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WHAM retain the Naresh Tandan Trophy



GOLD TEAMS WINNER



SILVER TEAMS WINNER



GOLD MP PAIRS WINNER

WHAM — the formidable quartet of Sartaj Hans, Andy Hung, Michael Whibley, and Matthew Brown from Australia and New Zealand — retained the **Naresh Tandan Trophy**, winning the GOLD category final of the 22nd HCL International Bridge Championship with a **178–148 IMP** victory over **OLIMP** (Andrey Gromov, Anna Gulevich, Sergey Orlov, Evgeny Rudakov, and Olga Firsova).

They seized control early, leading 53–18 after the first set, and though OLIMP briefly closed the gap to under 20 IMPs midway through the last set, WHAM quickly reasserted themselves. Their precise cardplay and disciplined, clockwork-like bidding stood out through diverse situations. In the end, their triumph had an air of inevitability — a deserved second consecutive lift of the Naresh Tandan Trophy.

In the playoff for third place, **EA Bridge** led **Monica Jajoo** 107–50 after two sessions when they received a walkover.

In the **SILVER Teams** final, **Nagpur VI** swept past **Hyderabad Blue** 159–60 after three sessions to claim the **Mohini Tandan Trophy**; Hyderabad Blue conceded the match at that point. In the playoff for third, **ERNIS** led **Ashok Bedi** 115–66.5 after three sets when they, too, received a walkover.

The **GOLD MP Pairs** final saw **Christian Bakke** and **Tor Eivind Grude** claim the **Neena Bonarji Trophy** with 896.92 Matchpoints. **Subhash Gupta – Sandeep Thakral** finished second on 877.09, while **Diego Brenner – Paul D. Hackett** (823.25) and **Oren Toledano – Ami Zamir** (822.68) followed close behind.

In the **SILVER MP Pairs**, **Vinay Desai – Raju Tolani** edged out **R.G. Bhiwandkar – Subhash Dhakras** with 691.9 against 691.52.

The **IMP Pairs** final was won by **Tatiana Nokhacheva – Aleksandr Piatkov** with +117 IMPs, while **Saptarshi Chanda – Animesh Majumder** were runners-up with +85.2.

Gaurav Rajwade – Rajendra Mekal captured the IMP Pairs Strata title with +101 IMPs.

GOLD TEAMS FINAL RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S1	S2	S3	S4	Total
1	OLIMP	3	18	38	50	39	148
	WHAM		53	54	36	35	178

OLIMP : Andrey Gromov, Anna Gulevich, Sergey Orlov, Evgeny Rudakov,
Olga Firsova

WHAM : Sartaj Hans, Andy Pie-en Hung, Matthew Brown, Michael Whibley

PLAY OFF FOR 3RD POSITION

Table	Team	C-O	S1	S2	S3	S4	Total
2	EA BRIDGE		63	44			107
	MONICA JAJOO		20	30			50

EABRIDGE : Kavita Singhania, Koushik Mukherjee, Priya Ranjan Sinha, Badal Das,
Shibnath De Sarkar, Pranab Bardhan

MONICA JAJOO : Sukamal Das, Monica Jajoo, Binod Kumar Shaw, Kaustubh Milind Bendre,
Sayantan Kushari, Sanjit Dey

SILVER TEAMS FINAL RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
5	NAGPUR VI		54	71	34		159
	HYDERABAD BLUE		36	10	14		60

NAGPUR VI : Arun J Puranik, Sameer Roy, Mahesh Mor, Anil Kumar Mohota,
Makrand M Luley

HYDERABAD BLUE : R P Narain, D Sudhanand, Prabhat Kumar Gupta, Akhauri Prabhat Kumar

PLAY OFF FOR 3RD POSITION

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
6	ASHOK BEDI	1.5	48	14	3		66.5
	ERNIS		36	49	30		115

ASHOK BEDI : Ashok Bedi, Rakesh Nanda, B S Gupta, Rohit Gupta

ERNIS : Santanu Chakraborty, Jibak Tewari, Sumita Dasgupta, Chandan
Kumar Mitra, Arun Kumar Majhi

GOLD Final : Set 4

With eight boards to go, WHAM were leading OLIMP163-115. On Board 21, Whibley overcalled Gromov's strong 1♣ opening. He had only 4 HCP and a semi-Balanced hand, but he chose to overcall 1♠ holding 5 Spades. Matthew Brown also held 5 Spades. They were fresh opposite vulnerable. Brown barraged with 4♠. Gromov passed, but Anna doubled in the reopening position. Gromov happily passed. There were seven top losers in the side suits and the ♠King was off, so North-South collected 1100 against a vulnerable game.

21	N GROMOV ♠ K6 ♥ AK1072 ♦ Q74 ♣ AK3		W N E S 1♣ 1♠ P 4♠ P P X P P P	
	W M.BROWN ♠ AJ875 ♥ Q96 ♦ 863 ♣ Q8		E Whibley ♠ Q10943 ♥ J4 ♦ J105 ♣ 1062	
	S ANNA ♠ 2 ♥ 853 ♦ K92 ♣ J9754		4♠ E NS: 0 EW: 0	

Hung – Hans duly bid that game and scored 660 when the ♣Queen came down in two rounds. WHAM lost 10 IMPs for trying to clobber a strong Club opening.

21	N ANDY HUNG ♠ K6 ♥ AK1072 ♦ Q74 ♣ AK3		W N E S 2NT P 3♣ X 3NT P P P	
	W S ORLOV ♠ AJ875 ♥ Q96 ♦ 863 ♣ Q8		E RUDAKOV ♠ Q1093 ♥ J4 ♦ J105 ♣ 1062	
	S SARTAJ H ♠ 2 ♥ 853 ♦ AK92 ♣ J9754		3NT N NS: 0 EW: 0	



Andrey Gromov

On Board 23, in the Open Room, East-West played a tepid 2♠ contract after they weren't challenged in the auction.

23 D	N GROMOV		W N E S																																
	♠ 82		1♠	P	2♠	P																													
	♥ 83		P	P																															
	♦ A10943																																		
	♣ A75																																		
W M.BROWN		♥ 5	E WHIBLEY																																
♠ AQ9654			♠ KJ7																																
♥ K92			♥ 1074																																
♦ K			♦ QJ52																																
♣ Q102			♣ J93																																
<table><tr><td>♠</td><td>♥</td><td>♦</td><td>♣</td><td>NT</td></tr><tr><td>N</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>7</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>8</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>8</td><td>7</td></tr></table>		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	6	7	7	4	5	S	6	7	7	4	5	E	6	6	6	8	7	W	6	6	6	8	7	S ANNA				
♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																															
N	6	7	7	4	5																														
S	6	7	7	4	5																														
E	6	6	6	8	7																														
W	6	6	6	8	7																														
Par Score: -110		♠ 103																																	
Par: EW 1+1		♥ AQJ6																																	
		♦ 876																																	
		♣ K864	2♠ W NS: 0 EW: 0																																

In the Closed Room, Sartaj decided to double 2♠ raise. He had passed fir time and he had a decent shape, so there wasn't much risk in the double, he must have thought. He hadn't reckoned with the match situation wherein opponents were down by a few dozens of IMPs and were willing to take risk. Orlov redoubled to show a decent hand and Rudakov doubled 3♦ in anticipation of a juicy penalty. Yet again, both the WHAM players held a semi-Balanced hand and the Declarer had little elbow room.

23 D	N ANDY HUNG		W N E S																																	
	♠ 82		1♠		P	P																														
	♥ 853		XX		3♦	X																														
	♦ A10943		P		P	P																														
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W S ORLOV		♠K		E RUDAKOV																																
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♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																																
N	6	7	7	4	5																															
S	6	7	7	4	5																															
E	6	6	6	6	7																															
W	6	6	6	6	7																															
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		♣ K864		3♦ N NS: 0 EW: 0																																

Rudakov lead the ♠K. Orlov promptly overtook with ♠A and tabled the ♦King. He must be playing a lot of robot Bridge wherein a singleton honour sitting over the Dummy often crashes with partner's honour. The robots don't have enough patience to wait for their tricks. The moment Declarer plays a card from the Closed hand and the robot sees and opportunity to win a trick, the robot tries to win that trick. Anyway. Declarer won the ♦A and played another trump. Rudakov won and attacked Clubs the first thing. Declarer didn't have enough tempo for discarding a losing Club on Dummy's fourth Heart. Down three and 800 to East-West was the result. OLIMP won twelve IMPs on the board.

OLIMP won 8 more IMPs on the next board but WHAM sealed their victory on Board twenty six with a 13-IMP pickup when Gromov-Anna Gulevich played in 4Nt, a decent contract, but went down because Anna mis-guessed Diamonds to go down. In the other room, Declarer made 12 tricks playing in 3Nt. OLIMP won the 56-board final 178-148.

Results : MP Pairs - Gold Final

Place	ID	Players	C-over	Stage	Score	Place	ID	Players	C-over	Stage	Score
1	66	Christian Bakke Tor Eivind Grude	20.69	876.23	896.92	15	53	Abhijit Chakraborty Rana Roy	14.34	682.85	697.19
2	56	Subhash Gupta Sandeep Thakral	35.92	841.17	877.09	16	28	Boguslaw Gierulski Jerzy Skrzypczak	5.82	685.32	691.14
3	2	Diego Brenner Paul D Hackett	40.73	782.52	823.25	17	42	Animesh Raj Jaggy B Shivdasani	26.93	661.77	688.7
4	3	Oren Toledano Ami Zamir	28.22	794.46	822.68	18	16	Shambhu Nath Ghosh Biswajit Poddar	17.62	663.92	681.54
5	63	Hasibul Hasan Sukanta Das	22.13	780.15	802.28	19	57	Pinaki Prasad Khan Satyabrata Mukherjee	22.81	648	670.81
6	17	Keyzad Anklesaria Boye Brogeland		795.54	795.54	20	31	Vijay Devadass K R Venkataraman	21.23	644.46	665.69
7	43	Wojciech Gawel Piotr Marcinowski	35.6	757	792.6	21	71	Rajath Shourie Vince Demuy	30.76	628.77	659.53
8	64	Rajeshwar Tewari Sumit Mukherjee	40.29	750.23	790.52	22	40	Tapas Dasgupta Pallab Roy	4.91	651.08	655.99
9	19	Alon Birman Dror Padon	29.39	748.85	778.24	23	35	Diana Rakhmani Maxim Semisochenko	19.73	616	635.73
10	68	Satyabrata Lahiri Vibhas Todi	11.29	756.62	767.91	24	59	Mithun Mukherjee Soumya Das	3.93	631.15	635.08
11	74	Kiran Nadar Bachiraju Satyanarayana		750.91	750.91	25	67	Ashantha De Mel Uttam Swarup Gupta	21.16	610.92	632.08
12	4	G Venkatesh Anil P Padhye	7.48	712.38	719.86	26	50	Gurmit Singh Chadha Rajul R Dalal	0.69	625	625.69
13	69	R Sridharan Vijay R Phatarphekar	8.83	705.77	714.6	27	70	Vivek Bhand Vikrant Mehta	2.05	601.46	603.51
14	15	Prosenjit Manna Bhaskar Sarkar	2.39	697.46	699.85	28	73	T C Pant Daleep Mutreja		556	556

Results : MP Pairs - Silver Final

Place	ID	Players	C-over	Stage	Score
1	49	Vinay Desai Raju Tolani	12.4	679.5	691.9
2	61	R G Bhiwandkar Subhash A Dhakras	6.12	685.4	691.52
3	29	Rajesh A Dalal Jitendra J Solani	20.8	654.83	675.63
4	14	Anurag Mohota Basant K Mohota	9.91	663.5	673.41
5	21	Joyjit Sensarma Hemant Lall	15.32	651.83	667.15
6	72	Debasish Ray Amar Nath Banerjee	16.03	637.08	653.11
7	46	Bhabesh Saha Prasun Kumar Mukherjee	10	627.75	637.75
8	9	Abhirup Ghosh Arnab Basu Roy	10.25	622.92	633.17
9	34	Sandeep N Karmarkar Marianne Karmarkar	16.03	616.5	632.53
10	44	Maneesh Bahuguna Prakash G Hegde	1.59	629.17	630.76
11	7	Subodh Maskara Aniruddha Bhattacharya	16.04	610.5	626.54
12	62	Souvik Kar Sujit Kumar Bhattacharjee	18.11	600.67	618.78
13	32	Pijus Kanti Baroi Kannan Krishnamurthy		618.17	618.17

Place	ID	Players	C-over	Stage	Score
14	11	S M Moin Arun Kumar Sinha	19.42	590.25	609.67
15	13	Satish G Diwanji Balchandra G Daxindas	12.72	591.67	604.39
16	18	Sapan Desai Debabrata Majumder	15.62	586.25	601.87
17	37	P Sudhakar Rao Nirmal Kumar Jain	21.22	572.17	593.39
18	20	Darshan Patel Girish Hirode	17.65	566.33	583.98
19	33	Pranay Majumder Saila Ranjan Das	7.04	574.33	581.37
20	36	Girish Kumar Naveen Kumar	3.25	572.83	576.08
21	12	Ajay P Khare Arun M Bapat	1.41	564.92	566.33
22	24	Kamal Kabra Indranil Chakraborty	0.93	548.75	549.68
23	30	Somesh Bhattacharya Joy Narayan Roy	0.78	543.6	544.38
24	26	Swapan Some Biswadip Roy	3.54	539.08	542.62
25	6	Amitava Ghosh Anirban Sasmal	4.7	527.17	531.87
26	51	Umesh Kumar Singh Rakesh Chandra Sharma	2.43	524.83	527.26

Result : IMP PAIRS FINAL - Session 2

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
1	168	Tatiana Nokhaeva Aleksandr Piatkov	117	23	112	Kingshuk Bhattacharya Moloy Kumar Mondal	45.7
2	153	Saptarshi Chanda Animesh Majumder	85.2	24	43	Dipak K Poddar Namit Sharma	44
3	29	Jayanta Sarkar Amal Kumar Gune	83.9	25	150	Samir Basak Shankar Acharya	41.2
4	141	Manoj Das Kedar Nath Shaw	81.2	26	129	Bharat Rao Himanshu Joshi	40.4
5	25	Rahul Shetty Mahesh Rohera	76.8	27	122	Sourendra Coomer Dutt Raghunath P Tripathi	38.6
6	152	Subhajit Choudhury Pradip Dey	76.5	28	85	Arabinda Kumar Mishra V Ravindran	38.3
7	91	Ajit Saldanha Ranga Khadloya	73.8	29	68	Sanjeev Tomar Monu Kumar Ranchhad	37.9
8	125	Vinay Mohan Lal Avijit Sarkar	72.9	30	130	Atanu Ganguly Madhu Malti Jain	36.5
9	72	Amit Pal Swarup Ghosh	72.1	31	41	M J R Vasudevan M Vasanth Pai	35.8
10	191	Mrinal Kanti Mukherjee Sowmik Das	71.6	32	5	Gajendra Kumar Vyas Narendra Kumar Sharma	34.6
11	30	Pradip Kumar Halder Loknath Chatterjee	67.3	33	183	Sampath Srinivasan Nitin I Shirole	32.2
12	169	Vytautas Vainikonis Olanski Wojciech	62	34	49	Craig Gower Diana Rosslee	30.2
13	145	Subrata Chakraborty Ajoy Saha	59	35	81	Aloke Kumar Sadhu Rajendra Sirohia	29.2
14	184	Asit Kumar Bandopadhyaya Bijan Kumar Bandopadhyay	56	36	65	Joyrup Mullick Pranab Roy	29
15	147	Gopinath Manna Sandip Datta	54.1	37	92	D K Tewari P C Gupta	28.2
16	24	Tapas Das Gautam Chattopadhyay	51	38	189	Raj Kumar Srivastava Arjun Srivastava	28.1
17	192	Wrik Chakraborty Ramprosad Das	50.2	39	109	Md Sahajahan Santanu Das	26
18	32	Hemant Purkar Chandrashekhar V Kekre	48.2	40	172	Yatindra Sahae Gustav Axen	24.5
19	148	Ramkrishna Majumder Ayan Chatterjee	47	41	151	Prabir Das Bapi Das	23.5
20	21	N Periasamy B Seenivasagan	46.6	42	27	Bijit Datta Tapas Kumar Roy	23.3
21	71	Biswajit Mahata Subhas Mahato	46.2	43	108	Shouvik Das Suman Sengupta	18.8
22	67	Soham Sarkar Mathew Chandy	46	44	63	Aniruddh Ghosh Suren Mewar	16.2

Result : IMP PAIRS FINAL - Session 2

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
45	132	Chandan Chowdhury Sanjay Raha	14.7	66	146	Sharad Kumar Sanjay Shrivastava	-2.9
46	193	Rohit Rai Tandon Aakash Sharma	13.8	67	22	Soumitra Das Bulu Saha	-3.3
47	188	Saurav Sil Biplab Dawn	13.1	68	93	Dilip Mistry Prakash Gupta	-4.8
48	70	J Pratihari I Khan	12.2	69	123	Tapan Kumar Roy Ranjan Bhattacharya	-6
49	143	Sukalyan Sarkar Saumitra Chakraborty	9	70	23	Gourav Biswas Pulak Panji	-8
50	69	Rajendra Ray Arnab Ghosh	8.9	71	10	Asit Baran Chakraborty Sagar Bhuia	-8.9
51	31	Sanjib Naskar Proshanto Bhattacharya	8.3	72	89	Janak Shah Jayendu Shantilal Patel	-9
52	142	Saswata Bhattacharya Manas Kumar Das	8.2	73	165	Subhash Bhavnani TV Ramani	-9.1
53	106	Vijay Kumar Manglik P K Sharma	7	74	45	Deepak Ramnani K P Baskaran	-10.5
54	161	Santi Ranjan Dutta Tapan Bhattacharjee	7	75	167	Savleen Thadani Rahul Khambete	-10.6
55	62	Anant Vikram Somani Rajesh Somani	6.7	76	162	Anil Vijaywargiya Ajit B Chakradeo	-12
56	104	Shantanu Rastogi Tribhuvan Prasad Khare	5.3	77	133	U V Athavale V Ravichandran	-13.9
57	182	Kumares Ghosh Sumit Santra	4.5	78	102	Pandu Chedalavada Srinivas Kachibhatla	-14.6
58	86	Rajeev Khandelwal Himani Khandelwal	3.2	79	181	Sanat Roy Amar Kumar Bose	-15.3
59	66	Prithvi Raj P K Bandhu	2.8	80	101	Babhrubahan Bose Rajib Ray	-15.7
60	173	Kavita Dhawan Bhavna Naraindas	1.2	81	2	Kamal Krishna Mukherjee Alok Daga	-16.4
61	149	Amitava Roy Nandalal Hazra	1	82	124	Hatinder Panwar Atulya Sood	-17.2
62	163	Anukul Mandal K K Sabherwal	0.7	83	83	J K Bhosale P D Joshi	-18.2
63	126	Puneet Gangal Ibrat Khan	-0.1	84	44	Cameron Roger Cotton Ajit M Pai	-18.8
64	8	Jayanta Chowdhury Debabrata Ray	-2.2	85	64	Tapan Kumar Roy Shyama Prasad Banerjee	-19.2
65	1	Asis Tosh Shiba Prasad Samaddar	-2.6	86	13	Bindiya Naidoo Nikita Kamal	-19.3

Result : IMP PAIRS FINAL - Session 2

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
87	185	Anup Mahajan Hemkanti Talukdar	-19.8	108	186	Hari Narayan Pradip Gupta	-36.1
88	131	Shrikant B Tembey Yogesh B Shah	-20.5	109	103	Prosenjit Roy Sarkar Jayanta Dutta	-37.1
89	7	Sandeep Narang Bidyut Goswami	-21.2	110	121	Amarjit Wadhawan Arun Jain1	-41
90	28	Aritra Bhattacharya Pradyut Bhattacharjee	-21.6	111	3	Debashis Bhadra Dibyendu Shee	-41.3
91	82	Meenu Dugal Tanmoy Majumder	-21.8	112	87	Dharma Narayan Bordoloi Dilip Kr Sarma	-42.7
92	110	Souvik Saha Sandip Gharai	-23.2	113	111	Pankaj P Chaudharl Pintu Sao	-42.9
93	84	Ashok Hazra Monoj Bhattacharjee	-23.7	114	73	Joydip Mukherjee Jagadish Chandra Bala	-44.2
94	144	Sajal Banerjee Kaushik Mukherjee	-24.1	115	190	Pabitra Majumder Mithun Biswas	-45.4
95	52	Khaled Hassan Ahmed Alruwayeh	-24.3	116	4	Pradeep Anand Singh Vijayanand Singh	-46
96	61	Bholanath Dash Sarveswar Bhattacharya	-24.6	117	42	Prasanta Basu Ray Asim Sarkar	-47.3
97	127	Jyotirmoy Dey Ajoy Baruah	-25.5	118	47	Sudhir Iyer M Gopal	-53.8
98	53	Ramesh Patodia Rajesh K Jain	-26.4	119	11	Tarun Singhal Anurag Pandey	-53.8
99	164	Hironmoy Banerjee Kajal Pal	-26.6	120	9	Aman Tyagi Kinjal Desai	-54.2
100	128	Satchidananda Nayak D N Behera	-27.1	121	90	Tapan Kr Sen Sanjay Banerjee	-57.8
101	166	Sanjoo Melwani Rajesh Darshanpal Kuckreja	-28.9	122	48	Aroon Birla R P Shivhare	-58
102	107	Sanat Kumar Saha Shyama Prasad Chatterjee	-30.1	123	46	Madhav A Kshirsagar Kanad V Javahire	-70.7
103	6	Velupillai Balakumar Smita Jindal	-30.4	124	105	Bipul Kumar Roy Dilip Kumar Borpuzari	-77.7
104	170	Hazur Singh Dhariwal S S Bhullar	-30.4	125	12	Prasanta Bera Vivekananda Ghosh	-90.1
105	50	Kailash Agarwal Abhay Todankar	-32.6	126	26	Ashis Pan Sudipta Adhikary	-94.3
106	187	Anupam Ghosh Tapas Kumar Chaudhuri	-33.6	127	51	Sanjiv Sahay Daljeet Marwah	-97.7
107	33	S Vijayraghavan R N Subramaniam	-35				

Result : IMP PAIRS STRATA - Session 2

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
1	181	Gaurav Rajwade Rajendra V Mekal	101	31	32	Bholanath Ghosh Salil Mondal	33
2	142	Md Shahidul Islam Mohammad Ehsanuzzaman	92	32	51	P K Banerjee Sukil	32
3	184	Sunit Kumar Bose Sujoy Kumar Dey	88	33	143	Rana Chakraborty Kajal Chandra Das	31
4	111	Pradeep Govil S K Sharma	83	34	25	R K Pradhan Sankarsan Behera	26
5	66	Kumar Venkataraman Pradeep Deshpande	78	35	50	Deepika Mehta Ravi Kaul	25
6	112	Prabir Pal Balai Pal	78	36	189	Shibashish Barik Debashis Majumdar	24
7	63	Pritam Das Anindra Kumar Sarkar	77	37	6	Sunil Kumar H L Tripathi	24
8	104	Prithviraj Ghosh Kalyan Kumar Roy	77	38	12	Bimalendu Das Sumanta Roy	21
9	187	Swetadri Saha Krishna Das Chakraborty	76	39	127	Hemant K Jalan Ashis Malhotra	21
10	148	Amol Deshmukh V Chandrasekhar	74	40	182	V A Phapunkar Girish Mujumdar	16
11	163	Sumit Saha Swapan Sardar	73	41	24	Kishore Das Debabrata Mondal	14
12	46	Ashok Kumar Goel Siddharth Behura	69	42	69	Achintyananda Thakur Soumen Das	12
13	107	Arya Chakraborty Subir Majumdar	65	43	1	Ashok K Sinha Mini Agarwal	12
14	28	S B Khanolkar N B Shinde	64	44	183	Nirmal Raja Mohan Nair	9
15	87	Tonmoy Ghosh Suraj Das	62	45	67	Arup Kumar Hudait Priyotosh Sarkar	9
16	170	Rajat Dutta Cera Fernando	60	46	5	Prakash Achar Birendra Kumar	9
17	43	Asvin Ganger Kausar Hasan Syed	55	47	131	Prasad V Keni R Kannan	8
18	11	Kamleshwar Rai Chunni Lal Arora	53	48	70	Anil Mondal Pratap Chandra Ghosh	7
19	141	Utpal Santra Asim Das	51	49	102	Kamlesh Gupta Rakesh Kr Govil	7
20	48	Sudeep Saha Aloke Kumar Sardar	50	50	185	Col K Dhody Col M P S Chauhan	6
21	31	Tapan Kumar Roy Tarun Manna	47	51	47	Alok Kumar Mandal Dipak Kumar Paul	6
22	151	Sourav Mukherjee Partha Pratim Pal	46	52	49	Rupa Bakeri Aparna Sain	5
23	64	Arnab Guha Bijon Kumar Mondal	44	53	152	Dheeraj Kumar Monu Kumar	4
24	22	Raj Kumar Mukherjee Sunil Dutta	43	54	147	Sanjay Kundu Pradip Mondal	2
25	89	Ramaratnam Krishnan Rasika Karunatilake	39	55	8	Vijay Deshpande Vrinda Jhunjhunwala	1
26	129	Stanley Nazareth Vinay Sharma	38	56	144	Sanjeed Majumder Sayantan Kumar	1
27	62	Prabir Kumar Thakur Sujan Chowdhury	36	57	162	Kaustabh Nandi Sagnik Roy	1
28	27	Devangshu Datta Subashish Gope	35	58	146	Kishore Kumar Ganguly Prasanta Dutta	0
29	9	Goutam Mukherjee Tirthankar Sengupta	35	59	130	Paban Agarwal Kalindi Mewar	-1
30	103	Subrata Sadhukhan Subramanian Karuppa	33	60	91	Samar Kumar Maity Raju Mitra	-1

Result : IMP PAIRS STRATA - Session 2

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
61	165	Pradip Kumar Sen Sharma Kalyan Roy Chowdhury	-1	90	65	Maheswar Pradhan A Martand Rao	-32
62	149	B P S Pai Raj Madnani	-4	91	106	Sisir Kumar Banerjee Protap Bandyopadhyay	-33
63	68	Jaydeep Bhattacharjee Mehedi Hasan	-6	92	71	Uday Ghoshal Saurendranath Chakrabarti	-40
64	82	Jenish Shah Milind Panandikar	-6	93	88	Nirav Patel D V Ravi	-40
65	150	Tapan Jyoti Ghosh Rabi Sankar Roychowdhury	-7	94	186	Asim Saha Smita Govilkar	-42
66	123	P Narayan Iyer Aparajitha Iyer	-11	95	124	M Venkatesan C K Madheswaran	-43
67	109	N Sudhakar Babu Rajendran Ramesh	-11	96	84	Gautam Chatterjee Abhishek Mitra	-44
68	23	Chanchal Dass Saswata Ballav	-13	97	41	Anushree Jalan Indranath Chatterjee	-45
69	128	Sunil Misra S K Gautam	-14	98	110	M K Bhargava Rajendra Kumar	-45
70	3	Gopal Das Shantam Rai	-15	99	30	Ratnesh Anil Upadhyay	-47
71	188	Gautam Aich Ajit Mukherjee	-16	100	132	Subir Kumar Chaudhuri Partha Sarkar	-48
72	72	Braja Gopal Dey Sunil Das	-16	101	29	Umesh Ram J P Singh	-50
73=	42	Pramod Ranjan Das Suvasish Dasgupta	-17	102	90	Abani Baruah Ashok Kumar	-52
73=	191	Umesh Atul Kumar	-17	103	61	Netai Pada Kabiraj Achintya Haldar	-52
75	52	Sailaja Tahliliani Pradip Ghosh	-19	104	171	Anand W Golwalkar Shailendra Kumar	-53
76	10	Md Rezaul Karim Taymur Reza Hossain	-19	105	92	Probat Roy Kishore Kanti Roy	-54
77	108	Sushil Kumar Paul Subrata Sarkar	-19	106	169	Joy Saikia Gautam Sarma	-55
78	4	Bijal Shah Sejal Shah	-19	107	21	Arup Lodh G K Chandan	-56
79	105	Ramendra Chowdhury Ranjan Bose	-20	108	145	Sanjay Kumar Sondhi Subhransu Patnaik	-59
80	161	Anal B Shah Jesal Dabriwala	-20	109	101	Tutun Banerjee Arijit Chattaraj	-60
81	167	Amitava Mukherjee Sumit Bhattacharjee	-21	110	168	S K Agarwal G K Tiwari	-63
82	2	Deepika Andlay Anjali Semwal	-23	111	44	Deepa Jacob Pallab Sinha Roy	-65
83	86	Suresh Senapaty H Anjaneya Swamy	-24	112	166	Sunandan Thakur Bidyut Kanti Thakur	-70
84	121	Sunil Desai Yogeshwar Banavali	-24	113	122	Kaman Sharma Abhijit Pal	-75
85	125	Jignesh Parikh Saurabh Dalal	-24	114	45	Susanta Kumar Mandal Milan Bhuiya	-86
86	81	Ravi Raman Ivan Alphonso	-27	115	83	Alok Dutta Paltu Kumar Fouzdar	-88
87	190	Tapas Das Subrata Chatterjee	-27	116	85	C Sathish Kumar S Srinivasan	-92
88	126	M K Halder Amitava Banerjee	-28	117	7	Anjali Malhotra K Mr	-95
89	26	Srithar R Mohan Jhala	-29	118	164	Rakesh Ranjan S K Verma	-105

Gold Final Set 2

In the GOLD category final of the 22nd HCL International Bridge Championship, Set 2. OLIMP (Andrey Gromov, Anna Gulevich, Sergey Orlov, Evgeny Rudakov, Olga Firsova) playing against WHAM (Sartaj Hans, Andy Pie-en Hung, Matthew Brown, Michael Whibley) were down 21-53 at the end of the first session. Were they going to play a steady game or were they going to try for swings? The first deal might give us some clue.

Anna Gulevich opened 2♠, weak, in the dealer position, and Matthew Brown overcalled 2Nt. With seven good High Card Points and a 6-card Diamond suit, Whibley raised to three. Gromov sensed an opportunity there. Opponents hadn't mentioned Hearts. Gromov held nice Diamonds and some resistance in Clubs. Anna's opening at unfavourable vulnerability suggested good values. Gromov took a chance. He doubled and led the Nine of Spades.

15 D		N GROMOV ♠96 ♥J53 ♦AQJ5 ♣J874		Par Score: -130 Par: EW 2+2	
W BROWN ♠AK8 ♥KQ9 ♦1083 ♣K1063		W N E S 2NT Pass 3NT Pass Pass Dbl Pass Pass Pass		E WHIBLEY ♠53 ♥A87 ♦K97642 ♣95	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 5 3 5 7 5 S 5 3 6 7 5 E 7 10 7 6 7 W 7 10 7 6 7		S ANNA ♠QJ10742 ♥10642 ♦ ♣AQ2		3NTx West 0 0	

Sensing trouble, Brown let the ♠9 hold the trick. Gromov continued Spades. Brown won and played the eight of Diamonds (♦8). Gromov played small, Brown went up with Dummy's King and played another Diamond on which Anna discarded ♥2, likely signalling for Clubs. Gromov won and played a Club. Anna inserted the ♣Q. Brown claimed seven tricks. That was down two for 300 to North-South.

15 D		N ANDY HUNG ♠96 ♥J53 ♦AQJ5 ♣J874		Par Score: -130 Par: EW 2+2	
W SORLOV ♠AK8 ♥KQ9 ♦1083 ♣K1063		W N E S 1NT Pass Pass Dbl Pass Pass 2♦ Pass Pass Dbl Pass 2♠ Pass Pass Pass		E O FIRSOVA ♠53 ♥A87 ♦K97642 ♣95	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 5 3 5 7 5 S 5 3 6 7 5 E 7 10 7 6 7 W 7 10 7 6 7		S SARTAJ H ♠QJ10742 ♥10642 ♦ ♣AQ2		2♠ South 0 0	

At the other table, Sartaj opened 1♠. Playing a strong-club system, he can afford to open with nine or 10 HCP. Orlov overcalled 1Nt. That went Pass-Pass to Sartaj who doubled. When Andy Hung passed it, Firsova took out to 2♦ forgoing an opportunity to get a good positive score for a doubled and fulfilled contract. Andy Hung doubled 2♦ for business but Sartaj took out to 2♠ and that became the final contract. It went down in due course for 100 to East-West. OLIMP earned nine IMPs on the deal.

OLIMP missed an opportunity to gain a further few on the next deal. Vulnerable opposite Fresh, Matthew Brown dealt and opened 1♦, North and East passed. Anna doubled. Matthew Brown now bid 2♦. Gromov passed, Whibley passed, and Anna decided to bid Spades now. We would have liked to see Gromov's reaction there, but the live Vu Graph recording didn't quite let us witness that moment. When the tray got back to Gromov, he tabled 3Nt, a bid that suggests exasperation. 3Nt went down three for 150 to East-West.

16		N GROMOV ♠92 ♥863 ♦QJ863 ♣A74		Par Score: 90 Par: NS 1NT, 1♣+1																									
W BROWN ♠J3 ♥KQ104 ♦AK10975 ♣K		W N E S 1♦ Pass Pass Dbl 2♦ Pass Pass 2♠ Pass 3NT Pass Pass Pass		E WHIBLEY ♠10765 ♥J75 ♦4 ♣Q10962																									
♣ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT <table> <tr> <td>N</td><td>8</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>8</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr> <td>E</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr> <td>W</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>6</td><td>6</td></tr> </table>		N	8	6	6	7	7	S	8	6	6	7	7	E	5	6	6	6	6	W	5	6	6	6	6	S ANNA ♠AKQ84 ♥A92 ♦2 ♣J853		3NT North 0 0	
N	8	6	6	7	7																								
S	8	6	6	7	7																								
E	5	6	6	6	6																								
W	5	6	6	6	6																								

In the Closed Room, Sartaj played in 2♠ and went down one for -50. WHAM earned three IMPs on the deal. OLIMP scored two on Board 17 and three on Board 18. WHAM scored six on the next board – Board 19. Board 20 brought up a Grand Slam.



Sartaj Hans

Both Red, Matthew Brown opened 3♠ as the dealer. Whibley found out what he needed to find out and bid 7♠ with conviction. 4♣ was optional RKC. Brown could have declined to show Aces with a 4♦ response if he had a poor hand. 5♣ showed 2 key Cards. 5♥ asked about clubs. Brown's after-the-pass double showed 2nd round Club control. There was duplication in Diamonds, all the same, the Grand Slam depended only on Clubs breaking breaking 4-3, approximately 62% chance.

20

N

GROMOV

♠82

♥QJ2

♦J7542

♣J94

W

BROWN

♠AK97653

♥986

♦Q8

♣6

♠

♥

♦

♣

NT

N	4	5	4	0	1
S	4	5	4	0	1
E	9	7	8	13	12
W	9	7	8	13	12

W

N

E

S

3♠

Pass

4♣

Pass

5♣

Pass

5♥

Dbl

Pass

Pass

7♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

E

WHIBLEY

♠QJ10

♥A107

♦AK

♣AK875

♠

♥

♦

♣

NT

N	4	5	4	0	1
S	4	5	4	0	1
E	9	7	8	13	12
W	9	7	8	13	12

S

ANNA

♠4

♥K543

♦10963

♣Q1032

Par Score: -2210

Par: EW 7♠

7♠

West

0

0

In the Closed Room, the bidding lacked such precision and specificity. Firsova asked 4Nt and bid 6♠ when partner showed two Key Cards. She could count 12 tricks if West held seven Spades to AK. Thirteenth could come from a Diamond ruff if West held three or more Diamonds, It could come from Clubs if partner held only one or two Clubs. The only case where 7♠ will be in jeopardy is when West holds 7-1-2-3 without the ♣Q. I guess they must be opening 6♠ with just six cards a little more often than we might have assumed for the above discussion. OLIMP lost 13 IMPs on the board.

20

N

ANDY HUNG

♠82

♥QJ2

♦J7542

♣J94

W

SORLOV

♠AK97653

♥986

♦Q8

♣6

♠

♥

♦

♣

NT

N	4	5	4	0	1
S	4	5	4	0	1
E	9	7	8	13	12
W	9	7	8	13	12

W

N

E

S

3♠

Pass

4NT

Pass

5♥

Pass

6♠

Pass

Pass

Pass

E

FIRSOVA

♠QJ10

♥A107

♦AK

♣AK875

♠

♥

♦

♣

NT

N	4	5	4	0	1
S	4	5	4	0	1
E	9	7	8	13	12
W	9	7	8	13	12

S

SARTAJ H

♠4

♥K543

♦10963

♣Q1032

Par Score: -2210

Par: EW 7♠

6♠

West

0

0



Evgeny Rudakov



Sergey Orlov

Board 21 was a small slam in Spades, a flat board, when both the East-West Pairs reached there easily.

D 21		N GROMOV ♠96 ♥A96 ♦109652 ♣KQ9	Par Score: -980 Par: EW 6♣
W BROWN ♠A73 ♥J8 ♦Q84 ♣A7543	W N E S Pass 1♠ Pass 3♦ Pass 4♣ Pass 4♦ Pass 4♥ Pass 5♣ Pass 6♠ Pass	E WHIBLEY ♠KQ10852 ♥K10 ♦AKJ3 ♣J	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 4 3 7 1 1 S 4 3 7 1 1 E 8 9 5 12 11 W 8 9 5 12 11	S ANNA ♠J4 ♥Q75432 ♦7 ♣10862		6♣ East 0 0

D 21		N ANDY HUNG ♠96 ♥A96 ♦109652 ♣KQ9	Par Score: -980 Par: EW 6♣
W SORLOV ♠A73 ♥J8 ♦Q84 ♣A7543	W N E S Pass 1♠ Pass 2NT Pass 4♣ Pass 4♦ Pass 4♥ Pass 4♠ Pass 4NT Pass	E O FIRSOVA ♠KQ10852 ♥K10 ♦AKJ3 ♣J	W N E S Pass 1♠ Pass 2NT Pass 4♣ Pass 4♦ Pass 4♥ Pass
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 4 3 7 1 1 S 4 3 7 1 1 E 8 9 5 12 11 W 8 9 5 12 11	S SARTAJ H ♠J4 ♥Q75432 ♦7 ♣10862		4♠ Pass 4NT Pass 5♥ Pass 6♠ Pass Pass Pass



Olga Firsova

Mathew Brown

Halfway through the first set, WHAM were leading OLIMP 75-35 IMPs.

Whibley mis-guessed the Heart position on the next deal. That cost them as many as 17 IMPs. Whibley dealt and opened 2♣, strong. That was a license to North-South to interfere in the auction in an unconstrained manner. Anna Gulevich overcalled 3♣. When Andrey Gromov raised to 4♣, Anna bid 4♥. Gromov raised to 5♥ giving away his 4-card holding if Anna's 4♥ bid hadn't already conveyed it. In the meantime, Brown-Whibley found their Diamond fit and bid 6Nt from Whibley's hand to protect the ♠AQ holding. Anna led a small Spade.

Whibley won ♠A, went do Dummy with a trump and without removing North's second trump, ran the ♥T. This would have worked if South held ♥8 singleton. Note that North's lowest card – the ♥3 is lower than East's lowest, the ♥4, so Whibley could have picked up North's Hearts without any loser. Unfortunately for Whibley, Anna held ♥J. She won and North-South cashed two Spades for down two and a score of +200 to North-South.

22		N GROMOV		Par Score: -1100 Par: NS 7♠x-5	
		♠Q103 ♥Q863 ♦75 ♣KJ94			
W BROWN		W	N	E	S
♠J76 ♥10752 ♦KQ10862 ♣		3♦	4♣	4♦	4♥
		5♣	5♥	Dbl	6♣
		Pass Pass 6NT Pass			
		S ANNA		E WHIBLEY	
		♠K982 ♥J ♦4 ♣10876532		♠A54 ♥AK94 ♦AJ93 ♣AQ	
				6NT East	
				0 0	

In the Closed Room, the bidding was crisp. North was on lead. He decided to lead the ♣K with a view to getting a look at the Dummy and switching to something that could help defence. Unfortunately for him, that gave Declarer the gift of a free Club finesse. That meant that the Declarer could park two Spade losers on two Club winners and safely play Heart suit for one loser. Orlov played the hand neatly by ruffing two Spades in the Closed hand, cashing a top when North played small, removing enemy trumps in the process, and then running the ♥Ten from West hand. North ducked. Orlov made 13 tricks. OLIMP won 17 IMPs on the deal.

22		N ANDY HUNG		Par Score: -1100 Par: NS 7♠x-5	
		♠Q103 ♥Q863 ♦75 ♣KJ94			
W S ORLOV		W	N	E	S
♠J76 ♥10752 ♦KQ10862 ♣		3♦	5♣	5♦	Pass
		6♦	Pass	Pass	Pass
		S SARTAJ H		E O FIRSOVA	
		♠K982 ♥J ♦4 ♣10876532		♠A54 ♥AK94 ♦AJ93 ♣AQ	
				6♦ West	
				0 0	

On Board 23, Orlov-Firsova missed a game in either Major suit. West opened 1♥ in the second seat on both tables and North overcalled 1Nt. With eleven HCP, five controls, six Spades, and three-card Heart support opposite an opening, Firsova just raised to 2♥. In the Open Room, Brown-Whibley once again placed their science on display when East began with a double of 1Nt, and followed it up with a negative double when South took out to 2♦. When Brown took out to 2♥, Whibley bid a Heart game. I suspect they would have tried to explore a slam if Brown had bid anything else than the 2♥ rebid.

23

N GROMOV

♠AJ3

♥QJ5

♦KQ108

♣K43

Par Score: -620

Par: EW 4♠, 4♥

W BROWN

♠Q4

♥K10742

♦AJ2

♣J106

W N E S

1♥ 1NT Dbl 2♦

Pass Pass Dbl Pass

2♥ Pass 4♥ Pass

Pass Pass

E WHIBLEY

♠K108752

♥A86

♦9

♣A87

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT

N	5	7	2	3	3
S	5	7	2	3	3
E	8	6	10	10	9
W	7	6	10	10	9

S ANNA

♠96

♥93

♦76543

♣Q952

4♥ West

0 0

23

N ANDY HUNG

♠AJ3

♥QJ5

♦KQ108

♣K43

Par Score: -620

Par: EW 4♠, 4♥

W S ORLOV

♠Q4

♥K10742

♦AJ2

♣J106

W N E S

1♥ 1NT 2♥ Pass

Pass Pass

E O FIRSOVA

♠K108752

♥A86

♦9

♣A87

♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT

N	5	7	2	3	3
S	5	7	2	3	3
E	8	6	10	10	9
W	7	6	10	10	9

S SARTAJ H

♠96

♥93

♦76543

♣Q952

2♥ West

0 0



Micheal Whibley

On Board 25, WHAM won another game swing. In the Open Room, North opened 1♦, East overcalled 1Nt, and West raised to three. With the 1♦ opener sandwiched between a 16-HCP 1Nt overcaller and a 9-HCP partner, there wasn't much problem in the play.

D 25		N ANDY HUNG ♠ K1084 ♥ ♦ KJ86 ♣ A543	W N E S 1NT X 2♦ 3♣ P P P																									
W S ORLOV ♠ 95 ♥ J73 ♦ Q93 ♣ KQJ72		♥ K	E O FIRSOVA ♠ AQ32 ♥ AQ86 ♦ A742 ♣ 8																									
<table><thead><tr><th></th><th>♠</th><th>♥</th><th>♦</th><th>NT</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>10</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>8</td></tr></tbody></table> Par Score: -630 Par: EW 3NT+1			♠	♥	♦	NT	N	2	3	3	4	S	2	3	3	4	E	9	9	9	7	W	10	9	10	8	S SARTAJ H ♠ J76 ♥ 109542 ♦ 105 ♣ 1096	3♣ W NS: 0 EW: 0
	♠	♥	♦	NT																								
N	2	3	3	4																								
S	2	3	3	4																								
E	9	9	9	7																								
W	10	9	10	8																								

Anna Gulevich led the ♣T. Whibley inserted the ♣K and continued with the ♣Q when North ducked. He discarded a Spade from the Closed hand. North won and shifted to ♠Ten. Whibley won ♠Q, cashed ♠A, and exited with a Spade discarding a small club from Dummy. Anna won the trick with the ♠J and switched to a Heart rather than a Diamond, partner's bid suit. Whibley played small from Dummy. He must have been pleased to see the ♥King appear. He won ♥Ace, went to the Table with the ♥J and cashed the ♣Jack. Dummy was left with ♣7 which was a winner at that point, however, Whibley seems to have missed the spot cards in the suit.

Counting a trick for the ♣7, Whibley had nine tricks in the bag, but he went about it in a more erudite manner. He next played a Heart to the ♥Queen in the Closed hand, and played a small Diamond inserting Dummy's ♦9 when South played small. North won the ♦Jack, cashed the ♠K, but had to concede an extra trick to Dummy's Queen. 3Nt made nine tricks for 600 to East-West.

In the Closed Room, North started with a 1Nt opening. East doubled to show strength and West took out to 2♣ which was passed by East. On the lead of the ♥K, 2♣ scored 10 tricks for 130. WHAM scored 10 IMPs on the board.

D 25	N GROMOV ♠ K1084 ♥ K ♦ KJ86 ♣ A543	W N E S 1♦ 1NT P 3NT P P P																														
W BROWN ♠ 95 ♥ J73 ♦ Q93 ♣ KQJ72	♣10	E WHIBLEY ♠ AQ32 ♥ AQ86 ♦ A742 ♣ 8																														
<table><thead><tr><th></th><th>♠</th><th>♥</th><th>♦</th><th>♣</th><th>NT</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>E</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>7</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>10</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>8</td><td>10</td></tr></tbody></table> Par Score: -630 Par: EW 3NT+1		♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	2	3	3	4	2	S	2	3	3	4	2	E	9	9	9	7	10	W	10	9	10	8	10	S ANNA ♠ J76 ♥ 109542 ♦ 105 ♣ 96	3NT E NS: 0 EW: 0
	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																											
N	2	3	3	4	2																											
S	2	3	3	4	2																											
E	9	9	9	7	10																											
W	10	9	10	8	10																											

On Board 26, Both East-West reached 4♠ from East side with a similar auction. East opened 1♦, West overcalled 2♥ to show both Majors. This bid by responder is known as a reverse Flannery convention. West shows five or more Spades and four or more Hearts with 7-9 HCP. The purpose of the convention is to make sure that the Heart suit does not get lost when responder begins with a 1♠ response holding 5 or more Spades.

Whibley won the lead with the ♣Q in the Open room and played a small trump to Jack. He then played the ♦King. North won and backed a Club. Whibley won and ruffed a Diamond. He now played a small trump from Dummy picking up North's King. He mis-guessed Hearts, so he scored only 10 tricks.

26		N GROMOV		W N E S	
		♠ K5		1♦ P	
		♥ Q765		2♥ P	
		♦ A72		P P	
		♣ J832		4♠ P	
W BROWN		E WHIBLEY			
♠ Q9632		♠ AJ8			
♥ KJ103		♥ 42			
♦ 9		♦ KQ1084			
♣ Q97		♣ AK5			
				♣6	
		S ANNA			
		♠ 1074			
		♥ A98			
		♦ J653			
		♣ 104			
				4♠ E NS: 0 EW: 0	

26		N ANDY HUNG		W N E S	
		♠ K5		1♦ P	
		♥ Q765		2♥ P	
		♦ A72		P P	
		♣ J832		4♠ P	
W S ORLOV		E O FIRSOVA			
♠ Q9632		♠ AJ8			
♥ KJ103		♥ 42			
♦ 9		♦ KQ1084			
♣ Q97		♣ AK5			
				♣4	
		S SARTAJ H			
		♠ 1074			
		♥ A98			
		♦ J653			
		♣ 106			
				4♠ E NS: 0 EW: 0	

In the Closed Room, Firsova won ♣A in the Closed hand and played a Heart to Dummy's Ten. Andy Hung won and played a Club. Firsova won ♣Q in Dummy and tabled the ♠Q. That meant she was going to lose a trick to South's Spade Ten. Two red Aces were also to be lost. She went down one. WHAM won 12 more IMPs.

At the end of set 2 WHAM led by 107 IMPs to 59.



Mathew Brown



Laurie Kelso

Head TD of the Tournament

I hope you have all enjoyed the 22nd HCL International Championships and I wish everyone a safe homeward journey. I would also like to thank you (the participants) for creating a great atmosphere and for contributing to the success of these Championships. 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 acknowledge and thank a number of particular individuals who have contributed significantly to the success of the tournament, as well as assisting me greatly on a personal level.

Besides myself, there were 11 other TDs attending to each and every problem that arose at the table, as well as ensuring the sessions ran to time: Sudhir Aggarwal, Sanjay Chakraborty, Gora Roy Choudhury, Pranab (Ranju) Bhattacharya, V.K. Sharma, K.S. Swaminathan, P. Narsinga Rao, Soumadeep Ghosh, Ashok Girdhar, Pintu Maity and T. Sankar.

Then we have the Scoring and Technological Staff, which handle not only the production of the results but 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 Prithvi Singh and 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 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 once again be part of this great event.

THANKS TO ALL

Today, the 22nd HCL International Bridge Championship comes to an end. Considering the buzz this tournament has created across the World, it has jumped leap & bounds in popularity. The sponsors & 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. Starting from online registration of entries of all events, instant draws & results being available on the web site and nicely displayed at the venue for the benefit of players & officials, it was an excellent show of technology, proving the advance of digitization in India.

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 would have gained a lot from his advices.

My special thanks go to Mr. Sandeep Thakral, the organizing secretary of the event; to Mr. Sudhir Aggarwal, who very efficiently handed the team of directors as well as taking care of tournament Web site and helping in technical management at the venue and to Mr. Srinivasan Iyengar, Head of Scoring and his deputies Mr. Prithvi Singh and Mr. Kaustubh Deodhar, for taking care of all the important aspect of scoring & displays of the event. Sincere thanks to Dr. Prakash Paranjape, the Editor of the Bulletins and the layout editor Mr. Bholanath Das.

I also want to thank all the support staff of the Tournament - Technical Operation team, the Tournament Directors, the Scoring team, the BBO Operation team, Daily Bulletin 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 Branding, Administration & financial teams, which took care of all the necessary requirements of the tournament. 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 back home. See you all again next year.



T.C. Pant
Head of Operations - HCL Tournament



Bridgemates & Scoring : L - R : Kustubh Deodhar, Srinivasan Iyengar, Laurie Kelso & Prithvi Singh



Dealing Team : L - R : Gajendra Singh, Kishan Kumar Jha, SRC Sekar, Babli Chowdhury, Murari Jha, Ritik Jha, Chetan Raval, Banshi Gupta



Team of Directors : L - R : P. Narasingha Rao, Debabrata Roychoudhury, Soumadeep Ghosh, Pranab Kanta Bhattacharjee, V. K. Sharma, Laurie Kelso, Sudhir Aggarwal, Sanjay Kr. Chakraborty, K. S. Swaminathan, T. Sankar, Pintu Maity

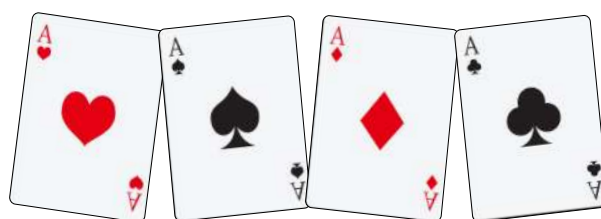


Caddies : L - R : Asim Paul, Ranjit Chowdhury (Babli), Soumyadeep Ghosh (Director), Debasish Ghosh, Laurie Kelso (Head TD), Monijit Saha, Surojit Das, Sanjay Chakraborty (Director), Kamal Acharjee, Amal Kumar Dutta, Tushar Dhara,



BBO Vu-Grph : L - R : Subrata Adhikary, Somik Mitra, Sudip Mahato, Abhishek Roy, Meenal Thakur

The 22nd **HCL** International Bridge Championship 6th October to 14th October 2025



Tournament Schedule

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