

# CHINA VICTORIOUS IN OPEN ADDS TITLE TO WOMEN'S

In the 64-board contest which began yesterday evening, China opened up a substantial 37-IMP lead by the end of the first quarter and widened the gap to 75 IMPs at the half. But Indonesia, typical of their resolve in recent years, fought back. At the three-quarter mark they had cut the lead to 59 IMPs and China was in for a fight. But the Indonesians couldn't quite pull off the near-miracle. Still, the final 31-IMP differential represents an impressive effort. China reigns as the 1998 PABF Open Teams Champions. Congratulations to them for their impressive showing, to Indonesia, the runners-up, and to all of the contestants in this year's event. Those who watched the excitement of this year's contest knows they are in for something special next year as well. We hope to be there to share it all with you.



China: Haojun Shi, Zejun Zhuang, Xiaojing Wang, Yunhong Luo (coach), Jianming Dai, Weimin Wang and Hongjun Xu



Indonesia: Munawar Sawirudin, Ferdy Waluyan, Denny Sacul, Henky Lasut, Santje Panelewen and Franky Karwur

Team	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	Final
China	61	63	21	29	174
Indonesia	24	25	37	57	143

# CHEN-SUN WIN 1998 PABF OPEN PAIRS

Fred Chen and Dave Sun, of Chinese Taipei, won this year's PABF Open Pairs with a score of 592 (on a 494 average). Second, with a score of 579.5, were PABF President Esther Sophonpanich (Thailand) and Arwin Budirahardja (Indonesia). The top ten places are listed below. Congratulations to all the contestants.

Place	Players	Score
1	Fred Chen-Dave Sun	592.0
2	Ester Sophonpanich-Arwin Budirahardja	579.5
3	Masayuki Ino-Tadashi Teramoto	565.5
4	Kyoko Ohno-Akihiko Yamada	563.5
5	Sakiko Naito-Seiya Shimizu	559.5
6	Makoto Kohno-Masaaki Takayama	557.0
7	Takahiko Hirata-Hiroshi Kaku	547.5
8	George Soo-Makiko Hayashi	539.0
9	Chizuno Saito-Masaru Yoshida	534.0



1<sup>st</sup>: Fred Chen and Dave Sun



2<sup>nd</sup>: Arwin Budirahardja and Ester Sophonpanich

## SIA-YAMAZAKI TAKE PABF CONSOLATION

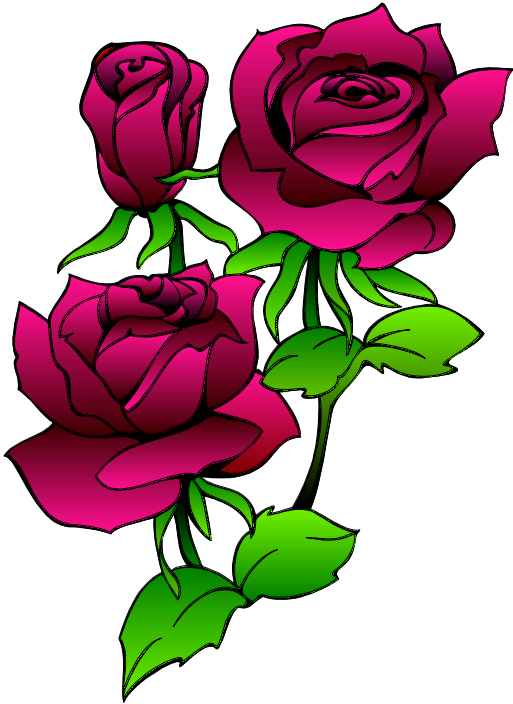
Alan Sia and Chieko Yamazaki finished first in the PABF Open Pairs Consolation with a score of 944 (on a 728 average). Second were Makoto Tanabe and Minoru Mizuta with a score of 904 and third were Romily Virola and Yoko Osako with a score of 836.5. Congratulations to all.



1<sup>st</sup>: Chienko Yamazaki-Alan Sia

# DOMO ARIGATO

As usual, our work here has been a labor of love. The more we experience of Japan and her wonderful, friendly people, the fonder we become of them. Already we cannot wait to return. The JCBL organizers (Kensuke Yanagiya, President) and PABF (Esther Sophonpanich, President) have shown a special flair for holding their tournaments in the most pleasant and exciting locations. The City of Kobe has proven to be a brilliant choice of venue for this tournament. The weather has been warm and inviting (yet another coup for JCBL), the hotel first-rate, and the working and playing conditions all that anyone could hope for. If only we could have played a little bridge, too.



We have so many people to thank that it would be impossible to mention them all — even given the usual size of our *Daily Bulletins*.

- Thanks to all of the JCBL people including Makiko Hayashi (front desk), Matsubara-san (cashier), Shoko Fukuda and Natsuko Nishida (office managers) and Haruko “Mom” Koshi (in charge of “introductions”), all of whom conducted the tournament so superbly and who gave so generously to us of their time and assistance.
- Thanks to Tadayoshi “The Boss” Nakatani, who ran the whole operation and, most importantly, was responsible for bringing us here.
- Thanks to Richard Grenside (a.k.a. Grendise) for his Directing and Alpaca-management skills.
- Thanks to the friendly and helpful people in the *Daily Bulletin* office who took such good care of us and put up with us when we had our “bad hair days” (after working ‘till 3 or 4 a.m. to get the Bulletin out). Our special thanks to Omasa-san, Nakamura-san and Higashiguchi-san whose expertise with computers, networks, printers, cameras, and the Internet were indispensable and without whom our work would not have been possible, and to Nobuyuki Hayashi — our trusty man Friday.
- To all of our friends, who cheered us up, rubbed our necks when we were tired and hunched over our computer screens during the wee morning hours, fed us chocolate, fruit, coffee and (most of all) diet Cokes so that we could persevere in our mission.
- And finally to you, our readers, thanks for the many kind words, contributions, helpful corrections, and loyal readership. We hope to see you and hear from you again soon.

Eric and Rich

# WIRE PALADIN, KOBE



Those of you out there reading these Bulletins on the Internet can contact us here (players, officials, even us editors) via e-mail. Just send your message to:

[jcbl@mxd.mesh.ne.jp](mailto:jcbl@mxd.mesh.ne.jp)

Make sure that your intended recipient is clearly specified (preferably in the message's "Subject," or "re" field). Unfortunately, we have no way of sending e-mail from here. (That's right. We can receive, but we can't send.) If your message is of an urgent nature and you need a response, make sure you provide a phone number or other means for contacting you.

## PABF CHAMPIONSHIPS ON THE INTERNET

We are happy to announce that our Daily Bulletins are available on the Internet. Call your family and friends and tell them to follow the adventures of some of the best players from Asia and the Pacific rim (including yourself) by surfing the net to the following address:

<http://bridge.cplaza.ne.jp/pabf/index-e.html>

### AIRPORT LIMOUSINE AND RETURN FLIGHT RECONFIRMATION

It is advisable to reconfirm your return flight and to reserve a seat on the airport limousine bus to Kansai International Airport (KIX) as soon as possible during your stay here. Should you require assistance, please contact the Business Center (ext. 3780) located on the second floor of the Sheraton. The Business Center's hours are 8:00 am to 7:00 pm every day.

### URGENT MESSAGE FOR ARIFIN HALIM

Here's the information you requested. Richard's numbers are:

P.O. Box 461  
Wyong 2259 (NSW)  
Australia

Telefax: 61 +243 551199

# FINAL REMINDER FOR THOSE TAKING THE KYOTO ONE-DAY TOUR

The one-day tour to Kyoto tomorrow, Monday, May 25, is getting ready to burn rubber for the historic city. Departure is at **8:30 a.m.**, sharp. The following reservations have been received:

Bus No. 1 (Ms. Koshi, Haruto)

New Zealand 12 persons  
Singapore 13 persons (incl. Yamazaki, Chienko)  
Philippines 4 persons

Bus No. 2 (Ms. Suzuki, JTB guide)

Chinese Taipei 23 persons  
Australia 8 persons

Participants are requested to be in the Sheraton Hotel's main entrance area 10 minutes before departure (that's 8:20 am for those of you who have trouble telling Mickey's hands apart).

Those planning to go directly from Kyoto, via JR express "Haruka," to Kansai airport should be in the Sheraton Hotel lobby on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor near the Bell Desk with their luggage at 8:10 am.

## ITINERARY\*

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08:30	Depart Kobe Bay Sheraton (Main Entrance)
10:30-11:15	Visit Kinkakuji Temple or Golden Pavilion (traditional Japanese garden)
11:30-12:00	Visit Heian Shrine
12:15-13:45	Kyoto Handicraft Center for lunch and (optional) shopping — bring money!
14:00-16:00	Visit Nomura Village (Hekiunso) to see its private Japanese garden, then visit Sanjusangendo Temple (Bus No. 1)
14:00-16:00	Visit Sanjusangendo Temple, then visit Nomura Village (Hekiunso) to see its private Japanese garden (Bus No. 2)
16:00	Depart
17:30	Arrival at Kobe bay Sheraton Hotel & Towers

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\*Times are subject to change due to traffic conditions

# THE OPEN FINAL: CHINA vs INDONESIA

## First Quarter (Boards 1-16):

Both teams had won their semifinals by significant margins against strong opponents. The final figured to be a close match between these two great bridge powers. Good for the spectators. Good for the tired analysts who were hoping for lots of natural bids and flat boards.

Well, the first part of this two-pronged hope materialized . . .

Bd: 1	North		
Dlr: North	♠ J8		
Vul: None	♥ J87		
	♦ A107643		
	♣ 32		
West			East
♠ 953			♠ A1062
♥ AK64			♥ 2
♦ K9			♦ 82
♣ K1097			♣ AJ8654
	South		
	♠ KQ74		
	♥ Q10953		
	♦ QJ5		
	♣ Q		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	DBL	Pass
3♣	3♦	4♣	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
	2♣(1)	DBL	3♦(2)
3NT	All Pass		
(1) Strong, ART; or weak with ♦			
(2) Assuming ♦			

Perhaps East should open the bidding, especially if he's playing Drury and likely to face a problem if partner should open 1♥ in third seat. 2♣ (Polish Club) was a bit rich for **Denny Sacul**, however, so he passed first, then risked a takeout double with a flaw in diamonds. He was delighted to find his partner bidding clubs, and

he competed to the four-level. **Ferdy Waluyan** did well not to bid five, hating his three small spades and mis-located ♥K. Plus 130.

**Munawar Sawirudin** had a weak 2♦ bid available to him and used it, going via a two-way 2♣ to get the job done. When **Zejun Zhuang** doubled to show clubs, **Honjun Xu** took a shot at 3NT. There were ten tricks on a diamond lead; plus 430. China struck the first blow, to the tune of 7 IMPs.

Bd: 2	North		
Dlr: East	♠ Q109864		
Vul: N/S	♥ 3		
	♦ 85		
	♣ Q874		
West			East
♠ A2			♠ 53
♥ 10654			♥ J2
♦ J9			♦ A107432
♣ AK1093			♣ J65
	South		
	♠ KJ7		
	♥ AKQ987		
	♦ KQ6		
	♣ 2		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
		Pass	1♥
2♣	Pass	Pass	DBL
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
DBL	4♠	5♣	DBL
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
		Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT(♠)	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

It's up to you whether to overcall 2♣, double for takeout, or pass. I'm a passer but I know that most of my partners and teammates wouldn't dream of it. When Xu passed, Munawar responded 1NT to show at least five spades and **Henky Lasut** bid a very conservative un-Henky-

like 3♠. Mun raised himself to game, got a club lead, a diamond shift to the ace, and a diamond continuation. He drew trumps for plus 620. Normal enough.

Waluyan preferred to overcall and I was surprised to see Sacul pass, notwithstanding the possibility of a raise being constructive. The vulnerability must be worth an extra queen or two. They seemed to be well out of it now, however, but when **Weimin Wang** tried for slam with a 4♣ cue-bid, Waluyan doubled, a gratuitous action at best. Sacul took this seriously and saved in 5♣. That went four down, minus 800, when Ferdy had to promote a second trump trick for **Xiaojing Wang** coming off dummy in diamonds after taking his second heart ruff. 5 IMPs to China, 12-0.

Bd: 3	North		
Dlr: South	♠ KQ985		
Vul: E/W	♥ K5		
	♦ AJ7		
	♣ K63		
West		East	
♠ 42		♠ A7	
♥ QJ9		♥ A6432	
♦ 985		♦ K642	
♣ A9842		♣ 107	
	South		
	♠ J1063		
	♥ 1087		
	♦ Q103		
	♣ QJ5		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
Pass	1NT	All Pass	Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
Pass	1♠	DBL	Pass
All Pass			3♠

Xiaojing's strong notrump silenced the table. He got a heart lead around to his king and knocked out the ♠A. Sacul continued with a low heart to the jack, then overtook the queen to finish hearts, but that was not good enough. He had to play a minor suit now to establish a seventh trick

for declarer. Had he followed with the ♥6 under the ♥Q, Ferdy would have switched to diamonds (suit preference) to set up the setting trick while he retained the ♣A. Plus 90.

Munawar's 1♠ opening tempted Zhuang to enter the auction with an off-center takeout double. That in turn tempted Lasut to jump to 3♠ where he might otherwise have bid 1NT or 2♠. Zhuang found the best lead of the ♣10, which Xu would have done best to duck. Then Zhuang could win the first trump and lead his remaining club to the ace, enabling Xu to find the good switch to the ♥Q, which would allow the defense to get all their red tricks and the club ruff whether or not Munawar covered. As it went, Xu won the ♣A (king from Munawar) and returned the ♥Q, covered. Still okay, since Zhuang could play his remaining club and put Xu in with a heart for the club ruff. No, Zhuang played a second heart and Mun was out for one down; minus 50. 5 IMPs to China, 17-0.

Bd: 4	North		
Dlr: West	♠ K8764		
Vul: Both	♥ Q1098		
	♦ ---		
	♣ AQJ8		
West		East	
♠ QJ92		♠ ---	
♥ A7		♥ 5432	
♦ A873		♦ QJ102	
♣ K105		♣ 97632	
	South		
	♠ A1053		
	♥ KJ6		
	♦ K9654		
	♣ 4		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
1♦	DBL	2NT*	DBL
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
1♦	DBL	Pass	Pass
1♠	DBL	2♦	DBL
All Pass			

Sacul was willing to get to the three-level in

diamonds, which was not going to be so lovely with the diamonds five-zero, but the position was not clear to Xiaojing, who went about the business of showing his five-card suit. With spades four-zero, Xiaojing needed to do something significant in clubs and he did, taking the straight finesse; plus 620. Lasut went for the throat at the other table, but his approach to the jugular was a bit premature. The lead of the ♥10 held, heart to the ace, ♠Q ruffed in dummy, heart ruff, spade ruff, heart ruffed with the ♦9 and overruffed, spade ruff, club to the king and ace, ♣Q, ruffed by Lasut, ♦K, ♠A. The ♦8 was Xu's seventh trick. One down; minus 200. 9 IMPs to China, 26-0.

Bd: 5	North		
Dlr: North	♠ 97		
Vul: N/S	♥ QJ8		
	♦ QJ1054		
	♣ 743		
West		East	
♠ A		♠ Q108654	
♥ K10765		♥ 4	
♦ K8762		♦ 9	
♣ Q6		♣ AJ1052	
	South		
	♠ KJ32		
	♥ A932		
	♦ A3		
	♣ K98		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♥(♥+m)	All Pass		
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
	Pass	Pass	1NT
2♥(♥+m)	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

Waluyan, left to flounder in 2♥, did very well to piece together seven tricks; minus 50. I'm not sure why Denny didn't try 2♠. Perhaps he feared that it was forcing. It's never easy to judge whether to compete with a hand like North's, and this time it would have been better for Munawar to try to defend, his heart holding urging auction. 3♦ went two down, vulnerable; minus 200. A further 6 IMPs to China, 32-0.

Bd: 6	North		
Dlr: East	♠ 103		
Vul: E/W	♥ AQJ753		
	♦ 642		
	♣ 94		
West		East	
♠ Q6		♠ KJ92	
♥ 1098		♥ K	
♦ AKQ105		♦ J73	
♣ Q102		♣ KJ875	
	South		
	♠ A8754		
	♥ 642		
	♦ 98		
	♣ A63		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
		1♣(1)	1♠
2♦	2♥	Pass	Pass
DBL*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	DBL	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		
(1) Polish-style			
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
		Pass	Pass
1♦	2♥	DBL*	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	DBL
Pass	Pass	4♦	All Pass

I agree with Zhuang's decision to pass the East hand, but he, like Sacul, reached a contract he couldn't make. 5♣ lost three aces; minus 100. In 4♦, Munawar found a winning defense: ♥A, ♣9. Had Lasut ducked this, he would have beaten the contract, but he won and played a trump; plus 130. 6 IMPs more to China, 38-0.

Three flat boards followed, one of which might have given Indonesia its first pickup. Then . . .



"Some days it just doesn't pay to get out of bed."

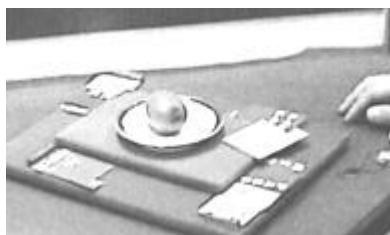


Bd: 10	North		
Dlr: East	♠ 1043		
Vul: Both	♥ J103		
	♦ 872		
	♣ QJ53		
West		East	
♠ QJ97		♠ K	
♥ 9762		♥ AK84	
♦ K53		♦ AQ10	
♣ 62		♣ AK1074	
	South		
	♠ A8652		
	♥ Q5		
	♦ J964		
	♣ 98		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
		1♣(1)	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣(2)	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	6♥	All Pass
(1) Polish-style; (2) The strong version			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
		2♣	Pass
2♦(NEU)	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Bd: 11	North		
Dlr: South	♠ AQ5		
Vul: None	♥ AKQJ832		
	♦ ---		
	♣ K75		
West		East	
♠ J1062		♠ 74	
♥ 97		♥ ---	
♦ AQJ952		♦ K843	
♣ A		♣ QJ98432	
	South		
	♠ K983		
	♥ 10654		
	♦ 1076		
	♣ 106		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
			Pass
1♦	DBL	2NT*	Pass
3♠	4♥	5♣	Pass
5♦	DBL	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
			Pass
1♦	4♥	All Pass	

4♥ made six, as it was entitled to do; plus 480. Not an easy slam to bid.

Waluyan's 1♥ was a slight overbid in the system, but it needn't have proved fatal. On this layout, RKCB would have revealed that both the ♠A and ♥Q were missing, with Ferdy marked with only four hearts. 6♥ was one down on a spade lead. Zhuang's 2NT rebid looks just right to me, the dangers notwithstanding. That led to a simple quantitative sequence to 4♥; plus 650. 13 IMPs to China, who were sitting on a 51-IMP lead while shutting out their opponents. How long could this last? . . . No longer.



"I was much happier before she made that bad play."

Even so, South has a sweet hand opposite a partner who can double and commit to 4♥ on his own, and I was surprised to see Weimin settle for a penalty against 5♦ doubled. Penalty? What penalty? Waluyan ruffed the ♥A in dummy, came to the ♣A, and might have ruffed a heart to play a spade to the ten and queen (South can't play the king with profit). North would be badly placed, but he could get off play with the ♣K. Declarer ruffs and leads a spade around to the nine. South returns a trump to dummy's eight and declarer plays good clubs through him to bring in the contract. If South plays anything but a trump, declarer gets his spade ruffs. If North plays a heart rather than the ♣K, declarer throws dummy's spade, ruffs in hand, and crossruffs. And if North plays spades, declarer gets his ruffs or ruffs out the ♠A.

Alas, Ferdy led the ♦J at trick three, overtook when North showed out, and ran the ♣Q to pitch

a spade. Xiaojing won and forced dummy with a heart. No, Ferdy threw a spade instead of accepting the force. Xiaojing cashed the ♠A. One down; minus 100. 9 IMPs to Indonesia, 9-51.

Bd: 12	North		
Dlr: West	♠ AK107		
Vul: N/S	♥ 8		
	♦ Q1073		
	♣ QJ84		
West		East	
♠ 964		♠ 2	
♥ AJ63		♥ K95	
♦ 98		♦ AK642	
♣ K932		♣ A1075	
	South		
	♠ QJ853		
	♥ Q10742		
	♦ J5		
	♣ 6		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥?
Pass	1♠	DBL	2♠
3♣	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♣	All Pass
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

4♣ went one down against the bad trump break; minus 50. 2♠ made three on the best lead of a trump; plus 140. 3 IMPs to Indonesia, 12-51.

Bd: 14	North		
Dlr: East	♠ AJ106		
Vul: None	♥ Q5		
	♦ AJ85432		
	♣ ---		
West		East	
♠ Q75		♠ K43	
♥ AKJ		♥ 1098	
♦ Q6		♦ 7	
♣ A9873		♣ KQJ1065	
	South		
	♠ 982		
	♥ 76432		
	♦ K109		
	♣ 42		

	Open Room			
West	North	East	South	
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin	
		Pass	Pass	
1NT	3♦	DBL*	Pass	
4♣	4♦	5♣	All Pass	
	Closed Room			
West	North	East	South	
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut	
		Pass	Pass	
1NT	DBL*	2NT*	Pass	
3NT	4♦	4NT	All Pass	

Munawar's card says that his double of 1NT was for penalties. Maybe so. He led his long suit against 4NT and soon had eight tricks pointed vertically in front of him; minus 250. Waluyan ruffed the second club in dummy in 5♣, drew trumps, led a spade to the king and a spade back, ducked to the ten (Xiaojing did not split his honors). After the ♠A, Xiaojing had to give him the hearts or concede a ruff-and-discard. Minus 50. 6 IMPs to Indonesia, 17-51.

Bd: 15	North		
Dlr: South	♠ AKJ42		
Vul: N/S	♥ J6		
	♦ Q98		
	♣ 1062		
West		East	
♠ 1063		♠ Q7	
♥ K742		♥ Q1053	
♦ 63		♦ K75	
♣ QJ75		♣ A843	
	South		
	♠ 985		
	♥ A98		
	♦ AJ1042		
	♣ K9		



"If I can't dazzle them with my bridge, I'll dazzle 'em with my shirt."

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
			1♦
Pass	1♠	DBL	RDBL(3♠)
2♥	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
			1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

4♠ was easy to make with the ♦K and ♣A onside; plus 620. 2NT was okay too on two rounds of clubs, but there was no game bonus for that; plus 150. 10 IMPs to China, 61-17.

Bd: 16	North		
Dlr: West	♠ Q952		
Vul: E/W	♥ AK8		
	♦ J1086		
	♣ 98		
West		East	
♠ AJ10		♠ 83	
♥ 74		♥ J953	
♦ Q7542		♦ K9	
♣ Q53		♣ K10742	
	South		
	♠ K764		
	♥ Q1062		
	♦ A3		
	♣ AJ6		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Waluyan	Xiaojing	Sacul	Weimin
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Munawar	Zhuang	Lasut
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Against Xiaojing's 2♠, Sacul led the ♦K, ace, spade to the queen, spade ducked to the ten.

Waluyan switched to a low club and held the contract to nine tricks; plus 140. Against Munawar's 4♠, Zhuang led a low heart around to the eight. A spade went to the king and ace and Xu switched to the ♦2, jack, king, ace. Munawar cashed the ♠Q and continued with the ♥AK. Xu ruffed with the master trump, and there were plenty of trumps left to handle Munawar's losers; plus 420. If Xu does not ruff, Munawar goes to the ♣A and plays the ♥Q. Xu does not ruff that either, and Munawar discards his club loser. On the ensuing diamond lead from dummy, Xu can win and resign or duck and watch Munawar crossruff. Better to have returned a trump after winning the ace. 7 IMPs to Indonesia to close out a losing set on a high note.

The Chinese team won the first quarter 61-24 and went to bed far happier than the Indonesians. With 48 boards to play on Sunday, the match was far from over, and everyone knew it.

### Second Quarter (Boards 17-32):

This was not the sort of result that Indonesia needed . . .

Bd: 17	North		
Dlr: North	♠ 864		
Vul: None	♥ 1095		
	♦ A874		
	♣ Q98		
West		East	
♠ J109		♠ 53	
♥ KQ62		♥ J84	
♦ Q65		♦ 10932	
♣ 732		♣ J1064	
	South		
	♠ AKQ72		
	♥ A73		
	♦ KJ		
	♣ AK5		

If North had held the ♠J or the tripleton ten with the jack dropping, slam would have had a play — the diamond finesse. As it was, it needed a diamond lead. I think that **Franky Karwur** did too much (see the next page for the auctions); 3NT over 3♠ would have given a good picture of his hand, but even in the end, he needed the final push to come from **Santje Panelewen** for slam to be a good bet. Minus 50.

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦(Neg)	Pass	2♥(1)
Pass	2♠(2)	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT		
(1) ♥ or 24+ HCP BAL; (2) Which?			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Panelwn	Zhuang	Karwur
	Pass	Pass	1♣(STR)
Pass	1♦(Neg)	Pass	1♥(20+ ART)
Pass	1NT(5-7)	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT(Wait)
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Although the Chinese auction was successful (plus 490 when Weimin Wang passed the ♦J after two rounds of spades), it strikes me as worrisome. Since South is unlimited and North would have to bid game with a zero-count, North has a very good hand for his 0-6 negative. He should raise 2NT to 4NT with a clear conscience. 11 IMPs to China, 72-24.



"This town ain't big enough for the both of us. You hear me, boy?"

Bd: 20	North		
Dlr: West	♠ KQ852		
Vul: Both	♥ K987		
	♦ J3		
	♣ 106		
West		East	
♠ J109		♠ 73	
♥ AJ43		♥ Q652	
♦ KQ9		♦ 87	
♣ 932		♣ AKJ75	
	South		
	♠ A64		
	♥ 10		
	♦ A106542		
	♣ Q84		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♥	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♥	All Pass
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Panelwn	Zhuang	Karwur
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♥	1♠	2♥	Pass
2♠	DBL	3♥	3♠
All Pass			

I confess that I'm mystified by Munawar's pass over 1♠ (see next column), but it didn't matter much this time; he reached 3♥ at his own pace. The difference was that his opponents, were more or less "bid out" at that point, and did not compete to 3♠. And while I'm in mystified mode, I can't help but mention Franky's pass over 2♥, which bears a passing resemblance to Munawar's pass over 1♠. Note that he too found himself in a position where it seemed wise to bid at the three-level. Isn't the two-level the best one for raising? The defense against 3♠ started with a high club, a diamond switch, a second club, and a heart to the ace. Santje got home quite comfortably from there; plus 140. Left in 3♥, Lasut lost two tricks in each major, one in each minor for minus 200. 2 IMPs to China.

Bd: 22	North		
Dlr: East	♠ J9		
Vul: E/W	♥ QJ6		
	♦ K102		
	♣ AKJ85		
West			East
♠ 10753			♠ KQ86
♥ A432			♥ 10985
♦ A653			♦ Q
♣ 4			♣ 10732
	South		
	♠ A42		
	♥ K7		
	♦ J9874		
	♣ Q96		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Panelwn	Zhuang	Karwur
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Both Easts led the ♥10 against 3NT, king, ace. Lasut continued hearts. Xiaojing won the ♥Q, crossed to the ♣Q, and led the ♦J, low . . . low, queen. Still time for a spade switch. No, Munawar led a third heart and Xiaojing tried to knock out the ♦A. Lasut ducked the ace twice; plus 430.

Xu found the switch to spades from the West side at trick two, nine, queen, low. He continued spades and Santje took the third spade to lead a diamond . . . ace from Xu to cash the setting trick. Well done indeed; minus 50. 10 IMPs to China, 86-24.



Portrait of the NZ mascot as an old man.

Bd: 23	North		
Dlr: South	♠ 87		
Vul: Both	♥ QJ82		
	♦ A2		
	♣ AQ1062		
West			East
♠ J32			♠ AQ9654
♥ 63			♥ A105
♦ KJ10976			♦ 85
♣ J3			♣ 94
	South		
	♠ K10		
	♥ K974		
	♦ Q43		
	♣ K875		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
		1♠	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	DBL*
2♠	3♥		4♥
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Panelwn	Zhuang	Karwur
		1♠	Pass
Pass	1♦(2+♦)	3♠	DBL*
2♠	3♣		3NT
All Pass			

Xiaojing's 4♥ was unbreakable, even with Munawar's excellent lead of the ♦8; plus 620. Franky's negative double did not promise four hearts, but did suggest such a holding. Santje's 3♣ showed a good hand, but so too would 3♥ or double. 3NT had no play on a spade lead; minus 200. 13 IMPs to China, 99-24.



Will the "real" kiwi please stand up and give the imposter a good, swift kick.

Bd: 25 North  
 Dir: North ♠ AJ984  
 Vul: E/W ♥ J862  
 ♦ 63  
 ♣ Q10

West East  
 ♠ K1053 ♠ Q72  
 ♥ 109 ♥ Q543  
 ♦ Q10842 ♦ KJ95  
 ♣ 82 ♣ J9

South  
 ♠ 6  
 ♥ AK7  
 ♦ A7  
 ♣ AK76543

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaoqing	Munawar	Weimin
	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Xu	Panelwn	Zhuang	Karwur
	Pass	Pass	1♣(STR)
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	DBL	Pass
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

6♣ needs the doubleton queen of hearts or some miracle in spades, perhaps with a finesse of the ♣10 to take advantage of it. Or ten-nine doubleton of hearts with declarer having the wit to lead the jack from dummy on the first or second round. So Franky was not without resource in his slam contract, and perhaps it was a good idea to try it at the state of the match. Alas, he misguessed after a diamond lead, ducked, and a trump switch from Zuang, playing off ace-king of hearts near the end. One down; minus 50.

Xiaoqing's 4♥ looks very wrong to me, since 3♥ is forcing and leaves South the opportunity to show why he reversed. Whatever 4♥ means, fast arrival is not the best choice. A fifth trump and weakish hand might be okay, but I prefer the picture approach — good spades, decent four-card heart support, two-two in the minors with no

controls in those suits. If you're not going to open 2♣ (I'm with Weimin here), then 2♥ is foisted on you. He had no idea what to do over 4♥, and finally passed. Diamond lead, ducked, good spade switch to the king and ace. It is not clear how to proceed here, but Weimin chose a line that would work against three-three trumps or four trumps in West in combination with at least two clubs. He played ♥AK, then started clubs, discarding a spade from dummy. Munawar ruffed with the ♥5 and had only to cash the ♥Q and the ♠Q to defeat the contract. But Mun was very tired and switched back to diamonds without cashing the ♥K. Given new life, Weimin won the ace and continued clubs, losing only to the ♥Q; plus 420. 10 IMPs more to China, 109-24.

Bd: 26 North  
 Dir: East ♠ A953  
 Vul: Both ♥ KJ986  
 ♦ AJ  
 ♣ J6

West East  
 ♠ QJ ♠ K642  
 ♥ Q ♥ 107532  
 ♦ 109653 ♦ K42  
 ♣ A10843 ♣ 5

South  
 ♠ 1087  
 ♥ A4  
 ♦ Q87  
 ♣ KQ972

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaoqing	Munawar	Weimin
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦(INQ)	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Xu	Panelwn	Zhuang	Karwur
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Karwur, who created a diversion on the way to 3NT, got a low club lead from Xu. He overtook dummy's six to play a second club but Xu ducked and the jack won, diamond from Zhuang. Placing Zhuang with heart length, Franky called

for the ♥J, a good shot that deserved a better fate. Xu scooped in his blank queen and switched to the ♦10, jack, king. A second diamond went to the ace and a heart to the ace brought the dreadful news. The ♣Q drove out the ace and Xu switched to the ♠Q, which Franky took to play a second spade. Zhuang put up the king, felling the jack, and Franky unblocked the ten. On the spade continuation, he could not overtake his seven with profit, so he remained in his hand to cash the ♦Q and the ♣K, but Xu had the last trick with the ♣10. A breathless one down; minus 100.

Weimin, who elected to open 1♣, got the lead of the ♦5 from Lasut, which looks unfavorable for declarer. Weimin ducked to the king, won the second diamond in dummy, and led the ♣J, taken by Lasut to clear diamonds. Weimin cashed two high clubs and Munawar discarded two spades. Now ♥A, heart to the eight. Munawar, out of minor-suit cards, had to give dummy the tricks required for the contract; plus 600. 12 IMPs more to China, who had done even better to start the second set than they had done to start the first. So far they had run off 60 IMPs without reply and led by nearly 100 IMPs overall, 121-24.

How long could they keep this up?

Not so long. Deja voodoo.

Bd: 27	North	
Dlr: South	♠ J1086	
Vul: None	♥ 1093	
	♦ AQ10	
	♣ 875	
West		East
♠ 753		♠ 42
♥ K42		♥ AQ5
♦ K865		♦ 9732
♣ A94		♣ KQJ6
	South	
	♠ AKQ9	
	♥ J876	
	♦ J4	
	♣ 1032	

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♦	DBL
RDBL	1♠	2♣	Pass
2♦	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Panelwn	Zhuang	Karwur
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣	DBL
RDBL	1♠	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Karwur's raise to 2♠ stole the pot. And when the defense slipped, Panelewen was plus 110 and in there running for a pickup. Not much of a slip, really, Zhuang leading a sensible trump to try to protect his side's high cards. This time it was important to cash out. Santje could draw trumps and finesse against the ♦K to discard a club from dummy to make his contract. Munawar's 1♦ opening enabled Lasut to compete to 2♦ and no one disturbed that. Munawar lost three diamonds and two spades for plus 90. 5 IMPs to Indonesia, ending the long Chinese run. 29-121.

It was 124-31 when the penultimate deal of the session appeared . . .

Bd: 31	North	
Dlr: South	♠ 87642	
Vul: N/S	♥ AK	
	♦ J5	
	♣ K976	
West		East
♠ 53		♠ J109
♥ J98752		♥ Q106
♦ K84		♦ Q109762
♣ 108		♣ 5
	South	
	♠ AKQ	
	♥ 43	
	♦ A3	
	♣ AQJ432	

(Auction, top of next column.)

### Third Quarter (Boards 33-48):

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
			2NT
Pass	3♣(1)	Pass	3♦(2)
Pass	3♥(4♠)	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥(♣)	All Pass	
(1) Modified Baron; (2) no 4♥ or 5♠			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Panelwn	Zhuang	Karwur
			1♣(STR)
2♥	2♠	4♥	Pass
Pass	DBL	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

Bd: 33	North		
Dlr: North	♠ 1062		
Vul: None	♥ KQ74		
	♦ K96		
	♣ 975		
West		East	
♠ K98		♠ J73	
♥ 963		♥ J85	
♦ AJ84		♦ Q7	
♣ AQ10		♣ J8643	
	South		
	♠ AQ54		
	♥ A102		
	♦ 10532		
	♣ K2		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
	Pass	Pass	1♦
DBL	1♥	Pass	1♠
All Pass			

This is a virtually laydown 7♣, and Panelewen-Karwur could not have been happy to miss it (I'm not sure whether 4NT was RKCB for spades or a general slam try, but Franky might well have bid 7♣ over six. What could Santje have for his positive 2♠ and jump to slam? Well, perhaps not. It's never easy to bid seven in these auctions with any confidence. Plus 1390. This had been a depressing set for Indonesia, but imagine their surprise to learn that they had won 18 IMPs on one of their poor boards. Weimin Wang forgot the system and passed Xiaojing's artificial continuation. 4♥ went down four; minus 400. Those 18 IMPs made the score 49-124 and with Board 32 flat, the first half ended with China sitting on a cool 75-IMP lead.

No one could have predicted this result. The match was not over, but Indonesia would need a huge effort to get back into it.



"Sometimes coping with reality can get to be just too much."

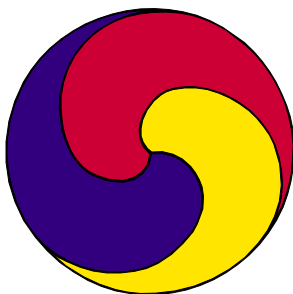
Xu's takeout double would not win any beauty contests, but by all rights it should have convinced Zhuang to compete to 2♣, which would have made since the spade suit was frozen. Or it might have nudged Sacul-Waluyan into 2♦ or two-of-a-major, with the result at issue. Ferdy made an overtrick in 1♠ but the play record suggests that he did not; plus 110. When Lasut did not come in over 1♦, there was no second chance; plus 80. 1 IMP to Indonesia, bringing them to the half-century mark, 50-124.

Not much of a start on the road back, but a start nonetheless. Given the long run by China in each of the first two segments, Indonesia was grateful to be able to get on the board first.



Bd: 34	North		
Dlr: East	♠ K1092		
Vul: N/S	♥ AQ3		
	♦ KQ6		
	♣ A42		
West		East	
♠ J7		♠ Q8	
♥ J1085		♥ K2	
♦ 72		♦ AJ985	
♣ Q10953		♣ J876	
	South		
	♠ A6543		
	♥ 9764		
	♦ 1043		
	♣ K		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
		1♦	Pass
1♥	1NT	All Pass	
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣(1)	1♦	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦*
DBL	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Munawar's light opening bid set the Wangs a problem that Sacul-Waluyan did not have to face at the other table. Should South bid over 1NT? Oh very yes, since he should have an invitational sequence in his bag and both four-of-a-major might be easy, even routine opposite a potential 18-count. On a diamond lead dummy's ten held and Xiaojing took ten tricks; plus 180. In 4♠, Ferdy got a diamond lead, the king holding. ♠A, ♣K, spade to the king, ♣A to discard a diamond, club ruff, ♥A, diamond to the jack. Zhuang cashed the ♥K; plus 650. 10 IMPs to Indonesia. Hope springs eternal, 60-124. Lots of time.



Bd: 35	North		
Dlr: South	♠ K32		
Vul: E/W	♥ QJ75		
	♦ 2		
	♣ Q9843		
West		East	
♠ AJ10964		♠ 75	
♥ K		♥ 862	
♦ 1075		♦ AKJ864	
♣ K52		♣ J10	
	South		
	♠ Q8		
	♥ A10943		
	♦ Q93		
	♣ A76		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
			1♥
1♠	2♠(♥)	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
			1♥
1♠	2♠(♥)	3♦	Pass
3♠	4♥	All Pass	

Who would you bet on — declarer or the other guys? Diamond to the king, spade to the ace, spade. Weimin won the queen, ruffed a diamond, and led the ♠K, ruffed and overruffed. Then he played the ace of trumps. Bingo; plus 420. Waluyan made the same play in trumps, but a trick earlier. No swing. China, 124-60.

Bd: 37	North		
Dlr: North	♠ AK72		
Vul: N/S	♥ 10743		
	♦ 96		
	♣ A74		
West		East	
♠ 865		♠ Q104	
♥ Q98652		♥ AJ	
♦ AJ2		♦ Q87	
♣ 8		♣ KJ932	
	South		
	♠ J93		
	♥ K		
	♦ K10543		
	♣ Q1065		

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaoqing	Munawar	Weimin
	1♣	Pass	2♣
2♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

5♣ doubled was one down, minus 100; 4♠ was cold for plus 620. In effect, Waluyan had done better than Weimin by getting his suits into the game in natural order, then leaving the rest to his partner. In contrast, Weimin had to make the partnership decision himself at the five-level. That sounds good on paper (at least it does to me) but in practice, Sacul had too much defense to save against a game that his opponents had been unwilling to bid directly. While I consider the 11 IMPs that China gained to be somewhat tainted, there will be no convincing them to give them back; 141-60.

This time it was a light opening bid by Xiaoqing Wang that gave his opponents a hard ride. Lasut stretched to introduce his six-card suit, but had no good options over Munawar's 3NT. 4♥ was two down; minus 100. Xu's untroubled 2♥ made two on the same revealing lead of the ♠A; plus 110. 5 IMPs to China, 130-60.

Bd: 38	North		
Dlr: East	♠ Q106		
Vul: E/W	♥ AK10		
	♦ Q9		
	♣ Q7643		
West		East	
♠ K432		♠ AJ9875	
♥ Q7		♥ J965	
♦ AKJ86		♦ 103	
♣ 85		♣ J	
	South		
	♠ ---		
	♥ 8432		
	♦ 7542		
	♣ AK1092		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaoqing	Munawar	Weimin
	1♣	Pass	Pass
1♦	DBL	1♠	2♥
2♠	Pass	4♠	5♣
DBL	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	DBL	1♠	2♣
2♠	3♣	3♠	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Bd: 41	North		
Dlr: North	♠ A1096		
Vul: E/W	♥ 3		
	♦ Q103		
	♣ A9872		
West		East	
♠ KQJ		♠ 8754	
♥ 9854		♥ K6	
♦ J7		♦ AK8	
♣ KJ65		♣ Q1043	
	South		
	♠ 32		
	♥ AQJ1072		
	♦ 96542		
	♣ ---		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaoqing	Munawar	Weimin
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
All Pass			
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
	Pass	1♣	4♥
DBL	All Pass		

I like Ferdy's direct bash and don't much care for Weimin's gentle 2♥ rebid opposite a partner who could open the bidding, but the cards needn't have been as friendly as they were for Indonesia's Mr Bridge. Spade lead, ace, ♣A to throw a spade, trump to the ten and a diamond to the jack, queen, and king. Ferdy ruffed the spade return and played another diamond, and had enough trumps to withstand another force. Zhuang, realizing that, gave Xu a diamond ruff to hold the contract to plus 590 (when Ferdy

commanded the ♥K to fall under the ace). Weimin, playing safely, made two; plus 110. 10 IMPs to Indonesia, 70-141.

Bd: 44	North		
Dlr: West	♠ J10752		
Vul: N/S	♥ KQ85		
	♦ AK65		
	♣ ---		
West		East	
♠ AQ94		♠ 8	
♥ ---		♥ 976	
♦ Q1072		♦ 943	
♣ J9876		♣ AK10542	
	South		
	♠ K63		
	♥ AJ10432		
	♦ J8		
	♣ Q3		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
Pass	1♠	3♣	3♥
5♣	6♥	All Pass	
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♣(SPL)	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Xiaojing's wild shot at 6♥ did not catch one of the few spade positions that would have allowed the slam to make. Waluyan's conservative decision to settle for game worked well at the other table. I am not sure why Zhuang did not overcall 3♣ in the fashion of Munawar. Plus 650, minus 100. 13 IMPs to Indonesia, who sorely needed them, 86-141.



"By day, a mild mannered bridge player. But by night, he turns into ... Superman."

Bd: 47	North		
Dlr: South	♠ 2		
Vul: N/S	♥ 63		
	♦ KQ8762		
	♣ K953		
West		East	
♠ KJ63		♠ 109875	
♥ AJ42		♥ 98	
♦ A9		♦ J105	
♣ A106		♣ QJ2	
	South		
	♠ AQ4		
	♥ KQ1075		
	♦ 43		
	♣ 874		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
1NT	2♦	2♠	1♥
4♠	All Pass		Pass
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
1NT	2♦	2♠	1♥
			All Pass

Xu's restraint over the competitive 2♠ was admirable. Although the spade honors are onside, the club finesse is not, and even 3♠ is in some jeopardy. Munawar, in four, made three; Zhuang, in two, made two. China won the board, plus 110 and plus 50. 4 IMPs.

Indonesia won the third segment by 16 IMPs, 37-21, and with sixteen boards left to play, trailed China but a not insignificant 59 IMPs, 86-145.

Fourth Quarter (Boards 49-64):

Bd: 49	North			
Dlr: North	♠ J2			
Vul: None	♥ KQ53			
	♦ QJ5			
	♣ AK94			
West			East	
♠ K1085			♠ Q974	
♥ A102			♥ J96	
♦ A10432			♦ 6	
♣ J			♣ Q10765	
	South			
	♠ A63			
	♥ 874			
	♦ K987			
	♣ 832			
	Open Room			
West	North	East	South	
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin	
	1NT	All Pass		
	Closed Room			
West	North	East	South	
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan	
	1NT	Pass	Pass	
DBL(1)	Pass	2♣(P/C)	DBL(T/O)	
2♦	2♥	All Pass		

In 1NT, Xiaojing got a club lead to the jack and king. The ♦J held, but the ♦Q lost to the ace. Back came a spade. Now, although Jiaojing had two entries to dummy to lead hearts towards his hand he could not use the ♦K without setting up Lasut's diamonds. Two down, minus 100.

It did not seem as if Denny Sacul's 2♥ would do much better, but he made it: Diamond to the ace, club switch, ace, ♥K to the ace, diamond ruff, club ruff, diamond ruff . . . spade. Oops. Sacul won the ace, drew the last trump (extracting a wince from Zhuang), crossed to the ♥8, and threw his spade loser on the ♦K; plus 110. 5 IMPs to Indonesia. A start, 91-145.

Bd: 50	North			
Dlr: East	♠ A3			
Vul: N/S	♥ 873			
	♦ A83			
	♣ A8742			
West			East	
♠ KJ52			♠ 10876	
♥ J5			♥ Q109	
♦ J1074			♦ KQ65	
♣ QJ10			♣ 65	
	South			
	♠ Q94			
	♥ AK642			
	♦ 92			
	♣ K93			
	Open Room			
West	North	East	South	
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin	
		Pass	1♥	
Pass	2♣	DBL!	3♣	
3♠	4♥	All Pass		
	Closed Room			
West	North	East	South	
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan	
		Pass	1♥	
Pass	2♣(FG)	Pass	2♥	
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass!	
Pass				

It will take us more time than we currently have to determine whether Ferdy passed Denny's forcing 3♥ intentionally, but in theory, his undisciplined decision saved a plus score for his side. On Xu's lead of the ♦J, Ferdy could not come to ten tricks: ♦A, ♥A, ♥K, ♣K, ♣A, club to West, diamond over, spade through the queen. Zhuang could ruff the fourth club and cash a spade; plus 140. Would this weird result be the catalyst to start an Indonesian rally?

Nope. Munawar's cavalier takeout double did not provoke Lasut into jumping to 4♠ ( minus 800 or so) but it did convince him to lead a spade against the normal 4♥, giving away the contract; plus 620. 13 IMPs to China, 158-91.

Bd: 51	North		
Dlr: South	♠ 108765		
Vul: E/W	♥ QJ8		
	♦ QJ104		
	♣ 7		
West		East	
♠ 2		♠ J43	
♥ AK932		♥ 76	
♦ A982		♦ K63	
♣ AK3		♣ Q9865	
	South		
	♠ AKQ9		
	♥ 1054		
	♦ 75		
	♣ J1042		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠(1NT)	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	All Pass		
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

Bd: 55	North		
Dlr: South	♠ 3		
Vul: Both	♥ K4		
	♦ Q1075		
	♣ AKJ432		
West		East	
♠ KJ10862		♠ 9754	
♥ 53		♥ QJ1072	
♦ 6		♦ A942	
♣ 9875		♣ ---	
	South		
	♠ AQ		
	♥ A986		
	♦ KJ83		
	♣ Q106		
Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
			1NT
Pass	2NT(♣)	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♦(RKCB)	Pass	5♣(2+♣Q)
Pass	6♣	All Pass	
Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
			1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

Two remarkable auctions to successful contracts (with clubs four-one, you won't make 5♣ and 4♥ is likely to yield only nine tricks on spade forces). Why remarkable? Because both Wests intended their 3♣ bid as forcing (don't let them tell you otherwise). Consider how Henky, new to natural bidding, must have felt about this lovely picture-painting sequence (look ma, no jumping) that got him plus 150, one trick more than Xu. 1 IMP to Indonesia, 92-158.

It was China by 68 IMPs, 160-92 when Board 55 flashed up on the Vugraph screen . . .

6♣ went one down in a hurry on the singleton diamond lead and a diamond ruff; an unlucky minus 100. 6♦ was played from the right side on this layout since there was no club ruff, Sacul won the heart lead in hand and drove out the trump ace; plus 1370. 16 IMPs to Indonesia, who were within 52 IMPs at 108-160, with nine deals remaining.

Bd: 57	North			
Dlr: North	♠ 83			
Vul: E/W	♥ AJ1087			
	♦ A109852			
	♣ ---			
West			East	
♠ J96542			♠ Q10	
♥ K6			♥ Q953	
♦ ---			♦ J763	
♣ J10432			♣ 965	
	South			
	♠ AK7			
	♥ 42			
	♦ KQ4			
	♣ AKQ87			
	Open Room			
West	North	East	South	
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin	
	1♥	Pass	2♣	
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT	
Pass	3♦	Pass	4NT	
Pass	5♥	Pass	5NT	
Pass	6♦	Pass	7♦	
DBL	All Pass			
	Closed Room			
West	North	East	South	
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan	
	1♥	Pass	2♣	
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠*	
Pass	3♦	Pass	4NT	
Pass	5♥	Pass	5♠	
Pass	6♦	Pass	7♦	
All Pass				

7♦ was simply too high, and I'm not sure why both Souths thought they could make it. Both declarers took twelve tricks so Lasut's enterprising penalty double brought in 2 IMPs, 110-160.

Bd: 58	North			
Dlr: East	♠ 85			
Vul: Both	♥ A9			
	♦ Q743			
	♣ Q9752			
West			East	
♠ Q4			♠ J32	
♥ 10642			♥ QJ75	
♦ K105			♦ 82	
♣ J863			♣ AK104	
	South			
	♠ AK10976			
	♥ K83			
	♦ AJ96			
	♣ ---			
	Open Room			
West	North	East	South	
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin	
		Pass	1♠	
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦	
Pass	Pass	DBL	2♠	
All Pass				
	Closed Room			
West	North	East	South	
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan	
		Pass	1♠	
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦	
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥	
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠	
All Pass				

Xiaojing will not pass 2♠ the next time this sequence comes up. Both declarers took eleven tricks, but that was 10 IMPs to Indonesia, 650 vs 200. Suddenly the once-awesome Chinese lead was no longer over the horizon. It was 160-120, just 40 IMPs.

An overtrick IMP to China made it 161-120, but then . . .

Bd: 60	North		
Dlr: West	♠ 876		
Vul: N/S	♥ A42		
	♦ A108		
	♣ AJ103		
West		East	
♠ 105		♠ KJ42	
♥ J8765		♥ K1093	
♦ J2		♦ 76543	
♣ Q762		♣ ---	
	South		
	♠ AQ93		
	♥ Q		
	♦ KQ9		
	♣ K9854		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦(INQ)
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♣
All Pass			
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
Pass	1♣(1)	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣(INQ)
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

6♣ is not a very good contract, but Denny made it easily enough by ruffing two hearts, negotiating trumps successfully, and eventually taking the spade finesse (with trumps four-zero he could not afford the luxury of cashing the ♠A first before leading towards the queen); plus 1370.

Xiaojing had to play skillfully in 6♣ after leading a club to his ace at trick two (diamond lead). He ran the ♠8 to the ten, won the diamond continuation in hand, ran the ♣J to the queen, won the heart return, drew trumps, led a spade to the . . . nine, crossed to the ♦10 and led a spade to the queen. A scary plus 600, but 13 IMPs to Indonesia, who were breathing down China's neck, 26 IMPs back at 133-161.

But 62 was a dull deal that gave China 1 IMP, 162-133.

Bd: 63	North		
Dlr: South	♠ QJ4		
Vul: N/S	♥ J92		
	♦ KQ1075		
	♣ K8		
West		East	
♠ K10983		♠ 62	
♥ KQ10		♥ 7654	
♦ 8		♦ AJ643	
♣ QJ62		♣ 105	
	South		
	♠ A75		
	♥ A83		
	♦ 92		
	♣ A9743		
	Open Room		
West	North	East	South
Lasut	Xiaojing	Munawar	Weimin
			1♣
1♠	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
	Closed Room		
West	North	East	South
Xu	Sacul	Zhuang	Waluyan
			1♣
1♠	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Both Souths declared 3NT on the lead of a heart honor by West, five from East (why not the six?). Weimin won the ace and ran the ♦9 to Munawar's jack, collecting the eight. Munawar switched to the ♠6 ducked. That should have been good enough to set the contract when Weimin ducked to the king since Lasut could revert to hearts while Mun retained the ♦A. But Henky ducked the spade, and now Weimin crossed to the ♣A and carefully led a heart rather than a diamond. Henky had no answer. He could win and play a heart to set up Mun's long heart, but would never make the ♠K, or he could knock out the ♣K, but never get back in to cash the club winners. How positively revolting; plus 600.

Ferdy won the ♥A and also led a diamond, but he chose the deuce and now the suit was blocked for his purposes. Zhuang took the ♦K with the ace to play a spade, ducked. Here Xu won the king and continued spades. Ferdy won in hand and led the ♦9, but could not overtake. Zhuang ducked and Ferdy played a heart up, but

Xu won and played a third heart, and The defense had a spade, two hearts, and two diamonds after all for one down; minus 100. 12 IMPs to China, 174-133.

On the last deal, Xu gave away a nonvulnerable game with careless defense to give Indonesia 10 IMPs, but it was too late. There were no boards left.

Indonesia won the last set 57-29 and threw a scare into their opponents, but China hung on to win the 38<sup>th</sup> PABF Open Teams title by 31 IMPs, 174-143.

So China wins the two big ones. Congratulations to both of those teams, and also to the runnersup, Australia (Women) and Indonesia, who acquitted themselves well in defeat.



Sayonara — Have a safe trip home!