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## Bulletin - 7, 6th November 2023

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Azs Buboslovakia defeated Formidables that turned out to be a nail-biting one in the last set. With the last deal to go, Azs Buboslovakia were leading 107.5 – 96. In the Open Room, the Buboslav North-South had collected a 300 penalty in 6♠ doubled. Supporters of Formidables were hoping that North-South in the Closed Room would reach 6♣ and be allowed to play there. That didn't happen and Azs Buboslovakia won the event 112.5-96. Poland defeated team Hemant Jalan 144.5-93 to finish third. [Link below for details.](#)

Mohini Tandan trophy for Team of Four SILVER winners was lifted by Standard Plus when they defeated Shiv Shakti 98-74. In the play-off for third position, ICSA Coolers defeated Mind Crusaders 93-69. Details are available on the following [link](#).

[https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display\\_rank&event=20231105\\_2&club=hcl](https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20231105_2&club=hcl)

Boje Brogeland and Christian Bakke clinched the Neena Bonerjee trophy when they won the Match-Point GOLD Pairs final with a score of 62.49%. Julian Stefanov and Vladimir Mihov from Bulgaria finished second with 61.09% and Jerry Stamatov and Ivan Nanev finished third with 58.42% score. Zia Mahmood and Geir Helgemo had to be content with the fourth position. [Link below](#) for detailed results.

[https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display\\_rank&event=20231105\\_1&club=hcl](https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20231105_1&club=hcl)

Mukund Jagannathan and Gautam Biswas won the Match-Points SILVER Pairs final. R.G. Bhiwandkar and Subhash Dhakras were second while Priya Sinha and Koushik Mukherjee were third. Detailed results [here](#).

[https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display\\_rank&event=20231105\\_5&club=hcl](https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20231105_5&club=hcl)

Binod Kumar and Sanjit Dey won the IMP Pairs event with an aggregate score of +89.8 IMPs. Mithun Mukherjee and Soumya Das were second with +82.1. Details results on the link below

[https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display\\_rank&event=20231105\\_6&club=hcl](https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20231105_6&club=hcl)

Swapan Sardar and Sisir Kumar Banerjee won the IMP strata Pairs with a score of +112 while Kista (Ramaratnam Krishnan) and Atul Rai finished second with a score of +100.

[https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display\\_rank&event=20231105\\_6&club=hcl](https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoq/bw.cgi?pid=display_rank&event=20231105_6&club=hcl)

The HCL 2023 International Bridge Championships, the 20<sup>th</sup> edition of the event, concludes today with the conclusion of these events. It was a grand festival of Bridge with participation from the West and East. We thank all the participants for making this event a great success and look forward to hosting even more teams in the next edition.



## GOLD TEAMS FINAL RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S1	S2	S3	S4	Total
A1	Azs Buboslavia	12.5	22	14	43	21	112.5
	Formidables		19	4	45	28	96

**Azs Buboslavia** : Kamil Nowak, Piotr Marcinowski, Jakub Patreuha, Patryk Patreuha

**Formidables** : Kiran Nadar, Bachiraju Satyanarayana, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sumit Mukherjee, Kaustabh Nandi, Sagnik Roy

## PLAY OFF FOR 3RD POSITION

Table	Team	C-O	S1	S2	S3	S4	Total
A2	Poland	10.5	38	58	38	w/o	144.5
	Hemant Jalan		21	49	23		93

**Poland** : Buras Krzysztof, Jacek Pszczola, Wojciech Gawel, Rafal Jagniewski, Przemyslaw Janiszewski, Wojciech Strzemecki

**Hemant Jalan** : Hemant Jalan, Ashis Malhotra, Abhijit Chakraborty, Prasun Kumar Mukherjee, Sayantan Kushari, Kaustubh Milind Bendre

## SILVER TEAMS FINAL RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
A1	Standard Plus		26	18	30	24	98
	Shiv Shakti		19	5	7	43	74

**Standard Plus** : Rajeev S, Sukumaran Rajeev, Sahirudeen, Asok Jose Lean, Ranga Khadloya, Nizamudeen Shahul Hamid, Franz Mundaden

**Shiv Shakti** : Goutam Chatterjee, Sanjib Bhattacharjee, Sanjib Ganguly, Prabir Kumar Thakur, Manoj Kumar Dey, Tapan Kr Bhattacharya

## PLAY OFF FOR 3RD POSITION

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
A2	ICSA Coolers		30	32	31	w/o	93
	Mind Crusaders		32	14	23		69

**ICSA Coolers** : S Vijayraghavan, Afshar Majeed, Sandeep Dang, Surajit Bar, Soham Sarkar, Subhasree Basu

**Mind Crusaders** : Sanjib Majumder, Sayantan Konar, Sujit Sadhak, Biswadip Roy, Shouvik Das, Bijit Datta



## Results : Open MP Pairs Silver Final

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %
1	41	Mukund Jagannathan & Gautam Biswas	366.8	61.14
2	38	RG Bhiwandkar & Subhash Dhakras	345.3	57.56
3	48	Priya Sinha & Koushik Mukherjee	332.5	55.41
4	51	Mrinal Mukherjee & Sowmik Das	330.2	55.03
5	43	TV Ramani & Subhash Bhvanani	324.2	54.04
6	35	Rana Roy & Maneesh Bahuguna	321.9	53.66
7	30	Anirban Sasmal & Atanu Ganguly	321.4	53.56
8	33	Kamal Mukherjee & SK Iyengar	321.2	53.54
9	37	Kanna Krishnamurthy & Sukanta Das	313.8	52.3
10	40	Subhajit Choudhury & Sukalyan Sarkar	310.4	51.73
11	54	Alok Sadhu & Partho Mukherjee	310.2	51.7
12	39	Ashok Goel & Vinay Desai	309.5	51.59
13	29	Asha Sharma & Rajesh Jain	306.4	51.07
14	52	Pranab Bardhan & Badal Das	303.3	50.55
15	36	Shambhunath Ghosh & Biswajit Poddar	302.9	50.49
16	46	Vijay Phaterpekhkar & Prakash Hegde	300.6	50.1
17	53	Shankar Acharya & Sujit Sur	297.8	49.63
18	31	Pranab Roy & Amit Pal	296	49.34
19	44	Lusje Olha Bojoh & Julita Grace Tueje	295.3	49.22
20	34	Taufiq Asbi & Leslie Gontha	291.5	48.59
21	50	Parimal Vahalia & Rupa Bakeri	281.1	46.85
22	42	R Sridharan & Subir Majumdar	278.1	46.34
23	32	Mrinal Halder & Amitava Banerjee	277.3	46.21
24	45	Anil Kumar & Girish Kumar	265.3	44.21
25	47	Andrey Puroshottam & Swapan Some	264.5	44.09
26	49	Pinaki Khan & Animesh Majumder	245.6	40.93

# GOLD Teams Final : Formidables vs. Azs Buboslavia

The final of the GOLD Teams started on a quite note with a 2IMP gain for formidables on the first board followed by four push boards – B2 to B5. Both the teams had won their semi-final match with a convincing margin, in fact, team Hemant Jalan, Formidables’ opponents in the semi-final had conceded after three sessions. On the other hand, Azs Buboslavia youngsters were beaming with confidence after beating a strong Poland Team. “Well done”, I congratulated Patryk after that win and added a query, “did the Poland team guys have one beer too many the other evening?”. “We won the match”, he quipped.

The final was going to be a Close affair. Still, Formidables had lost to Azs Buboslavia 5-30 in the Swiss League. As per conditions of contest, half of that would be the carry over for Azs Buboslavia. Thus, they started with a carryover of 12.5. That match itself started on a quite note with a 2-0 score after five boards. Board 5 produced the first big swing.



<div>6</div>		N TEWARI R		W N E S	
		♠ 64		1♦ P 1♠ P	
		♥ A873		2♣ P 3♥ P	
		♦ 75		3♣ P P	
		♣ AJ742			
W PIOTR M				E NOWAK K	
♠ KJ82				♠ AQ1075	
♥ 5				♥ 10964	
♦ AJ982				♦ K6	
♣ K86				♣ 103	
		S SUMIT M			
		♠ 93			
		♥ KQJ2			
		♦ Q1043			
		♣ Q95			
Other table: 4♠E+1				3♠ E NS: 0 EW: 0	
NS: Formidables		2 IMPs			
EW: Azs		0 IMPs			

<div>6</div>		N J Patreuha		W N E S	
		♠ 64		1♦ P 2♣ P	
		♥ A873		4♣ P P P	
		♦ 75			
		♣ AJ742			
W Kaustabh				E Sagnik	
♠ KJ82				♠ AQ1075	
♥ 5				♥ 10964	
♦ AJ982				♦ K6	
♣ K86				♣ 103	
		S P Patreuha			
		♠ 93			
		♥ KQJ2			
		♦ Q1043			
		♣ Q95			
Other table: 3♠E+1				4♠ E	
NS: Azs Buboslavia 0 IMPs				NS: 0 EW: 0	
EW: Formidables 2 IMPs					

In the Open Room, the bidding was crisp. Sagnik showed precisely 5 Spades, 4 Hearts, and 10-11 HCP with his 2♠ bid. Kaustuabh used positive thinking to look at the situation. He bid 4♠ and was rewarded when Sagnik came up with ♦Kx, that is, values in his short suit, and three honours in Trumps. The game rolled for +620 to East-West. In the play-off match, both Hemant Jalan and Poland teams bid 4♠ on the board whereas in the SILVER Teams finals, both the teams played in 2♠. This deal demonstrates that it is difficult to find whether you hold wasted values opposite a short suit in the common style of bidding.

In the Closed room, after a 1♦-1♠-2♠ uncontested sequence, Nowak bid a 3♥ game-try. With a minimum hand and a stiff Heart, Piotr Marcinowski declined the invitation. There was nothing in the play. Formidables gained 10 IMPs on the board. Running Score: Formidables 12, Azs Buboslavia:0





# GOLD Teams Final : Formidables vs. Azs Buboslovakia *Contd.*

After scores of 5,2,-2,-4 IMPs in favour of Formidables on Boards six to nine Board 12 produced a swing the other way.

Board 12		N J Patreuha		W N E S	
		♠ KQJ2		P P 3♣ P	
		♥ J9754		P X P 3NT	
		♦ 10876		P 4♦ P 5♣	
				P P P P	
W Kaustabh		E Sagnik			
♠ A103		♠ QJ98742			
♥ 10843		♥ A9			
♦ KQ103		♦ A62			
♣ 53		♣ Q			
		S P Patreuha			
		♠ K65			
		♥ 765			
		♦ 8			
		♣ AKJ942		5♣ S NS: 0 EW: 0	
Other table: 4♣E+1					
NS: Azs Buboslovakia 6 IMPs					
EW: Formidables 19 IMPs					

In the third position, at a favourable vulnerability, Sagnik opened 3♠ with a rather heavy hand that had 13 HCP and a decent 7-card Spade suit. Jacob doubled in the balancing position and Patryk tried 3Nt. Jacob, with a void Spade, took out to 4♦. Patryk now bid his long Club suit at five level and the North-South landed on feet. With only a Heart and a Diamond to lose, 5♣ made easily for +600 to Azs Buboslovakia. Did Sagnik pull out a wrong card from the bidding box? We don't know yet.

Board 12		N TEWARI R		W N E S	
		♠ KQJ2		P P 1♣ 2♣	
		♥ J9754		X 2♥ 3♣ P	
		♦ 10876		4♣ P P P	
W PIOTR M		E NOWAK K			
♠ A103		♠ QJ98742			
♥ 10843		♥ A9			
♦ KQ103		♦ A62			
♣ 53		♣ Q			
		S SUMIT M			
		♠ K65			
		♥ 765			
		♦ 8			
		♣ AKJ942		4♣ E NS: 0 EW: 0	
Other table: 5♣S=					
NS: Formidables 19 IMPs					
EW: Azs Buboslovakia 6 IMPs					

Bidding was more middle-of-the-road in the Closed Room. With the 2♥ bid, Tewari likely was suggesting a lead with the intention to revert to Clubs in the auction. As it happened, he would have had to bid Clubs at five level as East-West quickly converged upon their game contract. Sumit didn't end up leading a Heart either. No matter for the Declarer had 12 tricks in all cases. That was a double swing in favour of Azs Buboslovakia of 14 IMPs. Running Score: Formidables 19, Azs Buboslovakia:20. For the first time Azs Buboslovakia was leading in the session. They gained two more IMPs on the last board to finish the

session leading 22-19. With the addition of carryover, the score was 34.5-19

The second session produced even more duplication of scores and a plethora of push boards. The first decent swing came on the penultimate board, B27.

Board 27		N J Patreuha		W N E S	
		♠ Q853		1♣ P 1NT P	
		♥ KJ109		2♣ P 3♣ P	
		♦ QJ6			
		♣ 94			
W Kaustabh		E Sagnik			
♠ A1096		♠ J74			
♥ 86		♥ A52			
♦ 9		♦ K1083			
♣ AK10762		♣ Q85			
		S P Patreuha			
		♠ K2			
		♥ Q743			
		♦ A7542			
		♣ J3		3♣ W NS: 0 EW: 0	
Other table: 3NTE+1					
NS: Azs Buboslovakia 39 IMPs					
EW: Formidables 23 IMPs					

In the Open Room, Kaustabh did not accept a game invitation with his 11 pointer.

Board 27		N SATYA		W N E S	
		♠ Q853		2♣ P 3♣ P	
		♥ KJ109		3♣ P 3NT P	
		♦ QJ6			
		♣ 94			
W PIOTR M		E NOWAK K			
♠ A1096		♠ J74			
♥ 86		♥ A52			
♦ 9		♦ K1083			
♣ AK10762		♣ Q85			
		S KIRAN N			
		♠ K2			
		♥ Q743			
		♦ A7542			
		♣ J3		3NT E NS: 0 EW: 0	
Other table: 3♣W+1					
NS: Formidables 23 IMPs					
EW: Azs Buboslovakia 39 IMPs					

In the Open Room, Marcinowski opened a Precision-like 2♣ showing 5 Clubs+ 4Major or 6+ Clubs. On best Double Dummy defence, 2Nt is the limit of the hand. Nowak raised to three and Piotr Marcinowski bid 3♠ to show Spade control. Nowak was happy to bid 3Nt on that. Kiran led a small Diamond, her longest suit. Nowak made easy nine tricks for a 7 IMP gain to Azs Buboslovakia. Running Score: Formidables 23, Azs Buboslovakia:46.

Azs Buboslovakia added two more IMPs to their tally on the last board B28 and at the end of two sessions, they were leading 48.5-23 IMPs.

## Results : Open MP Pairs Gold Final

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %
1	19	Boye Brogeland & Christian Bakke	437.3	62.29
2	16	Julian Stefanov & Vladimir Mihov	428.9	61.09
3	15	Jerry Stamatov & Ivan Nanev	410.1	58.42
4	28	Zia Mahmood & Geir Helgemo	400.1	56.99
5	1	DK Tewari & PC Gupta	396.2	56.44
6	11	Sandip Datta & Samir Basak	396	56.41
7	20	Tomasz Sielicki & Dariusz Kowalski	394.4	56.18
8	9	Swarnend Banerji & KR Venkatraman	392.7	55.94
9	10	Ravi Goenka & Ajay Bagadia	388.6	55.35
10	12	Hasibul Hasan & Manas M	384.1	54.71
11	22	Robert Parasian & Julius George	378.5	53.92
12	23	Franky Steven Karwur & Jemmy Bojoh	378	53.84
13	24	Mathew Brown & Ashley Bach	362.1	51.58
14	13	Joyrup Mullick & Sabyasachi Sadhukhan	360.1	51.3
15	3	Keyzad Anklesaria & Debabrata Majumder	346.3	49.32
16	21	Nabil Edgtton & Michael Whibley	341.5	48.65
17	5	Arun Bapat & Gopinath Manna	341.1	48.59
18	27	Sandeep Thakral & Jaggy Shivdasani	337.6	48.09
19	18	Daleep Mutreja & TC Pant	330.4	47.07
20	17	Alessandro Gandoglia & Giacomo Percario	329.9	47
21	25	Peeracha Suriya & Jittakan Pachimsawat	316.4	45.07
22	2	SK Sharma & Puneet Gangal	315.5	44.94
23	14	Biren Mitra & DN Lenka	301.6	42.97
24	4	Sapan Desai & Animesh Raj	297.3	42.35
25	6	Usha Kabra & Marianne Karmarkar	296.8	42.28
26	7	Raju Tolani & Ajay Khare	296.4	42.23
27	8	Prasad Keni & Uttam Gupta	293.6	41.83
28	26	SK Rahman & Mohammad Maula Al Mamun	282.3	40.22



# Results : IMP Pairs Final

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
1	25	Binod Kumar Shaw & Sanjit Dey	89.8	56	164	Rathindra Nath Kundu & Swapan Kumar Ghosh	5
2	23	Mithun Mukherjee & Soumya Das	82.1	57	63	Jayanta Sarkar & Ashok Dey	3.9
3	89	Rashebul Hasan & Md. Amirul Islam	78.3	58	111	Md. Zahid Hossain & B M Mahmud Hossain	2.2
4	70	Prosenjit Manna & Babhrubahan Bose	76.8	59	46	Saurav Sil & Gautam Majumder	1
5	30	K P Mathur & Narendra Kumar Sharma	69.9	60	27	Somnath Mitra & Apurba Bhattacharjee	-1.6
6	161	Aniruddha Ghosh & Anukul Mondol	63	61	105	Hemanta Kumar Sarmah & Mridul Das	-3.6
7	24	Gajendra Kumar Vyas & Pradeep Govil	61.4	62	181	Dilip Mistry & Shakti Dhar Chowdhury	-5.3
8	71	Pritam Das & Anindra Kumar Sarkar	60.9	63	171	Ajay Kar & Pradip Mondal	-7.6
9	10	Ram Avatar Agrawal & Avijit Sarkar	59.9	64	128	Tarun Singhal & Arvind Jain	-8.7
10	169	Subodh Maskara & Subhash Gupta	54.7	65	21	Pamidimukkala Nagaraju & K S R V Challam	-8.8
11	107	Rahul Khambete & Abhay Todankar	53.9	66	163	Ratnesh & Naveen Kumar	-11
12	85	Rajendra Gokhale & Sandeep N Karmarkar	50.8	67	51	Savleen Thadani & Bhaskar Sarkar	-11.3
13	68	Asim Sarkar & Sarveswar Bhattacharya	49.3	68	143	Joy Narayan Roy & Anup Kumar Mahajan	-11.5
14	187	Amarjit Wadhawan & Nikita Kamal	46	69	146	Ambrish Wadera & Anil Bharihoke	-11.6
15	86	P Sudhakar Rao & Prashanth Kandulakunta	45.9	70	1	Velupillai Balakumar & Yasar Karunaratane	-11.7
16	131	Pankaj B Doshi & Amod C Rele	45.2	71	141	J Pratihari & I Khan	-13.9
17	50	Rajeev Khandelwal & Himani Khandelwal	43	72	91	Dipak K Poddar & Jitendra J Solani	-15.1
18	162	Vikrant Mehta & Joyjit Sensarma	42.6	73	5	Ranjan Banerjee & Avijit Dutta	-16.2
19	41	Anurag Mohota & Basant K Mohota	41.2	74	26	Nilesh B Mitra & Kamal Naguri	-17.1
20	83	Suman Sengupta & Kajal Chandra Das	38.3	75	122	Shibnath De Sarkar & Richa Shriram	-17.2
21	151	Indranath Chatterjee & Chandan Choudhury	37.5	76	42	C M Kulkarni & K Durgadas	-17.8
22	103	Prabhat Kumar Gupta & R Chandramohan	34.9	77	8	Rajni Kant Sinha & Alok Daga	-19
23	182	Rajesh Somani & Anant Vikram Somani	33.2	78	124	Ravindra Amritkar & Paresh J Gandhi	-20.8
24	125	Romesh Bandaranaike & Rasika Karunatilake	32.7	79	67	Shiv Shankar Gupta & R K Garg	-21.2
25	186	Md. Rashedul Hasan Ripon & Md Alauddin	29.9	80	7	Madhav A Kshirsagar & K K Sabherwal	-21.7
26	167	Kristina Wahyu Murniati & Conny Eufke Sumampouw	28.6	81	43	N K Chitlangia & Sujit Kumar Bhattacharjee	-23.5
27	144	Aritra Bhattacharya & Prabir K Saha	27.7	82	44	Jaydeep Bhattacharjee & Nantu Bhattacharjee	-25.7
28	104	Rajib Ray & Pallab Roy	25.9	83	31	Asis Tosh & Priyotosh Sarkar	-25.8
29	66	Ajit Mukherjee & Asim Mukherjee	22.9	84	129	Saurendranath Chakrabarti & Hironmoy Banerjee	-27.5
30	64	R Kannan & C D Kumar	22.3	85	49	Ravi Kaul & S M Patnaik	-32
31	102	Pijus Kanti Baroi & Rajendra Sirohia	22.2	86	47	Md. Shahidul Islam & Mohammad Ehsanuzzaman	-34.5
32	3	Arnab Basu Roy & Abhirup Ghosh	20.5	87	184	Rakesh Chandra Sharma & Umesh Kumar Singh	-34.9
33	130	Manthanee Yaisawang & Sommai Mattayattaworn	19.9	88	110	Arnab Guha & Shantanu Ghosh	-35.2
34	148	Prasanta Bera & Partha Sarathi Mukherjee	19.5	89	183	Somesh Bhattacharya & Monica Jajoo	-35.4
35	87	Ram Krishan Majumder & Moloy Kumar Mondol	19.3	90	69	Sanjib Das & Protap Bandyopadhyay	-36.3
36	84	Sarika Mittal & R Anbazhagan	18.1	91	45	Anand W Golwalkar & Raman Madhok	-36.4
37	81	Shantanu Roy & Braja Gopal Dey	18	92	88	Ravi Raman & Ivan Alphonso	-37.1
38	127	Prakash Bhandari & Raghunath P Tripathi	17.6	93	48	Paban Agarwal & Kalindi Mewar	-38.1
39	188	Goutam Pore & Pranay Majumder	17.4	94	4	Rana Chakraborty & Asit Baran Chakraborty	-40.6
40	123	Tapas Kumar Sarkar & Ranjan Bose	16.8	95	150	Hemant Purkar & D S Pandit	-40.8
41	142	Subrata Chakraborty & Ramprosad Das	16.8	96	101	Md Sahajahan & Koushik Mukherjee	-41.8
42	2	Vinay Mohan Lal & Keshav Sakharan Samant	15.8	97	61	Kanta Stanchina & Shalindra Kumar	-42
43	28	Soumitra Chakraborty & Arabinda Kumar Mishra	13.5	98	145	Arup Kumar Hudait & Kalyan Kumar Roy	-43.1
44	126	Nirmal Jain & Subhasish Sarkar	13.2	99	62	Akhauri Prabhat Kumar & K M Sainathan	-44.1
45	109	Birendra Nath Dey & Swarup Ghosh	13.1	100	147	Bikas Dutta & Amit Dey	-44.5
46	65	Bulu Saha & Pallabh Sinharoy	12.9	101	29	Satyabrata Lahiri & Kingshuk Bhattacharya	-45.1
47	9	Pradeep Anand Singh & Vijayanand Singh	12.8	102	106	Anshul Bhatt & Eliran Argelazi	-45.5
48	185	R P Narain & D Sudhanand	11.9	103	108	Wrik Chakraborty & Swarnasish Chatterjee	-48.9
49	149	Sudipta Ray & Biswarup Biswas	11.9	104	6	M S Srinivas & K Venugopala Krishna	-50.7
50	168	Peiyush Jain & Arvind Ranasaria	11	105	190	Vilas Mande & Bindumadhav V Sahasrabudhe	-51.8
51	165	Noriko Domichi & Aniruddha Bhattacharya	9.9	106	170	Kamal K Gupta & Alka Gupta	-55.1
52	166	Saumadeep Ghosh & Arya Chakraborty	8.7	107	191	Jibak Tewari & Indranil Chakraborty	-60.1
53	189	Samir Pal & Shyama Prasad Chatterjee	7.2	108	121	Cera Fernando & Deepak Ramnani	-73
54	22	Amar Kumar Bose & Rajendra Ray	6.9	109	11	Tonmoy Ghosh & Amitava Ghosh	-75.7
55	82	Igor Chalupec & Bartosz Chmurski	5.9	110	90	Bijal Shah & Sejal Shah	-97.8

# RUEFUL RABBIT appears at the MP Pairs event

On the afternoon of Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, after lunch, I overheard an animated conversation of two souls. Perhaps, only one of them was a pure soul, the other, both the Body & Soul. "Let me please play just one round", the former was pleading. "I love the HCL tournament. I am keen to play in it, I have not had a chance to appear here", the pure soul clarified. "Nobody will come to know", the pure soul continued. B&S protested that he wasn't going to entertain any such request, but the soul seems to have had the final say as the play on the following deal shows.

Dir: North  
Vul: All

♠ A K 9 8  
♥ K 2  
♦ K J 6 2  
♣ K 10 4

Optimum  
3H N 9

♠ 10 7 6 4 2  
♥ Q 6 3  
♦ A 10 8 7  
♣ Q

WEST NORTH EAST  
13  
SOUTH

♠ Q J 5 3  
♥ J 5  
♦ Q 5  
♣ A J 7 3 2

17  
8 11  
4

♠ - -  
♥ A 10 9 8 7 4  
♦ 9 4 3  
♣ 9 8 6 5

♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ N  
N 2 2 3 - 1  
S 2 2 3 - 1  
E - - - 2 -  
W - - - 1 -

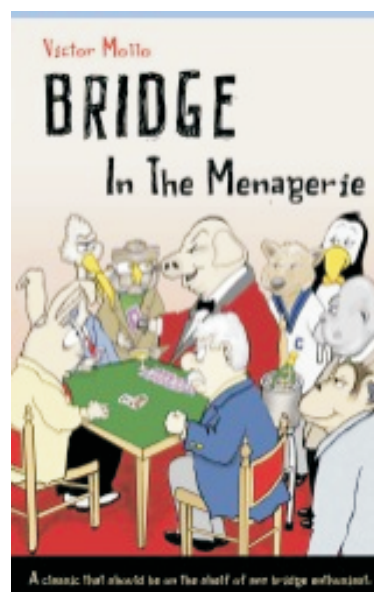
As he strolled to his West sit for the seventh round, an overpowering desire to sleep took over the B&S. He remembers everyone picking up their cards, but not what happened on the deal. We gathered more details of the proceedings from their North-South opponents.

North opened a strong 1♣ and North-South landed in a 3Nt game instead of a Heart partial or game.

Bidding

West	North	East	South
	1♣ (16+)	2♣	3♥
3N	P	P	P

East led a small Club to ♣5, and West's ♣Q. By the time the bidding was over, the soul had completely taken over B&S. North noticed that the ♣Q sort of appeared on the table in an ethereal way but he ignored that vision and concentrated on his almost hopeless contract. There was no side suit entry to Dummy and ♥QJ were out. How was he going to get 7 or 8 tricks, leave alone nine?



North thought of a brilliant idea. Rather than rely on ♥QJ doubleton, he decided to try and find Honour-x in East hand. He would play a small Heart and run it to West. Later, he would overtake ♥K with Dummy's Ace and enjoy five Heart tricks if East indeed started with ♥ honour-x. After winning ♣K, hopefully, he led the ♥2. East played the ♥5 and North played ♥8 from the Dummy.

West seemed to have unsuccessfully fidgeted. West's cards shook a little, there was a huddle, and then came out a small Heart in the same ethereal fashion. The next moment, West apologised. "Sorry partner, I was dosing off", West murmured. His partner was furious. Looking at Dummy's ♥8 winning the trick after West played small, East shouted angrily. "What is wrong with you? How many Rasgullas did you have for lunch? Have you taken your tablets today? Why are you wasting my time giving away cheap tricks to the opponents in an MP game? He went on and on.

In the meantime, North had realised that his only chance of making the contract had disappeared with that small Heart played by West. The play went on and the contract went down 1. Had West won the ♥Q on trick two, North would likely have made his contract.

The West player was apologising profusely to his partner for that 'misplay' of his and his partner seemed to be in no mood to condone. "Something Came over me", West protested.

Well, we now know what that something was. It was the Rueful Rabbit's soul making an appearance in the HCL event!



# Results : IMP Pairs Strata - II

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
1	146	Swapn Sardar & Sisir Kumar Banerjee	112	64	45	Vikas Taralekar & Vilas Chouthai	7
2	162	Ramaratnam Krishnan & Atul Rai	100	65	31	Pradip Mohta & Sangeeta Mohta	7
3	204	Pramod Kumar Mishra & Sudhir Kumar Tripathy	98	66	85	Ratan Lal Sanghi & S M Moin	6
4	171	Santanu Chakraborty & Tanmoy Majumder	69	67	83	Muhammed Faroque Hossain Patwary & Shathi Rangan Dey	2
5	66	Sudhir S Gavandi & Suresh H Bhattad	67	68	81	Rajendra V Mekal & Kumar Venkataraman	0
6	88	Siddhartha Behura & Arun Kumar Sinha	65	69	126	Tapan Kumar Rai & Tapas Kumar Dasgupta	-1
7	30	Bhola Nath Ghosh & Dipak Kumar Paul	60	70	7	Amol Deshmukh & V Chandrasekhar	-5
8	123	Sukamal Das & Sumit Bhowmik	57	71	207	Asim Saha & Biswasanti Bhattacharya	-6
9	42	Bhabesh Saha & Satyabrata Mukherjee	57	72	167	Ramendra Chowdhury & Shakti Pada Roy	-7
10	22	Swetadri Saha & Krishna Das Chakraborty	54	73	11	Mini Naidu & Bina Malhotra	-8
11	225	Tapan Kumar Roy & Tarun Manna	51	74	1	Sudhir Agarwal & Madhusudan Sharma	-9
12	24	Anirban Mitra & Rajesh Kumar Shaw	51	75	29	Prakash Easwaran & Madhav Prakash	-9
13	25	Suvankar Basu & Sudip Pandit	49	76	3	Ashok Kumar & Bholanath Dash	-9
14	64	Dheeraj Kumar & Monu Kumar Ranchhad	45	77	145	Abhijit Manna & Rajat Dutta	-10
15	110	Kishore Kumar Ganguly & Prabir Kumar Paul	43	78	67	Aroon Birla & Avininder Singh Puri	-10
16	147	Bikramjit Das & Amit Dutta	42	79	164	Bhanumati Shah & Kamal Shah	-10
17	8	Arvind Vaidya & Vivek Bhand	42	80	103	M P S Chauhan & B L Anand	-10
18	187	Sukrit M Vijayakar & Stanley Nazareth	41	81	2	Amit Nangpal & Indrajit Sensarma	-11
19	128	Sailaja Tahiliani & Pradip Ghosh	40	82	209	Uday Bedekar & Baby Malkani	-12
20	205	J K Bhosale & Dilip P Gosavi	40	83	185	Jiten Chakraborty & Pradip KumarSen Sharma	-13
21	86	Arun Jain & Gopika Tandan	40	84	229	Umesh Ram & J P Singh	-16
22	90	Kamal Kabra & V Ravindran	39	85	221	Guru Shankar Sundaram & Sushil G Narang	-17
23	82	Rakesh Nanda & B S Gupta	39	86	121	Anushree Jalan & Sauren Dutt	-18
24	84	Ashok K Sinha & Priyanka Gulati	38	87	108	Anurag Pandey & Nitin Vaidya	-18
25	43	Ajit B Chakradeo & Bhalchandra G Ogale	37	88	129	Sushil Kumar Paul & Joydip Mukherjee	-23
26	87	Fali K Tamboly & Nerio Vakil	36	89	210	Bharat Joshi & Abhishek Gupta	-24
27	150	Ajit Saldanha & Abdi Naffar	36	90	23	Jai Prakash Agrawal & Pinaki Ranjan Banerjee	-24
28	143	Sumanta Roy & Kajal Pal	35	91	47	Parimal N Shah & Ajay Kumar Singh	-25
29	89	Vivekanand Ghosh & Sanjay Kundu	34	92	41	V A Phapunkar & A L Sancheti	-25
30	122	Birendra Kumar & A N Sahai	34	93	170	Mala Singh & Shantanu Rastogi	-26
31	68	Subrata Sarkar & Jagadish Chandra Bala	34	94	9	Arun Bahulkar & Anant Rege	-26
32	181	Sanjay Raha & Gopal Das	31	95	148	Gautam Mukherjee & Biswajit Dutta	-28
33	163	K P Baskaran & Ashantha De Mel	30	96	124	Hemant Ahirkar & Pintoo Sao	-30
34	125	Amitava Mukherjee & Sudipta Adhikary	29	97=	44	Sharad Kumar & S K Gautam	-31
35	105	Sunder Shekar & Sampat Srinivasan	29	97=	188	Sankar Das & Mithun Biswas	-31
36	109	Bijon Kumar Mondal & Goutam Banerjee	29	99	10	Ramani Menon & Ravi Saberwal	-36
37	70	Achintya Halder & Gopes Sardar	28	100	26	Vijay Singh & Devender Soni	-37
38	46	Bidyut Goswami & Manoj Dis	28	101=	51	Yogesh Jindal & Umesh Jindal	-37
39	4	Subir Kumar Chaudhuri & Manas Ghosh Dastidar	27	101=	61	Sidharth Sattiraju & Murkuri Tharuniah	-37
40	223	Samar Kumar Maity & Raju Mitra	26	103	165	Subrata Saha & Navneet Swaika	-38
41	201	Baneet Kumar Malhotra & Kavita Ajmera	22	104	208	Suresh Senapaty & H. Anjaneya Swamy	-40
42	5	Kalyan Lahiri & Sudip Sen	22	105	107	Phanuwit Tor Charoen & Ploypailin Uthai	-40
43	50	Rohit Gupta & Deepika Mehta	22	106	127	Chanchal Dass & S R Dutta	-42
44	166	Fernanda Soares & Deoki Nandan Sinha	21	107	62	Kalpna Gurjar & Vidhya Patel	-42
45	206	Indranil Chattoraj & D Dutta Gupta	21	108	230	Kishore Das & Debobrata Mondal	-44
46	149	U V Athavale & V Ravichandran	21	109	142	Alok Dutta & Bimalendu Das	-46
47	49	Sanat Kumar Saha & Sudeep Saha	21	110	186	Jayanta Chowdhury & Biswanath Bag	-47
48	71	Prithviraj Ghosh & Gaurav Biswas	20	111	222	Sunandan Thakur & Bidyut Kanti Thakur	-48
49	102	Debasish Majumdar & Dipankar Acharjee	20	112	189	Ashim Kumar Ghosh & Suchet Dhar	-49
50=	183	Amal Kumar Sarkar & Salil Kumar Mondal	19	113	161	Ashish Pan & Dipankar Khan	-51
50=	191	Sanjib Naskar & Prashant Bhattacharjee	19	114	21	Chander Negi & Atulya Sood	-53
52	104	Anupam Ghosh & Tirthankar Sengupta	17	115	63	Atul Kumar & Umesh	-68
53	226	Ayan Chatterjee & Tanmay Chatterjee	17	116	69	Srikumar Menon & Kanai Ghosh	-69
54	168	Prakash Gupta & Bablu Roy Choudhury	16	117	182	Chintamani Bhikaji Damale & Sachin Shrikrishna Joshi	-71
55	65	R K Pradhan & Sankarsan Behra	15	118	27	Adhiyaman Zodypache & Agilan Zodypache	-73
56	6	Sunil Mishra & Sahid Aksari	15	119	106	Subashish Gope & Krishna Kumar Goenka	-76
57	184	Sailen Das & Tapan Kumar Roy	14	120	101	Gautam Roy & Krishna Pada Das	-77
58	202	Mini Agarwal & Reena Pal	14	121	228	Sudhir Kumar Agrawal & Y M Kool	-94
59	190	Pradip Dey & Arnab Ghosh	13	122	144	Borhan Ali Molla & Bhaskar Chandra Mallik	-106
60	141	Tilak Raj Choudhary & Taral el Rodriques	13	123	224	Kalpna Varshney & Pinaki Ghosh	-107
61	169	Tara Laroia & Rita Baghwati	11	124	227	Rajender Pandurang Ranade & Shrikant Jayra	-107
62	130	Kamleshwar Rai & Chunni Lal Arora	11	125	203	Tapan Kr Sen & Buddadev Dutta	-110
63	28	Ashoke Dey & Rajib Sarkar	9	126	48	Netai Pada Kabiraj & Usha Joshi	-114

# THANKS TO ALL

Today, the 20<sup>th</sup> HCL International Bridge Championship comes to an end and the sponsors and the organizers of the event can be proud of the standard of performance showed by the technical & organizing team in making this event a great success. With an experienced staff in all positions, the technical level of the tournament has equaled the level shown at World level events. With on-line registration of entries in all events, instant results being available on the web site, and nicely displayed at the venue for the benefit of players & officials, it was a nice show of technology.

Our special thanks to Mr. Laurie Kelso, the Head Tournament Director of this event, under whose guidance the tournament ran without any problems. His guidance to the directors & technical team was superb and the Indian director's team has gained a lot from his advice.

My special thanks go to Mr. Sandeep Thakral, the organizing secretary of the event; to Mr. Sudhir Aggarwal, who was instrumental in handling the team of directors as well as helped in tournament management and to scoring head Mr. Srinivasan Iyengar and his deputies Mr. Prithvi Singh and Mr. Kausubh Deodhar, for taking care of all the important aspect of scoring & displays at the event.

I want to thank all the staff -Technical Operation team, the Tournament Directors, the Scoring team, the BBO Operation team, Dealing team and the team of caddies for a great job. Each one of you made utmost efforts to make this event successful. It was an honor and pleasure to work with you all. I would also like to thank the complete HCL team, which took care of our daily administrative & financial needs along with the branding of the company. The staff of Leela Ambience Convention Hotel is to be complemented for providing excellent support for smooth conduct of the tournament and nice food.

My thanks goes to all the participants, although they provided the TD's an interesting collection of rulings but they also showed a fine attitude of sportsmanship, accepting the rulings as given, with a gentle approach towards their opponents and even to their partners.

And finally, many thanks to the one and only one Mrs. Kiran Nadar, the sponsor of this lovely tournament, which has brought India laurels from World Bridge fraternity.

Today being the last day of the tournament, I take this opportunity to thank all the participants, officials & the Organizers for their co-operation in making these Championships a great Success. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL. I wish you all a safe journey home. See you all again next year.



**T.C. Pant**, Head of Operations





Laurie Kelso

Head TD of the Tournament

I hope you have all enjoyed the 20<sup>th</sup> HCL International Championships and I wish everyone a safe homeward journey. I would also like to thank you (the players) for creating a great atmosphere and for contributing to the success of these Championships. I personally will take home fond memories of both the tournament and the friends I have made. Some of you I am confident I will see again at some future event, possibly even in a different part of the world, but until then I bid you all 'adieu'.

Since these Championships will soon draw to a close, I must also acknowledge and thank a number of particular individuals who have contributed significantly to the success of the tournament, as well as assisted me greatly on a personal level.

Besides myself, there were 13 other TDs attending to each and every problem that arose at the table as well as ensuring that the sessions ran to time: Sudhir Aggarwal, M.B.V. Subrahmanyam, Sanjay Chakraborty, Pranab (Ranju) Bhattacharya, Gora Roy Choudhury, K.S. Swaminathan, V K Sharma, P Narsinga Rao, C. Sathish Kumar, B G Daxindas, S.P.Sharma, and Ashok Girdhar.

Then we have the Scoring and Technological Staff. They handle not only the production of the results but also everything else associated with the tournament's electronic presentation (in all its various forms) to the rest of the world. This tournament would be very different without the group headed up by Srinivasan Iyengar with the assistance of Kaustubh Deodhar.

There are also many, many others who have contributed their services (some on a volunteer basis) to do all the other necessary jobs. These include the Board Dealers, the Bulletin Staff, the Administration Group (headed by Sandeep Thakral), the BBO Operators and the Caddies.

Of course, I cannot forget the Head of Operations who is one of the most important cogs in the whole organization, namely Mr T C Pant. T.C. (ably assisted by Sudhir Aggarwal) holds the reins and calls the shots over nearly every on-site organizational aspect of this event.

Lastly, I must acknowledge and thank Mrs Kiran Nadar for her kind invitation earlier this year for me to be a part of this great event.



**Organising Team : L - R :** Srinivasan Iyenger, Sudhir Aggarwal, Sandeep Thakral & T C Pant



**Scoring Team : L - R :** Rajesh Yadav, Giriraj Singh, Kaustabh Deodhar, Prithvi Singh, Srinivasan Iyenger





**Team of Directors : L - R :** Ashok Girdhar, C. Sathish Kumar, B G Daxindas, P Narsingha Rao, Sanjay Kr. Chakraborty, V K Sharma, Laurie Kelso, Sudhir Aggarwal, P K Bhattacharjee (Ranju), Debabrata Roychowdhury (Gora), K S Swaminathan, M B V Subrahmanyam



**Caddies : L - R :** Amal Dutta, Tushar Dhara, Kamal Acharjee, Ranjit Chowdhury, Ritam Das, Sagar Das, Ashim Paul, Pujush Kanti Saha, Pawan Jha, Murari Kr. Jha, Rajit Jha, Anand Kr. Jha, Sachin Kumar, Ankit Kr. Jha, Sani, Anmol.





**Vu Graph Team : L - R :** Abhishek Roy, Subrata Adhikary, Somik Mitra, Sudip Mahato, Meenal Thakur, Pramod Samant



**Dealing team : L - R :** SRC Sekar, Bansi Gupta, Sharmishtha Raval, Chetan Raval



# Photo Gallery



Team Standard Plus : Sahirudeen, Ranga Khadloya, Sukumaran Rajeev, Nizamudeen Shahul Hamid, Franz Mundaden, Asok Jose Lean



Piotr Marcinowski



Kiran Nadar



Patryk Patreuha



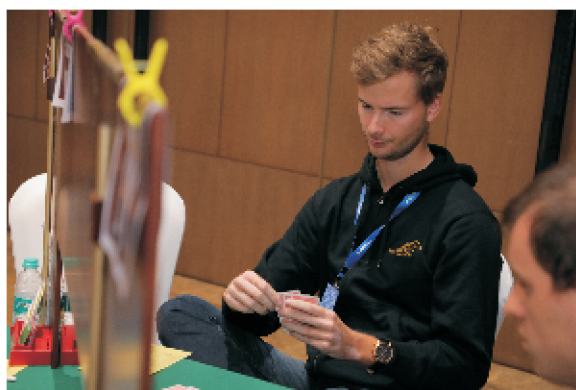
Ola Rimstedt



Vladimir Mihov



Ashley Bach



Mikael Rimstedt



# Photo Gallery



M B V Subrahmanyam showing the result of toss of coin to Poland Wojciech Strzemecki



Prabir Kumar Thakur, Gautam Chatterjee, Sanjib Bhattacharjee, Sanjib Ganguly of Shiv Shakti



Buras Krzysztof



Nabil Edgtton



Subhash Gupta, Priyaranjan Sinha & Nikita Kamal



The playing arena



T C Panth, Sudhir Agarwal & Sandeep Thakral



Arun Jain



# Photo Gallery



Kalpana & Vidhya



Team DKI Red : Julius Anthonius George, Julita Grace Tueje, Lusje Olha Bojoh, Robert Parasian



Sumit Mukherjee & Rajeshwar Tewari



Team Bulgaria : Jerry Stamatov, Julian Stefanov, Ivan Naney & Vladimir Mihov



Kiran Nadar, Roshni Nadar & Zia Mahmood



B. Satyanarayana, Subodh Maskara, Kiran Nadar, Roshni Nadar



Kiran Nadar, Roshni Nadar, Zia Mahmood & T C Pant



Boje, Meenu Duggal, Subodh Maskara, Subhash Gupta, Anirudh Bhattacharya



# Photo Gallery



Kiran Nadar & Monica Jajoo



Sandeep Thakral, Geir Helgemo, Raju Tolani, Ajay Khare, Boje Brogeland, Vikrant Mehta

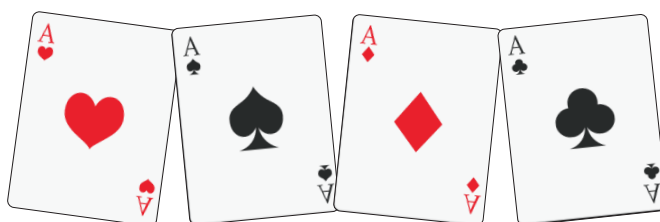


Kiran Nadar & Bindu Tewari



Kiran Nadar & Rajeshwar Tewari

## The 20th **HCL** International Bridge Championship 31<sup>th</sup> October to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023



### Tournament Schedule

Monday, Nov 06	PRO-AM PAIRS TOURNAMENT – Maximum 54 Boards	
	0930 – 1315 Hrs.	Session – 1 (28 Boards)
	1315 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1730 Hrs.	Session – 2 (26 Boards)
	1800 Hrs. onwards	Prize Distribution