


Captain's Report by Rick Hanley

There was another good day for the Suffolk team in the ECL match v Beds on Sunday. I think that our improved performance this season owes a lot to our sponsored participation in the online EBU National League. Well done SCBA. Full results, team line-ups and the league table can all be found on the county website.

The A team secured a second successive win, this time by 50 imps(16-4). It was a good all-round performance with all four pairs achieving a positive cross-imp score. The B team lost fairly narrowly (7-13). However, pride of place must go to the C team who won decisively (17-3). In so doing, they extended their lead at the top of the table. The most encouraging thing was that Beds are lying second in the table. There were excellent cards from Jo/Dennis and Richard/John. Credit also to Chris K and David M who stepped in when their regular partners indicated their unavailability.

Jo and Dennis's place at the top of the cross-imp table owed a lot to their performance on board 8 (see below). Sitting west, Dennis opened a diamond and Jo responded with one heart. She explained her decision to bid a heart rather than a spade because it allows Dennis to rebid one spade. I leave it to you to decide whether or not this was a logical choice. However, it worked very well on this hand and a spade bid might have led to an unsuccessful diamond contract, as it did at my table. Jo ended up as one of six people who declared 5 hearts. The play is not particularly difficult but Jo was the only one who made it. She was able to ruff enough diamonds to establish diamond winners on the table. She was careful not to have ruffed low which would have allowed her opponents to score three heart tricks and defeat the contract. Sadly, not all declarers showed the same care as Jo did.

		J 4 2 K K Q 6 3 9 6 5 3 2	
A K Q J 9 8 A 10 8 7 5 4 2		Q 8 7 6 5 10 7 6 4 2 J K J	
9 14 7 10	10 9 3 A 5 3 9 A Q 10 8 7 4		

