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Team WHAM lifts the Naresh Tandan Trophy

WHAM (Sartaj Hans, Andy Hung, Michael Whibley, and Matthew Brown from Australia and New Zealand) defeated Shourie (Rajath Shourie, Gavin Wolpert, John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, Kevin Bathurst, and John Hurd from USA) in a close math in the GOLD category of the Team of four event to lift the Naresh Tandan Trophy. First, third, and fourth sessions were tight, with IMP scores 40-35, 25-28, and 23-25 for Shourie. WHAM won the third session 29-4. That difference was enough to overcome the carry-over score of six IMPs Shourie started with. WHAM eventually won by 117-98 IMPs. The first session of the match is covered in detail in this bulletin.



In the play-off WBT Bridge App (Norway) beat Vedic 116-58.

Mohini Tandan Trophy for Team of Four SILVER category was lifted by **RSCS** (Ramprosad Das, Subrata Chakraborty, Sanjay Raha, Chandan Choudhury). They beat **Jackalls** (D.P. Acharya, Shubham Acharya, Mridul Das, Nukesh Ghatia, Shubhrajit Mukhopadhyay, Hemant Kumar Sarma) by 119-84.6 IMPs. In the play-off for third position, **Sahyadri** defeated **Sabass** 77-58 IMPs.

S. Sunderram and P. Shridharan clinched the **Neena Bonerjee Trophy** when they won the Match-Point GOLD Pairs final with a score of 63.21%. **Binod Kumar Shaw and Sanjit Dey** were the runners-up with a score of 58.38%. **Marianne Karmarkar and Sandeep Karmarkar** were third with 56.37%.

Jodi Tutty and David Beauchamp won the Match-Point Silver final with 61.02%. **Pijus Kanti Baroi and Satyabrata Mukherjee** finished runners-up with 57.92% score.

TV Ramani-Subhash Bhavnani won the IMP Pairs event with +126.5 IMPs. **Goutam Pore and Suman Banerjee** finished second with 107.6 IMPs. **Dibyendu Shee and Debashish Bhadra** won IMP Pairs strata-II with a score of 126.2 IMPs.

The HCL 2024 International Bridge Championships, the 21st edition of the event, concluded on Saturday with the conclusion of these events. It was a grand festival of Bridge with participation from the West and East. We thank all the participants for making this event a great success and look forward to hosting even more teams in the next edition.

GOLD TEAMS FINAL RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S1	S2	S3	S4	Total
1	SHOURIE	6	40	25	4	23	98
	WHAM		35	28	29	25	117

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

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

PLAY OFF FOR 3RD POSITION

Table	Team	C-O	S1	S2	S3	S4	Total
2	WBT BRIDGE APP		48	24	44		116
	VEDIC		21	34	3		58

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

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

SILVER TEAMS FINAL RESULT

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
5	JACKALLS	1.6	17	32	20	14	84.6
	RSCS		37	39	25	18	119

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

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

PLAY OFF FOR 3RD POSITION

Table	Team	C-O	S 1	S2	S3	S4	Total
6	SABASS		15	28	15		58
	SAHYADRI		20	33	24		77

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

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

Results : Open MP Pairs Gold Final

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %
1	2	S Sunderram & Padmanabhan Sridharan	443.8	63.21
2	14	Binod Kumar Shaw & Sanjit Dey	409.8	58.38
3	1	Marianne Karmarkar & Sandeep N Karmarkar	395.7	56.37
4	19	Rajeshwar Tewari & Sumit Mukherjee	393.1	55.99
5	25	Bar Tarnovski & Asaf Yekutieli	385.5	54.92
6	22	Shambhu Nath Ghosh & Biswajit Poddar	383.1	54.57
7	18	K R Venkataraman & Swarnendu Banerjee	378.6	53.93
8	21	Debabrata Majumdar & Sapan Desai	378.1	53.87
9	10	Anirban Sasmal & Atanu Ganguly	373.3	53.18
10	9	Kaustubh Milind Bendre & Sayantan Kushari	373.2	53.17
11	5	Jaggy B Shivdasani & Sandeep Thakral	368.8	52.53
12	17	Raju Tolani & Ajay P Khare	366.9	52.27
13	6	Kaustabh Nandi & Sagnik Roy	364.1	51.86
14	8	Elena Rudakova & Alexei Gerasimov	358.1	51.01
15	27	Pranab Bardhan & Shibnath De Sarkar	354.7	50.52
16	20	Samir Basak & Somesh Bhattacharya	349.8	49.83
17	12	Sumit Saha & Swapan Sardar	347.8	49.54
18	24	Ram Avatar Agrawal & Gautam Biswas	345	49.15
19	15	Anil P Padhye & G Venkatesh	340.7	48.53
20	4	Rahul Khambete & Hemant Pande	340.2	48.47
21	28	Kiran Nadar & B Satyanarayana	332.5	47.36
22	13	D K Tewari & P C Gupta	331.4	47.2
23	23	Aniruddha Bhattacharya &	328.4	46.77
24	7	Leonardo Fruscoloni & Aldo Giovanni Gerli	327.8	46.69
25	3	Subir Majumdar & Vinay Mohan Lal	320	45.59
26	11	Ravi Raman & Ivan Alphonso	310.9	44.29
27	16	Monica Jajoo & Sukamal Das	286.9	40.87
28	26	TC Pant & Duleep M	267	38.03

Results : Open MP Pairs Silver Final

Pos	No	Players	Match Points	Score %
1	16	Jodi Tutty & David Beauchamp	366.1	61.02
2	2	Pijus Kanti Baroi & Satyabrata Mukherjee	347.5	57.92
3	20	Keyzad Anklesaria & Harald Eidi	344.5	57.42
4	19	Tanmoy Majumder & Sagar Bhuia	339.2	56.54
5	17	Rajendra Sirohia & Sukanta Das	329.3	54.88
6	12	Md Alauddin & Hasan Al Banna	325.8	54.29
7	23	Anurag Mohota & Basant K Mohota	323.7	53.95
8	7	Pranab Roy & Sourendra Coomer Dutt	323.4	53.9
9	24	Ami Zamir & Oren Toledano	320.5	53.42
10	5	Maxim Feofanov & Mikhail Toprover	317.2	52.87
11	10	Prasanta Bera & Sisir Kumar Banerjee	314.2	52.36
12	15	Mahmadul Hasan Sumon & Pranta Sarker	309.3	51.54
13	9	Stanley Nazareth & Asvin Ganger	303.5	50.58
14	18	Abhirup Ghosh & Sudipta Adhikary	303.1	50.51
15	3	Savleen Thadani & Bhaskar Sarkar	302.8	50.46
16	8	Mukund Jagannathan & Arvind Srinivasan	301.1	50.19
17	26	Atul Rai & Amarnath Banerjee	299.5	49.91
18	4	Amal Kumar Gune & Jayanta Sarkar	297	49.51
19	6	Rajeev Khandelwal & Himani Khandelwal	293.9	48.98
20	25	Meenu Dugal & Anindra Kumar Sarkar	277.3	46.22
21	1	Soumadeep Ghosh & Arya Chakraborty	274.4	45.73
22	21	Puneet Gangal & Gajendra Vyas	273.7	45.62
23	14	Saurav Sil & Arnab Ghosh	270.3	45.04
24	22	Jenish Shah & Kamna Sharma	266.1	44.35
25	11	Saptarshi Chanda & Animesh Majumder	260.7	43.46
26	13	Ananda Roy & Bidyut Goswami	228	38

GOLD Team of Four Semifinal: WHAM vs WBT Bridge App, Set 4 *(Contd.)*

On Board 21, WBT pulled back some IMPs. North opened 1♥ in the first position and the bidding proceeded 1♥-1N-X-P-2♦. In the Open Room, Boje doubled for penalty and collected a cool 800. In the Closed Room, Sartaj passed. Perhaps that was for penalties, too, but Andy Hung didn't double. He bid 2♠ instead and collected +110. That was an 11-IMP pull-back for the WBT App team.

D 21		N BAKKE ♠ Q532 ♥ AJ975 ♦ J ♣ KQ6	W N E S 1♥ 1NT X P P 2♦ X P P P	D 21		N A HUNG ♠ Q532 ♥ AJ975 ♦ J ♣ KQ6	W N E S 1♥ 1NT X P P 2♦ P P 2♠ P P
W BROWN ♠ J984 ♥ Q642 ♦ 107 ♣ 754	E Whibley ♠ K6 ♥ K103 ♦ A9432 ♣ A108	W ABDERESEN ♠ J984 ♥ Q642 ♦ 107 ♣ 754	E Charlsen ♠ K6 ♥ K103 ♦ A9432 ♣ A108				
S BOYE ♠ A107 ♥ 8 ♦ KQ865 ♣ J932	S S HANS ♠ A107 ♥ 8 ♦ KQ865 ♣ J932						

That was the last significant gain for the Norway team. 89-103 was the closest they came. WHAM won the match 131-92.



Sartaj Hans



Andy Pei-en Hung

GOLD Team of Four Final, Set 1

Yesterday, 21st September 2024, was the last day of the main Team of Four event of the HCL-2024 International Bridge tournament. Both the GOLD and the SILVER category Finals started at 9:00 AM, one hour earlier than the other days, to facilitate return travel in the evening.

In the GOLD Final, WHAM (Sartaj Hans, Andy Hung, Michael Whibley, and Matthew Brown from Australia) played against Shourie (Rajath Shourie, Gavin Wolpert, John Kranyak, Vincent Demuy, Kevin Bathurst, and John Hurd). In Set 1, in the Open Room, Matthew Brown and Michael Whibley were West and East respectively for WHAM while John Kranyak was North, and Vincent Demuy, South for team Shourie. In the Closed Room, Rajath Shourie was West and Gavin Wolpert, East, for team Shourie, whereas Andy Hung was North, and Sartaj Hans, South, for team WHAM. In their direct match in the Swiss League stage, Shourie had beaten WHAM by 19 IMPs to 7, a 12-IMP difference. Half of that – six IMPs – was the carryover Shourie's team started with in the finals by virtue of that Swiss League win.

Board one produced a 4-IMP swing in favour of the American team.

D 1		N KRANYAK ♠ 108 ♥ K7653 ♦ 43 ♣ J752	W N E S P P P 1♠	D 1		N A HUNG ♠ 108 ♥ K7653 ♦ 43 ♣ J752	W N E S 1♦ P P 1♠ P P P 3♣
W BROWN ♠ J75 ♥ QJ4 ♦ AK982 ♣ 98		E Whibley ♠ 932 ♥ 98 ♦ Q10765 ♣ AK6		W SHOURIE R ♠ J75 ♥ QJ4 ♦ AK982 ♣ 98		E Gavin ♠ 932 ♥ 98 ♦ Q10765 ♣ AK6	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 10 5 9 8 6 S 10 5 9 8 6 E 3 8 3 4 6 W 3 8 3 4 6 Par Score: 140 Par: NS 3♥		S DEMUY ♠ AKQ64 ♥ A102 ♦ J ♣ Q1043		♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 10 5 9 8 6 S 10 5 9 8 6 E 3 8 3 4 6 W 3 8 3 4 6 Par Score: 140 Par: NS 3♥		S S HANS ♠ AKQ64 ♥ A102 ♦ J ♣ Q1043	
		1♠ S NS: 0 EW: 0				3♠ S NS: 0 EW: 0	

In the Open Room, Vincent Demuy, sitting south, opened 1♠ and it was passed all around. With a wide-range 1♠ opening, the responder has to pass if they hold a weak hand in terms of HCP strength. That risks missing a game. Imagine South held a little more strength, say AQx and ♣KT9x, a 4♥ game would have had a good chance of success.

East-West did well to pass this out. As it was, the best contract for North-South was in Hearts, not in Spades. Against 1♠, West led a top Diamond and switched to a Club. The defence collected their Club ruff, and the Declarer, his eight tricks. +110 to North-South.

In the Closed Room, South opened West overcalled 1♦ and East raised to three. That provided an opportunity for North-South to find their best spot, a sort of stepping-stone Scenario in the auction. Had Sartaj doubled 3♦, Andy would have taken out to 3♥, however, Sartaj elected to bid 3♠ and played there. He made the same eight tricks. Down one, 50 to East-West was the result. Shourie team opened their account with a 4-IMP gain.

GOLD Team of Four Final, Set 1 (Contd.)

Board three produced the first big swing, a double digit swing.

3 D N 2 2 6 3 2 S 2 2 6 3 2 E 11 11 7 9 10 W 11 11 7 9 10 Par Score: -630 Par: EW 3NT+1	N KRANYAK ♠ 954 ♥ KJ109875 ♦ Q10 ♣ 4	W N E S 1♣ 4♥ P P P P	
	W BROWN ♠ A86 ♥ A ♦ J532 ♣ AJ872	E WHIBLEY ♠ KJ10 ♥ Q62 ♦ A987 ♣ Q103	
	S DEMUY ♠ Q732 ♥ 43 ♦ K64 ♣ K965		4♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0

3 D N 2 2 6 3 2 S 2 2 6 3 2 E 11 11 7 9 10 W 11 11 7 9 10 Par Score: -630 Par: EW 3NT+1	N A HUNG ♠ 954 ♥ KJ109875 ♦ Q10 ♣ 4	W N E S 1NT 3♥ 3NT P P P	
	W SHOURIE R ♠ A86 ♥ A ♦ J532 ♣ AJ872	E Gavin ♠ KJ10 ♥ Q62 ♦ A987 ♣ Q103	
	S S HANS ♠ Q732 ♥ 43 ♦ K64 ♣ K965		3NT W NS: 0 EW: 0

In the Open Room, Kranyak overcalled 4♥ over Brown's 1♣ opening. With 12 HCP, Whibley passed, nor did Brown come in with a negative double. 4♥ went down three for +150 to East-West. In the Closed Room, Rajath Shourie opened 1Nt. Andy Huang could now venture only up to 3♥ level. That is what he did, but Gavin had a simple 3NT continuation. Rajat made easy 10 tricks to earn +630 and a 10-IMP swing for the American team. Shourie led WHAM 20-1.

5 D N 8 6 8 5 7 S 7 5 8 5 6 E 5 6 5 7 6 W 5 7 5 8 6 Par Score: -110 Par: W 2♠	N KRANYAK ♠ AJ ♥ AK832 ♦ J86 ♣ AQ7	W N E S P 2♣ 2♦ P P P 2♥ P P	
	W BROWN ♠ K1085 ♥ QJ107 ♦ 102 ♣ K103	E WHIBLEY ♠ Q962 ♥ 9 ♦ KQ954 ♣ 642	
	S DEMUY ♠ 743 ♥ 654 ♦ A73 ♣ J985		2♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0

5 D N 8 6 8 5 7 S 7 5 8 5 6 E 5 6 5 7 6 W 5 7 5 8 6 Par Score: -110 Par: W 2♠	N A HUNG ♠ AJ ♥ AK832 ♦ J86 ♣ AQ7	W N E S 1NT 1♣ 1♦ P P 4♥ P P P 3♥ P	
	W SHOURIE R ♠ K1085 ♥ QJ107 ♦ 102 ♣ K103	E WOLPERT G ♠ Q962 ♥ 9 ♦ KQ954 ♣ 642	
	S S HANS ♠ 743 ♥ 654 ♦ A73 ♣ J985		4♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0

On Board 5, Kranyak opened 2♣, presumably, multi that includes BALANCED hands of 18-19 HCP, Whibley overcalled 2♦ (?) and Kranyak rebid 2♥ in the balancing position and played there. Hearts were 4-1, however, before East-West could develop Diamond winners, Kranyak could develop a trick for his fourth Club. Kranyak made 8 tricks for +110.

In the Closed Room, North-South perhaps made too many bids. After West advanced 1Nt on East's 1♦ overcall, North could well have doubled with a more-or-less BALANCED hand. South could have passed 2♥ with a 4333 and just the ♦Ace that was going to be of any value. Finally, North's 4♥ also seems like a hopeful bid. North-South reached 4♥ and went down two for -200. Shourie won 7 IMPs. The running score was Shourie:27 - WHAM: 1

GOLD Team of Four Final, Set 1 (Contd.)

7 D		N KRANYAK ♠ 53 ♥ 7643 ♦ J ♣ AKQ852	W N E S 2♦ 3♣ 3♦ 1♠ P 5♣ P 4♦ P P P 6♣	7 D		N AHUNG ♠ 53 ♥ 7643 ♦ J ♣ AKQ852	W N E S 3♦ X 4♦ 1♠ P P P 4♥																																																
W BROWN ♠ Q8 ♥ Q95 ♦ KQ108543 ♣ 10		E WHIBLEY ♠ K1072 ♥ 108 ♦ A972 ♣ J93		W SHOURIE R ♠ Q8 ♥ Q95 ♦ KQ108543 ♣ 10		E WOLPERT G ♠ K1072 ♥ 108 ♦ A972 ♣ J93																																																	
<table border="1"> <tr><td>♠</td><td>10</td><td>4</td><td>10</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>11</td><td>4</td><td>10</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>4</td></tr> </table> Par Score: 500 Par: EW 5x-2		♠	10	4	10	9	6	♥	11	4	10	9	6	♦	2	9	3	4	4	♣	2	9	3	4	4	S DEMUY ♠ AJ964 ♥ AKJ2 ♦ 6 ♣ 764		<table border="1"> <tr><td>♠</td><td>10</td><td>4</td><td>10</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>11</td><td>4</td><td>10</td><td>9</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>2</td><td>9</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>4</td></tr> </table> Par Score: 500 Par: EW 5x-2		♠	10	4	10	9	6	♥	11	4	10	9	6	♦	2	9	3	4	4	♣	2	9	3	4	4	S S HANS ♠ AJ964 ♥ AKJ2 ♦ 6 ♣ 764	
♠	10	4	10	9	6																																																		
♥	11	4	10	9	6																																																		
♦	2	9	3	4	4																																																		
♣	2	9	3	4	4																																																		
♠	10	4	10	9	6																																																		
♥	11	4	10	9	6																																																		
♦	2	9	3	4	4																																																		
♣	2	9	3	4	4																																																		
		6♠ N NS: 0 EW: 0				4♥ S NS: 0 EW: 0																																																	

WHAM pulled back 12 IMPs on Board 7 when Kranyak-Demuy overreached a Club slam. Notice how a meek 2♦ overall of Brown set the cat amongst the pigeons after Demuy opened 1♠. North could show his great Club holding naturally, with a 3♣ bid, so he did. Whibley bid 3♦. With AAK in Majors, a stiff Diamond, and three small Clubs, playing IMPs, South could afford to play in 5♣, so he Cue bid 4♦. Partner signed-off with a 5♣ bid, but South gave him a more respectable HCP holding than the one he had. The duplication in Diamond shortness didn't help nor did opponents' bidding give a hint of it (remember the work meek). South raised to 6♣.

Whibley led the ♦A and shifted to a small Spade. Kranyak went up with ♠A, removed trumps in three rounds, and played a Spade from the Closed hand. Whibley went up with the ♠K crashing partner's Queen and Kranyak claimed 11 tricks. That was 100 to East-West.

In the Closed Room, Rajath Shourie jumped to 3♦ over South's 1♠ opening. North had an automatic negative double, East raised to 4♦, but South had no idea about the running Club suit. South wouldn't have imagined a slam even in his wild dreams. South bid 4♥ and played there. There were 10 easy tricks, so North-South collected +620. That was worth 12 IMPs. Shourie now led 27-13.



GOLD Team of Four Final, Set 1 (Contd.)

Board 8 was flat. On Board 9, the Australians pulled back a further 8 IMPs.

9 D ♠ QJ2 ♥ QJ10 ♦ A942 ♣ 1087		W N E S P P 1♣ X P 1♦ P P P		9 D ♠ QJ2 ♥ QJ10 ♦ A942 ♣ 1087		W N E S 1♦ X P 1♥ P P X P 1NT P X P P P 3NT	
W BROWN ♠ 964 ♥ 932 ♦ Q1073 ♣ 963		E WHIBLEY ♠ A875 ♥ K74 ♦ KJ5 ♣ K52		W SHOURIE R ♠ 964 ♥ 932 ♦ Q1073 ♣ 963		E WOLPERT G ♠ A875 ♥ K74 ♦ KJ5 ♣ K52	
N ♠ 11 9 11 10 10 S ♠ 11 9 11 10 10 E ♠ 2 4 2 3 2 W ♠ 2 4 2 3 2 Par Score: 450 Par: NS 4♥+1		S DEMUY ♠ K103 ♥ A865 ♦ 86 ♣ AQJ4		N ♠ 11 9 11 10 10 S ♠ 11 9 11 10 10 E ♠ 2 4 2 3 2 W ♠ 2 4 2 3 2 Par Score: 450 Par: NS 4♥+1		S S HANS ♠ K103 ♥ A865 ♦ 86 ♣ AQJ4	
		1♦ N NS: 0 EW: 0				3NT N NS: 0 EW: 0	

In the Open Room, Whibley opened 1♣ a la Standard American. South doubled and North took out to 1♦. That is where the auction ended. North-South could have made enough tricks for game in any of the four denominations they didn't play in. Eleven each were available in Clubs and Hearts, and 10 each in Spades and Notrump. There were feasible routes to some of these games. For one, South could have overcalled 1NT on slightly insufficient values. Or else, North could have forced with 2♣, or North could have bid 2♦ to show 8-9 HCP if he didn't particularly like his 10-HCP 4-3 holding. Anyway, North made 9 tricks for a score of +110.

In the Closed Room, North opened 1♦. Perhaps, the strong Club system affords them that luxury of opening light. East doubled, South passed forcing West to come out and then doubled West's 1♥. North rebid 1Nt and South raised to three. East led a Heart and the Declarer made easy 11 tricks. That was worth +430 and 8 IMPs. Shourie now led 27-21.



GOLD Team of Four Final, Set 1 *(Contd.)*

On Board 10, Shourie team added seven IMPs.

10 	N KRANYAK ♠ 98 ♥ K4 ♦ 942 ♣ QJ7642	W N E S X P 2♦ 1♦ P 4♦ X 3♦ 4♥ P 4♣ P P P
	W BROWN ♠ KJ6 ♥ AJ75 ♦ J3 ♣ K1053	E WHIBLEY ♠ A10732 ♥ Q106 ♦ 85 ♣ A98
	S DEMUY ♠ Q54 ♥ 9832 ♦ AKQ1076 ♣	
	♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 6 8 4 3 5 S 6 8 4 3 5 E 7 4 9 10 7 W 7 4 8 9 7 Par Score: -620 Par: E 4♣	

10 	N A HUNG ♠ 98 ♥ K4 ♦ 942 ♣ QJ7642	W N E S X 1NT P 1♦ 2♣ P 3♣ P P P
	W SHOURIE R ♠ KJ6 ♥ AJ75 ♦ J3 ♣ K1053	E WOLPENT G ♠ A10732 ♥ Q106 ♦ 85 ♣ A98
	S S HANS ♠ Q54 ♥ 9832 ♦ AKQ1076 ♣	
	♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 6 8 4 3 5 S 6 8 4 3 5 E 7 4 9 10 7 W 7 4 8 9 7 Par Score: -620 Par: E 4♣	

The bidding in the open room was pretty scientific. After hearing West’s double, Whibley must have made up his mind to eventually bid 4♣, however, he didn’t rush to do so. He began with a 2♦ Forcing bid. South bid 3♦ and West passed. That was an indication of a semi-balanced hand; a hand that didn’t have too much length in any unbid suits. East now made a negative double of North’s 4♦ and bid 4♣ over West’s 4♥ takeout.

South led a cheeky small Heart. There was a double dummy line to make. Go up with ♥A, remove trumps with a correct Queen guess, and concede an open Heart trick. A Club goes on fourth Heart winner. Whibley understandably played a small Heart from the Dummy. North won and gave South a Club ruff after which South cashed his top Diamonds. Much credit must go to North-South for their good score here.

In the Closed room, West ended up bidding Spades first, so the game would have been doomed on a Club lead, but East-West settled for 3♠. Andy Hung led the ♥K looking for a quick ruff if partner held the Ace. Ten tricks and a score of +170 resulted for East-West. Shourie got seven IMPs as a result. Shourie now led 34-21.



Rajath Shourie



Gavin Wolpert

GOLD Team of Four Final, Set 1 *(Contd.)*

On Deal13, Shourie added another 12 IMP.

D 13		N KRANYAK ♠ 107 ♥ AQ10754 ♦ 8 ♣ AQ96		W N E S 1♥ P 2♦ P 2♥ P 2NT P 3♣ P 4♥ P P P		D 13		N A HUNG ♠ 107 ♥ AQ10754 ♦ 8 ♣ AQ96		W N E S 1♥ P 2♦ P 2♥ P 4♥ P P P	
W BROWN ♠ Q953 ♥ KJ ♦ AJ10432 ♣ J		E Whibley ♠ J864 ♥ 862 ♦ 6 ♣ K10843		W SHOURIE R ♠ Q953 ♥ KJ ♦ AJ10432 ♣ J		E WOLPERT G ♠ J864 ♥ 862 ♦ 6 ♣ K10843		S DEMUY ♠ AK2 ♥ 93 ♦ KQ975 ♣ 752		S S HANS ♠ AK2 ♥ 93 ♦ KQ975 ♣ 752	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 8 8 10 7 10 S 8 8 10 7 10 E 4 4 2 6 2 W 4 4 3 6 3 Par Score: 630 Par: NS 3NT+1				♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 8 8 10 7 10 S 8 8 10 7 10 E 4 4 2 6 2 W 4 4 3 6 3 Par Score: 630 Par: NS 3NT+1				♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 8 8 10 7 10 S 8 8 10 7 10 E 4 4 2 6 2 W 4 4 3 6 3 Par Score: 630 Par: NS 3NT+1		♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ NT N 8 8 10 7 10 S 8 8 10 7 10 E 4 4 2 6 2 W 4 4 3 6 3 Par Score: 630 Par: NS 3NT+1	
		4♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0				4♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0				4♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0	

The contract was 4♥ in both the rooms. The lead was the same - ♦6. In the Open Room, Brown won and played the ♣J. Kranyak inserted ♣Q. Whibley won the ♠K and pushed a Spade. Kranyak won, played a trump to ♥Q, and played ♥A. When ♥K dropped, he claimed 10 tricks. +620 to Shourie.

In the Closed Room, Shourie won ♦Ace and backed a Diamond. Hung discarded a Club. Wolpert ruffed and pushed a Spade. If Hung had played a trump, he, too, would have made 10 tricks. He played a Club instead to the ♣Q in the Closed hand. Gavin won. He didn't smell the singleton with partner, but he pushed another Spade and North had to lose one more trick. There was no route to the winner ♦Queen after removing Trumps. Down 1 was the result. Shourie now led 46-21.



John Krayank



Vincent Demuy

GOLD Team of Four Final, Set 1 (Contd.)

On Board 14, the last board of the set, WHAM scored 14 IMPs, the biggest swing of the set.

14	N KRANYAK ♠ 8763 ♥ AK76 ♦ KJ1073	W N E S 4♥ X 2♥ P XX P P P	14	N A HUNG ♠ 8763 ♥ AK76 ♦ KJ1073	W N E S 1♦ P 1♥ P 2NT P 3♣ P 3♦ P 3♥ P P P		
	W BROWN ♠ AKJ2 ♥ A83 ♦ 9432 ♣ AQ	E WHIBLEY ♠ Q105 ♥ Q109765 ♦ 105 ♣ 96		W SHOURIE R ♠ AKJ2 ♥ A83 ♦ 9432 ♣ AQ	E WOLPENT G ♠ Q105 ♥ Q109765 ♦ 105 ♣ 96		
	S DEMUY ♠ 94 ♥ KJ42 ♦ QJ8 ♣ 8542	S S HANS ♠ 94 ♥ KJ42 ♦ QJ8 ♣ 8542		Other table: 3♥E-1 NS: SHOURIE 46 IMPs EW: WHAM 21 IMPs		Other table: 4♥xxE= NS: WHAM 21 IMPs EW: SHOURIE 46 IMPs	
	4♥xx E NS: 0 EW: 0			3♥ E NS: 0 EW: 0			

Whibley dealt and opened 2♥ as East, Brown raised to four, and Kranyak doubled with a 4045 hand holding only 11 HCP. East and South passed and Brown redoubled. North-South had 10 tricks playing in Clubs, however, there was no way to find that spot. Kranyak couldn't unilaterally bid 5♣ or come out with 4Nt. Demuly liked to defend 4♥, so 4♥XX became the final contract. It would have gone down on a Club lead, but South understandably led from a doubleton Spade holding. Whibley won in hand and ran the ♥Q-♥K-♥A and drove out ♥J. With ♠QTx in the Closed hand, he had two easy Spade entries. He could removed trumps and discard a Club on Dummy's fourth. The redoubled contract made giving the Australian team a score of 880.

In the Closed room, Gavin passed as East and continued to take a pessimistic view of the hand after partner showed 18-19 BALanced. East-West never entered the auction. Sartaj, too, led the ♠9. Gavin opted to play the trumps starting with the ♥A. He lost two trumps, two Diamonds, and a Club. That was +50 to North-South and 14 IMPs to the WHAM team. The score, at the end of the 14-board session, was 46-35 in favour of Shourie.



Results : IMP Pairs Final

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
1	107	T V Ramani Subhash Bhavnani	126.5	34	70	Salil Kumar Mondal Tamal Dasgupta	35.3
2	183	Goutam Pore Suman Banerjee	107.6	35	27	Suman Sengupta Shouvik Das	33.5
3	187	Jaydeep Bhattacharjee Nantu Bhattacharjee	103.2	36	189	Ayan Chatterjee Mithun Mukherjee	31.5
4	111	Ajay Kumar Bagadia Ravi Goenka	101.2	37	9	Vijay R Phatarphekar R Sridharan	31.2
5	44	Andrey Purushottam Swapan Some	94.4	38	186	Raghunath P Tripathi Shankar Acharya	30.6
6	104	Gourav Biswas Kalyan Kumar Roy	93.2	39	112	Babhrubahan Bose Pradip Dey	29.6
7	66	R Anbazhagan Bindiya Naidoo	83.5	40	33	Tapan Kr Bhattacharya Asim Das1	29.2
8	147	Pintu Sao Pankaj P Chaudharl	78.6	41	91	Pintoo K Bose Shankar Chatterjee	27
9	86	Uday Maitra Uttam Swarup Gupta	71	42	171	S K Sharma Ibrat Khan	26.3
10	146	Mrinal Kanti Mukherjee Sowmik Das	71	43	11	Suraj Das Santanu Das	26.1
11	185	Sanjay Kumar Dasgupta Asim Das1	70.2	44	3	Kamleshwar Rai Chunni Lal Arora	25.6
12	30	D N Lenka Biren Mitra Behera	68.5	45	64	Yogesh B Shah Rajul R Dalal	22.2
13	148	Gustav Axen Yatindra Sahae	65.2	46	162	R G Bhiwandkar Subhash A Dhakras	20.2
14	188	Anant Vikram Somani Rajesh Somani	63.3	47	131	Subodh Maskara Anal Shah	19.8
15	24	Souvik Kar Surajit Bar	61.5	48	26	Avijit Sarkar Pritam Das	19.5
16	103	Sanjib Bhattacharjee Sanjib Ganguly	60.2	49	123	Shriram Anant Karve Manisha Anand Jamenis	15.3
17	143	Rajendra Ray Sanat Roy	57.9	50	63	Samir Majhi Bhaskar Mukherjee	13.5
18	28	Swetadri Saha Krishna Das Chakraborty	56.5	51	73	Bapi Das Aniruddh Ghosh	12.3
19	108	Saswata Bhattacharya Pranay Majumder	55.7	52	106	Bikramjit Das Vivekananda Ghosh	11.3
20	142	Amol Deshmukh V Chandrasekhar	53.5	53	92	Mrinal K Halder Bhola Nath Ghosh	10.8
21	110	Rajendran Ramesh Subramanian Karuppannan	49.2	54	113	Rohit Rai Tandon Aakash Sharma	10.7
22	152	Gautam Aich Gopal Chatterjee	47.7	55	82	Anand Golwalkar Vijay Deshpande	9.5
23	161	Partha (Bulu) Saha Soumitra Das	47.2	56	61	Kunal Roy Biplab Dawn	7.7
24	22	Sandip Datta Gopinath Manna	44.9	57	81	Arijit Chattaraj Abhijit Pal	7.2
25	41	Ranjan Bose Shakti Dhar Chowdhury	44.3	58	84	Wilson Menezes Parimal N Shah	6.3
26	25	Wrik Chakraborty Swarnasish Chatterjee	44	59	10	Sekhar K Bandopadhyay Namit Sharma	4.8
27	21	Arnab Guha Anup Kumar Mahajan	42.2	60	165	Kamal Kabra Indranil Chakraborty	3.7
28	69	Rathindra Nath Kundu Shyama Prasad Chatterjee	39.6	61	53	Shiv Shankar Gupta J N Pandey	3.2
29	190	G P Aggarwal Sunil Kumar Sinha	39.2	62	7	C M Kulkarni Keshav Sakharam Samant	1.7
30	184	Prasad V Keni Ranga Khadloya	38.7	63	132	Monu Kumar Ranchhad Dheeraj Kumar	1.1
31	89	Arun M Bapat Maneesh Bahuguna	37.5	64	169	Gopika Tandan Arun Jain	-1
32	145	Ian Thomson Tony Leibowitz	35.7	65	144	Rahul Shetty Mahesh Rohera	-1.1
33	191	Subashish Gope Suchet Dhar	35.7	66	130	Sadhana Gupta Ratna Tadepalli	-3.1

Results : IMP Pairs Final

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
67	72	Joyrup Mullick Sabyasachi Sadhukhan	-3.4	99	153	Ashish Malhotra Hemant Jalan	-39.5
68	4	Raghunath Karmarkar Bharat R Paranjpe	-3.6	100	71	Bipul Kumar Roy Amar Kumar Bose	-40.2
69	29	Prakash Gupta Santi Ranjan Dutta	-4.2	101	166	Arup Lodh Gautam Kumar Chanda	-40.6
70	68	Souvik Saha Tapan Kumar Bandyopadhyay	-4.6	102	87	Alka Jain Devi Muthu Bhatnagar	-41.2
71	51	V Mohan Rao U Suresh Rao	-6	103	5	Ashok Kumar Goel Vinay Desai	-41.7
72	182	Hemant Purkar Chandrashekhar V Kekre	-6.9	104	141	Ashish Kumar Vishwakarma Chandan Kumar Mitra	-41.8
73	151	Sudeep Saha Aloke Kumar Sardar	-7.6	105	101	P S Prensagar C D Kumar	-42.4
74	52	Arvind Vaidya Vivek Bhand	-7.7	106	90	Sudipta Ray Biplab Kumar Das	-43.1
75	48	Dipak K Poddar Jitendra J Solani	-8.8	107	12	Manoj Mallik Pradyut Kr Das	-43.5
76	8	Bijal Shah Sejal Shah	-9.5	108	109	Mukund Thapa Rajesh A Dalal	-43.9
77	65	Arnab Basu Roy Rajib Roy	-9.8	109	163	Pramod Ranjan Das Amit Chakraborty	-46.4
78	122	Sanat Kumar Saha Asit Baran Chakraborty	-10.5	110	47	Amitava Mukherjee Pradip Gupta	-47.3
79	93	Partha Pratim Pal Sourav Mukherjee	-11	111	192	Abhishek Gupta Prithvi Raj	-47.4
80	128	Francesco Mazzadi Sergio Bianchi	-11.8	112	31	Jibak Tewari Santanu Chakraborty	-47.9
81	150	Prasanta Dutta Kingshuk Bhattacharya	-11.9	113	167	Prasad Honap Avinash Prabhakar Deshmukh	-49.8
82	83	Biswajit Dutta Pradip Mondal	-12.4	114	105	Sanjib Majumdar Sayantan Konar	-50.1
83	170	Asok Jose Lean R Chandramohan	-15.8	115	1	Ajit Mahadar Nitin M Dharmadhikari	-50.5
84	124	Chandrakant Shah Aruna Shah	-17.2	116	181	A K Sinha Sandeep Narang	-54.4
85	133	Timur Edis Elvan Edis	-17.8	117	32	Somnath Mitra Siddhartha Ghosh	-54.9
86	42	Kannan S Nizamudeen Shahul Hamid	-19.3	118	50	Siba Prasad Ghosh Bharat Joshi	-57.8
87	85	Bidyut Bhattacharjee Ajay Kar	-19.3	119	13	Borhan Ali Molla Bimalendu Das	-60.3
88	126	Sudhir S Gavandi S L Malshe	-23.3	120	173	Indranath Chatterjee Rana Chakraborty	-61
89	88	Prabir Kumar Thakur Manoj Kumar Dey	-25.8	121	43	A K Guha Mohan Jhala	-61.7
90	193	Jayanta Chowdhury Subrata Sarkar	-25.9	122	129	Abdi Naffar Ronald Miranda	-63.5
91	149	Tonmoy Ghosh Ramkrishna Majumder	-26.8	123	6	P Sudhakar Rao Prashanth Kandulakunta	-64.5
92	62	Saurendranath Chakrabarti Debasish Dey	-26.8	124	46	Sunil Misra B N Agarwal	-65.3
93	49	U V Athavale V Ravichandran	-29.8	125	172	Nirav Patel D V Ravi	-65.4
94	127	Ashantha De Mel Ramaratnam Krishnan	-30.9	126	121	N K Chitlangia Badal Das	-65.8
95	164	Joy Narayan Roy Joyjit Sensarma	-32.8	127	2	Ramesh Ramagudu V Rama Murthy	-66.1
96	45	Amitava Banerjee Ramendra Chowdhury	-34.1	128	67	Kamal Kumar Gupta Rajendra Prasad Misra	-66.1
97	125	Saurabh Dalal Paresh J Gandhi	-36.5	129	168	Amit Nangpal Indrajit Sensarma	-71.8
98	23	Asit Kumar Bandopadhyaya Bijan Kumar Bandopadhyay	-36.8	130	102	Pradyut Bhattacharjee Arup Dutta	-80.4

Results : IMP Pairs Strata - II

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
1	84	Dibyendu Shee Debhasish Bhadra	126.2	31	141	Protap Bandyopadhyay Sarveswar Bhattacharjee	26
2	30	Kishor Kumar Gangulyh Priyotosh Sarkar	94	32	92	Sailaja Tahiliani Pradip Ghosh	25
3	88	Rajesh Jain Ramesh Patodia	87	33	51	Ratan Lal Sanghi S M Moin	23
4	185	Suvankar Basu Sudip Pandit	84	34	125	Chanchal Dass Prakash Achar	23
5	70	Prasanta Saha Prabir kumar Paul	76	35	121	Kalpana Gurjar Vidhya Patel	22
6	165	J K Bhosale Dilip P Gosavi	71.6	36	152	Sumit Bhowmik Amitava Ghosh	20
7	85	Rohit Gupta Deepika Mehta	69	37	89	Pallab Sinha Roy Gopal Das	20
8	189	Sujan Chowdhury Gourab Banerjee	66	38	143	Arup Kumar Hudait Pintu Maity	18
9	191	Shantanu Roy Pallab Roy	64	39	129	Edward Parera Romesh Bandaranaiker	17
10	83	Ajit Saldhana Satyabrata Lahiri	64	40	106	Shakti Pada Roy Pradip Kumar Paul	17
11	5	Amarjit Wadhawan Nikita Kamal	62	41	102	Gautam Chatterjee Abhishek Mitra	16
12	42	Saikat Neogi Pradip Kumar Banerjee	58	42	111	Devendra Goyal Robert Sima	16
13	50	Aditi Jhaveri M M Lule	53	43	4	Kalyan Chowdhury Kajal Chandra Das	15
14	166	Deepa Jacob Prosenjit Manna	52	44	132	Vrinda jhunjhunwala Arun J Puranik	14
15	182	Tapan Kumar Roy1 Sailen Das	51	45	48	Ajay Kumar Saha Sujit Kumar	14
16	1	Bablu Roy Chowdhury Subir Kumar Chowdhury	51	46	72	N Rajachandra Bhalchandra G Ogale	14
17	142	Evgeny Rudkov Sergey Orlov	50	47	23	Partha Sarkar Provat Roy	13
18	43	Pradeep Anand Singh Vijayanand Singh	50	48	27	Mathew Chandy Subhashree Basu	12
19	86	Soumya Das Jesal Debriwala	46	49	184	Bidyut Baran Adhikari Prabir Das	11
20	69	Madhav A Kshirsagar Srinivasan Krishna	45	50	173	Amit Pal Amal Kumar Sarkar	10.2
21	123	Anukul Mandal K K Sabherwal	45	51	128	Bijon Kumar Mondal Goutam Banerjee	10
22	146	Anil Kumar Upadhyay Girish Kumar	44	52	44	Saumitra Basu Satyanarain Ukil	10
23	187	Braja Gopal Dey Sunil Das	43	53	21	Jai Prakash Agarwal Shiv Kumar Kithania	10
24	108	Prithvi Raj Pulak	41	54	122	Biswadip Roy Sumita Dasgupta	9
25	46	Yasar Karunaratanae Velupillai Balakumar	36	55	63	Alena Ignateva Zaikova Marian	9
26	172	Sankar Narayan Ghosh Uday Ghoshal	35	56	151	Koushik Mukherjee Proya Ranja Sinha	9
27	81	S K Dutta Tapas Das	34	57	126	Cera Fernando Krishna Kumar Goenka	8
28	6	J Pratihari Ibrat Khan	34	58	145	Ajit Mukherjee Biswarup Biswas	6
29	9	Anushree Jalan Hasibul Hasan	32	59	162	Aniruddha Sanzgiri B C Pendse	4
30	82	Sudhir Kumar Sanjeev Tomar	31	60	131	Rakesh Nanda Ashok Bedi	4

Results : IMP Pairs Strata - II

Pos	No	Players	IMPs	Pos	No	Players	IMPs
61	28	Dipak Kumar Paul Sujit Kumar Sur	3	91	45	Satish G Diwanji Ajit B Chakradeo	-33
62	186	Gautam Roy Debasish Ghosh	3	92	124	Aman Tyagi Kinjal Desai	-35
63	161	Bhanumati Shah Kamal Shah	2.5	93	190	Asim Sarkar Shyama Prosad Mukhopadhyay	-36
64	107	Swarup Ghosh Manas Ghosh Dastidar	2	94	7	Lyn Nazareth Vinay Sharma	-38
65	47	S Hari Shankar Sukrit M Vijayakar	0	95	22	S K Tripathi P K Mishra	-39
66	8	Suresh Senapaty Hermione Mathias	-2	96	103	Yogendra Kumar Trivedi Himanshu Shah	-39
67	41	Vasanti Shah Atulya Sood	-3	97	147	M Vasanth Pai Bhaskar Kumar Ganguly	-39
68	31	Alok Kumar Mandal Sukumar Kayal	-3	98	12	Paban Agrawal Kalindi Mewar	-39
69	26	Ashok Kumar Birendra Kumar	-5	99	181	Adhiyaman Zodyapache Agilan Zodypache	-41
70	183	Swapn Sarkar Debasish Majumdar	-5	100	110	Debabrata Roy Joydip Mukherjee	-41
71	65	Sharad Kumar Sunil Kumar	-6	101	32	Tapan Roy Tarun Manna	-41
72	71	Md Sahajahan Bikas Dutta	-7	102	10	Parimal Vaikunthlal Vahalia Nayana P Vahalia	-41
73	163	Avinash Kelkar Rajendra V Mekal	-10	103	164	Samina Esmail Amit Dutta	-41.9
74	130	Kavita Ajmera Baneet Kumar Malhotra	-11	104	171	Sachin Shrikrishna Joshi Chintamani Bhikaji	-46
75	188	Sajan Chakraborty Bidyut Das	-12	105	3	J P Das D Mukhopadhyay	-50
76	91	Subhas Basu Tapan Choudhury	-13	106	24	C K Madheswaran M Venkatesan	-56
77	150	Anshul Singhal Kalyan Mohan	-18	107	25	Monu Kumar Naveen Kumar	-56
78	52	R S Roy Chowdhury Subrata Chatterjee	-18	108	61	Bidyut Kanti Thakur Lalit Mendiratta	-58
79	170	Nilkanta Mehena Kishore Das	-18.5	109	148	Ashim Kumar Ghosh Sunandan Thakur	-60
80	169	Dipanjan Khan Saikat Mandal	-18.6	110	2	Nitesh Solanki Harshad B Shah	-64
81	112	R K Pradhan Sankarsan Behera	-19	111	101	Ashis Pan Chiranjib Ballav	-70
82	149	Jiten Chakraborty Pradip Chakraborty	-20	112	64	Ashoke Dey Govindo Saha	-72
83	144	Abhijit Roy Chowdhury Rajat Kanti Dawn	-23	113	167	T Viswanadham T Kameswari	-72.5
84	11	Sudhir Kumar Agrawal R S Gera	-23	114	67	Jagdish Chandra Bala Sushil Kumar Paul	-73
85	62	Raju Mitra Samar Kumar Maity	-26	115	104	Birendranath Bandopadhyay Achintya Haldar	-76
86	90	Ashok K Sinha Kalpna Varshney	-30	116	168	Mitresh Manu Ashok Kumar Gupta	-79.4
87	109	Sukumaran Rajeev Sahirudeen	-32	117	105	Mithun Biswas Sanjay Banerjee	-80
88	87	S Srinivasan Saswata Ballav	-32	118	127	Mahendra Pal Varshney Ashok Kumar Sinha	-85.3
89	192	Raman Madhok Shailendra Kumar	-33	119	68	R P Gautam Shri Krishan Deswal	-88
90	49	Hari Narayan Vijay Singh	-33	120	66	Rupal Shah Karima Popat	-110

An example of Imaginative Bidding

During the lunch interval, Kista gave me the following hand. North deals and opens.

“How should South bid their hand?,” he asked.

“Depends on the method they are using,” I cautiously replied.

The diagram shows a bridge hand with the following components:

- Dir: North, Vul: E/W**
- Optimum 7N N 13**
- North's Hand:** ♠ AK 9, ♥ K 6, ♦ K Q 10 6, ♣ K Q J 5
- South's Hand:** ♠ 8 6 2, ♥ Q 8 5, ♦ J 9 3, ♣ 8 7 4 3
- East's Hand:** ♠ 10 3, ♥ 10 9 4, ♦ 8 7 5 4 2, ♣ 10 9 6
- Bidding Box:** 21, 3, 16, 0
- South's Hand (Detailed):** ♠ Q J 7 5 4, ♥ A J 7 3 2, ♦ A, ♣ A 2
- Roman Key Card Board:**

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	7	6	6	7	7
S	7	6	6	7	7
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-

“Here is how our opponents bid it,” he continued.

South transferred to Hearts with a 4♦ bid and asked for Roman Key Cards with 4Nt. North showed two without the Queen.

South quickly figured out the best contract. He had 16 HCP. Partner showed 20-21. If the ♥Q were missing, partner had to have all the remaining top honours if partner held 21. 7♥ might not be a good contract, but 7Nt might be, so he bid 7Nt.

North South had 14 tricks! 7Nt sailed. Tonmoy Ghosh was South and Ramkrishna Majumder was North.

“That 7Nt bid was a brilliant idea, wasn't that?,” Kista said. “We should publish the good deeds of the keen bridge players who might not be at a level to win a high calibre bridge tournament such as the HCL International Bridge Championship, but they are good enough to find out a stunning move or two, and we should make it a point to celebrate such brilliance.” He continued. I couldn't agree more.



From the Editor's desk



I wrote the Sunday Bridge column of Times of India, then the largest circulated English daily in the world, from 1993 to 2011. Before online Bridge became popular, it was difficult to get deal records from others. I did, however, keep records of brilliant bids and plays mainly by my opponents and teammates. For the printed copy, that supply was good enough thanks to the good company I was able to keep.

In last few years, I have played a great deal of online Bridge with a few different robots. I have assessed myself on many different platforms and I am completely satisfied with the results. I have posted 300+ videos of interesting hands on my Youtube channel DEMICOMA Bridge Academy.

One comment I often had to face while I wrote the Sunday column can best be expressed with the following couplet.

अपनी तस्वीर को आँखों से लगाता क्या है ?

यह बज़र मेरी तरफ देख तेरा जाता क्या है ?

Why do you look at yourself alone ? Please look at me once, after all you have nothing to lose!

I wondered how I could have a better opportunity to look at and publish others' performances. The HCL International Bridge tournament seemed like the best bet. Could I get a chance to write the bulletin? I checked with Rajeshwar Tewari and T.C. Pant sometime in early 2022.

"You are welcome," Pant Sahab said. Thus, for last three editions, I have been at your service, at the service of Bridge players whose brilliant moves I am more than happy to highlight; and at the service of Bridge enthusiasts who want to follow good deeds in Bridge.

I have tried to source good deals played by others diligently, by following the simple rule of not playing a single deal throughout the event. I hope I have achieved at least a partial success.

I have also tried to get the thoughts of some bridge experts by interviewing them. I would like to thank Boje Brogeland, Subodh Maskara, Sartaj Hans, Per Jannersten, Rajath Shourie, Gavin Wolpert, and Thomas Charlsen. It wasn't possible for me to process these inputs in the short time available. I plan to do that in the coming days.

I do plan to write a few books in near future. I hope the Bridge community will receive them with interest.

I wish to thank R. Tewari, Sandeep Thakral, and T.C. Pant who created this opportunity; to Srini and Sudhir who are always willing promptly to supply any information I seek; to Bhola for handling the layout and placement of results, Giriraj and Rajesh of HCL for handling IT issues; and to Priyanka Gulati for her contribution.

I would also like to thank Kista, Shubham, Sandeep Thakral, Vivek Bhand, R. Venkatesh, and many others, for being a source of great hands and brilliant bids and plays. Each of these has a dozen or so deals to talk about at the end of every bridge session. Finally, I wish to thank Padmashri Mrs. Kiran Nadar who has generously authored this grand celebration of Bridge by bringing together many great bridge minds from all over the wider world.

Dr. Prakash Paranjape (Panja)



Scoring Team : L - R : Rajesh Yadav, Giriraj Singh, Kaustabh Deodhar, Prithvi Singh, Srinivasan Iyenger



Dealing Team : L - R : Bansi Gupta, SRC. Sekar, Chetan Raval, Sharmistha Raval



Team of Directors : L - R : B. G. Daxindas, Rounak Ghosh, Satish Kumar, P. K. Bhattacharjee, V. K. Sharma, Sudhir Aggarwal, Laurie Kelso, S. K. Chakraborty, K. S. Swaminathan

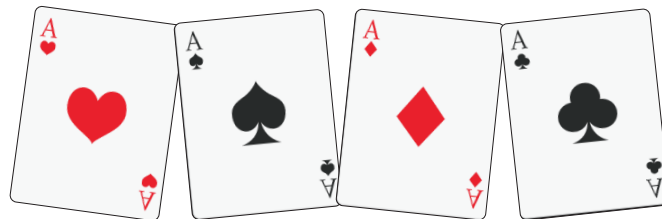


Caddies : L - R : Ritam Das, Amal Kumar Dutta, Pijush Kanti Saha, Ranjit Chowdhury, Kamal Acharjee, Surajit Das, Tushar Dhara, Asim Paul



Vu Graph Team : L - R : Abhishek Roy, Subrata Adhikary, Somik Mitra, Sudip Mahato, Meenal Thakur, Pramod Samant

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



Tournament Schedule

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