

Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter

Editor: T.C. Pant

Vol. 2 Issue 8 – January 2005

President: M.D. Dalmia

Hon. Secretary: R.K. Gupta

Regt. Office: 18, Institutional Area, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi

KIRAN's Team wins at Dubai

The team of Mrs. Kiran Nadar won the Team of Four event in the Sharjah Bridge Festival 2005 held at Dubai from 9th to 14th Jan 2005.

Total 41 teams participated in the T-4 event, played over 2 days. After playing a round robin, the top 4 teams went through to the Super league. The team "NADAR" was lucky to reach the last four stage, when they scored full 25 VPs in their last league match.

As per the tournament rules, team winning all the 3 matches in the Super league was to be declared as the WINNERS. Kiran's team won the first match against the all-powerful Norwegian-UK combine team (having Geir Helgemo. Tor Helness & Hackett in their ranks) by 17-13, won the second match against the Pakistan team by 16-14 and won the 3rd match against the Egyptian team by 16-14 to win the event with a total of 49 VPs.

The Egyptian team "ASKALANI" with 52 VPs (highest score with one loss to team "NADAR") was second, "ULTIMATE CLUB" a Norway-UK combine with 49 VPs was third and "KAMRAN IV" from Pakistan was 4th with 34 VPs. Mrs. Kiran Nadar, B. Satyanarayana, Subhash Gupta & Sunit Chokshi represented the winners.

2 more events were played in the tournament. Kareem Zaher – Daad Rayi with a score of 61.9%, won the one-day Mixed Pair event.

120 pairs participated in the 3-days Open Pairs event. John Armstrong – Brian Callaghan with a score of 65.23% came first. The famous Norwegian pair of Helgemo-Helness with 62.77% score was second & the Indian pair of J.M. Shah – Ian Concessio was third with 62.11%. It turned out to be quite high scoring final. Kirubakara Moorthy – K.R. Venkatraman with 57.57% were ranked 14th. Subhash Gupta – Sunit Chokshi & Kiran – Satya with a score of around 53% were ranked below 20th position.

- Reported by Editor

(Courtesy: information by Satya & Subhash and the Sharjah Bridge Festival Web Site)

The RAILWAYS SUPREMACY

The year 2004 was too good for the Indian Railways team (Railways "A") as they won nearly all the TOP tournaments of India.

The representatives of the Railways "A" team - Manas Mukherjee, Rana Roy, Pritish Kushari, Sumit Mukherjee, Amar Nath Banerjee and Hasibul Hasan have played remarkably well the whole year and have won the T.P. Khosla Trophy for T-4 in the Summer Nationals at Kasauli, the Tolani Trophy event at Mumbai and last month they took the Ruia Trophy for T-4 as well as won the Board-a-match event in the Winter Nationals at Vizag.

They also won the selection trails at Mumbai to represent India in the Bridge Olympiad at Istanbul and gave a spirited performance in the event.

By virtue of these victories, the Indian Railways team has qualified to directly play the Finals of the National Selection Trials to be held at Chennai from 26th Feb 2005.

Not only the top Railways "A" team but the two other teams of Railways – known as Railways "B" & Railways "C" gave excellent performance in reaching the last 8 stage at Winter Nationals.

In fact the year 2004 started in style for the Railways team when they won the Ruia Trophy in the 45th Winter Nationals at Aurangabad. Their opponents in the finals were also another Railways team.

Manas – Rana also won Pairs event of the PHD-GPI 2004 tournament at New Delhi.

The consistency of the team has been of highest order and they have been able to maintain it throughout a tournament. They are a bunch of simpletons and you rarely see the team discussing a hand in higher decibels any time, whether it is good or bad result.

GREAT WORK RAILWAYS – KEEP IT UP.

- Reported by Editor

Forcing No-trump

In the earlier days of bridge, four-card majors were opened commonly. However, today very few partnerships open four-card majors. Most of the bridge players open five-card majors, whether they play Standard or Precision system. The main reason for this is that five-card majors are easier to play.

In standard bidding, 1NT response to partner's major-suit opening bid is non-forcing. However, today most of the partnerships that play five-card majors play Forcing One No-trump response to major suit opening bid. In this article, we would discuss in detail the Forcing No-trump, as many Bridge players in spite of being good card players don't have clear understanding of this important bridge convention.

A) What is Forcing No-trump

When playing Forcing No-trump, the one no-trump response to a major-suit opening generally shows 5-12 HCP and is forcing on the opener for one round. However, responder who has bid the forcing 1NT does not promise a re-bid. The forcing no-trump response helps to narrow down the ranges of other bids by the responder and makes bidding easier for some difficult hands although you can no longer play 1NT contract. The hands in which 1NT will be the correct contract occur rather infrequently. Therefore, missing a possible 1NT contract seems a small price to pay in exchange for a tool that works better on most hands. The 1NT forcing response covers following types of hands:

- Weak hands - containing a long suit or worth a raise of opener's suit (5-7 HCP and 3 cards in major).
- Hands that would respond a non-forcing 1NT.
- 3-card support and invitational hand of 10-12 HCP (3-card limit raise hand).
- Balanced hands of 10+ -12HCP and can also be 13-15 HCP (depending on partnership style) with a maximum doubleton in opener's major suit.

B) Re-bids by Opener after Forcing No-trump Response

Since the opener has already promised five-card length with his opening bid, re-bidding his suit after the forcing no-trump shows extra length – minimum 6 cards. Therefore, with a balanced hand of 5-3-3-2 distribution, opener must bid his cheapest 3-card minor suit. However in a hand containing 5 hearts and 4 spades not good enough to reverse, opener may have to bid 2C with a 4-5-2-2 distribution or re-bid his 5-card heart suit, if the suit is of exceptional quality. The following is the re-bid structure available to opener:

- Re-bid the major suit at 2-level with 6-cards and up to 15 – Bad 16 HCP.
- Bid a minor suit at 2 level with 3+ cards and up to 17-18 HCP.
- Bid a new major suit at 2 level with 4+ cards – If new major is hearts then points may be up to 17 HCP where as if new major suit is spades then this constitutes a reverse and shows 17+ HCP.
- Bid 2NT – Shows a 5-3-3-2 hand and 17-18 HCP.
- Jump re-bid the major suit at three level with good 6+ cards and 16-18 HCP.
- Jump in a new suit at three level is game forcing with 4+ cards and 19+ HCP. With a 6-4 or 5-5 distribution and good suit, the points can be 17+. Jump bid in a minor can sometimes be 3-cards only if opener has a single suiter GF hand and no convenient re-bid is available to him.
- Jump to 3NT – Shows a balanced hand and 19-20 HCP.
- Jump to 4 of Opener's major suit – to play with at least 7-card suit.

C) Advantages and Disadvantages of Forcing No-trump Response

- You can no longer play in 1NT, which may be the only makeable contract.
- Since opener's minor suit re-bid at two level can be of 3-cards, this sometimes creates difficulties and you may land up playing in 4-3 or 3-3 fit although you may have a 5-3 fit available.
- Weak hands containing a six-card suit can be easily handled.
- 3-card limit raise can be easily distinguished with the help of forcing no-trump.
- Raise of opener's suit can be in 2 ways – direct raise with 8-10 points and indirect via forcing 1NT with up-to 7 points and also you can play jump to 3-level directly as preemptive raise with 4 trumps.
- As responder can bid 1NT with GF hands, 2 over 1 response promises a reasonable suit.

Although we would definitely recommend Forcing No-trump, but the concept of Semi-Forcing No-trump, introduced to me by Mr. Subhash Gupta is definitely superior. We will continue our discussion on re-bids by responder and further developments and Semi Forcing No-trump Response, in our next issue. We will also discuss transfer methods which responder can use after opener re-bids his major suit.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

Local Bridge News & Results

Delhi Bridge Association Tuesday Pairs Event - Results

04/01/2005 - 10 Tables

NS 1: Anand Bhatia - V.N. Puri	60.42%
NS 1: Sudhir Aggarwal - Amod Rele	60.42%
EW 1: Joyjit Sen Sharma - D.K. Mutreja	65.63%
EW 2: Ravi Sawhney - S. Sunderrajan	61.81%

11/01/2005 - 9 Tables

NS 1: T.C. Pant - R.C. Consul	64.58%
NS 2: S.N. Mathur - M.S. Sharma	61.11%
EW 1: Arun Jain - Yogesh Tewari	58.68%
EW 2: S. Sunderrajan - Ravi Sawhney	58.33%

18/01/2005 - 13 Tables

NS 1: S.N. Mathur - M.S. Sharma	61.12%
NS 2: Subhash Gupta - Sudhir Aggarwal	60.25%
NS 3: D.P. Sharma - Mrs. Asha Sharma	58.34%
EW 1: V.N. Puri - N.K. Jain	61.47%
EW 2: S.K. Upaal - Suresh Kumar	57.81%
EW 3: R.C. Khanna - Mrs. Suman Khanna	56.25%

25/01/2005 - 13 Tables

NS 1: A.K. Sinha - Mrs. Beneeta Chandra	70.14%
NS 2: N.K. Jain - D.P. Sharma	66.03%
NS 3: Ashim Kumar Ghosh - T.P. Singh	57.96%
EW 1: V.K. Sawhney - Maj. Gen. A.L. Suri	62.79%
EW 2: R. Chakravarty - R.K. Gupta	59.29%
EW 3: Raghubir Jasuja - Mrs. Asha Surana	58.78%

ALL INDIA LADIES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION Weekly Pair Event Results

07/01/2005 - 15 Pairs

1. S.K. Agarwal - S.A. Bijlani
2. Suraj Jain - N.K. Jain
3. Amarjit Wadhawan - Narvir Singh

21/01/2005 - 9 Tables

NS 1: Mrs. Shashi Jain - S.N. Mathur
NS 2: Mrs. Suman Bansidhar - Mrs. Sneh Thadani
EW 1: Subhash Gupta - Paresh Gupta
EW 2: Daya Dhaon - M.M.L. Sharma

28/01/2005 - 10 Tables

NS 1: Mrs. Asha Sharma - D.P. Sharma
NS 2: K.B. Sikand - T.N. Krishnamurthy
EW 1: Mrs. Beneeta Chandra - N.K. Jain
EW 2: Ms. Rashmi Agarwal - Sunil Gupta

- Reported by Mrs. Shashi Jain, Secretary LBA

DBA - Hindustan Times Saturday Team Event - Results

01/01/2005 - 11 Teams

1. **DELHI BRIDGE CLUB** - (S.Majumder, A.K. Ghosh, A.K. Jha, N.K. Gupta)
2. **ASHA** - (Mrs. Asha Surana, Raghubir S. Jauja, Dr. R.L. Sanghi, Sangram Guha)

08/01/2005 - 13 Teams

1. **Tewari** - (D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta, N.K. Jain, Joyjit Sen Sharma)
2. **VIJAY** - (Vijay Kumar, Mrs. Uma Tiwari, Mohan Dass, S. Dhani)
3. **SONCHEL** - (Mukesh Shivdasani, Sudhir Aggarwal, Amod Rele, M.S. Sharma)

15/01/2005 - 12 Teams

1. **PEGASUS** - (Suresh Kumar, Ashim Kumar Ghosh, A.K. Bala, V. Ravindran)
2. **Tewari** - (D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta, N.K. Jain, Vinod Sharma, Sunil Bhatia)

22/01/2005 - 11 Teams

1. **SUBHASH's IV** - (Subhash Gupta, Paresh Gupta, T.C. Pant, Sham Sharma, Sunil Bhatia)
2. **Royal India** - (Amarjit Wadhawan, Narvir Singh, Ved Prakash, K.C. Kumar)

29/01/2005 - 12 Teams

1. **KIRAN** - (Mrs. Kiran Nadar, B. Satyanarayana, Paresh Gupta, T.C. Pant, Sham Sharma)
2. **Tewari** - (D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta, Amod Rele, R.C. Consul, J.B. Sengupta)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The trials for selecting the pair to represent Delhi State in the **ALL INDIA RAMA JAIN Tournament** will be held at DBA on **6th Feb 2005**.

The trials will start with an elimination round at 1000 Hrs. The qualifiers will play the final round from 1430 Hrs. on the same day. All the Delhi Bridge players registered with BFI are welcome to participate in the event.

The All India Rama Jain Tournament will be played at Delhi Bridge Association Building, New Delhi on **5-6th Mar 2005**.

- Secretary DBA

Interesting Hands from Bridge Olympiad 2004

The Natural Way

You don't see many artificial bids when a French pair is in control of an auction, and the following from the Senior International Cup match between France and Belgium is a good example.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ AK94 ♥ 962 ♦ KT52 ♣ K6	
♠ JT8732 ♥ 863 ♦ T984 ♣	N W E S	♠ Q5 ♥ QJ8753 ♦ QJ74 ♣ 7
	♠ 6 ♥ AKT4 ♦ A9 ♣ AQJ532	

West	North	East	South
Busquin	Mari	Henri	Chemla
Pass	1D	Pass	1C
Pass	2S	Pass	2H
Pass	4C	Pass	3C
Pass	4S	Pass	4D
Pass	5H	Pass	4NT
Pass	6H	Pass	5NT
All Pass			7C

The French champions Paul Chemla and Christian Mari conducted a natural auction: 2H was game forcing, 4C set the trump suit, followed by cuebids of 4D and 4S.

Good bidding is not a guarantee of trick taking, however, and some skill was required for this deal. The opening lead was not reported, but it was likely a club or a spade. Chemla drew trumps and took the precaution of cashing two high spades and ruffing a third, which might have been necessary to isolate the menace for a double squeeze (in case diamonds were guarded by both sides).

As you can see, that was not necessary, and when Chemla played the last trump from his hand, East could not stand the pressure and had to surrender the thirteenth trick in one of the red suits. Plus 2140 was good for a 16-IMP swing for France.

Round 4: Turkey Vs. USA

(See deal on the next column)

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Atabey	Levin	Kolata
1S	Pass	2H*	Pass
3H	Pass	3S	Pass
4H	All Pass		

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ 64 ♥ 53 ♦ Q963 ♣ K9863	
♠ AK952 ♥ Q98 ♦ K4 ♣ T54	N W E S	♠ Q73 ♥ AKJ42 ♦ A852 ♣ 2
	♠ JT8 ♥ T76 ♦ JT7 ♣ AQJ7	

Is this the type of deal that gives Two over One a bad reputation? When East revealed the double fit should West bid Four Diamonds, or would that suggest more than he actually held? Should East have made one more try?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zorlu	Welland	Assael	Fallenius
1S	Pass	2H*	Pass
4H	All Pass		

An even shorter auction and the same unsatisfactory conclusion. Was the West hand, with fair heart support and decent controls really a minimum?

Perhaps both pairs should study the auction produced by Canada's Linda Lee & Katie Thorpe in their match against Finland (Ladies event):

West	North	East	South
Lee		Thorpe	
1S	Pass	2H*	Pass
3H	Pass	3S	Pass
4S	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5H	Pass	6S	All Pass

SABINE AUKEN IN ACTION

Round 12, Germany Vs. Greece

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul

	♠ 98 ♥ AK9532 ♦ J8 ♣ A43	
♠ 642 ♥ 4 ♦ AT73 ♣ QT962	N W E S	♠ JT753 ♥ T876 ♦ Q9 ♣ 85
	♠ AKQ ♥ QJ ♦ K6542 ♣ KJ7	

West	North East	South
Kanellopoulou	Auken Oikonomou	Von Arnim
Pass	1H Pass	2C*
Pass	2D* Pass	2H*
Pass	3D* Pass	3H*
Pass	3NT* Pass	4NT*
Pass	5D* Pass	6H
All Pass		

2C Artificial Game Force; 2D Relay; 2H Asking;
3D Fair hand, good hearts; 3H Sets trumps, asks for shortage; 3NT No shortage; 5D 0-3 key cards

East led a low spade and declarer won in dummy, unblocked the hearts, cashed two more spades discarding a club from hand, crossed to the ace of clubs and drew the remaining trumps. Clearly there is no problem if the ace of diamonds or the queen of clubs is onside, but Sabine Auken felt there was a fair chance that East might have led the ace of diamonds on this auction, and it looked as if East was 5-4 in the majors, suggesting that any club length would be with West, so she sought another solution. She cashed her remaining heart winners to reach this position:

	♠ J ♥ 43 ♣	
♠ AT ♥ Q ♣	W N S E	♠ Q9 ♥ 8 ♣
	♠ K ♥ KJ ♣	

It was still possible to rely on the club finesse, and West had done well to blank the queen of clubs, but Sabine was not to be denied, and she crowned a brilliant performance by playing a club to the king to record +1430. It was worth 17 IMPs as the contract failed in the other room.

After the dazzling piece of play by Sabine Auken, here is one by another superstar, Jill Meyers.

USA Vs. Netherlands (Ladies)

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul

	♠ T7654 ♥ AT72 ♦ T8 ♣ 73	
♠ A3 ♥ 6 ♦ K532 ♣ KJT642	W N S E	♠ KJ2 ♥ KJ54 ♦ J94 ♣ Q95
	♠ Q98 ♥ Q983 ♦ AQ76 ♣ A8	

West	North	East	South
Meyers	Arnolds	Montin	Vriend
			1D
2C	Pass	2D	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

3NT was generally played from the other side, and on the usual low diamond lead declarer had an easy time. Jill Meyers, declaring from the West seat, faced the much tougher assignment of trying to make the contract on the lead of the seven of spades. (A heart lead would have been too much to cope with, even for Jill).

Declarer won in hand with the ace and played the king of clubs, continuing with a club to the queen when it held South switched to the three of hearts to North's ace and back came the five of spades. Declarer went up with the king and played back the jack of spades, discarding a diamond from hand. South cashed the ace of diamonds (even the best defence of the queen of diamonds would not have worked) and followed it with the six, but declarer played low and when dummy's jack scored she had made her contract in spectacular style.

Dutch Delight

Judgement is the most important thing in the auction, of course, but sometimes you just have the right methods to allow you to use your judgement to the full. Witness this deal from the final round of the Women's round robin between Netherlands and Germany.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul

	♠ 764 ♥ 862 ♦ KQ983 ♣ 32	
♠ AT9852 ♥ T4 ♦ J ♣ QT95	W N S E	♠ J ♥ KQ953 ♦ A7 ♣ AKJ84
	♠ KQ3 ♥ AJ7 ♦ T6542 ♣ 76	

West	North	East	South
Reim	Arnolds	Nehmert	Vriend
			Pass
2S	Pass	3C	Pass
3D	Pass	3S	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Van Zwol	Auken	Hoogweg	Von Arnim
			Pass
2D	Pass	3C	Pass
3H	Pass	4C	Pass
6C			

For Germany, Andrea Reim opened with a natural weak two bid and Pony Nehmert's response was an enquiry. The 3D rebid showed a minimum and Nehmert settled for partscore: +170.

Wietske Van Zwol opened a multi and Femke Hoogweg had the perfect method for this particular layout. Three Clubs asked partner to bid the suit below the one she held but the key was Hoogweg's second call, 4♣ showing five-five in clubs and an unspecified red suit and game-forcing. Van Zwol had a huge hand now, with four-card club support and good controls, and took a shot at six. The play was straightforward; +920 and 13 IMPs to The Netherlands.

Irish Grand

The Irish Senior team is not challenging for the medals but they have certainly had their moments over the course of the last week or so. This, their biggest single swing of the tournament, came in Round 26 against Pakistan.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul

	♠ AT942 ♥ 7 ♦ AQ ♣ AKJ84	
♠ 76 ♥ Q3 ♦ J8765 ♣ Q972	N W E S	♠ J8 ♥ JT82 ♦ KT942 ♣ T3
	♠ KQ53 ♥ AK9654 ♦ 3 ♣ 65	

West	North	East	South
	1S	Pass	3C
Pass	3H	Pass	4H
Pass	5C	Pass	5H
Pass	6D	Pass	7S
All Pass			

John Comyn and Joe Moran bid to the top spot by the above auction. Three Clubs agreed spades and was a trump asking bid, with 3♥ showing one of the top three honours. From there an exchange of cue-bids saw South reach a position where he was willing to shoot out the grand slam, figuring that, at worst, he would need an even heart break. And right he was. North had poor distribution from the point of view of South's main plan, but the king of clubs more than made up for that and thirteen tricks were routine; +2210.

In the other room Pakistan reached the wrong slam and went one down so Ireland picked up 20 IMPs. The last laugh went to Pakistan, however, as they won the match by 16-14 VPs.

What Green Card?

The Danish women did not come to Istanbul to pass, nor should they given the performance on the following deal in their round-robin match against Wales.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul

	♠ T87 ♥ J52 ♦ J976 ♣ K54	
♠ A643 ♥ 6 ♦ KQT54 ♣ Q82	N W E S	♠ Q9 ♥ KT84 ♦ 82 ♣ AT973
	♠ KJ52 ♥ AQ973 ♦ A3 ♣ J6	

West	North	East	South
			1H
Dble	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

East was Marlene Kirstan, who stretched to bid 2NT, trustingly raised to 3NT by West, Camille Krefeld. South kicked off with the ♥7 to the jack and king. The ♦2 went to dummy's king, and the ♣Q was ducked all around, followed by the ♣8 to South's jack. South, looking at a sure entry in the ♦A, cleared the hearts. East won the fourth round of hearts and ran the clubs.

This was the four-card ending:

	♠ T8 ♥ J9 ♦ ♣	
♠ A6 ♥ QT ♦ ♣	N W E S	♠ Q9 ♥ 8 ♦ T ♣
	♠ KJ ♥ 9 ♦ A ♣	

South was forced to discard his winning heart, and then was thrown in with the ♦A to lead away from the ♠K. The Vugraph commentators had seen Zia jump to 2NT on the same auction, but when Krefeld was informed of it (and the fact that Michael Rosenberg had passed with the West hand), she said, "My partner plays them better than Zia." Indeed, Zia had taken only eight tricks in 2NT.

- Reported by the Editor
(Courtesy WBF Bulletins)

UNDERSTAND LAWS OF DUPLICATE CONTRACT BRIDGE

LAW 21

CALL BASED ON MISINFORMATION

➤ **A – Call Based on Caller's Misunderstanding**

A player has no recourse if he has made a call on the basis of his own misunderstanding.

➤ **B – Call Based on Misinformation from an Opponent**

1. **Change of Call** – Until the end of the auction period (see Law 17E), a player may, without penalty, change a call when it is probable that he made the call as a result of misinformation given to him by an opponent (failure to alert promptly to a conventional call or special understanding, where such alert is required by the sponsoring organization, is deemed misinformation), provided that his partner has not subsequently called.

2. **Change of Call by Opponent Following Correction** – When a player elects to change a call because of misinformation (as in 1., preceding), his LHO may then in turn change any subsequent call he may have made, without penalty (unless his withdrawn call conveyed such information as to damage the non-offending side, in which case the Director may assign an adjusted score). (For unauthorized information from withdrawn calls, see Law 16C.)

3. **Too Late to Change Call** – When it is too late to change a call, the Director may award an adjusted score (Law 40C may apply).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The National Pair at Home (All India Ubhayakar Trophy) will be held at DBA on Sunday the **27th Feb 2005**.

The event is played in 2 separate sessions. The first session will be in Morning and the second in the Afternoon. All Delhi players are requested to check the notice board in the coming weeks for further details.

- Secretary DBA

How you Bid this Hand?

The following interesting hand came in the DBA Tuesday Pairs event on 11th Jan 2005. What is the best bidding sequence possible to bid the hand.

Dir: South

	♠ xx ♥ Kxxxx ♦ Qxx ♣ xxx	
	N W E S	
	♠ AKQT ♥ AQJT ♦ AKTxx ♣	

South as dealer opens the hand. We have 2 cases.

Playing Precision:

South opens 1 Club (16+ HCP) and North bids 1 Diamond (< 9 HCP). Now if you bid 3 Diamonds (forcing one round and > 20 HCPs), North can't bid 3 Hearts, which is usually played as the second negative. Hence he may have to bid 4D and now depending on the partnership understanding there may be a bit of confusion on the bid of 5C, which may be taken as a cue bid rather than Exclusion Blackwood. It may be easy for those, who play 3NT (cheapest NT) as second negative, as South's 5C on 3H will be surely considered as Exclusion Blackwood.

Playing Standard:

South will open 2C (Strong) and again depending on partnership understanding North will bid 2D (many play 2H as yarbrough and 2D as "having some life"). With the latest gadgets employed in Standard, the transfer bids of 2NT or 3C mean hands with 23-24 HCPs with Club / Diamond suits. So South will bid 3C and on 3H bid by North, South can again bid 5C as Exclusion Blackwood.

What will happen on the Exclusion Blackwood:

The response of North will be 5H (1 or 4 Keycards) and South knows that all the required keycards are available. Should he now bid **6H or 7H?**

If North has the ♦Q there will be no play. In case he has ♦xx, then diamonds 3-3 will be enough for the grand. In fact diamond 4-2 with heart 2-2 will also work. Lastly if ♠J or ♠xx is there with ♦xxx, then a diamond can be discarded on the spade and on diamond 3-3 the contract can be made. Only if the distribution is say xxx, Kxxxx, xxx, QJ and ♠J does not fall, the contract is in problem. Question is whether any bid is available with experts, like say 6C, to let us know whether we have xxx in diamonds?

Comments are invited from EXPERTS.

- Reported by Editor

PRESIDENT'S CUP Tournament

13 teams participated in the President's Cup tournament held at Baroda on 21st and 22nd January 2005.

The **DECEPTIVE** team from Ahmedabad comprising of Dr. K.V. Vahalia, P. Vahalia, A. Anklesaria, Swapan Desai and K.Patel won the Tournament.

Courtesy : R.Jayaram from Baroda

SHREE CEMENT Tournament

38 teams participated in the Shree Cement tournament held at Kolkata from 28th to 30th January 2005.

The **SHREE CEMENT** team from Kolkata comprising of Kamal Mukherjee, Tapas Mukherjee, Rabi Goenka, Ajay Bagaria, Badal Das & Sarnendu Banerjee won the **Team of Four** event of the tournament. They defeated MAYA-MIRA team in the Final. MAYA-MIRA were represented by Vijay Goel, Sukmal Das, Kingshuk Bhattacharya, Ashim Mukherjee, Samir Basak & Chandrasekhar Majumdar.

The Pairs event was won by the local Kolkata pair of **Uttam Dutta – Anirudh Bhattacharya**.

Courtesy : Ranju Bhattacharya from Kolkata

DELHI BRIDGE SCHEDULE

1. Pair event is played at DBA on every Tuesday evening from 1830 Hrs. onwards.
2. Team event is played at DBA on every Saturday from 1430 Hrs. onwards.
3. Additional Team event held on first or third Sunday of every month.
4. The Ladies Bridge Association holds an Open Pairs tournament on every Friday at PHD House commencing at 1430 Hrs.

Editorial board

Mr. T.C. Pant, Editor
Mr. S.N. Mathur, Mr. Sudhir Aggarwal

Technical Consultants:

Mr. Subhash Gupta, Mr. B. Satyanarayana

TOURNAMENT at KANPUR

The Kanpur Bridge Association will hold the XIXth **SETH SHRINIWAS LOHIA MEMORIAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP** under the patronage & Presidentship of Shri B.P. Birla from 17th to 20th Feb 2005. The total prize money is above Rupees One Lac.

NATIONAL SELECTION TRIALS - CHENNAI

The National Selection Trials will be conducted at TNSC Club, Chennai from 24th Feb to 2nd March 2005.

A Sponsored team event will be conducted on 24-25th Feb subject to a minimum of 4 teams entering the event.

The Selection trials will start from 26th Feb 2005.

TOURNAMENT at NEW DELHI

The Delhi Bridge Association will hold the **ALL INDIA RAMA JAIN PAIRS BRIDGE TOURNAMENT** on 5th & 6th March 2005 at DBA Building, 18, Institutional Area, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi.

Forthcoming Events

National

- 17-20th Feb'05 – Seth Shrinivas Lohia Memorial Bridge Tournament, Kanpur
- 24th Feb – 02nd Mar'05 – National Selection Trials, Chennai
- 27th Feb'05 – Nationals Pair at Home (Ubhayakar Trophy)
- 05-06th Mar'05 – All India Rama Jain Pairs Tournament at DBA, New Delhi

International

- 07-13th Feb'05 – 10th NEC Festival, Yokohama, Japan
- 19-26th Feb'05 – Gold Coast Congress, Surfer's Paradise, Australia
- 26-27th Feb'05 – 2nd White House Int'l Top Teams, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 10-20th Mar'05 – ACBL Spring NABC, Pittsburg, USA

CONTACT US:

You can send your bridge articles, comments, results & tournament schedules to us on the following e-mails:

tcpant@hotmail.com
sgaggarwal@hotmail.com

IMPORTANT: This Newsletter is only for Free Circulation and not for Sale.