

Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter

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The 47th Winter Bridge Nationals are Here

The 47th Winter Bridge National Championship, under the aegis of Bridge Federation of India are being organized at J J Indoor Basket Ball Complex, Kilpauk Garden, Chennai from 27th Dec 2005 to 5th Jan 2006. This is one of the most important event for which every Bridge Player of India waits eagerly throughout the year. Considering the large participation of Bridge players in the prize money tournaments such as HCL tournament at Delhi (70 teams), Holkar Pairs at Indore (94 Pairs) and the recently concluded Delhi Gymkhana Club – GPI tournament at Delhi (52 teams), we hope to have large number of participants in the Nationals as well to make the event successful.

The Bridge Federation of India along with the Tamil Nadu Bridge Association needs to be congratulated for the innovative format for the forthcoming Nationals. This year's Winter Nationals will be unique in format and will provide greater opportunities to more players to participate and win National titles.

This year the Ruia Gold Cup entrants will be divided in to 16 groups and will start with a Swiss league and thereafter play on a knock-out basis (like in Vanderbilt Trophy at NABC). The idea of playing in groups in the Ruia Gold Cup gives an opportunity to play against at least 4 of the country's top teams. This will be possible as the top teams for Ruia cup will be seeded from 1 to 64 and these 64 seeded teams will be equally divided in to 16 groups, so that minimum 4 seeded teams will be part of a group. The remaining teams in the group will be non-seeded and will be selected randomly. Teams, which will get eliminated in the Gold Cup, can participate in the Ruia Silver Cup.

Players eliminated at each stage of the Ruia Gold, till the round of 16, can participate in other events for which trophies and National titles are being awarded. Thus in the new format, from the 3rd and 4th day onwards, players can participate in any of the 4 major events – the Ruia Silver Cup, Holkar Trophy (open Pairs), Mohan Sicka Trophy (Board-a-match) and the Kamalakar Trophy (IMP Pairs). Besides this, there are going to be several sponsored events also to keep the interest of players intact.

As the teams are going to be seeded, it is important for the participating teams to send their entries for the Ruia Gold Cup (Team of Four) at the earliest. The organizers in their brochure have requested to send the entries for this event latest by 15th Dec 2005. The information on seeding and groups will be made available on the web site www.bridgeinindia.homestead.com.

After India's excellent performance in the Bermuda Bowl 2005, the world is going to slowly recognize the bridge talent of Indian players. This is the right time for all of us to encourage youngsters towards Bridge, so that more and more young participants are seen in the bridge circuit. In fact, We should allow players below 25 years of age without any charges in tournaments. Players like Gavin Wolpert and Jenny Ryman who won the Edgar Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs (arguably ACBL's toughest pairs event) in the recently concluded Fall NABC are only 23 & 20 years of age respectively.

"This is dynamite," said Hamman, manytime North American and world champion, pointing to the photo of Ryman and Wolpert on the front of the Daily Bulletin. "This is what we need to get covered," he said. "It shows that the face of bridge is changing." Hamman said he has done some behind-the scenes work to try to get broader publicity for the youngsters, including possible appearances on some late-night television shows. "We've got to take advantage of this," Hamman said, "and we've got to get this outside of our universe."

So by giving enough encouragement to youngsters in India let all of us also hope to have many Gavin & Ryman.

With Best wishes to all the participants for success in Nationals.

- Editor

Game tries after One Major Opening Bid (Part-2)

Last month we discussed about help suit and short suit game tries. Both these game tries have their advantages and disadvantages. Unfortunately we can only either play new suit as a help suit game try or short suit game try and not both. However with little bit of artificial convention you can play both!! This convention is called Two Way Game tries.

Two Way Game Tries

Two Way Game try is a convention that gives the opener, after responder's single raise, the ability to make both short suit game try and help suit game try. In most common version of this convention the short suit game try is made by direct bid of a new suit where as the help suit game try is made by way of a relay which is the next bid above 2 of opener's major (2S or 2NT).

There are various versions of this convention. However the best one which I have come across is the one played by Mr. Subhash Gupta and Mr. Rajeshwar Tiwari. This version along with the most popular version is presented below:

<p>1H – 2H – ? 2S = Puppet to 2NT for Help suit game try After responder bids 2N, opener rebids 3C = Help suit game try in Clubs 3D = Help suit game try in Diamonds 3H = Help suit game try in Spades 2N = Short suit game try in Spades 3C = Short suit game try in Clubs 3D = Short suit game try in Diamonds 3H = Trump suit help game try</p>	<p>1S – 2S – ? 2N = Puppet to 3C for Help suit game try After responder bids 3C, opener rebids 3D = Help suit game try in Diamonds 3H = Help suit game try in Hearts 3S = Help suit game try in Clubs 3C = Short suit game try in Clubs 3D = Short suit game try in Diamonds 3H = Short suit game try in Hearts 3S = Trump suit help game try</p>
<p>Advanced Version 1H – 2H – ? 2S = Puppet to 2NT for short C/D or help try in S After responder bids 2N, opener rebids 3C/D = Short suit try in Clubs/Diamonds 3H = Help suit game try in Spades 3S/3N = 5H+4S, GF unbalanced/balanced 4C/D = Splinter 2N = Puppet to 3C, for short S or balanced try After responder bids 3C, opener rebids 3D = Short suit try in Spades 3H = Balanced game try 3S = Spade Splinter 3C/D = Help suit game try in Clubs/Diamonds 3H = Trump suit game try 3S = 6H and 5S, GF 4C/D = 5+ cards, Second suit, slammish</p>	<p>1S – 2S – ? 2N = Puppet to 3C for short D/H or balanced try After responder bids 3C, opener rebids 3D/H = Short suit try in Diamonds/Hearts 3S = Balanced game try 3N = Balanced, choice of game 4D/H = Splinter 3C = Puppet to 3D, for game try in C, help/short After responder bids 3D, opener rebids 3H = Help suit try in Clubs (H for help) 3S = Short suit try in clubs (S for short) 3N = Club Splinter 3D/H = Help suit game try in Diamonds/hearts 3S = Trump suit game try 4C/D/H = 5+ cards Second suit, slammish</p>

Examples (advanced version)

<p>West Opener ♠ Ax ♥ AQxxx ♦ Kxxx ♣ Kx</p>	<p>East Responder ♠ Kxxx ♥ Kxx ♦ xx ♣ QJxx</p>	<p>West Opener ♠ Ax ♥ AQxxx ♦ xx ♣ KJxx</p>	<p>East Responder ♠ Kxxx ♥ Kxx ♦ xx ♣ Qxxx</p>	<p>West Opener ♠ AQxxx ♥ Ax ♦ Kx ♣ Kxxx</p>	<p>East Responder ♠ Kxx ♥ Kxxx ♦ xx ♣ QJxx</p>
<p>After 1H-2H, opener bids 3D as help suit game try in advanced version whereas in simple version can go through 2S puppet.</p>		<p>After 1H-2H, opener bids 2S as puppet to 2NT and then bids 3D as short suit game try. In simple version opener bids 3D directly.</p>		<p>After 1S-2S, opener bids 3C as help/short suit game try in clubs. After 3D puppet bids 3H as help suit game try.</p>	

Playing standard system since opener can have very good hands, I would recommend advanced version. However for precision system, simple version is sufficient.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

Local Bridge News & Results

Delhi Bridge Association Tuesday Pairs Event - Results

08/11/2005 – 12 Tables

NS 1: Mrs. S.L. Singla – Sanjiv Bery	62.03%
NS 2: Sudhir Dumra – Ravinder Sharma	56.65%
EW 1: Ujjwal Gupta – Mrs. Sushma Gupta	66.10%
EW 2: S. Majumder – A.K. Jha	60.81%

15/11/2005 – 12 Tables

NS 1: Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	63.28%
NS 2: D.D. Gulhati – Mrs. Rashmi Agarwal	60.20%
EW 1: Mrs. Suman Khanna – R.C. Khanna	65.06%
EW 2: Ujjwal Gupta – Mrs. Sushma Gupta	62.42%

22/11/2005 – 12 Tables

NS 1: Bharat Shah – Mrs. Shashi Gupta	74.13%
NS 2: S.K. Syal – S.R. Malhotra	62.33%
EW 1: Dr. R.L. Sanghi – Narvir Singh	57.64%
EW 2: Mrs. Urmil Aggarwal–Ashok Chandra	55.42%

29/11/2005 – 10 Tables

NS 1: A.K. Upadhyay – Girish Kumar	65.28%
NS 2: Narvir Singh – Sanjiv Bery	62.85%
EW 1: T.C. Pant – Rohit Mishra	62.15%
EW 2: R.S. Jasuja – Mrs. Asha Surana	61.11%

WELL DONE EIL

The 26th PSPB Bridge Tournament, covering all the Oil companies under Petroleum Ministry concluded on 15th November 2005 at Lucknow.

EIL participated with one team and bagged the following awards:

Winner Team of 4 duplicate championship: (S. Majumder (Capt.), BS Gupta, AK Ghosh, AK Guha, A Mandal and V.Y Salpekar)

Runners up in Team of 4 progressive: (S. Majumder (Capt.), BS Gupta, A.K. Guha & A Mandal)

Pairs Event: 3rd Position (VY Salpekar & Arun Kochar)

Best Pair: S. Majumder and A.K Ghosh were adjudged best pair of the tournament.

- Reported by S. Majumder (Captain of EIL Team)

All these players are from Delhi Bridge Association. Heartiest Congratulations to all of them from their colleagues at DBA – Editor.

DBA – Hindustan Times Saturday Team Event – Results

05/11/2005 – 13 Teams

1. **EIL** – (A. Mandal, A.K. Guha, A.K. Ghosh, R. Nanda, A.K. Jha)
2. **SHARMA – KHANNA** (D.P. Sharma, Mrs. Asha Sharma, R.C. Khanna, Mrs. Suman Khanna)
3. **TIWARI** (D.K. Tiwari, P.C. Gupta, J.B. Sengupta, R.C. Consul, Mahendra Singh)

12/11/2005 – 9 Teams

1. **TRIERS** – (S.K. Agarwal, Ved Prakash, Mrs. Shashi Jain, Dr. Nikita Kamal)
2. **SONCHEL** – (Mukesh Shivdasani, Sudhir Aggarwal, N.K. Jain, K.B. Sikand)

19/11/2005 – 12 Teams

1. **TRIERS** – (S.K. Agarwal, S.A. Bijlani, C.P. Mittal, R.C. Agarwal, Ved Prakash)
2. **Tewari's** – (D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta, R.C. Consul, J.B. Sengupta, R. Chakravarty)

AILBA – Pairs Event Results

04/11/2005 - 11 Tables

NS 1: Dr. (Mrs.) Nikita Kamal – Amarjit Wadhawan
NS 2: G.N. Mehra – D.P. Sharma
EW 1: Maj. B.H. Iyer – V.N. Puri
EW 2: Mrs. Suman Khanna – R.C. Khanna

11/11/2005 - 13 Tables

NS 1: Mrs. Madhu Kochar – G.N. Mehra
NS 2: Mrs. Meera Bakshi – J.S. Bakshi
NS 3: Comm. Anand – Rajiv Anand
EW 1: S.K. Agarwal – Ved Prakash
EW 2: Mrs. Suman Khanna – R.C. Khanna
EW 3: Mrs. R. Singh – Mrs. R. Kapoor

18/11/2005 - 12 Tables

NS 1: S.K. Agarwal – Ved Prakash
NS 2: G.N. Mehra – Mrs. Madhu Kochar
EW 1: Ms. Poonam Datta – P.K. Rajgariah
EW 2: Ms. Aruna Bajaj – M.S. Judge

- Reported by Mrs. Shashi Jain, Secretary LBA

Vasant Vihar Club Tournament

23 Pairs participated in the Vasant Vihar Club monthly tournament held on 6th Nov 2005. The results were:

1. Suraj Jain – Daya Dhaon	67.05%
2. M.S. Maini – Gen. Pandit	59.44%
3. S.R. Malhotra – S.K. Syal	57.96%
4. C.P. Mittal – S.A. Bijlani	57.28%
5. S.G. Bose Mullick – S.J. Singh	56.02%

- Reported by Mr. Amarjit Wadhawan

3rd Maharaja Yeshwant Rao Holkar Bridge Championship 2005

The 3rd Maharaja Yeshwant Rao Holkar National Bridge Championship 2005, under the auspices of the Bridge Federation of India & Indore Contract Bridge Association was held at **Yeshwant Club, Indore** from 11th to 13th November 2005.

The three-day open Pairs tournament with a total prize money of 2.5 Lacs attracted as many as 94 pairs from all parts of India. The Pairs were divided into 3 sections and played against each other in 5 sessions of 22 boards each. 2 sessions were played on the first day and 3 sessions on the second day. The scoring was IMPs. After 5 sessions the top 32 Pairs went through to the Finals for the Holkar Trophy and the rest of the pairs played a consolation event for the Adroit Trophy on the 3rd day.

Subhash Gupta – K.R. Venkatraman with a tally of 192 IMPs were the top qualifiers after playing 5 sessions. The session winners were:

- Sess 1: Sandeep Thakral – R. Tibrewala (77 IMPs)
- Sess 2: Deepak Poddar – K.S. Samant (65 IMPs)
- Sess 3: Anal Shah – Flintoon Lewis (66 IMPs)
- Sess 4: Paresh Gupta–Amarjit Wadhawan (68 IMPs)
- Sess 5: M.K. Chakraborty – P.K. Das (85 IMPs)

At half way stage of the 62 boards final for the Holkar Trophy, the leaders were Rajendra Gokhale – S.K. Iyengar with 62 IMPs. They were closely followed by the young Pune pair of Aniket Sanghvi – Koustabh Bendre with 56 IMPs. Vijay Goel – Sukamal Das (54 IMPs) & V.M. Lal – B.M. Bhiwandkar (52 IMPs) were in the 3rd & 4th positions respectively.

With a massive score of 76 IMPs in the second session, **Ajit Chakradeo – Prakash Hegde** from Mumbai won the event with a final score of +91 IMPs. The list of winners is:

- 1. Ajit Chkradeo – Prakash Hegde 91 IMPs
- 2. V.M. Lal – R. Bhiwandkar 88
- 3. Koustabh Bendre – Aniket Sanghvi 85
- 4. Rajendra Gokhale – S.K. Iyengar 80
- 5. Anal Shah – Flinton Lewis 71
- 6/7 Vijay Goel – Sukamal Das 67
- 6/7 Dr. K.L. Bandi – R. Agrawal 67
- 8. Mrs. Kalpana Mishra – Anil Padhye 60

The non-qualifiers played a 2-session (22 boards per session) consolation event for the Adroit Trophy. 56 Pairs participated in the event and the winners were:

- 1. B.K. Mohota – G. Sundarmurthy 80 IMPs
- 2. B. Nirode – Ajit Kumar Kundu 77
- 3. Pankaj kapadia – Subir Roy 75
- 4. B.G. Daxindas – Suresh A. Kamat 71
- 5. S.C. Parikh – Mrs. B. S. 69
- 6. P. Dwivedi – M. Chakradev 67
- 7. A.N. Poddar – B.S. Saxena 56
- 8. Mukul Airan – B.N. Batra 49

The event got over with the prize distribution ceremony. **Congratulations to all the winners.**

- Reported by Editor

Interesting Hands - Holkar Tournament

The following deal is from the first session.

Board 17, Dir: N, Vul: None

	♠KQJx ♥KQx ♦Qxxx ♣xx	
♠T8xxx ♥xx ♦Jxx ♣AKx	N E S	♠9 ♥AJTx ♦AKx ♣QJTxx
	♠Axx ♥xxxx ♦T9x ♣9xx	

West	North	East	South
2S	1D	2C	Pass
3NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
	All Pass		

North opened 1D (Standard) and East overcalled with 2C. West kept the bidding alive with 2S call and bid 3NT over partner's 2NT. West led the ♦10 and declarer has top 8 tricks. The 9th trick can come, if the heart honors are either divided or if both are with North. The problem however is that defenders will immediately shift to spades after taking the heart trick. The contract hence can only be made on a squeeze. If South has 4 spades and a heart honor there is no chance of squeeze but if North has 4 spades, he gets squeezed on the last club itself. After 6 tricks (a diamond and 5 clubs), North is forced to keep ♥KQ and ♦Qx and hence can keep only 3 spades. You can now play the Heart Ace & back for your 9th trick.

Declarer can also try to play club to the Ace and a heart back and hope that both heart honors are with North, as South can immediately shift to spades if he wins the heart trick. If North plays a honor card take with Ace and play all the clubs for the squeeze.

The next deal is from the Adroit Trophy (Consolation Pairs event) – See diagrammed deal on next page.

North opens the bidding with precision 1 Diamond and South responds 1NT. Lagging behind in the event, North wants to upgrade his hand and bids 3 Diamonds, showing maximum hand (15 HCPs) and six-carder diamond with 2 top honors. South has a perfect hand for raising it to three no-trumps.

How you plan to play the hand on the lead of ♥K?

	♠Q ♥ATxx ♦QJ98xx ♣AQ	
♠Kxx ♥KQJxx ♦xx ♣xxx	N W E S	♠J9xxxx ♥x ♦KTx ♣Kxx
	♠ATx ♥9xx ♦Ax ♣J9xxx	

As soon as you see the lead you feel happy that it is not a spade but a Heart. As the defenders can run only 2 hearts (after the ♥K lead), you will immediately take it with Ace fearing the spade switch and hope that the club finesse is on for you.

After taking the ♥A, you play diamond to the Ace and a diamond back to dummy. Whoever takes it with King is bound to switch to a spade. Infact defenders can lead the ♠K to take care of dummy's singleton ♠Q, as the defenders know that South has maximum 3 spades (1D-1NT, denying 4 spades). If you take the ♠K shift with Ace, this will be your last chance to take club finesse for fulfilling the contract (1 Spade, 1 Heart, 5 diamonds and 2 clubs). But if the finesse loses, you may be too many down unless the right hand opponent has the spade Jack. In any case you will be at least one down (1 spade, 2 Hearts, 1 diamond and a club loser).

In real case (see the hand), after taking ♥A, declarer played ♦A & a diamond back taken by East with King. He shifted to a low spade and declarer could get some relief as he can put low expecting a spade return, if West wins the trick. However, West has easy defense. He can cash 2 hearts and can put you in dummy with a heart. Your entry to hand is no more there and you will perforce give the last trick in clubs for down 1. Does the contract always go down?

Ironically, you can always make the contract if you duck the first trick. If West continues with HQ, you duck that also and take the next 2 heart tricks along with 5 diamonds plus 2 Aces. If West shifts to Spade King, you only have to hope that ♠J is with East, to have 2 spade tricks. If West shifts to club, take with Club Ace, and play diamond Ace and diamond back. West after taking King can either cash the Club King (making things easy for declarer) or shifts to spade. Play low to the spade. East wins with the King and his spade return is good for you. If he returns clubs, that is defender's last trick. He may play heart, declarer cashes ♥A and runs all diamonds and puts East with the ♣Q. You will either get last 2 clubs or last 2 spades for your 9 tricks.

- Reported by Editor

Interesting Hand - DBA

This interesting deal came in the Saturday Team of Four event on 19th Nov 2005 at Delhi Bridge Association in the match between COSMOS and TRIERS.

	♠KTxxxx ♥A9x ♦x ♣Axx	
♠xxx ♥x ♦KTxxx ♣JTxx	N W E S	♠AQJ ♥QTxx ♦9xx ♣9xx
	♠x ♥KJ8xx ♦AQJx ♣KQx	

West	North	East	South
			1H
Pass	1S	Pass	2D
Pass	3C	Pass	3NT
Pass	4H	Pass	6H
All Pass			

Playing precision, South who had downgraded his 16 HCP hand a bit by bidding only 1H got slightly confused when partner bid 3C (game forcing) and then converted 3NT to 4 Hearts. His view was that partner could have directly bid 4 Hearts on 2 Diamonds, if he wanted to play only game in Hearts, hence he jumped to the slam.

West led a low spade and East took with the Jack and played the ♣9. Declarer played the hand flawless after that. He took the trick in dummy with Ace and ruffed a spade. He cashed both King & Queen of clubs, took the ♦A and ruffed a diamond. Another spade was ruffed and another diamond was ruffed. The last 4-card position was:

	♠KTx ♥A ♦ ♣	
♠ ♥x ♦KT ♣J	N W E S	♠QTxx ♥ ♦ ♣
	♠ ♥KJ8 ♦J ♣	

Spade was led from dummy, East was forced to ruff (giving a clue that he has 4 hearts), South over-ruffed with the eight. ♦J was ruffed in dummy with the Ace and East was helpless when spade was led, and a nice trump coup got executed.

- Reported by Editor

DGC - GPI Tournament 2005

The **Delhi Gymkhana Club – Godfrey Phillips India Ltd. - Bridge Tournament 2005** was held at the Delhi Gymkhana Club from 25th to 27th November 2005. The tournament details are given below:

TEAM OF FOUR EVENT:

52 teams from different parts of the country including 3 Teams from Lahore, Pakistan participated in the T-4 event. After completion of 9 rounds of the Swiss league (of 10 boards each), the following teams qualified for the quarter finalists:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Formidables | - 173 VPs |
| 2. Tolani Shipping, Mumbai | - 169 |
| 3. Vijay, Delhi | - 166 |
| 4. Maheshwari, Allahabad | - 165 |
| 5. RUKMA, Kolkata | - 159 |
| 6. C.V. Rao, Vizag | - 158 |
| 7. Azure | - 156 |

The 8th slot (fixed for best Delhi Gymkhana Team) went to the D.G. Aces team (143 VPs).

ESSVEE & Dr. Surana, both from Delhi were the unlucky teams missing the quarter-final stage with a score of 155 VPs. The positions of the 3 teams from Lahore, Pakistan were: PAK, Punjab (143 VPs – 19th), LAHORIS (141 VPs – 22nd) & PAKISTAN ACES (128 VPs – 32nd).

The quarter-finalists were divided into 2 groups - Group "A": Team Nos. 1,4,5 & 8 and Group "B": Team Nos. 2,3,6 & 7 and played a 10 board league matches within their groups.

QF Result - Group - A

Teams	1	4	5	8	Total
1 – FORMIDABLES		21	19	22	62
4 – MAHESHWARI	09		08	16	33
5 - RUKMA	11	22		11	44
8 – D.G. ACES	08	14	19		41

QF Result - Group - B

Teams	2	3	6	7	Total
2 – TOLANI SHIPPING		22	15	17	54
3 - VIJAY	08		16	13	37
6 – C.V. RAO	15	14		16	45
7 - AZURE	13	17	14		44

In the first of the 2*14 boards **Semi-Finals, Formidables** beat C.V. Rao's team (C.V. Rao, Badal Das, Alok Sadhu, S.N. De Sarkar & Swarnendu Banerjee) by **63-19** (29-3, 34-16). In the 2nd Semi-final RUKMA beat **Tolani Shipping** (R.A. Agarwal, Archie Sequeira, Finton Lewis & Anal Shah) by **93-35** IMPs (55-19, 38-16).

In the 2*16 boards final Formidables beat RUKMA by 14 IMPs. The score was 58-44 (29-11, 20-33).

The RUKMA team was represented by Sanat Saha, A.B. Chakravarty, Jagdish Biswas, Pranab Bardhan, Sajan Ain & R.N. Palit. The winners - Formidables team, which had represented India and reached the quarter-finals in the recently concluded Bermuda Bowl, were represented by Mrs. Kiran Nadar, B. Satyanarayana, Subhash Gupta, Rajeshwar Tewari & K.R. Venkatraman.

OPEN PAIRS EVENT:

104 Pairs participated in the First Elimination round of the Open Pairs. They were divided into 4 sections of 13 tables each and the top 6 NS & 6 EW pairs from each section qualified for the 2nd elimination round.

The 48 qualified pairs from Elim-1 and 12 losing quarter-finalist pairs played the 2nd elimination round (BRACKET – 1) in 2 sections, out of which 20 Pairs (Top 5 NS & 5 EW from each section) qualified for the Finals. 42 non-qualifiers pairs from Elim-1 played in 2 sections in Bracket – II and the top 2 NS & EW from each section qualified for the Finals. The 4 losing semi-finalist pairs also joined the qualifiers for the 32 pair final.

The 32 Pairs played a 32 boards final (2 boards each). Barometric scoring was used for the final event, which had computerized pre-dealt deals. The winners were:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. D.K. Tiwari - P.C. Gupta | 60.14% |
| 2. R.R. Gupta – V.K. Sawhney | 55.98% |
| 3. Badal Das – Sarnendu Banerjee | 55.83% |
| 4. Anal Shah – Finton Lewis | 55.64% |
| 5. Pradeep Singh – S.K. Bandopadhyay | 55.58% |
| 6. Mrs. Bharti Dey – Maj. S.K. Hooda | 55.36% |
| 7. Hans Varma – N.K. Bidani | 55.08% |
| 8. B. Saha – R. Goenka | 54.14% |

It was a tough final, with marginal difference in the scores of 2nd to 6th ranked pairs. D. K. Tiwari – P.C. Gupta turned out to be the most lucky pair as they had qualified from Bracket-II after getting eliminated in the first round. In fact they got through after a tie-break in the 2nd elimination.

56 pairs who could not qualify for the pairs finals, played a consolation event and the winners were:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Vijay Agarwal – J.M. Shah | 67.87% |
| 2. Chandra Mouli – S.R. Gupta | 66.36% |
| 3. C.P. Singh – Prof. M.A. Qadri | 61.38% |
| 4. Ambrish Wadera – Ajay Kumar | 60.80% |
| 5. Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele | 60.32% |
| 6. R.A. Siddique – N.C. Bhattacharya | 59.04% |

The Management committee & the Tournament Directors deserve all the praise for their commendable job in conducting the tournament smoothly.

Heartiest Congratulations to All the Winners

- Reported by Editor

5th All India Sir Padampat Singhania Memorial Bridge Tournament - 2005

The 5th All India Sir Padampat Singhania Memorial Bridge Tournament 2005 was held at Kamla Club, Kanpur from 18th to 20th Nov 2005. The tournament was flagged off by Shri Y. Kamalakara Rao, President of the Bridge Federation of India.

26 top pairs of India were invited to participate in this prestigious tournament. Each pair played a six-board match against the other 25 pairs. Each pair had a kitty of 25 IMPs with them and the IMP gained/lost in each match were added/subtracted from the kitty with a maximum of 25 IMPs per match.

The leaders at the end of day 1 (after 9 rounds) were:

1. Manas Mukerjee & Rana Roy	318
2. N.R. Kribakaramurthy & B. Prabahkar	296
3. B.N. Rastogi & A.K. Sinha	285
4. Puneet Gangal & K. KrishnaKumar	282
5. K.R. VenkaraRaman & Sunil Chokshi	263

But it was a nightmarish day for two-time winners, Alok Sadhu – Sumeet Mukherjee of West Bengal who were midway down the field at 17th place.

Giving a solid display right from the beginning of the seventh round and easily trouncing all opposition Lucknow's pair of A.K. Sinha and B.N. Rastogi streaked to the top of the table at the end of the 18th round on the second day. They had a dream run in the last ten rounds and their tally was a fantastic 370 VPs out of a possible 500 VPs, an incredible 74% to reach 541 VPs.

The leaders at the end of day 2 (after 18 rounds) were:

1. B.N. Rastogi & A.K. Sinha	541
2. N.R. Kribakaramurthy & B. Prabahkar	481
3. K.R. VenkaraRaman & Sunil Chokshi	475
4. Manas Mukerjee & Rana Roy	473
5. B.K. Mohota – Mahesh Mor	462

On the final day, B.N. Rastogi – A.K. Sinha went on to increase their lead and were the easy winners of the tournament. The final tally (after 25 rounds):

1. B.N. Rastogi - A.K. Sinha	819
2. K.R. VenkaraRaman - Sunil Chokshi	722
3. N.R. Kribakaramurthy - B. Prabahkar	699
4. Manas Mukerjee - Rana Roy	686
5. B.K. Mohota – Mahesh Mor	685
6. Pritish Kushari – Debabrata Mazumdar	680
7. Sumit Mukherjee – Alok Sadhu	673
8. Mrs. Kiran Nadar – B. Satyanarayana	665
9. Subhash Gupta – J.M. Shah	665
10. K. Krishnakumar – Puneet Gangal	660

Heartiest Congratulations to All the Winners

- Reported by Editor

47th WINTER NATIONALS

The 47th Winter National Bridge Championships 2005 will be held from 27th Dec 2005 to 5th Jan 2006 at JJ Indoor Basket Ball Complex, Kilpauk Graden, Chennai. The programme summary is as follows:

- 27th Dec: 0900 Hrs: Inauguration
27th Dec: Ruia Gold Swiss league
28th Dec: Ruia Gold Swiss league continues (64 teams to qualify for the KO stage)
29th Dec: Ruia Gold Rd of 64 K.O.
Ruia Gold Rd of 32 K.O.
Ruia Silver Swiss league
Kamlakar Trophy – IMP Pairs
30th Dec: Ruia Gold Rd of 16 K.O.
Ruia Silver Swiss league continues
Kamlakar Trophy – IMP Pairs (continues)
31st Dec: Ruia Gold Rd of 8 K.O.
Mohan Sicka Trophy – BAM 1st Elim
HOLKAR Trophy – Pairs 1st Elim
1st Jan: Ruia Gold Semi-Finals
HOLKAR Trophy – Pairs 1st Elim (continues)
Mohan Sicka Trophy – BAM 2nd Elim
IOB Sponsored Pairs event
2nd Jan: Ruia Gold Finals
HOLKAR Trophy – Pairs 2nd Elim
BSNL Sponsored Continuous Individual Championship
3rd Jan: HOLKAR Trophy – Pairs 3rd Elim
L.J. Thomas T-4 Swiss league Sponsored event
4th Jan: Mohan Sicka Trophy – BAM Finals
Indus Ind Bank Sponsored Categorized Pairs (except Life Masters)
5th Jan: HOLKAR Trophy – Pairs - Finals
G.K. Sundaram Sponsored Fast Pairs event

NOTE: For further details such as exact timings of event, format, Accomodation details, entry fee and last day of entry, please visit the www.bridgeinindia.homestead.com site.

Sailen Banerjee

Shri Sailen Banerjee who had a long association with Delhi Bridge, passed away on Nov 19, 2005. He was not keeping good health for the past few months.

He was a regular at Delhi Bridge circle till nineties, after which he became a known tournament director in Delhi. We at Delhi Bridge Association will always remember the warm-hearted Shri Sailen Banerjee. He will be sorely missed by all of us. *May his soul rest in peace.*

International Bridge News

The 2005 Fall NABC, Orlando

The 79th Fall NABC 2005 was held from 17th Nov to 27th Nov 2005 at Denver, Colorado. Details of all the important events are given below:

Women's Life Master Pairs:

New Yorkers Malle Andrade and Jill Levin paired a 56.85% game in the first final session with a 54.28% game in the second final to win the four-session Helen Sobel Smith Life Master Women's Pairs. It was the first NABC win for Andrade. For Levin, who has multiple NABC titles, it was her first victory in the contest. Their final total of 966.36 match points was good enough to edge Mildred Breed and Claudette Hartman of Austin TX who finished with 962.59. Top on a board was 31. The top position holders were:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Malle Andrade - Jill Levin | 966.36 |
| 2. Mildred Breed - Claudette Hartman | 962.59 |
| 3. Ritchey Goodwin - Debbie Rosenberg | 950.47 |
| 4. Laurie Kranyak - Peggy Kaplan | 931.09 |
| 5. Meike Wortel - Jenny Ryman | 930.85 |
| 6. Marilyn Eber - Bonnie Smith | 926.98 |
| 7. Carlyn Steiner - Marinesa Letizia | 923.42 |
| 8. Pat Levy - Esta Van Zandt | 921.01 |

Life Master Pairs:

Jill Meyers and Zia Mahmood, practicing to get ready for next year's world championships, took the lead after the first final session of the Bobby Nail Life Master Open Pairs and won with a solid evening session.

Their score of 2594.61 on a 77 top put them about 53 match points ahead of the runners-up – Robert Levin, Bronx NY, and Louk Verhees of the Netherlands. Floridians Ed Schulte of Tampa and Jeffrey Hand of Casselberry were third.

Meyers and Zia had played together only one time previously – in the Mixed Pairs at the first European Open Championships in Menton, France, in 2003. They are scheduled to play in the World Mixed Pairs next summer in Verona, Italy, at the World Bridge Championships. Zia said he asked Meyers to play because "I'm very impressed with her. We are alike in that we are both emotional about bad results, but she is a very pure and warm human being and a great bridge player."

The top position holders were:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Jill Meyers - Zia Mahmood | 2594.61 |
| 2. Louk Verhees - Robert Levin | 2541.45 |
| 3. Ed Schulte - Jeffrey Hand | 2519.59 |
| 4. Perry Johnson - Jeff Meckstroth | 2504.96 |
| 5. Paul Soloway - Steve Weinstein | 2482.82 |
| 6. Peter Boyd - Steve Robinson | 2465.39 |
| 7. Michael Rosenberg - Ralph Katz | 2458.00 |
| 8. Sidney Brownstein - Geoff Hampson | 2444.12 |

NON-Life Masters Pairs:

Mike Develin of Berkeley CA and John Barth of Stanford CA won the Rufus "Skinny" Miles Non-Life Master Pairs. Develin and Barth, won the two-session contest with a large second-session game.

The winners, both 25, were in fourth place after a first-session performance of 57.18%. In the evening, however, Develin and Barth posted a 65.23% game to win the event by one board. In second place were Cassandra Spain of Shelley ID and Karen Gurwitz of Littleton CO. Develin and Barth have only played together a few months. This is the first NABC that Develin has attended.

Open BOARD-A-MATCH Teams:

A total of 52 Teams participated in this event. Leading at half-time of the final, the Welland team followed with another big score in the final session to win the Victor Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams. Half-way through the final they were leading with a session score of 19 plus their carryover of 3.90. In the evening Welland's score of 18.5 allowed them to lead the field by nearly 3 and half boards.

The winners are Roy Welland, Bjorn Fallenius, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby and Polish stars Adam Zmudzinski and Cezary Balicki. Welland, Fallenius, Martel and Stansby finished second recently in the Transnational Teams in Estirol, Portugal and were third in the Open Swiss Teams in Atlanta last June.

In second place were Grant Baze, Steve Beatty, Jacek Pszczola, Michael Whitman and Sam Lev with a score of 38.02. They were in fifth place after the first final session, but an evening score of 18 out of 26 moved them into the runner-up position. The final standings were:

1. Roy Welland , Bjorn Fallenius, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby, Cezary Balicki, Adam Zmudzinski - 41.40
2. Grant Baze, Steve Beatty, Jacek Pszczola, Michael Whitman, Sam Lev - 38.02
3. Eddie Wold, George Rosenkranz, David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin - 36.20
4. Zygmunt Marcinski, Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Tadashi Teramoto, Daniel Lavee - 35.48

WOMEN'S BOARD-A-MATCH

A total of 20 Teams participated in this event. The squad led by Lynn Baker dominated the final of the Marsha May Sternberg Women's Board-a-Match Teams, finishing ahead of the field by more than six boards. Baker played with Kay Schulle, Lynn Deas, Beth Palmer, Daniela von Arnim and Sabine Auken. Their score was 43.12 (20.75 in the afternoon, 17.50 in the evening and 4.87 carryover).

This is the same team that won the Wagar Women's Knockout at the Atlanta NABC this summer, with the exception of Schulle who took the place of Kerri Sanborn. In second with 36.55 was the team of Sylvia S. Caley, Marjorie Michelin, Jean Talbot and Joan Van Geffen.

The final standings were:

1. Lynn Baker, Kay Schulle, Lynn Deas, Beth Palmer, Sabine Auken, Daniella von Arnim - 43.12
2. Sylvia Caley, Marjorie Michelin, Jean Talbot, Joan Van Geffen - 36.80
3. Jane Segal, Judy Kay-Wolff, Diana Schuld, Cynthia Hinckley - 35.03
4. Sylvia Moss, Judi Radin, Mildred Breed, Shawn Quinn, Migry Zur Campanile, Pamela Granovetter - 33.29

BLUE RIBBON PAIRS:

Gavin Wolpert and Jenny Ryman won the Edgar Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs. All evening the young couple – he is 23, she 20 – had battled German stars Sabine Auken and Daniela van Arnim, who finished second by about half a board after a disastrous last round. The lead had see-sawed back and forth. Zia and Howard Weinstein and Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell were also close. First through fourth were separated by only a half board.

"I didn't think about whether we were winning," said Ryman, who lives in Sweden and recently represented her country in the Venice Cup in Estoril, Portugal. "I was trying to play my best, but I knew we had a chance." "I knew it was possible," said Wolpert, a young Canadian who plays bridge full time. "We had many good results."

Wolpert and Ryman are thought to be the youngest pair to win this event. They met at the Bermuda Bowl in Monte Carlo in 2003 and are engaged to be married.

The runners-up were leading by 9 match points with a round to go, but came away from the final round with only 6 of 76 match points. An all women pair has never won the Blue Ribbon Pairs and they were hoping to become the first. The final standings were:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Gavin Wolpert - Jenny Ryman | 1208.74 |
| 2. Sabine Auken - Daniela von Arnim | 1190.70 |
| 3. Zia Mahmood - Howard Weinstein | 1186.76 |
| 4. Eric Rodwell - Jeff Meckstroth | 1180.11 |
| 5. Jill Meyers - Jill Levin | 1146.47 |
| 6. Steve Garner - Ralph Katz | 1145.61 |
| 7. David Berkowitz - Larry Cohen | 1143.61 |
| 8. Lynn Deas - Curtis Cheek | 1138.11 |

Bob Hamman had a different view of the Blue Ribbon win by Wolpert and Jenny Ryman, at 20 the youngest person ever to win what is arguably ACBL's toughest pairs event. "This is dynamite," said Hamman, anytime North American and world champion, pointing to the photo of Ryman and Wolpert on the front of the Friday Daily Bulletin.

"This is what we need to get covered," he said. "It shows that the face of bridge is changing." Hamman said he has done some behind-the-scenes work to try to get broader publicity for the youngsters, including possible appearances on some late-night television shows. "We've got to take advantage of this," Hamman said, "and we've got to get this outside of our universe."

REISINGER BOARD-A-MATCH TEAMS:

For the second year in a row, the Nick Nickell squad won the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams in runaway fashion. Trailing by less than half a board going into the final day of play, the team surged into the lead and built on it steadily.

The final margin over the runners-up – George Jacobs and company – was nearly five boards. Nickell was playing with Dick Freeman, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway.

Jacobs' team was Ralph Katz, Zia Mahmood, Michael Rosenberg, Alfredo Versace and Lorenzo Lauria.

Eric Kokish, coach of the Nickell team said Meckstroth and Rodwell were especially strong in the final two sessions, and he credited their playing together in the Blue Ribbon Pairs for sharpening their game.

The victory was Rodwell's 39th North American title, Meckstroth's 38th. They have won the Reisinger seven times. Hamman's Reisinger record is even better – he has 11 wins in arguably the toughest event on the ACBL calendar. The final standings:

1. Nick Nickell, Richard Freeman, Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth, Bob Hamman, Paul Soloway - 36.56
2. George Jacobs, Ralph Katz, Zia Mahmood, Michael Rosenberg, Alfredo Versace, Lorenzo Lauria - 31.77
3. Michael Becker, Walid Elahmady, Tarek Sadek, Jan Jansma, Richard Schwartz, Louk Verhees - 29.27
4. James Cayne, Michael Seamon, Tor Helness, Steve Weinstein, Robert Levin, Geir Helgemo - 27.37

Zia wins two MP awards

Zia Mahmood's second-place finish in the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams provided him with enough platinum master points to win the Player of the Year title by a comfortable margin over Jeff Meckstroth. Zia's total masterpoint output for the tournament stood at an unofficial 433.80, enough for him to earn the Herman Trophy for winning the most master points of any color at the Fall NABC.

In the Player of the Year contest, Zia's unofficial total for 2005 is 807.44 platinum points, well ahead of Meckstroth's 719.37. It is Zia's fourth POY title. The award goes to the player who earns the most platinum master points in a calendar year. Platinum points are awarded in nationally rated games with no upper MP restrictions.

*- Reported by the Editor
(Courtesy: Daily Bulletins of FALL NABC)*

Interesting Hand - Fall NABC 2005

Lucky, good or both?

Assessing their victory in the Bobby Nail Life Master Open Pairs, both Zia Mahmood and Jill Meyers said that fortune smiled on them more than on others. As is usual in these cases, however, it wasn't all luck.

Here are three deals that helped them to their triumph. The first two are from the first final session.

Dir: West Vul: Both

	♠J8652 ♥KJT63 ♦J5 ♣Q	
♠AK3 ♥Q9 ♦AKT3 ♣6542	N W E S	♠T ♥8752 ♦9 ♣AJT9873
	♠Q974 ♥A4 ♦Q87642 ♣K	

West	North	East	South
Meyers		Zia	
1NT	Pass	2S(1)	Pass
2NT(2)	Pass	3NT	All Pass

- (1) Transfer to clubs.
- (2) Likes clubs.

A low heart from North would have scuttled the contract, but the opening lead was the HJ fatal to the defense on this deal. Dummy's four hearts provided a stopper for the heart suit, and the 1-1 break in clubs allowed Meyers to romp home with 10 tricks for 57.5 match points out of 77.

Zia made the most of a sleepy play by a defender to rake in nearly all the match points on the following deal.

Dir: South Vul: Both

	♠QT964 ♥AJ8 ♦5 ♣A753	
♠52 ♥KT942 ♦98743 ♣J	N W E S	♠AJ87 ♥Q ♦KQJT6 ♣T82
	♠K3 ♥7653 ♦A2 ♣KQ964	

West	North	East	South
Meyers		Zia	
Pass	1S	2D	1C
4D	Dbl	All Pass	

South started with the CK, overtaken by North with the ace. North continued with a low spade, and Zia went up with the ace. He could see that he had a loser in each suit, but there was a chance. At trick three, Zia put the C8 on the table, and when South played low Zia pitched dummy's spade! North could not beat the C8, so the doubled contract came rolling home for plus 710 and 69 out of 77 match points.

The next deal, another near-top, was from the second final session.

Dir: West Vul: N-S

	♠83 ♥AKJT8752 ♦ ♣AT9	
♠AKT9642 ♥64 ♦95 ♣72	N W E S	♠J75 ♥Q93 ♦AQT762 ♣K
	♠Q ♥ ♦KJ843 ♣QJ86543	

West	North	East	South
Meyers		Zia	
3S	4H	4S	5C
Pass	6C	All Pass	

Meyers, accurately figuring Zia for one or no spades, did well to raise her partner to the slam. Zia ruffed the second round of spades and had to figure out trumps.

Years ago, Zia authored a prize-winning tip: *if you lead an honor and the next hand plays low "they don't have it."*

Using that same strategy – and taking the auction into account – Zia played the CQ from hand at trick three. West played low and, following his own tip – not to mention the rabbi's rule – Zia went up with the CA, dropping the singleton king. It was easy after that to ruff out the HQ for 12 tricks. Plus 1370 was worth 73.5 out of 77 match points.

- Reported by the Editor
(Courtesy: Daily Bulletins of FALL NABC)

Enhance your Bridge knowledge

(This column is specifically for the benefit of upcoming Bridge players who would like to acquire advanced technical knowledge of the game in detail. We will mainly talk about terminologies used in relation to PLAY and DEFENSE. It is assumed that you are already an average player with basic knowledge of the game - Editor)

VARIOUS TYPE OF 2NT IN COMPETITION

Last month we discussed the 2 variations of the 2NT in competition: *The Good-bad 2NT & the SCRAMBLE 2NT*. Let us discuss RUBENSOHL, another important 2NT variation.

RUBENSOHL

This convention can be used in the following three situations:

- A) when your partner opens 1NT and RHO intervene at 2 level;
- B) your partner opens a suit bid at 1 level & RHO bid 2 of a major;
- C) Opponent makes a 2-suiter overcall.

A)	Partner	OPP	You	your hand
	1NT	(2♠)	?	XX, KJ9XXX, KXX, XX

In Rubensohl, your 2NT to 3♥ bids are all transfer to the next suit (Transfer to opponents suit = Stayman). The requirements are:

a) at least an invitational strength. b) Good 5 carder or 6 + suit. So, in the above sequence, you should bid 3♦ & partner should bid exhaustively. That mean, if he rebids 3♥, he is showing no interest in game otherwise he can bid 4♥ or 3NT. Remember, you could have much more HCP; in that case, you will bid again after partner's sign-off.

1NT	(2♥)	?	JX, 9X, KQTXXX, QXX.
-----	------	---	----------------------

Bid 3♣ showing long ♦ with at least invitational strength. Opener to bid exhaustively i.e if he bids 3♦ now, he is showing no interest in game.

1NT	(2♦)	?	KJXX, QXXX, XX, KJX
-----	------	---	---------------------

Bid 3♣ (transfer to opponents suit is stayman).

1NT	(2♦)	?	XX, KQXXXX, JX, QXX
-----	------	---	---------------------

Bid 3♦, transfer to ♥. If partner bid only 3♥ you should pass confidently.

1NT	(2♣)	?	JXXX, QXXX, JXX, KX
-----	------	---	---------------------

Make a T/O double. Rubensohl requires at least invitational strength. If you have 2 more HCP you would bid 2NT (stayman).

1NT	(2♠)	?	JXX, XX, K9XXXX, QX
-----	------	---	---------------------

Yes! Have to pass. Wait for partner to make a T/O double with suitable hand. If he can't it might be better for your side to stay off from 3♦.

Note: You should discuss with your partner if opponent bids conventionally.

B)	Partner	OPP	You	your hand
	1♥	(2♠)	?	XX, JX, AKXXXX, QXX
	1♦	(2♥)	?	QXX, XX, JX, AQTXXX
	1♠	(2♥)	?	XX, XX, KQT9XXX, AX

Negative double does not help you in this hand. A free bid by you at 3 levels compelled your side to bid game. So use Rubensohl.

2NT onwards & below the opener's suit is transfer to the next suit, promising an at least invitational strength with long suit. A transfer to your partner's suit is limit raise or better. So, in 1st case, your bid = 3♣. in 2nd case = 2NT. In 3rd = 3♣.

A simple bid of partner's suit is competitive. Transfer to opener's suit is limit raise or better.

Here also, opener should bid exhaustively. A simple rebid of your suit denies any interest to game. 2NT & same suit rebid are non-forcing. A new suit is of course forcing. In 2nd opportunity if you bid again, you are promising extra.

- C) Opponent can make a 2-suiter overcall. This is of 2-kind. One suit is known & both suits are known.

Case one- One suit is known.

Partner	OPP	You	your hand
1♥	(2♥)*	?	XX, JX, AKXXXX, QXX

* - Michaels

You have only one cue bid available. So, a cue bid shows a limit raise or better. In this case a 2♠ by you shows ♥ support. 2NT onwards are transfer as before. Obviously a double would show a simple raise.

Case two- two suits are known

Partner	OPP	You	your hand
1♥	(2♥)**	?	XX, JX, AKXXXX, QXX

** - Blue-club(♠&♣)

Here you have 2-cue bid & one free suit available. For simplicity, I suggest to play as follows. We have 2 suits to play against their 2 suits.

A simple bid of a free suit is non-forcing showing a weak two bid. Lower cue shows lower suit & higher cue shows higher suit.

In the above example, 2♠(lower cue)= long ♦s with at least invitational hand. 3♣(higher cue)= limit raise or better in ♥s & 3♦=wants to play. Another example:

Partner	OPP	You	
1♥	2NT (Minor)	?	

3♣ = limit raise or better in ♥s. 3♦ = ♠ suit with at least invitational strength & 3♠ = To play.

Partner	OPP	You	
1NT	2♣ (Landy)	?	

X = ♣s, wants to fight at 3 level. 2♦ = to play, 2♥(lower cue) = ♣s with at least invitational strength, 2♠(higher cue) = ♦s with at least invitational strength. Opener always bid exhaustively.

Note: 1. Pass then double after opponent's 2-suiter bid = Penalty 2. An immediate double after 2-suiter overcall (which they are compelled to bid at 3 levels) suggest 10+ HCP and non-committal.

Contributed by Amarnath Banerjee

Tolani National Masters Bridge Championships 2005

The Tolani National Masters Championships 2005 were held at Shahaji Raje Bhosle Sports Complex, Andheri, Mumbai from 5th Nov to 8th Nov 2005.

The tournament was organized by the Mumbai Sports & Bridge Association under the auspices of Maharashtra Bridge Association & the aegis of BFI. For being a Master a player requires 600 Master points, out of which 300 should be red points.

11 teams participated in the tournament. After an all play all 10 rounds (of 10 boards each), 4 teams qualified to play the Semifinals. The qualifiers were: Indian Railways, Monotona, Manyavar & Tapas Mukherjee's team. Indian Railways beat Monotona and Tapas beat Manyavar in the semi-finals.

In the finals, Tapas Mukherjee's team beat the Railways to take the trophy.

Congratulations to the winners.

- Reported by Editor

DELHI STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Delhi State Bridge Championship having Team of Four & Open Pairs event will be held at Delhi Bridge Association Building, 18, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi from 2nd December (1800 Hrs. onwards) to 4th Dec 2005. The schedule would be as follows:

2nd December 2005, Friday

6.00 PM Elimination Session for Pairs. Minimum 24 Boards – 8 NS & 8 EW Pairs will qualify for Final.

3rd December 2005, Saturday

09.30 AM Pairs Final, All Play All 15 rounds of 2 Boards each.

14.30 AM Team of Four – Swiss League (Rounds 1-5 of 8 boards each)

4th December 2005, Sunday

09.30 AM Team of Four – Swiss League (Rounds 6-8 of 8 boards each)

Top 4 teams (after 8 rounds of Swiss League) to qualify for the knockout semi-finals

14.30 AM Team of Four – Semi-Finals (3*10 boards)

The T-4 FINAL (4*10 boards) can either be played on 10th or 11th Dec or finalists can mutually decide the date.

The winner of the T-4 & Open Pairs event will represent Delhi in the Winter Nationals 2005 to be held at Chennai from 27th Dec 2005 to 5th Jan 2006.

- Secretary, DBA

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. The Ladies Bridge Association holds an Open Pairs tournament on every Friday at PHD House commencing at 1430 Hrs.
4. The SPEED Sponsored Pairs Tournament is held at PHD House on 3rd Sunday of every month from 1400 Hrs.
5. Vasant Vihar Club holds a Pairs tournament (limited to 30 Pairs, based on first-cum-first-served basis) on the first Sunday of every month from 0930 to 1330 Hours.

Forthcoming Events - 2005

National

02-04 Dec: Delhi State Championships, DBA, Delhi

10-11 Dec: Tournament at IIP, Dehradun

27 Dec – 5 Jan 06: Winter Nationals, Chennai

19-22 Jan 06: Tolani Grand Prix, Mumbai

16-19 Feb 2006: Lohia Bridge Tournament, Kanpur

11-12 Mar 2006: All India Rama Jain Tournament, Delhi

International

02-04 Dec – International Team Tournament, Milan

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