



HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP DELHI 2024

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Convention Hotel, Delhi

September 14 - 22

DAILY BULLETIN

Editor
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Layout Editor
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It is WHAM vs Shourie in GOLD; Jackalls vs. RSCS in Silver

The semifinals of both the GOLD and the SILVER category Team of Four event got over on Friday evening. GOLD matches were pretty close almost till the end. WHAM (Sartaj Hans, Andy Hung, Michael Whibley, and Matthew Brown from Australia) beat WBT Bridge App 131-92; and Shourie (Rajath Shourie, Gavin Wolpert, John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, Kevin Bathurst, and John Hurd) beat Vedic 108-102. The winners will play a 56-board final tomorrow, starting at 930AM.

In the SILVER category, Jackalls defeated Sahyadri 137-90 while RSCS defeated Sabass 153.5-97. Jackalls (D.P. Acharya, Shubham Acharya, Mridul Das, Mukesh Ghatia, Shubhrajit Mukhopadhyay, Hemant Kumar Sarma) will play the finals against RSCS (Ramprosad Das, Subrata Chakraborty, Sanjay Raha, Chandan Choudhury).

Both the SILVER and GOLD final matches will start at 9:00 A.M.

K R Venkataraman and Swarnendu Banerjee topped the third elimination of MP Pairs with a score of 59.82%. Kaustubh Bendre and Sayantan Kushari were second with 57.49% and Anil Padhye and G Venkatesh, third with 56.83%. Twenty six top pairs will play in the GOLD category and next 26 in the silver category for the final round that starts at 9:30A.M.

A total of 254 pairs participated In IMP Pairs. Joyrup Mullick and Savyasachi Sadhukhan topped with +123 IMPs. One hundred and ten (110) pairs will qualify for the final to be played tomorrow starting at 10:00 A.M. There also will be an IMP strata-II event that will commence at 10:30A.M.

GOLD TEAMS SEMI-FINALS RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S1	S2	S3	S4	Total
1	SHOURIE		21	20	52	15	108
	VEDIC		16	28	25	33	102
2	WBT BRIDGE APP		24	16	25	27	92
	WHAM		19	49	19	44	131

SHOURIE : John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, Gavin Wolpert, Rajath Shourie, John Hurd, Kevin Bathurst

VEDIC : Craig Gower, Krishna Kumar Malani, Bhabesh Saha, Rana Roy, Prasun Kumar Mukherjee, Abhijit Chakraborty

WBT BRIDGE APP : Christian Bakke, Boye Brogeland, Thomas Charlsen, Martin Andresen

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

GOLD TEAMS FINAL

Table	Team	Vs	Team
1	SHOURIE	Vs	WHAM

SILVER TEAMS SEMI-FINALS RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
5	SAHYADRI		28	39	9	14	90
	JACKALLS		20	37	50	30	137
6	RSCS	4.5	34	13	55	47	153.5
	SABASS		22	44	9	22	97

SAHYADRI Sampath Srinivasan, Ajoy Sonak, N Rajmohan, Dilip V Karmarkar, Nitin I Shirole, Shrikant B Bendre

JACKALLS D P Acharya, Subham Acharya, Hemant Kumar Sharmah, Subhrajit Mukhopadhyay, Mridul Das, Mukesh Ghatiya

RSCS Chandan Choudhury, Sanjay Raha, Ramprosad Das, Subrata Chakraborty

SABASS Sukalyan Sarkar, Arun Kanti Chatterjee, Biswajit Mahata, Asim Saha, Smita Govilkar, Soumitra Chakraborty

SILVER TEAMS FINAL

Table	Team	Vs	Team
1	JACKALLS	Vs	RSCS

Opening Lead Discipline

Discipline might possibly be out of place for a grand celebration of Bridge, but it certainly isn't something one could do away with at the Bridge table.

Take the case of choosing an Opening Lead. Your RHO bids two suits and your LHO gives preference for one of them; you have some resistance in the other suit and are on lead. The discipline that goes with this situation exhorts you to lead Trumps, and you should, in most cases follow that discipline.

That is not quite what Bridge players do though. Various other considerations come into picture. You could have an unsupported honour in Trumps; you could have a sequence in one of the other suits, you might be playing online and you might be worried that if you don't lead from a readymade honour combination, the ethics watchers might pull you up for choosing 'an unusual lead', or you might be playing in a team where doing the routine thing is the best way to enjoy the game.

No matter what those considerations are, if you are playing face to face, and if you are playing for the best results, you should follow the discipline. If you don't, you will likely end up misdefending the hand and/or guiding partner into a wrong alleyway. Examine two hands that might help to clarify this point.



Opening Lead Discipline *(Contd.)*

Board 12

West Deals

N-S Vul

HCL-2024 SILVER R5

	♠ A Q		
	♥ 9 2		
	♦ A 10 9 6 2		
	♣ A K J 10		
♠ 10 8 5 2	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 6 4	
♥ K 8 6		♥ A J 10 5 4	
♦ 7 4		♦ K Q J 3	
♣ 5 4 3 2		♣ Q 7	
	♠ K J 9 7 3		
	♥ Q 7 3		
	♦ 8 5		
	♣ 9 8 6		

West	North	East	South
<i>D. P. Acharya</i>		<i>Shubham Acharya</i>	
Pass	1 ♦	1 ♥	Dbl
Pass	3 ♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

North had shown Diamonds and Clubs; South seemed to have preferred Clubs; Shubham, sitting East held good Diamonds; so the situation called for a disciplined lead. Shubham Acharya, a promising young player and easily, a prospective champion at high levels of the game, was sitting East. He had no qualms about tabling the ♣Queen.

North won and hastened to discard Hearts on Dummy's Spades. Shubham ruffed the third Spade and underled his ♥Ace. Debi Prasad Acharya, Shubham's dad, won ♥K and fired another trump. Declarer was now held to eight tricks.

Opening Lead Discipline (Contd.)

Examine the proceedings on one of the GOLD Pre-Quarter Finals.

15		N North		W N E S																															
D		♠ KQ1084		P P																															
		♥ AK832		1♠ P 2♣																															
		♦ 75		2NT 4♠ P P																															
		♣ 3		P																															
W PQFW				E PQFE																															
♠ 6				♠ A732																															
♥ J9				♥ 107654																															
♦ AQ1062				♦ J9																															
♣ QJ962				♣ K4																															
<table border="1"> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>7</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>7</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>8</td><td>8</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>8</td><td>8</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr> </table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	4	4	7	9	6	S	4	5	7	9	6	E	8	8	6	4	6	W	8	8	6	4	6	S South			
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																														
N	4	4	7	9	6																														
S	4	5	7	9	6																														
E	8	8	6	4	6																														
W	8	8	6	4	6																														
Par Score: 140		♠ J95																																	
Par: NS 3♠		♥ Q																																	
		♦ K843																																	
		♣ A10875		4♠ N NS: 0 EW: 0																															

North opened 1♠ in the third seat, South showed support with Drury, and West showed minors, after which North jumped to 4♠. Perhaps, there was a case for a trump lead, however, East opted to lead ♣K. Declarer won ♣A in the Dummy, cashed ♥Q, and played a small Spade to ♠8 in the Closed hand. East ducked(??). Declarer simply crossruffed his way to 10 tricks. Moral of the story? If you aren't on the right track at the time you choose your Opening Lead, you will perhaps continue on the wrong track even after the Dummy comes down!

In the match Maverisk vs. Acemates, East led the ♦J. Thakral, sitting North, ducked, and ducked once more when East continued ♦9. West overtook with ♦10 and switched to ♣Q. Everyone seemed to have forgotten about trumps at this point of time. Thakral won ♣A, cashed ♥Q, ruffed a Club with a small trump to get rid of that small trump, so to say, cashed ♥K, and ruffed a small Heart with ♠9.

He then ruffed a Club with the ♠8 in this position.

15		N Thakral		W N E S																															
D		♠ KQ10		P P																															
		♥ A8		1♠ P 2♣																															
		♦		2NT 4♠ P P																															
		♣		P																															
W PQFW		♠ 8		E PQFE																															
♠ 6		♣ 6		♠ A732																															
♥		♣ 8		♥ 107																															
♦ AQ				♦																															
♣ J9				♣																															
<table border="1"> <tr><th></th><th>♣</th><th>♦</th><th>♥</th><th>♠</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>7</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>7</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>8</td><td>8</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>8</td><td>8</td><td>6</td><td>4</td><td>6</td></tr> </table>			♣	♦	♥	♠	NT	N	4	4	7	9	6	S	4	5	7	9	6	E	8	8	6	4	6	W	8	8	6	4	6	S South			
	♣	♦	♥	♠	NT																														
N	4	4	7	9	6																														
S	4	5	7	9	6																														
E	8	8	6	4	6																														
W	8	8	6	4	6																														
Par Score: 140		♠ J5																																	
Par: NS 3♠		♥																																	
		♦ K8		Select cards to play																															
		♣ 10		for all 4 players																															
				4♠ N NS: 5 EW: 2																															

East overruffed and played a trump. That wasn't good enough to defeat the contract. To defeat, East had to discard a Heart. That thought of removing enemy trump occurred to the defender too late. If you are not on the right track while choosing the Opening Lead, you might continue to be on the wrong track later, too!

In the GOLD category, only one defender led a trump against 4♠. In the silver category, only two did. All of those leads came from the West hand. No East player led a trump!

Results : Open MP Pairs - Elimination 3

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %
1	21	K R Venkataraman & Swarnendu Banerjee	1130.50	59.82
2	51	Kaustubh Milind Bendre & Sayantan Kushari	1086.60	57.49
3	61	Anil P Padhye & G Venkatesh	1074.00	56.83
4	5	Anirban Sasmal & Atanu Ganguly	1070.80	56.66
5	59	Bar Tarnovski & Asaf Yekutieli	1064.50	56.32
6	17	Debabrata Majumdar & Sapan Desai	1061.40	56.16
7	57	Rajeshwar Tewari & Sumit Mukherjee	1056.60	55.90
8	31	Binod Kumar Shaw & Sanjit Dey	1054.90	55.81
9	29	Pranab Bardhan & Shibnath De Sarkar	1049.30	55.52
10	44	Elena Rudakova & Alexei Gerasimov	1040.80	55.07
11	46	Ravi Raman & Ivan Alphonso	1039.40	54.99
12	3	Rahul Khambete & Hemant Pande	1037.80	54.91
13	7	Raju Tolani & Ajay P Khare	1031.10	54.56
14	37	Monica Jajoo & Sukamal Das	1027.10	54.35
15	25	D K Tewari & P C Gupta	1022.40	54.09
16	34	Aniruddha Bhattacharya & Partho Sarathi Mukherjee	1018.30	53.88
17	79	Shambhu Nath Ghosh & Biswajit Poddar	1016.10	53.76
18	58	Sumit Saha & Swapan Sardar	1009.60	53.42
19	26	Vinay Mohan Lal & Subir Majumdar	1007.40	53.30
20	52	Samir Basak & Somesh Bhattacharya	1005.80	53.22
21	9	S Sunderram & Padmanabhan Sridharan	1005.30	53.19
22	27	Marianne Karmarkar & Sandeep N Karmarkar	1004.90	53.17
23	39	Leonardo Fruscoloni & Aldo Giovanni Gerli	1001.30	52.98
24	74	Kaustabh Nandi & Sagnik Roy	999.80	52.90
25	49	Jaggy B Shivdasani & Sandeep Thakral	997.30	52.77
26	63	Ram Avatar Agrawal & Gautam Biswas	995.10	52.65
27	76	Prasanta Bera & Sisir Kumar Banerjee	993.70	52.58
28	36	Mukund Jagannathan & Arvind Srinivasan	991.80	52.48
29	8	Stanley Nazareth & Asvin Ganger	990.90	52.43
30	32	Navneet Swaika & Subhasish Sarkar	990.00	52.38
31	13	Amal Kumar Gune & Jayanta Sarkar	985.00	52.12
32	78	Md Alauddin & Hasan Al Banna	984.40	52.08
33	67	Jodi Tutty & David Beauchamp	983.50	52.04
34	11	Ami Zamir & Oren Toledano	980.00	51.85
35	54	Pijus Kanti Baroi & Satyabrata Mukherjee	979.10	51.81
36	77	Keyzad Anklesaria & Harald Eide	978.80	51.79

Results : Open MP Pairs - Elimination 3

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %
37	15	Tanmoy Majumder & Sagar Bhuia	978.60	51.78
38	65	Jenish Shah & Kamna Sharma	960.30	50.81
39	69	Atul Rai & Amar Nath Banerjee	950.20	50.28
40	24	Maxim Feofanov & Mikhail Toprover	949.30	50.23
41	28	Meenu Dugal & Anindra Kumar Sarkar	947.80	50.15
42	56	Abhirup Ghosh & Sudipta Adhikary	943.30	49.91
43	48	Savleen Thadani & Bhaskar Sarkar	941.90	49.84
44	71	Pranab Roy & Sourendra Coomer Dutt	938.60	49.66
45	73	Saptarshi Chanda & Animesh Majumder	937.60	49.61
46	75	Saurav Sil & Arnab Ghosh	937.00	49.58
47	19	Rajendra Sirohia & Sukanta Das	936.20	49.53
48	43	Puneet Gangal & Gajendra Kumar Vyas	933.00	49.37
49	55	Ananda Roy & Bidyut Goswami	929.60	49.19
50	22	Rajeev Khandelwal & Himani Khandelwal	927.50	49.07
51	41	Anurag Mohota & Basant K Mohota	923.20	48.84
52	12	Soumadeep Ghosh & Arya Chakraborty	922.30	48.80
53	72	Mahamudul Hasan Sumon & Pranta Sarker	921.50	48.76
54	4	R G Bhiwandkar & Subhash A Dhakras	920.90	48.72
55	64	S K Iyengar & N R Kirubakaramoorthy	917.50	48.55
56	14	Ajay Kumar Bagadia & Ravi Goenka	915.50	48.44
57	62	Timur Edis & Elvan Edis	914.20	48.37
58	47	Evgeny Rudakov & Sergey Orlov	910.80	48.19
59	16	Tonmoy Ghosh & Ramkrishna Majumder	909.70	48.13
60	6	Joy Narayan Roy & Joyjit Sensarma	898.00	47.51
61	33	Amit Nangpal & Indrajit Sensarma	882.40	46.69
62	2	Asok Jose Lean & Chandramohan	876.90	46.40
63	68	Arnab Guha & Anup Kumar Mahajan	876.80	46.39
64	66	Darshan Patel & Girish Hirode	874.80	46.28
65	1	Francesco Mazzadi & Sergio Bianchi	863.30	45.68
66	18	Yogesh B Shah & Rajul R Dalal	856.30	45.31
67	35	Tapan Kr Bhattacharya & Asim Das	848.60	44.90
68	42	Rohit Mishra & Mithileshwar Jha	835.30	44.19
69	53	Sanjib Naskar & Shyama Prasad Ghatak	832.80	44.06
70	23	U V Athavale & V Ravichandran	819.80	43.37
71	38	Saurendranath Chakrabarti & Debasish Dey	811.80	42.95
72	45	N K Chitlangia & Badal Das	773.80	40.94

Talk with Subodh Maskara



When did you learn Bridge?

A friend who played poker with me introduced me to bridge about five years ago. He came to know that I was going to quit poker. "Why don't you play Bridge?", he asked me. He taught me the basics. Later, at Bombay Gymkhana, I met Dipak Poddar who told me that Anal Shah could be my best coach.

Until 2022, I did not play competitive Bridge. I then played some national events with scratch teams. My first big event was the transnational teams event in Wroclaw where I played with Anal Shah, Sandeep and Marianne Karmarkar; and Rajeev and Himani Khandelwal. It was very fascinating. Bridge has discipline, excellence, a drive towards perfection. At Wroclaw, I played almost all the rounds. Our performance was good although we just missed qualifying. That is when I decided to start a team.

For the 2022 HCL Bridge Championships, I had Daniel Korbel, Zia Mahmood, Jaggy, Sandeep Thakral, and Anal on my team. That is when I got in touch with some other good Indian Bridge players. Keyzad and Laltu joined to complete the quorum of six and we had a regular team.

Question: How has your game progressed? Are you satisfied?

I am very happy with my progress. Experts tell me it takes 15 to 20 years to get to an expert level. I have been able to play with and against the best. I feel I have learnt a lot in just two to three years and have developed my game to a good level. My personal goal is to become one of the best sponsor-players in the World. I don't aspire to be an expert like a Jaggy or a Sumit. I do, however, want to make progress, get better at the game.

Give us your thought about team formation.

Subodh: For me, TEAM is the keyword. Individual excellence can only go thus far in Bridge. Team harmony, team spirit, team discipline are far more important. The team members must gel, they must be able to have dinner together.

In one of your earlier interviews, you had mentioned Yoga.

Subodh: Yes. Yoga can promote self-discipline and self-awareness. There are other methods that can achieve that, however, one must develop a good routine and look after one's health. That is a must if you wish to perform well.

What else could benefit the Indian Bridge players and Teams?

At the World level, there are about 50-100 Bridge professionals. Their livelihood is bridge. They dedicate themselves to Bridge 24/7. In India, that is not the case. Every one, even some of the top Bridge players, has some other occupation. I would love to have a team of six young players who are dedicated to Bridge. I would sponsor them. That is the fastest way for an Indian team to win the world championship,

I must also mention that I don't see that hunger, that passion in anyone in India, to win at the highest level. Many are happy winning just the Indian tournaments. I would like the goals to be higher.

Question: How do you decide that a player is good enough? What kind of evaluation do you go by?

Subodh: First of all, I believe that good partnerships are important. Partnership understanding is important. I would rather look for a partnership than an individual player.

Question: Do you use any quantitative criteria, any rating, any master points?

I don't rely on master points. They tell us about part performance, and that could be well in past. I would go by more recent performance. I have not looked at any rating system or any positions in online games.

We do, however, train rigorously as a team. We have post-match analysis where we methodically assess performance, and we have targeted practice sessions to iron out our understandings, bids and plays, in focus situations.

What are your future plans?

My plans are not for my team. I would like to think of a great Indian team. I am disappointed with the current situation. We need to make concerted attempts to get more youngsters into the game. I was talking to someone who had a long association with an organisation. They had 2000 members at one time. 1900+ of those members passed away, and they now barely have 50 members. That is a disturbing statistic.

There needs to be much more effort towards developing the game. My mother died of dementia. I took up the game so that I could always have some challenge for the brain, some exercise to keep it in shape. I would like many more Indians to take up bridge.

Anything else you would like to say.

Subodh: I would like to see Indian teams participating in more International events. I would like to see an Indian team do well on the World stage. I am humbled by the efforts of Mrs. Kiran Nadar. She has passionately promoted India bridge. She has generously supported the game. We now have dozens of foreign teams participating in HCL International Bridge tournament. That has raised the status of the game. We need to continue our efforts in this direction.

Praksah : Subodh, thank you very much for talking to us. Wish you all the best.

GOLD Team of Four Semifinal WHAM vs WBT Bridge App

GOLD Team of Four Semifinal : WHAM vs. WBT Bridge App in the semifinals of the GOLD Team of Four, Shourie played against Vedic while WHAM played vs. WBT Bridge App. The first set was flat. Shourie led Vedic 21-16 at the end of the first set while WBT Bridge App led WHAM 24-19.

The second session produced some big swings. Here are two of those deals. On Deal 21, in the Open Room, Bakke opened 2♥, South Boje raised to three, West doubled, and East-West reached 4♠ from East side.

D 21	N BAKKE	W N E S																								
	♠ 862 ♥ AKQ1098 ♦ 1096 ♣ 7	2♥ P 3♥ X P 3♠ P 4♥ P 4♣ P P P																								
W BROWN	E Whibley																									
♠ AQJ9 ♥ ♦ AQJ3 ♣ KQJ104	♠ K753 ♥ 6542 ♦ 54 ♣ 963																									
	S BOYE																									
	♠ 104 ♥ J73 ♦ K872 ♣ A852	4♠ E NS: 0 EW: 0																								
<table border="1"> <tr><td>♠</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>8</td><td>1</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>1</td><td>6</td><td>8</td><td>2</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>10</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>10</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>10</td><td>7</td><td>5</td><td>10</td><td>6</td></tr> </table> <p>Par Score: -420 Par: EW 4♠</p>			♠	1	5	8	1	6	♠	1	6	8	2	7	♠	10	7	5	10	6	♠	10	7	5	10	6
♠	1	5	8	1	6																					
♠	1	6	8	2	7																					
♠	10	7	5	10	6																					
♠	10	7	5	10	6																					

Boje led a Diamond – *the* ♦7 – and not a Heart. Declarer finessed, drew trumps, and made 12 tricks in the end. This play was not perhaps recorded accurately in the Vugraph capture.

In the Closed Room, Hung opened 1♥ and Sartaj raised to two. That resulted in one or two extra rounds of bidding but the end result of the auction was the same - 4♠ by East. Sartaj led a Heart.

D 21	N HUNG A	W N E S																								
	♠ 862 ♥ AKQ1098 ♦ 1096 ♣ 7	1♥ P 2♥ X 3♥ P P X P 3♠ P 4♠ P P P																								
W THOMAS C	E Andersen																									
♠ AQJ9 ♥ ♦ AQJ3 ♣ KQJ104	♠ K753 ♥ 6542 ♦ 54 ♣ 963																									
	S S HANS																									
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♠	1	5	8	1	6																					
♠	1	6	8	2	7																					
♠	10	7	5	10	6																					
♠	10	7	5	10	6																					

Andersen ruffed, played one round of trumps, and played the ♣K. Sartaj won and forced Dummy with another Heart ruff. Andersen ruffed with the ♠Q, cashed the ♠Ace, and tried to cash Clubs, but Hung ruffed and cashed two Hearts. That was a tame defeat of what seemed like a solid contract.

If the Declarer had persisted with Clubs without touching the Trumps, the contract would have rolled, or so it seems in preliminary analysis, whether South wins the ♣Ace on the first round or ducks and lets North ruff a Club first. The cashing of two trumps created the opening North-South needed to defeat the contract.

Board 23 created the biggest swing. In the Open Room, Matthew Brown opened 1♣ and got East-West off to a good start. Bakke overcalled 1♦. Whibley-Brown got enough time to explore and a warning about the Diamond suit. They took that on board as the bidding below illustrates. Michael Whibley's double showed Heart suit, Matthew Brown showed 4 Spades with the 1♠ rebid. Whibley kept forcing with Diamond bids trying to get a Notrump bid from partner if partner held something in Diamond. Brown didn't so he made do with the most natural bids available, 2♥ on 2♦; 3♠ on 3♦. They eventually reached a good 4♥ spot.. West was the Declarer.

GOLD Team of Four Semifinal WHAM vs WBT Bridge App

23 D	N BAKKE ♠ 865 ♥ K5 ♦ KQJ1086 ♣ 109	<table border="1"> <tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1♣</td><td>1♦</td><td>X</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>1♠</td><td>P</td><td>2♦</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>2♥</td><td>P</td><td>3♦</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>3♠</td><td>P</td><td>4♥</td><td>P</td></tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	1♣	1♦	X	P	1♠	P	2♦	P	2♥	P	3♦	P	3♠	P	4♥	P									
	W	N	E	S																											
	1♣	1♦	X	P																											
1♠	P	2♦	P																												
2♥	P	3♦	P																												
3♠	P	4♥	P																												
W BROWN ♠ KJ103 ♥ 84 ♦ 92 ♣ AQ752	E WHibley ♠ 94 ♥ AQ1092 ♦ A743 ♣ K3																														
<table border="1"> <tr><th>♠</th><th>♥</th><th>♦</th><th>♣</th><th>NT</th></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>3</td><td>3</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>10</td><td>7</td><td>10</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>10</td><td>7</td><td>10</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> </table> Par Score: -630 Par: EW 3NT+1	♠	♥	♦	♣	NT	N	2	6	3	3	3	S	2	6	2	3	2	E	10	7	10	9	10	W	10	7	10	9	10	S BOYE ♠ AQ72 ♥ J763 ♦ 5 ♣ J864	4♥ W NS: 0 EW: 0
♠	♥	♦	♣	NT																											
N	2	6	3	3	3																										
S	2	6	2	3	2																										
E	10	7	10	9	10																										
W	10	7	10	9	10																										

Brown won ♦A and played another Diamond right away. Bakke won and played a third Diamond. Brown ruffed, played a Heart to ♥Q, cashed ♥A, and conceded a trick to ♥Jack. Boje only got ♠A after that. That was +620 to East-West.

In the Closed Room, West passed and North opened 3♦. East and South passed and West decided to use a take-out double. East had a regulation 4♥ bid on that. South now doubled and West ran away to 4♠, a disastrous decision. That got doubled and went down three. That was sixteen IMPs to WHAM.

23 D	N HUNG A ♠ 865 ♥ K5 ♦ KQJ1086 ♣ 109	<table border="1"> <tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>3♦</td><td>P</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>X</td><td>P</td><td>4♥</td><td>X</td></tr> <tr><td>4♠</td><td>P</td><td>P</td><td>X</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>P</td><td>P</td><td></td></tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	3♦	P	P	X	P	4♥	X	4♠	P	P	X	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S																		
	P	3♦	P	P																		
X	P	4♥	X																			
4♠	P	P	X																			
P	P	P																				
W THOMAS C ♠ KJ103 ♥ 84 ♦ 92 ♣ AQ752	E ANDRESEN M ♠ 94 ♥ AQ1092 ♦ A743 ♣ K3																					
Other table: 4♥W= NS: WHAM 39 IMPs EW: WBT BRIDGE 34 IMPs	S S HANS ♠ AQ72 ♥ J763 ♦ 5 ♣ J864	4♠x W NS: 0 EW: 0																				

WHAM won the session 49-16

Result : IMP Pairs Elimination

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
1	141	Joyrup Mullick Sabyasachi Sadhukhan	123	33	230	Subashish Gope Suchet Dhar	51
2	369	Amitava Banerjee Ramendra Chowdhury	115	34	283	Abdi Naffar Ronald Miranda	49
3	144	Raghunath P Tripathi Shankar Acharya	111	35	406	Anand Golwalkar Vijay Deshpande	49
4	87	Arnab Basu Roy Rajib Roy	106	36	91	Arun M Bapat Maneesh Bahuguna	49
5	142	Mrinal Kanti Mukherjee Sowmik Das	103	37	342	Avijit Sarkar Pritam Das	49
6	186	Sudipta Ray Biplab Kumar Das	90	38	21	R Anbazhagan Bindiya Naidoo	48.5
7	390	Anant Vikram Somani Rajesh Somani	83	39	45	Srinath Rajam Nirmal Kumar Jain	47
8	345	Ashish Kumar Vishwakarma Chandan Kumar Mitra	82	40	411	S K Sharma Ibrat Khan	46
9	24	Monu Kumar Ranchhad Dheeraj Kumar	80.8	41	223	Partha (Bulu) Saha Soumitra Das	45
10	292	Prasanta Dutta Kingshuk Bhattacharya	80	42	262	V Mohan Rao U Suresh Rao	43
11	167	Mrinal K Halder Bhola Nath Ghosh	77	43	349	Uday Maitra Uttam Swarup Gupta	43
12	367	Gautam Aich Gopal Chatterjee	75.6	44	65	Kamal Kumar Gupta Rajendra Prasad Misra	41
13	222	Pintu Sao Pankaj P Chaudhari	74	45	321	Subodh Maskara Anal Shah	40
14	48	Ashish Malhotra Hemant Jalan	73	46	348	Goutam Pore Suman Banerjee	38
15	82	Dagmar Neumann Maurits van der Vlugt	73	47	221	Ajit Mahadar Nitin M Dharmadhikari	37
16	267	D N Lenka Biren Mitra Behera	73	48	9	Samir Majhi Bhaskar Mukherjee	37
17	90	Andrey Purushottam Swapn Some	72	49	26	T V Ramani Subhash Bhavnani	37
18	312	Bapi Das Aniruddh Ghosh	70	50	187	Swetadri Saha Krishna Das Chakraborty	37
19	401	Dipak K Poddar Jitendra J Solani	69	51	271	Sanat Kumar Saha Asit Baran Chakraborty	37
20	182	Gourav Biswas Kalyan Kumar Roy	69	52	232	Suman Sengupta Shouvik Das	37
21	86	Wrik Chakraborty Swarnasish Chatterjee	67	53	304	Ayan Chatterjee Mithun Mukherjee	37
22	51	Gopika Tandan Arun Jain	67	54	248	Bijal Shah Sejal Shah	36
23	429	Rahul Shetty Mahesh Rohera	65.5	55	231	Shriram Anant Karve Manisha Anand Jamenis	34
24	170	Kamal Kabra Indranil Chakraborty	63	56	129	Ashok Kumar Goel Vinay Desai	34
25	44	P S Preamsagar C D Kumar	62	57	261	AK Guha Mohan Jhala	33.5
26	347	Amol Deshmukh V Chandrasekhar	61	58	269	Asit Kumar Bandopadhyaya Bijan Kumar Bandopadhyay	33
27	185	Siba Prasad Ghosh Bharat Joshi	57	59	324	G P Aggarwal Sunil Kumar Sinha	33
28	166	Prasad Honap Avinash Prabhakar Deshmukh	57	60	326	Mukund Thapa Rajesh A Dalal	32
29	252	Vijay R Phatarpekar R Sridharan	57	61	225	Suraj Das Santanu Das	32
30	22	Arijit Chattaraj Abhijit Pal	57	62	422	Jibak Tewari Santanu Chakraborty	32
31	192	Ramesh Ramagudu V Rama Murthy	54	63	50	Ashantha De Mel Ramaratnam Krishnan	32
32	421	Kannan S Nizamudeen Shahul Hamid	51	64	344	Sandip Datta Gopinath Manna	29

Result : IMP Pairs Elimination

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
65	251	Prakash Gupta Santi Ranjan Dutta	28	97	384	Kunal Roy Biplab Dawn	14
66	85	Chandrakant Shah Aruna Shah	28	98	108	Bidyut Bhattacharjee Ajay Kar	14
67	151	Bipul Kumar Roy Amar Kumar Bose	28	99	3	Kamleshwar Rai Chunni Lal Arora	14
68	69	Sekhar K Bandopadhyay Namit Sharma	28	100	341	Abhishek Gupta Prithvi Raj	13
69	145	Saswata Bhattacharya Pranay Majumder	27	101	101	Biswajit Dutta Pradip Mondal	13
70	7	Ian Thomson Tony Leibowitz	27	102	88	Rathindra Nath Kundu Shyama Prasad Chatterjee	13
71	243	Prasad V Keni Ranga Khadloya	27	103	409	P Sudhakar Rao Prashanth Kandulakunta	12
72	386	Rohit Rai Tandon Aakash Sharma	27	104	63	Souvik Saha Tapan Kumar Bandyopadhyay	11
73	272	Sudhir S Gavandi S L Malshe	26.5	105	184	Arup Lodh Gautam Kumar Chanda	11
74	307	Pramod Ranjan Das Amit Chakraborty	26	106	270	Raghunath Karmarkar Bharat R Paranjpe	11
75	62	A K Sinha Sandeep Narang	26	107	346	Ranjan Bose Shakti Dhar Chowdhury	10
76	47	Nirav Patel D V Ravi	26	108	226	Wilson Menezes Parimal N Shah	10
77	190	Babhrubahan Bose Pradip Dey	25	109	150	Bikramjit Das Vivekananda Ghosh	9
78	424	Pradyut Bhattacharjee Arup Dutta	25	110	301	Saili Kumar Mondal Tamal Dasgupta	9
79	205	Saurabh Dalal Pareesh J Gandhi	24	111	147	Prabir Kumar Thakur Manoj Kumar Dey	9
80	385	Souvik Kar Surajit Bar	24	112	8	Rajendran Ramesh Subramanian Karuppanan	8
81	172	Manoj Mallik Pradyut Kr Das	24	113	389	Jaydeep Bhattacharjee Nantu Bhattacharjee	8
82	322	Sudeep Saha Aloke Kumar Sardar	23	114	265	Gustav Axen Yatindra Sahae	8
83	306	Arvind Vaidya Vivek Bhand	22	115	27	Hemant Purkar Chandrashekhar V Kekre	7
84	350	Sanjay Kumar Dasgupta Asim Das1	21	116	146	Shiv Shankar Gupta J N Pandey	7
85	181	Somnath Mitra Siddhartha Ghosh	20	117	365	Partha Pratim Pal Sourav Mukherjee	6
86	31	Sanjib Bhattacharjee Sanjib Ganguly	20	118	4	Kalyan Chowdhury Kajal Chandra Das	5.5
87	112	Jayanta Chowdhury Subrata Sarkar	19	119	211	R W Khare N B Shinde	5
88	41	Pintoo K Bose Shankar Chatterjee	18	120	1	Beneeta Chandra Ranji Dhawan	5
89	92	Sanjib Majumdar Sayantan Konar	17	121	189	Ashis Pan Chiranjib Ballav	4
90	109	Rajendra Ray Sanat Roy	17	122	25	Amarjit Wadhawan Nikita Kamal	3
91	89	Sadhana Gupta Ratna Tadepalli	17	123	148	Avinash Kelkar Rajendra V Mekal	3
92	328	Alka Jain Devi Muthu Bhatnagar	16.4	124	246	Indranath Chatterjee Rana Chakraborty	3
93	370	Borhan Ali Molla Bimalendu Das	15	125	70	Rabi Sankar Roychowdhury Subrata Chatterjee	2
94	201	C M Kulkarni Keshav Sakharam Samant	15	126	161	Ajit Mukherjee Biswarup Biswas	2
95	227	Sunil Misra B N Agarwal	15	127	266	Shantanu Roy Pallab Roy	2
96	124	Amitava Mukherjee Pradip Gupta	15	128	427	Debabrata Ray Joydip Mukherjee	2

Result : IMP Pairs Elimination

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
129	143	Ajit Saldanha Satyabrata Lahiri	2	161	224	Raju Mitra Samar Kumar Maity	-15
130	107	Arup Kumar Hudait Pintu Maity	1	162	309	Dipak Kumar Paul Sujit Kumar Sur	-15
131	64	Bidyut Kanti Thakur Lalit Mendiratta	0	163	264	Anshul Singhal Kalyan Mohan	-15
132	67	Dibyendu Shee Debashis Bhadra	-1	164	128	Alena Ignateva Zaikova Marina	-16
133	285	Protap Bandyopadhyay Sarveswar Bhattacharya	-2	165	311	Ashoke Dey Gobindo Saha	-17
134	43	Soumya Das Jesal Dabriwala	-2	166	125	Prasanta Saha Prabir Kumar Paul	-18
135	425	Koushik Mukherjee Priya Ranjan Sinha	-2	167	423	Sachin Shrikrishna Joshi Chintamani Bhikaji Damale	-18
136	382	Sukumaran Rajeev Sahirudeen	-2	168	351	Mathew Chandy Subhasree Basu	-19
137	302	Anurag Pandey Arvind Jain	-3	169	371	Partha Sarkar Provat Roy	-19
138	132	Swarup Ghosh Manas Ghosh Dastidar	-3	170	286	C K Madheswaran M Venkatesan	-19
139	228	Monu Kumar Naveen Kumar	-3	171	208	Asim Sarkar Shyama Prosad Mukhopadhyay	-20
140	5	Paban Agarwal Kalindi Mewar	-4	172	343	Dipanjan Khan Saikat Mandal	-20
141	241	Tapan Kumar Roy Sailen Das	-4	173	202	Rakesh Nanda Ashok Bedi	-21
142	383	Bijon Kumar Mondal Goutam Banerjee	-6	174	325	S Hari Shankar Sukrit M Vijayakar	-21
143	426	Biswadip Roy Sumita Dasgupta	-7	175	102	Sudhir Kumar Sanjeev Tomar	-21
144	263	Ajay Kumar Saha Sujeet Kumar	-7	176	210	Cera Fernando Krishna Kumar Goenka	-21
145	66	Deepak Ramnani K P Baskaran	-8	177	391	H S Dua V M Gupta	-21
146	122	R P Gautam Shri Krishan Deswal	-8	178	308	R K Pradhan Sankarsan Behera	-22
147	363	Bhavna Naraindas Kavita Dhawan	-8	179	130	Bhanumati Shah Kamal Shah	-22
148	229	Shakti Pada Roy Pradip Kumar Paul	-9	180	247	Aditi Jhaveri M M Lule	-22
149	152	Adhiyaman Zodypache Agilan Zodypache	-10	181	29	Nilkanta Mehena Kishore Das	-23
150	249	Ashok K Sinha Kalpna Varshney	-10	182	408	Sankar Narayan Ghosh Uday Ghoshal	-23
151	284	Gautam Chatterjee Abhishek Mitra	-11	183	209	Sudhir Kumar Agrawal R S Gera	-24
152	331	Parimal Vaikuntlal Vahalia Nayana P Vahalia	-11	184	84	T Viswanadham T Kameswari	-24
153	121	Tarun Singhal Umesh Kumar Singh	-11	185	327	V A Phapunkar A L Sancheti	-24
154	169	N Rajachandra Bhalchandra G Ogale	-12	186	71	Braja Gopal Dey Sunil Das	-24
155	250	Aniruddha P Sanzgiri B C Pendse	-12	187	30	Saikat Neogi Pradip Kumar Banerjee	-25
156	106	Aritra Bhattacharya Pinaki Ranjan Banerjee	-13	188	6	Ratan Lal Sanghi S M Moin	-25
157	244	Swapan Sarkar Debashis Majumdar	-13	189	368	Sumit Bhowmik Amitava Ghosh	-26
158	203	Alok Kumar Mandal Sukumar Kayal	-14	190	165	Saumitra Basu Satyaban Ukil	-27
159	402	Rohit Gupta Deepika Mehta	-14	191	207	M Vasanth Pai Bhaskar Kumar Ganguly	-29
160	303	J Pratihari I Khan	-14	192	163	Anukul Mandal K K Sabherwal	-30

Result : IMP Pairs Elimination

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
193	290	Deepa Jacob Prosenjit Manna	-31	224	2	Satish G Diwanji Ajit B Chakradeo	-56
194	104	J P Das Debabrata Mukhopadhyay	-32	225	206	Mahendra Pal Varshney Ashok Kumar Sinha	-59
195	110	Ashok Kumar Birendra Kumar	-32	226	407	Subhas Basu Tapan Choudhury	-60
196	183	Amit Pal Amal Kumar Sarkar	-32	227	168	Bidyut Baran Adhikary Prabir Das	-60
197	403	Vasanti Shah Atulya Sood	-33	228	430	Mithun Biswas Sanjay Banerjee	-61
198	23	Hari Narayan Vijay Singh	-34	229	204	Gautam Roy Debasish Ghosh	-61
199	410	Prithviraj Ghosh Pulak Panji	-35	230	431	Sujan Chowdhury Gourab Banerjee	-64
200	126	Kishore Kumar Ganguly Priyotosh Sarkar	-37	231	68	S Srinivasan Saswata Ballav	-65
201	310	Jagadish Chandra Bala Sushil Kumar Paul	-38	232	362	Tapas Das Samir Kumar Datta	-66
202	103	Aman Tyagi Kinjal Desai	-39	233	428	Md Sahajahan Bikas Dutta	-68
203	289	Kamlesh Gupta Anil Singhal	-39	234	323	Suvankar Basu Sudip Pandit	-69
204	10	Samina Esmail Amit Dutta	-41	235	105	Rajesh K Jain Ramesh Patodia	-69
205	111	Tapan Kumar Roy Tarun Manna	-42	236	405	Edward Perera Romesh Bandaranaike	-69
206	171	Chanchal Dass Prakash Achar	-42	237	46	Yogendra Kumar Trivedi Himanshu Shah	-71
207	123	Kavita Ajmera Baneet Kumar Malhotra	-42	238	366	Abhijit Roy Chowdhury Rajat Kanti Dawn	-72
208	212	Sudhir Kumar Tripathy Pramod Kumar Mishra	-43	239	149	Mitresh Manu Ashok Kumar Gupta	-73
209	28	Vrinda Jhunjhunwala Arun J Puranik	-44	240	49	Birendranath Bandopadhyay Achintya Halder	-74
210	81	Ashim Kumar Ghosh Sunandan Thakur	-45	241	83	Aditi Sahastrabudde M V Phatak	-79
211	291	Prakash Bhandari J B Sengupta	-45	242	11	Pradeep Anand Singh Vijayanand Singh	-79
212	127	Anupam Rai Pradeep Kumar Joel	-47	243	404	Sailaja Tahiliani Pradip Ghosh	-82
213	282	Richa Shriram Partha Sarathi Mukherjee	-48	244	42	Suresh Senapaty Hermione Mathias	-82
214	364	Rupal Shah Karima Popat	-51	245	188	Madhav A Kshirsagar Srinivasan Krishnaswami	-84
215	191	Pallab Sinha Roy Gopal Das	-52	246	162	Sajan Chakraborty Bidyut Das	-85
216	381	Kalpana Gurjar Vidhya Patel	-53	247	268	Jai Prakash Agrawal Shiv Kumar Kithania	-86
217	388	Bablu Roy Choudhury Subir Kumar Chaudhuri	-53	248	242	J K Bhosale Dilip P Gosavi	-87
218	387	Anushree Jalan Hasibul Hasan	-54	249	245	Mala Singh Kamla Mehra	-88
219	330	Raman Madhok Shailendra Kumar	-54	250	164	Anil Kumar Upadhyay Girish Kumar	-90
220	287	Sharad Kumar Sunil Kumar	-54.5	251	305	Jiten Chakraborty Pradip Chakraborty	-91
221	288	Dipankar Acharjee Shibashish Barik	-55	252	329	Lyn Nazareth Vinay Sharma	-99
222	61	R P Narain D Sudhanand	-55	253	281	Nitesh Solanki Harshad B Shah	-108.6
223	361	Devendra Goyal Robert Sima	-56	254	131	Yasar Karunaratane Velupillai Balakumar	-125

Message from CTD



I hope you have all enjoyed the 21st HCL International Championships and I wish everyone a safe homeward journey. I would also like to thank you (the players) for creating a great atmosphere and for contributing to the success of these Championships. I personally will take home fond memories of both the tournament and the friends I have made. Some of you I am confident I will see again at some future event, possibly even in a different part of the world, but until then I bid you all 'adieu'!

Since these Championships will soon draw to a close, I must also acknowledge and thank a number of particular individuals who have contributed significantly to the success of the tournament, as well as 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, Pranab (Ranju) Bhattacharya, Gora Roy Choudhury, V. K. Sharma, K.S. Swaminathan, P Narsinga Rao, C. Sathish Kumar, B G Daxindas, Rounak Ghose, and Ashok Girdhar.

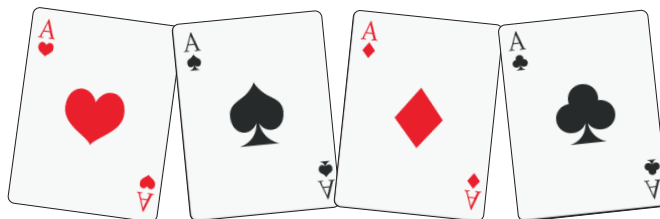
Then we have the Scoring and Technological Staff, that handles not only the production of the results but everything else associated with the tournament's electronic presentation (in all its various forms) to the rest of the world. This tournament would be very different without the group headed up by 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 to be a part of this great event.

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



Tournament Schedule

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
	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

BBO Schedule for Saturday, September 21, 2024

0900 Hrs:	T-4 GOLD Final / Play-off, Session 1 (4 x 14 Boards)
1115 Hrs:	T-4 GOLD Final / Play-off, Session 2 (4 x 14 Boards)
1400 Hrs:	T-4 GOLD Final / Play-off, Session 3 (4 x 14 Boards)
1615 Hrs:	T-4 GOLD & Silver Final, Session 4 (4 x 14 Boards)

Daily Bulletins & Results of 21st HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP @
www.hcl-bridge.com