarer ducked in dummy and East won the ♦A and shifted to spades, setting up the overtrick. By contrast, in the other room Fu's artificial auction put South off a diamond lead and since his partner had not doubled spades Kovacs led a heart.

Declarer won and had to lead a diamond to the king early on. Dumbovich won and, curiously, shifted to spades but Kovacs went back to hearts and the defenders easily scored the last three tricks.

For the record, only five declarers made 3NT; most Easts preempted, ignoring their side four-card major, or were able to overcall at the one level when South did not open, thus tipping West off to the best lead if necessary. USA Kranyak could stop in 3♣ after opening the South cards for 5imps when Wooldridge led hearts against Gromov's 3NT in the other room.

Yeh Bros II got on the board with an overtrick, then added to that with a more significant pick-up.

Bd: 24
Dir: West
Vul: None

North
♠ A932
♥ 32
♦ J83
♣ KQ98

West
♠ K5
♥ 9765
♦ A542
♣ 764

East
♠ 4
♥ AKQ1084
♦ KQ1076
♣ J

South
♠ QJ10876
♥ J
♦ 9
♣ A10532

Open Room

West <i>Dai</i>	North <i>Szappanos</i>	East <i>Zhuang</i>	South <i>Magyar</i>
Pass	Pass	4♥	4♠
5♥	5♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West <i>Kovacs</i>	North <i>Jie</i>	East <i>Dumbovich</i>	South <i>Fu</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♥	2NT(♠)	4♥	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	5♠
Dbf	All Pass		

There was nothing to the play in either room; but had West not doubled I wonder if any declarers might have misguessed what to do in trumps. Yeh Bros II had 5imps and trailed 10-6.

It was possible for E/W to do better, or indeed much better, than that. While Brink-Drijver defended 5♠x in our other featured match, in Kranyak versus Russia — yes Sjoert and Bas are representing the red, not the orange today — Dubinin as South overcalled 1♥ with 3♠ and Gromov sold out to 5♦ and conceded -400. Not bad, but not best for E/W. That honor went to Whibley-Milne. Whibley opened 1♥, competed to 5♦, and Milne bid on to 6♦ over 5♠ and was doubled. South led the ♣A and when North encouraged he did not find the spade shift. Well done, West, for getting to diamonds, not hearts so that the spade losers could go away on the hearts. Slightly more than half of the N/S field played and made game here; slightly fewer than half did so as E/W.

The next two deals generated 2 overtrick imps for Hungary. Then a somewhat extraordinary swing, at least in the view of one of the editors (maybe there is a sub-text we don't know about).

Bd: 27
 Dlr: South
 Vul: None

North
 ♠ 872
 ♥ 3
 ♦ KQ3
 ♣ KJ9853

West
 ♠ AK653
 ♥ QJ52
 ♦ 854
 ♣ Q

East
 ♠ J
 ♥ K10984
 ♦ AJ9762
 ♣ 7

South
 ♠ Q1094
 ♥ A76
 ♦ 10
 ♣ A10642

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Dai	Szappanos	Zhuang	Magyar
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♣
Pass	3♣	3♦	Pass
Pass	4♣	Pass	Pass
4♦	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Kovacs	Jie	Dumbovich	Fu
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♣	Dbl
4♥	All Pass		

The senior editor (color him yellow) agrees with Dai's pass of 2♣; he doesn't play the double of 2♣ as takeout and obstinately refuses to make one even if he did. The Younger (and more dashing) editor rates doubling and bidding 2♥ as roughly equivalent, but considers nothing else remotely feasible. Not that he is opinionated, mind you.

4♦ went one down when declarer misguessed diamonds (though he certainly had a chance to limit the damage by making ten tricks after South had led the ♣A and shifted to a low heart). In the other room the defenders set up their diamond ruff by leading one, but declarer simply won, cashed two spades to pitch dummy's club, and rolled home with +450. On

a club lead I suppose declarer might guess the diamonds...but he might not. It was 23-6, Hungary.

Most of the field made 4♥ here, but a decent percentage found the save in 5♣, and quite a few pairs escaped for -100. While Hurd wrapped up 4♥ with an overtrick against silent opposition, on a top diamond lead, Kranyak opened the South hand 2♦ (three-suited with short diamonds) and that kept E/W out of hearts. They also played 4♦ down a trick on the identical defense to our featured match: ♣A lead and low heart shift followed by a misguess in trumps. USA led 34-3 now.

Bd: 28
 Dlr: West
 Vul: N/S

North
 ♠ K98642
 ♥ AKJ10
 ♦ 82
 ♣ 10

West
 ♠ AJ7
 ♥ 5
 ♦ AQJ5
 ♣ KQ985

East
 ♠ 53
 ♥ 8643
 ♦ 10974
 ♣ AJ7

South
 ♠ Q10
 ♥ Q972
 ♦ K63
 ♣ 6432

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Dai	Szappanos	Zhuang	Magyar
1♣(STR)	1♠	Dbl	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Kovacs	Jie	Dumbovich	Fu
1♣	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Kovacs appears to have overbid his hand by a king or so (and one would have thought he could have described his hand precisely by rebidding 2♦ at his second turn rather than make that horrible takeout double). But there is no arguing with results ("Oh, yes *there is!*" –Senior Editor) and Hungary inscribed +400 neatly onto their scorecards when after a top heart lead against 3NT both red suits behaved in very friendly fashion. In the other room West might have bid 3♦ over 3♣ despite having an apparent minimum in high-cards, but having said that 5♦ is no better than a diamond finesse plus a break, so it was certainly by no means clear that he was worth another bid. 7 imps to Hungary, up 30-6 now.

Hungary stole 3 imps worth of overtricks on the next deal (on which Kranyak-Demuy bid to a thin game in our other match and Kranyak guessed it well for another 10 imps to take their lead close to a 20-0 blitz). When on the final deal Dai-Zhang for Yeh Bros II reached an unsuccessful 3NT with a stopper in the opponent's suit of three small facing a singleton, Hungary added yet another partscore. And when the substitute board fetched yet another game swing for Hungary, their lead had risen to 43 imps and a 19.55-0.45 VP win for them.

Match Four: Netherlands vs Japan Ladies

by Rich Colker



Fukuyoshi



van Prooijen



Yanagisawa



De Wijs



Shimamura



Sato



Muller

Bd: 1
Dlr: North
Vul: None

North
♠ 107
♥ 9876
♦ QJ5
♣ J1065

West
♠ J965
♥ KJ3
♦ 1043
♣ AK8

East
♠ AQ842
♥ 54
♦ A97
♣ Q97

South
♠ K3
♥ AQ102
♦ K862
♣ 432

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fukuyoshi</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Yanagisawa</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
	Pass	1♠	Dbl
2NT(1)	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Shimamura</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Sato</i>
	Pass	1♠	Dbl
4♠	All Pass		

In the Closed Room De Wijs' 4♠ bid may look odd but the partnership plays a club system so he knew Muller's hand was limited. Sato got off to her side's best lead, a low diamond. Muller took the jack with the ace and led a heart up. Sato flew with the ace, led a low diamond to the queen, won the diamond return and got out with a club. The defense still had a spade to come for down one, -50.

In the Open Room Yanagisawa was in with a chance when Verhees led a club, but she had to play it just right. (Declarer must win the ♣Q in hand and lead a heart. If South wins the ace — not best but likely — and switches to a diamond, declarer wins the ace and plays a second heart, finesses the jack, then pitches a diamond on the ♥K. She can now take the losing spade finesse. Better defense at trick two is for South to duck the heart. Now declarer has to play

South to have the ♥AQ and ♠K by putting in the jack from dummy, leading a spade to the ace, then playing a second heart up. Few defenders would be able to duck the first heart smoothly.) Unfortunately, at the table declarer won the club in dummy and took the spade finesse immediately. Verhees won and accurately switched to a diamond and now declarer had to go down; -50, no swing.

In a parallel position in our second BBO match, England-India, Bakhshi, who had not doubled 1♠, led a club. Laltu won and took a trump finesse but Bakhshi won his ♠K and continued clubs so declarer was able to recover. That was worth 10 imps since Gupta had led a diamond against Justin Hackett.

For the record, 17 defenders led a club and 5 led a diamond against a spade contract by East. Every declarer who received a diamond lead went down; all but two declarers made the game on a club lead.

Bd: 2
Dlr: East
Vul: N/S

North
♠ Q106
♥ J10
♦ J765
♣ AJ65

West
♠ A82
♥ AK932
♦ AK93
♣ 8

East
♠ K74
♥ Q864
♦ Q104
♣ K92

South
♠ J953
♥ 75
♦ 82
♣ Q10743

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fukuyoshi</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Yanagisawa</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣(1)	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

(1) Drury (Limit raise of hearts)

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Shimamura</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Sato</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣(STR)	Pass	2♦(1)	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠(2)	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
6♥	All Pass		
(1) 9-11 bal, 4-3-3-3 with a M, or 4-4 in ♠+♣ or ♥+♦			
(2) Balanced			

Slam is not easy to reach here in most methods (asking bids and relays work reasonably well here). To see why, switch one or both of East's queens to the black suits and 4♥ may easily be the limit of the hand. Fukuyoshi could not find out all she needed to know and signed off in 5♥. De Wijs knew a little more of Muller's hand than Fukuyoshi did but looks to have just blasted 6♥ when East showed a maximum hand for hearts in context. There was nothing to the play, both declarers taking 12 tricks, but that was 11 imps to The Netherlands, 11-0.

Board 3 was a push for the N/S pairs at 4♠ making five when the defenders did not cash out correctly (on a unopposed sequence in both rooms where the opponents are cold for five of either minor). Curiously the two E/W pairs in Yeh Bros 1-South Africa were the only ones to bid and make game on the other cards. Then...

Bd: 4	North		
Dlr: West	♠ A76		
Vul: Both	♥ QJ106		
	♦ Q9543		
	♣ 3		
		East	
West		♠ K94	
♠ J85		♥ 84	
♥ A9532		♦ J76	
♦ A102		♣ K9742	
♣ QJ			
	South		
	♠ Q1032		
	♥ K7		
	♦ K8		
	♣ A10865		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fukuyoshi</i>	<i>van Prooijen</i>	<i>Yanagisawa</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Shimamura</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Sato</i>
1♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

In the Open Room van Prooijen led his singleton club against 2♥, ruffed the ♣8 return, then underled the ♠A to the queen for a third club. Fukuyoshi pitched a diamond loser as van Prooijen ruffed, cashed the ♠A and got out with a spade to the king. Fukuyoshi cashed the ♣K pitching her second diamond loser as North ruffed, and the defense still had a trump to come for down two, -200.

In the Closed Room Muller, playing a club system, could pass 1♥ and now N/S were on their own. Sato balanced with a slightly off-shape double (what else?) and Shimamura jumped to 3♦ with too much wasted in hearts and not very good diamonds and played it there. Muller led a heart to the king, ducked, and a heart back. De Wijs won and switched to a club. Declarer won the ace, ruffed a club, played the ♥J, ducked (East and dummy pitching spade), the ♥10 (East pitched a club, dummy a spade), then played ace and a spade. Muller won, switched to a trump to the ace and got a trump back. In dummy with only clubs remaining she led a club and pitched her losing spade as De Wijs ruffed with the ♦10, then led the last heart to promote Muller's ♦J for down one, -100. 7 imps to The Netherlands, now 18-0.

In England-India both tables started out (1♥)-Pass-(1NT); Dbl. Mukherji tried 3♦ for -100, Paul Hackett passed and the play virtually duplicated the above line for down one. But in 1NTx the defenders led a club. Declarer won and led back a club. The defense won and shifted to hearts. North took the second heart and set up diamonds, and declarer finished up scoring one club, two hearts and two diamonds for down 500. 12 imps to England+Pharon.

Bd: 5	North		
Dlr: North	♠ J6		
Vul: N/S	♥ 976432		
	♦ J76		
	♣ J8		
		West	East
		♠ KQ9543	♠ A72
		♥ Q10	♥ KJ5
		♦ A5	♦ Q832
		♣ 1052	♣ 643
			South
			♠ 108
			♥ A8
			♦ K1094
			♣ AKQ97

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fukuyoshi</i>	<i>van Prooijen</i>	<i>Yanagisawa</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
2♠	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♦	3♠	2NT(♣+♦)
			All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Shimamura</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Sato</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

With both tables in the same contract (3♠), Shakespeare had it right when he said "The play's the thing..." In the Open Room van Prooijen led the ♣J and a club, Verhees cashing a third round. But van Prooijen, who could see the discards coming, thoughtfully ruffed and led the ♦J, ducked to the ace. Now Fukuyoshi led the ♥10 from hand and passed it to the ace, but Verhees saw his plus score and quickly won and cashed the ♦K for down one, -50.

The defense started the same way in the Closed Room but Shimamura did not ruff the third club and Sato got out with a trump. De Wijs won in hand, drew a second round in hand, then played on hearts and claimed nine tricks for +140 and 5 more imps to The Netherlands, who led now 23-0.

On the next two board the teams traded overtrick imps, the Dutch making 12 tricks in 3NT on Board 6 to Japan's 11 tricks and Japan making 12 tricks in 4♥ on Board 7 to The Netherlands's 11 tricks, a 1-imp tradeoff making the score 24-1. Then...

Bd: 8
 Dlr: West
 Vul: None

North	♠ 972		
	♥ 5		
	♦ J962		
	♣ AKQ42		
West		East	
♠ QJ10		♠ 854	
♥ QJ94		♥ AK10862	
♦ K1075		♦ Q8	
♣ J10		♣ 96	
	South		
	♠ AK63		
	♥ 73		
	♦ A43		
	♣ 8753		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fukuyoshi</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Yanagisawa</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Dbl	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Shimamura</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Sato</i>
Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

North's 4♣ in the Open Room appears to have four losers, but van Prooijen proved he was not just here for his good looks. Yanagisawa led the ♥A and switched to a low spade. Van Prooijen won the ace, ruffed a heart, cashed two top trumps, then played king and a spade. Now Fukuyoshi was in with a problem. A heart would give declarer a ruff-and-discard while a diamond would allow him to insert the nine and hold his diamond losers to one. She wisely opted to lead the ♦7, giving him a chance to err, but van Prooijen put in the nine, took the queen with the ace, led a diamond up and claimed 10 tricks; +130.

In the Closed Room Muller could not avoid his five top losers and went down one in 3♥, -50, to increase the Dutch lead to 26-1.

If you think the Japanese Women were unlucky here, consider what happened to the English Women. Peter Newell opened the North hand 1♠ (9-13 HCP, diamonds, may have longer clubs) and Dhondy bid 3♥, doubled by South. West raised to 4♥, Newell bid 4♠ promising only three, and there the matter rested. After repeated heart leads declarer ruffed, ducked a spade and won the club return to draw trumps and claim 10 tricks. Adam Meredith might have flattened

this board (he too never saw a 1♠ opening he didn't like) but most of the rest of us have to step back in awe; 9 imps to New Zealand.

England+Pharon picked up an equivalent swing here when they played 3♠ for +140 (Paul Hackett got to bid clubs, then spades, after his partner had doubled hearts) and Justin Hackett played 3♥ on a top spade lead and diamond shift. He won his ♦Q, played back the suit, and when South ducked he went up with the king and claimed nine tricks once it held.

Board 9 was a push at +450 N/S, the Dutch playing in 4♠ and the Japanese in 4♥.

Bd: 10
 Dlr: East
 Vul: Both

North	♠ QJ32		
	♥ Q954		
	♦ A3		
	♣ J65		
West		East	
♠ K86		♠ A109	
♥ AJ876		♥ 102	
♦ Q1052		♦ 76	
♣ 4		♣ KQ10873	
	South		
	♠ 754		
	♥ K3		
	♦ KJ984		
	♣ A92		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fukuyoshi</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Yanagisawa</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
1♥	Pass	1NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Shimamura</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Sato</i>
2♥	All Pass	2♣	Pass

Against 1NT Verhees led a diamond to the ten and ace. Van Prooijen returned the suit, ducked around to the queen, then a club went to the king and ace. Verhees now cashed his three diamonds (van Prooijen pitching a club along the way), then got out with a spade to the jack and ace. Yanagisawa led back the ♠9 and passed it, playing for split spade honors, but van Prooijen won and now could have locked declarer in dummy to lose two heart tricks. Instead he exited with his ♣J and declarer cashed out for +90.

2♣ might have been a better place to play this hand but on some other day West's hand could be good enough to make 4♥ or 3NT. So we can't fault De Wijs for bidding 2♥. Shimamura led the ♦A and, seeing no good alternative, continued with a diamond to the king. Sato returned a third diamond and De Wijs played the king, ruffed, overruffed. Next the ♣K went to the ace and Sato led the ♦J for Shimamura to ruff. But that was all for the defense as De Wijs could now play ace and a heart to pitch his losing spade on the ♣Q. That was +110 and 1 more imps to The Netherlands, who won the match 27-1, 17.16-2.84 in VPs.

Match Five: Denmark vs Italy

by Barry Rigal



Duboin



Auken



Sementa



M Bilde



Bocchi



Madala



D Bilde



Welland

Bd: 11
Dlr: South
Vul: None

North
♠ QJ6
♥ J82
♦ J543
♣ J96

West
♠ K953
♥ K10
♦ A982
♣ KQ10

East
♠ A107
♥ 9653
♦ 106
♣ A752

South
♠ 842
♥ AQ74
♦ KQ7
♣ 843

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Auken	Sementa	Welland
1NT	Pass	2♣	1♣(2+)
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
			All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M Bilde	Bocchi	D Bilde	Madala
1NT	All Pass		Pass

Both tables led the ♠Q against a notrump contract (BBO and the official record do not agree on whether the Bildes played 1NT or 3NT) and conceded 10 tricks. It is hard to construct a confident route to 3NT, but when China Red played the Indonesia Seniors Wang overcalled 1NT over Polii's Precision 1♦ and Zhan drove him to 3NT via Stayman. The defenders led diamonds and declarer set up a long spade. It was very hard for the defenders not to keep playing diamonds now, which meant declarer had eight top winners plus the ♥K (with the ♥A marked onside) for his contract. 6 imps to China Red. The datum was 250 to E/W; in other words, a quarter of the field bid game.

Bd: 12
Dlr: West
Vul: N/S

North
♠ 864
♥ Q1085
♦ 43
♣ 10865

West
♠ Q973
♥ J74
♦ 652
♣ K97

East
♠ A102
♥ 62
♦ Q987
♣ QJ42

South
♠ KJ5
♥ AK93
♦ AKJ10
♣ A3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Auken	Sementa	Welland
Pass	3♣	Pass	2NT(22-24)
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♦(1)
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♣
			4♥

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M Bilde	Bocchi	D Bilde	Madala
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
			2♦(GF)

You could easily imagine a measurable percentage of the field missing 4♥, though as the cards lie 3NT will also come home. Both of our pairs had a puppet auction to 4♥, the difference being that Madala's sequence forced Bocchi to respond 2♥ and now 4♥ received an unhelpful club lead. Bocchi ducked the first club, won the second, then drew trumps in three rounds and took a diamond finesse. When it held he was locked in dummy. He played the top diamonds, ruffed a diamond, then misguessed spades for down one. (From a technical perspective I wonder if Bocchi should have played the ♥A and low to the queen to give himself the extra entry with ♥Jx in either hand. Not that it matters today.)

In the other room Welland received a diamond lead to East's queen and now was playing for overtricks. He emerged with +650 for a 13-0 lead.

As it happened, apart from a pair who bid to slam, 4♥ was an almost universal contract, played by South. Geza Szappanos did guess the play in 4♥ on a club lead to avoid the swing out.

Bd: 13
 Dlr: North
 Vul: Both

West ♠ J932 ♥ A64 ♦ AJ3 ♣ 1053	North ♠ AQ864 ♥ J105 ♦ 105 ♣ AKJ	East ♠ 107 ♥ K82 ♦ KQ762 ♣ Q72
	South ♠ K5 ♥ Q973 ♦ 984 ♣ 9864	

At both tables North opened 1NT with a chunky five-card spade suit and played there. A consequence of which card the opening leader selected from KQ762 (Sementa led the queen, Dennis Bilde led low) was that his partner (with AJx) cleared the suit in one case and was on lead after receiving suit-preference in the other. That gave Italy an extra undertrick; it was 13-3 now.

Where North opened 1♠ he normally played there, making 80 or 110.

Bd: 14
 Dlr: East
 Vul: None

West ♠ K972 ♥ Q103 ♦ J976 ♣ 64	North ♠ AQ108 ♥ AJ72 ♦ Q10 ♣ Q109	East ♠ 653 ♥ K54 ♦ AK542 ♣ KJ
	South ♠ J4 ♥ 986 ♦ 83 ♣ A87532	

Open/Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Welland</i>
<i>M Bilde</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>D Bilde</i>	<i>Madala</i>
		1NT	All Pass

Both Norths passed out a "strong" 1NT when at pairs at this vulnerability they would rather have cut off their least favorite finger than be seen to be such a wimp. Both Souths led a club to the queen and king. Declarer cashed four (but not five) diamonds (North being unable to work out to unblock), then led the ♥Q from dummy. North won and shifted back to the ♣10. With clubs still blocked, the defenders can only take

six tricks and Welland-Auken managed that, but Madala ducked the ♣10 and declarer cashed his diamond and two heart winners and had +150 for 2imps. 15-3 now to Denmark.

There were partscores all over the place, but would you like to guess how many Norths beat 1NT by pitching a club on the diamonds? That's right, none.

Both E/W pairs then bid a game on a competitive auction which came down to a finesse through the overcaller, -50. Then both N/S pairs displayed either poor judgment (or poor system if you feel charitable) to play 3NT with nine tricks in the side-suits but jack-third of diamonds facing 10x. Fortunately the players on lead with ♦AQx had a reasonable alternative, but 4♠ in an almost solid 5-2 fit would have been a more rewarding and considerably safer game. No swing (most pairs bid the right game; those who didn't avoided the killing lead unless they got there the "wrong" way up). Still 15-3 for Denmark.

Bd: 17
 Dlr: North
 Vul: None

West ♠ AJ42 ♥ J9 ♦ 10873 ♣ 642	North ♠ 963 ♥ 76 ♦ AQJ ♣ AK1085	East ♠ 1085 ♥ A1083 ♦ K5 ♣ QJ93
	South ♠ KQ7 ♥ KQ542 ♦ 9642 ♣ 7	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Welland</i>
	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣(♦)
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>M Bilde</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>D Bilde</i>	<i>Madala</i>
	1NT(12-14)	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

It is getting hard to trust the difference between some pairs' strong notrumps and old-fashioned weak notrumps but on this occasion both players had their bids. Welland drove to game facing a 14-17 notrump. Sementa led a top club but shifted to spades when in with the ♦K. Duboin ducked and Sementa hopped up with the ♥A to continue the attack on spades, and now Auken had only six tricks. Bocchi played 2♥ on a top club lead and used his entries to play hearts to best effect, scoring three black-suit winners, two diamonds and three trumps for +110. The 6imps made it 15-9 now for Denmark.

Lin for Chinese Taipei brought home 3NT here on a top club lead. Deciding that he was not going to make legitimately, he ducked the opening lead and

was charmed to see a club continuation. He now led a heart to the king and a diamond to the queen and king. When the defenders missed their final chance for the spade shift he was home.

Bd: 18 North
 Dir: East ♠ K32
 Vul: N/S ♥ Q973
 ♦ KJ
 ♣ K1093

West
 ♠ QJ854
 ♥ J42
 ♦ 832
 ♣ QJ

East
 ♠ A
 ♥ A1086
 ♦ 1074
 ♣ A7542

South
 ♠ 10976
 ♥ K5
 ♦ AQ965
 ♣ 86

Open Room

West <i>Duboin</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Sementa</i> 1♣	South <i>Welland</i> 1♦
1♥(♠)	2♦	All Pass	

Closed Room

West <i>M Bilde</i>	North <i>Bocchi</i>	East <i>D Bilde</i> 1♣	South <i>Madala</i> 1♦
1♠	Dbl	Pass	2♦
All Pass			

One player we know is fond of starting sentences with "When I was a lad..." Here his sentence continued "We used to bid notrump when we had the opponents suits stopped and only raise partner when we had quantity, not quality, trump support." Here his diktat was more than usually to the point since notrump partscores by North look very comfortable on any lead but a heart, and even then seven tricks look like a walk in the park compared to the contract of 2♦. The defenders led the ♣Q, cross-ruffed the black suits for the first seven tricks, then graciously gave declarer the rest. No swing; still 15-9.

For Chinese Taipei Lin was not resting on his laurels after the previous deal. He played 3NT here and after a club lead he won, returned the suit, ducked the spade shift, and had nine tricks. When was the last time in a large field you saw the same player be the only one to bid and make game on consecutive deals?

Bd: 19 North
 Dir: South ♠ 542
 Vul: E/W ♥ 96
 ♦ A4
 ♣ AQ9874

West
 ♠ K10983
 ♥ J5
 ♦ J32
 ♣ 1065

East
 ♠ AJ
 ♥ KQ732
 ♦ Q8765
 ♣ J

South
 ♠ Q76
 ♥ A1084
 ♦ K109
 ♣ K32

Open Room

West <i>Duboin</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Sementa</i>	South <i>Welland</i> 1♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT

All Pass

Closed Room

West <i>M Bilde</i>	North <i>Bocchi</i>	East <i>D Bilde</i>	South <i>Madala</i> 1NT
Pass	2♠(♣)	2NT	All Pass(!)

Another flat board at +400 for N/S. Welland could not be prevented from taking nine tricks in his game, while at the other table the defenders took the same tricks defending 2NT (which had been intended to show the red suits), also for +400. 400 was the majority result here, though more people scored it from making a contract than defeating one.

The match finished 16-9 on BBO, but with various results differing in the official record we could not be sure whether Denmark had 22 or even 25 imps. At least one of the editors would not sleep well tonight. Still, ignorance is supposed to be bliss.

Ben Green (continued from page 5)

West can afford to discard neither a high nor a low spade, so he must pitch his diamond. So now declarer cashes the last trump and West is caught in a one-suit squeeze. If he keeps the AJ10 South ducks a spade to him and he is endplayed. If he throws another honor away, East will put up the spade nine but declarer covers, and the spade eight becomes the tenth trick.

So now you see why I hate Ben Green? He robbed me of the chance to play a one-suit squeeze and get my name in the newspapers; I guess this column will just have to do...

2013 Yeh Bros Cup Daily Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Event	Boards	Venue
Tuesday (Apr. 23)	09:30-10:50	Qualifying Swiss Round 6	21-30	503
	11:10-12:30	Qualifying Swiss Round 7	1-10	
		Lunch Time		
	14:00-15:20	Qualifying Swiss Round 8	11-20	
	15:40-17:00	Qualifying Swiss Round 9	21-30	
	17:20-18:40	Qualifying Swiss Round 10	1-10	
Wednesday (Apr. 24)	09:30-11:40	Knockout 1, Seg. 1	1-16	503
	12:00-14:10	Knockout 1, Seg. 2	17-32	
		Lunch Time		
	15:30-17:40	Knockout 2, Seg. 1	1-16	503
	18:00-20:10	Knockout 2, Seg. 2	17-32	
	09:30-10:50	Consolation Swiss Round 1	1-10	
	11:10-12:30	Consolation Swiss Round 2	11-20	
		Lunch Time		
	14:00-15:20	Consolation Swiss Round 3	21-30	
	15:40-17:00	Consolation Swiss Round 4	1-10	
17:20-18:40	Consolation Swiss Round 5	11-20		
Thursday (Apr. 25)	09:30-11:40	Knockout 3, Seg. 1	1-16	503
	12:00-14:10	Knockout 3, Seg. 2	17-32	
		Lunch Time		
	15:30-17:40	Knockout 4, Seg. 1	1-16	503
	18:00-20:10	Knockout 4, Seg. 2	17-32	
	09:30-10:50	Consolation Swiss Round 6	21-30	
	11:10-12:30	Consolation Swiss Round 7	1-10	
		Lunch Time		
14:00-15:20	Consolation Swiss Round 8	11-20		
16:20-19:50	Open Pair Qualifying	1-27		
Friday (Apr. 26)	09:30-11:40	Final & Play-off, Seg. 1	1-16	503
		Lunch Time		
	13:10-15:20	Final & Play-off, Seg. 2	17-32	503
	15:35-17:45	Final & Play-off, Seg. 3	33-48	
	09:30-13:00	Pair Semi-Final	1-27	
		Lunch Time		
14:00-17:30	Pair Final, Consolation	1-27	502	
19:00	Victory Dinner			