

HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

DELHI 2024

VENUE

The Leela Ambience
Convention Hotel, Delhi

September 14 - 22

DAILY BULLETIN

Editor
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Layout Editor
Bholanath Das



Swagatam

Welcome to the 21st Edition of HCL International Bridge Championship

Hello one and all,

A very warm welcome to you.

We are already in the 21st edition of this hugely popular and your favourite tournament – the biggest and the best of them all.

First of all we would like to thank Mrs Kiran Nadar for her generosity. Thanks to her, we have ever-increasing prizes and world's best amenities of any tournament.

(Continued on page 2)

Bonanza for NK Gupta Mixed Pairs participants

In light of overwhelming response to the NK Gupta MIXED IMP Pairs event, following modifications have been decided upon by the organizing committee:

After Elimination 1-26 -> GOLD finals – prizes as declared. 50 boards all play all.

27-50 -> SILVER finals – Prizes as below:

Total additional Prizes – Rs 2,50,000/-

1st	₹	60,000/-
2nd	₹	50,000/-
3rd	₹	40,000/-
4th	₹	30,000/-
5th	₹	25,000/-
6th	₹	20,000/-
7th	₹	15,000/-
8th	₹	10,000/-

51 onwards – Strata – Prizes as declared

The home for the event continues to be Leela Ambiance Convention Hotel at New Delhi. You all enjoyed yourself last year – if feedback is anything to go by. As organizers, this was one of the smoothest run events. We do hope you have a tremendous time and go home with fond memories.

The latest initiative is the addition of **NK Gupta memorial mixed pairs** event. And the enthusiasm about this event is for all to see. With more than **One Hundred Entries**, the event is already a smashing success. Does make it tough to win – all the very best to all participants.

The initiative of last year, **ProAm** event was a resounding success, getting all round recognition and applause. This year is the second edition – and the bar is already high. With some of the most familiar celebrities in the field, this is a unique opportunity to lock horns with the best of the best – and have stories for a life time. I do hope you are participating.

The main event consists of the Team of Four as well as Open Pairs event. To make the tournament more competitive, the Team of Four event is played in two categories – **GOLD & SILVER**. We will also have an IMP Pairs event.

The **“Team of Four GOLD Event”** Trophy of the tournament has been instituted in the name of **Late Shri Naresh Tandan** (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's father), and the **“Team of Four SILVER Event”** Trophy of the tournament has been instituted in the name of **Late Mrs. Mohini Tandan** (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's mother).

The **“Open Pair”** Trophy of the tournament is instituted in the name of **Late Mrs. Neena Bonarji** by Nisha, daughter of the late Mrs. Neena Bonarji. Mrs. Kiran Nadar had played with Mrs. Bonarji as partner and Team-mate over the years.

There are close to 150 teams entering the Gold and Silver Category put together. It is very heartening to see a lot of you coming back to live bridge.

The tournament came into being thanks to the ideas and the unstinted support of **Mrs. Kiran Nadar** - one of the top Indian players. She is a member and the sponsor of the **“FORMIDABLES”** team that has not only won many laurels at the National level but has also represented India umpteen times in International events. They reached the finals again last year. But the trophy remains elusive. Perhaps now is the time. All the very best - Kiran, Satya, Tewari, Sumit, Nandi & Sagnik.

The Norwegian team – with Boye Brogeland on board has to be the star attraction and the favourites. I'm sure everyone will be out to get them – you are forewarned.

Mavericks will be another team to watch out. They have made a change and Harald has joined forces with Jaggy, Keyzad, Subhash Gupta, Subodh Maskara, and Sandeep Thakral. Certainly a team to watch out for.

Our very own Sartaj Hans is here with his Australian team. And we have some strong claims from Italy and Israel.

The event promises to keep us all riveted.

Like previous years, we will have Vu-graph of the event from day-1 on BBO. All the events of the tournament will be played with computer generated boards and the scoring of the events will be done through Bridge mates. There will also be a Daily Bulletin of the event and you can check the daily bulletins on the tournament web site www.hcl-bridge.com. We have also made provision of Vu-graph theatre at the venue and players can watch the top notch matches there.

We must take this opportunity to thank each and every one of those who have been involved with innumerable tasks involved in making this event happen. I won't name them here, but please know that we are immensely grateful for your contribution and help.

A very warm welcome to all of you. We hope you enjoy your game and the excellent hospitality of HCL Corporation and go home pleased with the event with plans to come back next year.

Best of luck to all and please play the game in right spirit.

Organising Committee

The **HCL Bridge Championship** was established in the year **2003** by **Mrs. Kiran Nadar**, one of the top Indian players of competitive bridge. It is one of the top prize money tournaments in the world. This year's tournament offers **Rs 27 Million (~ US \$325,000)** as prize money.

Mrs. Kiran Nadar is Member of the **"FORMIDABLES"** team, that has not only won many laurels at the National level but has also represented India several times in international bridge events. The team reached the finals of the HCL Gold event in 2018 as well as in 2022 but had to be content with the runner-up spot. Kiran is married to **Mr. Shiv Nadar** who is the **Founder of HCL**, India's leading Global Technology and IT Enterprise, the sponsor for this prestigious event.

This annual tournament consists of the **"Team of Four Gold and Silver"** events as well as **"Match Point Open Pairs and IMP Pairs"** events.

The first edition of this tournament started in 2003 attracted 35 teams & 89 Pairs; in 2004, it increased to 46 teams and 127 Pairs, 2005 saw 70 teams & 176 Pairs, and from 2006 onwards till 2012, we always had 70 plus teams & 160 plus Pairs. The participation of all the top Indian teams in this tournament was an ample proof that this is one of the most favorite tournaments of Bridge fraternity in India. To make it more competitive for average players, the organizers in 2013 decided to divide the main Team of Four event into GOLD & SILVER categories with 40 teams participating in GOLD & 37 teams in Silver categories in the 2013 edition.

The year 2016 saw this tournament attaining great heights when it became an **International Bridge Tournament**. The organizers invited many top foreign teams and that resulted in 41 teams participating in the GOLD and 79 teams in the SILVER event. A record 288 pairs participated in the open match point pairs. **Team "Lavazza", consisting of Zia Mahmood, Giorgio Duboin, Dennis Bilde & Norberto Bochhi won the Gold event**. With 21 foreign teams in 2017 edition, the tournament attained a world class status. In 2018, we had 162 Teams (52 in GOLD & 110 in SILVER) and in 2019 a record 185 Teams (55 in GOLD, 102 in SILVER & 28 in Bronze category), a number that exceeded the expectation of the organizers. However due to the onslaught of COVID, the tournament could not be held in 2020. The 2021 edition was played as an online event. The tournament was back after COVID with the 2022 edition, where 116 teams (45 in Gold & 71 in Silver) participated and last year a total of 145 teams (52 in Gold & 93 in Silver) participated. The winners of the Gold event were **Azs Buboslavia from Poland consisting of Kamil Nowak, Piotr Marcinowski, Jakub Patreuha & Patryk Patreuha**. This year we are again expecting 150+ teams.

The three main trophies of the championship are detailed below:

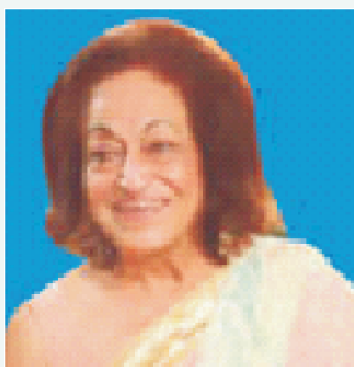
Naresh Tandan Trophy for Winner of Team of Four Gold Event – This trophy has been instituted in the name of Late Shri Naresh Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's Father).

Mohini Tandan Trophy for Winner of Team of Four Silver Event – This trophy has been instituted in the name of Late Mrs Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's Mother).

Neena Bonerjee Trophy for Winner of Open MP Pairs Event – This trophy has been instituted in the name of Late Mrs. Neena Bonerjee by her daughter Nisha. Mrs. Neena Bonerjee was a lady par excellence, a true friend, a great player and even a greater ambassador of this game. Kiran was fortunate enough to have played with her as a partner or as a team mate over the years.



Late Shri Naresh Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's Father) in whose memory the HCL Bridge Tournament's "Team of Four GOLD" Trophy has been instituted.



Late Mrs. Mohini Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's Mother) in whose memory the HCL Bridge Tournament's "Team of Four SILVER" Trophy has been instituted.



Late Mrs. Neena Bonerjee in whose memory her daughter Nisha has instituted the HCL Bridge Tournament's "Open MP Pair" Trophy

HCL Bridge Tournaments – Past Winners

- By T.C. Pant

Year	Date & Venue	HCL Bridge Championship Past Winners	
		Team of Four Naresh Tandan Trophy	Open Pairs Neena Bonerjee Trophy
2003	Hotel Claridges, New Delhi, 18th to 21st Dec 2003	CALCUTTA BRIDGE CLUB (B. Todi, Kamal Roy, S. Lahiri, Alope Sadhu, A.B. Chakravarty, B. Saha)	B. Satyanarayana - Kiran Nadar
2004	Hotel Claridges, New Delhi, 12th to 15th Aug 2004	WELLKNIT (R. Krishnan, A.S. Vishwanathan, Krishna Kumar, R. Venkatesh & J.M. Shah)	Subhash Gupta-Rajeshwar Tewari
2005	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 12th to 15th Aug 2005	J.P. GOENKA (J.P. Goenka, Pritish Kushari, Alope Sadhu, Badal Das, Shib Nath Dey Sarkar & Sumit Mukherjee)	J. Biswas - T.K. Roy
2006	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 12th to 15th Aug 2006	J.P. GOENKA (J.P. Goenka, Pritish Kushari, Alope Sadhu, Badal Das, Shib Nath Dey Sarkar & Sumit Mukherjee)	Prem Chand R Bafna - Ashok Vaidya
2007	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 16th to 19th Aug 2007	SHREE CEMENT (Manas Mukherjee, Rana Roy, Subrata Saha, Subir Majumdar, Bivas Todi)	S. Sunderram - P. Sridhar
2008	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 4th to 7th Sept 2008	TEXAN ACES (G. Venkatesh, J.M. Shah, P. Sridhar, S. Sunderram, Rajeshwar Tewari, B. Prabhakar)	Subrata Saha - Satyabrata Lahiri
2009	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 13th to 16th Aug 2009	TEXAN ACES (G. Venkatesh, J.M. Shah, P. Sridhar, S. Sunderram, Rajeshwar Tewari)	Rajeev Khandelwal - Himani Khandelwal
2010	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 30th Oct to 2nd Nov 2010	HANS , Australia (Sartaj Hans, Tony Nunn, Arjuna Delivera, Ian Robinson, Paul Gosney and Peter Gill)	Swarnendu Banerjee - Alope Sadhu
2011	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 8th to 11th Sept 2011	DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS (Ashok Goel, Suhas Vaidya, Pritish Kushari, D Majumder, S.Mukherjee, Bhabesh Saha)	Tapan Roy - Satyabrata Mukherjee
2012	Tivoli Hotel, New Delhi, 30th Aug to 2nd Sept 2012	ARISTOS (Sanjoy Bhattacharya, Kamal Mukherjee, Dr K Srinivas, K Srinivas Reddy, S K Iyenger)	Shib Nath Dey Sarkar - Pranab Bardhan

Year	Date & Venue	HCL Bridge Championship Past Winners		
		Team of Four GOLD Naresh Tandan Trophy	Open Pairs Neena Bonerjee Trophy	Team of Four SILVER Mohini Tandan Trophy
2013	Tivoli Hotel, New Delhi, 8th - 11th Aug 2013	MOHIT MEHTA (Mohit Mehta, Kingshuk Bhattacharya, Pinaki Khan, S B Mukherji, Avijit Chakraborty, C S Majumdar)	Sandeep Thakral - Kaustubh Bendre	CONSTELLATION Amarjit, Dr Nikita Kamal, Shashi Jain, Anil Bharioke, R Chakravorty, V Ravichandran
2014	Tivoli Hotel, New Delhi, 17th - 20th Aug 2014	FORMIDABLES (Kiran Nadar, B Satyanarayana, B Prabhakar, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sunit Chokashi, Keyzad Anklesaria)	Sanjib Majumder - J.N. Roy	P K THAKUR'S IV P K Thakur, M Dev, G Bansider, J Sarkar
2015	Country Inn & Suites, Sahibabad, 20th - 23rd Aug 2015	FORMIDABLES (Kiran Nadar, B Satyanarayana, B Prabhakar, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sunit Chokashi, Keyzad Anklesaria)	Alok Sadhu - Subrata Saha	DR. SANGHI Dr R L Sanghi, R A Siddiqui, S C Bhandari, S M Moin, Sunil Kumar, Ratnesh
2016	JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi 19th - 23rd Oct 2016	LAVAZZA (Zia Mahmood, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Dennis Bilde)	A.K. Sinha - S.K. Hooda	SIX-PACK Nirmal Jain, Sandip Dang, Sanjay Sondhi, Subhranshu Patnaik, AfsharMajeed, Vijay Devadass
2017	JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi 12th - 17th Sep 2017	TEAM ZWEDERLAND - Johan Upmark from Sweden, Fredick Nystrom from Sweden, Ricco Van Prooijen & Louk Verhees from NL	Simon Hult & Ekenberg from Sweden	A. K. BOSE - Abhijit Kumar Bose, Shantanu Ghosh, Anindya Bhattacharya, Soumya Das, Sayantan Kushari & Sagnik Roy
2018	JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi 9th - 14th Aug 2018	SOUTH SWEDEN - Alon Apteker, Craig Gower from South Africa & Sven- Are Bjerregard & Anders Morath from Sweden	George Matushko & Rogov Dmitry	TEAM MANZOVA - Joy Narayan Roy, PijusKanti Baroi, Debashis Bose, Goutam Pore, Bijit Dutta & Sanjay Mukherjee
2019	JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi 5th - 10th Aug 2019	K1 PLUS from Bulgaria Ivan Nanev, Rossen Gunev, Marta Nikolava, Julian Stefanov, Vladimir Mihov	Sumit Mukherjee - Debbbrata Majumder	TEAM PRADEEP - Sukalyan Sarkar, Rajendra Sirohia, Goutam Pore, Binod Kumar Shaw, Pijus Kanti Baroi, Pradeep Goenka
2021	Online Event 18th - 26th Sep 2021	TEXAN ACES: Sunit Choksi, Anil P Padhye, Ajay P Khare Raju Tolani, Milind P. Athavale, S Sunderram, Padmanabhan Sridharan, G Venkatesh	Rajeshwar Tewari - Keyzad Anklesaria	DR SMMC: Amiya Ranjan Das, Somnath Mitra, Goutam Das, Shyama Prasad Chatterjee, Bikas Dutt, Subrata Sadhukhan
2022	Hotel Hyatt Regency, Gurgaon 11 th to 16 th Oct 2022	Dhampur Sugar Mills: Ashok Goel, Vinay Desai, Sayantan Kushari, Kaustubh Bendre, Sagnik Roy, Kaustabh Nandi	P.S. Mukherjee – Aniruddha Bhattacharya	PRADEEP - Pradeep Goenka, Pijus Kanti Baroi, Goutam Pore, Biswadip Roy, Mithun Mukherjee, Rajesh Kumar Shaw
2023	The Leela Ambience Convention Hotel – 31 st Oct to 6 th Nov 2023	Azs Buboslovakia: Kamil Nowak, Piotr Marciniowski, Jakub Patreuha & Patryk Patreuha	Boye Brogeland – Christian Bakke	Standard Plus: S Rajeev, Sahirudeen, Asok Jose Lean, Ranga Khadloya, Nizamudeen S. Hamid, Franz Mundaden

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Mrs. Kiran Nadar

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MAIN EVENT PRIZES

Team of Four (GOLD)

Winner	₹	44,00,000
Runner-up	₹	24,00,000
Third	₹	12,00,000
Fourth	₹	9,00,000
5 th to 8 th each	₹	4,50,000
9 th to 16 th each	₹	1,80,000
17 th to 20 th each	₹	60,000

Team of Four (SILVER)

Winner	₹	16,00,000
Runner-up	₹	9,20,000
Third	₹	4,80,000
Fourth	₹	3,60,000
5 th to 8 th each	₹	1,80,000
9 th to 16 th each	₹	72,000
17 th to 20 th each	₹	25,000

Open MP Pairs - GOLD

Winner	₹	12,80,000
Runner-up	₹	8,40,000
Third	₹	6,40,000
Fourth	₹	4,80,000
Fifth	₹	3,20,000
Sixth	₹	2,50,000
Seventh	₹	2,00,000
Eighth	₹	1,50,000
Ninth	₹	1,00,000
Tenth	₹	90,000
Eleventh	₹	75,000
Twelfth	₹	60,000
13 th – 16 th	₹	50,000

Open MP Pairs - SILVER

Winner	₹	2,00,000
Runner-up	₹	1,50,000
Third	₹	1,20,000
Fourth	₹	80,000
Fifth	₹	60,000
Sixth	₹	40,000
Seventh	₹	30,000
Eighth	₹	20,000
Ninth	₹	15,000
Tenth	₹	10,000

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Meet the Force - Kiran Nadar



Kiran Nadar



Priyanka Gulati

As I sat down to speak with Kiran Nadar, I couldn't help but feel the anticipation of diving into her world of bridge, a sport she has championed on both national and international stages. Kiran's passion for the game is palpable, and her journey through the world of bridge is as fascinating as it is inspiring.

Kiran Nadar, a name that resonates with excellence in bridge, has represented India in numerous global championships. Her crowning achievements include winning Gold at the 2018 Commonwealth Bridge Games and securing Bronze at the Jakarta Palembang 2018 Asian Games. Yet, her ultimate goal remains winning the world championship—a victory she promises to celebrate with a glass of champagne.

A defining moment in her journey comes this year, with the introduction of the first-ever mixed event at the HCL International Bridge Championship, thanks to Kiran Nadar's vision. This landmark change is set to redefine the dynamics of the tournament, as men and women come together to compete as equals, showcasing both skill and teamwork. By introducing this category, Kiran has made a bold statement about inclusivity, setting the stage for bridge to evolve into a more diverse and balanced sport.

As for the first HCL mixed champion? Well, in bridge, it's not over until the last trick is played. So buckle up. This game is going to be as unpredictable as the cards themselves. Let's see who plays the winning hand in the first ever episode of the Mixed Pairs event of HCL-Bridge!

Priyanka Gulati



Contract *Jaye par Honours na Jaye.*

(I will hold on to my dear honours no matter if that allows the contract to make. The title is modelled on a famous Bollywood movie *Pran Jaye Per Vachan Na Jaye*)

Deal 3
Dealer South
Vul: East-West

♠ J 8 6 5 3 ♥ T 8 2 ♦ Q ♣ 9 7 6 4	♠ AKQ9 ♥ Q 6 5 ♦ AJT 7 5 3 ♣ void	♠ 2 ♥ 9 7 ♦ K 9 8 6 4 2 ♣ AKT 8	♠ T 7 4 ♥ AKJ 4 3 ♦ void ♣ Q J 5 3 2
--	--	--	---

W	N	E	S
--	--	--	1♥
P	2♦	P	3♣
P	3♠	P	4♣
P	6♥	All Pass	

Contract : 6♥ by south opening lead : ♦Q

Vasanti Shah is one of the most feared opponents in India in all the categories. The diagrammed deal shows why.

Trusting that Vasanti will find a way to make what looked like a decent slam from North's point of view, North simply blasted to 6 Hearts. West led the ♦Q. On normal red suit breaks, it might have been possible to ruff a Club in the Dummy and hope to get four Spade in for a total of 12 tricks, however, the opening lead suggested that the Diamonds were not going to be so kind.

Vasanti won the Diamond Ace, cashed AK of Hearts, entered the Dummy with a top Spade and played the Diamond Jack. East could have played small on this one, but East mechanically covered. Vasanti ruffed

small and West overruffed. West now played a Spade. Vasanti won in Dummy and East discarded a Club. Vasanti now carefully unblocked the ST.

Vasanti next cashed the Diamond Ten, ruffed a Diamond, and played a Spade to Dummy's ♠9. She next cashed Dummy's last Spade winner and triumphantly declared that East was squeezed in minors. This was the position in which Vasanti played the ♠A from the North hand.

Deal 3
Dealer South
Vul: East-West

Contract :
6H by South

♠ J ♥ -- ♦ -- ♣ 9 7 6	♠ A ♥ Q ♦ 7 5 ♣ void	♠ -- ♥ -- ♦ 9 8 ♣ AK	♠ -- ♥ J ♦ void ♣ Q J 5
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"I am not", East protested, "I can continue to hold on to my Club honours", and discarded a small diamond "Thank You", said Vasanti as she proceeded to ruff out East's last remaining Diamond and entered Dummy with a Club ruff to enjoy the left-over Diamond winner.

What does one do if one is pitted against Vasanti?, one might ask. Here is a secret that could be of help. The keyword is the 'Bridge discussion' WhatsApp group. Just tell her that you will post one of her deals in the Bridge discussion group. She practically hates the scrutiny that follows a post there. Try it out, it might be worth a few IMPs.



“Diamonds in the Rough: Uttam Gupta’s Brilliant Salvage of a Fragile Contract”

This deal was played in the 7th round (which was the last round) of Swiss Arabian Teams Championship in Dubai in April 2024. The floods preceding the event did nothing to hamper the participation of a number of top teams from Poland, Egypt, India, and other countries.



When this round was played, Uttam Gupta (playing for the Stars team) was the declarer in 5♦. Opponents were world famous Egyptian pair of Tarek Sadek and Waled ElAhmady.

The double dummy analysis of the deal is shown in the diagram below. Twelve easy tricks are available in a Spade contract if you manage to drop the Spade King. The bidding on Uttam's table, however, left him in a much less pleasant spot.

<p>19 S/EW</p> <p>♠ J ♥ KJ52 ♦ AT752 ♣ Q64</p> <p>2 11 11 16</p>	<p>♠ 872 ♥ 73 ♦ J864 ♣ J932</p> <p>♠ AQT96543 ♥ 86 ♦ KQ3 ♣ -</p> <p>♠ K ♥ AQT94 ♦ 9 ♣ AKT875</p>	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr><th colspan="2">N S</th></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>3 3</td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr><th colspan="2">E W</th></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>4 4</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>6 6</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>2 1</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>4 4</td></tr> </table>	N S		♠		♥		♦		♣	3 3	E W		♠	4 4	♥	6 6	♦	2 1	♣	4 4
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E W																						
♠	4 4																					
♥	6 6																					
♦	2 1																					
♣	4 4																					

W	N	E	S
--	--	--	1♣
1♦	P	4S	4NT*
P	5♣	5♦	P
P	P		

*: 4NT by South suggested a second place to play (in this case 5♥).

The contract of 5♥ can be defeated on a Club lead, however, once Uttam was given a chance to make it, he seized the moment and produced a spectacular demonstration of declarer play.

North's ♥7 lead went to south's Ace and South Switched to Club Ace. Uttam ruffed it in the dummy, cashed the ♦K, followed it with a Heart finesse, and played the ♠J to dummy's ♠A dropping the King. He next cashed the Diamond Queen, and ran Spades discarding two clubs and a Heart. North got his Diamond Jack but that was only the second trick the defenders made in the play. The diabolical diamond contract did make after all!

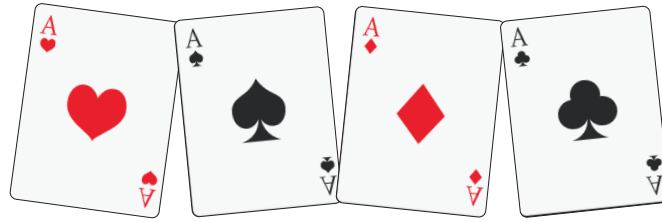
The Antiquity of Delhi

Mahabharat is one of the two famous Indian epics. It is the story of a war that could merely be mythological, or could even be a story of a real war that took place in a year somewhere in the wide range 5500 BCE to 500 Common Era . In the negotiations before the war, one of the parties – the Pandavas – are willing to give up their rights on everything else if they are given just five cities. The names of all these five cities ended with the letters 'prastha'. Indraprastha was one of them. It was the capital of the kingdom led by the Pandavas. Modern historical research pins its location in the region of present-day New Delhi, particularly the Old Fort (Purana Qila). Interestingly, the other four cities retain their ancient names - Sonipat, Panipat, Baghpat, and Tilpat - albeit in a form that is slightly easy on the tongue.



Purana Kila of Delhi. Image by Shivsanj. Source: Wikimedia commons.

The 21st **HCL** International Bridge Championship 14th September to 22nd September 2024



Tournament Schedule

Saturday, Sep 14	MIXED IMP PAIRS EVENT – ELIMINATION (5 Sessions of 10 Boards each)	
	1000 – 1015 Hrs.	Director's Announcements & Display of Seating Plan for the Event
	1015 – 1135 Hrs.	Session – 1 (10 Boards)
	1135 – 1145 Hrs.	Break
	1145 – 1305 Hrs.	Session – 2 (10 Boards)
	1305 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1520 Hrs.	Session – 3 (10 Boards)
	1520 – 1530 Hrs.	Break
	1530 – 1650 Hrs.	Session – 4 (10 Boards)
	1650 – 1720 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1720 – 1840 Hrs.	Session – 5 (10 Boards)
TOP 26 Pairs will qualify for the Mixed IMP pairs Final. Rest will play Mixed STRATA – II event.		
Sunday, Sep 15	MIXED IMP PAIRS EVENT – FINAL (5 Sessions of 10 Boards each) (All Play All with Barometer Scoring)	
	1000 – 1125 Hrs.	Session – 1 (10 Boards)
	1125 – 1135 Hrs.	Break
	1135 – 1300 Hrs.	Session – 2 (10 Boards)
	1300 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1525 Hrs.	Session – 3 (10 Boards)
	1525 – 1535 Hrs.	Break
	1535 – 1700 Hrs.	Session – 4 (10 Boards)
	1700 – 1730 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1730 – 1855 Hrs.	Session – 5 (10 Boards)
	MIXED IMP PAIRS EVENT – STRATA – II	
	1015 – 1315 Hrs.	Session – 1 (22 Boards)
	1315 – 1415 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1415 – 1715 Hrs.	Session – 2 (22 Boards)

Tournament Schedule

Contd.

Monday, Sep 16	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD / SILVER EVENT – SWISS LEAGUE	
	1000 – 1015 Hrs.	Director's Announcements & Draw for Team of Four Gold / Silver Event
	1020 – 1145 Hrs.	Round – 1 (10 Boards)
	1205 – 1330 Hrs.	Round – 2 (10 Boards)
	1330 – 1430 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1430 – 1555 Hrs.	Round – 3 (10 Boards)
	1615 – 1740 Hrs.	Round – 4 (10 Boards)
	1740 – 1810 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1810 – 1935 Hrs.	Round – 5 (10 Boards)
Tuesday, Sep 17	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD / SILVER EVENTS – SWISS LEAGUE Continues	
	1000 – 1125 Hrs.	Round – 6 (10 Boards)
	1145 – 1310 Hrs.	Round – 7 (10 Boards)
	1310 – 1410 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1410 – 1535 Hrs.	Round – 8 (10 Boards)
	1555 – 1720 Hrs.	Round – 9 (10 Boards)
	1720 – 1750 Hrs.	Tea Break
	1750 – 1915 Hrs.	Round – 10 (10 Boards)
	1930 - 2000 Hrs.	Captain's Meeting for TOP 16 qualifying teams of the GOLD & SILVER event for PRE-QF KO.
Wednesday, Sep 18	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD & SILVER EVENT – KO Pre-QF (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
	1930 Hrs. Onwards	Cocktails & Dinner (Hosted by HCL)
	2015 – 2045 Hrs.	Draw of Lots for ProAm Tournament

Tournament Schedule

Contd.

Thursday, Sep 19	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD & SILVER EVENT – KO QF (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	
Friday, Sep 20	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD & SILVER EVENT – KO SF (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	
Saturday, Sep 21	TEAM OF FOUR GOLD & SILVER EVENT – Final (4*14 Boards) & Play-off	
	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

Tournament Schedule

Contd.

	OPEN MP PAIRS – FINAL (GOLD & SILVER) - Barometer Scoring	
	0930 – 1300 Hrs.	Session - 1
	1300 – 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 - II (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
Sunday, Sep 22	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
	IMP PAIRS STRATA - II (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
Monday, Nov 06	PRO-AM PAIRS TOURNAMENT – Maximum 54 Boards	
	0930 – 1315 Hrs.	Session – 1 (28 Boards)
	1315 – 1400 Hrs.	Lunch Break
	1400 – 1730 Hrs.	Session – 2 (26 Boards)
	1800 Hrs. onwards	Prize Distribution

BBO Schedule for Saturday, September 14, 2024

1015 Hrs:	Mixed IMP Pairs – Elimination Round, R-1 (2 Tables)
1145 Hrs:	Mixed IMP Pairs – Elimination Round, R-2 (2 Tables)
1400 Hrs:	Mixed IMP Pairs – Elimination Round, R-3 (2 Tables)
1530 Hrs:	Mixed IMP Pairs – Elimination Round, R-4 (2 Tables)
1720 Hrs:	Mixed IMP Pairs – Elimination Round, R-5 (2 Tables)

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