



# HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

DELHI 2024

**VENUE**  
The Leela Ambience Convention Hotel, Delhi

September 14 - 22

## DAILY BULLETIN

Editor  
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Bulletin - Pro AM, 22nd September 2024

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### Arun Bapat & Sanjit Dey lift ProAM Pairs

The first session of ProAM of 24 boards was played on Sunday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024. The play commenced at 9:30 A.M. . Arun Bapat and Sanjit Dey led the field with +37 IMPs at the end of the session. Amit Dabriwala and Keyzad Anklesaria were second with +27 IMPs; while Dr. Mukund Jagannath and Thomas Charlsen were third with +25 IMPs.

In the second session, Arun Bapat-Sanjit Dey added 18 IMPs to take their tally to +55 and win the ProAM IMP Pairs. Sailja Tahiliani and Christian Bakke added +42 to their first session score of +1 to grab the second spot. Amit Dabriwala and Keyzad Anklesaria had to be content with a third place finish with the aggregate score of +42 IMPs.

Pos.	No.	Players	MPs	Pos.	No.	Players	MPs
1	16	Arun Bapat & Sanjit Dey	55	13	11	Monica Jajoo & Sumit Mukherjee	1
2	13	Sailja Tahiliani & Christian Bakke	43	14	21	Anurag Mohota & Jaggy Shivdasani	-2
3	9	Amit Dabriwala & Keyzad Anklesaria	42	15	17	Mithun Mukherjee & Rajeshwar Tewari	-2
4	4	Dr Mukund Jagannath & Thomas Charlsen	26	16	19	Janak Shah & Harald Eide	-8
5	24	Kiran Nadar & B Satyanarayan	21	17	5	Meenu Dugal & Matthew Brown	-11
6	3	Srinivasan Iyengar & Sandeep Thakral	16	18	18	Subodh Maskara & Raju Tolani	-17
7	7	Jitu Solani & Gerli Aldo Giovanni	16	19	22	Suresh Senapathy & Bar Tamovski	-21
8	8	T C Pant & Sayantan Kushari	10	20	20	Prasad Keni & Ajay Khare	-26
9	10	Sudhir Gopal Aggarwal & Michael Whibley	9	21	2	Savleen Thadani & Asaf Yekutieli	-33
10	1	Priyanka Gulati & Oren Toledano	7	22	23	Jesal Dabriwala & Leonardo Fuscoloni	-39
11	14	Kannan K & Debabrata Majumder	3	23	6	J K Bhosale & Ami Zamir	-44
12	12	Richa Shriram & Boje Brogeland	2	24	15	Amitava Mukherjee & Kaustubh Nandi	-48



# President gets a promotion as Ajay Uppercuts

The ProAM-2024 event began right after the draws for Pairs were taken out. Many a sponsor could be seen coaching their professional partner about the finer aspects of the Smolen convention or the benefits of employing RKC4130 over RKC3041 right from the evening Pairings were decided.

The game itself began on Sunday, 22nd Morning : We kibitzed Rajeshwar Tewari on Board 14.

14	<b>N</b> R Tewari ♠ KJ973 ♥ Q54 ♦ Q964 ♣ K	W	N	E	S																																			
		2♦	2♠	3♦	4♠																																			
		P	P	P																																				
<b>W</b> Ajay Khare ♠ 104 ♥ A6 ♦ KJ10853 ♣ J98				<b>E</b> Prasad Keni ♠ A82 ♥ 873 ♦ 2 ♣ Q6543																																				
					♦A																																			
<table border="1"> <tr><td>♠</td><td>♠</td><td>♥</td><td>♥</td><td>♦</td><td>♦</td><td>NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>9</td><td>9</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> </table> Par Score: 140 Par: NS 3♠, 3♥	♠	♠	♥	♥	♦	♦	NT	N	6	5	9	9	6		S	6	5	9	9	6		E	7	8	3	4	5		W	7	8	3	4	5		<b>S</b> Mithun ♠ Q65 ♥ KJ1092 ♦ 7 ♣ A1072				
♠	♠	♥	♥	♦	♦	NT																																		
N	6	5	9	9	6																																			
S	6	5	9	9	6																																			
E	7	8	3	4	5																																			
W	7	8	3	4	5																																			
		4♠ N			NS: 0 EW: 0																																			

Ajay Khare opened 2♦, weak, after two passes. Tewari overcalled 2♠. BFI President Prasad Keni was East, drawn to pair with Ajay Khare. He bid 3♦. South's 4♠ bid won the auction.

Prasad led the ♦A and shifted to a middle Heart. Ajay Khare won the ♥A and continued Hearts. As the Dummy came down, Tewari had visualised the basic problem. If he began on trumps, he risked losing the ♦King after Dummy was out of trumps. After the Heart shift and continuation, a new problem raised itself – the risk of a Heart ruff.

That was the immediate concern. Tewari won ♥Q, cashed ♣K, and went to Dummy with a Diamond ruff to discard the remaining Heart in the Closed hand on the ♣Ace. So far so good.

He next played the ♥J planning to elope with a small trump, but Ajay Khare was wide awake. He ruffed with the ♠T – an uppercut – that didn't allow Tewari the small-trump elopement. Tewari overruffed with ♥J, ruffed another Diamond small Prasad discarding a Club, ruffed a Club small in the hand, and ruffed the ♦Q with the ♠Q. That trick saw a gathering of queens as Prasad also contributed a Queen – the Club Queen.

14	<b>N</b> R Tewari ♠ K97 ♥ ♦ ♣	W	N	E	S																																			
		2♦	2♠	3♦	4♠																																			
		P	P	P																																				
<b>W</b> Ajay Khare ♠ 4 ♥ ♦ KJ5 ♣				<b>E</b> Prasad Keni ♠ A82 ♥ ♦ ♣																																				
					♦Q ♣Q ♠Q																																			
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♠	♠	♥	♥	♦	♦	NT																																		
N	6	5	9	9	6																																			
S	6	5	9	9	6																																			
E	7	8	3	4	5																																			
W	7	8	3	4	5																																			
		4♠ N			NS: 7 EW: 2																																			

Tewari now pulled another Club from the Dummy. Everyone was out of Clubs. This was the situation.

# President gets a promotion as Ajay Uppercuts

14		N R Tewari ♠ K97 ♥ ♦ ♣	W N E S P P P P 2♦ 2♠ 3♦ 4♠ P P P																													
W Ajay Khare ♠ 4 ♥ ♦ KJ ♣		E Prasad Keni ♠ A82 ♥ ♦ ♣																														
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N	6	5	9	9	6																											
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Par Score: 140 Par: NS 3♠, 3♥			4♠ N NS: 8 EW: 2																													

West's play was immaterial. What could Tewari ruff the ♣T with? If he ruffed with ♠7, Prasad would overruff, and if he ruffed with ♠9 or ♠K, Prasad would underuff.

Thus the BFI President got a Promotion on the seventh round of the ProAm session 1 event.



Sanjit Dey and Binod Shaw with BFI President Prasad Keni. Sanjit and Binod are two of the six players that will represent Indian in the forthcoming World Championship at Buenos Aires in November-2024.

# Date 22 strikes!

Date 22 strikes! When the dates of the ProAM event were fixed, Jitubhai Solani was not sure whether he should participate in it, whether he would get any purchase out of it. His stars were not going to be favourable for the day. The date, too, was 22, a duplicated number. It suggested that there would be a duplication of values, and his slams could go down. Still, the urge to play was too strong. He ended up playing the event.

The stars didn't like that at all. His astrologer, too, frowned. First few boards were fine, but board 10 brought up the full force of the star power. The effect of the date 22 was that both East-West had a poor hand, West poorer than East. Jitubhai opened 2♥ in the first position holding a decent 6-carder Heart suit. South and West passed, and North doubled. Jitubhai passed.

Dir: East  
Vul: All

♠ A 7 6 5 2  
♥ 9  
♦ A K 4  
♣ A K 7 4

Optimum  
6N S 12

♠ J 10 9  
♥ 10  
♦ J 8 7 6 5 3  
♣ J 3 2

NORTH	10	EAST
WEST		SOUTH

♠ Q 3  
♥ K Q J 7 5 3  
♦ 10 2  
♣ 9 8 5

18
3      8
11

♠ K 8 4  
♥ A 8 6 4 2  
♦ Q 9  
♣ Q 10 6

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	6	3	3	6	6
S	6	3	3	6	6
E	-	-	-	-	-
W	-	-	-	-	-



Supporting Staff : Ranjit Chowdhury - Dr. Prakash Paranjape

South pondered for some time and passed for penalty. Now, it was West's turn to worry about a big loss. The tarot card read, "You may feel that someone else is controlling your thoughts, guiding you according to their own will." That is exactly what happened. Gerli Aldo Giovannit had one look at Jitu and wondered whether he would be able to withstand the stress of playing a doubled contract holding next to nothing. Rather than let Jitu face the music, he decided to run to 3♦. North doubled. Thakral-Srini won 10 tricks and a score of +1700 for a 12 IMP gain. The stars did what they foretold.



# A 6♣ Slam Clean bowled the Declarer

Deal 30 brought up this interesting play problem. Say you reach 6♣ from North side and get the lead of a small Spade, say ♠9. You win ♠K and play the ♣Jack. East plays small and West discards. How should you continue?

Dir: East Vul: None	♠ AK 7 ♥ AJ 10 9 5 ♦ A 9 ♣ J 10 4	Optimum 6N N 12																																	
♠ Q J 10 6 4 3 2 ♥ K 7 6 4 2 ♦ K ♣ --	<table border="1"> <tr><td>WEST</td><td>NORTH</td><td>EAST</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>SOUTH</td><td></td></tr> </table>	WEST	NORTH	EAST		30			SOUTH		♠ 9 8 5 ♥ Q 3 ♦ 10 8 7 ♣ A 8 6 3 2																								
WEST	NORTH	EAST																																	
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17																																			
9      6																																			
8																																			
	♣	♦	♥	♠	N																														
N	6	5	2	-	6																														
S	6	6	2	-	5																														
E	-	-	-	1	-																														
W	-	-	-	1	-																														

You have top card both in the Majors even after the lead knocking out one of the ♠AK. Your Club spots are good enough to take top four Club tricks. Close the East-West hands and give a thought as to how you would play Diamonds. The answer is not difficult. You need the Diamond King to be stiff, or West to hold ♦Kx. In the latter case, say you play a small Club at trick three and finesse the ♣7. You then run the ♦Queen. West will simply duck and lock you out of Dummy. You cannot afford to use a ruff to reach the Dummy. For that reason, you should play the hand for a stiff ♦King. Lo and behold, the ♦K is stiff! Only one Declarer played in 6♣ on the board. They did not succeed.



Each of the above two bowlers has clean bowled Sandeep Patil.  
Ashantha De Mel did in World Cup 1983 at Old Trafford, Manchester.  
Panja managed it on Ramesh Dadkar maidan in the College selection trials in 1973!



Amit Dabriwala. Keyzad Anklesaria and Jesal

## Photo Gallery



*Jitu Solani - Gerli Aldo Giovanni*



*BojeBrogeland - Richa Shriram*



*Sailja Tahiliani - Christian Bakke*

## Photo Gallery



*Anurag Mohota - Jaggy Shivdasani*



*J K Bhosale - Ami Zamir*



*Meenu Duggal - Matthew Brown*

# Photo Gallery



*Savleen Thadani - Asaf Yekutieli*



*S G Aggarwal - Michael Whibley*



*Janak Shah - Harald Eide*



## Photo Gallery



*Kiran Nadar and Sandeep Thakral, partners in crime as Sandeep puts it  
(The idea of ProAM comes from Sandeep, supported fully and generously by Kiran Nadar)*



*Kannan K. - Debabrata Majumder*



*Subodh Maskara - Raju Tolani*

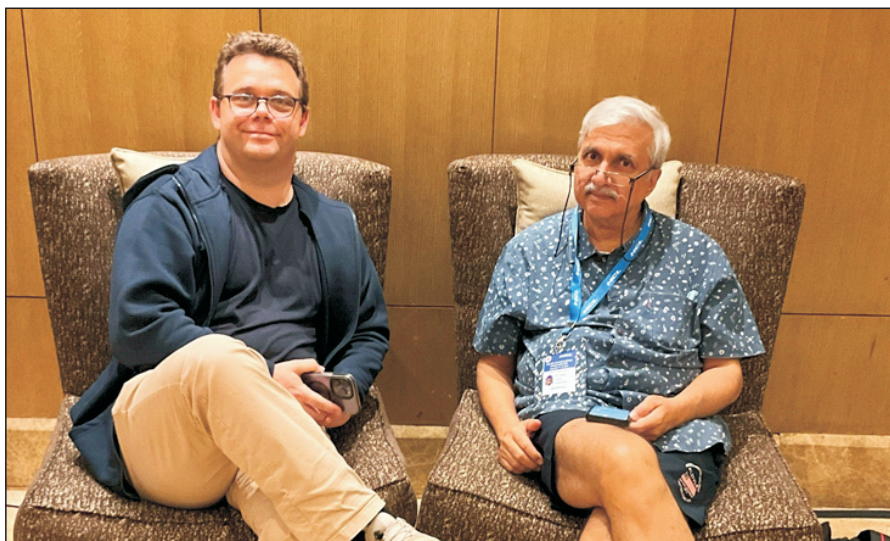
# Photo Gallery



*Priyanka Gulati - Oren Toledano*



*Monica Jajoo - Sumit Mukherjee*



*Dr. Mukund Jagannath - Thomas Charlsen*

# Photo Gallery



*T C Pant - Sayantan Kushari*



*Keyzad Anklesaria - Amit Dabriwala*



*Rajeshwar Tewari - Mithun Mukherjee*

# Photo Gallery



*Jesal Dabriwala - Leonardo Fuscoloni*



*Ajay Khare - Prasad Keni*



*Arun Bapat - Sanjit Dey*

## Photo Gallery



*Suresh Senapathy - Bar Tamovski*



*Srinivasan Iyengar - Sandeep Thakral*



*Amitava Mukherjee - Kaustabh Nandi*

# Photo Gallery



*Kiran Nadar - B. Satyanarayan*



*Team WHAM (AUS and NZ) and Team Shourie (US) in a couple of huddles just after the final match got over.*



*Boje Brogeland with his observations and a message from Zia.*