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DAILY BULLETIN

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Tense Finish to the Swiss League — Sixteen Through to the Knockouts

Halfway through the final round, the leaderboard could not have been tighter. **WHAM (136.09)** were just ahead, with **OLIMP (135.24)** and **EA Bridge (134.59)** breathing down their necks. But the real suspense was further down the order, where **Sarla Fibres (17th)**, **Formidables (18th)**, and **Team Tolani (19th)** were in a fierce tussle for the last qualifying berth. With only sixteen to advance, one good swing—or one bad board—could have changed everything.

When play ended, **OLIMP** claimed the top spot in the **GOLD** category with **138.91 VPs**, followed by **WHAM**, last year's champions, who recovered superbly to finish on **135.6**. **EA Bridge (135.08)** and **Mavericks (132.23)** took the next two places. The other qualifiers are **Monica Jajoo**, **Diamonds**, **Dhampur Sugar Mills**, **Team Tolani**, **Vedic**, **Mohota**, **Texan Aces**, **Dass Bridge Gold**, **Deep Finesse**, **Proyas**, **Magnum**, and **Shourie**.

The closing stages saw some tense finishes. **Shourie** just about held on to the last qualifying spot at sixteenth.

In the **SILVER** category, **Ranjan** topped the table with **142.7 VPs**, ahead of **Ashok Bedi (133.3)**, **Hyderabad Blues (132.0)**, and **ERNIS (131.1)**. The remaining twelve qualifiers include **Hello**, **Gladiators**, **Chefs Table**, **WE R SIX**, **Chennai**, **Marudhara**, **Dazzle**, **Challenges**, **Hopeful Six**, **Team Kabra**, **Laxmi**, and **Nagpur VI**.

Tomorrow, the Swiss calm gives way to knockout tension. No safety nets—just pure contest, where one inspired bid or one careless card can tilt the day.

Pre Quarter Final Draw

	HOME	TABLE	AWAY
GOLD	OLIMP	1	DAS BRIDGE GOLD
	WHAM	2	PROYAS
	EA BRIDGE	3	MOHOTA
	MAVERICKS	4	DEEP FINESSE
	MONICA JAJOO	5	VEDIC
	DIAMONDS	6	TEXAN ACES
	DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS	7	MAGNUM
	TEAM TOLANI	8	SHOURIE
SILVER	RANJAN	1	MARUDHARA
	ASHOK BEDI	2	HOPEFUL SIX
	HYDERABAD BLUE	3	DAZZLE
	ERNIS	4	LAXMI
	HELLO	5	TEAM KABRA
	GLADIATORS	6	CHENNAI
	CHEFS TABLE	7	CHALLENGERS
	WE R SIX	8	NAGPUR VI

BBO 1: MONICA JAJOO VS. VEDIC

BBO 2: DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS VS MAGNUM

NOTE FOR PLAYERS

1. The Team of Four – Gold Pre-Quarter Final matches will be held in "TURQUOISE" Hall (Open Room) & "EMERALD" Hall (Closed Room).
2. 2 matches of Team of Four GOLD event will be shown on the BBO at the "EMERALD" Hall.
3. The Team of Four SILVER Pre-Quarter Final matches will be held in "TURQUOISE" Hall (Both Open & Closed Room).
4. The 1st elimination round of the MP Pairs event, which starts today will be played in 3 Sessions of 18 boards each. There are total 347 entries and 273 Pairs are playing in Elimination-1.
5. The pairs are divided into 14 Sections with 9 to 10 tables per section. The sections are in "CORAL" (4 Sections – from "A" to "D").), "SAPPHIRE" (6 Sections from "E" to "J") & "JADE & RUBY" (4 Sections "K" to "N") Halls. Please check your starting position and take your seats in your respective sections at least 10-15 minutes before the start time of 1030 Hrs.

Approximately 40 % pairs will qualify for the 2nd elimination round. The exact cut-off no. will be announce by the Head TD. The non-qualified pairs can participate tomorrow in the MP Pairs STRATA event starting at 11:00 AM, without paying any entry fee.

The IMP Pairs Entry closes at 2030 Hrs. today. The entry fee for the event is Rs. 2500 per Pair and it has to be given online on www.hcl-bridge.com/entries. No entries will be taken after end of time deadline.

GOLD TEAMS RESULT AFTER 10 ROUNDS

Place	ID	Players	Score VP table	Place	ID	Players	Score VP table
1	15	OLIMP	138.91	30	42	Arun Jain	96.66
2	26	WHAM	135.6	31	39	Dr Sanghi	96.61
3	11	EA Bridge	135.08	32	47	Pravaha	94.98
4	6	Mavericks	132.23	33	14	Bangur Cement	94.8
5	22	Monica Jajoo	126.32	34	25	55555	94.42
6	5	Diamonds	123.58	35	45	Spot Cards	94.17
7	35	Dhampur Sugar Mills	120.72	36	4	Alchemy	93.13
8	40	Team Tolani	117.72		34	EISK	93.13
9	41	Vedic	116.57	38	10	Tricolor Titans	92.98
10	7	Mohota	115.43	39	2	Boldplay	92.95
11	29	Texan Aces	115.09	40	43	Capa India	91.84
12	13	Dass Bridge Gold	113.93	41	54	Amanora	91.23
13	32	Deep Finesse	113.28	42	46	Omega	90.72
14	1	Magnum	111.86		58	EHAA	90.72
15	51	Proyas	111.76	44	9	Kosmos	89.23
16	48	Shourie	111.42	45	17	Doubles	88.9
17	44	Lake My Love	110.69	46	31	TVS Mobility	87.23
18	24	Samadhan	110.16	47	12	Natureville	86.57
19	56	Sarlafibers	110.09	48	30	The Finessers	85.83
20	50	I Doctors	107.56	49	33	Juthika	85.81
21	38	Carpe Diem	107.51	50	53	Pals	83.27
22	3	Express Avenue	107.22	51	23	Dassbridge	81.88
23	19	Bridgescanner	107.12	52	27	Poddar	81.4
24	57	Kind	105.21	53	36	Nilachakra	81.18
25	18	Delhi Blues	105.05	54	20	Kal Aaj Aur Kal	80.67
26	49	Formidables	104.64	55	16	Guptopadesam	70.35
27	37	Hemant Jalan	104	56	52	Diamond IV	60.79
28	21	Shri Radhey	101.16	57	8	AMPA	45.98
29	55	Tornatae	99.23	58	28	Mix N Match	44.32

Good news for the Bridge learners in Bengal:

Corporate Bridge Association of India will start a Bridge academy from 2nd November '25' in Kolkata. Bridge teaching will be in Live as well as in Virtual mode.

The committee members: **Mr. Sanjoy Bhattacharyya** - Chairman

Mr. Deepak Pramanik - Co Chairman.

Mrs. Monica Jajoo - Secretary

Faculties: Mr. Sourendra Coomer Dutta - *Principal*.

Mr. Kaustabh Nandi, Mr. Sumit Mukherjee, Mr. Suman Sengupta, Mr. Arnab Guha, Mr. Soumadeep Ghosh, Mr. Arya Chakraborty, Mr. Amarnath Bannerjee, Mr. Sanjay Chakraborty and others.

Main Contact person - Mr. Shouvik Das.

SILVER TEAMS RESULT AFTER 10 ROUNDS

Place	ID	Players	Score	Place	ID	Players	Score
1	45	Ranjan	142.71	45	29	Anirban Mitra	100.05
2	13	Ashok Bedi	133.36	46	86	Andromeda	99.63
3	4	Hyderabad Blue	132.04	47	34	Sangam 4	99.47
4	23	ERNIS	131.13	48	22	Red Soil	99.2
5	51	Hello	130.89	49	32	Sunny 99	98.93
6	63	Gladiators	129.39	50	54	The Squad	98.48
7	76	Chefs Table	124.71	51	72	Setu	98.1
8	35	WE R SIX	123.17	52	82	Unique	97.45
9	27	Chennai	121.71	53	33	Vande Bharat	96.07
10	26	Marudhara	119.55	54	73	Jhontu	95.71
11	77	Dazzle	117.8	55	3	Sahyadri	95.47
12	20	Challengers	116.85	56	71	Confluence	94.83
13	70	Hopeful Six	116.38	57	9	Deepadhaar	94.82
14	11	Team Kabra	116.22	58	14	Jay Mahakal	94.1
15	83	Laxmi	115.29	59	85	Guns And Roses	94.03
16	8	Nagpur VI	114.89	60	62	Raha	92.94
17	42	Tarams	113.01	61	75	Vanquished	92.56
18	53	RX100	111.93	62	56	Miracle	92.16
19	49	Tulip	111.68	63	67	Trick And Trump	91.69
20	40	Rkpt Union	111.52	64	21	Quest	91.37
21	60	Vibgyor	111.16	65	5	Tapan Sen IV	91.02
22	81	Savvy Acers	111.14	66	44	Ratnagiri Alfanso	90.87
23	52	Crazy 6	110.93	67	48	Four Aces	89.87
24	59	Mind Crusaders	110.68	68	69	Royal Bridge Club	89.56
25	64	Aspire	110.44	69	84	Dilip Atha Iv	88.28
26	55	Mahabir	110.3	70	24	Ahilya	86.48
27	38	Borivali Sports Club	110.21	71	39	Ace Of Spade	85.37
28	30	PACK	109.51	72	31	Hounds	85.19
29	58	Royals	109.32	73	10	Samras	84.56
30	19	Group Popular	108.9	74	37	Hakuna Matata	83.96
31	12	Unbalanced	108.59	75	61	Everest	82.65
32	1	Dharmayodha	108.35	76	88	Dehradun	82.63
33	68	Bridge Lovers	107.55	77	66	Super Lucky	82.16
34	79	Tapoban	106.79	78	47	Bridge Doctors	80.95
35	18	ABPI	105.6	79	36	Rhino Assam	77.43
36	16	Gobind	104.15	80	74	Navigators	75.03
37	43	Baba Taraknath	103.84	81	15	Chilled Champ	71.9
38	41	Shib Shakti	103.33	82	28	Mixed Bag	71.47
39	87	Team Vibrant	102.78	83	50	Ea Bridge B	68.96
40	17	B.R.C	102.43	84	2	Kobi Shekhar	68.87
41	7	BS2TAJS4	102.39	85	78	Rcbc Pune	68.46
42	57	Animesh	101.54	86	80	Usha Kiran	67.69
43	25	Spartans	101.33	87	65	Four Heart Bihar	65.29
44	6	Oriental	100.25	88	46	Cutting Edge	57.55

TEAM ROSTER - GOLD

No	Team Name	Players
1	Hemant Jalan	Hemant K Jalan, Ashis Malhotra, Abhijit Chakraborty, Rana Roy, Kamal Krishna Mukherjee, Hema Deora
2	Formidables	Kiran Nadar, Bachiraju Satyanarayana, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sumit Mukherjee, Sagnik Roy, Kaustabh Nandi
3	Mohota	Anurag Mohota, Basant K Mohota, Rajesh Somani, Anant Vikram Somani, Hemant Lall, Joyjit Sensarma
4	Capa India	Sanjay Bagaria, Alok Daga, Samir Basak, Shankar Acharya, Sowmik Das, Mrinal Kanti Mukherjee
5	Wham	Sartaj Hans, Andy Pei-en Hung, Matthew Brown, Michael Whibley
6	Diamonds	Maxim Semisochenko, Diana Rakhmani, Tatiana Nokhaeva, Aleksandr Piatkov
7	Shourie	Rajath Shourie, Vincent Demuy, Christian Bakke, Tor Eivind Grude, Alon Birman, Dror Padon
8	Dhampur Sugar Mills	Ashok Kumar Goel, K R Venkataraman, Vinay Desai, Raju Tolani, Ajay P Khare, Arun M Bapat
9	Spot Cards	Sanat Kumar Saha, Pradip Mohta, Asit Baran Chakraborty, Shyama Prasad Chatterjee, Sambuddha Deb, Sagar Bhuia
10	Omega	Rasika Karunatilake, Ramaratnam Krishnan, TV Ramani, Subhash Bhavnani
11	Tornatae	Prasad V Keni, Uttam Swarup Gupta, Ashantha De Mel, Vikrant Mehta, Vivek Bhand
12	Samadhan	Ravi Raman, Ivan Alphonso, Rahul Shetty, Mahesh Rohera, Marianne Karmarkar, Sandeep N Karmarkar
13	Pals	Mukul Gupta, Tribhuvan Prasad Khare, Shantanu Rastogi, V K Rattan, S K Garg, Ratnesh
14	Texan Aces	G Venkatesh, Anil P Padhye, S Sundarram, Padmanabhan Sridharan, Vijay Devadass, Keshav Saktharam Samant
15	Natureville	C M Kulkarni, Girish R Bijoor, K Durgadas, Bharat Rao, Himanshu Joshi, R Kannan
16	Pravaha	Arun Bahulkar, R Venkatesh, Sanjay Kumar Sondhi, Subhransu Patnaik, S K Iyengar, Peiyush Jain
17	Kosmos	Asha Sharma, Sunil Bhatia, Ambrish Wadera, Anukul Mandal, Rajesh K Jain, Daleep Mutreja
18	Vedic	Bhabesh Saha, Prasun Kumar Mukherjee, Pinaki Prasad Khan, Satyabrata Mukherjee, Craig Gower, Diana Rosslee
19	Poddar	Dipak K Poddar, Namit Sharma, Kingshuk Bhattacharya, Moloy Kumar Mondal, Debashis Bhadra, Dibyendu Shee
20	Mavericks	Subodh Maskara, Keyzad Anklesaria, Aniruddha Bhattacharya, Boye Brogeland, Oren Toledano, Ami Zamir
21	Kind	Puneet Gangal, Ibrat Khan, Khaled Hassan, Ahmed Alruwayeh
22	Mix N Match	Anushree Jalan, Daljeet Marwah, Kalpna Varshney, Nandini Prasad, Gautam Suri, Indranath Chatterjee
23	Alchemy	Vidhya Patel, Kalpana Gurjar, Cameron Roger Cotton, Ajit M Pai, M J R Vasudevan, M Vasanth Pai
24	Kal Aaj Aur Kal	Pradeep Anand Singh, Vijayanand Singh, Mukul Goel, Pullak Garga, C P Agarwal
25	Delhi blues	Prakash Bhandari, D K Tewari, P C Gupta, J B Sengupta, Tushar Moghe, Sekhar K Bandopadhyay
26	Tricolor Titans	Amarjit Wadhawan, Nikita Kamal, K K Sabherwal, Arun Jain, R K Garg, Shiv Shankar Gupta
27	Dr Sanghi	Ratan Lal Sanghi, Arun Kumar Sinha, Chandan Chowdhury, Sanjay Raha, Sunil Kumar Sinha, S M Moin
28	Carpe diem	Gopinath Manna, Sapan Desai, Somesh Bhattacharya, Sandip Datta, Debabrata Majumder
29	Sarlafibers	Rajeev Khandelwal, Himani Khandelwal, Vijay Deshpande, Vrinda Jhunjunwala, Diego Brenner, Paul D Hackett
30	OLIMP	Andrey Gromov, Anna Gulevich, Sergey Orlov, Evgeny Rudakov, Olga Firsova
31	Bridgescanner	Vytautas Vainikonis, Olanski Wojciech, Boguslaw Gierulski, Jerzy Skrzypczak
32	DassBridge	Chanchal Dass, Saswata Ballav, Aman Tyagi, Kinjal Desai
33	Lake My Love	Paban Agarwal, Kalindi Mewar, Hasibul Hasan, Sukanta Das, Prosenjit Manna, Bhaskar Sarkar
34	Monica Jajoo	Sukamal Das, Monica Jajoo, Binod Kumar Shaw, Kaustubh Milind Bendre, Sayantan Kushari, Sanjit Dey
35	Amanora	JK Bhosale, P D Joshi, U V Athavale, V Ravichandran, V Chandrasekhar, Amol Deshmukh
36	Juthika	Amitava Mukherjee, Swetadri Saha, Krishna Das Chakraborty, Rajendra Ray, Arnab Ghosh, Amar Kumar Bose
37	Guptopadesam	AS Gupta, V Krishnan, Subramanian Karuppannan, Guru Shankar Sundaram
38	Boldplay	Ajit Saldanha, Satyabrata Lahiri, R Sreekrishnan, Afshar Majeed, Maneesh Bahuguna, Prakash G Hegde
39	EISK	Pijus Kanti Baroi, Kannan Krishnamurthy, Alope Kumar Sadhu, Rajendra Sirohia, Mithun Mukherjee, Soumya Das
40	Magnum	Subhash Gupta, Puja Batra, Sandeep Thakral, Animesh Raj, Jaggy B Shivdasani
41	EHAA	Ranjan Bhattacharya, Mukesh Shivdasani, Tapan Kumar Roy, Wrik Chakraborty, Ramprosod Das
42	Dass Bridge Gold	Sourendra Coomer Dutt, Raghunath P Tripathi, Swapan Some, Biswadip Roy
43	AMPA	Prafulla Kumar Das, Anant Potdar, Mohan Jhala, Abha Chaturvedi
44	Arun Jain	Gopika Tandan, Vijay R Phatarpekar, R Sridharan, Shambhu Nath Ghosh, Biswajit Poddar, Arun Jain
45	Diamond	Suchet Dhar, Ashim Kumar Ghosh, Sudhir Arya, Sunandan Thakur
46	Doubles	Ajit Mahadar, Ranga Khadloya, J Pratihari, I Khan, Prakash Gupta, Dilip Mistry
47	EA Bridge	Kavita Singhanian, Koushik Mukherjee, Priya Ranjan Sinha, Badal Das, Shibnath De Sarkar, Pranab Bardhan
48	Express Avenue	Wojciech Gawel, Przemyslaw Janiszewski, Piotr Marcinowski, Kamil Nowak
49	I Doctors	Deven Doshi, Rajul R Dalal, Yogesh B Sh, Shrikant B Tembey, Gurmit Singh Chadha
50	Deep Finesse	Janak Shah, Jayendu Shantilal Patel, Rajesh A Dalal, Jitendra J Solani, Subhash A Dhakras, R G Bhiwandkar
51	Bangur Cement	Debasish Ray, Subir Majumdar, Suman Sengupta, Amar Nath Banerjee, Arya Chakraborty, Shouvik Das
52	The Finessers	Rupa Bakeri, Aparna Sain, Sujit Kumar Bhattacharjee, Pradip Dey, Souvik Kar, Subhajit Choudhury
53	55555	Mohammad Ehsanuzzaman, Shathi Rangan Dey, Md. Shahidul Islam, Md Rezaul Karim, Taymur Reza Hossain
54	Team Tolani	Arvind Vaidya, Shubham Acharya, Mukund Jagannathan, Ramaratnam Venkatesh
55	Shri Radhey	Vinay Mohan Lal, Avijit Sarkar, Pranab Roy, Joyrup Mullick, Pritam Das, Anindra Kumar Sarkar
56	Proyas	Swapan Sardar, Sumit Saha, Ayan Chatterjee, Nirmal Kumar Jain, Ramkrishna Majumder
57	TVS Mobility	R N Subramaniam, R Chandramohan, P Sudhakar Rao, Prashanth Kandulakunta, Pandu Chedalavada, Srinivas Kachibhatla
58	Nilachakra	Satchidananda Nayak, D N Behera, R K Pradhan, Sankarsan Behera

TEAM ROSTER - SILVER

No	Team Name	Players
1	Hakuna Matata	Bijal Shah, Sejal Shah, Bhanumati Shah, Kamal Shah
2	Oriental	Edward Perera, Romesh Bandaranaike, Sudeep Saha, Aloke Kumar Sardar
3	Navigators	Deepak Ramnani, K P Baskaran, Velupillai Balakumar, Smita Jindal, Sanjiv Sahay, A N Sahai
4	Tapoban	Provat Roy, Partha Sarkar, Kishore Kanti Roy, Subir Kumar Chaudhuri, Ram Prasad Das
5	Rkpt Union	Prasanta Saha, Prabir Kumar Paul, Rabi Sankar Roychowdhury, Kishore Kumar Ganguly, Tapan Jyoti Ghosh, Prasanta Dutta
6	BS2TAJS4	Samir Bhattacharya, Biswajit Mukherjee, Jayanta Sarkar, Amal Kumar Gune, Tutun Banerjee, Arijit Chatteraj
7	EABridge B	P Narayan Iyer, Aparajitha Iyer, D V Ravi, Nirav Patel
8	Chennai	S Srinivasan, C Sathish Kumar, Abhishek Mitra, Gautam Chattopadhyay, Gautam Chatterjee, Tapas Das
9	Shib Shakti	Prabir Kumar Thakur, Sujun Chowdhury, Sajal Banerjee, Koushik Mukherjee, Bholanath Dash, Sarveswar Bhattacharya
10	Kobi Shekhar	Netai Pada Kabiraj, Shekhar Banerjee, Siba Prasad Ghosh, Achintya Halder, Kishore Das, Debobrata Mondal
11	Hello	Madhav AKshirsagar, Kanad V Javahire, Balchandra G Daxindas, Satish G Diwanji
12	RCBC Pune	Bhalchandra G Ogale, Prasanna M Bhide, Pradeep R Rathi, Subhadra P Rathi, Kishore Sidhwani, Neela C Deshpande
13	Chilled Champ	Devender Soni, Ravinder Kumar Gupta, Jai Kishan, Ashok Kumar, Mithlesh Soni
14	RX100	Ashis Pan, Babhrubahan Bose, Pankaj P Chaudhari, Pintu Sao, Sudipta Adhikary, Rajib Ray
15	Cutting Edge	Bhalender Singh Nayyar, Bubbles Bawa, Ashok Kumar Sinha, Manjeet Sodhi
16	Ranjan	Saswata Bhattacharya, Ranjan Banerjee, Pranay Majumder, Manas Kumar Das, Jaydeep Bhattacharjee, Saila Ranjan Das
17	Pack	Santi Ranjan Dutta, Pramod Ranjan Das, Balai Paul, Goutam Mukherjee, Tirthankar Sengupta, Suvasish Dasgupta
18	Tulip	C M Vasudev, Manju Bhasin, Rita Bhagwati, Ninochaka Kothari, Raminder Singh Gujral, Siddhartha Behura
19	B.R.C	Bimalendu Das, Sumanta Roy, Utpal Santra, Asim Das, Sunil Misra, S K Gautam
20	Quest	Lalit Mendiratta, Bidyut Kanti Thakur, Kavita Dhawan, Bhavna Naraindas, Ranji Dhawan
21	Bridge Doctors	Parimal N Shah, Thakur Hingorani, Jenish Shah, Milind Panandikar, Wilson Menezes
22	Guns and Roses	Sudhir K Agrawal, Anuradha Krishna, M P S Chauhan, Vikram Jain, Amit Nangpal, Indrajit Sensarma
23	Bridge Lovers	Ajit Mukherjee, Gautam Aich, Sudhir Kumar, Sanjeev Tomar, Monu Kumar Ranchhad
24	Andromeda	Ashish Patel, Sunil Pradhan, Suhas Lele, Vikrant Joseph, Girish Hirode, Darshan Patel
25	Tapan Sen Iv	Tapan Kr Sen, Sanjay Banerjee, Dipak Kumar Paul, Alok Kumar Mandal, Md Sahajahan, Santanu Das
26	Unique	Tapan Kumar Roy, Bhola Nath Ghosh, Salil Kumar Mondal, Sunil Das, Tarun Manna
27	TrickAnd Trump	Madhu Malti Jain, Atanu Ganguly, Souvik Saha, Sandip Gharai, Yogendra Deva, Dheeraj Kumar
28	Sunny 99	Rajat Dutta, Cera Fernando, Kajal Pal, Hironmoy Banerjee, Amitava Roy, Nandalal Hazra
29	Tarams	Ramesh Srinivas, Deepak Pramanik, Vijay Ramchandran, Kumar Venkataraman, Pradeep Deshpande, Sundar Shekar Polavaram
30	Aspire	Asim Saha, Smita Govilkar, Vasanti Shah, Ravi Kaul, Biswajit Mahata, Subhas Mahato
31	Vande Bharat	Vasudeo G Gujrathi, Jayant Prabhakar Pingale, V V Iyer, Jitendra Kshirsagar
32	Hounds	Hazur Singh Dhariwal, S S Bhullar, Russell Lal, Hardip Singh
33	Dazzle	Hemant Pande, Atul Dashputre, N B Shinde, Sriram Bhikaji Khanolkar, Mithileshwar Jha, Rohit Mishra
34	Royal Bridge Club	Pradip Kumar Halder, Pradip Kumar Banerjee, Tapan Kumar Bandyopadhyay, Satyaban Ukil, Loknath Chatterjee
35	Samras	Mrityunjay Dey, Soumitra Chakraborty, Rathindra Nath Kundu, Aniruddh Ghosh, Ashim Chandra Karmakar, Sukalyan Sarkar
36	Animesh	A C Srivastava, Roshan Sahay, V M Gupta, Prakash Achar, Manish Dixit, Deepak Srivastava
37	Vanquished	Achintyananda Thakur, Soumen Das, Braja Gopal Dey, Somnath Mitra, Siddhartha Ghosh, Asim Sarkar
38	Ratnagiri Alfonso	Mohan P Damle, Vinayak Bhikaji Mulye, A K Patwardhan, Madhav K Agashe, Sachin Shrikrishna Joshi, Chintamani Bhikaji Damale
39	Borivali Sports Club	Asvin Ganger, Kausar Hasan Syed, Chunnil Lal Arora, Kamleshwar Rai, Vinay Sharma, Stanley Nazareth
40	Super Lucky	Kunal Jaiswal, Sujata Puranik Rakhra, Ratna Tadepalli, Sadhana Gupta, B P S Pai, Raj Madnani
41	Gladiators	Tarun Singhal, Anurag Pandey, Umesh Kumar Singh, Rakesh Chandra Sharma
42	Group Popular	S Vijayraghavan, A S Venkatesh, N Sudhakar Babu, Asokan Pitchai, Rajendran Ramesh, Uma Rajesh
43	ABPI	Prasanta Basu Ray, Anil Mondal, Bijan Kumar Bandopadhyay, Asit Kumar Bandopadhyaya, Pratap Chandra Ghosh, Indira Basu Ray
44	Baba Taraknath	Sushanta Kumar Mondal, Prasanta Kumar Mandal, Milan Bhuiya, Kumaresh Ghosh, Sumit Santra
45	Hyderabad Blue	R P Narain, D Sudhanand, Prabhat Kumar Gupta, Akhauri Prabhat Kumar
46	Ahilya	Anil Vijaywargiya, Ajit B Chakradeo, Hemant Purkar, Chandrashekhar V Kekre, V A Phapunkar, Girish Mujumdar
47	Jhontu	Arnab Guha, Bijon Kumar Mondal, Tapan Kumar Roy, Shyama Prasad Banerjee, Raju Mitra, Samar Kumar Maity
48	Sahyadri	Sampath Srinivasan, Gaurav Rajwade, Nitin I Shirole, Ajoy Sonak, V Ravindran, Rajendra V Mekal
49	Setu	Priyotosh Sarkar, Jayanta Dutta, Asis Tosh, Shiba Prasad Samaddar, Uday Ghoshal, Saurendranath Chakrabarti
50	Ace Of Spade	Tapas Das, Subrata Chatterjee, Manoj Das, Kedar Nath Shaw, Arup Kumar Hudait, Prosenjit Roy Sarkar
51	Team Kabra	Kamal Kabra, Indranil Chakraborty, Abhirup Ghosh, Arnab Basu Roy, Tamal Dasgupta, Pallab Roy
52	Savvy Acers	Vipul Jain, Subashish Gope, Ramesh C Khanna, Suman Khanna, Devangshu Datta, Surinder Kumar
53	Miracle	Ramendra Chowdhury, Ranjan Bose, Aritra Bhattacharya, Pradyut Bhattacharjee, Jay Kumar Majumdar, Asit Ranjan Ghosh
54	Anirban mitra	Suren Mewar, Anirban Mitra, Pulak Panji, Gourav Biswas, Prithviraj Ghosh, Kalyan Kumar Roy
55	DharmaYodha	Suresh Senapaty, H. Anjaneya Swamy, Amol Athawale, A L Sancheti, J P Das, Debabrata Mukhopadhyay
56	The Squad	Savleen Thadani, Rahul Khambete, Sailaja Tahiliani, Pradip Ghosh, Kamna Sharma, Abhijit Pal
57	Rhino Assam	Dharma Narayan Bordoloi, Dilip Kr Sarma, Ajoy Baruah, Jyotirmoy Dey, Shibashish Barik, Debashish Majumdar
58	Chefs Table	Meenu Dugal, Tanmoy Majumdar, Partha (Bulu) Saha, Soumitra Das, Amitava Ghosh, Anirban Sasmal, Meenu Dugal
59	WE R SIX.	Jayanta Chowdhury, Subrata Sarkar, Jagadish Chandra Bala, Joydip Mukherjee, Sushil Kumar Paul, Debabrata Ray, Jayanta Chowdhury
60	Everest	V D Agarkar, Vijay G Bhagwat, S G Surve, R B Ketkar
61	Mixed Bag	Abani Baruah, Dilip Kumar Borpuzari, Joy Saikia, Gautam Sarma, Preeti Jhalani, S K Sharma
62	Challengers	Jesal Dabirwala, Subrata Chakraborty, Ajoy Saha, Bapi Das, Prabir Das
63	DilipAtha Iv	Rana Chakraborty, Dilip Atha, Kajal Chandra Das, Tonmoy Ghosh, Suraj Das
64	Four Heart Bihar	Umesh Ram, J P Singh, Rakesh Ranjan, S K Verma
65	Deepadhaar	Deepa Jacob, Pallab Sinha Roy, Saptarshi Chanda, Animesh Majumder, Tapas Kumar Roy, Bijit Datta
66	Vibgyor	Alka Jain, Devi Muthu Bhatnagar, Sarika Mittal, R Anbazhagan, Vinod Kumar Mutreja, J N Pandey
67	Confluence	Anand W Golwalkar, Deoki Nandan Sinha, Arabinda Kumar Mishra, Shailendra Kumar, Abhay Todankar, Kailash Agarwal
68	Sangam 4	B N Agarwal, Shankar Chatterjee, Rakesh Bagga, Jitendra Pandey, Anil Kumar Bansal
69	Gobind	Birendra Kumar, D N Lenka, Bhaskar Chandra Mallik, Ashok Kumar, Aroon Birla, R P Shivhare
70	Nagpur VI	Arun J Puranik, Sameer Roy, Mahesh Mor, Anil Kumar Mohota, Makrand M Luley
71	Hopeful Six	A K Guha, A K Sinha, Sandeep Narang, Saurav Sil, Bidyut Goswami, Biplab Dawn
72	Ernis	Santanu Chakraborty, Jibak Tewari, Sumita Dasgupta, Chandan Kumar Mitra, Arun Kumar Majhi
73	Mind Crusaders	Sayantana Konar, Sanjib Majumdar, Sisir Kumar Banerjee, Protap Bandyopadhyay, Pradip Mondal, Sanjay Kundu
74	Crazy 6	Soham Sarkar, Mathew Chandy, Mehedi Hassan, Partha Pratim Pal, Tapas Kumar Chaudhuri, Anupam Ghosh
75	Spartans	Girish Kumar, Anil Kumar Upadhyay, Naveen Kumar, Deepak Kothiwala, Sanjay Amist, Abhishek Gupta
76	Mahabir	Bipul Kumar Roy, Sanat Roy, Sumit Bhattacharjee, Pradip Gupta, Hari Narayan
77	Laxmi	Raj Kumar Mukherjee, Sunil Dutta, Sujoy Kumar Dey, Sunit Kumar Bose
78	Dehradun	R V S Chauhan, Tapas Kumar Mandal, Rahul Agarwal, Yashpal Singh
79	Red Soil	Sanjay Kumar Dasgupta, Debasish Paul, Biswarup Biswas, Biplab Kumar Das, Sanjib Naska, Proshanto Bhattacharya
80	Jay Mahakal	Shantanu Roy, Gopal Das, Monoj Bhattacharjee, Ashok Hazra
81	Unbalanced	Swarup Ghosh, Amit Pal, Tapan Kr Bhattacharya, Arup Lodh, Gautam Kumar Chanda
82	Marudhara	Pradeep Govil, S K Sharma, M K Bhargava, G P Aggarwal, Anup Kumar Mahajan, Hemkanti Talukdar
83	Team Vibrant	M K Halder, Amitava Banerjee, Prasanta Bera, Vivekananda Ghosh, Pabitra Majumder, Mithun Biswas
84	Four Aces	Sudhir Iyer, M Gopal, Ajay Kumar Singh, Nag Bhusan Rao, Rabindra Kumar Singh, Hemant Dhananjay Bhawe
85	RAHA	Hatinder Panwar, Atulya Sood, Anil Sud, Rajesh Thakur, Anil Bharihoke
86	Royals	Hasmukh Vidja, Ravindra Amritkar, P K Bandhu, Prithvi Raj
87	Usha Kiran	Usha Joshi, Sumathi Iyer, Srithar R, K V Vahalia, Mohan Nair, Nirmal Raja
88	Ashok Bedi	Ashok Bedi, Rakesh Nanda, B S Gupta, Rohit Gupta

GOLD Swiss League Round 5, Mohota vs. Express Avenue

The sixth round on the Vu Graph featured two evenly poised encounters — **Mohota (69.13, 6th)** taking on **Express Avenue (73.73, 2nd)**, and **WHAM (63.89, 11th)** meeting **Monica Jajoo (63.07, 12th)**. The Mohota lineup included **Hemant Lall**, now an American expert with roots in India, lending both experience and flair to a team otherwise rich in raw Indian talent. We will examine several boards from the former encounter. We will also glance at the proceedings – especially, the bidding – in the latter for the slammish deals. Three of them came up in Round 6.

D 21		N B MOHOTA ♠ Q1074 ♥ K1054 ♦ 4 ♣ KJ73	W N E S P 1NT P 3NT P P P
W KAMIL N ♠ A86 ♥ A9 ♦ J106532 ♣ 64			E PRZEMEK J ♠ J92 ♥ J8 ♦ AQ9 ♣ AQ1092
		S A MOHOTA ♠ K53 ♥ Q762 ♦ K87 ♣ 85	
Other table: 3NTE-4 NS: MOHOTA 0 IMPs EW: EXPRESS 0 IMPs			3NT E NS: 0 EW: 0

On the very first deal of the set, a voluntarily bid 3Nt contract went down four on many tables. Przemislaw opened 1Nt and Nowak jumped to three. Anurag Mohota led a small Heart. Janiszewski let it run to North's ♥K, won the second round, and ran the ♦ Jack next. Anurag Mohota ducked. Janiszewski now cashed the ♦ A and played ♦ Q. The blockage in the Diamond suit was removed by now. North-South could take their four Hearts. Declarer made the rest. The contract went down one. In the other room, it went down four. The details of play are not available but that result has got duplicated on many other tables. As long as the defenders knocked out the ♠ Ace before the Diamond blockage cleared, they had at least seven tricks. Express Avenue opened their account for the match with a 4 IMP gain. Running Scores - Express Avenue: 4; Mohota: 0.

D 23		N B MOHOTA ♠ 7532 ♥ 105 ♦ 42 ♣ AK752	W N E S 3♦ X P 1♣ P 4♣ P 3♥ P P P 6♣
W KAMIL N ♠ J986 ♥ 7 ♦ QJ98765 ♣ 8			E PRZEMEK J ♠ KQ104 ♥ K9864 ♦ 103 ♣ J3
		S A MOHOTA ♠ A ♥ AQJ32 ♦ AK ♣ Q10964	
Other table: 3NTS+2 NS: MOHOTA 0 IMPs EW: EXPRESS 4 IMPs			6♣ S NS: 0 EW: 0

Board two was flat. Easts played 1Nt on both tables and made seven tricks. Board three brought up a slam. The Mohota father-son duo had a simple auction. Anurag opened a strong 1♣ and showed his Heart suit first when the tray came back to him with Kamil Nowak's pre-emptive 3♦ bid. Basant Mohota now bid 4♣ and Anurag raised to six. South conducted the contract because of the 1♣ opening. West led a Heart to ♥T and ♥K. Anurag won, removed trumps and claimed. That was 1390 to North-South.

In the other match on Vu graph, the Australian Pair Sartaj Hans - Andy Pei-en Hung also missed the 6♣ slam when Andy jumped to 5♣ after a bidding sequence similar to above.

23	N HUNG		W N E S			
	♠ 7532 ♥ 105 ♦ 42 ♣ AK752		3♦	X	P	1♠
W KAUSTUBH B		E SAYANTAN		P	5♣	P
♠ J986 ♥ 7 ♦ QJ98765 ♣ 8		♠ KQ104 ♥ K9864 ♦ 103 ♣ J3		P	P	P
S SATRAJ						
♠ A ♥ AQJ32 ♦ AK ♣ Q10964						
Other table: 6♠S+1 NS: WHAM 1 IMPs EW: MONICA 0 IMPs				5♣ S NS: 0 EW: 0		

In the Open Room, Joyjit Sensarma over called 2♦ on Gawel's 1♣ opening. On Gawel's 2♥ rebid, North didn't show his Club suit. Possibly, that would have shown a limited hand. Piotr Marcinowski opted for a 3♦ bid. With Diamond control, Gawel rebid 3Nt. The Club suit never came out. Gawel scored eleven tricks in 3Nt for a score of 660. Mohota team won twelve IMPs on the board. Running Scores - Express Avenue: 4; Mohota: 12.

23	N PIOTR		W N E S			
	♠ 7532 ♥ 105 ♦ 42 ♣ AK752		2♦	P	P	1♠
W JOYJIT		E HEMANT		P	3♦	2♥
♠ J986 ♥ 7 ♦ QJ98765 ♣ 8		♠ KQ104 ♥ K9864 ♦ 103 ♣ J3		P	P	3NT
S GAWEL						
♠ A ♥ AQJ32 ♦ AK ♣ Q10964						
Other table: 6♠S+1 NS: EXPRESS 4 IMPs EW: MOHOTA 0 IMPs				3NT S NS: 0 EW: 0		

In the Closed Room in WHAM vs. Monica Jajoo match, Sanjit and Binod managed to reach 6♣ after South opened 1♥ and West decided to pass rather than pre-empt.

23	N BINOD S		W N E S			
	♠ 7532 ♥ 105 ♦ 42 ♣ AK752		P	1♥	P	1♥
W M BROWN		E WHIBLEY		P	3♣	3♣
♠ J986 ♥ 7 ♦ QJ98765 ♣ 8		♠ KQ104 ♥ K9864 ♦ 103 ♣ J3		P	3♦	3NT
S SANJIT D				P	5♣	6♣
♠ A ♥ AQJ32 ♦ AK ♣ Q10964				P	P	P
Other table: 5♠S+2 NS: MONICA 0 IMPs EW: WHAM 1 IMPs				6♣ S NS: 0 EW: 0		

On Board 4, Anurag and Basant Mohota landed on their feet with an impressive bidding technique against a 1Nt opening. Anurag doubled Przemyslaw Janiszewski 's 3rd seat 1Nt with 10 HCP and a six-carder Club suit. Basant took out to 2♣ and Anurag passed. Not many would be able to play in a 2♣ contract after a 1Nt opening. Eight tricks was the limit of the hand.

24	N B MOHOTA ♠ K973 ♥ AK1086 ♦ 973 ♣ 9	<table><tr><td>W</td><td>N</td><td>E</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td>P</td><td>P</td><td>1NT</td><td>X</td></tr><tr><td>P</td><td>2♣</td><td>P</td><td>P</td></tr><tr><td>P</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	W	N	E	S	P	P	1NT	X	P	2♣	P	P	P			
W	N	E	S															
P	P	1NT	X															
P	2♣	P	P															
P																		
W KAMIL N ♠ 842 ♥ 532 ♦ Q1052 ♣ KJ10		E PRZEMEK J ♠ QJ106 ♥ QJ9 ♦ KJ4 ♣ A32																
Other table: 3♠S-1 NS: MOHOTA 12 IMPs EW: EXPRESS 4 IMPs	S A MOHOTA ♠ A5 ♥ 74 ♦ A86 ♣ Q87654	2♣ N NS: 0 EW: 0																

In the Open Room, the auction was longwinded. Piotr Marcinowski chose to open 1♥ in the second seat with only 10 HCP, Heman Lall doubled, and West took out to 2♦. After two passes, South finally found a way to show his long Club suit through a negative double followed by correcting 2♠ to 3♣.

24		N PIOTR ♠ K973 ♥ AK1086 ♦ 973 ♣ 9	<table><tr><td>W</td><td>N</td><td>E</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td>P</td><td>1♥</td><td>X</td><td>P</td></tr><tr><td>2♦</td><td>P</td><td>P</td><td>X</td></tr><tr><td>P</td><td>2♣</td><td>P</td><td>3♣</td></tr><tr><td>P</td><td>P</td><td>P</td><td></td></tr></table>	W	N	E	S	P	1♥	X	P	2♦	P	P	X	P	2♣	P	3♣	P	P	P	
W	N	E	S																				
P	1♥	X	P																				
2♦	P	P	X																				
P	2♣	P	3♣																				
P	P	P																					
W JOYJIT ♠ 842 ♥ 532 ♦ Q1052 ♣ KJ10		E HEMANT ♠ QJ106 ♥ QJ9 ♦ KJ4 ♣ A32																					
Other table: 2♣N= NS: EXPRESS 4 IMPs EW: MOHOTA 12 IMPs		S GAWEL ♠ A5 ♥ 74 ♦ A86 ♣ Q87654	3♣ S NS: 0 EW: 0																				

Joyjit Sensarma led a small Diamond. Defence had three trumps and two Diamond tricks. The second Diamond trick took a bit of time to accrue because Hemant Lall switched to the ♠Queen after winning ♦King on trick one. Still, the contract eventually met its fate of one down. Mohota team won four more IMPs. Running Scores - Express Avenue:4;Mohota: 16.

Board five presented the second slam of the set. Both the East-West Pairs handled it effectively. Joyjit's 3Nt was a slam try. Hemant's 4♦ showed Club shortage. That was music to Joyjit's ears. Joyjit now asked RKC Aces and followed it up with a King ask. Hemant showed two Key Cards with Trump Queen and the King of Diamonds whereupon Joyjit bid 6♠.

25		N PIOTR ♠ 73 ♥ Q1063 ♦ Q73 ♣ 9642	<table> <tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1♣</td><td>P</td><td>1♦</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>3NT</td><td>P</td><td>4♦</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>4NT</td><td>P</td><td>5♠</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>5NT</td><td>P</td><td>6♠</td><td>P</td></tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	1♣	P	1♦	P	3NT	P	4♦	P	4NT	P	5♠	P	5NT	P	6♠	P
W	N	E	S																				
1♣	P	1♦	P																				
3NT	P	4♦	P																				
4NT	P	5♠	P																				
5NT	P	6♠	P																				
W JOYJIT ♠ AK82 ♥ K42 ♦ 1052 ♣ A75		E HEMANT ♠ QJ106 ♥ A95 ♦ AKJ84 ♣ 10																					
	S GAWEL ♠ 954 ♥ J87 ♦ 96 ♣ KQJ83																						

Other table: 6♠E+1
 NS: EXPRESS 4 IMPs
 EW: MOHOTA 16 IMPs

6♠ W NS: 0 EW: 0

6♠ P P P

Note that the diagram does not capture the entire bidding sequence. There is a full round of bidding below the last shown round. Joyjit's 6♠ bid and three passe will show up there if one scroll up while watching the Vu graph records.

In the Closed Room, Kamil Nowak and Przemyslaw Janiszewski had no difficulty in bidding it either. South overcalled 2♣ in the Closed Room at a favourable vulnerability. After a double my Nowak and a jump to 3♠ by Janiszewski, the Spade fit was evident. Nowak now cue-bid 4♣. One more round of cue-bid followed and Janiszewski asked 4Nt. With three Key Cards, Nowak responded 5♦. Janiszewski now bid 6♦ and Nowak converted to 6♠ knowing the spade fit. Thirteen tricks were available once the ♦Queen was found under ♦AKJ. Yet again, the BBO handviewer can show us only a limited number of rounds of bidding. The last round, as in the Open Room, was 6♠-PPP. It was a push board, so the running scores were still Express Avenue: 4; Mohota: 16

25		N B MOHOTA ♠ 73 ♥ Q1063 ♦ Q73 ♣ 9642	<table> <tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>P</td><td>1♦</td><td>2♣</td></tr> <tr><td>4♣</td><td>P</td><td>3♠</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>4♥</td><td>P</td><td>4♦</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>5♦</td><td>P</td><td>4NT</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>P</td><td>6♦</td><td>P</td></tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	X	P	1♦	2♣	4♣	P	3♠	P	4♥	P	4♦	P	5♦	P	4NT	P		P	6♦	P
W	N	E	S																								
X	P	1♦	2♣																								
4♣	P	3♠	P																								
4♥	P	4♦	P																								
5♦	P	4NT	P																								
	P	6♦	P																								
W KAMIL N ♠ AK82 ♥ K42 ♦ 1052 ♣ A75		E PRZEMEK J ♠ QJ106 ♥ A95 ♦ AKJ84 ♣ 10																									
	S A MOHOTA ♠ 954 ♥ J87 ♦ 96 ♣ KQJ83																										

Other table: 6♠W+1
 NS: MOHOTA 16 IMPs
 EW: EXPRESS 4 IMPs

6♠ E NS: 0 EW: 0

6♠ P P P

In the Open Room in WHAM vs. Monica Jajoo match, Kaustubh-Sayantan failed to bid a slam after South overcalled 2♣ and North raised to three. In the Closed Room, Whibley-Brown sailed into a slam when Whibley jumped to 4♠ on 1♠ response after opening 1♦. Just about half of the 58 tables reached this slam. Some even played in 3NT.

Board 26 was a push board. The contract was the same in both the rooms, but it was doubled in one. In the Closed Room, Kamil Nowak played 4♠ undoubled. Two Diamond losers were on top, and also a Trump lose. Kamil played Clubs through North. South had both the missing honours, so he lost two Club tricks. Down two for 200 to North-South.

26		N B MOHOTA		W N E S			
		♠ QJ5		1♣ P			
		♥ 1053		2♣ P			
		♦ 9743		3♣ P			
		♣ 84		4♣ P			
W KAMIL N		♥J		E PRZEMEK J			
♠ K8763				♠ A109			
♥ KQ6				♥ A			
♦ J10				♦ 8652			
♣ Q72				♣ A10963			
		S A MOHOTA					
		♠ 42					
		♥ 98742					
		♦ AKQ					
		♣ KJ5					
Other table: 4♠W-1				4♠ W NS: 0 EW: 0			
NS: MOHOTA 16 IMPs							
EW: EXPRESS 4 IMPs							

In the Open Room, Gawel doubled 4♠ on hunch. Joyjit won the ♥J lead and played a Club from Dummy first thing. Gawel got only one Club trick. 4♠ doubled down one was -200 and the board was a push board.

26

D

N

PIOTR

♠

QJ5

♥

1053

♦

9743

♣

84

W

JOYJIT

♠

K8763

♥

KQ6

♦

J10

♣

Q72

♥

J

E

HEMANT

♠

A109

♥

A

♦

8652

♣

A10963

S

GAWEL

♠

42

♥

98742

♦

AKQ

♣

KJ5

Other table: 4♠W-2

NS: EXPRESS 4 IMPs

EW: MOHOTA 16 IMPs

W

N

E

S

1♠

P

2♣

P

2NT

P

3♣

P

3♦

P

3♥

P

3♠

P

4♠

X

4♠x W

NS: 0 EW: 0

Express Avenue got one IMP on board 27 and four more IMPs on board 28.



North had a difficult decision on Board 8. Kamil Nowak opened 3♠ at favourable vulnerability and South doubled in the reopening position. What should North do? Should North bid 4♥ and try to earn the vulnerable game bonus, or should North pass and take a sure positive because of the holding of two sure trump tricks and a side Ace? Basant Mohota took the latter option.

28	N B MOHOTA ♠ A1032 ♥ A1052 ♦ QJ64 ♣		W N E S 3♠ P P X P P P
	W KAMIL N ♠ K987654 ♥ 93 ♦ 92 ♣ 87	♣ 10	E PRZEMEK J ♠ Q ♥ J86 ♦ A753 ♣ QJ952
S A MOHOTA ♠ J ♥ KQ74 ♦ K108 ♣ AK643		Other table: 4♥S+1 NS: MOHOTA 16 IMPs EW: EXPRESS 5 IMPs 3♠ W NS: 0 EW: 0	

North-South have seven tricks in defence. They got them easily and scored 500. In the Open Room, Joyjit opened 2♠. That gave North-South some space to explore alternatives. In any case, not many North players would like to sit for a double of 2♠ holding an 11 HCP hand with four Hearts. Nor did Piotr Marcinowski. He employed a 2Nt forcing bid as per the popular Lebensohl convention. On partner's mandatory 3♣ takeout, he rebid 3Nt. There are a few different ways in which one can structure the Lebensohl sequences. The basis of all those sequences is the 2Nt relay. The rebids show or deny control in opponents' suit and 4-cards in other Major. Piotr Marcinowski seems to have shown 4 Hearts and a Spade check here. That allowed Gawel to bid 4♥ knowing the 4-4 Heart fit. Gawel won the ♣8 lead, removed two rounds of trumps and played Diamonds. He made 11 tricks for +650. Running Scores - Express Avenue: 9; Mohota: 16.

28	N PIOTR ♠ A1032 ♥ A1052 ♦ QJ64 ♣ 10		W N E S 2♠ P P X P 2NT P 3♣ P 3NT P 4♥ P P P
	W JOYJIT ♠ K987654 ♥ 93 ♦ 92 ♣ 7	♣ 8	E HEMANT ♠ Q ♥ J86 ♦ A753 ♣ QJ952
S GAWEL ♠ J ♥ KQ74 ♦ K108 ♣ AK643		Other table: 3♠W-3 NS: EXPRESS 5 IMPs EW: MOHOTA 16 IMPs 4♥ S NS: 0 EW: 0	

D 29		<table><tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td></td><td>P</td><td>2♣</td><td>P</td></tr><tr><td>2♦</td><td>P</td><td>2♠</td><td>P</td></tr><tr><td>3♠</td><td>P</td><td>3NT</td><td>P</td></tr><tr><td>4♣</td><td>P</td><td>4♦</td><td>P</td></tr></table>				W	N	E	S		P	2♣	P	2♦	P	2♠	P	3♠	P	3NT	P	4♣	P	4♦	P
W	N	E	S																						
	P	2♣	P																						
2♦	P	2♠	P																						
3♠	P	3NT	P																						
4♣	P	4♦	P																						
W JOYJIT	E HEMANT	<table><tr><td>4♥</td><td>P</td><td>4NT</td><td>P</td></tr><tr><td>5♦</td><td>P</td><td>5♥</td><td>P</td></tr><tr><td>5♠</td><td>P</td><td>P</td><td>P</td></tr></table>				4♥	P	4NT	P	5♦	P	5♥	P	5♠	P	P	P								
4♥	P	4NT	P																						
5♦	P	5♥	P																						
5♠	P	P	P																						
♠ 952	♠ AQJ876																								
♥ K10982	♥ AJ																								
♦ 4	♦ AJ9																								
♣ KJ102	♣ A4																								

Board 29 was a push for the Mohota-Express Avenue match. A Spade slam was available but none of the East-West Pairs managed to get there. Examine the bidding of Joyjit-Hemant Lall.

2♣ was strong. 2♦ was waiting. 2♠ Showed Spades. 3♠ showed Spade support and a decent hand. It was at least Game Forcing. Hemant now bid 3NT to show slam interest. 4♣, 4♦, and 4♥ were cue bids. 4NT was RKC for Spades. 5♦ showed 0 Key Cards. The next two bids - 5♥ and an opponent's pass - took 146 seconds to appear on the screen. Joyjit subsided in 5♠.

Let us get down to first principles. East knew that West held second Round control in Hearts and Clubs. From that point onwards, all East needs for a Spade slam from West hand is a singleton or void Diamond. The bidding certainly did not bring that out. Had Hemant known it, he would have bid 6♠ in a jiffy.

Let us go back one step. Does the 3♠ bid do justice to the hand? How would the bidding proceed if East held, say, ♠Akxxx♥AQx♦AKx♣Qx? That is just 22 HCP, but a slam in Hearts is almost cold. What if East held four Clubs and three Spades? Does the 3♠ bid commit the partnership to a Spade contract irrevocably?

These questions do not have good answers. The 2♣ opening takes away one full level from the bidding space. Further bidding gets cramped because of that and players have to choose what to focus on. On the Board above, East has to get across four valuable pieces of information. Three Spades, two Kings, and one shortness. There is not enough space left after the 3♠ bid for that. Understandably, Hemant took a conservative view and opted to stay away from a slam.

Let us now examine the bidding sequence on three other tables. Kamil Nowak and Piotr Marcinowski bid the hand as follows.

		W	N	E	S
			P	1♠	P
		2♠	P	2NT	P
		3♥	P	4♣	P
		4♦	P	4NT	P
		5♦	P	5♠	P
		P	P		
		♠ 952		♠ AQJ876	
		♥ K10982		♥ AJ	
		♦ 4		♦ AJ9	
		♣ KJ102		♣ A4	

Even in this bidding, the four crucial contributions of the West hand had not come out from the bidding. Piotr Marcinowski also opted to stay out of the slam.

This is how Brown-Whibley of WHAM team handled the auction. Whibley's 4♠ bid over 4♣ is perhaps somewhat of an underbid.

29	N BINOD S ♠ K4 ♥ Q76 ♦ Q8653 ♣ 763		W N E S P 2♣ P 2♦ P 2♠ P 3♣ P 3NT P 4♣ P 4♠ P	
	W M BROWN ♠ 952 ♥ K10982 ♦ 4 ♣ KJ102		E WHIBLEY ♠ AQJ876 ♥ AJ ♦ AJ9 ♣ A4	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 1 4 0 0 0 S 1 4 0 0 0 E 12 9 13 13 13 W 12 9 13 13 12 Par Score: -2220 Par: E 7NT		S SANJIT D ♠ 103 ♥ 543 ♦ K1072 ♣ Q985		4♠ E NS: 0 EW: 0

Kaustubh Bendre (West)-Sayantan Kushari (East) did manage to bid the slam

♠ 952	♠ AQJ876
♥ K10982	♥ AJ
♦ 4	♦ AJ9
♣ KJ102	♣ A4
Kaustubh Bendre	Sayantan Kushari
W N E S P 2♣ P 2♦ P 2♠ P 2NT P 3NT P 4♣ P 4♠ P 4NT P 5♣ P 6♠ P P P	

They also began with a strong 2♣ bid. On Sayantan's 2♠ rebid, Kaustubh used a 2Nt waiting bid. Sayantan raised to three. Kaustubh now bid 4♣ to show both Spade support and Club Cue-bid. Sayantan's 4♠ rebid showed a minimum. Perhaps, Sayantan should have employed a 4♦ or a 4♥ Cue-bid holding all four Aces. Kaustubh still asked 4Nt RKC, got the 5♣ response showing 4 Key Cards, and bid 6♠. This is definitely a better way to approach the bidding. The West hand has the extra ♣JT and ♥T that East cannot find out about. Still, East hasn't shown his sixth Spade either. Perhaps, the slam bid was slightly hopeful, but through a better-managed auction.

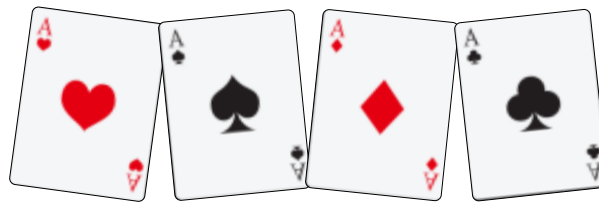
We were discussing the Round six match between Express Avenue and Mohota, but the slam deal sidetracked us. Let us get back to that match. This board, the ninth board of the set was a push board for them. Just about half of the 29 East-Westes reached this slam. As many as six pairs stopped in 5♠.

30	N B MOHOTA ♠ KQ64 ♥ 74 ♦ QJ532 ♣ 76		W N E S 2♣ P 1♠ P 2♦ P 2♥ P 3♣ P 3NT P P P	
	W KAMIL N ♠ 93 ♥ A32 ♦ K9 ♣ KJ10932		E PRZEMEK J ♠ AJ75 ♥ QJ95 ♦ 874 ♣ A5	
Other table: 2NTW+2 NS: MOHOTA 16 IMPs EW: EXPRESS 9 IMPs		S A MOHOTA ♠ 1082 ♥ K108 ♦ A106 ♣ Q84		3NT E NS: 0 EW: 0

The polish team won six more IMPs on the last deal when they bid a 3Nt that needed a couple of cards well-placed. Both the red suit Kings as well as the ♣Q are well-placed for East-West. East easily scored 10 tricks for +430. In the Open Room, Joyjit-Hemant also played in Notrump, but not at a game level. They, too, made 10 tricks, but they lost six IMPs on the board. The final score was, Express Avenue: 15; Mohota: 16.

The 22nd **HCL** International Bridge Championship

6th October to 14nd October 2025



Tournament Schedule

Friday, Oct 10	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD & SILVER EVENT – KO Pre-QFs (4 * 14 Boards)	
	1000 – 1200 Hrs.	Session – 1
	1215 – 1415 Hrs.	Session – 2
	1415 – 1515 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1515 – 1715 Hrs.	Session – 3
	1715 – 1745 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1745 – 1945 Hrs.	Session – 4
	OPEN MP PAIRS – ELIMINATION – 1 (3 Sessions of 18 Boards each)	
	1030 – 1300 Hrs.	Session - 1
	1300 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1630 Hrs.	Session - 2
	1630 – 1700 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1700 – 1930 Hrs.	Session - 3
Saturday, Oct 11	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD & SILVER EVENT – KO QFs (4 * 14 Boards)	
	1000 – 1200 Hrs.	Session – 1
	1215 – 1415 Hrs.	Session – 2
	1415 – 1515 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1515 – 1715 Hrs.	Session – 3
	1715 – 1745 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1745 – 1945 Hrs.	Session – 4
	OPEN MP PAIRS – ELIMINATION – 2 (3 Sessions of 18 Boards each)	
	1030 – 1300 Hrs.	Session - 1
	1300 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1630 Hrs.	Session - 2
	1630 – 1700 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1700 – 1930 Hrs.	Session - 3
	MP PAIRS STRATA II – (2 Sessions of 22 Boards each)	
	1100 – 1400 Hrs.	Session - 1
	1400 – 1500 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1500 – 1815 Hrs.	Session – 2
	1930 Hrs. Onwards	Cocktails & Dinner (Hosted by HCL)
	2015 – 2045 Hrs.	Draw of Lots for ProAm Tournament
Sunday, Oct 12	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD & SILVER EVENT – KO SFs (4 * 14 Boards)	
	1000 – 1200 Hrs.	Session – 1
	1215 – 1415 Hrs.	Session – 2
	1415 – 1515 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1515 – 1715 Hrs.	Session – 3
	1715 – 1745 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1745 – 1945 Hrs.	Session – 4

Tournament Schedule

Contd.

	OPEN MP PAIRS – ELIMINATION – 3 & IMP PAIRS – ELIMINATION (3 Sessions of 18 Boards each)	
	1030 – 1300 Hrs.	Session - 1
	1300 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1630 Hrs.	Session - 2
	1630 – 1700 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1700 – 1930 Hrs.	Session – 3
Monday, Oct 13	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD & SILVER EVENT – Final (4*14 Boards) & Play-off (3*14 Boards)	
	0900 – 1100 Hrs.	Session – 1
	1115 – 1315 Hrs.	Session – 2
	1315 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1600 Hrs.	Session – 3
	1615 – 1815 Hrs.	Session – 4
	OPEN MP PAIRS – FINAL (GOLD & SILVER) - Barometer Scoring	
	0930 – 1315 Hrs.	Session - 1
	1315 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1745 Hrs.	Session - 2
	IMP PAIRS – FINAL (2 Sessions of 24 Boards each)	
	1000 – 1330 Hrs.	Session - 1
	1330 – 1430 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1430 – 1745 Hrs.	Session - 2
	IMP PAIRS STRATA (2 Sessions of 22 Boards each)	
	1030 – 1330 Hrs.	Session - 1
	1330 – 1430 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1430 – 1730 Hrs.	Session - 2
	1830 Hrs. onwards	Prize Distribution & Closing Ceremony
Tuesday, Oct 14	PRO-AM PAIRS TOURNAMENT (IMP Scoring) – 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

THE SOUNDS OF SILENCE

Please observe silence during play. Follow the ‘Sound’ (or lack of it)
principle - **Silence Is Golden.**

BBO Schedule for Friday, October 10, 2025

1000 – 1200 Hrs: T-4 GOLD, Pre QF S-1 (2 Matches)

1215 – 1415 Hrs: T-4 GOLD, Pre QF S-2 (2 Matches)

1515 – 1715 Hrs: T-4 GOLD, Pre QF S-3 (2 Matches)

1745 – 1945 Hrs: T-4 GOLD, Pre QF S-4 (2 Matches)

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<https://hcl-bridge.com/bulletin/> & <https://hcl-bridge.com/result/>