

28th November to 3rd December 2014

Dubai was yet again the centre of a Global Bridge news broadcast as a gargantuan festival was hosted and where 242 participants from over 20 countries descended to display their wits to win coveted trophies and total prize money of over \$40,000 in open pairs, mixed pairs and teams events.

It was a decade ago when a festival, perhaps on a slightly smaller scale was organized by (Late) Mr. Qasim Noorani and was the benchmark for this National Day event.

Mr. Amr Mekky rose to the occasion to re-enact the festival and sought the assistance of other bridge enthusiasts, Mr. Ahmed Al Midfa, Mr. Darshan Valrani and Mrs. Roxana Jaffer who gave birth to the association aptly named "The 4Jacks".

"The 4Jacks" were ably aided by Mrs. Durriyah Vasi and Ms Kezia Da Rocha in the organisation and the assistance from both Jordan Bridge Association and Egypt Bridge Federation was invaluable.

"The 4Jacks" are indebted to the sponsors - United Arab Bank, National Paints, Nasco, Aigner, and Swiss Arabian, without whose support the event would not have been possible.

The organizers were indeed overwhelmed with the response and said, "We were planning for 40 tables, but to salute over 60 tables was beyond our imagination." However, their pro-activeness paid off, as the experience of the Tournament Director, Mr. Waleed and his team - brought in from Egypt for the occasion - managed all the movements and scoring with great ease.

Whilst it was wonderful to see so many countries participating, it was delightful to see a cross-section of ages competing and worth mentioning are the 18 year old Australian Renee Cooper, to a 91 year old very agile Kenyan Mudi Deen - Bravo.

The programme was spread over three sessions of pairs, two sessions of mixed, and the team event culminating in the non qualifiers of the team playing for the coveted "Qasim Noorani Plate"

In addition to the adrenalin rush of the tournaments, special gifts, continuous refreshments and complimentary snacks at the end of each session, a welcome banquet over-looking the Burj Al Arab at the open Terrace of the Holiday Inn - Dubai, and a Gala Prize giving dinner were the highlights.

Bridge Enthusiasts that did not participate this year ... 2015 will see a recurrence, so don't be disappointed - Happy New Year.

**VENUE: MEDIA ROTANA - TECOM BARSHA HIEGHTS
P.O. BOX 503030 DUBAI UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**





Durriyah & Kezia



Winners of Open Pairs



Trophies

Some highlights

