

Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter

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World Bridge Championships – 2005 Italy, France & USA take Gold

The 2005 World Bridge Championships, comprising of Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, Seniors Bowl and Transnational Open Teams competitions, came to an end at Estoril, Portugal on November 5, 2005.

Italy are the new Bermuda Bowl champions, winning by 18 IMPs (268-250) over USA1. The team captained by Maria Teresa Lavazza made up for the disappointment of losing to their American rivals on the last board of the championship in Monte Carlo two years ago with a strong performance in the second half of the 128-board final and taking home the Bermuda Bowl Cup first time since 1975. The champions are Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Fulvio Fantoni, Lorenzo Lauria, Claudio Nunes & Alfredo Versace.

Like last time, this year also the final two sets in the Bermuda Bowl promised to be dramatic. Italy started the last day with only 8 IMPs ahead and 32 boards to play and they did not disappoint. The Italians increased their lead by 1 IMP with 16 boards to play, plenty of time for an American rally. It did not happen, however, as the Italians were never seriously threatened. The Americans simply could not take advantage of several opportunities to earn their second straight Bermuda Bowl. The silver medallists are Dick Freeman, Bob Hamman, Jeff Meckstroth, Nick Nickell, Eric Rodwell & Paul Soloway. The bronze medal went to USA2.

The French Venice Cup team defeated Germany 191-136 to take the Venice Cup. The Venice Cup winners are Bénédicte Cronier, Catherine D'Ovidio, Nathalie Frey, Danièle Gaviard, Vanessa Reess and Sylvie Willard. At one point, the German women had taken the lead after trailing by as many as 48 IMPs. In the fourth of six sets, the Germans put together a string of pluses to go in front by 94-88. Two boards later, however, the French re-took the lead and the momentum. The rest of the set — and the match — belonged to the French, and they were never headed again.

With 16 boards to play the Seniors Bowl match stood at 161-161. USA1 rallied in the final set to win the Seniors Bowl 213-190 against Indonesia. The Seniors Bowl champions are Rose Meltzer, Garey Hayden, Alan Sontag, Peter Weichsel, Lew Stansby and Roger Bates.

In the Transnational Open Teams, the Schneider Team defeated the team captained by Warren Spector by 93-70. The winners are Peter Schneider and Grant Baze of the USA and Piotr Gawrys and Marcin Lesniewski of Poland.

The Indian open team did exceedingly well by reaching the Quarter-finals of the Bermuda Bowl. **Congratulations to Mrs. Kiran Nadar, Mr. B. Satyanarayana, Mr. Subhash Gupta, Mr. Rajeshwar Tewari, Mr. K.R. Venkatraman & Mr. Sunit Chokshi.**

For the Bridge enthusiasts it was a real pleasure to watch the live Vu-graphs of matches on the Bridge Base Online. Equally interesting was the www.swangames.com site, which gave viewers live board-by-board results. Thanks a lot to BBO & SWANGAMES for their efforts and to WBF for the fantastic show.

Editor

NOTE: This month's Newsletter is being published one week late to cover the World Championships.

Game tries after One Major Opening Bid (Part-1)

As we have been discussing, the bidding in bridge is becoming scientific day by day. It is extremely important to bid accurately. Most of the hands are part game battles creating 5-6 imps swing.

One such area is after Opening bid of One Heart/Spade and single raise by responder. Opener now needs close cooperation from responder to make a decision whether to bid game or not. In modern bridge opener has many tools available to him, which we call Game tries.

Game tries are scientific conventions, which help opener in bidding close games and at the same time help him in avoiding bad ones. There are basically four types of Game tries through which opener can seek responder's help:

- Help suit game try
- Short suit game try
- Trump suit help game try
- Balanced game try

Help Suit Game Try

After 1S-2S or 1H-2H, a new suit by opener is a help suit game try, asking partner to look at the help suit and see if he has any help in this suit. A help suit is atleast 3 cards in length and may contain an honour. Xxx or xxxx or xxxxx or Axx or Axxx or KJxx are example of help suits.

Responder assumes that opener has three or more cards in the help suit with or without an honour and sees if he can cover some of these losers:

- A singleton or doubleton is definitely a help.
- Exactly three cards in the suit is usually not very helpful. However if the suit has ace or two honours then it is a help.
- More than three cards in the suit may be considered helpful if the suit has an honour.

Examples

<p>West Opener ♠ Ax ♥ AQxxx ♦ Kxxx ♣ Kx</p>	<p>East Responder ♠ Kxxx ♥ Kxx ♦ xx ♣ QJxx</p>	<p>West Opener ♠ Ax ♥ AQxxx ♦ Kxxx ♣ Kx</p>	<p>East Responder ♠ KJxx ♥ Kxx ♦ xxx ♣ Qxx</p>	<p>West Opener ♠ Ax ♥ AQxxx ♦ Kx ♣ Kxxx</p>	<p>East Responder ♠ Kxxx ♥ Kxx ♦ xx ♣ QJxx</p>
<p>After 1H-2H, opener bids 3D as help suit game try. With 2 small diamonds responder bids 4H – a good game indeed.</p>		<p>After 1H-2H, opener bids 3D as help suit game try. With 3 small cards responder bids 3H to play.</p>		<p>After 1H-2H, opener bids 3C as help suit game try. With 4 clubs and 2 honours, responder bids 4H – a good game indeed.</p>	

Help suit game try has certain disadvantages also. Once you play help suit game try, you can not bid new suit as a natural bid aiming towards 3NT or a slam try. Also it tells the opening leader about the weak spot in opener's hand.

Short Suit Game Try

In short suit game try, after 1S-2S or 1H-2H, a new suit by opener shows a short suit, usually a singleton or void, asking partner to bid the game if his values are principally outside the short suit. However if responder has ace in the short suit, he makes a decision based on the fitting honours in other suits and quality of his raise.

In the examples above, if opener makes a short suit game try of 3D in first two hands responder will accept and bid game. However in the third hand if opener bids 3C as short suit, responder will sign-off in 3H with wasted club values.

As usual the short suit game try also has disadvantage that they are very revealing to the opponents. An opponent may double the short suit game try to suggest an opening lead or profitable sacrifice. (*..contd.*)

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

Local Bridge News & Results

Delhi Bridge Association Tuesday Pairs Event - Results

04/10/2005 – 15 Tables

NS 1: J.B. Sengupta – R.C. Consul	67.49%
NS 2: T.C. Pant – Priya Ranjan Sinha	64.58%
NS 3: Mrs. Madhu Kochar – M.P. Agarwala	55.56%
EW 1: J.S. Bakshi – Mrs. Meera Bakshi	62.37%
EW 2: S.K. Agarwal – Ved Prakash	60.90%
EW 3: Subhash Gupta – Dr. Usha Kothari	60.42%

11/10/2005 – 10 Tables

NS 1: R.K. Vir – Mrs. Chand Vir	68.40%
NS 2: Ved Gupta – G.P. Agrawal	56.94%
EW 1: J.S. Bakshi – Mrs. Meera Bakshi	62.15%
EW 2: R.S. Jasuja – Mrs. Asha Surana	61.11%

18/10/2005 – 11 Tables

NS 1: Mrs. S.L. Singla – Sanjiv Bery	59.60%
NS 2: S. Majumder – A.K. Jha	58.43%
EW 1: K. Chandramouli – Santosh Kumar	62.23%
EW 2: Narvir Singh – Dr. R.L. Sanghi	56.81%

25/10/2005 – 12 Tables

NS 1: G. Singh – T.N. Tiku	57.99%
NS 2: S. Majumder – A.K. Jha	56.94%
EW 1: A.K. Upadhyay – Girish Kumar	65.97%
EW 2: J.B. Sengupta – Rudra Dev	56.60%

DBA – Hindustan Times Saturday Team Event – Results

01/10/2005 – 11 Teams

1. **VINOD** – (Vinod Sharma, Sandeep Thakral, Mrs. Kiran Nadar, Sudhir Aggarwal)
2. **TORPEDOES** – (A.K. Sinha, V.N. Puri, K.B. Sikand, Rajesh Kumar Gupta)

15/10/2005 – 11 Teams

1. **KIRAN** – (Mrs. Kiran Nadar, Subhash Gupta, Mukesh Shivdasani, Sudhir Aggarwal, Suresh Shivdasani)
2. **COSMOS** – (A. Mandal, D.K. Mutreja, Madhu Sharma, Vinod Sharma)

22/10/2005 – 10 Teams

1. **Delhi Bridge Club** – (A.K. Jha, A.K. Ghosh, R. Nanda, B.S. Gupta, S. Majumdar)
2. **SONCHEL** – (Mukesh Shivdasani, Sudhir Aggarwal, Vinod Sharma, Priya Ranjan Sinha, T.C. Pant)

29/10/2005 – 11 Teams

1. **TIWARI** – (D.K. Tiwari, P.C. Gupta, T.C. Pant, Priya Ranjan Sinha, J.B. Sengupta)
2. **COSMOS** – (Joyjit Sen Sarma, D.K. Mutreja, V.K. Mutreja, A. Mandal)

Vasant Vihar Club Tournament

18 Pairs participated in the Vasant Vihar Club monthly tournament held on 16th October 2005. The results were:

1. Suraj Jain – Daya Dhaon	60.68%
2. Paresh Gupta – Amarjit Wadhawan	60.16%
3. Dr. R.L. Sanghi – Narvir Singh	59.49%
4. Mrs. Vimla Jain – N.N. Chopra	56.63%

- Reported by Mr. Amarjit Wadhawan

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. For details, please see the DBA Notice Board / back page of this Newsletter.

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.

- Reported by Secretary, DBA

AILBA – Pairs Event Results

14/10/2005 - 10 Tables

NS 1: Suraj Jain – Daya Dhaon
NS 2: Mrs. Madhu Kochar – A.K. Narang
EW 1: Mrs. Kunti Thakur – Mrs. Sarita Sharma
EW 2: Mrs. Sushama Gupta – Ujjwal Gupta

21/10/2005 - 9 Tables

NS 1: Mrs. Shashi Jain – Amarjit Wadhawan
NS 2: Suraj Jain – Daya Dhaon
EW 1: S.K. Agarwal – S.A. Bijlani
EW 2: Mrs. Kunti Thakur – Mrs. Sarita Sharma

28/10/2005 - 9 Tables

NS 1: Mrs. Madhu Kochar – A.K. Narang
NS 2: A.K. Jha – S. Majumder
EW 1: Mrs. Suman Khanna – R.C. Khanna
EW 2: V. Tuli – K. Mubayi

- Reported by Mrs. Shashi Jain, Secretary LBA

CBA - North Zone Bridge Championship 2005

The **North Zone Bridge Championship 2005**, under the auspices of the **Contract Bridge Association** was held at Royal Court, Lajpat Nagar, **New Delhi** from **7th to 9th October 2005**. The three-day tournament had 2 events - the "Team of Four" & the "Open Pairs". Teams from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Uttranchal, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, J & K, Rajasthan & Madhya Pradesh were only eligible to play in the tournament. A total of **28 Teams** (with 2 teams exclusively of ladies) & **61 Pairs** participated in the Team of Four & Open Pairs tournament respectively.

Team of Four Event:

The team of four event comprised of a Swiss league of 8 rounds (10 boards each) and the top 8 teams qualifying for the quarterfinal stage. At the end of first day (after 6 rounds), **Formidables** comprising of Mrs. Kiran Nadar, B. Satyanarayana, Subhash Gupta, Rajeshwar Tewari & Vijay Goenka led the field with **119 VPs**. **Dhampur Sugar Mills** comprising of Ashok Goel, Sandeep Thakral, Sudhir Aggarwal, Amod Rele & B. Parasarmpuria were in second place with **112 VPs**.

After playing 2 more rounds on the second day, the quarterfinalists were identified. They were:

1. Formidables	160 VPs
2. Dhampur Sugar Mills	146 VPs
3. ESSVEE	142 VPs
4. Jain's Meerut	136 VPs
5. Pankaj Mehta's, Moradabad	135 VPs
6. Uttranchal	131 VPs
7. VIJAY	131 VPs
8. Bridge Lovers	131 VPs

In the 2*12 boards quarter finals, **Formidables** beat Bridge Lovers (Girish Kumar, Rafat Islam, H.K. Singh, T.P. Khare, Manish Jaiswal, Shantanu Rastogi) by 49 IMPs (31-28, 58-12); **Dhampur Sugar Mills** beat VIJAY (Vijay Kumar, O.K. Mohandass, S. Dharni, R.K. Gupta, R. Chakravarty) by 34 IMPs (C/O 7-0, 50-10, 10-20); **ESSVEE** beat Uttranchal (Justice B.P. Singh, C.P. Agarwal, K.C. Gupta, Prof. R.P. Bhatnagar) by 26 IMPs (23-11, 24-10) and **Pankaj Mehta**, Moradabad beat Jain's Meerut (M.L. Jain, P.C. Jain, B. Roy, R.P. Airan) by 43 IMPs (27-3, 44-15).

In the first of the 3*10 boards semi-final, **Formidables** beat Pankaj Mehta (Pankaj Mehta, Pradeep Singh, Puneet Gangal, Mahendra Singh, Mukul Gupta) by **99-72 IMPs (c/o 12-0, 40-17, 30-26, 17-29)**.

In the second semi-final, **Dhampur Sugar Mills** beat ESSVEE (R.K. Bhansali, B. Prasad, Vinod Sharma, Priya Ranjan Sinha) by **80-74 IMPs (c/o 7-0, 43-2, 0-54, 30-18)**. The second semi-final turned out to be very enthralling with ESSVEE wiping out a huge deficit of 48 IMPs with a massive 54-0 win in the third set, and leading by 6 IMPs.

Dhampur Sugar Mills however came out strongly in the last 10 boards and won the set by 12 IMPs for a 6 IMPs victory margin and a place in the finals against Formidables.

In the 4*12 boards final, **Dhampur Sugar Mills** beat Formidables by **94 - 80 (C/O: 0-8, 26-14, 8-31, 26-12, 34-15)**. **DSM** who were trailing with a carry over of 8 IMPs won the first set by 12 IMPs to take a solitary 4 IMPs lead but had a bad second set losing it with 23 IMPs. At half way stage, Formidables led the final by 19 IMPs. **DSM** fought well in the third set and recovered 14 IMPs and were trailing only by 5 IMPs before the last set. Formidables had one bad board in the last set and that was enough for **DSM** to win the last set by 19 IMPs and the match by 14 IMPs.

Congratulations to the winners Dhampur Sugar Mills team (Ashok Goel, Sandeep Thakral, Sudhir Aggarwal, Amod Rele & B. Parasarmpuria and the runners up **Formidables team** (Mrs. Kiran Nadar, B. Satyanarayana, Subhash Gupta, Rajeshwar Tewari & Vijay Goenka).

The prize of best ladies team went to **DAFFODILS team** (Mrs. Kunti Thakur, Ms. Poonam Datta, Mrs. Madhu Agarwal, Mrs. Mohini Bindra, Mrs. Veena Vishwanathan & Mrs. Singla).

PAIRS Event:

The Pairs Tournament started with 49 Pairs (excluding the players playing the quarter final stage of the team event) taking part in the elimination round. These pairs played in 2 sections (13 tables in section – A & 12 tables in section – B). A total of 36 duplicated boards were played in 2 sessions and the top 13 NS & 13 EW each went through to the final round. The non-qualifiers played another round of elimination and the top 3 NS & 3 EW from this elimination round also qualified for the final round.

A total of 44 pairs constituting of the 32 qualifiers and the 12 pairs from team event (8 losing quarterfinalists & 4 semi-finalist pairs) played in the Open Pairs Final. They were divided in 2 sections of 11 NS & 11 EW pairs each and played a total of 36 boards in 2 sessions (18 duplicated boards in each session). In the first session, D.K. Tewari – P.C. Gupta & Prof. M.A. Qadri – Sharafat Ali with 61.44% score shared the first position. B. Roy – M.L. Jain with 61.11% were third; K. Chandramouli – J.S. Kaul & T.C. Pant – Priya Ranjan Sinha shared the 4th and 5th positions.

Pankaj Mehta – Mahendra Singh, who had only 52.45% in the first session, scored a massive 69.12% score in the second session to win the event. The list of the event winners is as follows: (**Average score 306**) – see next page

1. Pankaj Mehta – Mahendra Singh 371.00
2. T.C. Pant – Priya Ranjan Sinha 363.50
3. A. Mandal – Ashok Bedi 357.68
4. D.K. Tewari - P.C. Gupta 355.00
5. R. Nanda – A.K. Mishra 353.85
6. Prof. M.A. Qadri – Sharafat Ali 346.18
7. B. Roy – M.L. Jain 339.97
8. Vijay Kumar – O.K. Mohandass 338.82

Mrs. Kunti Thakur – Mrs. Mohini Bindra with a score of 318.32 won the prize for the **Best Ladies Pair**.

Those pairs who could not make it to the pairs final, played a consolation pair event and the winners were:

1. C. Prakash – R.P. Mishra 67.14%
2. S.P. Wadera – A. Wadera 62.29%
3. Narvir Singh – Dr. R.L. Sanghi 57.93%

The event got over with the prize distribution ceremony.

- Reported by Editor

Interesting Hand from CBA North Zone Tournament

The following deal is from the Semi-final of the T-4 event between Formidables and Pankaj Mehta.

	♠ KQxx ♥ Axx ♦ Axx ♣ AQx		
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	N W E S	♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	
	♠ Axxxxx ♥ Kxxx ♦ K ♣ xx		

West	North	East	South
Pass	1C	Pass	1H
	3D	Pass	?

North opens 1C (Standard) and partner South responds 1H (for spade suit). North's 3D bid indicates 18-19 HCP balanced hand with 4-carder spade support. How the hand should be bid further?

If you bid 4NT (RKC), partner will bid 5C (1 or 4). Now you have 2 choices – to ask for the trump queen or directly ask the no. of Kings. Actually speaking with 6-4 spade fit, you can even take chances of bidding the grand slam hoping the spades are 2-1. The ♣K (the only outside King) does not help you much as you can not throw your heart losers on it. So what you want for the grand is the ♥Q or doubleton heart, as you can pitch your club loser on the ♦A.

As the 5D bid will ask for the trump queen, the bid of 5H should be for asking control in heart suit (Epsilon style). 5S should mean 2 losers in heart (i.e. Axx as you have already shown the Ace on RKC). 5NT should mean no 3rd round loser i.e. either AQx or Ax.

In case you want to ask the controls in Clubs or diamonds, you can use the 6C or 6D bid. With extra or shortness in the asked suit, bid seven or bid 6 of the trump suit.

Without having this clarification, it is possible to overboard to the grand slam as the North-South pair in this case did and went down as the heart loser could not go anywhere.

Interesting Hand from GOLCHA Tournament

The following hand came in the Elimination-2 round of the Open Pairs event.

Dir: East, Vul: EW

	♠ QJxxx ♥ QTxxxx ♦ x ♣ x		
♠ Kx ♥ Kxx ♦ xxx ♣ JTxxx	N W E S	♠ Axx ♥ QJTxxxx ♦ Qxx ♣	
	♠ AT9765 ♥ x ♦ AK ♣ AKxx		

East opened a pre-emptive Three Diamonds and South got stuck for a bid.

Should he bid 3♠ or Double? South has a genuine fear that 3♠ may get passed out and he requires very little from partner to bid 4♣. There are good chances that slam may also be on. Hence South preferred Double over the 3♠ bid and after PASS by West heard 4♦ (choose the major) by partner. South banged 6♣ but was unlucky to go down one as the spades were 2-0.

- Reported by Editor

GOLCHA Bridge Tournament

The XIIIth All India Rajendra Golcha Memorial Bridge Tournament was held at JAI CLUB, Jaipur from 14th to 16th October 2005.

The tournament details are given below:

TEAM OF FOUR EVENT:

29 teams, which included top teams from Maharashtra, Delhi & Tamilnadu participated in the T-4 event. After playing a Swiss league of 8 rounds (of 10 boards each), the following 8 top teams qualified for the quarterfinal stage:

1. Khandelwals	137 VPs
2. R.L. Kejriwal Mem. Club	127 VPs
3. Radhey, Mumbai	125 VPs
4. Manyavar, Mumbai	125 VPs
5. Radheyshyam Gupta	124 VPs
6. Titans, Mumbai	121 VPs
7. Monotona, Mumbai	119 VPs
8. Hiranandani	117 VPs

Quarterfinals: 2*10 Boards

Radheyshyam Gupta beat Khandelwals (Captained by Rajeev Khandelwal) by 47-39 (15-22, 32-17); Kejriwal Mem. Club beat Hiranandani (Captained by K.K. Shetty) by 55-39 (9-38, 46-1); Radhey beat Titans (Captained by Mrs. Hema Deora) by 63-47 (33-0, 30-47) and Manyavar beat Monotona (Captained by Dipak Poddar) by 44-35 (18-34, 26-1).

Semifinals: 2*12 Boards

Radhey beat Kejriwal Mem. Club (S.N. Kejriwal, Bharti Dey, Sant Kumar Santalia, M.L. Agarwal, M.K. Jaipuria & Col. S.K. Kapoor) by 52-43 (41-20, 11-23); Manyavar beat Radheyshyam Gupta (Radheyshyam Gupta, Dr. D.M. Mehta, R.S. Gera & S. Chitnis) by 83-13 (54-3, 29-10).

Finals: 2*14 Boards

Manyavar (Mrs. Kalpana Mishra, Anil Padhye, Raju Tolani & Vinay Desai) beat Radhey (P.R. Bafna, V.M. Lal, Suhas Vaidya & Ashok Kulkarni) by 77-12 (13-7, 64-5).

The SANKALP team (Mrs. Suniti Rathore, S.N. Soni, P.M. Sharma, Shyam Lal, M. Bhargava) from Jaipur was declared the best Rajasthan team.

OPEN PAIRS EVENT:

62 Pairs played the First Elimination in 2 sections and 34 pairs qualified for the 2nd elimination round. They were joined by the 18 pairs (QF & SF losers of team event) and these 52 pairs played the 2nd elimination in 2 sections of 13 pairs each, out of which 26 pairs qualified for the finals.

The final rankings of the winners were:

1. ARD Sequiera – Finton Lewis	236.85
2. R. Sridharan – Arun Bapat	231.75
3. P. Sridhar – J.M. Shah	217.58
4. N. Niranjana – R.Kannan	204.31
5. Rajeev & Himani Khandelwal	202.58
6. R.S. Gera – D.M. Mehta	196.38

P. Gangal – N.K. Sharma got the prize for the best Rajasthan pair.

BOARD-A-MATCH EVENT:

23 teams participated in the BAM event and played an elimination round, out of which 13 teams went through to the finals. The winners of the 24 boards BAM final were:

1. Evergreen	97
2. Khandelwal	92
3. R.L. Kejriwal Mem. Club	91
4. Tolani Shipping	89

Evergreen were represented by Joyjit Sen Sharma, A.K. Jha, R.K. Gupta, Kamleshwar Rai & Chanchal Dass.

Mr. Niranjana Ubhayakar, the CTD and his team of directors did an excellent job in running the tournament.

As in the past, this year also the hospitality of the organizers was of the highest order.

The only setback of the tournament was that there were far less number of teams than the usual number. Earlier this tournament used to be open to all the teams but like last year again there was a confusion that this tournament is open to only invited teams and hence many teams did not participate as no invitation was sent to them.

We hope the organizers will take care of this aspect and next year the tournament will again regain its glory as North India's premium tournament in which maximum number of team participate.

Congratulations to All the Winners

- Reported by Editor

International Bridge News

The World Championships 2005

The World Bridge Championships 2005, comprising of the **Bermuda Bowl**, **Venice Cup**, **Seniors Bowl** and **Transnational Open Teams** were held at Estoril Congress Centre, **Estoril, Portugal** from October 22 to November 5, 2005.

The tournament was officially opened by World Bridge Federation President José Damiani, assisted by Cascais Mayor Antonio d'Orey Capucho, Herculano Ferreira, president of the Portuguese Bridge Federation, Rui Mourinha, vice-president of the Sport Institute of Portugal, and Duarte Nobre Guedes, chairman of the Estoril Tourist Board.

The teams were introduced, in turn, by Zia Mahmood (Venice Cup), Lorenzo Lauria (Seniors) and Sabine Auken (Bermuda Bowl).

22 teams each for the Bermuda Bowl, the Venice Cup and for the Senior Bowl participated in the championships. Each team played 3 matches per day (Bermuda Bowl matches were 20 boards each, whereas Venice Cup & Senior Bowl matches were of 16 boards each) and after 7 grueling days of all play all Round Robin, the quarter finalists could be identified. The top teams were:

(After complete Round Robin of 21 Rounds)

RANK VENICE CUP

Rank	Team	VPs
1	FRANCE	423
2	CHINA	383.3
3	GERMANY	383
4	U.S.A.2	374
5	U.S.A.1	366
6	ENGLAND	346
7	NETHERLANDS	329.5
8	CANADA	312
9	AUSTRIA	310
10	EGYPT	306
11	AUSTRALIA	303
12	JAPAN	302
13	BRAZIL	298
	NEW ZEALAND	298
15	SWEDEN	293
16	PORTUGAL	287
17	ARGENTINA	269.5
18	SINGAPORE	269
19	VENEZUELA	268
20	PAKISTAN	266.3
21	MOROCCO	250
22	INDIA	247

RANK BERMUDA BOWL

Rank	Team	VPs
1	ITALY	368
2	U.S.A.2	348
3	U.S.A.1	347
4	SWEDEN	344
	INDIA	344
6	ARGENTINA	339.5
7	EGYPT	339
8	BRAZIL	334
9	JAPAN	328
10	NETHERLANDS	323
	CHINA	323
12	SOUTH AFRICA	317
13	RUSSIA	314
14	PORTUGAL	312
	AUSTRALIA	312
16	NEW ZEALAND	305.5
17	ENGLAND	305
18	CANADA	301
19	CHINESE TAIPEI	273
20	POLAND	272.5
21	GUADELOUPE	225
22	JORDAN	184

RANK SENIOR BOWL

Rank	Team	VPs
1	U.S.A. 1	394
2	INDONESIA	378
3	U.S.A. 2	363
4	DENMARK	360
5	PORTUGAL	355
6	FRANCE	354
7	NETHERLANDS	352
8	ISRAEL	336
9	POLAND	333
10	AUSTRALIA	323
11	ITALY	322
12	JAPAN	312.5
13	GERMANY	311
14	CANADA	303
15	PAKISTAN	289
16	SWEDEN	286
17	BANGLADESH	274
18	EGYPT	264
19	MOROCCO	261
20	NEW ZEALAND	255
21	BRAZIL	226
22	GUADELOUPE	217

Four members of the team that won the Bermuda Bowl in 2001 – Rose Meltzer, Alan Sontag, Lew Stansby and Peter Weichsel represented USA1 seniors team. Italy featured two members of the legendary Italian Blue Team – Pietro Forquet and Benito Garozzo in their senior team.

A remarkable set of deals produced some stunning results as qualifying rounds were completed in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and Seniors Bowl.

In Bermuda Bowl, disappointment was the order of the day for China. Sitting in second place as the final day began, the Chinese were clobbered by Brazil on the final round and did not make the cut. The Netherlands, also in a top-eight spot with one day to play, dropped out as well.

Even more disappointed was Austria in the Venice Cup, losing out on the final board of the set when Canada gained 14 IMPs against Portugal to turn defeat into victory and move into eighth place.

France set the standard in the Venice Cup with a string of impressive wins. USA1 were the runaway leaders in the Seniors Bowl, the only event in which host Portugal will field a team for the knockout phase.

The Quarter Finals (6 * 16 boards)

BERMUDA BOWL

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
ITALY	0	53	53	31	67	35	33	272
INDIA	2.3	49	8	43	22	31	37	192.3
USA2	0	33	40	50	40	44	43	250
ARGENTINA	4	20	46	28	24	32	44	198
USA1	9	40	24	16	55	57	42	243
BRAZIL	0	9	38	30	2	32	30	141
SWEDEN	16	27	64	36	27	53	45	268
EGYPT	0	30	18	54	28	6	21	157

VENICE CUP

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
FRANCE	15.5	28	62	55	69	WO	WO	229.5
CANADA	0	36	7	9	20	WO	WO	72
CHINA	16	28	27	20	40	61	27	219
N'LANDS	0	10	28	71	33	61	47	250
GERMANY	0	57	27	47	29	50	WO	210
ENGLAND	3.7	23	40	25	16	16	WO	123.7
USA2	0	25	39	12	23	36	WO	135
USA1	9	33	28	64	35	68	WO	237

SENIOR BOWL

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
USA1	11	45	46	19	46	30	20	217
FRANCE	0	14	48	9	31	15	14	131
INDONESIA	16	31	24	56	61	52	80	320
PORTUGAL	0	35	36	25	34	35	36	201
USA2	16	24	28	26	31	49	13	187
N'LANDS	0	21	45	53	41	27	18	205
DENMARK	16	21	37	58	52	54	65	303
ISRAEL	0	17	61	12	19	47	35	191

The quarter-finals turned out to be nearly one-sided. In fact in the Venice Cup, 3 teams gave a walk over to their opponents in the last set. The only interesting match was the Venice cup match between China & Netherlands with Netherlands leading by only 11 IMPs with 16 boards to go. However, Netherlands won the last set by 20 IMPs for a deserving victory. Alas, the Chinese ladies could not show their form of Monte Carlo, where they were the silver medalists.

The Semi Finals (6 * 16 boards)

BERMUDA BOWL

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
ITALY	3	43	20	56	49	34	WO	205
SWEDEN	0	11	45	19	22	34	WO	131
USA2	0	18	35	28	26	35	30	172
USA1	5	26	40	55	16	18	51	211

VENICE CUP

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
FRANCE	16	42	21	43	43	53	44	262
USA1	0	26	30	16	14	33	31	150
N'LANDS	16	22	22	38	41	17	8	164
GERMANY	0	26	68	35	11	31	71	241

SENIOR BOWL

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
DENMARK	0	36	34	26	24	9	27	156
INDONESIA	10.5	13	21	30	7	57	30	168.5
N'LANDS	0	22	22	29	33	11	WO	117
USA1	11	45	48	55	38	26	WO	223

USA1 had to fend off the determined Russ Ekeblad team, USA2, to reach the final. USA2 had pulled to within 18 IMPs with 16 boards to play, but USA1 took the final set 50-21 to win by 211-172.

Italy had a much easier time as Sweden withdrew after five sets with the Italians leading 205-131. In the final, the Americans will start with a 20-IMP carry-over.

It was a rematch! Italy and USA1 will replay their dramatic showdown in Monte Carlo, one of the most exciting matches in the history of the Bermuda Bowl.

In the Venice Cup, there were some nervous German supporters after the Netherlands had levelled their match with two sets to go, but Germany went up by 14 IMPs through five sets, and smashed the Dutch 71-8 over the final 16 boards to earn a chance at the title.

Germany faced France — easy winners over USA1 — for the championship. Although the teams have different line-ups now, the match was a repeat of the Venice Cup final from Paris in 2001 (won by Germany).

The Seniors Bowl final pitted USA1 and Indonesia, who mounted a huge comeback to knock out Denmark. Indonesia trailed 81.5-120 with 32 deals to play but had a great fifth set, winning 57-9, to make it to the championship round.

The Play-off for Bronze (3 * 16 boards)

BERMUDA BOWL

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	Total
USA2	12	25	37	17	91
SWEDEN	0	13	39	24	76

VENICE CUP

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	Total
NETHERLANDS	0	18	32	35	85
USA1	12	43	20	5	80

SENIOR BOWL

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	Total
DENMARK	0	15	48	44	107
NETHERLANDS	8	48	12	22	90

The USA2, The Netherlands and the Denmark teams won the play-off matches to earn the bronze medals in the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & the Senior Bowl respectively.

The Finals (6 * 16 boards)

BERMUDA BOWL

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
ITALY	0	19	33	22	43	42	32	30	47	268
USA1	20	24	37	24	43	17	18	29	38	250

VENICE CUP

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
FRANCE	16	33	29	9	32	23	49	191
GERMANY	0	1	33	34	30	32	6	136

SENIOR BOWL

COUNTRY	CO	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
USA1	1	10	20	57	44	29	52	213
INDONESIA	0	26	58	20	25	32	29	190

The Italians beat USA1 to take the Gold medal in the Bermuda Bowl. In a well fought match, the Italians led by 8 IMPs after 96 boards. They gained 1 more IMP in the second last set and consolidated it with another 9 IMPs to win by 18 IMPs.

France took the gold medal in the Venice Cup. With the last 16 boards to go, they led Germany by only 12 IMPs, but the French ladies took complete control of the match beating them by 43 IMPs in the last set.

In the Senior Bowl, USA1 beat Indonesia to take the gold medal. With the last 16 boards to go, the scores were tied at 161-161. Indonesia took the lead early in the final set, but the Americans came storming back, the key deal being a 15-IMP swing that resulted from a disastrous bidding misunderstanding by the Indonesians on Board 10.

(Information Courtesy: Daily Bulletins of World Championships, live BBO Vu-graphs, Worldbridge & Swangames web sites)

List of winners

Bermuda Bowl

Gold: **Italy** – Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Fulvio Fantoni, Lorenzo Lauria, Claudio Nunes, Alfredo Versace. Non-playing Captain: Maria Teresa Lavazza. Coach: Massimo Ortensi.

Silver: **USA1** – Dick Freeman, Bob Hamman, Jeff Meckstroth, Nick Nickell, Eric Rodwell, Paul Soloway. NCP Sidney Lazard. Coach: Eric Kokish.

Bronze: **USA2** – Russ Ekeblad, Fred Gitelman, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Brad Moss, Ron Rubin. NPC: Steve Landen. Coach: Sheri Winestock.

Venice Cup

Gold: **France** – Benedicte Cronier, Catherine D'Ovidio, Nathalie Frey, Daniele Gaviard, Vanessa Reess, Sylvie Willard. NPC: Gerard Tissot

Silver: **Germany** – Anja Alberti, Sabine Auken, Barbara Hackett, Pony Beate Nehmert, Mirja Scharaverus, Daniela von Arnim. NPC: Bernard Ludewig. Coach: Nikolas Bausback.

Bronze: **Netherlands** – Carla Arnolds, Femke Hoogweg, Jet Pasman, Anneke Simons, Wietske van Zwol, Bep Vriend. NCP: Ed Franken. Coach: Enri Leufkens.

Seniors Bowl

Gold: **USA1** – Roger Bates, Garey Hayden, Rose Meltzer, Alan Sontag, Lew Stansby, Peter Weichsel. NCP: Jan Martel. Coach: Chip Martel.

Silver: **Indonesia** – Henky Lasut, Freddy Eddy Manoppo, Denny Jacob Sacul, Amiruddin Yusuf, Arwin Budirahardja.

Bronze: **Denmark** – Jens Auken, Flemming Dahl, Peter Lund, Kirsteen Steen Moller, Steen Moller, Georg Norris. NPC: Peter Westrup.

Transnational Open Teams

Gold: **Schneider** - Baze G (USA), Gawrys (Poland), Lesnieswki (Poland), Schneider P (USA).

Silver: **Spector** - Bramley B (USA), Fallenius B (Sweden), Feldman M (USA), Martel C (USA), Spector W (USA), Welland R (USA).

Bronze: **777** (Russia) – Dubinin A, Gromov A, Khokhlov J, Khven M

Transnational Open Teams

A record 134 Teams from all over the world took part in this event. Besides the Indian team (Team "NADAR" in this event), which represented India in Bermuda Bowl, another team from India - "VENKATESH" (captained by G. Venkatesh's of USA and other 5 players from India) also participated in this tournament. Team "Nader" was represented by Mrs. Kiran Nadar, B. Satyanarayana, Subhash Gupta, Rajeshwar Tewari, K.R. Venkatraman & Sunit Chokshi, whereas team "Venkatesh" was represented by G. Venkatesh, K. Krishan Kumar, Pritish Kushari, Sumit Mukherjee, S. Sarkar & Badal Das.

After playing a swiss league of 15 rounds (of 10 boards each), the following teams qualified for the quarterfinal stage:

RANK	Team Name	VPs
1.	777	276
2.	HUSSEIN	270
3.	SHUGART	268
4.	SHATO ROSENOVO	266
5.	SCHNEIDER	265
6.	SOFIA PESSOA	264
7.	CHINA OPEN	262
8.	SPECTOR	261.6

VENKATESH team with 254.5 was placed 13th, whereas NADAR team with 239 was at 34th position.

HADI (246.4 – 20th) & DATA STEEL (216 - 81st) were the teams from Pakistan, while ALLANA (221 - 73rd) a combined team of players from Pakistan & Egypt participated in the event.

The Quarter Finals (2 * 16 boards)

777 beat SOFIA PESSOA (Portugal - PESSOA FARIA J, PEREIRA P, PAZ N, CASTANHEIRA J, PESSOA S, SANTOS R) by **73-47**; SPECTOR beat SHUGART (BALICKI C, POL; ZMUDZINSKI A, POL; ROBSON A, ENG; SHUGART R, USA) by **66-33**; SCHNEIDER beat HUSSEIN (COHEN R, Canada; GOWER C, RSA; SADEK T, Egypt; LEVIT Y, ISR; RAND N, ISR; HUSSEIN A, Egypt) by **81-67**; CHINA OPEN beat SHATO ROSENOVO (BUL - IVANOV I, BONEV I, BATOV V, BARANTIEV N) by **77-25**.

The Semi Finals (2 * 16 boards)

SCHNEIDER beat 777 (Russia - DUBININ A, GROMOV A, KHOKHLOV J, KHVEN M) by **59-48** (32-21, 27-27);

SPECTOR beat CHINA OPEN (ZHUANG Z, SHI H, DAI J, FU Z, ZHAO J, YANG L) by **69-58** (36-20, 33-38)

The Finals (3 * 16 boards)

SCHNEIDER (POL/USA - GAWRYS P & LESNIEWSKI M from Poland and BAZE G & SCHNEIDER P from USA) beat SPECTOR (USA - FELDMAN M, SPECTOR W, BRAMLEY B, MARTEL C, WELLAND R & FALLENIOUS B from Sweden) by **93-70** (38-5, 37-32, 18-33)

Wbridge5 Wins

A team of four Wbridge5 robots defeated four-time reigning champion Jack 136-67 in the final of the World Computer Bridge Championship.

Wbridge5 was created in France, Jack in the Netherlands. The two programs reached the final by finishing first (Jack) and second in the six-team round-robin.

At the halfway point of the 64-board final, Jack was in the lead 45-44, but Wbridge5 was too strong in the second half, winning the third set 41-4 and the fourth 50-19 to cruise to victory.

Butler Rankings (At the end of Round-Robin)

Bermuda Bowl

Rank	Name	Matches	Score
1	Geoff HAMPSON - Eric GRECO (USA2)	17	0.56
2	Waleed EI AHMADI (EGY)	20	0.49
3	Martin REID - Peter NEWELL (NZL)	16	0.47
4	Alfredo VERSACE - Lorenzo LAURIA (ITA)	14	0.46
5	Tarek SADEK (EGY)	21	0.43
6	Fredrik NYSTROM - Peter BERTHEAU (SWE)	14	0.43
7	Norberto BOCCHI - Giorgio DUBOIN (ITA)	15	0.40
8	B. SATYANARAYANA - Kiran NADAR (IND)	13	0.40
9	Tony NUNN - Sartaj HANS (AUS)	16	0.38
10	Lixin YANG - Jianming DAI (CHN)	13	0.36
20	K R VENKATARAMAN - Sunit CHOKSHI (IND)	14	0.18
37	Subhash GUPTA - Rajesh TIWARI (IND)	15	0.06

Venice Cup

1	Nicola SMITH - Heather DHONDY (ENG)	13	0.84
2	Vanessa REESS - Nathalie FREY (FRA)	11	0.84
3	Sylvie WILLARD - Benedicte CRONIER (FRA)	15	0.80
4	Sabine AUKEN - Daniela von ARNIM (GER)	20	0.71
5	Joanna STANSBY-Debbie ROSENBERG (USA1)	19	0.65
6	Anja ALBERTI-M. SCHRAVERUS-MEUER (GER)	11	0.64
7	Carla ARNOLDS - Bep VRIEND (NED)	15	0.63
8	Yalan ZHANG - Ling GU (CHN)	14	0.59
9	Daniele GAVIARD-Catherine D' OVIDIO (FRA)	15	0.54
10	Ming SUN - Jian WANG (CHN)	14	0.51

Seniors Bowl

1	Reese MILNER - Mark MOLSON (USA2)	7	1.19
2	Peter WEICHSEL - Alan SONTAG (USA1)	17	0.81
3	Nico KLAVER - Roald RAMER (NED)	14	0.66
4	Lew STANSBY - Roger BATES (USA1)	18	0.57
5	Carlos TEIXEIRA-Jose' A. DEBONNAIRE (POR)	16	0.56
6	Pierre ADAD - Gerard SALLIERE (FRA)	10	0.54
7	Bruce NEILL - Ron KLINGER (AUS)	14	0.54
8	Nicolas DECHELETTE - F. LEENHARDT (FRA)	16	0.51
9	Kirsten Steen MOLLER - Jens AUKEN (DEN)	14	0.51
10	Denny SACUL (INA)	20	0.48

Performance of INDIA in the World Championships

The performance of the Indian team in Bermuda Bowl exceeded the expectations of the World of Bridge. Before their departure to Estoril, Kiran, Subhash & Co. had promised their friends in Delhi that this time they will surely try to be in the last 8 and the dream came true.

Initially it looked to be going exactly like the previous years. They could muster only 49 VPs on the first day and were placed 9th, the highlight of the day being their win against Italy by 16-14; second day was bad as they could get only 16 against the low rated Jordan; 3rd day was worst with only 39 out of 75 VPs coming their way and the host Portugal outplaying them 21-9. On the 4th day the situation was looking totally bleak after they were thrashed 25-5 by USA2. However beating New Zealand (19-11) & China (21-9) brought some cheers to them. 5th day was again not much encouraging as they could only get 45 / 75 VPs and were placed at 15th position with 6 rounds to go.

INDIA's Score in Bermuda Bowl – Round Robin

Rnd	Opponent	IMPs		VPs		Total VPs	Rank
		IND	Opp	IND	Opp		
1	AUSTRALIA	34	35	15	15	15	11
2	ITALY	41	34	16	14	31	7
3	CHINESE TAIPEI	46	30	18	12	49	9
4	JORDAN	46	41	16	12	65	7
5	SWEDEN	39	44	14	16	79	7
6	ENGLAND	34	50	12	18	91	13
7	PORTUGAL	26	55	9	21	100	13
8	ARGENTINA	34	36	15	14.5	115	13
9	NETHERLANDS	18	20	15	15	130	14
10	U.S.A.2	14	62	5	25	135	17
11	NEW ZEALAND	41	23	19	11	154	15
12	CHINA	61	34	21	9	175	15
13	GUADELOUPE	60	29	21	9	196	13
14	RUSSIA	38	46	14	16	210	14
15	BRAZIL	14	38	10	20	220	15
16	CANADA	73	28	24	6	244	9
17	U.S.A.1	37	30	16	14	260	11
18	JAPAN	58	23	22	8	282	9
19	POLAND	56	52	16	14	298	7
20	S. AFRICA	91	38	25	5	323	4
21	EGYPT	86	59	21	9	344	5

It will be a mystery, what they ate on the night of 27th Oct 2005 or whether they skipped their dinner due to anger (not performing up to the mark), but the next day surely brought them some good luck.

They had huge 24-6 victory against Canada, a morale booster 16-14 victory against Macwell & Co. (USA1) and an easy 22-8 victory against Japan. 62 out of 75 VPs brought them to the 9th position and the killer instinct to be in quarter-finals has come back.

They did not disappoint their fans and won all their 3 matches on the last day. They beat Poland 16-14, thrashed South Africa by 25-5 and comfortably beat Egypt (Egypt was going great guns and had beaten nearly all good teams) by 21-9 to gain another 62 VPs out of 75 and have a total of 344 VPs for joint 4th & 5th position.

Had Sweden not performed exceedingly well on the last board of their last match against Argentina, they would have reached only 342 and India would have been on 4th position instead of the 5th position due to their loss to Sweden in the direct match.

Due to their 5th position, Italy chose them as their opponents and India lost to them 272-192.3. May be they would have reached the Semi-final stage, if they could be on the 4th position.

Kudos to Kiran & her team for their fantastic performance. **WELL DONE KIRAN, SATYA, SUBHASH, RAJESHWAR, SUMIT & VENKY.** KEEP it up.

Heartiest congratulations to you all from every one in India.

Well they could sustain their winning ways in the Transnational open teams and could only finish 34th in that event.

The other Indian team VENKATESH (G. Venkatesh from USA, Pritish Kushari, Sumit Mukherjee, K. Krishna Kumar, Badal Das & S. Dey Sarkar) performed very well and finished 13th in the competition. They missed the quarter-final bus by only 7 VPs. They lost their last match by 19-11 but if they could have won it by 19-11, they would have reached the Quarter finals.

The performance of the Indian ladies was pathetic and they finished last in the Venice cup with 247 VPs. In fact Pakistan, whom they had beaten comfortably in the BFAME performed better.

The ladies team surely requires more exposure of the International tournaments, if they want to perform better in the future.

We hope the Indian teams will be able to perform better in the next World Bridge Championships to be held at Verona in June 2006.

Editor

Interesting Deals from World Championships 2005

This deal is from the Round 5 match.

Board 12, Dealer: West, Vul: NS

	♠ AKT984 ♥ QT3 ♦ 87 ♣ 92	
♠ Q5 ♥ J98654 ♦ J5 ♣ QT8	N W E S	♠ 6 ♥ AK72 ♦ KQT632 ♣ J6
	♠ J732 ♥ A94 ♦ AK7543	

There were two successful auctions to Seven Spades.

In the Bermuda Bowl match against Sweden, the Indian pair of Subhash Gupta and Rajeshwar Tiwari bid like this:

West	North	East	South
	<i>Tiwari</i>		<i>Gupta</i>
Pass	2S	Dbl	5H(i)
Pass	6C(ii)	Pass	7S
All Pass			

(i) Exclusion Roman Key Card Blackwood

(ii) Two key cards

In the Seniors Bowl, Stephen Brown and Pierre Daigneault from Canada conducted this auction:

West	North	East	South
	<i>Brown</i>		<i>Daigneault</i>
Pass	2S	3D	4D
Pass	4H	Pass	5NT
Pass	6S	Pass	7S
All Pass			

But one North/South pair were given a very hard time by Tom Townsend and David Gold of England.

West	North	East	South
	<i>Townsend</i>	<i>Gold</i>	
2S(i)	Pass	3D	Dbl
Pass	4S	All Pass	

(i) A weak pre-empt in any suit

It was a flat board, though, because the English North/South pair stopped in Five Spades, South not looking for slam opposite a Two-Spade opening.

Nice Lead

South Africa and India had been moving steadily up the Bermuda Bowl rankings over the last few rounds. When they met in Round 20, India had moved into a qualifying place while South Africa was just outside the top eight, still well in touch.

This match saw India almost confirm their quarter-final participation while killing off the hopes of their opponents.

This early board played a part in that outcome.

Board 5, Dealer North, N/S Vul.

	♠ 876 ♥ J32 ♦ J754 ♣ K94	
♠ KT532 ♥ A64 ♦ 932 ♣ 52	N W E S	♠ Q9 ♥ KQ95 ♦ KQ ♣ AQJ86
	♠ AJ4 ♥ T87 ♦ AT86 ♣ T73	

West	North	East	South
<i>Holman</i>	<i>Choksi</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Venkataraman</i>
	Pass	1C	Pass
1S	Pass	2H	Pass
2S	Pass	3S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Four Spades is a decent contract, having some hope of making even with the CK offside, unlike 3NT on a diamond lead. As the cards lie, it seems that declarer will always succeed if he gets the spades right, but Sunit Choksi threw a spanner in the works by leading the jack of hearts.

Glen Holman won the king of hearts and tried the effect of running the nine of spades. He was pleased to see that hold the trick and continued with the SQ to K.R. Venkataraman's ace. South switched to ace and another diamond to dummy's king. Declarer crossed to the ace of hearts, cashed the SK and played a heart to the nine. When that lost to the ten, Venkataraman had a diamond to cash for down one — embarrassing when the club finesse was working all along, and worth 10 IMPs to India.

It is easy to say that declarer should have been suspicious of the lead — jack from J1032 is not that attractive a lead, particularly in a suit bid by dummy — but tiredness is beginning to creep in for many players after a week of hard bridge.

(Courtesy: Daily Bulletins of World Championships)

Delhi State Championships

The schedule of the Delhi State Championships 2005 to be held at DBA 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.**

Tolani National Masters Bridge Championship 2005

The Tolani National Masters Bridge Championship 2005, sponsored by Tolani group of companies is being organized by Mumbai Sports & Bridge Association from 5th to 8th November 2005. Venue of the tournament is: Shahaji Raje Bhosale Sports Complex, J.P. Road, Andheri (West), Mumbai

Eligibility for being a National Master is 600 master points; out of which 300 should be red points. The tournament will have "Team of Four" event.

Entry: Rs. 2500/- per team

DELHI GYMKHANA BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

The Delhi Gymkhana Club Gujarmal Modi Annual Bridge Tournament will be held from 25th to 27th Nov 2005 at the Gymkhana Club, Delhi. There will be two events – A "Team of Four" and an "Open Pairs".

The total prize money is Rs. 4,51,000/-

Entry: Rs. 3000/- per team & Rs. 600/- per Pair

50% concession for teams comprising of players less than 35 yrs.

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

05-08 Nov: Tolani Masters, Mumbai
11-13 Nov: Yashvantrao Holkar Tournament, Indore
18-20 Nov: Singhania Pairs, Kanpur
25-27 Nov: Delhi Gymkhana Club Tournament, Delhi
02-04 Dec: Delhi State Championships, DBA, Delhi
10-11 Dec: Tournament at IIP, Dehradun
27 Dec – 5 Jan 06: Winter Nationals, Chennai
16-19 Feb 2006: Lohia Bridge Tournament, Kanpur

International

17-27 Nov – Fall NABC, Denver
02-04 Dec – International Team Tournament, Milan,
Italy

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