



HCL 22nd INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

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Thrills and Crescendos in the Pre-Quarter Finals

The **Pre-Quarter Finals** produced a mix of predictability and drama. Five of the eight encounters turned one-sided fairly early, with **OLIMP**, **EA Bridge**, **Mavericks**, **Monica Jajoo**, and **Shourie** all surging ahead by more than 40 IMPs after three sets. Their march to the next stage looked assured long before the final boards were played.

The spotlight, however, remained on the three tighter contests—**WHAM vs. Proyas**, **Diamonds vs. Texan Aces**, and **Dhampur Sugar Mills vs. Magnum**—each carrying its own flavour of tension. **WHAM**, the defending champions, proved too strong in the end, winning the final set 60–36 to post a convincing **172–120** victory.

The other two matches went down to the wire. **Dhampur Sugar Mills** edged out **Magnum** by the slimmest of margins, **117.5–113**, in a match that had everything—tense moments, fluctuating leads, and finally, a grand finale in every sense of the term. On the last board, both tables reached a **Grand Slam**, ending the duel on a soaring note.

Curiously, that same final deal also sealed the fate of another match. **Texan Aces**, who ventured a small slam while **Diamonds** stopped in five clubs, gained just enough IMPs to overturn the deficit and snatch a **118–107** victory.

In the **SILVER** category, the action was just as fierce. **Ranjan** overcame **Marudhara** 137–131, **Ashok Bedi** beat **Hopeful Six** 124–106, **Hyderabad Blue** routed **Dazzle** 173–82, and **ERNIS** dominated **Laxmi** 137–47. **Team Kabra (145–86)**, **Gladiators (115–96)**, **Chefs Table (137–132)**, and **Nagpur VI (137–60)** completed the list of winners.

Wrik Chakraborty-Ramprosad Das finished at the top in MP Pairs first elimination with an aggregate score of 8645.3 (64.04%) after three sessions. Boguslaw Gierulski-Jerzy Skrzypczak were second with 62.98%. I. Pratihari and I khan finished third while Diego Brenner-Paul D. Hackett finished fourth.

Eight teams remain in each category. The battle lines for the quarter-finals are drawn—and if the endings of today's matches are any indication, tomorrow's duels promise to be nothing short of electric.

NOTE FOR PLAYERS

1. The Team of Four – Gold / Silver Quarter Final matches will be held in “EMERALD” Hall (Where BBO Set up is there). 2 matches of Team of Four GOLD event will be shown on the BBO.
2. 144 pairs (107 qualified from Elimination-1 & 37 Seeded pairs of the losing Pre-QF teams) will play the 2nd elimination round of the MP Pairs event in 3 Sessions of 18 boards. The game starts at 1030 Hrs. The pairs are divided into 8 Sections of 9 tables each. Sections “A” to “D” will be “TURQOISE” Hall & Sections “E” to “H” will be in “CORAL”. Approximately 40 % pairs will qualify for the 3rd elimination round. The exact cut-off no. will be announced by the Head TD.
3. The Match Point STRATA event will be played in 7 Sections of 12 tables each. The sections are in “SAPPHIRE” (5 Sections from “I” to “M”) & “RUBY” (2 Sections “N” to “O”) Halls. Please check your starting position and take your seats in your respective sections at least 10-15 minutes before the start time of 1100 Hrs.
4. The IMP Pairs event will start tomorrow.
5. There will be Cocktails & Dinner hosted by HCL 1930 Hrs. onwards along with a Musical evening at JADE Hall. The Draw of lots for ProAm event will also be done.

BBO 1: OLIMP VS. SHOURIE

BBO 2: WHAM VS. DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS

GOLD TEAMS KO PRE QF RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
1	OLIMP	9	63	71	48		191
	DASS BRIDGE GOLD		7	13	19		39
2	WHAM		58	19	35	60	172
	PROYAS		16	29	39	36	120
3	EA BRIDGE	6	41	7	54	25	133
	MOHOTA		3	28	37	34	102
4	MAVERICKS	9.5	53	47	14	39	162.5
	DEEP FINESSE		24	29	12	10	75
5	MONICA JAJOO	1.5	32	38	50	39	160.5
	VEDIC		5	25	42	35	107
6	DIAMONDS		32	32	23	20	107
	TEXAN ACES		20	8	45	45	118
7	DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS	4.5	42	31	24	16	117.5
	MAGNUM		30	11	46	26	113
8	TEAM TOLANI		23	39	27		89
	SHOURIE		62	12	64		138

GOLD TEAMS KO QUARTER FINALS

Table	Team	Vs	Team
1	OLIMP	VS	SHOURIE
2	WHAM	VS	DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS
3	EA BRIDGE	VS	TEXAN ACES
4	MAVERICKS	VS	MONICA JAJOO

SILVER TEAMS KO PRE QF RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
9	RANJAN		49	53	6	29	137
	MARUDHARA		18	43	26	44	131
10	ASHOK BEDI		46	12	41	25	124
	HOPEFUL SIX		21	47	19	19	106
11	HYDERABAD BLUE		29	56	28	60	173
	DAZZLE		29	14	21	18	82
12	ERNIS		55	47	35		137
	LAXMI		14	13	20		47
13	HELLO		31	26	2	27	86
	TEAM KABRA		29	31	55	30	145
14	GLADIATORS		51	8	15	41	115
	CHENNAI		16	43	22	15	96
15	CHEFS TABLE		7	39	49	42	137
	CHALLENGERS		50	30	32	20	132
16	WE R SIX	4	14	15	16	11	60
	NAGPUR VI		43	24	34	36	137

SILVER TEAMS KO QUARTER FINALS

Table	Team	Vs	Team
5	RANJAN	VS	NAGPUR VI
6	ASHOK BEDI	VS	CHEFS TABLE
7	HYDERABAD BLUE	VS	GLADIATORS
8	ERNIS	VS	TEAM KABRA

Results : Open MP Pairs - Elimination 1

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps	Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps
1	95	Wrik Chakraborty Ramprosad Das	8645.3	64.04	2761.3	28	47	Satyabrata Lahiri Vibhas Todi	7661.4	56.75	2726.1
2	228	Boguslaw Gierulski Jerzy Skrzypczak	8502.4	62.98	3090	29	39	Khaled Hassan Ahmed Alruwayeh	7659.3	56.74	2671.3
3	170	J Pratihari I Khan	8427.7	62.43	2649.1	30	72	Sampath Srinivasan Nitin I Shirole	7645.5	56.63	2717.6
4	5	Diego Brenner Paul D Hackett	8399.7	62.22	2850.6	31	217	Kingshuk Bhattacharya Moloy Kumar Mondal	7641	56.6	2357.9
5	12	Subhransu Patnaik Sanjay Kumar Sondhi	8316.9	61.61	2693.3	32	148	R Chandramohan R N Subramaniam	7632.7	56.54	2649.7
6	214	Kaustabh Nandi Sagnik Roy	8245.2	61.08	2720.4	33	55	Darshan Patel Girish Hirode	7624.5	56.48	2798
7	49	Rajeev Khandelwal Himani Khandelwal	8036.2	59.53	2953.9	34	194	Gopinath Manna Sandeep Datta	7614.9	56.41	2461.1
8	221	R Sreekrishnan Afshar Majeed	8001.8	59.27	2743.4	35	192	Pabitra Majumder Mithun Biswas	7608.5	56.36	2614.4
9	174	Rajeshwar Tewari Sumit Mukherjee	7965	59	2490.3	36	171	Partha Pratim Pal Mehedi Hassan	7607.3	56.35	2521.4
10	126	Aloke Kumar Sadhu Rajendra Sirohia	7949.7	58.89	2595.3	37	137	Abhijit Chakraborty Rana Roy	7595.9	56.27	2369
11	250	Stanley Nazareth Vinay Sharma	7934.7	58.78	2476.7	38	145	A S Gupta V Krishnan	7595.8	56.27	2876.6
12	116	Sapan Desai Debabrata Majumder	7924.8	58.7	2534.2	39	8	Pradeep Anand Singh Vijayanand Singh	7545	55.89	2483.6
13	36	Hasibul Hasan Sukanta Das	7885.8	58.41	2827.2	40	65	Rahul Shetty Mahesh Rohera	7532	55.79	2788.1
14	235	Samar Kumar Maity Raju Mitra	7866.7	58.27	2980	41	13	Sachin Shrikrishna Joshi Chintamani Bhikaji Damale	7478.6	55.4	2347.6
15	75	Shambhu Nath Ghosh Biswajit Poddar	7844.7	58.11	2455.5	42	200	Mithun Mukherjee Soumya Das	7453.5	55.21	2392.8
16	21	Bholanath Dash Sarveswar Bhattacharya	7843.9	58.1	2510.4	43	124	Girish R Bijoor K Durgadas	7440.5	55.11	2319.9
17	45	Ramaratnam Krishnan Rasika Karunatilake	7840.4	58.08	2333.6	44	206	P Narayan Iyer Aparajitha Iyer	7437.3	55.09	2825.1
18	216	Maneesh Bahuguna Prakash G Hegde	7835.5	58.04	2757	45	85	Arya Chakraborty Subir Majumdar	7429.7	55.04	2213.5
19	91	Sandeep N Karmarkar Marianne Karmarkar	7821.2	57.93	2841.9	46	136	Anil Sud Deoki Nandan Sinha	7345	54.41	2535.7
20	114	Saptarshi Chanda Animesh Majumder	7799.4	57.77	2967.5	47	103	Debasish Ray Amar Nath Banerjee	7341.2	54.38	2568.9
21	249	Gurmit Singh Chadha Rajul R Dalal	7789.7	57.7	2510.1	48	270	DK Tewari PC Gupta	7326.6	54.27	2269.4
22	193	Biswajit Mahata Subhas Mahato	7762.2	57.5	2550.6	49	159	Prosenjit Manna Bhaskar Sarkar	7320.3	54.22	2730.9
23	29	Subhajit Choudhury Pradip Dey	7758.8	57.47	2791.6	50	120	Tapan Kumar Roy1 Tarun Manna	7316.2	54.19	2499
24	146	Cameron Roger Cotton Ajit M Pai	7745.3	57.37	2879.2	51	260	S M Moin Arun Kumar Sinha	7301	54.08	2570.3
25	232	R Sridharan Vijay R Phatarpekar	7696.3	57.01	2887.1	52	122	Deepak Srivastava Manish Dixit	7287	53.98	2134
26	273	Pijus Kanti Baroi Kannan Krishnamurthy	7674.7	56.85	3031.7	53	100	C P Agarwal Mukul Goel	7277.3	53.91	2358.3
27	185	Vinay Mohan Lal Avijit Sarkar	7668.9	56.81	2697.3	54	101	Asit Baran Chakraborty Sagar Bhuia	7276.4	53.9	2560.5

Results : Open MP Pairs - Elimination 1

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps	Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps
55	14	Sanjay Kundu Pradip Mondal	7272.3	53.87	2559.9	82	225	Hasmukh Vidja Ravindra Amritkar	7071.6	52.38	2552.8
56	32	Souvik Kar Sujit Kumar Bhattacharjee	7268.4	53.84	2342.5	83	43	Hazur Singh Dhariwal S S Bhullar	7068.5	52.36	2128.9
57	69	Aman Tyagi Kinjal Desai	7264.3	53.81	2479.2	84	198	Pandu Chedalavada Srinivas Kachibhatla	7040.7	52.15	2661.6
58	16	Subhash Bhavnani T V Ramani	7256.8	53.75	2758.4	85	106	Hemant Purkar Chandrashekhar V Kekre	7039.4	52.14	2258
59	86	Anil Vijaywargiya Ajit B Chakradeo	7247.9	53.69	2732.6	86	28	Bijal Shah Sejal Shah	7028.2	52.06	2363.2
60	151	Mohan P Damle Vinayak Bhikaji Mulye	7247.2	53.68	2624.5	87	264	Uday Ghoshal Saurendranath Chakrabarti	7017.4	51.98	1781.5
61	263	Sunil Das Bhola Nath Ghosh	7239.1	53.62	2361.8	88	133	Somesh Bhattacharya Joy Narayan	7016.5	51.97	1980.7
62	130	Ajoy Sonak Chunni Lal Arora	7232.6	53.57	2755.9	89	84	Ashantha De Mel Uttam Swarup Gupta	7015.9	51.97	2792.1
63	34	Samir Basak Shankar Acharya	7223.8	53.51	2186.7	90	26	Dipak Kumar Paul Alok Kumar Mandal	7013	51.95	2576.6
64	184	Bharat Rao Himanshu Joshi	7219.9	53.48	2474.8	91	111	N Periasamy B Seenivasagan	7012.2	51.94	1835.9
65	22	Hatinder Panwar Atulya Sood	7217.4	53.46	2368.7	92	97	R Venkatesh Arun Bahulkar	7011.3	51.94	2690.9
66	211	A S Venkatesh Asokan Pitchai	7215	53.44	2297.8	93	209	Girish Kumar Naveen Kumar	7009.4	51.92	2084.8
67	102	Rajendra V Mekal Gaurav Rajwade	7181	53.19	2296.9	94	181	Anil Mondal Pratap Chandra Ghosh	7007.6	51.91	2480.8
68	199	Debashis Bhadra Dibyendu Shee	7179.8	53.18	2235.2	95	240	Kumar Venkataraman Pradeep Deshpande	7007.5	51.91	2271.8
69	255	R K Pradhan Sankarsan Behera	7175.6	53.15	2676.8	96	276	Sharad Kumar Sanjay Shrivastava	7003.8	51.88	2446.1
70	258	Vivek Bhand Vikrant Mehta	7170.3	53.11	2555.5	97	125	J K Bhosale P D Joshi	6988.2	51.76	2138.7
71	275	Joyrup Mullick Pranab Roy	7161.9	53.05	2202.4	98	24	N Sudhakar Babu Rajendran Ramesh	6988.1	51.76	2061.2
72	234	Pankaj P Chaudhari Pintu Sao	7157	53.01	2368.4	99	243	Ramendra Chowdhury Ranjan Bose	6987.3	51.76	2188.5
73	154	Bipul Kumar Roy Amar Kumar Bose	7149	52.96	2625	100	153	Biswarup Biswas Biplab Kumar Das	6987	51.76	2370.9
74	149	Dipak K Poddar Namit Sharma	7136.3	52.86	2343.4	101	68	Wojciech Gawel Piotr Marcinowski	6964.6	51.59	2242
75	107	Gopika Tandan Arun Jain	7131.6	52.83	2248.5	102	42	Kailash Agarwal Abhay Todankar	6959.4	51.55	2399
76	233	Souvik Saha Sandeep Gharai	7108.6	52.66	2887.6	103	186	B P S Pai Raj Madnani	6957.3	51.54	2414.4
77	269	A C Srivastava Roshan Sahay	7100.5	52.6	2366.7	104	96	Goutam Mukherjee Tirthankar Sengupta	6955.6	51.52	2109.9
78	81	Vytautas Vainikonis Olanski Wojciech	7095.7	52.56	2098.8	105	176	Sayantan Konar Sanjib Majumdar	6951.2	51.49	2366
79	150	Peiyush Jain S K Iyengar	7084.9	52.48	2265.6	106	152	Satchidananda Nayak D N Behera	6948.6	51.47	2720.5
80	98	U V Athavale V Ravichandran	7081	52.45	2431.9	107	251	Prakash Achar V M Gupta	6934.6	51.37	2593.3
81	277	Kumares Ghosh Sumit Santra	7079.4	52.44	2409.7	108	231	Mrinal Kanti Mukherjee Sowmik Das	6932.1	51.35	2340.2

Results : Open MP Pairs - Elimination 1

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps	Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps
109	246	Anand W Golwalkar Shailendra Kumar	6924.3	51.29	2403.1	136	7	Bhalchandra G Ogale Prasanna M Bhide	6728.5	49.84	2129
110	119	Prasanta Dutta Prabir Kumar Paul	6921.7	51.27	2736.1	137	169	Asvin Ganger Kausar Hasan Syed	6727	49.83	2285.3
111	135	Sundar Shekar Polavaram Vijay Ramchandran	6921.2	51.27	2515.4	138	109	Sanat Roy Sumit Bhattacharjee	6720.7	49.78	2234.8
112	64	Sunil Misra S K Gautam	6921.2	51.27	2834.5	139	58	Shantanu Rastogi Tribhuvan Prasad Khare	6711.2	49.71	2537
113	118	Aritra Bhattacharya Pradyut Bhattacharjee	6910.8	51.19	1997.5	140	202	V A Phapunkar Girish Mujumdar	6704.7	49.66	2552
114	74	Sanjay Amist Deepak Kothiwal	6910.5	51.19	2325.8	141	213	Suchet Dhar Ashim Kumar Ghosh	6702.7	49.65	2067.7
115	175	Yatindra Sahae Gustav Axen	6908.5	51.17	2272.3	142	201	M K Halder Amitava Banerjee	6697.4	49.61	2518.9
116	52	Santi Ranjan Dutta Tapan Kr Bhattacharya	6902	51.13	2154.6	143	61	K K Sabherwal Arun Jain	6672	49.42	2109
117	195	Somnath Mitra Braja Gopal Dey	6878.4	50.95	2425.6	144	271	Ashish Malhotra Hemant K Jalan	6668.7	49.4	1550.5
118	212	Tonmoy Ghosh Suraj Das	6878.2	50.95	2232.7	145	259	Anupam Ghosh Tapas Kumar Chaudhuri	6663.6	49.36	2259.6
119	1	Amol Athawale A L Sancheti	6875.3	50.93	2618.8	146	92	Raj Kumar Srivastava Arjun Srivastava	6656.4	49.31	2103.2
120	15	Suman Sengupta Shouvik Das	6857.6	50.8	2036.2	147	244	Vijay Deshpande Vrinda Jhunjunwala	6653.7	49.29	1880.7
121	253	Md. Shahidul Islam Mohammad Ehsanuzzaman	6848.3	50.73	2304.2	148	38	Mathew Chandy Soham Sarkar	6651.9	49.27	2469.1
122	196	Prabir Kumar Thakur Srithar R	6848	50.73	2604.3	149	143	Ranjan Bhattacharya Tapan Kumar Roy1	6645.9	49.23	1890.2
123	239	Amarjit Wadhawan Nikita Kamal	6815.7	50.49	2180	150	162	Puneet Gangal Ibrat Khan	6640	49.19	2333.4
124	177	J B Sengupta Prakash Bhandari	6808.3	50.43	1790.8	151	272	Kamna Sharma Abhijit Pal	6636.5	49.16	2093.4
125	179	Prithviraj Ghosh Kalyan Kumar Roy	6806.5	50.42	2314.4	152	166	Manoj Das Kedar Nath Shaw	6635.5	49.15	1740.3
126	48	Petar Ljubcic Anil Bharihoke	6804.5	50.4	2000.8	153	131	Sanat Kumar Saha Shyama Prasad Chatterjee	6629	49.1	2123
127	161	Sisir Kumar Banerjee Protap Bandyopadhyay	6767.9	50.13	2164.1	154	230	Amol Deshmukh V Chandrasekhar	6611.7	48.98	2081.4
128	180	Tapas Kumar Roy Bijit Datta	6763.1	50.1	2195.3	155	279	Rohit Rai Tandon Aakash Sharma	6610.3	48.96	2030.2
129	127	Aroon Birla R P Shivhare	6757.1	50.05	2045.8	156	123	Ashok Kumar Sinha Manjeet Sodhi	6608.6	48.95	2134.7
130	274	J P Das Debabrata Mukhopadhyay	6755.7	50.04	2110.5	157	224	Prasanta Bera Vivekananda Ghosh	6602	48.9	2183.7
131	88	Sailaja Tahlilani Pradip Ghosh	6744.5	49.96	2098.7	158	89	Anukul Mandal Ambrish Wadera	6599.8	48.89	2163
132	218	Paban Agarwal Kalindi Mewar	6743.9	49.95	2570.8	159	18	Ranga Khadloya Ajit Saldhana	6592.7	48.83	2258.7
133	254	Tapan Kumar Roy1 Shyama Prasad Banerjee	6742	49.94	2297	160	2	Suhas Lele Vikrant Joseph	6590	48.81	2157
134	220	Pramod Ranjan Das Suvasish Dasgupta	6736.6	49.9	2165.5	161	59	Sudeep Saha Aloke Kumar Sardar	6587.6	48.8	2093.7
135	191	Subir Kumar Chaudhuri Kishore Kanti Roy	6729	49.84	2092.7	162	261	Savleen Thadani Rahul Khambete	6584.6	48.77	2491.4

Results : Open MP Pairs - Elimination 1

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps	Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps
163	156	Gourav Biswas Pulak Panji	6578.8	48.73	2124.6	190	138	G P Agarwal Anil Kumar Upadhyay	6390	47.33	1996.1
164	87	Rajat Dutta Cera Fernando	6576.1	48.71	2117.8	191	93	Swetadri Saha Krishna Das Chakraborty	6388.3	47.32	2379.5
165	226	Deepa Jacob Pallab Sinha Roy	6569.4	48.66	2430	192	140	Arnab Guha Bijon Kumar Mondal	6385.3	47.3	2283.6
166	4	Yogesh B Shah Shrikant B Tembey	6566.1	48.64	2539.5	193	139	Tapan Kr Sen Sanjay Banerjee	6365.7	47.15	1885.9
167	172	Dilip Kr Sarma Dharma Narayan Bordoloi	6562.1	48.61	1908	194	117	Prasanta Basu Ray Asim Sarkar	6352	47.05	1663
168	173	Jenish Shah Milind Panandikar	6559.1	48.59	1644.6	195	160	Nag Bhushan Rao Rabindra Kumar Singh	6350.3	47.04	1987.9
169	164	Atanu Ganguly Suren Mewar	6553.3	48.54	2087.1	196	182	Anushree Jalan Indranath Chatterjee	6346.7	47.01	1965.1
170	76	Tutun Banerjee Arijit Chattaraj	6547.2	48.5	2249.6	197	144	Netai Pada Kabiraj Achintya Halder	6346.5	47.01	2516.5
171	78	S K Sharma Jitendra Pandey	6539.9	48.44	1961.1	198	257	Shibashish Barik Debashis Majumdar	6342.9	46.98	1615.5
172	158	Kalpna Gurjar Vidhya Patel	6539.3	48.44	2018.2	199	62	Edward Perera Romesh Bandaranaike	6339.6	46.96	2279.1
173	189	Ramesh Srinivas Deepak Pramanik	6535.6	48.41	2199.9	200	187	Amit Pal Swarup Ghosh	6339.6	46.96	2215.8
174	265	Ratna Tadeipalli Subhrajit Mukhopadhyay	6524.8	48.33	1968.4	201	205	Alka Jain Devi Muthu Bhatnagar	6337	46.94	2448.8
175	248	Sudhir Arya Pulak Murarka	6500.7	48.15	2216.6	202	165	Asit Kumar Bandopadhyaya Bijan Kumar Bandopadhyay	6334.6	46.92	1861
176	66	Kamal Krishna Mukherjee Alok Daga	6496.6	48.12	1721.6	203	71	Kishore Das Debobrata Mondal	6331.9	46.9	2313
177	242	R Anbazhagan Sarika Mittal	6490.7	48.08	2232.1	204	229	A K Patwardhan Madhav K Agashe	6330	46.89	1945.6
178	268	Deepak Ramnani K P Baskaran	6485	48.04	2215.1	205	57	Chandan Chowdhury Sanjay Raha	6324.4	46.85	2286.8
179	19	M Gopal Sudhir Iyer	6484.5	48.03	1811.6	206	110	Ram Pal Rehan Vinai Kumar Gupta	6313.3	46.77	2211.5
180	79	Sukalyan Sarkar Ashim Chandra Karmakar	6483.1	48.02	1987.2	207	280	Rana Chakraborty Kajal Chandra Das	6307.4	46.72	2368.3
181	82	Wilson Menezes Thakur Hingorani	6476.3	47.97	2220.5	208	44	M J R Vasudevan M Vasanth Pai	6300.3	46.67	2311.8
182	142	Pradip Kumar Sen Sharma Kalyan Roy Chowdhury	6467.1	47.9	2510.7	209	219	Pritam Das Anindra Kumar Sarkar	6284.3	46.55	2008
183	266	Sunil Desai Yogeshwar Banavali	6459.4	47.85	1864.2	210	56	Subramanian Karuppannan Guru Shankar Sundaram	6268.2	46.43	2077.9
184	51	Arup Kumar Hudait Prosenjit Roy Sarkar	6455.4	47.82	2488.1	211	113	Koushik Mukherjee1 Sajal Banerjee	6253.7	46.32	2057.1
185	262	Abha Chaturvedi Mohan Jhala	6454.4	47.81	2005.3	212	204	Asim Saha Smita Govilkar	6241.6	46.23	2087.1
186	3	Ramesh Kumar Panchanan Kar	6433.1	47.65	2332.5	213	33	Parimal N Shah Amitabh Raturi	6235	46.19	1665.1
187	115	Soumitra Chakraborty Mrityunjay Dey	6432	47.64	2231.1	214	54	M Venkatesan C K Madheswaran	6233.6	46.18	1947.6
188	132	Suresh Senapaty H Anjaneya Swamy	6404.9	47.44	2100.1	215	37	Sudipta Adhikary Babhrubahan Bose	6221.1	46.08	2342.7
189	215	Joy Saikia Gautam Sarma	6400.8	47.41	2050.7	216	256	Nirmal Raja Mohan Nair	6215.2	46.04	2152.5

Results : Open MP Pairs - Elimination 1

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps	Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %	Session Mps
217	83	Tapas Das 1 Subrata Chatterjee	6213.3	46.02	2124.7	244	105	Rakesh Ranjan S K Verma	5878.9	43.55	2473.5
218	23	Velupillai Balakumar Smita Jindal	6190.5	45.86	1773	245	41	Uma Rajesh S Vijayraghavan	5876.8	43.53	1809.9
219	245	Ratan Lal Sanghi Sunil Kumar Sinha	6176.7	45.75	2416	246	73	Rajendra Ray Arnab Ghosh	5869.6	43.48	2206.8
220	223	Ajit Mukherjee Gautam Aich	6170.2	45.71	2028.2	247	67	Ashok Dugar Rajesh Kumar Kabu	5812.3	43.05	1801.5
221	121	Asis Tosh Shiba Prasad Samaddar	6166.6	45.68	2290.3	248	203	Amitava Mukherjee Pradip Gupta	5811.1	43.05	1884.8
222	163	Hari Narayan Balai Paul	6133.8	45.44	1902.4	249	236	Biswajit Mukherjee Samir Bhattacharya	5797.2	42.94	1955.9
223	77	Maheswar Pradhan A Martand Rao	6129.5	45.4	1936.6	250	63	Rupa Bakeri Aparna Sain	5776.1	42.79	1977.4
224	99	Vivekanand Patki Ashish Nandanwar	6113.6	45.29	2130.9	251	155	Daljeet Marwah Kalpna Varshney	5770.4	42.74	1990.8
225	167	Bhalender Singh Nayyar Bubbles Bawa	6097.8	45.17	2158.2	252	17	H L Tripathi Sunil Kumar	5762.9	42.69	1879.2
226	178	Prithvi Raj P K Bandhu	6090.8	45.12	2016.9	253	227	Deepak Malhotra Deepika Mehta	5749.4	42.59	1667
227	237	Aniruddh Ghosh Rathindra Nath Kundu	6088.2	45.1	1966.4	254	208	Chanchal Dass Saswata Ballav	5693	42.17	2096.1
228	238	Shankar Chatterjee Rakesh Bagga	6060.9	44.9	1615.2	255	53	Ajay Tandon Neeraj Tandon	5683.2	42.1	1693.2
229	207	Md Sahajahan Santanu Das	6058.2	44.88	1606.3	256	35	Arup Lodh Gautam Kumar Chanda	5644.2	41.81	1835
230	31	Subashish Gope Devangshu Datta	6056.6	44.86	1923.9	257	183	Arabinda Kumar Mishra V Ravindran	5604.2	41.51	1818.4
231	247	Jignesh Parikh Saurabh Dalal	6028.5	44.66	1848	258	190	Nirav Patel D V Ravi	5558.1	41.17	2050.7
232	278	Amit Nangpal Indrajit Sensarma	6019.1	44.59	1903.4	259	141	Sunandan Thakur Rakesh Kr Govil	5548.2	41.1	1782.8
233	104	Ravi Kaul Vasanti Shah	6018.8	44.58	2472.3	260	134	Anjali Malhotra Vijay Kumar	5447.9	40.35	1973.3
234	252	Priyotosh Sarkar Jayanta Dutta	6018.2	44.58	2275.4	261	25	Jyotirmoy Dey Ajoy Baruah	5422.5	40.17	1697
235	112	Md Rezaul Karim Taymur Reza Hossain	5978.7	44.29	1798	262	46	Jaya Bhandari Rama Khanna	5363.3	39.73	1657.9
236	27	Bhanumati Shah Kamal Shah	5977	44.27	1550.2	263	157	Dilip Kumar Borpuzari Shekhar Banerjee	5318.9	39.4	1563.4
237	210	Prakash Gupta Dilip Mistry	5974.6	44.26	1595.9	264	11	Kishore Sidhwani Neela C Deshpande	5294.2	39.22	1847.5
238	267	Sneh Thadani Kamla Mehra	5970.1	44.22	2223.7	265	147	Umesh Ram J P Singh	5200.6	38.52	1765.4
239	108	A N Sahai Sanjiv Sahay	5957.4	44.13	1912.4	266	128	Usha Joshi Birendra Kumar	5187.4	38.42	1483.9
240	9	Kunal Jaiswal Sujata Puranik Rakhra	5951.6	44.09	1458.5	267	129	Gopi Kant Tiwari Sudhir Kumar Agrawal	5133.3	38.02	1811.6
241	188	Ashok K Sinha Mini Agarwal	5935.6	43.97	1926.2	268	197	Pradeep R Rathi Subhadra P Rathi	5005.2	37.08	1590.2
242	6	Subrata Sadhukhan Sumathi Iyer	5906.8	43.75	1853.5	269	94	Rajendra Prasad Misra Vijay Singh	4721.9	34.98	1482.3
243	90	Ravi Raman Ivan Alphonso	5891.4	43.64	2119	270	241	Preeti Jhalani Abani Baruah	4340.1	32.15	1272

Dhampur Sugar Mills vs. Magnum Pre-Quarter Final, Set 1

The Pre-Quarter finals of the 22nd HCL International Bridge Championship got underway on Friday, 10 October 2025 morning. In GOLD and SILVER category, 16 top teams each qualified for the knockout rounds. Magnum (Puja Batra, Subhash Gupta, Sandeep Thakral, Jaggy Shivdasani, and Animesh Raj) were pitted against Dhampur Sugar Mills (Ashok Kumar Goyal, K R Venkataraman, Ajay Khare, Arun Bapat, Raju Tolani, and Vinay Desai) for the Pre-Quarter Final (Round of 16). We followed the play of the first session.

Dhampur Sugar Mills started with a carry over of 4.5. They quickly added to that with two back to back swings on first two boards.

On Board 1, Both the Magnum Pairs overshot to a Major suit game. Each contract went down three. Both Norths opened 1♦. In the Open Room Puja Batra doubled and doubled 2♠ at her next turn. Subhash Gupta seems to have given her a strong hand with length in one or both Rounded suit. Subhash took out to 4♣. That was already too high. Puja Batra now bid her 5-carder Heart suit. 4♥ contract went down three.

D 1		N ARUN BAPAT ♠ AJ74 ♥ K982 ♦ 1064 ♣ A2		W N E S 1♦ X 1♠ P 2♣ X P 4♣ P 4♥ P P P	
W SUBHASH G ♠ 10 ♥ A64 ♦ 9532 ♣ 108754		E Puja Batra ♠ K953 ♥ QJ1053 ♦ A ♣ KQ3			
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 8 8 8 8 7 S 8 7 4 8 7 E 8 4 7 4 5 W 8 4 8 4 5 Par Score: 100 Par: W 3♥x-1, EW 3♠x-1		S AJAY ♠ Q862 ♥ 7 ♦ KQJ87 ♣ J96			
				4♥ E NS: 0 EW: 0	

D 1		N Animesh R ♠ AJ74 ♥ K982 ♦ 1064 ♣ A2		W N E S 1♦ 1♥ X 2♥ 2♣ P 4♣ P P P	
W VINAY D ♠ 10 ♥ A64 ♦ 9532 ♣ 108754				E Raju Tolani R ♠ K953 ♥ QJ1053 ♦ A ♣ KQ3	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 5 5 5 5 7 S 5 7 4 5 7 E 5 4 7 4 5 W 5 4 5 4 5 Par Score: 100 Par: W 3xx-1, EW 3xx-1		S JAGGY ♠ Q862 ♥ 7 ♦ KQJ87 ♣ J96			
				4x N NS: 0 EW: 0	

In the Closed Room, Raju Tolani overcalled 1♥, Jaggy doubled and jumped to 4♠ when partner bid 2♠. No doubt Jaggy expected one of the sides to make a game and went for an advanced sacrifice. 4♠ also went down three. Dhampur Sugar Mills collected Seven IMPs as a result.

Deal two was a lovely defence problem for South. The auction was the same at both the Tables. East played in 4♥. Both Souths lead a small Trump. Both the Declarers won in Dummy and played a Spade to ♠Q. South players won and played another trump. Declarers won it in the Closed hand and played a small Trump. What should South discard? Declarer could have four Spades, so South cannot discard a Spade. What about a small Club or a small Diamond? Which one could be harmful?

		N ARUN BAPAT ♠ 1072 ♥ 1072 ♦ 654 ♣ K1084		W N E S 2NT P 3♣ P 3♥ P 4♥ P P P																														
W SUBHASH G ♠ 64 ♥ QJ86 ♦ 10972 ♣ QJ5				E PUJA BATRA ♠ AQJ5 ♥ AK95 ♦ K3 ♣ A93																														
<table> <tr> <td></td><td>♠</td><td>♥</td><td>♦</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr> <td>N</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr> <td>E</td><td>7</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>8</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr> <td>W</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>10</td><td>8</td><td>8</td></tr> </table> Par Score: -420 Par: EW 4♥			♠	♥	♦	NT	N	6	4	3	5	4	S	6	4	3	5	4	E	7	9	10	8	8	W	7	6	10	8	8	S AJAY ♠ K983 ♥ 3 ♦ AQJ8 ♣ 762		4♥ E NS: 0 EW:	
	♠	♥	♦	NT																														
N	6	4	3	5	4																													
S	6	4	3	5	4																													
E	7	9	10	8	8																													
W	7	6	10	8	8																													

Both the South players discarded a small Club. Puja Batra won in Dummy and played a Diamond to K. She now had only nine tricks.

In the Closed Room, Raju Tolani played the ♣Q after winning the third trump in the Dummy. North covered. Raju Tolani won the Ace, cashed the ♣Jack, cashed two top Spades, and played a fourth Spade discarding a Diamond from the Dummy in the following position.

2

D

N Animesh R

♠

♥

♦ 654

♣ 108

W N E S

2NT P

3♣ P 3♦ P

3♣ P 4♣ P

4♦ P 4♥ P

P P

W Vinay Desai

♠

♥ 8

♦ 10972

♣

♣ 5

E Raju Tolani

♠

♥ K

♦ K3

♣ 9

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT

N	6	4	3	5	4
S	6	4	3	5	4
E	7	9	10	8	8
W	7	8	10	8	8

Par Score: -420

Par: EW 4♥

S Jaggy

♠ 9

♥

♦ AQJ8

♣

4♥ E NS: 1 EW:

South had to open the Diamond suit playing away from the ♦AQ combination. Raju Tolani won his game going trick with the ♦K. That was +420 and a 10-IMP gain to East-West.

If South discards the ♦8 on the third trump, this endplay is not available to the Declarer. Nine out of 16 Declarers made the 4♥ contract on this deal in the GOLD category quarter-finals.

2♦		N BINOD ♠ 107 ♥ 54 ♣ 10	W N E S 3♣ P 2NT P 3♣ P 3♦ X P P 4♥ P
W SATYABRATA ♠ J8 ♥ 1097 ♣ 6		E PINAKI ♠ 5 ♥ AK9 ♦ 3 ♣	
S SANJIT DEY ♠ 9 ♥ 3 ♦ QJ8 ♣			
Other table: 4♥E= NS: MONICA 4 IMPs EW: VEDIC 0 IMPs			4♥ E NS: 2 EW: 6

In the Monica Jajoo vs Vedi match, Pinaki Prasad Khan made the contract by ruffing a black suit card each in the Dummy. Upon winning ♠K, South switched to a Club. With the Club finesse out of the way, Pinaki cashed another Club, cashed two Spades discarding a Club, and ruffed a Club. He next played a Diamond to ♦K. This was the position when South won ♦Ace. South played a Trump. Pinaki won in Closed hand and ruffed his fourth Spade with ♥Jack. In the other room, Sayantan Kushari got a Club lead. The play followed a similar pattern with the Declarer scoring two ruffs on the Table. It was a push board in that match.

3 D		N ARUN BAPAT ♠ K8732 ♥ 762 ♦ AKQ6 ♣ 10		W N 6 OR+C 10-15 2♣ X XX 2♥ 3♣ P P P																															
W SUBHASH G ♠ AQ4 ♥ AQ105 ♦ 974 ♣ Q2		♦ 5		E Puja Batra ♠ 6 ♥ KJ83 ♦ J1082 ♣ 9654																															
<table><tr><td></td><td>♠</td><td>♥</td><td>♦</td><td>♣</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>10</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>10</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>6</td></tr></table> Par Score: 420 Par: NS 4♠			♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	8	7	6	10	7	S	8	7	6	10	7	E	2	6	7	1	5	W	2	6	7	1	6	S AJAY ♠ J1095 ♥ 94 ♦ 3 ♣ AKJ873			
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																														
N	8	7	6	10	7																														
S	8	7	6	10	7																														
E	2	6	7	1	5																														
W	2	6	7	1	6																														
				3♠ S NS: 0 EW: 0																															

Magnum pulled back nine IMPs on the very next board, Board 3. In the Open Room, Ajay Khare opened 2♣, Precision style, showing 5+ Clubs and an opening hand, either with a 4-card Major, or a sixth Club. After double-redouble-2♥, Ajay Khare, with a view to getting across a weak hand and a good suit, chose to rebid 3♣ forgoing an exploration of a Major suit fit. Worried about a misfit, Arun Bapat passed 3♣. The contract could have gone down if East-West somehow secured two Spade ruff. Subhash Gupta did not have a crystal ball to see that. He led a 'safe' Diamond and the Declarer scored nine tricks.

3 D		N Animesh R ♠ K8732 ♥ 762 ♦ AKQ6 ♣ 10	W N E S 1♦ 1♠ 2♦ 2NT 3♦ 4♠ P P P																														
W VINAY D ♠ AQ4 ♥ AQ105 ♦ 9754 ♣ Q2		♠ J	E Raju Tolani R ♠ 6 ♥ KJ83 ♦ 1082 ♣ 9654																														
<table><tr><td></td><td>♠</td><td>♥</td><td>♦</td><td>♣</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>10</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>10</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>6</td></tr></table> Par Score: 420 Par: NS 4♠			♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	8	7	6	10	7	S	8	7	6	10	7	E	2	6	7	1	5	W	2	6	7	1	6	S JAGGY ♠ J1095 ♥ 94 ♦ 3 ♣ AKJ873	4♠ N NS: 0 EW: 0
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	8	7	6	10	7																												
S	8	7	6	10	7																												
E	2	6	7	1	5																												
W	2	6	7	1	6																												

With only nine HCP, Jaggy passed in the first seat in the Closed Room. Vinay Desai opened 1♦ and North overcalled 1♠. Reaching 4♠ was now a foregone conclusion. On the ♦J lead, Declarer was able to discard Heart losers and cross-ruff his way to twelve tricks. North-South scored 480 and Magnum won nine IMPs for the effort. Only three out of 16 tables failed to reach 4♠ on this deal. The takeaway from this deal is simple. If your rebid constraints you based on strength alone, your opening choice needs to take those constraints on board. In a wide range opening system like Standard American or Acol, this theme comes up again and again, but on the present board, it seems to have afflicted even a narrow-range opener.

The next significant swing in the match was on a part-score deal. It was Board 10. Subhash Gupta opened 1♥, Arun Bapat overcalled 1♠, and Puja Batra raised to 2♥, and it went PPP after that. Arun Bapat could possibly have doubled first time, or doubled to reopen at his second turn to guide the auction towards an effective competition. South doesn't seem to have a bid on first look, but the bidding in the other room seems to suggest there is a possibility.

10		N ARUN BAPAT ♠ J974 ♥ 6 ♦ A103 ♣ AK106		<table><tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr><tr><td>1♥</td><td>1♠</td><td>P</td><td>P</td></tr><tr><td>P</td><td>P</td><td>2♥</td><td>P</td></tr></table>		W	N	E	S	1♥	1♠	P	P	P	P	2♥	P																		
W	N	E	S																																
1♥	1♠	P	P																																
P	P	2♥	P																																
W SUBHASH G ♠ A106 ♥ AQ843 ♦ J952 ♣ 5		♠ 2		E Puja Batra ♠ K85 ♥ KJ10 ♦ Q764 ♣ 983																															
<table><tr><th></th><th>♠</th><th>♥</th><th>♦</th><th>♣</th><th>NT</th></tr><tr><th>N</th><td>10</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>8</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><th>S</th><td>10</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>8</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><th>E</th><td>3</td><td>9</td><td>8</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><th>W</th><td>3</td><td>9</td><td>8</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr></table> Par Score: 130 Par: NS 4♠			♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	10	4	5	8	6	S	10	4	5	8	6	E	3	9	8	4	6	W	3	9	8	4	6	S AJAY ♠ Q3 ♥ 9752 ♦ K8 ♣ QJ742		2♥ W NS: 0 EW: 0	
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																														
N	10	4	5	8	6																														
S	10	4	5	8	6																														
E	3	9	8	4	6																														
W	3	9	8	4	6																														

Subhash Gupta ran the ♠ lead to his ♠A and began with trumps. He changed tack after the second round of trumps and played a Diamond from the Dummy. Ajay Khare went up with ♦ King and played another Spade. Subhash now won, removed trumps in two more rounds, and knocked out ♦ A to land nine tricks for +140 to East-West.

10	N Animesh R ♠ J9742 ♥ 6 ♦ A103 ♣ AK106	W N E S 1♥ 1♠ 2♥ X P 3♣ P P P
W VINAY D ♠ A106 ♥ AQ843 ♦ J952 ♣ 5	♥ J	E Raju Tolani R ♠ K85 ♥ K10 ♦ Q764 ♣ 983
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 10 4 5 8 6 S 10 4 5 8 6 E 3 9 8 4 6 W 3 9 8 4 6 Par Score: 130 Par: NS 4♣	S JAGGY ♠ Q3 ♥ 9752 ♦ K8 ♣ QJ742	3♣ N NS: 0 EW: 0

After a similar beginning to the auction, Jaggy doubled 2♥ from the South seat. Animesh now bid 3♣ and played there. 10 tricks are available to North-South in a Club contract. Raju Tolani led ♥ J. Vinay won ♥ A and fired a trump. Animesh won and played a small Spade. Raju went up with the King and played a Diamond. Animesh won ♦ K in the Dummy and played ♠ Q. ♠ A was the last trick defenders got. That was 130 to North-South and 7 IMPs to magnum.

Magnum lost 11 IMPs for not bidding a Spade slam on Board 12. Surprisingly, only 7 out of 16 Tables reached a slam on the board.

12		N ARUN BAPAT ♠ 86 ♥ 4 ♦ AQ105432 ♣ Q5	W N E S 4♣ P P P
W SUBHASH G ♠ AKJ107542 ♥ 9 ♦ J6 ♣ K3	♥ 6	E Puja Batra ♠ 93 ♥ AK1075 ♦ 7 ♣ A10862	
NT 4 8 5 0 1 9 4 8 5 0 1 8 5 7 12 6 8 5 7 12 6 Par Score: -980 Par: EW 6+	S AJAY ♠ Q ♥ QJ832 ♦ K98 ♣ J974	4♣ W NS: 0 EW: 0	

12		N Animesh R ♠ 86 ♥ 64 ♦ AQ105432 ♣ Q5	W N E S 3NT P 6♣ P
W VINAY D ♠ AKJ107542 ♥ 9 ♦ J6 ♣ K3	♥ Q	E Raju Tolani R ♠ 93 ♥ AK1075 ♦ 7 ♣ A10862	
NT 4 8 5 0 1 9 4 8 5 0 1 8 5 7 12 6 8 5 7 12 6 Par Score: -980 Par: EW 6+	S JAGGY ♠ Q ♥ J832 ♦ K98 ♣ J974	6♣ E NS: 0 EW: 0	

Magnum lost 12 more IMPs on the next board. Arun Bapat opened 1♦. With 18 HCP, in the reopening position, Subhash didn't trust their bidding methods to bring out the best spot. In a slow and scientific auction, he blasted to 3Nt, a contract that had no play.

13		N ARUN BAPAT ♠ K109 ♥ A2 ♦ KJ9 ♣ J862	W N E S 1♦ P P P 3NT P P P
W SUBHASH G ♠ AJ ♥ K10963 ♦ AQ ♣ A743	♦ 4	E PUJA BATRA ♠ Q8732 ♥ QJ7 ♦ 872 ♣ 95	
Other table: 4♥W=		S AJAY ♠ 654 ♥ 854 ♦ 10653 ♣ KQ10	3NT W NS: 0 EW: 0
NS: DHAMPUR 35 IMPs EW: MAGNUM 24 IMPs			

In the Closed Room, Raju Tolani and Vinay Desai followed a tortoise template. Vinay began with a double and rebid his 5-card Heart suit at the next opportunity. Raju Tolani raised to three and Vinay bid the game. The difference between a 3Nt contract and a 4♥ contract was the availability of entries to the East hand.

13		N ANIMESH R ♠ K109 ♥ A2 ♦ KJ9 ♣ J862	W N E S 1♦ P P P X P 1♠ 2♦ 2♥ P 3♥ P 4♥ P P
W VINAY D ♠ AJ ♥ K10963 ♦ AQ ♣ A743	♦ 4	E RAJU T ♠ Q8732 ♥ QJ7 ♦ 872 ♣ 95	
Other table: 3NTW-1		S JAGGY ♠ 654 ♥ 854 ♦ 10653 ♣ KQ10	4♥ W NS: 0 EW: 0
NS: MAGNUM 24 IMPs EW: DHAMPUR 35 IMPs			

North led a Diamond to Vinay's Queen and Vinay ducked a Club to begin with. Defenders attacked Dummy's trumps with ♥A and another Heart. Vinay switched tack and played ♠A and back. Animesh ducked. Vinay reverted to ruffing a Club with Dummy's Heart honour. East-West scored +620 and Dhampur Sugar Mills gained 12 IMPs. They won the first set 42-30. With the carry over of 4.5, they were up 46.5-30 at the end of the first set.

Dhampur Sugar Mills beat Magnum in a cliff-hanger

Five of the eight Pre-Quarter-Finals proved to be one-sided affairs when three of the four sets had been played. OLIMP, EA Bridge, Mavericks, Monica Jajoo, and Shourie were up by more than 40 IMPs. The other three matches were close. WHAM led PROYAS 112-84; Diamonds led Texan Aces 87-73; and Dhampur Sugar Mills led Magnum 101.5-87. The first and the third of these tight matches were on the Vu Graph.

Magnum narrowed the deficit to just 0.5 in first two boards. Fireworks were witnessed on the very first board. Ajay Khare, not fancying a defence against a 4♠ contract, tried 5♥. When Subhash Gupta bid 5♠. Arun Bapat doubled. With AT987 of Hearts Sandeep Thakral knew North-South were under cosh. He redoubled and netted a +1000 score.

15		N ARUN Bapat	W N E S
		♠ J4	1♠ 2♥ 4♠ 5♥
		♥ KQJ54	5♠ X XX P
		♦ Q87	P P
		♣ A95	
W SUBHASH G		E Sandip Thakral	
♠ AQ8653		♠ K1097	
♥ A9542		♥ A10987	
♦ Q4		♦ 63	
		♣ 83	
S Ajay Khare			
♠ 2			
♥ 632			
♦ KJ10			
♣ KJ10762			
5xxx W NS: 0 EW: 0			

In the Closed Room, Jaggy doubled 4♠ and that became the final contract. East-West made 11 tricks, but the difference between 690 and 1000 meant Magnum won seven IMPs on the deal. Perhaps, a 5♣ by South would have been the best option on the board but that is only because we have the benefit of seeing all the four hands. There doesn't seem to be a good solution to South's bidding problem on 4♠.

15		N ANIMESHRAJ	W N E S
		♠ J4	1♠ 2♥ 4♠ X
		♥ KQJ54	P P P
		♦ Q87	
		♣ A95	
W VINAY D		E Raju Tolani	
♠ AQ8653		♠ K1097	
♥ A9542		♥ A10987	
♦ Q4		♦ 63	
		♣ 83	
S JAGGY			
♠ 2			
♥ 632			
♦ KJ10			
♣ KJ10762			
4xx W NS: 0 EW: 0			

With three boards to go, Dhampur Sugar Mills were leading 116.5-108. Board 26 was not a swingy board, however, with the match evenly poised, even a partial swing could tilt the balance.

East dealt and opened 1♦ and everyone passed after that. With 12 HCP, North's pass was surprising, possibly suggesting nerves. Ajay Khare led a regulation trump, Arun Bapat won the ♦ Ace and continued trumps. Sandeep won, played one more round of trumps, and played a small Heart.

To defeat, Ajay needed to rise with the Ace and play a small Club. The defence would have collected three Clubs, the ♦ A, ♥ AK, and the ♠ K in that case. Once Ajay played small, a crucial entry in Arun's hand for cashing the fourth

Club got consumed too early. Arun Bapat won the trick with ♥K and pushed a Spade. Ajay won ♠K and backed a Spade. Sandeep made 8 tricks, not just 7.

26		N ARUN B ♠ 872 ♥ K82 ♦ A108 ♣ AJ105	W N E S 1♦ P P P																														
W SUBHASH G ♠ 109 ♥ J105 ♦ 932 ♣ Q9643		E Sandeep Thakral ♠ AQJ6 ♥ Q976 ♦ KQJ6 ♣ 8																															
<table><tr><td></td><td>♠</td><td>♥</td><td>♦</td><td>♣</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>5</td></tr></table> Par Score: 120 Par: NS 1NT+1		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	8	7	6	7	8	S	8	7	6	7	8	E	5	6	7	5	5	W	5	6	7	5	5	S AJAY KHARE ♠ K543 ♥ A43 ♦ 754 ♣ K72		1♦ E NS: 0 EW: 0
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	8	7	6	7	8																												
S	8	7	6	7	8																												
E	5	6	7	5	5																												
W	5	6	7	5	5																												

In the Closed Room, Animesh Raj overcalled 1N in the balancing position and played there. Raju Tolani led the ♦K and won next three tricks with ♠QJ and ♦Q. Animesh Raj won next Diamond with ♦A and played a Spade. Raju won ♠A and cashed his fourth Diamond. Animesh now had six tricks. He guessed Clubs right to make seven. +90 in both rooms meant Magnum won 5 IMPs on the board. The score, at the end of board 26 was 116.5-113.

26		N ANIMESHRAJ ♠ 872 ♥ K82 ♦ A108 ♣ AJ105	W N E S P 1NT P P 1♦																														
W VINAY D ♠ 109 ♥ J105 ♦ 932 ♣ Q9643	♦K	E RAJU T ♠ AQJ6 ♥ Q976 ♦ QJ6 ♣ 8																															
<table><tr><td></td><td>♠</td><td>♥</td><td>♦</td><td>♣</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>8</td><td>7</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>5</td></tr></table> Par Score: 120 Par: NS 1NT+1		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	8	7	6	7	8	S	8	7	6	7	8	E	5	6	7	5	5	W	5	6	7	5	5	S JAGGY ♠ K543 ♥ A43 ♦ 754 ♣ K72		1NT N NS: 0 EW: 0
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																												
N	8	7	6	7	8																												
S	8	7	6	7	8																												
E	5	6	7	5	5																												
W	5	6	7	5	5																												

Dhampur Sugar Mills won one IMP on board 27 when Arun Bapat made 9 tricks playing in 2♠ while Jaggy made 8 from South side playing in 1Nt. The last board had Grand Slam written all over it. Will one team miss it? This was the board.



28		N ARUN B	W	N	E	S
		♠ A105	P	1♣	4♣	4♣
		♥ AK986	P	5NT	P	6♣
		♣ AKQ94	P	6♥	P	7♣
			P	P	P	
W SUBHASH G		E SANDEEP				
♠ 432		♠ J				
♥ J8743		♥ AKQ10952				
♦ 1032		♦ Q74				
♣ 62		♣ 108				
		S AJAY KHARE				
		♠ KQ9876				
		♥ 6				
		♦ J5				
		♣ J753				
		7♠ S				
		NS: 0 EW: 0				

28		N ANIMESHRAJ	W	N	E	S
		♠ A105	P	2♣	4♥	4♣
		♥ AK986	P	5♥	5NT	P
		♣ AKQ94	P	6♥	P	7♣
			P	P	P	
W VINAY D		E RAJU T				
♠ 432		♠ J				
♥ J8743		♥ AKQ10952				
♦ 1032		♦ Q74				
♣ 62		♣ 108				
		S JAGGY				
		♠ KQ9876				
		♥ 6				
		♦ J5				
		♣ J753				
		7♠ S				
		NS: 0 EW: 0				

In the Open Room, Sandeep's 4♣ over 1♣ opening showed Hearts. Subhash Gupta didn't reveal his big Heart fit. All the same, North-South found a way to get to 7♠. North possibly intended 5NT as asking for trump honours. South bid 6♣ just in case. North now bid 6♥ and South leapt to seven Spades. The bidding in the Closed Room was almost identical save for the 5♥ bid by Vinay Desai.

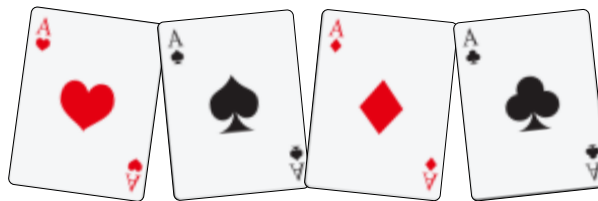
After all the excitement that it generated during the auction, once the 7♠ bid was tabled in the Open Room, it was clear Dhampur Sugar Mills were through. The final score was 117.5-113. The difference was the same as the Carry Over Dhampur Sugar Mills started with. For the four sessions of Friday, the scores were even.

Dhampur Sugar Mills will play team Shourie tomorrow in the Quarter Finals.



The 22nd **HCL** International Bridge Championship

6th October to 14nd October 2025



Tournament Schedule

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
	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

Tournament Schedule

Contd.

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

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.

BBO Schedule for Saturday, October 11, 2025

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

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

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

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

Daily Bulletins & Results of 22nd HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP @
<https://hcl-bridge.com/bulletin/> & <https://hcl-bridge.com/result/>