

Inaugural All India **HCL** Bridge Tournament

Hotel Claridges, New Delhi

18th – 21st December 2003

(Sponsor: HCL Corporation Ltd.)

Daily Bulletin

Editors : T. C. Pant, Subhash Gupta, Sudhir Aggarwal

19th Dec 2003

Courtesy : All Participants

FORMIDABLES Team Leads after 6 Rounds in Team of 4

The Tournament started yesterday with the Team of Four event. Around 50 teams were expected but the turn out was far less, may be because lot of Bridge Tournaments have taken place recently and Nationals are also coming in a short while. There are 35 teams comprising players from all over India. Formidables, Agsar Paints, Well Knit, Tolani Shipping, DSM & MONOTONA are some of the top teams participating in the tournament.

Formidables comprising of Mrs. Kiran Nadar, B. Satyanarayana, Subhash Gupta, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sunit Chokshi & K.R. Venkatraman leads the event with **125 VPs** after 6 rounds. **AZURE** comprising of Surender Hooda, Mrs. Rita Choksi, Badal Das, Pranob Bardhan, S.N. Dey Sarkar & Sumit Mukherjee is in second place with **114 VPs** followed by **Tolani Shipping** (R.A. Agarwal, R. Bhiwandkar, Arvind Vaidya & Dr. J. Mukund) with **112 VPs** in third place.

Today it is going to be far more competitive as teams lagging behind will try to catch up for the Quarter Final berths. There are going to be 4 more rounds before the Quarter Finalists are identified.

The PAIRS event also starts today evening.

Today's Schedule

0900 – 1400 Hrs. -	Registration for Pair Tournament
0900 – 1015 Hrs. -	T-4 (Round 7 of 10 boards – Actual draw)
1035 – 1150 Hrs. -	T-4 (Round 8 of 10 boards – Actual draw)
1210 – 1325 Hrs. -	T-4 (Round 9 of 10 boards – Actual draw)
1325 – 1415 Hrs. -	Lunch
1415 – 1530 Hrs. -	T-4 (Round 10 of 10 boards – Actual draw)
1615 – 1815 Hrs. -	T-4 (Quarter Finals – Session 1 – 14 Boards)
1830 – 2030 Hrs. -	T-4 (Quarter Finals – Session 2 – 14 Boards)
1700 – 1930 Hrs. -	Pair Elimination 1 – Session 1 – 20 Boards

THE PARTICIPANTS - TEAM OF FOUR

S.No.	Team Name	S.No.	Team Name
1	DR ASHWANI MEHTA	19	DYNAMIC
2	HOPE	20	MONOTONA
3	BEAGLES	21	B N BATRA's
4	SONCHEL	22	JAINS MEERUT
5	TOLANI SHIPPING	23	CENT SECT. (HARBHAJAN)
6	LOHIAS KANPUR	24	KHANDELWAL
7	PURI	25	PHOENIX
8	WELL KNIT	26	DONNA BELLAS TEAM
9	ALOK DAGA IV	27	CENT SECT. (SRG)
10	PANKAJ MEHTA	28	AZURE
11	SANKALP JAIPUR	29	TOWRIFIC
12	J P GOENKA	30	MAYA-MIRA
13	CALCUTTA BRIDGE CLUB	31	BOAT HOUSE CLUB
14	CHALLENGERS	32	AGSAR PAINTS
15	HEMA DEORA	33	D S M
16	SHAM SHARMA	34	ROYAL ACES
17	FORMIDABLES	35	BHANSALI
18	PROMILA SARAF		

BART CONVENTION

Most of the players today whether they play Standard System or Strong Club (Precision) System, use 1NT response to 1H or 1S Opening bid as One Round Force (for un-passed hand). The Forcing no-trump helps in bidding many hands, which are otherwise difficult to bid in case 1NT was not forcing. The normal way of bidding after a forcing no-trump response to a major, is to re-bid a four-card side suit or barring that to re-bid longer minor. Since minor suit bid shows only 3 cards, frequently responder returns to opener's major with 2 cards and less than 10 or 11 hcp. Responder's strength is not clear and also finding 4-4 minor suit fit is difficult. The Bart Convention devised by Les Bart has attempted to solve this problem.

A) What is Bart Convention

The Bart convention is an artificial bid of 2D in the auction: 1S – 1NT – 2C – 2D and shows several types of hands. Opener is expected to bid 2H with minimum values and 3 card heart suit. Responder can have either:

- 5 card heart suit and may have doubleton spade or
- Doubleton spade and 8-10 HCP or
- Invitational hand (10-11 HCP) with 4 or 5 clubs or good diamond suit

B) Bidding after Forcing Notrump playing Bart Convention

After you agree to play Bart convention, the meaning of various bids can be as follows:

1S – 1NT – 2C – ? 2D = Bart 2H = 6 card or good 5 card suit, to play 2S = Doubleton spade, less than 8 hcp 2N = 10-12 hcp, less than 4 clubs 3C = Preemptive raise 3D = to play (you can't play 2D now)	1S – 1NT – 2C – 2D – 2H – ? 2S = shows doubleton spade and 8-10 hcp 2N = 10 – 11 hcp and 4 card clubs 3C = Invitational hand with 5 clubs 3D = Invitational hand, 6 card diamond suit 3H = Invitational with 5 hearts 3S = Invitational with 5 hearts and 3 spades
1S – 1NT – 2C – 2D – ? 2H = 3 card heart, min hand (12-14) 2S = denies 3 hearts, responder can pass 2N = 15 –17 hcp without 3 hearts 3C = black two suiter 3D = Opener shows appx 17+ hcp, shortness in H 3H = 15+ hcp, 3 hearts, unbalanced hand	1S – 1NT – 2C – 2D – 2S – ? 2N = 10 – 11 hcp and 4 card clubs 3C = Invitational hand with 5 clubs 3D = Invitational hand, 6 card diamond suit 3H = Invitational with 6 hearts and 2 spades 3S = Invitational with doubleton spade honour

With the help of the above sequences, responder is able to give a better description of his hand.

C) What do you loose by playing Bart convention

You give up the ability to play 2D but can bid many hands much better. This is an easy to remember convention and is highly recommended.

D) Examples:

♠ Kx ♥ xxx ♦ AJxx ♣ Qxxx After 1S-1N-2C bid 2D-2H-2S to show 8-10 hcp with 2 spades. Opener can try for game with 15+ by 2NT.	♠ Jx ♥ QJxx ♦ Kxxx ♣ xxx After 1S-1N-2C bid 2S to show less than 8 hcp with 2/3 spades.	♠ Qx ♥ K10xxx ♦ xxx ♣ Kxx After 1S-1N-2C bid 2D to find heart fit. You can pass 2H or 2S bid by opener.	♠ x ♥ QJxxxx ♦ Jxx ♣ Kxx After 1S-1N-2C bid 2H to play showing 6 card suit & singleton spade.	♠ x ♥ Kxx ♦ KJ10xxx ♣ Jxx After 1S-1N-2C bid 3D to play showing 6 card suit. With better values (10-11) bid 2D first & then 3D.	♠ xx ♥ AJx ♦ Kxxx ♣ K109x After 1S-1N-2C bid 2D. After opener bids 2H or 2S, bid 2NT to show 10-11 hcp with 4 clubs
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The Bart convention is used after 1S Opening. However similar scheme, of course with some minor differences, is possible after 1H Opening and artificial 2D bid in the auction 1H-1NT-2C-2D.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

DEAL OF THE DAY

The following deal came in the Formidables Vs. SONCHEL round-robin match.

	♠ AQTx ♥ Axx ♦ Qx ♣ AQxx	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	N W E S	♠ ♥ ♦ ♣
	♠ K9xx ♥ x ♦ AKJTx ♣ Kxx	

The SONCHEL N-S bid 6 Spades in the closed room. In the Open room Kiran-Satya bid:

West	North <i>Satya</i>	East	South <i>Kiran</i>
Pass	1S	Pass	1D
Pass	4NT	Pass	3S
Pass	5NT	Pass	5H
			7S

Once Kiran bid 3S (Spades with very good Diamond suit), Satya's ♦Q became a golden card and he directly asked Key Card Blackwood. On 5H response (2 Keycards) he bid 5NT as Grand slam force, which Kiran accepted.

In the play of the hand the only danger seems to be the adverse break of spades and Satya as declarer played it perfectly. The lead was ♦8 from East. Satya took it in dummy and played a low trump to Queen. The ♠8 appeared from West (He could have done it from J8xx), so Satya came back with Club and played another spade, when West showed out, it was easy to claim 13 tricks.

Reported by Editor

DEAL OF THE DAY

The following deal came in the Dr. Ashwani Mehta Vs. Alok Daga's IV round-robin match.

	♠ Qxx ♥ Qx ♦ Kxxxxx ♣ xx	
♠ ♥ ♦ ♣	N W E S	♠ ♥ ♦ ♣
♠ KJxxxx ♥ ♦ ♣	♠ Ax ♥ AKx ♦ QJTx ♣ AKQx	

In the close room the bidding was:

West	North <i>Sunil</i>	East	South <i>Pant</i>
Pass	1D (2)	Pass	1C (1)
1S	Pass	Pass	1H (3)
Pass	3S (5)	Pass	2NT(4)
Pass	4NT (6)	Pass	3NT
Pass	6NT	Dbl	5C (7)
			All Pass

(1) – 16+ (2) 0-8 HCPs, (3) – Natural or Balanced 19-20 or 23-24 (4) – 23-24 Balanced (5) – 5-8 HCPs, Keeping the bid alive (6) – Blackwood (7) – 0 or 3

Due to Spade bid by West, East with DA with him doubled the contract. As it was played from the right side, 6NT could not be beaten.

In the Open room, the NS pairs bid 6D, which also got made as on spade lead, North was able to discard his 2 spade losers on Heart & Club. Then also it was a substantial gain for Dr. Mehta's team.

Reported by Editor

REQUEST TO PLAYERS

We sincerely request all the participants to co-operate and adhere to the scheduled timings.

**** CHEER UP, DO WELL & ENJOY ****

IMPORTANT

Please Switch off your Cell Phones, while Play is going on.



Submit your "BEST BID", "BEST PLAYED" or "BEST DEFENDED" hand of the day and win an attractive prize of Rs. 500.

Entries should be submitted to Mr. Subhash Gupta, Mr. T.C. Pant or Mr. Sudhir Aggarwal

Entries For Pair Event

You are requested to give entries for "Open Pairs" latest by today 1400 Hrs.

Entry Fee – Rs. 1200 (Per Pair) for first elimination & Rs. 800 from those qualified to play the 2nd elimination.

The Top Teams

(After 6 Rounds)

1.	Formidables	-	125 VPs
2.	AZURE	-	114 VPs
3.	Tolani Shipping	-	112 VPs
4.	TOWRIFIC	-	111 VPs
5.	WELL KNIT	-	106 VPs
5.	D S M	-	106 VPs
7.	MAYA MIRA	-	103 VPs
7.	Agsar Paints	-	103 VPs
9.	KHANDELWAL	-	102 VPs
10.	MONOTONA	-	100 VPs
11.	Cen. Sec (HAR)	-	98 VPs
12.	J.P. Goenka	-	97 VPs
13.	SONCHEL	-	96 VPs
14.	ALOK DAGA IV	-	96 VPs

Tomorrow's Schedule (Saturday 20th Dec 2003)

0900 – 1100 Hrs. - T-4, Quarter Finals, 3rd Session of 14 boards

1000 – 1230 Hrs. - Pairs Elimination I – Session 2 (20 Boards)

1120 – 1330 Hrs. - T-4, Semi Finals, 1st Session of 16 boards

1300 – 1415 Hrs. - Lunch

1400 – 1630 Hrs. - Pairs Elimination II – Session 1 (20 Boards)

1430 – 1640 Hrs. - T-4, Semi Finals, 2nd Session of 16 boards

1645 – 1915 Hrs. - Pairs Elimination II – Session 2 (20 Boards)

1700 – 1910 Hrs. - T-4, Semi Finals, 3rd Session of 16 boards

1930 Hrs. - Dinner & Cocktails