

All India *HCL* Bridge Tournament 2007

Hotel Radisson, NOIDA

16th – 19th August 2007

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Daily Bulletin

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Team "KHANDELWAL" Lead after 6 Rounds in Team of Four

The Tournament started yesterday with the Team of Four event for the "Naresh Tandan Trophy". This year the tournament broke its old record of 70 teams participation, with **73 teams** from all corners of India along with DATA STEEL & CANDYLAND team from Karachi, Pakistan participating in the Team of Four event. A combined India-Pak team BEEZEE is also participating in the tournament.

Dhampur Sugar Mills, Formidables, Tolani Shipping, Shri Radhey, J.P. Goenka, Alok Daga, Shree Cement, Texan Aces, Wellknit and Manyavar are some of the top Indian teams participating.

At the end of first day (after 6 rounds), **KHANDELWAL**, comprising of Rajeev Khandelwal, Himani Khandelwal, N.K. Gupta & Sandeep Thakral lead the event with **128 VPs**. They beat Chinmoy's IV by 23-7 (1st Round), SECL by 25-1 (2nd round), lost 12-18 to Maheshwari in the 3rd round, won by 22-8 against Shri Radhey in the 4th round, won by 21-9 against NEST Inn and beat COSMOS by 25-5 in the 6th round to take the day's top honours.

MANYAVAR (Raju Tolani, Ajay Khare, Rajesh Dalal, Anil Padhye) & **J.P. GOENKA** (J.P. Goenka, Badal Das, S.N. De Sarkar, Sumit Mukherjee, Amarnath Banerjee, Debbrata Majumder) share the second place with **118 VPs**. Shri Cement (114), Shri Radhey (113), Pushpak (113), Maheshwari (112), PBA-I & Dhampur Sugar Mills (110) are holding the 4th to 9th positions respectively.

Today it is going to be far more competitive as teams lagging behind will try to catch up for the Quarter Final berths. There will be 4 more rounds before the Quarter Finalists are identified. The top teams requiring some extra work to do today are WELLKNIT (100 VPs), CANDYLAND (100 VPs), FORMIDABLES (99 VPs), DATA STEEL (99 VPs), TOLANI SHIPPING (97 VPs), TEXAN ACES (95 VPs), SOUMITRA "B" (91 VPs).

The OPEN PAIRS event starts today evening and a record number of entries are expected in the Pair event also, considering the large participation in the Teams event.

The first elimination will consist of 2 sessions of 20/22 boards. The participants will play in 6 sections.

Please don't forget to join for Cocktails & Dinner at 2000 Hrs. at the venue itself.

THE PARTICIPANTS - TEAM OF FOUR

Team No.	TEAM Name	Team No.	TEAM Name
1	SOUMITRA - 'B'	38	JIGNESH
2	DEHRADUN	39	AZURE
3	AMANORA	40	TORPEDOES
4	GREY TIGERS	41	ALOK DAGA'S IV
5	TEXAN ACES	42	RADHESHYAM GUPTA
6	NOIDA FOUR	43	PUSHPAK
7	K.K. NEOGI's IV	44	BEEZEE
8	SML	45	SHREE CEMENT
9	WELLKNIT	46	FORTHCOMING
10	LUCKY BILASPUR	47	DR. NANDA'S
11	ALIGARH BLUES	48	RAJJAN's, ALLAHABAD
12	CLUB KINGS	49	J.P. GOENKA
13	NEST INN, CHENNAI	50	PATRIOTS
14	ENGINEERS	51	GLITZ
15	A.R. DAS's IV, W. BENGAL	52	GUPTA'S, BANGALORE
16	RAINBOW	53	DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS
17	SHRI RADHEY	54	IOCL
18	PBA - I	55	SIDDIQUE
19	PANKAJ MEHTA , MORADABAD	56	A.K. UPADHYAY'S
20	PBA - II	57	WEAROLOGY
21	FORMIDABLES	58	PURIS
22	SAMNA	59	MAHESHWARI , ALLAHABAD
23	MAYA MEERA SNEHA - I	60	BOAT HOUSE CLUB
24	COUPLES	61	KABRA'S
25	TOLANI SHIPPING	62	KUMKUM's IV
26	CEN. SEC. CLUB - A	63	SOUMITRA - 'A'
27	MAYA MEERA SNEHA - II	64	RUKMA
28	CEN. SEC. CLUB - B	65	KAMLESH GUPTA'S IV
29	MANYAVAR	66	AJAY 'FOUR' GWALIOR
30	BATRAS	67	FRIENDS
31	ACES	68	JADON JANA
32	DR. ASHA SURANA	69	KHANDELWAL
33	CANDY LAND	70	CHINMOY'S IV
34	COLONELS	71	SECL
35	COSMOS	72	ARNAB'S IV, VARANASI
36	ORION	73	SOOSHA
37	DATA STEEL		

A thought for the day

People with high levels of personal mastery..... cannot afford to choose between reason and intuition, or head and heart, any more than they would choose to walk with one leg or see with one eye.

Peter Senge, Director, MIT

FRIENDS FROM PAKISTAN

Over the last few years, there has been a steady interaction between Pakistan and Indian Bridge players, as teams from the two countries participate regularly in major tournaments held in the other country. If Balijee Memorial Tournament of Lahore attracts quite a few Indian teams, without doubt it is the HCL Tournament of India which attracts participation of teams from Pakistan. This time around, there are about 14 Pakistani players here, including the Data Steel team from Karachi which was doing wonderfully well at one stage of the Transnational Event during the last BFAME Championships at Karachi, including sharing a match against Jose Damiani's team which included the redoubtable Zia Mahmood.

We have with us in this tournament three important officials from the Pakistan Bridge Federation. Azwerul Haque (he has come along with his wife, Zeenat), Ihsan Qadir and Tariq Rashid Khan.

Azwer was a banker before he joined his wife's fashion design business and he has been the 'moving force' of all BFAME activities as its Honorary Secretary. They live in Karachi.

Ihsan Qadir from Lahore, is also a business man but his passion is Bridge. He is a very highly respected Tournament Director (ask Ton Kooijman, Executive Director in technical charge of several tournaments in Europe and elsewhere) and has been regularly officiating in European, BFAME and other tournaments.

If you wanted to know Tariq, you should have been present at Karachi during the last BFAME. He literally carried the organization of that BFAME on his shoulders. He is a highly successful business man in the construction industry and, like Azwer, is a delightful conversationalist, never groping for an English word .

A very, very warm threesome, indeed.

And talking of warmth, can one forget Rehana Saigol, the President of the Pakistan Bridge Federation? *We miss you, Rehana. You would have added a completeness to this tournament had you been able to come over. The loss is ours.*

Today's Schedule (Friday, 17th Aug 2007)

0900 – 1530 Hrs. -	Registration for Pairs 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 – On 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 – 1945 Hrs. -	Pair Elimination 1 – Session 1 – 20 / 22 Boards
2000 Hrs. -	Cocktails & Dinner

WHEN A GUESS IS INEVITABLE.....

A common lament of many Bridge players is when a contract depends on a pure and simple guess. Be that as it may, when you look at the totality of the contract, very often it would turn out that other factors like communication between the two hands *would necessitate* the 'guess decision' be taken early on in the play.

Raju Bhiwandkar, playing for Shri Radhey in the closed room, demonstrated the above concept beautifully in his team's round two match against Pankaj Mehta's team. The open room declarer, Satyabrata Lahiri went down in five clubs while Raju's partner Vinay Mohan Lal stretched to bid six clubs and Raju made it.

Dealer: East, Vul: EW

	♠A743	
	♥AK2	
	♦43	
	♣KJ52	
♠KQ9	N	♠JT852
♥J76	W	♥T95
♦A952	E	♦QT8
♣974	S	♣T8
	♠6	
	♥Q843	
	♦KJ76	
	♣AQ63	

Lahiri, as declarer in five clubs, got a spade lead. When he tried to ruff all three of dummy's losing spades, the last one with the queen, Ajit Chakradeo (West) discarded a heart and the hand crumbled thereafter. Ajit got an undeserved third round heart ruff and Lahiri misguessed in diamonds, the contract went one down.

Raju Bhiwandkar was in *six clubs* when ¼al pushed him to that contract (These IAS officers are all alike; they push you to your best performance levels!). And Raju got the more obvious trump lead. Raju won in hand, played a spade to the ace, ruffed a spade, a heart to the ace and another spade ruff and the second heart to the king put him on the table. Realising that there are going to be communication problems and that there was no way he could avoid a diamond guess, he pulled a diamond and guessed correctly. Even a shrewd duck by West did not deter Raju; he continued with another diamond and was home and dry, as the heart suit was kindly to him. Played this way, can you make the contract if hearts are 4-2? I leave it to you to work that out.

Slams – Dime a Dozen

The six rounds played yesterday produced many slams. Here are some interesting slams made by players.

Round # 3, Table # 28, IOCL Vs Club Kings

Board No. 24, Dealer: West, Vul: None

	♠654	
	♥86	
	♦9852	
	♣KT85	
♠92	N	♠A87
♥QJ72	W	♥AK954
♦AKJ763	E	♦T
♣3	S	♣7642
	♠KQJT3	
	♥T2	
	♦Q2	
	♣AQJ9	

West	North	East	South
1D(1)	Pass	2H(2)	2S
3H	Pass	4H	Pass
4NT	Pass	5S(3)	Pass
6H	All Pass		

(1) – 11-13 Any distn (2) – Game Force 5+ Hearts (3) – 2 Aces

Players are scary about opening 11 HCPs hand, but UK Pal (West) & P.K. Neog (East) of IOCL bid the little slam with 11 HCPs each in both hands. The lead was SK and there was nothing in the play a diamonds became good and declarer was able to ruff one of the dummy's spade in hand.

Round # 2, DEHRADUN Vs GREY TIGERS

♠KTxx	N	♠AQJx
♥AJxx	W	♥KQTx
♦x	E	♦Jxxx
♣AJxx	S	♣x

West	North	East	South
		<i>G.P. Dimri</i>	
2D(1)	Pass	2NT(2)	Pass
3C(3)	Pass	4NT	Pass
5H	Pass	6H	All Pass

(1) – Any 3-suiter 11-15 (2) – Asking for Short Suit (3) – Diamond Singleton

Again there was no play when the trump behaved.

Round # 2, COSMOS Vs. CANDYLAND

♠Ax
♥Axxx
♦AKxx
♣Qxx
N
W
E
S
♠KJxxx
♥Kx
♦QTxx
♣Ax

West	North	East	South
	<i>TC Pant</i>		<i>D. Mutreja</i>
Pass	1C(1)	Pass	1S
Pass	1NT	Pass	2D
Pass	3D	Pass	4D (2)
Pass	4S (3)	Pass	6D
All Pass			

(1) – 16+ Precision (2) – RKC in Diamonds (3) – 1 or 4 Keycards

The lead was club but when the spades behaved 3-3 and diamonds 3-2, the slam became cold.

INVITATION

All participants are cordially invited for Cocktails & Dinner today at 2000 Hrs. at the venue.

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 keep your cell phones off or in SILENT mode, while the play is in progress. Director will impose penalties on players, whose cell is found ringing during play hours.

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. T.C. Pant.

NO SMOKING ZONE

Playing area is a "Non-Smoking" Zone totally. Please refrain from Smoking in the Playing Area.

Entries For Pair Event

You are requested to give entries for "Open Pairs" today latest by 1530 Hrs.

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

THE TOP TEAMS

TEAM OF FOUR EVENT

(After 6 Rounds)

1. KHANDELWAL	128 VPs
2. MANYAVAR	118
2. J.P. GOENKA	118
4. SHREE CEMENT	114
5. SHRI RADHEY	113
6. PUSHPAK	113
7. MAHESHWARI	112
8. PBA – I	110
8. DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS	110
10. KABRA'S	109
11. AZURE	106
12. GUPTA'S BANGALORE	101
12. ACES	101
14. NEST INN, CHENNAI	100
14. WELLKNIT	100
14. CANDYLAND	100

Tomorrow's Schedule (Saturday 18th Aug 2007)

0900 – 1100 Hrs.	-	T-4, Quarter Finals, 3 rd Session of 14 boards
0945 – 1230 Hrs.	-	Pairs Elimination I – Session 2 (20 / 22 Boards)
1130 – 1340 Hrs.	-	T-4, Semi Finals, 1 st Session of 16 boards
1300 – 1415 Hrs.	-	Lunch Break
1400 – 1645 Hrs.	-	Pairs Elimination II – Session 1 (20/22 Boards)
1430 – 1640 Hrs.	-	T-4, Semi Finals, 2 nd Session of 16 boards
1645 – 1715 Hrs.	-	Tea Break
1715 – 2000 Hrs.	-	Pairs Elimination II – Session 2 (20 Boards)
1715 – 1925 Hrs.	-	T-4, Semi Finals, 3 rd Session of 16 boards