

# NEC Bridge Festival

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Bulletin Number 3

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## Day Two of the 2014 NEC Cup

At the end of Day Two we have a virtual log jam, with the top four teams separated by less than 6 VPs, The top seven qualifiers are foreign teams led by Down Under (Sartaj Hans, Peter Gill, Martin Reid, Peter Newell) with 110.16 VPs, England Hinden (Frances Hinden, Graham Osbourne, Alex Hydes, Mike Bell) with 108.56 VPs, India (Subhash Chandra Gupta, Sridharan Padmanabhan, Jyotindra Madhukar Shah, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sundarram Srinivasan, Gopal Venkatesh) with 107.40 VPs and Russia (Andrey Gromov, Evgeny Gladyshev, Alexander Dubinin, Mikhail Krasnoselskii, Sebastiaan Drijver, Sjoert Brink), last year's winners, with 105.64 VPs. Rounding out the top eight are the Bulgarian All Stars, Beijing Trinergy, China Women 1 and NAITO, the lone Japanese team presently in qualifying position. The complete Day Two rankings are in the table below while the individual results for Matches 5-8 can be found on page 6.

### NEC Cup: Standings After Day Two (Eight Matches)

Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs	Rank	Team	VPs
1	Down Under. . . . .	110.16	17	IMAX. . . . .	85.53	33	Kitty's.. . . . .	70.05
2	England Hinden... .	108.56	18	FOOTerZ... . . . .	84.92	34	River Side. . . . .	69.56
3	India. . . . .	107.40	19	England Black. . . . .	84.06	35	Japan Youth. . . . .	68.81
4	Russia. . . . .	105.64	20	HOSHI... . . . .	83.35	36	KATSUMATA. . . . .	68.75
5	Bulgaria All Stars..	104.88	21	Lucky Corner... . . . .	83.05	37	Shiro Gumi. . . . .	67.82
6	Beijing Trinergy... .	104.81	22	NANIWADA... . . . .	82.62	38	Surfrider. . . . .	65.41
7	China Women 1. . . .	104.50	23	Kacho-fugetsu... . . . .	82.42	39	ESPERANZA... . . . .	65.38
8	NAITO... . . . .	99.05	24	PYON. . . . .	81.72	40	KinKi. . . . .	62.81
9	China Women 2. . . .	94.57	25	Yamada... . . . .	80.17	41	Korea Hammer. . . . .	54.37
10	Lorentz. . . . .	92.49	26	Circle The World. . . . .	79.91	42	Sang ae... . . . .	53.86
11	Shanghai Financial. .	91.65	27	SUGIYAMA. . . . .	78.84	43	Friends. . . . .	51.53
12	China – Shanghai. . .	91.53	28	Seoul... . . . .	78.44	44	Iza Yokohama V. . . . .	48.72
13	England/Denmark. . . .	91.15	29	SAKURAI... . . . .	77.74	45	LAS FLORES. . . . .	46.55
14	Australia. . . . .	88.94	30	STEAST. . . . .	72.87	46	Harmony. . . . .	37.55
15	Yeh Bros. Mixed. . . .	88.73	31	Dangoon... . . . .	72.31			
16	SARA. . . . .	88.59	32	MIURA... . . . .	71.50			

Follow the action at the 19<sup>th</sup> NEC Cup Bridge Festival by surfing to:  
<http://www.jcbl.or.jp/home/English/nec/tabid/1043/Default.aspx>  
 and follow our featured matches on Vugraph each day at: [www.bridgebase.com](http://www.bridgebase.com)

Today's 1<sup>st</sup> VuGraph Matches will feature China Women 2 (5) vs Lorentz (14)  
 and Shanghai Financial BC (17) vs China – Shanghai (10)

## NEC Cup 2014: Conditions of Contest

A 12-round Swiss of 14-board matches will qualify the top 8 teams to the Knockout phase. no playbacks.

**V.P. Scale:** New WBF 14-board scale (20-point scale, continuous and given to two decimal places).

**Seating Rights:** Blind seating 10 minutes before the start of match.

**KO-Phase Seating:** The winner of a coin toss has the choice of seating in either of the two 16-board segments of the quarter- or semi-finals. In the four 16-board segments of the final, the choices will alternate over segments.

**Swiss Pairings:** First-round Swiss matches were made by randomly pairing each team in the top half with a team from the bottom half.

**Home and Visiting:** 1st numbered team sits N/S in the open room, E/W in the closed room.

**Tie-Breaks:** At the end of the Swiss, ties will be broken by IMP quotient. If more than two teams are involved, the latest version of WBF Conditions of Contest procedures will apply.

In the Knockout Phase, the team with the higher position from the Swiss will be assumed to have a ½-IMP carryover.

**Systems:** No HUM or Brown Sticker methods are permitted in this event. However, pairs may prepare written defenses against a two-level opening bid in a minor that shows a weak two-bid in either major, with or without the option of strong hand types. These defenses are deemed to be part of the opponents' convention cards.

**Length of Matches:** 2 hours will be allotted for each 14-board segment (or 2 hours and 15 minutes for each 16-board segment of the KOs). In addition, a 5-minute grace period will be allotted to each team. Overtime and slow play penalties as per the latest version of WBF Conditions of Contest.

**Appeals:** The WBF Code of Practice will be in effect. The Chief Director will have 12C1c authority. Appeals found to be without merit may incur a penalty of up to 3 VPs.

**Match Scoring:** Bridgemate scoring terminals will be used. Match results should be verified against the official result sheet (posted at the end of each match). score corrections and notifications of appeals will be permitted up until the start of the next session.

**KO Draw:** The team finishing 1<sup>st</sup> in the Swiss may choose their opponent from the teams finishing 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. The team finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> will have their choice of the remaining teams from the 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> group. The team finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> will then have their choice of any one of the remaining teams. In addition, before the start of the Knockout Phase and after all quarter-final draws have been determined, the team that finishes 1<sup>st</sup> in the Swiss chooses their semi-final opponent from any of the other three quarter-final matches.

**Security:** No player may leave the playing area during play without permission, due to security concerns arising from the Bridge Base Online Broadcast and the upload of the results of all matches in progress on the web.

**Smoking:** Once play in a qualifying-round match or a KO-round session 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 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors of the Conference Center.) Automatic penalties for violations will be assessed by the Director as follows: Qualifying Swiss — 1 VP for the 1<sup>st</sup> offense, 3 VPs for all subsequent offenses. KO — 3imps for the 1<sup>st</sup> offense, 10imps for all subsequent offenses.

**Screen Hesitations:** When a delay in the return of the tray is suspected, a player on the opposite side of the

screen must be the first to call attention to it (by summoning the Director). In case of dispute the call from the wrong side will be ignored, but in situations where the wrong side calls or a late call is made and there is no dispute the Director may accept the fact of the delayed call.

**Electronic Equipment:** Any and all electronic equipment capable of receiving or transmitting information to/from outside the playing room (e.g., cell phones, personal computers, iPads and the like) must be turned off at all times from the beginning of a match/session until the player has completed all boards in the match/session and left the playing area. In KO rounds, mobile phones in the playing area are prohibited during game time. Players with mobile phones should surrender their phones to the staff at the service desk and receive a number tag which is used to collect the phone after the game. The Director may authorize exceptions in emergency situations. Penalties for violations are the same as for smoking violations.

**Photography/BBO Vugraph:** By entering the event, players (and kibitzers) agree to authorize still and/or video photography by the JCBL and also to appear on BBO Vugraph whenever requested by the Director.

WBF VP scale (14 boards)

IMPs	VPs - Won	VPs - Lost	IMPs	VPs - Won	VPs - Lost
0	10.00	10.00	29	16.88	3.12
1	10.33	9.67	30	17.04	2.96
2	10.66	9.34	31	17.19	2.81
3	10.97	9.03	32	17.34	2.66
4	11.28	8.72	33	17.49	2.51
5	11.58	8.42	34	17.63	2.37
6	11.87	8.13	35	17.77	2.23
7	12.16	7.84	36	17.91	2.09
8	12.44	7.56	37	18.04	1.96
9	12.71	7.29	38	18.17	1.83
10	12.97	7.03	39	18.29	1.71
11	13.23	6.77	40	18.41	1.59
12	13.48	6.52	41	18.53	1.47
13	13.72	6.28	42	18.65	1.35
14	13.96	6.04	43	18.76	1.24
15	14.19	5.81	44	18.87	1.13
16	14.42	5.58	45	18.98	1.02
17	14.64	5.36	46	19.08	0.92
18	14.85	5.15	47	19.18	0.82
19	15.06	4.94	48	19.28	0.72
20	15.26	4.74	49	19.38	0.62
21	15.46	4.54	50	19.47	0.53
22	15.66	4.34	51	19.56	0.44
23	15.85	4.15	52	19.65	0.35
24	16.03	3.97	53	19.74	0.26
25	16.21	3.79	54	19.83	0.17
26	16.38	3.62	55	19.91	0.09
27	16.55	3.45	56	19.99	0.01
28	16.72	3.28	57	20.00	0.00

## Team Rosters: 19<sup>th</sup> NEC Cup

#	Team Name	Members
1	England/Denmark:	Paul Hackett, David Bakhshi, Lars Blakset, Thomas Larsen
2	England Hinden:	Frances Hinden, Graham Osbourne, Alex Hydes, Mike Bell
3	Russia:	Andrey Gromov, Evgeny Gladyshev, Alexander Dubinin, Mikhail Krasnoselskii, Sebastiaan Drijver, Sjoert Brink
4	China Women 1:	Wang Hongli, Lu Yan, Wang Wenfei, Ran Jingrong
5	China Women 2:	Zhang Yu, Wu Shaohong, Gan Ling, Huang Yan
6	India:	Subhash Chandra Gupta, Sridharan Padmanabhan, Jyotindra Madhukar Shah, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sundarram Srinivasan, Gopal Venkatesh
7	Australia:	Justin Howard, Peter Hollands, Michael Whibley, Liam Milne
8	Down Under:	Sartaj Hans, Peter Gill, Martin Reid, Peter Newell
9	Bulgaria:	Valio Kovachev, Vladislav Isporski, Manol Iliev, Hristo Hristov
10	China - Shanghai:	Cao Jiankang, Chen Weiwang, Shen Qi, Zhou Lihua, Chen Jun, Fan Guangsheng
11	England Black:	Andrew Black, William Whittaker, Gunnar Hallberg, Derek Patterson
12	Yeh Bros Mixed:	Yeh Chen (PC), Zhang Ya-Lan, Shih Jue-Yu, Wang Ping, Sun Ming, Patrick Huang
13	Beijing Trinergy:	Lu Dong, Li Xiaoyi, Kang Meng, Sun Shaolin, Wang Yanhong
14	Lorentz:	Stephen Burgess, Gabi Lorentz, Ashley Bach, Pablo Lambardi
15	Dangoon:	Cho Eunjo, Hwang Mansuk, Im Hyun, Kwon Sooja
16	Korea Hammer:	Chung Ilsub, Hwang Inryung, Yang Sungae, Sung Kyunghae
17	Shanghai Financial BC:	Kazuo Furuta, Chen Dawei, Shan Baisong, Liu Ning, Xi Yuheng
18	STEAST:	Katsumi Takahashi, Tadashi Yoshida, Lee Bokhee, Kim Yoonkyung, Park Jungyoon, Sue Picus
19	Seoul:	Yasuhiro Shimizu, Nobuyuki Hayashi, Hiroki Yokoi, Oh Hyemin, Kim Hyeyoung
20	Circle The World:	Kyoko Shimamura, Russell H Samuel, Jens Rasmussen, Dick Shek
21	Harmony:	Natsuko Nishida, Kim Sun Young, Bae In Soon, Choi An Hee, Choi Eun Woo
22	Japan Yamada:	Kyoko Ohno, Akihiko Yamada, Masayuki Ino, Makoto Hirata, Kazuhiko Yamada, Takahiko Hirata
23	Japan SARA:	Tadashi Teramoto, Kumiko Sasahira, Masaaki Takayama, Shugo Tanaka, Takeshi Niekawa, Ari Greenberg
24	Japan FOOTerZ:	Ryo Okuno, Akira Ohara, Fu Zhong, Zhang Shudi, Hideki Takano
25	Japan Shiro Gumi:	Robert Geller, Setsuko Ogihara, Motomi Shirogane, Etsuko Takano, Satoki Takizawa, Toshiro Yamaguchi
26	Japan PYON:	Yuki Fukuyoshi, Takeshi Hanayama, Yoshiyuki Nakamura, Mariko Ueda
27	Japan Kitty's:	Yoko Nenohi, Kyoko Toyofuku, Yoshiko Sakaguchi, Kumiko Matsuo, Toshiko Kaho, Makiko Sato
28	Japan ESPERANZA:	Haruko Koshi, Hideyuki Sango, Nobuko Matsubara, Fumiko Kimura, Terumi Kubo, Minako Takahashi
29	Japan IMAX:	Shunsuke Morimura, Hiroya Abe, Tadashi Imakura, Masayuki Ohashi
30	Japan NAITO:	Ryoga Tanaka, Sakiko Naito, Ayako Miyakuni, Kenji Miyakuni
31	Japan SUGIYAMA:	Yasuko Sugiyama, Michiko Iwahashi, Akiko Yanagisawa, Yumiko Oda, Naoko Orihara, Sumie Nakagawa
32	Japan MIURA :	Hiroaki Miura, Kazuko Takahashi, Sumiko Sugino, Yoshiko Endo
33	Japan KATSUMATA :	Atsuko Katsumata, Yasuyo Iida, Kimiko Kamakari, Misae Kato, Takako Nakatani, Sachiho Ueda
34	Japan Kacho-fugetsu:	Akiko Miwa, Kunio Kodaira, Teruo Miyazaki, Makoto Nomura, Masako Otsuka, Takako Fujimoto
35	Japan HOSHI:	Masako Sakurai, Yukiko Hoshi, Junko Tsubaki, Megumi Takasaka
36	Japan SAKURAI :	Tsuneo Sakurai, Atsushi Kikuchi, Kenichi Asaoka, Takehiko Tada
37	Japan NANIWADA:	Toshiro Nose, Masaru Naniwada, Hikoe Enomoto, Hisami Kataoka, Hideo Togawa, Junzo Kobayashi
38	Japan Iza Yokohama V:	Osami Kimura, Yasuyoshi Toriumi, Setsuko Kimura, Harue Iemori, Chisato Kiriya, Yoko Shimominami
39	Japan Surfrider:	Chieko Ichikawa, Kuniko Saito, Kei Nemoto, Junko Den, Yoshiko Murata, Atsuko Kurita
40	Japan Youth:	Tadahiro Kikuchi, Mizuki Ishibashi, Takumi Seshimo, Tomoaki Nakanishi, Hitoshi Tanabe, Rai Tanaka
41	Japan LAS FLORES:	Teruko Nishimura, Junko Nishimura, Michiko Shida, Kotomi Asakoshi, Yoko Komuro, Shimako Yaji
42	Japan River Side:	Yumiko Kawakami, Masakatsu Sugino, Ryoichi Yasuhara, Hiroko Tanaka, Toshiharu Hirose, Noriko Yagi
43	Japan Friends:	Yoko Saito, Mamiko Odaira, Koichi Onishi, Taiko Bando, Sayori Harasawa, Mayumi Tanaka
44	Japan Sang ae:	Emi Sakata, Midori Ito, Sae Ohashi, Hisayo Goto, Kazumi Nitta
45	Japan Lucky Corner:	Ryo Matsubara, Takashi Sumita, Yoko Fukuyama, Ayako Matsubara, Mark LaForge, Timothy Curtis
46	Japan KinKi:	Sonoko Namba, Chizuko Sugiura, Toru Tamura, Mimako Ishizuka

### Real-Time NEC Cup Match Updates on the Web

Wondering how your favorite team is doing RIGHT NOW? Surf to:

<http://jcbl.willnet.ad.jp/Global/t3dm2r8llxmetp4njh98/Top>

### Important Notice About Submitting Lineups

Teams may (at their option) submit their lineup for the 1<sup>st</sup> and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> matches each day on the JCBL web site. However, lineups for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> matches MUST be submitted by filling out a lineup sheet on the table outside the playing area. Also note: If your team submits a lineup via the web site DO NOT also submit a written lineup as the two may present a problem if they differ.

# Convention Regulations for Side (Pair) Games

*(An explanation for foreign players)*

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

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

## LIST C (Yokohama IMP Pairs/Asuka Cup)

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup>- or 4<sup>th</sup>-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.

## LIST D (NEC Cup/Yokohama Swiss Teams)

Category 3 of WBF Systems Policy applies

## Wednesday's Match Results

Team #	Match 5				Match 6				Match 7				Match 8			
	Vs	imps	VP	C-VP	Vs	imps	VP	C-VP	Vs	imps	VP	C-VP	Vs	imps	VP	C-VP
1	14	30	7.56	67.25	13	12	3.28	70.53	30	27	9.34	79.87	7	30	11.28	91.15
2	6	54	13.72	79.04	8	23	12.97	92.01	13	21	8.42	100.43	4	25	8.013	108.56
3	23	64	14.19	67.89	6	24	5.15	73.04	10	24	15.26	88.30	14	32	17.34	105.64
4	28	68	20.00	66.23	10	35	13.96	80.19	17	31	12.44	92.63	2	31	11.87	104.50
5	36	52	15.46	56.50	7	31	9.03	65.53	26	43	14.85	80.38	29	30	14.19	94.57
6	2	41	6.28	68.24	3	42	14.85	83.09	14	22	9.67	92.76	17	39	14.64	107.40
7	10	33	7.56	57.97	5	34	10.97	68.94	11	25	11.28	80.22	1	26	8.72	88.94
8	30	63	19.99	75.21	2	13	7.03	82.24	9	28	13.96	96.20	13	28	13.96	110.16
9	20	82	20.00	69.70	14	38	13.48	83.18	8	14	6.06	89.22	23	43	15.66	104.88
10	7	41	12.44	63.87	4	21	6.04	69.91	3	4	4.74	74.65	36	35	16.88	91.53
11	17	30	8.42	58.64	23	34	10.66	69.30	7	21	8.72	78.02	12	23	6.04	84.06
12	13	8	0.00	47.48	40	62	20.00	67.48	29	19	7.29	74.77	11	37	13.96	88.73
13	12	66	20.00	67.20	1	40	16.72	83.92	2	39	14.85	98.77	8	14	6.04	104.81
14	1	38	12.44	72.98	9	26	6.52	79.50	6	23	10.33	89.83	3	0	2.66	92.49
15	27	32	7.84	33.13	44	29	8.72	41.85	41	23	12.97	54.82	43	46	17.49	72.31
16	35	35	3.79	31.88	42	22	7.03	38.91	21	33	13.23	52.14	18	10	2.23	54.37
17	11	35	11.58	61.85	26	39	16.88	78.73	4	23	7.56	86.29	6	22	5.36	91.65
18	31	38	8.42	49.63	29	25	2.96	52.59	35	8	2.51	55.10	16	45	17.77	72.87
19	39	55	12.44	42.30	24	35	13.96	56.26	20	19	6.52	62.78	25	44	15.66	78.44
20	9	8	0.00	48.96	25	16	8.13	57.09	19	31	13.48	70.57	31	26	9.34	79.91
21	38	13	5.36	20.35	41	25	6.28	26.63	16	22	6.77	33.40	28	2	4.15	37.55
22	40	31	7.84	43.75	34	42	14.64	58.39	33	36	12.44	70.83	26	21	9.34	80.17
23	3	49	5.81	58.70	11	32	9.34	68.04	31	40	16.21	84.25	9	21	4.34	88.59
24	25	42	6.28	40.85	19	21	6.04	46.89	43	49	18.04	64.93	46	63	19.99	84.92
25	24	55	13.72	47.99	20	22	11.87	59.86	37	3	3.62	63.48	19	22	4.34	67.82
26	37	56	14.64	62.79	17	10	3.12	65.91	5	25	5.15	71.06	22	23	10.66	81.72
27	15	39	12.16	35.33	39	56	16.88	52021	46	25	7.84	60.05	32	31	10.00	70.05
28	4	7	0.00	42.29	33	12	2.09	44.38	42	24	5.15	49.53	21	25	15.85	65.38
29	42	77	20.00	49.97	18	55	17.04	67.01	12	28	12.71	79.72	5	15	5.81	85.53
30	8	7	0.01	56.19	45	38	14.19	70.35	1	29	10.66	81.01	37	57	18.04	99.05
31	18	43	11.58	54.72	37	28	9.67	64.39	23	15	3.79	68.18	20	28	10.66	78.84
32	34	34	10.33	44.16	36	13	0.00	44.16	44	32	17.34	61.50	27	31	10.00	71.50
33	44	45	14.42	39.83	28	48	17.91	57.74	22	28	7.56	65.30	34	19	3.45	68.75
34	32	33	9.67	43.32	22	25	5.36	48.68	40	39	17.19	65.87	33	46	16.55	82.42
35	16	60	16.21	43.70	46	31	12.16	55.86	18	41	17.49	73.35	45	22	10.00	83.35
36	5	31	4.54	46.20	32	71	20.00	66.20	45	27	8.42	74.62	10	6	3.12	77.74
37	26	39	5.36	53.95	31	29	10.33	64.28	25	29	16.38	80.66	30	20	1.96	82.62
38	21	30	14.64	28.92	43	9	3.12	32.04	39	15	3.97	36.01	44	48	12.71	48.72
39	19	47	7.56	36.59	27	27	3.12	39.71	38	39	16.03	55.74	42	26	9.67	65.41
40	22	38	12.16	47.13	12	5	0.00	47.13	34	8	2.81	49.94	41	59	18.87	68.81
41	43	13	5.58	24.67	21	38	13.72	38.39	15	13	7.03	45.42	40	15	1.13	46.55
42	29	13	0.00	31.41	16	32	12.97	44.38	28	42	14.85	59.23	39	27	10.33	69.56
43	41	29	14.42	30.18	38	38	16.88	47.06	24	12	1.96	49.02	15	13	2.51	51.53
44	33	29	5.58	32.63	15	33	11.28	43.91	32	0	2.66	46.57	38	39	7.29	53.86
45	46	58	17.77	55.66	30	23	5.81	61.47	36	32	11.58	73.05	35	22	10.00	83.05
46	45	23	2.23	42.80	35	24	7.84	50.64	27	32	12.16	62.80	24	7	0.01	62.81

C-VP=Cumulative VPs

# Squeeze me, please me

by Barry Rigal

We discussed this deal in our first bulletin, and saw that East might have a squeeze here in 3NT. When Newell-Reid took on Patrick Huang-Sun Ming...

Bd: 13  
 Dir: North  
 Vul: Both

North  
 ♠ KJ106  
 ♥ 102  
 ♦ K9  
 ♣ KJ874

West  
 ♠ A987  
 ♥ J96  
 ♦ 742  
 ♣ 1095

East  
 ♠ Q3  
 ♥ AK3  
 ♦ A10853  
 ♣ AQ6

South  
 ♠ 542  
 ♥ Q8754  
 ♦ QJ6  
 ♣ 32

West	North	East	South
<i>Reid</i>	<i>Huang</i>	<i>Newell</i>	<i>Sun</i>
	2♣	3NT	All Pass

Sun led a club to the ten, jack and queen and when Newell cashed his ♦A Huang did not unblock his king. So he won the second diamond to shift to a low heart. Newell ducked and Sun won to play a second heart. Declarer won and cleared diamonds. At this point Sun could see that if she reverted to clubs or

hearts her partner would get endplayed in clubs to lead spades. She therefore shifted to spades and Newell hopped up with the ace, led a diamond to hand, and ran his diamonds. This was the ending:

North  
 ♠ K10  
 ♥ ---  
 ♦ ---  
 ♣ K8

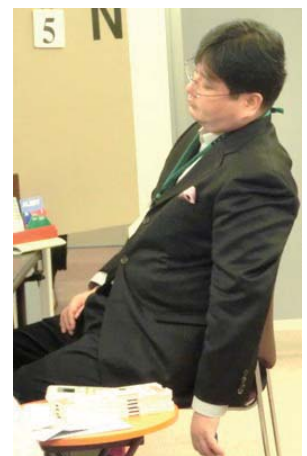
West  
 ♠ 98  
 ♥ ---  
 ♦ ---  
 ♣ 95

East  
 ♠ Q  
 ♥ ---  
 ♦ 3  
 ♣ A6

South  
 ♠ 42  
 ♥ 87  
 ♦ ---  
 ♣ ---

When the last diamond was led South pitched a heart, dummy a spade, and North was strip-squeezed to let go a spade and be endplayed to open up clubs. Note that had South retained her second club, declarer would have had to decide, assuming North had pitched a club at trick 10, whether he had begun life with a 3=2=2=6 pattern or his actual 4=2=2=5 shape. Once South's second club is visible there is no ambiguity in the count any more.

## What to do with your arms while you're playing bridge



"Zzzzzzzz"

# Match Five: Russia vs SARA

by Barry Rigal



Tanaka



Drijver



Brink



Greenberg



Gladysz



Teramoto



Sasahira



Krasnoselski

Bd: 1  
Dir: North  
Vul: None

North  
♠ Q6542  
♥ 942  
♦ 97  
♣ J52

West  
♠ 7  
♥ AKQ87  
♦ Q108654  
♣ K

East  
♠ K109  
♥ 653  
♦ AJ2  
♣ 9843

South  
♠ AJ83  
♥ J10  
♦ K3  
♣ AQ1076

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladysz</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♦	Pass	2♦	2♠
5♦	5♠	Dbl	All Pass

This would be our first view of the defending Russian team, augmented this year by both halves of Brink/Drijver. Team SARA includes Ari Greenberg of the US, who spent several years studying in Japan.

The first board featured a huge missed opportunity, though a relatively insignificant imp turnover. In the Open Room Brink did not feel he had enough to double 3♥ and let his opponents play game in peace and quiet. In the Closed Room Gladysz's 1♦ overcall let his opponents in cheaply, but Teramoto had no

way to know his partner didn't have the ♠K instead of the ♦K. Facing AKxx/xx/x/AKQxxx 5♠ might be very cheap indeed. As it was he converted +100 into -500 when declarer lost two hearts and a trick to each red king. That was just 2 imps away, against the +420 from the other room, but no doubt it felt like more.

In our other featured match the Bulgarians saved in 4♠ and sold out to 5♦ in one room, while making 4♥ in the other room when Iliev overcalled 1♣ with 1♥, then bid on to 4♥ over a simple raise. 10-0 for the All Stars. Roughly half the room bid and made game as E/W here.

Bd: 2  
Dir: East  
Vul: N/S

North  
♠ KJ7  
♥ K2  
♦ AQ95  
♣ K963

West  
♠ A1032  
♥ QJ6543  
♦ 3  
♣ 105

East  
♠ 54  
♥ A98  
♦ J864  
♣ AJ42

South  
♠ Q986  
♥ 107  
♦ K1072  
♣ Q87

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
		Pass	Pass

2♥	2NT	3♥	Dbl
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladysz</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
		Pass	Pass

2♦(1)	2NT	All Pass	
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2NT might not have been an elegant spot, but how could Krasnoselski work out to lead a heart? He led a spade to the ace and when Gladys shifted to a top heart (note the effect of a low heart instead) declarer covered and East won and returned the ♡9. Gladys could see the blockage and elected to duck this to retain communications, but declarer had three spades and four diamonds to cash.

Plus 120 looked good, especially when in the other room N/S reached their four-three spade fit. The trump lead saw declarer win cheaply in hand and lead a club to the queen, a spade to the jack, and a third trump. Tanaka won his ace and advanced the ♡Q, ducked around. Next a club to the jack and the ♣A saw Tanaka pitch his diamond. Now a third heart would have seen West take four of the last five tricks for down five. But Greenberg actually played a diamond instead, letting West ruff, but that was just two down. Still, SARA had 8 imps to lead 8-2.

In our second BBO match Shek made 2NT in parallel fashion to Teramoto, while 3NT on a heart lead escaped for one down after a defense more suitable for a Hammer Horror movie.

While Fu Zhong brought home 4♠ as North (yes, we know he is talented and he did receive the lead of the ♡A, but even so...) Lambardi-Bach doubled 4♠ and the retreats to 5♣ and 5♦ as well. The latter contract was played by South on repeated heart leads and declarer emerged down 1100, and sadder if not wiser. Gupta-Tewari bid the E/W cards to 4♥ and were doubled there. Try and beat it! With the clubs establishing for a second trick whatever the defenders do (assuming declarer reads the position) there is no defense at double-dummy and Gupta brought home +590 on the lead of the ♦A.

Bd: 3  
 Dlr: South  
 Vul: E/W

North  
 ♠ 9732  
 ♡ 9873  
 ♦ A5  
 ♣ AK2

West	East
♠ QJ10	♠ AK864
♡ A	♡ K1062
♦ K84	♦ 10932
♣ 1098764	♣ ---

South  
 ♠ 5  
 ♡ QJ54  
 ♦ QJ76  
 ♣ QJ53

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Tanaka	Drijver	G'berg	Brink
Pass	1NT(1)	2♣(2)	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Dbf
Rdbl	Pass	Pass	2NT
Dbf	3♣	Pass	Pass
Dbf	All Pass		

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gladys	Teramoto	Kr'ski	Sasahira
			Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

3♣x might not have looked like much fun but when Greenberg led a top spade and continued the suit, declarer was in business. He passed the ♦Q successfully, led a diamond to the ace, and a third spade. Had he ruffed low he could then have ruffed a diamond low, a spade high, and a diamond high, but would have been down to four hearts and a club in each hand and would have been unable to score more than one trump trick. So he settled for ruffing the third spade high and scrambled the same eight tricks.

4♠ might look a skinny contract (because it is) but it was hard to defeat. Sasahira led a top heart and Krasnoselski won the ace to ruff a club and lead the ♦10, covered around. Back came a trump to dummy, for a second club ruff and a low diamond toward dummy. When Sashira ducked, this declarer scored the ♦8. He had three red-suit winners and seven trump tricks. It was necessary for South to win the ♦J and play back a diamond for a second trump, leaving East with a slow heart loser at the death. Russia had 11 imps and led 13-8.

In Circle The World against All Stars the former bid the spade game, the latter stopped in 2♠. Kovachev as South put his finger unerringly on a trump lead against 4♠ and declarer had no practical way to succeed now. 6 imps to the All Stars instead of a possible 10 imps the other way.

Only six declarers brought home the spade game; special kudos to Masayuki Ino, who made no less than +990 in 4♠x after a top club lead.

Life is sexually transmitted — think about it!

Bd: 4 North  
 Dir: West ♠ 2  
 Vul: Both ♥ QJ75  
 ♦ Q3  
 ♣ AKQ1086

West  
 ♠ Q104  
 ♥ AK8642  
 ♦ 97  
 ♣ 72

East  
 ♠ AKJ87  
 ♥ 1093  
 ♦ AJ82  
 ♣ 9

South  
 ♠ 9653  
 ♥ ---  
 ♦ K10654  
 ♣ J543

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
2♥	3♣	4♥	5♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladys</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
2♦(1)	3♣	4♥	5♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

(1) Multi

Identical auctions, bar the slight difference in the opening bids. Both defenders led two top spades and were equally hurt and surprised when declarer ruffed. Brink led out the ♦Q to the ace, giving East an impossible dilemma. If he played back a non-trump declarer could crossruff his way to the rest. On a trump return declarer would establish diamonds via the finesse, taking eight trumps and three diamonds. The trump play is surely best, since it forces declarer to commit himself in diamonds, but Greenberg played a heart and declarer simply crossruffed without risk to +750.

In the other room Teramoto ruffed the second spade and led a diamond to the king, then a diamond back to the queen and ace. With the diamond communications cut, East played a trump and left declarer unable to both establish diamonds and ruff three hearts in dummy. Down one, 14 imps to Russia, leading 27-8.

Isporski took the diamond finesse in 5♣x in our second match, Shek, who had heard his RHO open 1♥, did not. 14 more imps to All Stars, leading 34-6.

Precisely one E/W pair was allowed to play each major-suit game and make it: Wang Hongli-Lu Yan for China Ladies and Yang Sungae-Sung Kyunghae for Korea Hammer were the lucky ones. Rather more declarers made 5♣x than went down there, but nearly half the field defended to a major-suit game.

Bd: 5 North  
 Dir: North ♠ J75  
 Vul: N/S ♥ AK8642  
 ♦ J874  
 ♣ ---

West  
 ♠ A2  
 ♥ J93  
 ♦ AKQ6  
 ♣ AQ42

East  
 ♠ 103  
 ♥ 75  
 ♦ 10953  
 ♣ 108763

South  
 ♠ KQ9864  
 ♥ Q10  
 ♦ 2  
 ♣ KJ95

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Dbl	Rdbl	Pass	4♠
Dbl	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladys</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Dbl	2♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Dbl	Pass	5♠
Dbl	All Pass		

Some of the actions in the Closed Room might be subject to the occasional arched eyebrow, but note that if Krasnoselski had simply passed out 4♠ he would have been in good shape to collect 9 imps, since 4♠x in the other room had made a comfortable +990 when declarer ruffed the second diamond and played on trumps. Sasahira also ruffed the second diamond but mistakenly played to ruff two clubs in dummy using the ♥Q as her re-entry to hand. Now the defenders could lead a second heart when in with the ♠A to cut her communications. That left her with two club losers at the death. Down 500 and 16 more imps to Russia, leading 43-8.

In All Stars vs Circle The World the Bulgarians defended 5♠x successfully when declarer went after a cross-ruff rather than playing for hearts to break, while defeating 5♣x 800 in the other room. Yet another 14 imps, making it 44-6. Our two matches featured the only plus scores for E/W here.

Pride of place for N/S goes to Setsuka Kimura and Harue Iemori, recording +1130 in 3♠x, while *Proxime accessit* for Noboyuki Haroshi and Hiroki Yokoi, who collected a "mere" +1100 against 5♣x.

At both tables the E/W pairs then played a quiet 4♠ for +650 before the music started up again.

Bd: 7  
 Dlr: South  
 Vul: Both

North  
 ♠ 104  
 ♥ J543  
 ♦ 653  
 ♣ AQ43

West  
 ♠ AK53  
 ♥ KQ862  
 ♦ Q10  
 ♣ J6

East  
 ♠ 9876  
 ♥ 1097  
 ♦ K972  
 ♣ K2

South  
 ♠ QJ2  
 ♥ A  
 ♦ AJ84  
 ♣ 109875

Open Room

West <i>Tanaka</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>G'berg</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West <i>Gladys</i>	North <i>Teramoto</i>	East <i>Kr'ski</i>	South <i>Sasahira</i>
1♥	2♣	2♥	All Pass

The change in tempo based on North's raise in one room and pass in the other persuaded one West to try for game, while in the other room West opted for caution. Against 2♥ Teramoto's diamond lead went to the ace and now South shifted to a high spade and a second high spade when in with the ♥A. That crashed her partner's ♠10 and made +140 easy.

In the other room Tanaka won the first trick with the ♦Q and played three rounds of spades. That let North discard his diamond, and the defense scored a cheap diamond ruff and two subsequent trump tricks via a promotion on the fourth diamond for +200 and 8imps to Russia, leading 51-8. SARA weren't done though, and started the comeback on the next deal.

Bd: 8  
 Dlr: West  
 Vul: None

North  
 ♠ AQJ  
 ♥ 87654  
 ♦ KQ98  
 ♣ 7

West  
 ♠ 98763  
 ♥ A2  
 ♦ 742  
 ♣ K64

East  
 ♠ 1054  
 ♥ Q3  
 ♦ J106  
 ♣ Q10852

South  
 ♠ K2  
 ♥ KJ109  
 ♦ A53  
 ♣ AJ93

Open Room

West <i>Tanaka</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>G'berg</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West <i>Gladys</i>	North <i>Teramoto</i>	East <i>Kr'ski</i>	South <i>Sasahira</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2NT (♥)
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Slam is a little worse than the heart finesse, since four-zero trumps or a bad side-suit break might doom you, but it certainly was a slam SARA needed to be in as a way to create swings. Brink relayed five times, then invited a slam in hearts, found a minimum with diamonds, then a 5-4 pattern, and finally a 5-4-3-1 shape. When Drijver rejected the invitation for hearts (over 4♣ a bid of 4♦ would have been last train) Brink had no reason to move on.

In the Closed Room once Teramoto cooperated with 3♠, Sasahira wouldn't take no for an answer, and slam came home when declarer made the percentage play in trumps of low to the jack. That made it 51-19

All Stars rubbed it in their opponents' faces, also bidding and making slam to lead 60-7. Somewhat more than half the field bid slam here.

Bd: 9  
 Dlr: North  
 Vul: E/W

North  
 ♠ 85432  
 ♥ KQ107  
 ♦ 54  
 ♣ 54

West  
 ♠ AQ7  
 ♥ 984  
 ♦ A7  
 ♣ KQJ72

East  
 ♠ 6  
 ♥ A62  
 ♦ K10982  
 ♣ A1063

South  
 ♠ KJ109  
 ♥ J53  
 ♦ QJ63  
 ♣ 98

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♠(SPL)	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladysz</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
7♣	All Pass		

It is somewhat surprising (or maybe a commentary on the nature of the personalities of the two West players) that the one who heard his partner splinter for clubs stopped in the small slam while the one who heard his partner make the simple raise bid the grand slam. Tanaka followed an exchange of cue-bids with keycard, then announced all the aces and made a grand slam try. Facing a hand that could not drive to seven he knew diamonds were not solid and the ♥K was surely missing. Moreover, East would probably have bid the grand slam with any six diamonds to the king, so discretion was called for. Tanaka ducked the first heart lead, won the second, then tested diamonds followed by clubs and claimed when the latter split.

In 7♣ Gladysz won the first heart, tested diamonds, and when they did not break he was out of practical chances. 16 imps to SARA, down 51-35.

All Stars' lead climbed by another 16 imps when they bid slam in one room and defeated the grand slam in the other. The datum for E/W was +820; a total of seven pairs went down in the grand slam while about half the field missed slam altogether.

Bd: 10  
Dlr: East  
Vul: Both

North  
♠ AKJ5  
♥ 6  
♦ 3  
♣ AK108632

West  
♠ 642  
♥ J  
♦ AK98765  
♣ J4

East  
♠ Q93  
♥ Q10983  
♦ J102  
♣ Q5

South  
♠ 1087  
♥ AK7542  
♦ Q4  
♣ 97

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
		Pass	2♥
3♦	4♣(1)	Pass	4♥

All Pass

(1) Slam-try for hearts

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladysz</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
		Pass	2♥
4♦	5♣	All Pass	

SARA gained a well-deserved 13 imps here when neither Russian pair shone in the auction. In the Open Room the 4♣ bid was interpreted as fit and South had no reason to assume anything different till dummy came down. Against 4♥ the defense led a top diamond and shifted to a spade. Declarer finessed. East won his queen, shifted to a low heart, and now declarer was doomed to go down two.

In the other room 5♣ was remarkably easy to play. It appears to need one of the black suits to behave and with trumps two-two 11 tricks were undemanding. 13 more imps to SARA, down 51-48.

This was an honorable push at 600 in our second match; just over half the field got this board right.

Bd: 11  
Dlr: South  
Vul: None

North  
♠ QJ9873  
♥ A104  
♦ ---  
♣ AQ75

West  
♠ 64  
♥ Q986  
♦ K9753  
♣ K2

East  
♠ AK10  
♥ K5  
♦ AJ10642  
♣ J4

South  
♠ 52  
♥ J732  
♦ Q8  
♣ 109863

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
			Pass
Pass	1♠	2♦	Pass
2♠	Dbl	Rdbl	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladysz</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
			Pass
Pass	1♠	3NT	Pass
Pass	4♣	Pass	Pass
4♦	Pass	Pass	5♣
5♦	All Pass		

The two auctions above have a mildly humorous air to them since no one really emerges unscathed from the melee, albeit that SARA left with 1 imp to their account. Krasnoselski's uncouth jump to 3NT would I think have succeeded, even if one could make a case for South to lead a club. But Teramoto wasn't prepared to wait around for that eventuality. He tried 4♣ himself (personally, I like his choice) and had Sashira raised to 5♣ Gladys would no doubt have bid 5♦. But he chose to bid only 4♦ over 4♣, giving South one more chance to sell out. When she bid 5♣ Gladys re-competed to 5♦ and had managed to right-side the game. With the ♥A dropping in three he would have taken 11 tricks in due course, and the ♣A lead merely served to expedite proceedings.

Whether or not Drijver's double of 2♠ was supposed to be take-out or spades is unclear. Greenberg took a delayed route to 3NT, perhaps specifically to try to attract a spade lead. If that was his plan, it worked to perfection. Brink led a spade and Greenberg had +430.

In a parallel position in Hinden-India, Bell as South heard his RHO jump to 3NT over the double of 2♠ and led a club to defeat the game.

Both tables in our second BBO match led spades against their opponents' games, Kovachev against 3NT, Rasmussen against 5♦. No swing. Only four pairs in the field beat game here.

Bd: 12	North		
Dlr: West	♠ J6		
Vul: N/S	♥ A109		
	♦ 652		
	♣ 108754		
West		East	
♠ KQ75		♠ 1098	
♥ KQ762		♥ 4	
♦ K3		♦ J1074	
♣ A6		♣ KQ932	
	South		
	♠ A432		
	♥ J853		
	♦ AQ98		
	♣ J		

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladys</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
1♣(STR)	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Both tables reached 3NT in Meckwellian fashion (23

HCP is the new 26) but neither declarer adopted the mantle of Meckstroth fully. Faced by a low spade at trick one, they ran it to the jack. While Teramoto astutely shifted to the ♥10, Drijver got off play with the ♣8. Both declarers knocked out the ♠A, but while Sasahira reverted to hearts, declarer misguessing and losing three hearts, two spades and the ♦A, Brink shifted to diamonds and eventually, when Greenberg played clubs from the top, the defenders took two spades, one club and four red-suit winners for down three and 2 imps. 53-49 now to Russia.

Bd: 14	North		
Dlr: East	♠ Q74		
Vul: None	♥ J109		
	♦ AQ93		
	♣ 975		
West		East	
♠ J10653		♠ AK82	
♥ Q4		♥ AK76	
♦ ---		♦ 1086	
♣ AJ10864		♣ KQ	
	South		
	♠ 9		
	♥ 8532		
	♦ KJ7542		
	♣ 32		

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>G'berg</i>	<i>Brink</i>
		1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gladys</i>	<i>Teramoto</i>	<i>Kr'ski</i>	<i>Sasahira</i>
		1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Tanaka's rebid problem over his partner's jump to 4♠, suggesting the balanced strong hand he held, would make an interesting Master Solvers Club entry. A 5♣ bid would have attracted 5♥ — Bob's Your Uncle!

The 11 imps to Russia came when Krasnoselski could relay for shape and suitability facing his partner's positive response of 1♠. It produced a 64-49 win, converting to 14.19-5.81 in VPs.

Both pairs missed slam in our second match (as did the majority of the field) but in China — Shanghai against Australia today's prize for going the extra mile belongs to Michael Whibley, who reached 7♠ as East — and made it by negotiating trumps. And yes, his teammates were defending game.

# Match Six: England/Denmark vs Beijing Trinergy

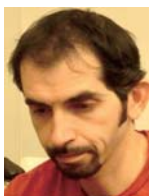
by Rich Colker



Sun



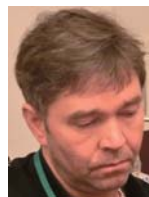
Hackett



Bakhshi



Kang



Blakset



Lu



Wang



Larsen

Bd: 17  
Dir: North  
Vul: None

North  
♠ A94  
♥ 86  
♦ K1052  
♣ 9742

West  
♠ J10765  
♥ A4  
♦ 964  
♣ 1063

East  
♠ K32  
♥ KQ97  
♦ 8  
♣ AQJ85

South  
♠ Q8  
♥ J10532  
♦ AQJ73  
♣ K

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>Kang</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
	Pass	1♣(1)	1♥(2)
1♠(3)	2♦*	2♠	3♦

All Pass

(1) Precision; STR; ART

(2) CRASH (♠+♣ or ♥+♦)

(3) 5+spades, 5-8 hcp

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Blakset</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Larsen</i>	<i>Wang</i>
	Pass	1♣	1♥
Dbl	Pass	3♠	All Pass

In the Open Room Sun-Kang sold out to 3♦, perhaps influenced by Kang's knowledge that Sun's 1♠ bid was limited. The defense got off to a rather poor start when Kang led a low spade (partner's suit) and dummy's queen held. Hackett called for a low heart and Sun rose with the ace to switch to a trump. Papa won in dummy and led a second heart and now things got even worse for the defense. Apparently Kang revoked on this trick (we think he pitched a

club) and subsequently was forced to lead the club spot (a penalty card), allowing dummy's king to win the trick. That plus the penalty for the revoke meant that Papa emerged with an unexpected 12 tricks (we knew he was good...but not *that* good) for +170.

In the Closed Room Blakset's 3♠ bid ended the auction. Blakset won the low heart lead cheaply in hand and tabled a low spade. Wang rose queen and led a second heart to dummy's ace. Blakset now ruffed a diamond and pitched dummy's last diamond on a top heart as Lu ruffed, cashed the ♠A, and got out with a diamond. Blakset ruffed in dummy and lost the club finesse for +140 for 7 imps to England/Denmark.

For the record, Takayama, West for SARA, brought home 4♠ on the lead of ♥6, the only declarer to make a game here.

Then came a string of push boards that we'd be well advised to avoid going into detail on. On Board 18 both N/S pairs reached the good heart game and took 10 tricks when the diamond finesse lost. On Board 19 both N/S pairs reached 3NT and again took 10 tricks, although how they did it is a complete mystery from the BBO play records. On Board 20 both N/S pairs reached the impregnable 4♥ contract and made it with an overtrick. On Board 21 both Wests declared 3NT and cashed out nine tricks (likely after a club lead) for a pair of +400s. On Board 22 both Wests played 4♠ and failed by one trick for matching -100s. Just for the record, the datum results indicate nobody else was creating swings here, by and large.

All of which brings us to Board 23, still 7-0 England/Denmark.

Bd: 23  
 Dir: South  
 Vul: Both

North  
 ♠ Q984  
 ♥ 1052  
 ♦ AK7  
 ♣ A105

West  
 ♠ K753  
 ♥ 4  
 ♦ Q104  
 ♣ KJ874

East  
 ♠ AJ106  
 ♥ A  
 ♦ J982  
 ♣ Q632

South  
 ♠ 2  
 ♥ KQJ98763  
 ♦ 653  
 ♣ 9

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>Kang</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>

Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
4♠	5♥	Dbl	Pass

Pass	Rdbl	All Pass	
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Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Blakset</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Larsen</i>	<i>Wang</i>

Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♥
------	----	----------	----

4♥ has three losers — no more, no less — so Sun's 4♠ bid was right on target, requiring the defense to find their club ruff to defeat it just one trick. Papa misjudged and bid on to 5♥, then decided to back his decision by turning the cube when the opponents told him he was wrong. Alas, poor Papa lost the obligatory three tricks and jotted down -400 on his score sheet next to "Note to self: Could these guys actually know what they're doing?"

5♥xx was declared three times here — and actually made once, when Hollands was South for Australia. Maybe that makes the redouble a reasonable speculation...or just gambler's playing chicken.

When Blakset and Larsen both failed to act over both 3♥ and 4♥ Lu-Wang bought the hand in 4♥ and chalked up their 10 tricks for +620 and a handy 14 imps, to take the lead for Beijing Trinergy 14-7.

Bd: 24  
 Dir: West  
 Vul: None

North  
 ♠ 1098765  
 ♥ 1052  
 ♦ Q643  
 ♣ ---

West  
 ♠ KQ  
 ♥ J874  
 ♦ K105  
 ♣ KQ76

East  
 ♠ J32  
 ♥ AQ6  
 ♦ J7  
 ♣ J8542

South  
 ♠ A4  
 ♥ K93  
 ♦ A982  
 ♣ A1093

Open/Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>Kang</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
<i>Blakset</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Larsen</i>	<i>Wang</i>
1NT	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Both Norths declared 2♠ on the ♦J lead. In the Open Room Papa strangely rose with the ♦A and played ace and a second spade without first pitching a heart on the ♣A. (If the ♥A had been offside he might never have seen dummy again.) Sun won, cashed the ♦K and gave Kang a ruff with his natural trump trick. From there Papa lost only one more heart and scored up +140.

In the Closed Room Lu played similarly (but carefully took his heart pitch on the ♣A at trick 2) and when Larsen won the second spade he tapped Lu with a club. Dong played to smother the ♦10 by laying down the queen and now had to lose two diamonds and a heart to go with his two trump losers for down one, -50. That was 5 imps back to England/Denmark, to close to within two at 14-12.

Bd: 25  
 Dir: North  
 Vul: E/W

North  
 ♠ A764  
 ♥ K8752  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ K84

West  
 ♠ 83  
 ♥ J  
 ♦ K10954  
 ♣ J10732

East  
 ♠ Q1052  
 ♥ Q1064  
 ♦ 73  
 ♣ 965

South  
 ♠ KJ9  
 ♥ A93  
 ♦ AQ862  
 ♣ AQ

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>Kang</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>

Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6NT

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Blakset</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Larsen</i>	<i>Wang</i>

All Pass	2♦(1)	Pass	6NT
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(1) "Flannery" (4♠+5♥)

There's something to be said for Lu-Wang's economy of bids but it's somewhat difficult to

appreciate such things when the contract you just reached is doomed. Of course the same might be said regarding the “sophistication” of the Hackett-Bakhshi auction. In the Open Room Papa won the club lead with dummy’s queen, then ducked a heart to Sun’s jack. Sun played a second club and when Papa cashed the ♥A and got the bad news things were looking bleak in Hackettville. He came to hand with the ♥K, led a spade to the jack, then continued with the king and a third spade to the ace, getting the bad news there as well. He then cashed the ♣K, passed the ♦J and finished down two, –100, when Sun won and had to concede the rest to dummy’s good diamonds. Sun could have garnered an extra undertrick for the defense by ducking the ♦J, leaving Hackett in hand with two black losers that he would have had to concede to Kang.

In the Closed Room Wang, as South, won the ♥J lead in hand and played a second heart up, Larsen pitching a diamond. He won the king in dummy and passed the ♦J to the king. Back came the ♦10 to the queen and now the ♦A revealed the bad news there. But since Larsen had pitched one of his diamonds earlier Wang simply got out with a diamond to set up one more trick there. When Larsen led a spade back Wang could now claim 11 tricks (two hearts and three tricks in each of the other suits) for down one, –50, and 2 imps back to Trinergy, now leading 16-12.

Five tables stopped in game (we’d call them lucky but perhaps they had clues in the auction), one pair brought home 3♦ for a “nice” pickup of 4 imps, though we wish we’d been present at the scoring up. And pride of place to Megumi Takasaka playing with Yukiko Hoshi, who as North brought home 6♥ on the lead of the ♦7. She will be giving declarer play lessons for the rest of you at 3 pm tomorrow.

Bd: 26 North  
 Dir: East ♠ 103  
 Vul: Both ♥ 9843  
 ♦ 92  
 ♣ KQ965

West East  
 ♠ 2 ♠ QJ8765  
 ♥ AKQ75 ♥ J  
 ♦ K54 ♦ Q107  
 ♣ 10742 ♣ A83

South  
 ♠ AK94  
 ♥ 1062  
 ♦ AJ863  
 ♣ J

Open/Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>Kang</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
<i>Blakset</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Larsen</i>	<i>Wang</i>
		2♠	All Pass

Against Kang’s 2♠ in the Open Room Bakhshi led the ♣J. Kang won the ace and overtook the ♥J to pitch his two losing clubs, then played a spade to the jack and king. Bakhshi’s diamond exit gave up an overtrick and now Kang just had to lose three trumps and a diamond for +140.

In the Closed Room Wang led a heart, allowing Blakset to pitch his two losing clubs a trick sooner. Next Blakset led a spade to the queen and king, won the club return, perforce, and attacked diamonds by leading to the king and back to the ten. He finished with eight tricks (losing three trumps and two diamonds) for +110; 1 more imp to Trinergy, 17-12.

Bd: 27 North  
 Dir: South ♠ 652  
 Vul: None ♥ 653  
 ♦ K9876  
 ♣ 62

West East  
 ♠ QJ1043 ♠ 87  
 ♥ 109 ♥ KJ8  
 ♦ Q53 ♦ J1042  
 ♣ 754 ♣ AK109

South  
 ♠ AK9  
 ♥ AQ742  
 ♦ A  
 ♣ QJ83

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sun</i>	<i>Hackett</i>	<i>Kang</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>
			1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Blakset</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Larsen</i>	<i>Wang</i>
			1♥
Pass	Pass	1NT	Dbl
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Hackett’s aggressive 2♥ raise might work well on some days (when the hand belongs to the opponents and neither can afford to bid over the raise), but today was not one of those days; Bakhshi could not take a joke and launched into the unmakeable game. Sun led the ♠Q and Bakhshi could not have been happy when dummy appeared. Still, a third-round club ruff could provide a way to the ♦K, when the defense found the trump switch if the ♥K was onside. So, following that line of reasoning Blakset won the ♠A and tabled the ♣J. Kang took this, tabled a trump, and when Bakhshi’s queen held he unblocked the ♦A, got out with a second club, won the heart





# Match Seven: Australia vs England Black

by Barry Rigal



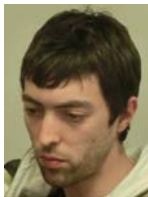
Milne



Hallberg



Black



Whibley



Whittaker



Howard



Hollands



Patterson

Both teams needed something good to happen sooner rather than later in order to move into a qualifying place. Both were about half a match out of the coveted eighth spot, but a host of contenders were baying at their heels.

Bd: 1 North  
 Dlr: North ♠ A7  
 Vul: None ♥ AQ8  
 ♦ K1032  
 ♣ 10654

West  
 ♠ 9  
 ♥ KJ105  
 ♦ AQJ86  
 ♣ AK9

East  
 ♠ K1065432  
 ♥ 9632  
 ♦ 5  
 ♣ Q

South  
 ♠ QJ8  
 ♥ 74  
 ♦ 974  
 ♣ J8732

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Black</i>
	1♣	3♠	Pass

4♠ All Pass

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Patterson</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
	1♣	2♠	Pass

3NT All Pass

Derek Patterson's choice of level to preempt at might well not have been shared by any other East in the field (fitting for a man who once had "rather cautious" written on his convention card to describe the partnership style). Whittaker jumped to 3NT and on the friendly diamond lead had hopes that he might be able to set up that suit more easily than would

otherwise have been the case. He won the ♦Q at trick one and led a spade up. Howard accurately flew ace to play a club, and though declarer had eight easy winners by establishing hearts, he could not find a ninth trick. Meanwhile, 4♠ had no play with the heart honors wrong. The defense led hearts and took the ruff, but that simply transposed tricks. No swing at down one.

For Beijing Trinergy Kang Meng was allowed to make 4♠ against England Hinden after a club lead. Kwon Sooja brought home 3NT for Dangoon on a diamond lead. Four other E/W pairs brought home partscores, all the other results being plus scores for N/S.

On Board 2 Hallberg went after an unlikely set of a non-vulnerable 3NT contract and invested a couple of overtricks in the process, giving Australia an early 2-0 lead. His next investment paid much more impressive rewards.

Bd: 3 North  
 Dlr: South ♠ QJ1084  
 Vul: E/W ♥ 9  
 ♦ 8643  
 ♣ K84

West  
 ♠ A2  
 ♥ AQ106  
 ♦ J95  
 ♣ 10762

East  
 ♠ 953  
 ♥ KJ754  
 ♦ AQ7  
 ♣ AJ

South  
 ♠ K76  
 ♥ 832  
 ♦ K102  
 ♣ Q953

Open Room

West <i>Milne</i>	North <i>Hallberg</i>	East <i>Whibley</i>	South <i>Black</i>
1♣	2♠	3♦(♥)	3♠
4♥	Pass	5♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West <i>Whittaker</i>	North <i>Howard</i>	East <i>Patterson</i>	South <i>Hollands</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Dbf	Pass	4♥	All Pass

You can decide for yourself where to apportion the blame in the Open Room: does Hallberg's bid take the credit, or is the blame split between the opening bid style coupled with the advance to game, or should East allow for his partner to bid this way with a hand more like a foot? With 3♦ showing a limit-plus hand with hearts, maybe West might pass 3♠ and remove a double to 4♥. Whatever miracle one might have tried for in 5♥ was not forthcoming; down one, 12 imps to Black, ahead 12-2.

Just four pairs went minus as E/W here, by aiming too high.

Bd: 4  
Dir: West  
Vul: Both

North  
♠ 432  
♥ Q7  
♦ 632  
♣ J9763

West	East
♠ 1097	♠ J865
♥ KJ103	♥ 4
♦ J987	♦ K1054
♣ 42	♣ AQ105

South  
♠ AKQ  
♥ A98652  
♦ AQ  
♣ K8

Open Room

West <i>Milne</i>	North <i>Hallberg</i>	East <i>Whibley</i>	South <i>Black</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dbf
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

Closed Room

West <i>Whittaker</i>	North <i>Howard</i>	East <i>Patterson</i>	South <i>Hollands</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

I'm not sure whether to applaud or to criticize the 2NT rebid. It wouldn't be your editors' style, fuddy-duddies that we are. But there again, maybe the

Duke of Wellington had it right when in discussing his troops he remarked "They may not frighten the enemy, but by god they frighten me!" 3NT on the lead of the ♠10 saw Hollands win in hand, play a heart up, then win the next spade and play another heart up. Once the bad heart break came to light (East pitching a club) he guessed to lead a club to his king and clear hearts, and had nine tricks when everything behaved. Had East pitched a diamond instead of a club Hollands might well have played a diamond, but if East lets go of a discouraging diamond... 2♥ made ten tricks on a friendly defense (only a spade lead challenges declarer) but Australia had 10 imps to level the match at 12-12.

Both tables in our second match, Lorentz-India, played 4♥ and both received a minor-suit lead. But since Lorentz were doubled there they had 5 imps to reduce the India lead to 6-5.

Somewhat surprisingly (well I'm surprised) when 4♥ was declared by South, a total of one defender in the West seat (Junko Tsubaki for HOSHI) led a spade and beat 4♥ legitimately, though a few declarers did find a way to go down on a diamond lead.

On Board 5 Black regained the lead (13-12) with a partscore overtrick imp on a hand where both tables had done sensibly to avoid a horrible (but making) vulnerable game on three finesses.

In our second BBO match India were one of the four teams to bid it, gaining 10 imps. Then...

Bd: 6  
Dir: East  
Vul: E/W

North  
♠ AJ98  
♥ QJ432  
♦ K2  
♣ J5

West	East
♠ Q107	♠ 6542
♥ K	♥ A1075
♦ Q843	♦ 75
♣ AK1093	♣ Q76

South  
♠ K3  
♥ 986  
♦ AJ1096  
♣ 842

Open Room

West <i>Milne</i>	North <i>Hallberg</i>	East <i>Whibley</i>	South <i>Black</i>
1♣	Dbf	Pass	2♦
Pass	Pass	Dbf	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Patterson</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	1♥	Dbl	2♥
Dbl	Pass	3♣	3♦
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

I suspect Gunnar Hallberg's choice to double rather than overcall 1♥ might be a significantly minority position. It worked well enough, though, when Milne had no real choice but to repeat his clubs over the takeout double. The defenders cashed their diamonds, then their spades, and declarer claimed the rest. The defense to 3♥ was also straightforward enough. E/W cashed their clubs and sat back for three trump tricks. 4 imps to Black and Larry Cohen's LOTT emerged relatively unscathed.

It was 17-12 now to Black, which became 19-12 when Hollands somewhat quixotically steered his side clear of a four-four major-suit fit to play an inferior partscore of 1NT on Board 7.

Bd: 8	North
Dlr: West	♠ 8
Vul: None	♥ Q5
	♦ K975
	♣ A108654

West
♠ AQJ3
♥ AK8
♦ Q862
♣ Q3

East
♠ K107652
♥ 974
♦ 103
♣ J7

South
♠ 94
♥ J10632
♦ AJ4
♣ K92

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Black</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Patterson</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
1♣(2+)	Pass	1♠	Pass
3♦(1)	Pass	4♠	All Pass

(1) Bal four-card spade raise

Both Easts hoped their extra trumps would count for something; both were disappointed in dummy's mirror pattern and the honor location opposite. Both sets of defenders cashed their clubs, exited passively, and subsequently collected their diamonds without setting up a discard for the slow heart loser. Down two and no swing.

Are there any betting men out there? I'm sure you'll take on a gambling proposition if I offer you one. I'll give you decent odds: 50 to one or so. What was the game contract that was recorded on this hand? (The answer is at the end of this article.)

Bd: 9	North
Dlr: North	♠ Q104
Vul: E/W	♥ 1082
	♦ A8752
	♣ 86

West
♠ 65
♥ K94
♦ KQ9
♣ AJ1097

East
♠ J93
♥ AJ76
♦ J10
♣ K432

South
♠ AK872
♥ Q53
♦ 643
♣ Q5

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Black</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dbl	2♠	3♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Patterson</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
	2♦(1)	Pass	3♠

All Pass

(1) Diamonds and spades (4-4 possible)

In the UK the Queens Annual Awards are given for industry. Were there separate awards for imagination Howard's 2♦ opening (weak, spades and another) might be a suitable candidate (or, if you prefer, "A suitable case for treatment"). 3♠ went quietly two down, 3♥ scrambled home when hearts were three-three. Just an imp; but at least an entertaining one.

Bd: 10	North
Dlr: East	♠ 106432
Vul: Both	♥ 64
	♦ Q75
	♣ K73

West
♠ Q8
♥ Q108752
♦ J982
♣ 9

East
♠ 9
♥ AJ3
♦ AK3
♣ 1086542

South
♠ AKJ75
♥ K9
♦ 1064
♣ AQJ

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Black</i>
		1♣	Dbl
1♦(♥)	1♠	Dbl(SUP.)	4♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Patterson</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
		1♣	Dbl
1♦(♥)	1♠	2♥	4♠
All Pass			

You and I in a casual pick up partnership would expect to be able to bid this hand to 3NT without any problems, wouldn't we? Both tables missed this for some reason and both Easts led a top diamond and worked out to win the first heart and exit passively to avoid any endplay. Down one, and still 19-13.

In our second match Burgess for team Lorentz was allowed to make the game when East, enjoying a pre-prandial snooze, ducked the ♥A and endplayed his partner. India led 22-17 now. With South the declarer the defensive error is still embarrassing but comprehensible. Remarkably, this particular mistake, or a variation on it, was committed (by my reckoning) at one-third of the tables in play. Color me deeply unimpressed.

Let's instead concentrate on congratulating Fu Zhong (North) and Hideki Takano (South) who bid the hand to 3NT to hold their loss on the board to just 1 imp.

Bd: 11	North
Dlr: South	♠ AKQ983
Vul: None	♥ A95
	♦ 43
	♣ 95

West	East
♠ 6	♠ J754
♥ QJ8	♥ K432
♦ AJ9762	♦ K
♣ AQ6	♣ J732
South	
♠ 102	
♥ 1076	
♦ Q1085	
♣ K1084	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Black</i>
			Pass
1♦	1♠	Dbl	Pass
2♦	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Patterson</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
1♦	1♠	Dbl	Pass
2♦	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

In 3♣ Whittaker received repeated spade leads. He ruffed, then unblocked diamonds and led a heart to the queen and ace. Back came a heart, after which declarer can succeed by cashing his winners, taking a trump finesse, then ruffing two diamonds in dummy to score the ♣AQ and four red-suit winners, plus three ruffs. Instead, Whittaker played to ruff a diamond before cashing the second heart and that let North get a heart away. Better defense for North was to lead the third top spade when in with the ♥A, which promotes the additional trump winner.

In the other room the contract of 3♦ looked more playable but again, if the defenders play three top spades early on, it may let South get a discard in a red suit. Nonetheless, you'd expect declarer to take four tricks in hearts and clubs so he might manage a trump endplay. It didn't work out that way. After a top spade lead Hallberg shifted to trumps. Declarer voluntarily ruffed a spade to hand, which let North play a third spade without setting up the jack. Declarer rejected the club finesse and ended up losing a club ruff to North and a heart ruff to South for down two; 2 imps to Black. As you will no doubt have noted, passing out 2♠x is the simple way to go plus — to the tune of +300.

By contrast, when Bach for team Lorentz played 3♦, he ruffed the second spade, knocked out the ♥A, and played three rounds of trumps. South could take two trump tricks but had to lead either a heart or a club. That allowed declarer to test both suits and come home with +110 for 4 imps. That made it 22-21 for India.

Bd: 12	North
Dlr: West	♠ AK102
Vul: N/S	♥ ---
	♦ QJ102
	♣ KQ542

West	East
♠ 743	♠ J865
♥ KQ107	♥ J932
♦ A8754	♦ 6
♣ 6	♣ A987
South	
♠ Q9	
♥ A8654	
♦ K93	
♣ J103	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Black</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣

All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Patterson</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦(♥)
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

The Closed Room auction led to a very nice contract on a straightforward and accurate auction, albeit one that could be defeated on the hostile diamond break (a four-two split would likely be survivable if declarer pitched a diamond from South on the spades). Patterson duly led his singleton diamond against 5♣. Whittaker won his ace...and shifted to the ♥K. Declarer needed no second reprieve, simply drawing trumps and claiming his contract.

In the other room Black's delayed route to clubs suggested only two trumps and Hallberg expected wasted values in hearts, hence his pass of 4♣. It was probably little consolation to him that the defenders took their club ruff to hold him to +130. Australia had 10 imps and led 23-21.

In our second match Lambardi-Bach missed all their opportunities to take the diamond ruff against 5♣, but Lorentz-Burgess bid to 3NT, showing only hearts en route, and the defenders led spades. After that declarer could unblock spades, take two club tricks (ducked by East) and then shift to diamonds, with nine tricks in the bag.

3NT was only defeated four times here, but the most remarkable result was when Kenji Miyakuni declared 2♥x on the E/W cards after an opening to show a weak two-suiter. South was on the right track when he led trump, but he started off with a small one and Kenji won and cross-ruffed six tricks in the minors before taking one more high trump from his remaining heart spots. That was +470.

Both tables bid accurately to a normal 4♠ for +620 on Board 13.

Finally there was one more moment of high drama — or low farce!

Bd: 14  
Dir: East  
Vul: None

North  
♠ 96  
♥ A1075  
♦ AK943  
♣ K7

West  
♠ AKQ8  
♥ 632  
♦ J1072  
♣ A9

East  
♠ J104  
♥ Q  
♦ Q86  
♣ QJ10654

South  
♠ 7532  
♥ KJ984  
♦ 5  
♣ 832

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Milne</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Whibley</i>	<i>Black</i>

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Whittaker</i>	<i>Howard</i>	<i>Patterson</i>	<i>Hollands</i>
		Pass	2♥
Dbl	3♥	4♣	All Pass

Against 4♣ the defenders took four red-suit winners and a trump trick. Down 100 wasn't a triumph, but neither was it a tragedy. This was particularly so when you consider that the 3NT contract in the other room was supposed to take five tricks. The sequence of play (readers of a nervous disposition look away): a heart to the queen and king, the ♥9 holding, a heart to the ten, then the ♥A. Since both dummy and declarer had pitched diamonds at every turn Hallberg cashed the ♦K, followed by a low diamond to the ten. Declarer then promptly cashed four spades to strip squeeze North. When he bared his ♣K declarer ran three club tricks to escape for down one and a 2-imp gain to win the match 25-21.

Meanwhile, Lorentz similarly pipped India, 22-21.

[Answer to the question from Board 8: 3NT was recorded at one table. You might think that for West to make 3NT North led a low club and South put in the nine. No. The successful declarer in 3NT was Huang Yan for China Women 2, sitting *South!* After a top heart and diamond shift she had ten winners — and where there are ten there are always 11.]



"I wonder what she's thinking."  
"I wonder what he's thinking."

## Match Eight: NAITO vs NANIWADA

by Barry Rigal



Kataoka



Tanaka



Naito



Togawa



Miyakuni A



Naniwada



Nose



Miyakuni K

This round would see two of the three Japanese teams on the cusp of qualifying meet one another. Two men enter, one man leave. We shall refer to the Miyakunes by their first names throughout.

Our second match would see the top of the table teams, Beijing Trinergy and Down Under, fighting it out for the lead spot.

Bd: 17      North  
 Dir: North    ♠ K2  
 Vul: None    ♥ AKQ9532  
               ♦ J73  
               ♣ 4

West  
 ♠ A1097  
 ♥ 86  
 ♦ K10965  
 ♣ J5

East  
 ♠ Q6543  
 ♥ J10  
 ♦ A82  
 ♣ Q82

South  
 ♠ J8  
 ♥ 74  
 ♦ Q4  
 ♣ AK109763

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Miya A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>Miya K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
	4♥	All Pass	

Both tables reached 4♥ but Togawa had a natural spade lead and declarer had 10 easy tricks available after that start. In the Closed Room Kenji Miyakune started with a club, and dummy must surely have

given him a few bad moments. However, the club lead gave declarer some additional options. Naniwada chose to win and play a diamond to the jack and ace. Now a trump shift would have killed the contract but Kenji did not know that. He continued a club and declarer pitched his spade loser, then led a second diamond. Ayako won and played a trump, letting declarer win in hand (observing the fall of the ten) and ruff a diamond. Now the right play is surely to lead the third club and pitch the spade loser. But Naniwada led a spade; Ayako won and led a fourth diamond, forcing declarer to decide whether to ruff high or low. He followed the percentages, I think, by ruffing low and Kenji over-ruffed for down one. 10 imps to NAITO.

Game made at every table but three; in each case the club lead gave declarer the option to go wrong, which he took. In our second match one must admire Li Xiaoyi for opening 1♥, then after hearing (1♠)-2♣-(3♥) — a mixed spade raise — he tried 3NT, and wrapped up +430.

Bd: 18      North  
 Dir: East    ♠ 1062  
 Vul: N/S    ♥ A105  
               ♦ AKJ864  
               ♣ J

West  
 ♠ K94  
 ♥ K7  
 ♦ Q1095  
 ♣ Q987

East  
 ♠ A853  
 ♥ J96  
 ♦ 73  
 ♣ A1064

South  
 ♠ QJ7  
 ♥ Q8432  
 ♦ 2  
 ♣ K532

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♣	1♦	1♠	All Pass

The Open Room auction looks normal enough; and who could blame East for finding a heart lead (the killing lead is probably a low club). Tanaka played low from dummy and forced East either to put up the king and provide an entry to dummy or to play low and lose the heart trick. He opted to play low and declarer won and played trumps from the top. That meant he had two diamonds and three black losers in top tricks but no heart losers.

Plus 90 went well with the result from the other room, where the defenders led a diamond to the jack and shifted to clubs. Kenji won the ace and played three rounds of spades. South won and would have done best to play king and another club. But Kenji would have won in dummy and advanced the ♦Q and ducked when North covered, to build a seventh winner. As it was, South shifted to a heart and declarer could duck this to his jack for a different seventh trick. NAITO had five imps and led 15-0.

Pride of place on this deal goes to Shan Baisong of Shanghai Financial, who reached 4♥ on an unrevealing auction and was treated to a diamond lead, after which it is still not clear how he could have made his game. But the score sheet shows +620 and who are we to argue?

Bd: 19	North
Dlr: South	♠ 875
Vul: E/W	♥ 962
	♦ 432
	♣ Q1062

West	East
♠ A10963	♠ J2
♥ AK8	♥ Q75
♦ AJ10	♦ KQ976
♣ 95	♣ J73
	South
	♠ KQ4
	♥ J1043
	♦ 85
	♣ AK84

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
			1♣
1♠	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
			1♣
1♠	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	2♣	2♦	All Pass

With E/W cold for 3NT when clubs break four-four you'd think South would be happy to sell out to 1♠. Not so at one of our tables, where Nose reopened with a double, and jockeyed his opponents into a lower-scoring partscore. By the way, would our readers pass 1♠ as East, or experiment with a stopperless 1NT advance? Just sayin', the datum here of E/W +330 suggests that more than a handful of Easts did keep the auction open, and we approve of their decision.

Beijing Trinergy found the cheap save against 3NT when they played 1NTx, and on a spade lead cashed out for -300. Not a huge triumph for Down Under, but Newell-Reid managed to muddy the waters enough at their table to persuade Beijing to play 3♦ for +130, and Down Under had 5 imps to lead 6-0.

Bd: 21	North
Dlr: North	♠ 975
Vul: N/S	♥ KJ83
	♦ ---
	♣ J109863

West	East
♠ AK3	♠ Q82
♥ Q952	♥ A74
♦ AKJ32	♦ Q1087
♣ 5	♣ Q42

South
♠ J1064
♥ 106
♦ 9654
♣ AK7

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦(FG)	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass



It pains me to see a delicate auction like that of the Open Room lose 10 imps, especially since if the club honors were split 3NT would rate to go down while 5♦ is no worse than 50%. Still, on a blind auction like in the Closed Room they sometimes lead spades and not clubs. Kenji made ten tricks in 3NT, while 5♦ on a top club lead was doomed to one down when the ♥K refused to cooperate. NAITO led 25-1.

Six pairs bid the hand to 5♦ (unlucky!), two to 6♦ (not so unlucky).

Bd: 22 North  
 Dir: East ♠ AK10632  
 Vul: E/W ♥ 105  
 ♦ AK64  
 ♣ 7

West  
 ♠ J987  
 ♥ 974  
 ♦ 105  
 ♣ QJ43

East  
 ♠ Q4  
 ♥ A63  
 ♦ Q932  
 ♣ AK105

South  
 ♠ 5  
 ♥ KQJ82  
 ♦ J87  
 ♣ 9862

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
Pass	2♠	1NT	Pass
		All Pass	

Pass 2♠ All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
Pass	3♠	1NT	Pass
		All Pass	

Pass 3♠ All Pass

2♠ looks quite high enough here, but Togawa led a top club and shifted to a diamond (declarer putting up the jack), then took the first heart, and that was +140 for Tanaka. In the other room the defenders led and continued clubs. When declarer ruffed and led a heart up Kenji might well have worked out to duck. Instead he, too, won and played a diamond, the play transposing into that in the Open Room for no swing. Still 26-1 to NAITO.

Very few defenders beat 3♠. The most impressive N/S result came from Fu Zhong for FOOTerZ, who made 4♥ as North on repeated club leads (two spade tricks two diamond tricks, two ruffs in hand and four trumps in dummy — easy game, bridge).

The best result in a spade contract came from Down Under; the contract at their table was 2♠, and nobody had doubled it. So why was that such a good result? Because East was declarer, after a 13-15 notrump by him and a transfer from West. 2♠ went down 300 while in the other room the defenders led trumps early enough against 3♥ to defeat that contract. That

was 8 imps and a 14-1 lead for Down Under.

Bd: 23 North  
 Dir: South ♠ 542  
 Vul: Both ♥ KJ7542  
 ♦ 6  
 ♣ AK7

West  
 ♠ QJ6  
 ♥ Q8  
 ♦ Q94  
 ♣ J9432

East  
 ♠ A983  
 ♥ 3  
 ♦ AKJ1072  
 ♣ 106

South  
 ♠ K107  
 ♥ A1096  
 ♦ 853  
 ♣ Q85

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
Pass	1♥	2♦	Pass
Dbl	3♥	3♠	3♦
4♠	All Pass		Pass

Pass 1♥ 2♦ 3♦  
 Dbl 3♥ 3♠ Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
Pass	1♥	2♦	Pass
3♣(♦)	3♥	3♠	2♥
All Pass			4♥

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

E/W have a painless nine tricks in diamonds, N/S an equably painless ten tricks in hearts. In the Closed Room N/S reached their game in unconventional fashion, South going low, then raising a purely competitive action, but his judgement was excellent — this time. In the other room it was hard for either North or South to double 4♠. It sounded to West that his partner was five-six, but with that hand mightn't East have bid 4♠ over 3♥? Naniwada had their first imps of the set and trailed 26-9.

Game was bid at about one quarter of the tables by N/S; the datum was +320 to them. Beijing bid game against Down Under to pick up 11 imps and cut the lead to 14-12.

Bd: 24 North  
 Dir: West ♠ KQ543  
 Vul: None ♥ 8762  
 ♦ 9  
 ♣ K105

West  
 ♠ A107  
 ♥ Q93  
 ♦ Q1063  
 ♣ 982

East  
 ♠ 96  
 ♥ 54  
 ♦ K542  
 ♣ AJ643

South  
 ♠ J82  
 ♥ AKJ10  
 ♦ AJ87  
 ♣ Q7

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1NT
Dbf	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Dbf	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Kenji's third-in-hand opening bid apparently kept Naniwada from driving to game once the heart fit came to light. There again, South might have bid on to game with a decent hand and decent shape, plus great trump spots. In 3♥ and 4♥ both declarers on a diamond lead followed a safe line for nine tricks by going after spades when playing only one top trump. Each West could therefore have won the ♠A and given their partner a ruff, while preserving their own trump trick. Ayako did this and held her opponents to +140, Kataoka did not and conceded a painful +420.

Ten tricks were almost universally contracted for and brought home. But in Down Under-Beijing Trinery both declarers jeopardized their contracts by going after spades before drawing trumps. Gill ducked his ♠A, then gave his partner his ruff while the defenders at the other table spurned numerous chances to do the same thing and let the contract make. It was 24-12 now for Down Under.

Bd: 25  
 Dir: North  
 Vul: E/W

North  
 ♠ QJ87  
 ♥ KQ63  
 ♦ A5  
 ♣ A108

West	East
♠ A	♠ 10632
♥ A1098	♥ J542
♦ J1097	♦ 863
♣ KJ63	♣ Q7
	South
	♠ K954
	♥ 7
	♦ KQ42
	♣ 9542

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Two very similar auctions to 4♠ by South. Nose won the diamond lead in hand and led a heart to the king. When that held he ruffed three hearts in hand while cashing his minor-suit winners and could survive for the loss of one club and two trump tricks.

Naito won the diamond lead in dummy and led a spade to the king and ace. Back came a second diamond. Declarer won in hand and also led a heart to the king. Now he ruffed a heart, cashed a diamond, and had a 100% line for the contract by leading a club to the ace, ruffing a heart, ruffing a diamond high, and ruffing a heart with the ♠9 to ensure the ♠8 being a trick. But when he ruffed the fourth diamond low East could over-ruff and return a trump to leave dummy with a losing heart and club. 10 imps to Naniwada, down 32-20.

While quite a few tables defeated 4♠ on a club lead from East, I'm quite surprised at the fact that more than half the field went down in 4♠ on a diamond lead. The Closed Room line does look surpassingly obvious and would have almost guaranteed the contract against normal breaks. Both tables in our other featured match led trumps as East against the game, and the defense was now effectively over.

Bd: 26  
 Dir: East  
 Vul: Both

North  
 ♠ AQ9  
 ♥ 10632  
 ♦ 98654  
 ♣ 3

West	East
♠ J10872	♠ K63
♥ Q	♥ A85
♦ AK3	♦ J102
♣ AQ42	♣ 9876
	South
	♠ 54
	♥ KJ974
	♦ Q7
	♣ KJ105

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass

There is quite a disparity of views offered by the two Wests on this deal, don't you think? One might have expected a midpoint action such as a game-try of 3♣ by West (though the suit is a little better than you'd like, you do get partner to focus on what matters.) As it is, though, 4♠ is quite playable here though there is no clear-cut best line. Ayako made nine tricks in 2♠ on a diamond lead by going after trumps initially. But where it really mattered, Kataoka received a helpful club lead and won in hand to play the ♠10 to the queen and king, then a second spade to the nine. Tanaka shifted to hearts and now declarer needed to finesse in diamonds, then run the ♣6. He chose instead to play a third trump. North won and played a second heart. Now declarer ruffed and led a low club from hand and when the four-one break came to light he had just once chance left. He needed to play for the doubleton ♦Q, in which case he would have an entry to dummy for the club finesse. When he didn't do that, his last chance had gone and NAITO had a very sweaty gain of 6 imps instead of a loss of 10 imps.

4♠ made twice as often as it was defeated; the club lead certainly did not make things more difficult. In Beijing Trinergy-Down Under both Norths led their singleton. Sun won and passed the ♠10, covered by the queen and king, then played a second trump. Gill won the club, led a low spade to the king, and then ran the ♣6, which looks a better line to me. Both lines resulted in +620 though.

Bd: 27	North
Dlr: South	♠ 76
Vul: None	♥ AQ63
	♦ ---
	♣ AQJ9543
West	East
♠ 10	♠ KQ542
♥ 9872	♥ KJ5
♦ K10943	♦ AQ75
♣ 1072	♣ K
	South
	♠ AJ983
	♥ 104
	♦ J862
	♣ 86

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
	1♣	Dbl	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass
2♥	3♣	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>M'kune A</i>	<i>Naniwada</i>	<i>M'kune K</i>	<i>Nose</i>
	1♣	1♠	Pass
Pass	2♣	Dbl	Pass
2♦	All Pass		

Whether you overcall or double with the East cards may depend on how much you like putting your hand down as dummy. Kenji likes to play the hands so he overcalled — and naturally ended up as dummy. So what does that prove? As usual, nothing at all, but the 6-imp gain suggests he actually described his hand pretty nicely. Against 2♦ Naniwada led a low heart, an interesting and potentially effective choice. But Ayako put in the jack, then negotiated trumps, ending up losing three aces and a heart ruff; +110.

In the Open Room Kataoka found a way into the auction but did not locate his side's best fit. The play in 3♣ saw Tanaka duck the lead of the ♠K — not the best start. The defenders took a spade ruff, shifted to diamonds, and declarer drew the inference from the opening lead that East must have one top diamond. So after ruffing the diamond he ducked a heart, cashed the ♣A, played to ruff one heart in dummy, dropping both kings and generating +110 for his side. 6 imps to NAITO, leading 44-20.

One might have expected a few large numbers around this deal; but while a couple of pairs got too high in spades and were doubled for 500, only one pair was doubled into game here: Huang and Gan for China Women 2. Down Under picked up a partscore swing by defeating 3♦ in one room and making it in the other to win 4 imps and take the set 28-14, taking the lead with four matches to go.

Bd: 28	North
Dlr: West	♠ K92
Vul: N/S	♥ 104
	♦ QJ872
	♣ AQ5
West	East
♠ Q84	♠ AJ763
♥ Q53	♥ KJ
♦ A3	♦ K10964
♣ KJ863	♣ 4
	South
	♠ 105
	♥ A98762
	♦ 5
	♣ 10972

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kataoka</i>	<i>Tanaka</i>	<i>Togawa</i>	<i>Naito</i>
1♣	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	3♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M'kune A	Naniwada	M'kune K	Nose
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Both tables reached 4♠, Togawa on an extremely informative auction, Kenji on a completely uninformative one. Togawa won the diamond lead in dummy and drew two rounds of trump, then led a heart up. When South won to return a heart he could arrange to ruff one diamond in dummy but still had three minor-suit losers and a trump that wouldn't go away.

By contrast, Kenji ran the diamond around to his hand and sneaked the ♠J past South, then led a second heart. South won and shifted to a revealing ♣10 to the king and ace. Back came a diamond, ruffed, and South exited with a second club to the eight and queen. Kenji ruffed, ruffed a diamond, led the ♠Q, ruffed and overruffed. He then ruffed a second diamond, cashed the ♣J to pitch his last diamond, and ran the ♠Q for his tenth trick. Yes the defenders could have done better in a number of ways, but this was a well-earned 10 imps.

That made it 54-20. The final score in the set was 57-20, and NAITO would be well-placed to qualify when the final day's play started.

### Images of our game



"Since my picture appeared in yesterday's bulletin I'm even more depressed."



"The answer is there...I just can't read it."



"Gosh, was the ♦Q really onside?"



"Thank you, partner, just the dummy I expected."



"So, the next time he criticizes our card we take this bottle and..."



"You think you could have made how many on Board 23?"



"Did I leave the gas on?"



"And so, just another error-free session."

### Provisional Programme for 2014 World Bridge Series, Sanya

a) The exact format and timing of the day-to-day schedule will be published nearer the time when numbers are known  
 b) For all pairs events, players will participate throughout the event  
 c) It is anticipated that play will start daily at 10.00 am and end at approximately 19.30 / 20.00 hours

Calendar Days	Schedule	Calendar Days	Schedule
<b>Day 1</b> Friday 10 October	Registration Desk Open Official Meetings Opening Ceremony followed by a Banquet	<b>Day 2</b> Saturday 11 October	Mixed Teams - Qualification Swiss
<b>Day 3</b> Sunday 12 October	Mixed Teams - Qualification Swiss Mixed Pairs	<b>Day 4</b> Monday 13 October	Mixed Teams - Knock-Out Mixed Pairs
<b>Day 5</b> Tuesday 14 October	Mixed Teams - Knock-Out Mixed Pairs	<b>Day 6</b> Wednesday 15 October	Mixed Teams - Knock-Out Mixed Pairs Awards Ceremony - Mixed Teams
<b>Day 7</b> Thursday 16 October	Mixed Pairs Awards Ceremony Mixed Pairs Banquet & Pairs Closing Cocktail	<b>Day 8</b> Friday 17 October	Mixed Pairs Awards Ceremony Mixed Pairs Banquet & Pairs Closing Cocktail

Calendar Days	Schedule	Calendar Days	Schedule
<b>Day 9</b> Saturday 18 October	Repechage, McConnell, Round - Qualification Swiss	<b>Day 10</b> Sunday 19 October	Repechage, McConnell, Round - Knock-Out - Qualification Swiss
<b>Day 11</b> Monday 20 October	Repechage, McConnell, Round Teams - Knock-Out	<b>Day 12</b> Tuesday 21 October	Repechage, McConnell, Round Teams - Knock-Out Open, Women's & Senior Pairs
<b>Day 13</b> Wednesday 22 October	Repechage, McConnell, Round Teams - Knock-Out Open, Women's & Senior Pairs	<b>Day 14</b> Thursday 23 October	Repechage, McConnell, Round Teams - Knock-Out Awards Ceremony - Repechage, McConnell & Round Teams
<b>Day 15</b> Friday 24 October	Open, Women's & Senior Pairs	<b>Day 16</b> Saturday 25 October	Open, Women's & Senior Pairs Awards Ceremony Senior Pairs Closing Ceremony followed by a cocktail

### Registration Fees

Events	Registration Fees (USD)
Open Teams	1500
Women Teams	1500
Senior Teams	1500
Mixed Teams	1200
Open Pairs	600
Women Pairs	600
Senior Pairs	600

Hotels	Location Airport
<input type="radio"/> MGM Grand Sanya <input type="radio"/> Sheraton Sanya Resort <input type="radio"/> Sanya Marriott Resort & Spa <input type="radio"/> Sanya Huayu Resort & Spa	Transport and taxi fees * Please check the individual Airport, approximately 40 kilometers away from MGM Grand Sanya * The driving distance will take about 40 minutes and the taxi fare is around 200RMB



# 14TH Red Bull WORLD BRIDGE SERIES

Date: Oct 10th-25th, 2014  
 Venues:  
**CHINA Sanya MGM Grand Hotel**  
**SANYA The Sheraton Sanya Resort**



**Sheraton Sanya Resort**  
 The Sheraton Sanya Resort is a super luxury 5 star hotel. The Sheraton Sanya Resort is right next to the MGM Grand Hotel. The Sheraton Sanya Resort has 200 rooms with special rates, which will be the best choice for all the participants.

**Sanya Huayu Resort & Spa**  
 Sanya Huayu Resort & Spa is a super luxury 5 star hotel. The Sanya Huayu Resort & Spa is right next to the Sheraton Sanya Resort. The Sanya Huayu Resort & Spa has 200 rooms with special rates, which will be the best choice for all the participants.

**Sanya Marriott Resort & Spa**  
 Sanya Marriott Resort & Spa is a super luxury 5 star hotel. The Sanya Marriott Resort & Spa is right next to the Sheraton Sanya Resort. The Sanya Marriott Resort & Spa has 200 rooms with special rates, which will be the best choice for all the participants.

## 19<sup>th</sup> NEC Bridge Festival Daily Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Event	Venue
Thursday (Feb. 13)	10:00-12:00	NEC Cup Swiss (9)	414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419
	12:20-14:20	NEC Cup Swiss (10)	
	14:20-15:30	Lunch Break	
	15:30-17:30	NEC Cup Swiss (11)	
	17:50-19:50	NEC Cup Swiss (12)	
Friday (Feb. 14)	09:00-11:15	NEC Cup Quarter-Final (1)	414, 415
	11:35-13:50	NEC Cup Quarter-Final (2)	
	13:50-15:00	Lunch Break	414, 415
	15:00-17:15	NEC Cup Semi-Final (1)	
	17:35-19:50	NEC Cup Semi-Final (2)	
	10:00-17:00	Yokohama IMP Pairs	
Saturday (Feb. 15)	09:00-11:15	NEC Cup Final (1)	414, 415
	11:35-13:50	NEC Cup Final (2)	
	13:50-15:00	Lunch Break	501, 502
	15:00-17:15	NEC Cup Final (3)	
	17:35-19:50	NEC Cup Final (4)	
	10:00-17:00	Yokohama Swiss Teams	
Sunday (Feb. 16)	10:00-17:30	Asuka Cup (Open Pairs)	501, 502
	18:00-20:00	Closing Ceremony	503

NEC Cup Qualifying Swiss: 12 rounds of 14-board matches

NEC Cup Quarter- & Semi-finals: two 16-board segments

NEC Cup Final: four 16-board segments

### Registration For Weekend Events

Anyone planning to play in:

Yokohama IMP Pairs                      Friday 14<sup>th</sup>

Yokohama Swiss Teams                  Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>

Asuka Cup                                      Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>

should register in advance in the Secretariat (Room 411)

The registration deadline for each event is the previous evening