



2013 YEH BROS CUP

22nd-26th April, 2013 Yokohama JAPAN

Wednesday, April 24, 2013
Bulletin Number 3

Editors: Rich Colker, Barry Rigal

China Blue leads qualifiers for 2013 Yeh Bros Cup

After hanging around in 2nd and 3rd places for the first four matches of Day 2, China Blue vaulted into the lead at the wire and assumed the #2 seed in the top bracket of today's knockout stage (Yeh Bros I is seeded #1). Denmark, who led the field after Day 1, finished second by a fraction of a VP (0.15) to assume the #3 seed. More than 8 VPs back was Italy Lavazza followed by China Red, USA Kranyak, The Netherlands and Sweden to round out the top bracket. The next eight finishers (USA Cheek, Australia Youth, Yeh Bros II, Russia, Chinese Taipei, Hungary Senior, New Zealand and England+Pharon) will play in the lower bracket, the winner of which play for the title on Friday against the winner of the top bracket. The remaining eight teams will enter the Swiss Plate and be joined in future sessions by teams falling out of the KOs. The complete final rankings are in the table below; the results for all five Day 2 matches are on page 6. The KO brackets as well as seating and match-ups for the Swiss Plate are on page 2.

Yeh Bros Cup: Final Swiss Standings (Ten Matches)

Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs
1	China Blue..	128.50	9	Australia Youth.	102.12	17	Yeh Bros I.	91.90
2	Denmark.	128.35	10	Yeh Bros II.	101.80	18	India.	89.09
3	Italy.	120.25	11	Russia.	99.74	19	Indonesia Senior.	84.37
4	China Red.	118.05	12	Chinese Taipei.	97.92	20	Australia.	84.34
5	USA Kranyak.	114.52	13	Hungary Senior.	97.79	21	England Ladies Plus.	83.45
6	The Netherlands.	113.82	14	New Zealand.	97.59	22	South Africa.	83.16
7	Sweden.	113.13	15	England plus Pharon.	95.76	23	Japan Ladies.	80.09
8	USA Cheek.	111.24	16	Poland.	93.30	24	Japan Open.	69.72

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 China Blue (A2) vs The Netherlands (A7) and Denmark (A3) vs USA Kranyak (A6)

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

KnockOut Brackets

Top Bracket				
A1 Yeh Bros I				
A8 Sweden				
A4 Italy Lavazza				
A5 China Red				
A3 Denmark				
A6 USA Kranyak				
A2 China Blue				
A7 Netherlands				

Lower Bracket				
A9 USA Cheek				
A16 England+Pharon				
A12 Russia				
A13 Chinese Taipei				
A11 Yeh Bros II				
A14 Hungary Senior				
A10 Australia Youth				
A15 New Zealand				

Yeh Bros Swiss Plate: Seating + Round 1 and Round 2 Match-ups

Round 1
Table 17 1 Poland
Table 18 5 England Ladies Plus
Table 19 2 India
Table 20 6 South Africa
Table 21 3 Indonesia Senior
Table 22 7 Japan Ladies
Table 23 4 Australia
Table 24 8 Japan Open

Round 2
Table 17 1 Poland
Table 18 6 South Africa
Table 19 2 India
Table 20 7 Japan Ladies
Table 21 3 Indonesia Senior
Table 22 8 Japan Open
Table 23 4 Australia
Table 24 5 England Ladies Plus

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 Jiaxiang, 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

Tuesday's Match Results

Match 6

1 Sweden (24)	3.22 - 16.78	9 Netherland (48)
15 England+Pharon (40)	16.18 - 3.82	19 USA Cheek (19)
11 Denmark (23)	3.82 - 16.18	13 USA Kranyak (44)
5 Italy (30)	14.28 - 5.72	17 Hungary Senior (17)
6 China Blue (39)	18.44 - 1.56	12 India (5)
20 Japan Ladies (12)	4.48 - 15.52	8 Yeh Bros II (30)
3 Russia (28)	14.80 - 5.20	23 Poland (13)
7 South Africa (23)	14.80 - 5.20	2 ChineseTaipei (8)
18 New Zealand (24)	14.80 - 5.20	10 China Red (9)
24 Indonesia Senior (25)	13.72 - 6.28	21 England Ladies Plus (14)
14 Yeh Bros I (12)	4.25 - 15.75	16 Australia Youth (31)
22 Australia (22)	11.85 - 8.15	4 Japan Open (17)

Match 7

5 Italy (0)	3.41 - 16.59	13 USA Kranyak (23)
12 India (16)	11.14 - 8.86	3 Russia (13)
11 Denmark (47)	15.52 - 4.48	19 USA Cheek (29)
17 Hungary Senior (10)	4.95 - 15.05	1 Sweden (26)
6 China Blue (21)	12.51 - 7.49	9 Netherland (14)
15 England+Pharon (12)	7.49 - 12.51	8 Yeh Bros II (19)
2 ChineseTaipei (28)	11.14 - 8.86	20 Japan Ladies (25)
7 South Africa (5)	3.61 - 16.39	10 China Red (27)
14 Yeh Bros I (25)	10.77 - 9.23	23 Poland (23)
18 New Zealand (13)	6.28 - 13.72	16 Australia Youth (24)
24 Indonesia Senior (10)	3.22 - 16.78	22 Australia (34)
4 Japan Open (18)	12.83 - 7.17	21 England Ladies Plus (10)

Match 8

11 Denmark (9)	7.49 - 12.51	6 China Blue (16)
16 Australia Youth (33)	13.14 - 6.86	12 India (24)
5 Italy (40)	15.75 - 4.25	15 England+Pharon (21)
13 USA Kranyak (8)	2.00 - 18.00	9 Netherland (39)
17 Hungary Senior (16)	6.00 - 14.00	3 Russia (28)
8 Yeh Bros II (14)	10.39 - 9.61	19 USA Cheek (13)
1 Sweden (6)	5.46 - 14.54	7 South Africa (20)
2 ChineseTaipei (28)	12.83 - 7.17	24 Indonesia Senior (20)
18 New Zealand (38)	15.29 - 4.71	20 Japan Ladies (21)
10 China Red (45)	18.58 - 1.42	4 Japan Open (10)
23 Poland (21)	9.23 - 10.77	21 England Ladies+ (23)
14 Yeh Bros I (25)	12.83 - 7.17	22 Australia (17)

Match 9

8 Yeh Bros II (8)	1.42 - 18.58	16 Australia Youth (43)
17 Hungary Senior (22)	11.14 - 8.86	9 Netherland (19)
11 Denmark (35)	16.18 - 3.82	15 England+Pharon (14)
13 USA Kranyak (1)	7.82 - 12.18	6 China Blue (7)
5 Italy (30)	7.49 - 12.51	1 Sweden (37)
3 Russia (17)	5.46 - 14.54	19 USA Cheek (31)
12 India (16)	10.77 - 9.23	2 ChineseTaipei (14)
10 China Red (31)	15.52 - 4.48	22 Australia (13)
7 South Africa (7)	3.22 - 16.78	23 Poland (31)
20 Japan Ladies (13)	6.86 - 13.14	21 England Ladies+ (22)
14 Yeh Bros I (26)	10.77 - 9.23	18 New Zealand (24)
24 Indonesia Senior (42)	16.18 - 3.82	4 Japan Open (21)

Match 10

7 South Africa (4)	1.56 - 18.44	19 USA Cheek (38)
17 Hungary Senior (13)	2.00 - 18.00	10 China Red (44)
11 Denmark (32)	8.50 - 11.5	8 Yeh Bros II (36)
6 China Blue (17)	13.14 - 6.86	3 Russia (8)
5 Italy (29)	11.50 - 8.50	9 Netherland (25)
13 USA Kranyak (26)	13.14 - 6.86	15 England+Pharon (17)
1 Sweden (38)	16.59 - 3.41	16 Australia Youth (15)
2 ChineseTaipei (24)	11.50 - 8.50	14 Yeh Bros I (20)
18 New Zealand (38)	13.72 - 6.28	24 Indonesia Senior (27)
12 India (18)	5.46 - 14.54	21 England Ladies+ (32)
22 Australia (37)	10.77 - 9.23	23 Poland (35)
20 Japan Ladies (21)	8.15 - 11.85	4 Japan Open (26)

Qualifying Match Datums for the 2013 Yeh Bros Open Teams

OA-Rank	OA-IMP	Member1	Member2	Team	Rds
1	0.99	Morten Bilde	Dennis Bilde	Denmark	10
2	0.80	Bauke Muller	Simon de Wijs	Netherlands	10
3	0.76	Paul Hackett	David Bakhshi	England+Pharon	5
4	0.70	Shi Haojun	Wang Xiangyang	China Blue	6
5	0.68	Shi Zhengjun	Ju Chuancheng	China Blue	8
6	0.64	Giorgio Duboin	Antonio Sementa	Italy Lavazza	9
7	0.62	John Hurd	Joel Wooldridge	USA Kranyak	9
8-9	0.55	Norberto Bocchi	Agustin Madala	Italy Lavazza	10
8-9	0.55	Shen Jiaxiang	Li Jianwei	China Red	8
10-11	0.54	Sumit Mukherji	Debrata Majumdar	India	7
10-11	0.54	Curtis Cheek	Joe Grue	USA Cheek	10
12-14	0.41	Krister Ahlesved	Jonas Pettersson	Sweden	7
12-14	0.41	Jerry Huang	Walter Chen	ChineseTaipei	7
12-14	0.41	Peter Newell	Martin Reid	New Zealand	8
15	0.33	Zhang Bangxiang	Wang Weimin	China Red	7
16	0.29	Michael Whibley	Liam Milne	Australia Youth	10
17-18	0.24	Sabine Auken	Roy Welland	Denmark	10
17-18	0.24	Chen Dawei	Kazuo Furuta	Yeh Bros I	8
19	0.22	Frederic Wrang	Johan Sylvan	Sweden	6
20	0.21	Miklos Dumbovich	Mihaly Kovacs	Hungary Senior	10
21	0.20	Fredrik Nystrom	Johan Upmark	Sweden	7
22	0.18	Krzysztof Buras	Grzegorz Narkiewicz	Poland Senior	9
23	0.07	Ricco van Prooijen	Aloysius Verhees	Netherlands	10
24	0.06	Akiko Yanagisawa	Yuki Fukuyoshi	Japan Ladies	5
25	0.02	Justin Lall	Ishmael Del'Monte	USA Cheek	10
26-28	-0.01	Tim Cope	Christopher Bosenberg	South Africa	10
26-28	-0.01	Juei Yu Shih	Wang Ping	Yeh Bros I	8
26-28	-0.01	Peter Gill	Paul Gosney	Australia	10
29	-0.04	John Kranyak	Vincent Demuy	USA Kranyak	9
30-31	-0.08	Andrey Gromov	Alexander Dubinin	Russia	8
30-31	-0.08	Gan Xinli	Wang Rui	China Red	5
32	-0.09	Fu Zhong	Jie Li	Yeh Bros II	10
33	-0.10	John R Wignall	Bob Scott	New Zealand	6
34	-0.18	Jason Hackett	Justin Hackett	England+Pharon	6
35-36	-0.19	CJ Zhuang	Jian Ming Dai	Yeh Bros II	10
35-36	-0.19	Donald Tuerah	Mochamad Nurhalim	Indonesia Senior	10
37	-0.20	Matthew McManus	Michael Ware	New Zealand	6
38-39	-0.24	Nicola Smith	Sally Brock	England Ladies+	7
38-39	-0.24	Fiona Brown	Brian Senior	England Ladies+	7
40	-0.25	Kyoko Shimamura	Makiko Sato	Japan Ladies	10
41-43	-0.33	Sebastiaan Drijver	Sjoert Brink	Russia	7
41-43	-0.33	Evgeny Gladysh	Mikhail Krasnoselskiy	Russia	4
41-43	-0.33	Adam Zmudzinski	Jacek Pszczola	Poland	9
44	-0.35	Geza Szappanos	Peter Magyar	Hungary Senior	10
45	-0.40	Heather Dhondy	Nevena Senior	England Ladies+	6
46	-0.44	Masayuki Ino	Tadashi Teramoto	Japan Open	10
47	-0.53	Munawar Sawiruddin	Bert Toar Polii	Indonesia Senior	4
48	-0.54	Justin Howard	Peter Hollands	Australia Youth	10
49	-0.57	Tom Hanlon	Hugh McGann	England+Pharon	7
50	-0.65	Sartaj Hans	Tony Nunn	Australia	10
51	-0.68	Subhash Gupta	Manas Mukherji	India	5
52	-0.73	Takahiko Hirata	Hiroshi Kaku	Japan Open	10
53	-0.79	Larry Chemaly	Robert Stephens	South Africa	10
54	-0.84	Michiko Ono	Natsuko Nishida	Japan Ladies	5
55	-0.87	Bert Toar Polii	Memed Hendrawan	Indonesia Senior	6
56	-1.08	Chen Yeh	Yalan Zhang	Yeh Bros I	4
57	-1.54	Nelson Ho	Kirk Shen	ChineseTaipei	5

Match Six: Sweden vs The Netherlands

by Barry Rigal



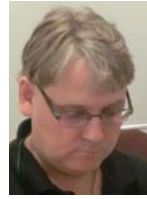
De Wijs



Sylvan



Muller



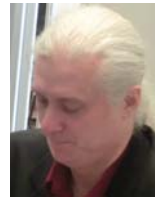
Pettersson



v Prooijen



Verhees



Ahlesved



Wrang

Bd: 21
Dir: North
Vul: N/S

North
♠ A7
♥ ---
♦ A106543
♣ Q8732

West
♠ J103
♥ J10872
♦ QJ98
♣ 9

East
♠ K95
♥ KQ963
♦ 72
♣ AJ6

South
♠ Q8642
♥ A54
♦ K
♣ K1054

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Sylvan</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Wrang</i>
4♥	1♦	1♥	Dbl
Dbl	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pettersson</i>	<i>v Pro'en</i>	<i>Ahlesved</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
4♥	1♦	1♥	Dbl
Pass	Dbl	Pass	4♠
All Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣

5♣ was easy enough to play. Verhees won the heart lead with the ace, pitching a spade from hand, unblocked diamonds, played the ♣K, won the spade return with the ace, ruffed a diamond, and went to the ♣Q to ruff out the diamonds. All he lost was two trump tricks.

I doubt if Sylvan would have done anything different in 6♣ had he not been doubled, but as it was it was very hard for him to envisage a winning line. He essentially duplicated van Prooijen's line for -200 and a 13-imp start for The Netherlands.

Both tables played 5♣ in England+Pharon-USA Cheek, but the twins were doubled there, and picked up 4 imps. The field was evenly split between those

making 5♣ and collecting a sizeable penalty, and those playing 6♣ down a trick or more.

Indeed, there is no winning line in the slam that involves ruffing out the diamonds while taking a first-round trump finesse. The entries to the North hand are insufficient. The double-dummy route to success involves ruffing out the spades, but the Editors were not holding their collected breaths while waiting for someone to find that line.

Bd: 22
Dir: East
Vul: E/W

North
♠ AQ85
♥ AK7
♦ Q85
♣ Q43

West
♠ KJ1042
♥ 8632
♦ AJ92
♣ ---

East
♠ 93
♥ 4
♦ K763
♣ A107652

South
♠ 76
♥ QJ1095
♦ 104
♣ KJ98

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Sylvan</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Wrang</i>
1♠	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pettersson</i>	<i>v Pro'en</i>	<i>Ahlesved</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
Pass	1♣(STR)	Pass	1♦(0-7)
1♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Both tables turned up their noses at the 4♥ game that was surely going to make (errors and omissions excepting re club ruffs; might West produce a Lightner double of 4♥ in the Open Room?). Where

Pettersson had overcalled 1♠ his partner led a spade. Declarer won in hand and drove out the ♣A, West pitching the ♥6 then the ♥2. It was not clear to West that declarer would have nine tricks outside of diamonds (though if he had needed to knock out a heart honor would he not have done so before playing on clubs? Hence diamonds were the only chance). In the other room after a club lead West knew to signal for diamonds, since declarer must have the spades well stopped. 10 additional imps to The Netherlands, making it 23-0.

Lall-Del'Monte beat 3NTx against the Hackett twins from the North seat on a club lead, while Paul Hackett led a low diamond against 3NT by South, after which there was no defense when declarer guessed trick one well. 11-4 to Cheek.

The field generally made game here. Only one pair played 4♥x, Magyar declaring it from the South seat on a trump lead. Had he simply drawn trumps he would have had 10 tricks. Alas, things did not go according to plan and Ferraro-Sementa emerged with +300.

Bd: 23
 Dir: South
 Vul: Both

North	♠ J52		
	♥ Q2		
	♦ K1052		
	♣ Q965		
West	♠ AQ98	East	♠ K743
	♥ K983		♥ A10
	♦ AQ4		♦ J983
	♣ 103		♣ AK8
	South		
	♠ 106		
	♥ J7654		
	♦ 76		
	♣ J742		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Sylvan</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Wrang</i>
1♣(15+)	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♣(1)	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT(2)	Pass	4♣(3)	Pass
4♦(4)	Pass	6♠	All Pass

(1) 15-16, BAL with one or both majors
 (2) Both
 (3) Slam interest
 (4) Yes

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pettersson</i>	<i>v Pro'en</i>	<i>Ahlesved</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
1NT (14-16)	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠(R)	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Ahlesved relayed for shape, then made a non-specific end-signal with 4♣. Pettersson could have made a final slam try by bidding 4♦ but bid 4♥ as a pass-or-correct signoff. Even if Pettersson had been tempted to take another bid over 4♠, he had to pass since he might have been facing a hand with no slam interest at all.

Muller played 6♠ on the ♣4 lead. He won, drew trumps, ending in hand, then took a diamond finesse. When the defenders continued the club attack South let go the ♣2, confirming an original four-card suit. Now declarer ruffed out the hearts, ruffed a club, and in the three-card ending knew North had begun with three spades, two hearts and four clubs so he could finesse the diamond. Had South concealed the club two the count might have been harder to confirm. 13 more imps to The Netherlands; 36-0.

Paul Hackett also played slam here from the West seat on a trump lead. He won in hand and went to the ♣A to take a losing diamond finesse. Back came a trump (yes, a club is better) so Hackett won, played three rounds of hearts ruffing in dummy, played the last trump, then the ♦J and a diamond to the ace. Now the last trump executed a double squeeze around the club suit with North guarding diamonds and South guarding hearts.

A third of the field succeeded in slam. Lall-Del'Monte missed it when facing a 14-16 notrump; Lall simply offered a choice of games as East. It was 23-11 now, Pharon.

Time for some relief for the Swedes, and it came in the form of a 12-15 notrump from de Wijs.

Bd: 24
 Dir: West
 Vul: None

North	♠ AK84		
	♥ AQ86		
	♦ K94		
	♣ J6		
West	♠ J75	East	♠ 63
	♥ KJ10		♥ 9532
	♦ J85		♦ Q632
	♣ AK104		♣ 982
	South		
	♠ Q1092		
	♥ 74		
	♦ A107		
	♣ Q753		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Sylvan</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Wrang</i>
1NT	Dbl	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pettersson</i>	<i>v Pro'en</i>	<i>Ahlesved</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
1♦	Dbl	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠

4♠ handled smoothly for +450 when, after the lead of a top club honor and a shift to the ♥J to the queen, declarer set up a club for a diamond discard from dummy and drew two rounds of trumps. Next he ruffed a diamond and a club in dummy as West was forced to follow throughout (though as it happens West could have played back the third trump when in with the second club honor). Plus 450 would have been a fine pairs score but the overtrick was irrelevant when Muller elected to sit out 1NTx rather than run (note that 2♥ might well get out for 500).

Against 1NTx the defenders cashed four spades (dummy unwisely unguarding hearts) and shifted to

a club to North's jack. Sylvan now meanly shifted to diamonds and declarer won and returned the suit. Sylvan hopped up with the king and played a third diamond, reducing everyone to five cards. Had van Prooijen kept three hearts and two clubs he would have escaped for down 500. Trying for more, he kept two hearts and three clubs and now when a heart came through he was booked for 1100. 12 giftimps to Sweden, down 24 at 36-12.

Grue-Cheek missed game here when Grue, as North in the Closed Room, simply raised to 2♠.

Bd: 25
 Dir: North
 Vul: E/W

North
 ♠ J65
 ♥ 873
 ♦ KQ107
 ♣ 1072

West
 ♠ K83
 ♥ A542
 ♦ J98
 ♣ AQ6

East
 ♠ AQ72
 ♥ J106
 ♦ A32
 ♣ J84

South
 ♠ 1094
 ♥ KQ9
 ♦ 654
 ♣ K953

There are two leads to trouble 3NT by East; our intrepid Souths tried the other two suits, Wrang leading a heart honor, Verhees a club, and both declarers wrapped up +630. So let's look at some declarers who had a greater challenge. Tony Nunn led a top spade as South against Hiroki Kaku's 3NT. Declarer won in dummy to lead a heart to the jack and queen. Nunn shifted to a diamond to the nine and ten, ducked by declarer, who also ducked the next diamond. Now a spade came back. Declarer ran the spade and diamond winners and strip-squeezed South into discarding a club, whereupon he was endplayed with clubs to either lead hearts into the tenace or unblock his ♣K and set up declarer's jack. (Had Hans put the up the ♦Q on the first round of the suit declarer might have won the trick and been sunk without a trace.)

At another table Peter Newell led the ♦Q from the North seat, ducked. After a spade shift declarer finessed in clubs and led a heart to the ten and queen. Shen Jiaying won the next diamond, cashed all the spades (North discarding a heart, not that it mattered) and exited with a third diamond to produce this extremely unusual but oddly symmetrical ending.

♠ ---
 ♥ 8
 ♦ 7
 ♣ 107

West
 ♠ ---
 ♥ A5
 ♦ ---
 ♣ A6

South
 ♠ ---
 ♥ K9
 ♦ ---
 ♣ K9

As William Bendix would have said, "What a revoltin' development this is!" If Newell cashed his last diamond declarer would discard a heart from dummy and catch Reid in a simple squeeze while if he exited with either a heart or a club Reid would be thrown in with that suit to broach the other one.

Bd: 26
 Dir: East
 Vul: Both

North
 ♠ K1032
 ♥ 7643
 ♦ K3
 ♣ KJ10

West
 ♠ 86
 ♥ AKQ92
 ♦ AJ7
 ♣ Q97

East
 ♠ AQJ
 ♥ J
 ♦ Q6542
 ♣ A853

South
 ♠ 9754
 ♥ 1085
 ♦ 1098
 ♣ 642

Both pairs in our featured match opened the East hand and relayed with the West cards to find out the opening bidder's precise pattern. After that De Wijs made an anti-relay (asking East to cooperate with a maximum and 5+ controls) while Pettersson made a further relay, found out he was facing a maximum with two aces and the ♦Q, and bid 6♦. Slam is the ♣10 or ♦10 away from respectability, but on a spade lead all concerns were over. Declarer won the spade, led a low diamond to the jack (is there a case for playing the ♦Q? Only asking.) and wrapped up 12 tricks. It was 36-24 now, The Netherlands.

Two other tables bid the slam: Nishida-Ono made slam for Japan ladies while Michael Whibley for Australia Youth found the club lead against 6♦ to set it two tricks.

On the next deal Ahlesved found his way to a decent game that he might have made, but he ran into a somewhat unexpected defensive cross-ruff and went down while Muller-de Wijs were playing safely at the two level. Paul Hackett brought home the game for a further 11imps to Pharon.

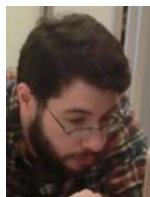
When Verhees stole a partscore on somewhat indifferent defense on the final deal the Dutch lead had climbed back to 24imps, 16-78 - 3.22 in VPs. England+Pharon had won by 21imps, 16.18 - 3.82 in VPs. After six of the ten matches both winners were clinging precariously to a top-seven place, both losers were on the outside looking in.



"...got no reason..."

Match Seven: Italy Lavazza vs USA Kranyak

by Rich Colker



Wooldridge



Bocchi



Madala



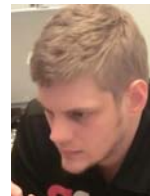
Hurd



Duboin



Demuy



Kranyak



Sementa

Italy arrived at the seventh match leading the field; Kranyak sitting fourth (less than 8 VPs back). Buckle up, *mes enfants*, for what figures to be a thrill-ride.

Bd: 1
 Dir: North
 Vul: None

North
 ♠ 975
 ♥ AJ
 ♦ K109642
 ♣ A5

West
 ♠ AJ84
 ♥ 105
 ♦ Q8
 ♣ KQ976

East
 ♠ Q2
 ♥ KQ98632
 ♦ J3
 ♣ 43

South
 ♠ K1063
 ♥ 74
 ♦ A75
 ♣ J1082

Open/Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Bocchi	Hurd	Madala
Duboin	Demuy	Sementa	Kranyak
	1♦	3♥	All Pass

Both tables reached 3♥ from East. Both Souths led the ♣10 (Rusinow) to the ace and got a low diamond back to the ace. In the Closed Room Kranyak now led the ♥7 to the ace and Demuy cashed the ♦K, then exited with a heart. Duboin played a club to dummy, ruffed a club and when the suit did not split took the spade finesse for +140.

In the Open Room Madala returned another diamond at trick three and now the Italian genius (or malevolence, depending on your perspective) revealed itself. Bocchi led a third diamond, giving declarer losing options. Wooldridge sat for what seemed forever and eventually pitched a spade from hand, ruffed with the ♥10 in dummy, and led a heart up. Bocchi rose with the ace and now tabled...a fourth diamond! Again Wooldridge went into the tank, perhaps an even longer one than on the previous diamond. Could South have started with ♥Jx (in which case he must ruff high) or could North have started with ♥AJx, in which case he must ruff with the

nine or eight (in case South still had the seven and trumps were two-two all along)? In the end he ruffed high (it did not matter, as long as he did not totally tank and ruff low), but the time and effort West invested in combating this defense would take a toll on any player, especially in a long match. Is it any wonder that the Italians are the gold standard in International bridge? Still, a push at +140.

Just for the record, N/S can make nine tricks in 3NT easily from the South seat but from the North side it is more complex on a club lead; the defense should win out, according to Deep Finesse. Three tables did bid and make 3NT; Dennis Bilde for Denmark was doubled there and collected +650 on the ♠Q lead.

On Board 2 both N/S pairs reached a heart game and made 12 tricks when the ♥K was onside and everything broke well for declarer. On Board 3 both N/S pairs reached 3NT and had nine tricks on the opening lead, eventually developing a tenth for a third straight tie. But there the push-fest ended.

Bd: 4
 Dir: West
 Vul: Both

North
 ♠ 98532
 ♥ A
 ♦ J43
 ♣ A982

West
 ♠ AQ6
 ♥ Q1065
 ♦ AQ102
 ♣ 64

East
 ♠ KJ107
 ♥ K74
 ♦ K875
 ♣ J7

South
 ♠ 4
 ♥ J9832
 ♦ 96
 ♣ KQ1053

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Bocchi	Hurd	Madala
1NT	Pass	2♣	Dbl
Pass	4♣	Dbl	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South

<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

E/W have enough high cards to warrant playing game somewhere, but where would determine each pair's fate on this deal. Notrump was out, with E/W's club stopper being ♣J7 opposite ♣64, and with the ♥A missing as well 5♦ was surely out. That left pick-a-major. Wooldridge-Hurd chose hearts and got to play there unmolested. Bocchi's spade lead went to the ace and Wooldridge tabled a low heart as Bocchi won the ace, perforce. Now came the ♣A, a club to the queen and a third club (our second in four deals). That presented declarer with a ruff-and-discard that could best be viewed in the Greek tradition that the Italians had learned to master the hard way after the fall of Troy. Wooldridge ruffed in dummy, pitching a spade from hand, and cashed the ♥K, getting the bad news there. He quickly claimed down two (South had two more trump tricks coming) for -200.

In the Closed Room Duboin-Sementa chose their stronger four-three major fit (and who could blame them) but Kranyak was not intimidated and turned the cube. The defense started with the same maneuver as in the other room, namely three rounds of clubs, Duboin pitching a heart as he ruffed in dummy. Next he led a heart, ducked to Demuy's ace, won the diamond return in hand, cashed the ♠A, then led the ♠Q to the king. When South showed out, Duboin claimed the same eight tricks as in the other room for the first swing of the match; -500, and 7imps to USA.

In Russia-India both tables played 4♠ but Gromov played for ruffs and collected one down while in the other room Gladysch went three down on a forcing defense. 5-2 for India.

On Board 5 both N/S pairs reached game, Bocchi-Madala chose to play 3NT for +630 while Demuy-Kranyak chose 4♠ in their four-four fit for +620. Again, no swing. Still 7-0 USA.

Bd: 6	North
Dlr: East	♠ AKJ5
Vul: E/W	♥ A63
	♦ A8
	♣ J1096

West	East
♠ Q108763	♠ 9
♥ Q7	♥ KJ1098542
♦ J107	♦ 9
♣ 87	♣ 542

South
♠ 42
♥ ---
♦ KQ65432
♣ AKQ3

Open Room			
West	North	East	South

<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Madala</i>
Pass	6♦	3♥	5♦
Closed Room		All Pass	
West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
Pass	5♥	3♥	5♦
Pass	7♦	Pass	6♣
		All Pass	

Sementa's 3♥ opening at unfavorable (for him) vulnerability seemed to have much the same effect as blood in the water has on sharks. Demuy-Kranyak cue-bid their way to 7♦, not stopping at Go and not collecting \$200 (though if they keep scoring like this they may collect \$110,000 later). Actually, 7NT is by far the safest contract with 14 top tricks, but today clubs were not five-zero and N/S marked +1440 on their scorecards.

Bocchi-Madala did not react to Hurd's 3♥ opening as well as USA did in the Open Room and Bocchi uncharacteristically raised to 6♦ without even considering a possible grand. Looking at his hand we can only scratch our heads. When Madala claimed +940 without playing a single card perhaps Bocchi's conservatism broke the surface. In any case that was 11 more useful imps to USA, leading now 18-0.

India picked up the 11 imps when Duboin as South overcalled 3♥ with 4♥, presumably to show one minor rather than both. It did not get the job done. Eight pairs bid the grand slam and only two of them got to notrump (well done Messrs Grue-Cheek and Hans-Nunn).

Bd: 7	North
Dlr: South	♠ QJ52
Vul: Both	♥ 9
	♦ AQ42
	♣ AQ53

West	East
♠ 84	♠ 3
♥ J75	♥ AKQ10862
♦ J108763	♦ K5
♣ 97	♣ K62

South
♠ AK10976
♥ 43
♦ 9
♣ J1084

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Wooldridge</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Madala</i>

Pass	4♠	5♥	3♠
Pass	5♠	All Pass	Pass

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>
Pass	4♠	5♥	3♠
Pass	5♠	Dbl	All Pass

The auction in the Open Room (given that you can stomach South's 3♠ opening rather than 2♠) seems

reasonably normal, and thus so was the one in the Closed Room — up to the point where Sementa fell in love with his soft defensive holding and decided that N/S were the real intruders in *his* auction. It did not take long to teach him the error of his ways as Kranyak scored up +850 at trick four, to go with Wooldridge-Hurd's -650; 5 moreimps to USA, leading now 23-0.

In India-Russia Dubinin opened 2♠ and Gromov also competed to 5♠. When doubled he applied the blue card. There's confidence for you, partner! There was also +1200, a number you do not see that often.

On Board 8 neither N/S pair gave a hint of thinking about slam as they both settled in 5♣ after West's weak 2♠ opening was raised by East (Hurd to 3♠, Sementa to 4♠). South doubled, North bid 4NT (pick a minor) and South chose clubs. Each scored up a semi-embarrassing +440 when trumps were two-two and two heart honors were onside (on a bad day you would go down in game, though). Another push; still 23-0 USA.

For Yeh Bros Dai-Zhuang did bid to slam and must have been disappointed to gain only 3imps when their teammates were going for 800 on the same "lucky" lie of the cards.

Bd: 9	North	
Dlr: North	♠ A5	
Vul: E/W	♥ AQ765	
	♦ A864	
	♣ A2	
West		East
♠ J9832		♠ K764
♥ J		♥ K10843
♦ J53		♦ 72
♣ KJ85		♣ 103
	South	
	♠ Q10	
	♥ 92	
	♦ KQ109	
	♣ Q9764	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Bocchi	Hurd	Madala
	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣(1)	Pass	2♦(2)
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
(1) Gazzilli (16+ or any hearts+clubs hand)			
(2) ART, extra values, asks further description			

Closed Room

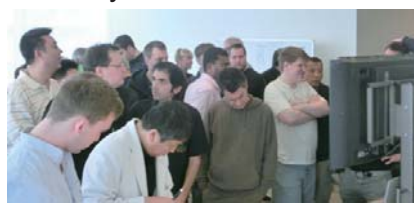
West	North	East	South
Duboin	Demuy	Sementa	Kranyak
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

The Italian auction in the Open Room steered them to the five-two heart fit as the lesser-of-evils game (2NT showed a balanced 16+, 3♣ was natural, 3♥ looks like Bocchi was concerned about spades for notrump), but the five-one heart split posed a sizeable impediment to a plus score. Hurd got off to an unfortunate low spade lead to the queen, and Bocchi next led a heart to the jack ("Danger! Danger, Will Robinson!"), queen and king. Hurd got out with the ♠K to the ace and Bocchi tried the ♥A, revealing the problem ahead. When Bocchi led a diamond to the king Wooldridge dropped the jack, hoping to steer declarer down a garden path. But Bocchi cashed the ♦Q, then the ♦10 as Hurd ruffed and cashed two more top hearts, at which point Bocchi claimed down two, -100.

Demuy-Kranyak's choice of 5♦ in the other room did not fare quite as poorly as 4♥, which is not to say that it fared well. Sementa also go off to an unfortunate spade lead to the queen, and Demuy took the losing heart finesse just as Bocchi had. A second spade came back to the ten, jack and ace and now Demuy tried the ♥A, with unfortunate results. Duboin ruffed, exited with a trump to dummy, and Demuy called for a low club. Duboin went in with the jack (not best) as Demuy won the ace and played back a club, and when the ♣10 fell the club suit needed only one ruff to establish. Demuy ended up down one, -50, for 2 moreimps to USA, throwing a shutout at 25-0.

Bd: 10	North	
Dlr: East	♠ 6	
Vul: Both	♥ AK9854	
	♦ KJ2	
	♣ Q64	
West		East
♠ 102		♠ AJ8754
♥ 2		♥ Q63
♦ AQ7543		♦ 98
♣ J975		♣ K10
	South	
	♠ KQ93	
	♥ J107	
	♦ 106	
	♣ A832	

The final board saw a slightly aggressive 4♥ contract reached by both N/S pairs, failing when the ♥Q was offside third and the defense got their tricks established (one in each suit) before declarer could manage to attack spades. The match ended with a whimper, USA Kranyak scoring an impressive 25-0 (16.97-3.03 in VPs) win over the vaunted Italians, no doubt improving their ranking as they headed toward the middle of Day 2.



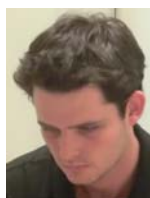
"We, the jury..."

Match Eight: Australia Youth vs India

by Barry Rigal



S Mukherji



Howard



Majumdar



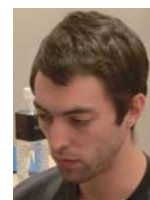
Milne



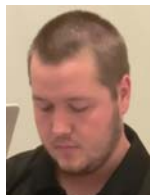
M Mukherji



Gupta



Whibley



Hollands

After eight rounds both teams were in the Goldilocks positions of 12-13. A big win might get them into the top seven, a big loss might drop them out of the top 15. All to play for.

Bd: 11
Dlr: South
Vul: None

North
♠ AQ97
♥ A86
♦ AKQ9
♣ K10

West
♠ J
♥ QJ10432
♦ J2
♣ A974

East
♠ 8
♥ 9
♦ 10763
♣ QJ86532

South
♠ K1065432
♥ K75
♦ 854
♣ ---

Open Room

West	North	East	South
S Mukherji	Howard	Majumdar	Hollands

Pass	4♣	Dbl	Rdbl
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Milne	M Mukherji	Whibley	Gupta

Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

I don't see any way that a partnership could bid this hand with confidence to a grand slam if the ♦8 were the jack. As the cards lie the natural squeeze to go for in 6♠ is to play the double-squeeze around diamonds — which doesn't work. You can catch West in a heart-club squeeze, but why would you?

Bd: 12
Dlr: West
Vul: N/S

North
♠ J72
♥ Q987
♦ QJ2
♣ K87

West
♠ Q953
♥ AK10
♦ 109875
♣ 3

East
♠ K64
♥ J65432
♦ 3
♣ A95

South
♠ A108
♥ ---
♦ AK64
♣ QJ10642

Open Room

West	North	East	South
S Mukherji	Howard	Majumdar	Hollands

Pass	Pass	1♥	2♣
2♦(♥)	3♣	3♥	4♣
4♥	Dbl	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Milne	M Mukherji	Whibley	Gupta

Pass	Pass	2♥	3♣
3♥	3NT	Pass	5♣

In 5♣ Gupta received the lead of a top heart. He ruffed and played the ♣Q, wisely ducked by Whibley. East did, however, win the second top club from South to shift to a diamond, letting declarer make his plan. He could try to ruff out the missing heart honor, but lose control if that plan failed, or win in hand and draw the last trump, then play spades for the extra trick. That was what Gupta opted to do and he led the ♠J, covered all around, after which he had no winning options.

4♥x by East was not a hopeless spot by any means. The defenders cashed a top diamond and shifted to the ♣Q. Declarer now needed both to crossruff and also to set up a spade winner. Had declarer gone after spades immediately he could easily arrange to score one spade, one club, two ruffs and five trump

tricks. But he embarked on the cross-ruff without leading up to his ♠Q and North arranged to discard his spades on the fourth diamond and partner's lead of the fourth club; -300, 9 imps to Australia Youth.

Roy Welland in our second match was in 5♣x. He ruffed the opening lead, led ♣Q, ducked, but then led a low club to the king, thereby depriving himself of a possible entry to dummy for the heart ruff. Since China Blue had stopped in 4♣ they led 11-0 after two boards.

Bd: 13
Dir: North
Vul: Both

North
♠ AQ652
♥ J3
♦ K73
♣ 642

West
♠ 73
♥ 10872
♦ AQJ92
♣ J8

East
♠ J4
♥ KQ94
♦ 864
♣ KQ73

South
♠ K1098
♥ A65
♦ 105
♣ A1095

Open Room
West North East South
S Mukherji Howard Majumdar Hollands

1♦ Pass Pass 1♣
Pass 4♠ Dbl 2♠
All Pass

Closed Room
West North East South
Milne M Mukherji Whibley Gupta

1♦(1♥) Pass 2♥ Pass
Pass 2♠ All Pass

The aggressive Australian style got both rooms into the auction early on a deal that one could have imagined being passed out in an earlier and purer vintage of the game. The editors (playing their own private brand of one-upmanship) guessed two and four for the number of pass-outs, without much confidence. Correct answer: none.

While Manas Mukherji's balance bought the pot, E/W in that room had no good options since 3♥ has no play as the cards lie. Meanwhile, Howard's jump to 4♠ facing a four-card raise looks a trifle sporting. Yes, the ♦K is well placed but it is okay to ask partner for his opinion instead of telling him what it is. After a heart lead declarer needed a minor miracle in the club suit so that he could endplay a player with a doubleton double-honor (or a singleton honor) and this was not forthcoming. 10-6 now, Australia Youth.



"Now guess what's behind my other hand."

Next came a chance for both Wests to operate:

Bd: 14
Dir: East
Vul: None

North
♠ 986
♥ K83
♦ A8
♣ K8753

West
♠ J753
♥ 2
♦ 76542
♣ J109

East
♠ AK10
♥ A9754
♦ K3
♣ Q64

South
♠ Q42
♥ QJ106
♦ QJ109
♣ A2

Open Room
West North East South
S Mukherji Howard Majumdar Hollands

2♥(♠) Pass 2♠ All Pass
Closed Room
West North East South
Milne M Mukherji Whibley Gupta

2♣ Pass 2♥ Pass
3♣(♦) Pass 3♦ All Pass

There is no doubt that Majumdar bought a better partner than Whibley, though I think we can identify with the feeling that West had when he caught his partner with a heart response to Stayman and a doubleton diamond. After South's trump lead 3♦ scored three spades, one heart and two trumps but never managed to get the club trick since the defenders drew trumps and led hearts at every turn.

2♠ on a top diamond lead was a far happier spot. The defenders took the ♦A to play spades. Whibley won the ♠A, cross-ruffed hearts and diamonds and emerged after a slight defensive error with three spades in hand, three ruffs in dummy, a trick in each red suit, plus one in the wash for +140 and 7 imps. India led 13-10 now.

Bd: 15
Dir: South
Vul: N/S

North
♠ 5
♥ AK643
♦ K5
♣ KQ954

West
♠ J109842
♥ 9
♦ 732
♣ J108

East
♠ Q63
♥ QJ102
♦ A986
♣ 73

South
♠ AK7
♥ 875
♦ QJ104
♣ A62

Open Room
West North East South
S Mukherji Howard Majumdar Hollands

2♠ 4NT(1) Pass 6♦
Pass 6♥ Pass 6NT
All Pass

(1) Minors, quantitative or keycard for clubs?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>M Mukherji</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
2♠	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

The auction in the Closed Room was prosaic, literally accurate, and contained no ambiguity or confusion but arrived at the wrong contract. Meanwhile, I'm not saying the auction from the Open Room will win any bidding challenge awards, based as it was on a fundamental disagreement about what 4NT should mean. But it did win 14 imps when 6NT had precisely 12 top tricks. Anyone who believe that there is any justice can consult Messrs Sumit Mukherji and Majumdar. Australia Youth led 23-13.

On the next deal both E/W pairs were faced with a game that might come down to a king-jack guess. Sumit played deceptively to avoid the problem, Manas-Gupta put Milne to the test and he got it right. No swing, Australia Youth still by 10.

Bd: 17	North
Dlr: North	♠ AKQ2
Vul: None	♥ Q1072
	♦ A4
	♣ K53

West
♠ 7
♥ J985
♦ K52
♣ A10964

East
♠ 109864
♥ AK4
♦ 10973
♣ Q

South
♠ J53
♥ 63
♦ QJ86
♣ J872

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S Mukherji</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Majumdar</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
	1♦(1)	1♠	2♦
Dbl	Rdbl	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All Pass	

(1) Natural/18-19 balanced

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>M Mukherji</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
	1♣	1♠	Pass
1NT	Dbl	2♦	All Pass

There was no way that E/W were ever going to be able to defend 2♦xx here, was there? When Majumdar escaped to 2♥ Hollands did well to pass out his partner's penalty double and lead a trump to the eight ten and ace. Declarer played a spade from hand. Hollands hopped up with the jack to lead a diamond honor through, covered all around, and now the ♥Q back let declarer score the ♣A and a ruff, but then all he could manage was his two further trump tricks. Down 300; a 6 imp gain for Australia Youth since 2♦, undoubled, went down a trick. Even after a low trump lead and continuation declarer managed to emerge with two hearts, a club, the ♦K and three

low trumps scored separately. 27-13 now for Australia Youth.

In Denmark-China blue after a 1♣ opening from North two members of the Danish team bid spades. Welland responded to show spades with the South cards, Morten Bilde overcalled to show a biddable spade suit with the East hand. Which of them told the bigger lie, do you think?

Bd: 18	North
Dlr: East	♠ KQ84
Vul: N/S	♥ 973
	♦ AK2
	♣ 1072

West
♠ J2
♥ KQ102
♦ Q108
♣ AJ53

East
♠ A1073
♥ J8654
♦ 654
♣ 6

South
♠ 965
♥ A
♦ J973
♣ KQ984

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S Mukherji</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Majumdar</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
1♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>M Mukherji</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
		2♦(1)	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

(1) majors, weak

We can all understand auctions like that in the Open Room. After a top diamond lead the defenders took their spade trick and three aces and kings for down one. The auction in the Closed Room is more mysterious. Should 2♠ be natural or an attempt to get partner to bid his long suit? Should Milne compete to 3♥? All these and more will be answered on the next episode of...

Whibley led a heart. Declarer won and tried a top club from dummy. Milne won and fired back a low spade to the king and ace for a second trump to the jack and queen. Declarer took his heart ruff in dummy, then tried a diamond to the king and a third heart. Milne forced him to ruff another heart and now declarer tried a club toward the queen. Whibley ruffed in, drew the last trump, then cashed a diamond for down one and 4 imps to make it 33-11.

In our other match Auken played 2♠ on a somewhat more direct route, and on a heart lead she used her two diamond entries to ruff hearts, thereby scoring the first five tricks. When she played the ♣K from dummy Lian won and shifted to the ♠J, not a low spade. Auken covered, East ducked, and when declarer led a club towards dummy East discarded a heart. Declarer won her ♣Q, her seventh trick, carefully exited with a diamond, and could not be

prevented from scoring one more trump trick at the death. Since in the other room E/W had bid up to 3♥ and N/S had played 4♣ down three on repeated heart leads, Denmark had 9imps and lost the match 16-9.

Bd: 19
Dir: South
Vul: E/W

North
♠ K1087
♥ AJ74
♦ AQ
♣ KQ10

West
♠ 943
♥ 983
♦ J
♣ A98653

East
♠ A652
♥ ---
♦ 75432
♣ J742

South
♠ QJ
♥ KQ10652
♦ K10986
♣ ---

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>S Mukherji</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Majumdar</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
Pass	2NT(♥)	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♥
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>M Mukherji</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Gupta</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

Reaching 6♥ proved to be too hard for most of the field. Seven pairs managed it, three went down in the grand, and here 6NT did not fare well. According to North, South, who could have bid 4♦ over 2NT with this hand-type, showed short clubs with 3NT, then the ♣A with 4♣. That explains the final choice of contract. As Francis Urquhart would say "You might think that, I couldn't possibly comment."

In the Open Room the initial response of 2♣ persuaded South not to show the club void but it was still good enough for an 11-imp pick-up, leaving Australia Youth the winners by 33-24, moving them up the table to 12th place.



"He thinks it's a weapon."

Faces of our Game



"It was all my fault."



Mr. Wignall: Mr. Rona called and would like you to contact him as soon as possible regarding the quality of your bridge play.



"I'm board."



"...and that was your third error in the analysis."



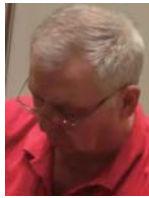
"I still love you...just not as much."

Match Nine: Hungary Senior vs The Netherlands

by Rich Colker



De Wijs



Szappanos



Muller



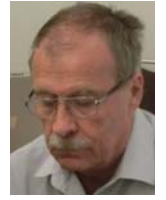
Kovacs



v Prooijen



Verhees



Dumbovich



Magyar

Fourth-place Netherlands met ninth-place Hungary Senior with the latter currently less than 3 VPs out of the last qualifying spot. Now would a fine time for emergency measures.

Bd: 21
Dlr: North
Vul: N/S

North
♠ AK72
♥ K5
♦ 7652
♣ KJ4

West
♠ 54
♥ 62
♦ 10984
♣ 109876

East
♠ 108
♥ QJ1083
♦ AKQJ
♣ 53

South
♠ QJ963
♥ A974
♦ 3
♣ AQ2

Szappanos' 1♦ opening in the Open Room might account for Magyar's reluctance even to suggest slam. But 12 tricks were there for the taking declarer needing only to ruff either red-suit in the opposite hand (the defense can do no better than to lead trumps twice, which isn't sufficient). Similarly, in the Closed Room van Prooijen opened a 14-16 1NT which also must have dissuaded Verhees from thinking about slam. Sadly, a push at +680.

The datum was 820; only five of the 24 pairs bid slam. Those playing a 14-16 notrump might have managed it after 1NT-2♥-3♥ (doubleton ace or ♥K with four trumps) mightn't they? Since those are the Junior Editor's methods, and they clearly work so well, it will be our secret, Gentle Reader. And for those interested, a transfer break to 2NT shows a small doubleton in an unspecified suit.

Bd: 22
Dlr: East
Vul: E/W

North
♠ 108432
♥ K10
♦ 1082
♣ Q94

West
♠ J5
♥ A95
♦ A97543
♣ K7

East
♠ AQ9
♥ QJ874
♦ Q
♣ AJ108

South
♠ K76
♥ 632
♦ KJ6
♣ 6532

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Szappanos</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Magyar</i>
		1♣(STR)	Pass
2♥(♦)	Pass	2♠(R)	Pass
2NT(1)	Pass	3♣(R)	Pass
3♦(2)	Pass	3♥(3)	Pass
3NT(4)	Pass	4♦(5)	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
	(1) 6-3-2-2 (or 5-3-3-2)		
	(2) 2=3=6=2		
	(3) Control ask		
	(4) 5 controls		
	(5) Puppet to 4♥		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kovacs</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♦	Pass	6♥	All Pass

This time E/W in the Closed Room were Hungary (hungry, get it?) for slam and from looking at the two hands it seems that nothing was going to stop them from getting there. Now all Dumbovich had to do was make it. Verhees led a friendly club to the queen and ace and now Dumbovich played: diamond to the ace,

diamond ruff, ♥Q, ducked to the king, spade to the ace, club to the king, diamond ruff, ♥J, ♣10 pitching a spade, trump to dummy, claim +1430.

In the Open Room the Dutch pair found out a lot about the hand but apparently knew that the controls were too skimpy to risk slam. Played from the other side de Wijs got a spade lead, ducked to the king, and now made just 11 tricks for +650; 13 imps to Hungary.

Five pairs made slam, one went down on a trump lead. On a passive lead it looks natural to ruff out the diamonds en route to drawing trumps, and that works just fine today.

Bd: 23
Dlr: South
Vul: Both

North
♠ 10
♥ KQJ72
♦ KJ9
♣ A862

West
♠ AK986
♥ 5
♦ 7653
♣ KJ7

East
♠ QJ3
♥ A109864
♦ Q4
♣ Q10

South
♠ 7542
♥ 3
♦ A1082
♣ 9543

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Szappanos</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Magyar</i>
1♠	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dbf	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kovacs</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
1♠	2♥	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Your Editors' never get to defend 2♥x when we hold hands like East's, but this was Yokohama, and Muller was not one of your Editors. But be careful what you wish for. With 10 points taking only one spade trick it looks like this might not be the big payoff it we 'd all hope for with that East hand. Muller led the ♠Q and a spade. Szappanos ruffed, led the ♥J, covered, to the ace and tried a heart to the king and ace. Muller switched back to a spade, ruffed, and now Szappanos drew two rounds of trumps, then played king and a diamond. Muller ruffed but Szappanos still had to score the ♣A for down one, -200. Bummer — at least from East's perspective.

In the Closed Room against 4♠ van Prooijen led the ♥K to the ace. Kovacs played the ♣Q, ducked, then the ♣10 to the ace, and back came a heart, Verhees throwing a club as Kovacs ruffed. Next came the ♣K, dummy pitching the ♦4, followed by a diamond to the king. Back came the ♠10 to the king and now Kovacs claimed ten tricks on a high cross-ruff losing just one

more diamond for +620. That was 9 imps to Hungary, leading now 22-0.

Few pairs got to 4♠ here; most defended 2♥x and the fact that the datum was 360 to E/W suggests that when it comes to hearts you can have too much of a good thing.

On Board 24 both Norths played 3NT down one when both East's led a low spade from ace-fifth and found ♠Kx in dummy, declarer with ♠Qxx, partner with the ♦A for a quick entry for a spade back. In fact that happened at every table bar one, where in our other featured match the Yeh Bros II pair reached 3NT from the safer side and West guessed to lead the wrong suit. Australia Youth led 24-7 now.

On Board 25 both N/S pairs sailed in to 6♠ and made seven when the ♠K turned up outside. Still 22-0.

Bd: 26
Dlr: East
Vul: Both

North
♠ ---
♥ Q2
♦ QJ542
♣ KJ10942

West
♠ AJ108
♥ AJ963
♦ A87
♣ 8

East
♠ 962
♥ K85
♦ 10963
♣ A53

South
♠ KQ7543
♥ 1074
♦ K
♣ Q76

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Szappanos</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Magyar</i>
3♥	Pass	3♠	2♠
3NT	All Pass		Dbf

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kovacs</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
3♥	All Pass	Pass	2♠

Muller's 3♠ bid in the Open Room looks more than a bit strange to our uninitiated eyes, but what do we know? And as the Junior Editor has said before, one can hardly argue with success. Szappanos led the ♣10, ducked, then the ♣K, ducked (de Wijs throwing a diamond), and now Szappanos switched to a diamond to the king and ace. De Wijs tabled the ♠J, won by the queen, and Magyar exited with the ♣Q to dummy's ace. The ♠9 was covered by the king and ace, followed by a low heart to the king and a heart to the ace. When the ♥Q fell declarer claimed the rest; +630.

Van Prooijen led the ♦2 to the king and ace and Kovacs played the ♥A followed by a low heart and was gratified to see the queen make an appearance. Next the ♠9 was covered by the queen and ace and declarer drew the last trump and conceded one

spade and two diamonds for +170, but 10 imps to The Netherlands, now only 12 down at 22-10.

Bidding and making game with the E/W cards was the exception rather than the rule here. But Australia Youth dodged a bullet when they defended 3♠ down 300, while at the other table they were defending 3NT by West down two after a club lead (declarer assumed clubs were 5-4, so he simply took the heart finesse). 35-8 to Australia Youth.

Board 27 was everyone's 4♠ by South and both tables scored up an easy 11 tricks for +450. Still 22-10, Hungary.

Australia picked up yet another swing against a strong club (buying the hand in 2♦ doubled down 100) and won their match 43-8, 18.58-1.42 in VPs, to move into a qualifying spot.

Bd: 28
Dir: West
Vul: N/S

North
♠ J964
♥ QJ43
♦ J8
♣ Q62

West
♠ K85
♥ K107
♦ A74
♣ AK53

East
♠ 73
♥ 965
♦ Q1062
♣ J1098

South
♠ AQ102
♥ A82
♦ K953
♣ 74

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Szappanos</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Magyar</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
2♣	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kovacs</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
1NT	All Pass		

Kovacs' 1NT contract was no bed of roses on a heart lead to the ace and a heart back. He ducked, won the third heart, cashed the ♦A and played a second diamond to the jack, queen and king. Back came a spade, ducked to the nine, and van Prooijen now cashed his last heart and exited with a spade. Verhees won the ace and continued the suit and Kovacs still had to lose a club for down one, -50.

2♣ in the Closed Room turned out to be a far safer spot, which could not have provoked a warm feeling for Magyar, given that he could have passed out 1NT. De Wijs ended up losing two hearts and one trick in each of the other suits for +90 and 4 imps to The Netherlands, now trailing by 8 at 22-14.

Bd: 29
Dir: North
Vul: Both

North
♠ QJ4
♥ QJ1076
♦ K
♣ AJ105

West
♠ A
♥ AK3
♦ J10532
♣ K863

East
♠ 8752
♥ 942
♦ Q874
♣ 72

South
♠ K10963
♥ 85
♦ A96
♣ Q94

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Szappanos</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>Magyar</i>
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Dbl	Rdbl(1)	2♦	2♠
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♠

All Pass

(1) Support (3-card spade support)

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kovacs</i>	<i>v Prooijen</i>	<i>Dumbovich</i>	<i>Verhees</i>
	2♥	Pass	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

3♠ in the Open Room was as good a spot as Magyar could have hoped for. De Wijs led the ♦J and Magyar led a spade to the ten and ace. De Wijs tried the ♥K, got a discouraging card from Muller, and tried a club. Magyar won in hand, ruffed the ♦9, cashed the ♠Q, got out with a heart to the ace and claimed 10 tricks; +170.

Van Prooijen led the ♥Q against 2NT. Kovacs won, tabled the ♦10 and back came the ♥10. Kovacs won and led a second diamond to the queen and ace and Verhees switched to the ♣9. Kovacs ducked and van Prooijen overtook with the ten to cash three hearts, then got out with the ♠J. Kovacs won, perforce, and cashed his diamonds but the defense had the last two tricks for down three, -300; 4 more imps to the Dutch, who now trailed by only 4 at 22-18.

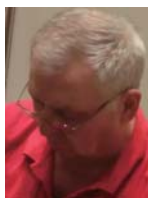
On the final deal 2 more overtrick imps to The Netherlands meant that they had climbed back into the match to lose by 2 at 22-20, 10.77-9.23 in VPs.

Match Ten: Hungary Senior vs China Red

by Barry Rigal



Wang



Szappanos



Magyar



Zhang



Kovacs



Shen



Li



Dumbovich

I'm not sure if the explanation was that jetlag might have been catching up with them but whatever the reason, the Hungarians had been going backwards rather than forwards. They needed a win to make the top bracket and to avoid a big loss to be sure to qualify in the second bracket. China Red were fighting for their qualification in the top final.

The top of the table had Denmark and China Blue sure to qualify but China Blue needed a win (and a loss by Denmark) to take first place and second seed behind Mr. Yeh. Italy and The Netherlands were nearly certain to make it. Kranyak, China Red and Australia Youth were in the next three spots, but Sweden, Hungary Seniors, Russia and even USA Cheek were well placed to overtake if they faltered.

Bd: 1
 Dlr: North
 Vul: None

North	♠ 65		
	♥ AQ53		
	♦ K103		
	♣ 9875		
West		East	
♠ A843		♠ Q72	
♥ 98		♥ K762	
♦ AQ42		♦ 7	
♣ J63		♣ AKQ102	
	South		
	♠ KJ109		
	♥ J104		
	♦ J9865		
	♣ 4		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Szappanos	Zhang	Magyar
	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kovacs	Shen	Dumbovich	Li
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

The two tables reached 3NT via vastly different routes. Where spades had been bid and supported Shen led a heart and South won the ♥10 to shift to the ♦9, covered by the queen. North won, went back to hearts and declarer had eight tricks but no more.

Szappanos led what looked even better: the ♠6 to the queen and king. Wang ducked two spades and now Magyar had what looked like an entirely normal diamond shift, but he pressed on with spades. Declarer won and led a heart up. North unwisely won and exited in hearts. Declarer won, then ran the clubs and South equally unwisely discarded his ♥J to expose his partner to an strip-squeeze in hearts and diamonds. North pitched his small heart and kept the ♦K10, but Wang threw him in with the ♥Q to lead diamonds at trick 12.

In USA Cheek-South Africa Lall- Del'Monte stopped in 2♠ as E/W after a Precision 2♦ opening and Grue found the passive club lead against 3NT that left declarer needing to set up extra tricks from very little material. He chose to play on spades and a diamond switch sank him immediately. Cheek led 4-0.

Bd: 2
 Dlr: East
 Vul: N/S

North	♠ 53		
	♥ 982		
	♦ K104		
	♣ J10874		
West		East	
♠ AK10		♠ QJ92	
♥ QJ		♥ A1076	
♦ AQJ986		♦ 32	
♣ 52		♣ A96	
	South		
	♠ 8764		
	♥ K543		
	♦ 75		
	♣ KQ3		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Szappanos	Zhang	Magyar
		1♦	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kovacs	Shen	Dumbovich	Li
		Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Both tables reached 3NT here but Magyar had no obvious reason to avoid leading a major (yes, maybe a club needs less from partner) and declarer wrapped up 12 tricks on a heart lead. How would you play 3NT on a top club lead? I guess you would win the third club and work out which defender had club length. If North, take the heart finesse, if South, take the diamond finesse. Because of a carding error on the N/S system the answer to this question was not clear. Declarer misguessed which red suit to play but a director adjustment reverted the score to 3NT making ten tricks.

Both tables in USA Cheek-South Africa overreached here. The South Africans played 6NT, which needs diamonds to play for six tricks but goes down four on a club lead, while Lall declared 4NT as East, but was treated to a spade lead and wrapped up 460. USA Cheek was now in front 16-0. The same loss befell Denmark, playing 4NT down two in one room and conceding 3NT in the other. They trailed 11-7.

China Red picked up a partscore swing on the next deal when they bid to a cheaper (if not necessarily safer) notrump partscore than the suit partscore bid by Hungary. The difference was that when Dumbovich led his partner's suit he let through the partscore instead taking it two down. The match score was 26-0 after four deals, USA Cheek up 24-1, and there was more to come for both teams.

Bd: 5	North
Dlr: North	♠ K
Vul: N/S	♥ 932
	♦ QJ963
	♣ J754

West
♠ Q52
♥ AKQ
♦ A107
♣ KQ32

East
♠ A1087
♥ 106
♦ K52
♣ A1086

South
♠ J9643
♥ J8754
♦ 84
♣ 9

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Szappanos	Zhang	Magyar
	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kovacs	Shen	Dumbovich	Li
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

It says something for a pair's constructive bidding when they can't or don't find a 4-4 fit in the suit opened. Kovacs' jump to 6NT was not only precipitous, it worked badly today, as one might argue it deserved. Kovacs won the heart lead, guessed clubs, then cashed out the suit and led a spade to the queen and king, after which he could not avoid going two down.

You may not fancy the auction from the other room all that much more, but at least it ended in an entirely playable spot. Declarer won the ♥2 lead and cashed the four clubs, reverting the play to notrump. South somewhat naively discarded a low spade, then two hearts (had he pitched three hearts immediately declarer might well have had a harder task). As it was Wang still gets huge credit in my book for playing the ♠A next rather than leading low to the queen, but if he assumed the early discard marked the suit as 5-1 then his best shot was indeed to find North with a bare jack or king. Once the ♠K appeared he could pass the ♠7 and claim 12 tricks (three spades, three hearts two diamonds and four clubs). That got him 14imps and a 40-0 lead.

USA Cheek gained 2imps in somewhat unlucky fashion by Del'Monte's going one down in 6♣ while Chemaly played 6NT down two. The lead was 26-1 now. Dennis Bilde brought home 6♣ by guessing everything to pick up 14imps. Denmark led 26-15; China Blue trailed Russia 8-0.

Bd: 6	North
Dlr: East	♠ AKJ876
Vul: E/W	♥ ---
	♦ KQJ74
	♣ A9

West
♠ 1095
♥ 107643
♦ 863
♣ 105

East
♠ ---
♥ AQJ52
♦ 95
♣ KJ8732

South
♠ Q432
♥ K98
♦ A102
♣ Q64

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wang	Szappanos	Zhang	Magyar
		1♥	Pass
Pass(1)	3♣(1)	Pass	4♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

(1) Diamonds and spades

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kovacs	Shen	Dumbovich	Li
		1♣	Pass
Pass	Dbl	1♥	2♠
3♥	5♥(1)	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

(1) Exclusion keycard

Wang's decision to pass a limited 1♥ opening looks feeble in the extreme but Szappanos gave up far too early on the grand slam (5♥ surely gets 6♦ and a

jump to 7♠). In the other room Dumbovich got his two suits in but once South had shown spades and values it was all over. China Red led 51-0.

China Blue gained 11 imps by bidding the grand slam and Denmark lost 11 imps by missing it. Suddenly the top two places were very close.

In Cheek-South Africa Del'Monte psyched a 1NT response to a 1♥ opening, and that persuaded South Africa to stay in game (maybe it shouldn't have) for a 10 imp pick up when Cheek-Grue reached 6♦ after an equally murky auction. USA Cheek's lead was up to 32 imps, and finished at 34. They would take over the critical seventh place unless either Australia Youth or Sweden could win their head to head match big, and with four boards to go it was 15-14 Australia.

However, on the next deal the Swedes collected an 800 penalty out of nowhere. One more big result and they could take seventh place — and this was their last chance.

Bd: 10	North		East
Dlr: East	♠ 109742		♠ 863
Vul: Both	♥ AJ52		♥ 6
	♦ ---		♦ A1052
	♣ AQJ2		♣ K10976
West		South	
♠ J5		♠ AKQ	
♥ KQ1087		♥ 943	
♦ KJ9		♦ Q87643	
♣ 843		♣ 5	

How would you fancy your chances of taking 10 tricks in 4♠ here? And if you did play 4♠ as North would you prefer to receive a heart lead or a club lead? Howard played 4♠ on a low club lead and the contract can now always be made. Win cheaply, ruff a club, then ruff two diamonds in hand, cross to dummy with trumps twice, then lead a third diamond and discard the club loser. West wins and gets out with (say) a top heart. North wins, cashes the ♠10, the ♣A, and leads a low heart to West, who must concede a heart in the ending for the tenth trick. Declarer takes two hearts, five spades, two clubs and a ruff. Only a heart lead defeats the contract but Upmark made 4♠ on a heart lead and Howards went down on a club lead. Those 12 imps took Sweden past USA Cheek for the seventh qualifying spot in the top bracket.

Hungary recovered just a little face by picking up 12 imps in the same fashion. Too little, too late.

So who ended up in first place, with the coveted second seed? China Blue were neck and neck with Denmark and when Russia (China Blue's opponent) stretched to a game, down a trick, while Denmark were doing the same, the lead changed hands. China Blue ended up edging out Denmark for first place by one-sixth of a victory point.



"Oh no. The Bird Flu has infected the rice."



"Has anyone asked you to dance yet?"



"What would dad do in a situation like this?"



Smile, and the world smiles with you..."



"Could you two please go argue somewhere else?"



"What did you get for 22 across?"

2013 Yeh Bros Cup Daily Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Event	Boards	Venue
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			

Open Pairs Entries

Below are listed the number of pairs from each Open Team that have indicated that they will play in Thursday's Open Pairs (provided they are not still playing a team event) or that plan to drop in during the event if/when they are eliminated from team play. Team captains are request to check the entries for their team and make sure the numbers are correct. If not, please report such to the Secretariat as soon as possible. Thank you.

Team #	Team Name	# of Pairs	Team #	Team Name	# of Pairs
1	Sweden	3	13	USA Kranyak	2
2	Chinese Taipei	2	14	Yeh Bros I	2
3	Russia	3	15	England+Pharon	3
4	Japan Open	2	16	Australia Youth	2
5	Italy Lavazza	3	17	Hungary Senior	0
6	China Blue	3	18	New Zealand	3
7	South Africa	2	19	USA Cheek	2
8	Yeh Bros II	2	20	Japan Ladies	2
9	The Netherlands	2	21	England Ladies+	3
10	China Red	3	22	Australia	2
11	Denmark	2	23	Poland	2
12	India	3	24	Indonesia Senior	2

Sichuan Earthquake

At last count over 200 people have died and 12,000 been injured in the earthquake in Ya'an in Sichaun province, China. This is in the same area that was affected so badly by an even stronger earthquake five years ago. Efforts to reach victims have still not been successful in all cases and on the third night after the earthquake the authorities are still trying to get through with supplies of food and shelter and to restore running water. The Yeh Bros and all of us the Yeh Bros Cup bridge tournament send our deepest sympathies and condolences to everyone affected by the quake, and wish the authorities success in their rescue mission.