



HCL 23rd INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Leela Ambience Convention Hotel, Delhi

DAILY BULLETIN

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Chief Editor: Mark Horton Coordinator: T. C. Pant Layout Editor: Bholanath Das

Shri Radhey Tops the Gold Qualification, Miracle Conquers the Silver Top Spot

The completion of ten rounds has produced a mixed bag of results, both in the Gold and Silver leaderboards. The first five rounds established the early leaders, but the final five rounds measured the ability to handle the pressure of qualification more than a strong start. Several teams rose spectacularly, while others who looked comfortably placed at halfway slipped sharply.

GOLD: SHRI RADHEY RISES TO THE TOP

Gromov, the leader after five rounds with 71.27 VPs, could not sustain its early momentum and eventually dropped to 24th. **Shri Radhey**, seventh at the halfway mark, produced a superb second-half run to finish first, while **WHAM** moved from third to second.

Phoenix Ruia made an impressive leap from 12th to third, and **Hemant Jalan**, second after Round 5, finished fourth.

The strongest late comers among the fancied teams who were trailing for more than the halfway mark included **Mavericks Gold** (27th to 9th) and **Latvia** (34th to 14th).

SILVER: MIRACLE STORMS TO THE TOP

Winning Minds, which led after five rounds with 82.41 VPs, finished ninth.

The biggest collapse was **NCR Greens**, which fell from third to 64th.

Miracle transformed its position from 15th after five rounds into first at the finish, leading the final table with 138.70 VPs.

Gladiators moved from fourth to second, while **Playwell** surged from 13th to third and **CAPA** from 14th to fourth.

THE KNOCKOUT STAGE BEGINS TODAY

Yesterday's Captains' Meeting completed the transition to the knockout stage, with the Pre-Quarterfinal draws made for both Gold and Silver. The Pre-Quarterfinals will be played over four sessions of 14 boards each. The draw and results are available on the [event website](#) and are also posted on the [right side information bar](#).

MATCH POINT PAIRS: 270 PAIRS, FIRST ELIMINATION

Today, approximately 270 pairs begin the first elimination of the Match Point Pairs. The stage consists of three sessions of 18 boards each. Approximately 40% of the field will qualify for next stage.

Please check your sections as given in the information bar for your seating purpose.

COCKTAILS, DINNER AND SPECIAL PRO-AM DRAW

HCL invites all esteemed guests and esteemed participants to join for the Cocktails and Dinner Party at the playing venue from **19:30 hours** onwards.

The evening will include the draw for the Pro-Am programme, with the pairing of registered Ams with the **28 participating Pros**.

This will be an exciting affair for all the registered Pros and Ams, and a great opportunity to meet, interact and look forward to this much-awaited event.

NOTE FOR PLAYERS

1 The **Team of Four – Gold Pre-Quarter Final** matches will be held in **"EMERALD (BBO)"** Hall.

2 **Electronic lineup** will be given to all the captains of Gold and Silver teams to field their players as per the seating rights decided during the captain's meet and is **compulsory**. The link to fill the lineup before the start of each segment will have to be done.
Link: www.hcl-bridge.com
User ID: Team name | **Password:** 4-digit (by CTD). Penalties will be there for non-filling of lineup.

3 The **Team of Four SILVER Pre-Quarter Final** matches will be held in **"TURQUOISE"** Hall (Both Open & Closed Room).

4 The 1st elimination round of the **MP Pairs** event, which starts today, will be played in **3 Sessions of 18 boards each**. There are total **340 entries** and **270 Pairs** are playing in Elimination-1 round.

5 The pairs are divided into **13 Sections of 10 to 11 tables per section**. The sections are in:

TURQUOISE	1 Section – Sec "A"
CORAL	4 Sections – from "B" to "E"
SAPPHIRE	6 Sections – from "F" to "K"
RUBY	2 Sections – "L" & "M"

Please check your starting position and take your seats in your respective sections at least **10-15 minutes** before the start time of **1030 Hrs**.

Approximately 40 % pairs will qualify for the 2nd elimination round. The exact cut-off number will be announced by the CTD. The non-qualified pairs can participate tomorrow in the **MP Pairs STRATA** event starting at **11:00 AM**, without paying any entry fee.

6 The **"IMP Pairs"** Entry closes today at **2100 Hrs**. The entry for the event is **Rs. 3000 per Pair** and it has to be given online on www.hcl-bridge.com. No entries will be taken after end of time deadline.

HCL GOLD TEAMS RESULTS

PRE-QUARTERFINAL
RESULT

HCL SILVER TEAMS RESULTS

PRE-QUARTERFINAL
RESULT

BBO MATCHES

MATCH 1

WHAM — VS — Bangur Cement

MATCH 2

Ash Gupta — VS — Mavericks Gold

HCL GOLD TEAMS

ROUND SCORES

Round 6

Table	Home Team	Away Team	VP
1	Gromov	Hemant Jalan	6.28 – 13.72
2	WHAM	Monica Jajoo	13.43 – 6.57
3	Ash Gupta	EA Bridge	3.61 – 16.39
4	Shri Radhey	Vinita Gupta	15.52 – 4.48
5	Indian Chain	Young Comrades	11.14 – 8.86
6	Deep Finesse	Phoenix Ruia	4.95 – 15.05
7	Bangur Cement	Yarboro	8.50 – 11.50
8	Liberty BD	I Doctors	7.49 – 12.51
9	Mavericks Platinum	Cacophonix	12.83 – 7.17
10	Poddar Aces	Baikunth	14.28 – 5.72
11	Vedic	Adventures	7.17 – 12.83
12	Pravaha	Narviram Power	11.85 – 8.15
13	Bangladesh D	Mavericks Gold	3.61 – 16.39
14	Dhampur Sugar Mills	Nagpur VI	19.33 – 0.67
15	Fenesta	Mohota	8.86 – 11.14
16	Fathe Maidan Club	Lake My Love	14.28 – 5.72
17	Latvia	Rampage	2.32 – 17.68
18	The Tenacious 6	Avagaard	18.44 – 1.56
19	Deepadhaar	Bianchi	10.39 – 9.61
20	Tornatae	Formidables	2.66 – 17.34
21	Pragmatic	Amanora	18.97 – 1.03
22	Gower	Delhi Blues	9.23 – 10.77
23	Kosmos	EHAA	1.03 – 18.97
24	7As	Juthika	5.20 – 14.80
25	Chefs Table	Sarlafibers	7.82 – 12.18
26	Marigold	Kings	0.04 – 19.96
27	Tricolor Titans	Kalinga	18.84 – 1.16
28	S D Associates	Bye	12.00 – 10.00

Round 7

Table	Home Team	Away Team	VP
1	Hemant Jalan	WHAM	4.71 – 15.29
2	EA Bridge	Shri Radhey	4.03 – 15.97
3	Gromov	Indian Chain	16.97 – 3.03
4	Phoenix Ruia	Monica Jajoo	14.28 – 5.72
5	Ash Gupta	Young Comrades	5.20 – 14.80
6	Poddar Aces	Mavericks Platinum	8.50 – 11.50
7	I Doctors	Yarboro	3.41 – 16.59
8	Dhampur Sugar Mills	Pravaha	8.50 – 11.50
9	Vinita Gupta	Adventures	16.59 – 3.41
10	Bangur Cement	Mavericks Gold	15.29 – 4.71
11	Deep Finesse	Liberty BD	11.85 – 8.15
12	The Tenacious 6	Cacophonix	4.48 – 15.52
13	Rampage	Vedic	4.71 – 15.29
14	Baikunth	Fathe Maidan Club	18.97 – 1.03
15	Pragmatic	Formidables	3.82 – 16.18
16	Narviram Power	Mohota	2.84 – 17.16
17	EHAA	Fenesta	8.50 – 11.50
18	Bangladesh D	Deepadhaar	4.25 – 15.75
19	Bianchi	Juthika	14.00 – 6.00
20	Kings	Delhi Blues	4.25 – 15.75
21	Lake My Love	Gower	11.50 – 8.50
22	Latvia	Tricolor Titans	17.16 – 2.84
23	Nagpur VI	Avagaard	8.86 – 11.14
24	Sarlafibers	Tornatae	8.15 – 11.85
25	Chefs Table	7As	11.85 – 8.15
26	Amanora	S D Associates	2.32 – 17.68
27	Kosmos	Marigold	12.83 – 7.17
28	Kalinga	Bye	12.00 – 10.00

Round 8

Table	Home Team	Away Team	VP
1	WHAM	Shri Radhey	3.03 – 16.97
2	Gromov	Phoenix Ruia	2.49 – 17.51
3	Hemant Jalan	Yarboro	15.75 – 4.25
4	Young Comrades	EA Bridge	18.30 – 1.70
5	Vinita Gupta	Mavericks Platinum	0.45 – 19.55
6	Bangur Cement	Baikunth	1.29 – 18.71
7	Poddar Aces	Cacophonix	14.54 – 5.46
8	Pravaha	Monica Jajoo	3.22 – 16.78
9	Vedic	Deep Finesse	15.29 – 4.71
10	Indian Chain	Ash Gupta	1.29 – 18.71
11	Dhampur Sugar Mills	Formidables	15.97 – 4.03
12	Mohota	I Doctors	6.28 – 13.72
13	Liberty BD	Deepadhaar	12.51 – 7.49
14	Mavericks Gold	Adventures	20.00 – 0.00
15	Rampage	The Tenacious 6	12.83 – 7.17
16	Fenesta	Bianchi	7.82 – 12.18
17	Latvia	Delhi Blues	19.96 – 0.04
18	EHAA	Pragmatic	14.28 – 5.72
19	Lake My Love	Narviram Power	4.03 – 15.97
20	Fathe Maidan Club	Bangladesh D	12.83 – 7.17
21	Juthika	Gower	7.82 – 12.18
22	Tornatae	Avagaard	11.85 – 8.15
23	Chefs Table	Nagpur VI	9.23 – 10.77
24	Kings	S D Associates	0.14 – 19.86
25	Sarlafibers	Kosmos	5.72 – 14.28
26	7As	Amanora	3.61 – 16.39
27	Kalinga	Marigold	9.23 – 10.77
28	Tricolor Titans	Bye	7.37 – 10.00

Round 9

Table	Home Team	Away Team	VP
1	Shri Radhey	Phoenix Ruia	9.23 – 10.77
2	Young Comrades	Mavericks Platinum	3.82 – 16.18
3	Hemant Jalan	Baikunth	16.97 – 3.03
4	WHAM	Poddar Aces	19.22 – 0.78
5	Gromov	Monica Jajoo	3.82 – 16.18
6	Ash Gupta	Vedic	15.97 – 4.03
7	Dhampur Sugar Mills	Mavericks Gold	8.86 – 11.14
8	Yarboro	EA Bridge	8.50 – 11.50
9	I Doctors	Latvia	8.50 – 11.50
10	Liberty BD	Vinita Gupta	1.03 – 18.97
11	Cacophonix	Pravaha	12.18 – 7.82
12	Bangur Cement	Mohota	8.15 – 11.85
13	Deep Finesse	Rampage	4.25 – 15.75
14	Formidables	EHAA	6.00 – 14.00
15	Bianchi	Narviram Power	13.72 – 6.28
16	Indian Chain	Deepadhaar	17.84 – 2.16
17	Fenesta	The Tenacious 6	18.44 – 1.56
18	S D Associates	Fathe Maidan Club	8.86 – 11.14
19	Gower	Pragmatic	9.23 – 10.77
20	Tornatae	Adventures	11.14 – 8.86
21	Lake My Love	Nagpur VI	3.22 – 16.78
22	Bangladesh D	Kosmos	7.82 – 12.18
23	Juthika	Chefs Table	2.00 – 18.00
24	Avagaard	Delhi Blues	4.95 – 15.05
25	Amanora	Sarlafibers	14.28 – 5.72
26	Kings	Kalinga	16.39 – 3.61
27	7As	Marigold	2.16 – 17.84
28	Tricolor Titans	Bye	7.37 – 10.00

Round 10

Table	Home Team	Away Team	VP
1	Shri Radhey	Hemant Jalan	14.54 – 5.46
2	WHAM	Mavericks Platinum	13.14 – 6.86
3	Phoenix Ruia	Ash Gupta	11.50 – 8.50
4	Monica Jajoo	Young Comrades	6.00 – 14.00
5	Vinita Gupta	Baikunth	1.29 – 18.71
6	Mavericks Gold	Gromov	18.00 – 2.00
7	Dhampur Sugar Mills	EA Bridge	8.50 – 11.50
8	Yarboro	Vedic	7.17 – 12.83
9	Latvia	Indian Chain	12.83 – 7.17
10	Rampage	Cacophonix	8.15 – 11.85
11	I Doctors	Poddar Aces	13.78 – 5.72
12	Fenesta	Pravaha	11.50 – 8.50
13	EHAA	Mohota	14.00 – 6.00
14	Bianchi	Bangur Cement	0.45 – 19.55
15	Formidables	Deep Finesse	15.97 – 4.03
16	Liberty BD	Fathe Maidan Club	6.86 – 13.14
17	Narviram Power	Nagpur VI	16.59 – 3.41
18	Chefs Table	S D Associates	1.85 – 18.15
19	Tornatae	Delhi Blues	14.80 – 5.20
20	Pragmatic	Deepadhaar	0.04 – 19.96
21	Gower	Kosmos	14.54 – 5.46
22	Adventures	The Tenacious 6	6.86 – 13.14
23	Amanora	Bangladesh D	8.86 – 11.14
24	Kings	Avagaard	1.29 – 18.71
25	Lake My Love	Marigold	18.58 – 1.42
26	Juthika	Sarlafibers	4.71 – 15.29
27	7As	Kalinga	18.00 – 2.00
28	Tricolor Titans	Bye	7.37 – 10.00

HCL SILVER TEAMS

ROUND SCORES

Round 6

Tbl	Home Team	Home VP	Away Team	Away VP
1	Winning Minds (24)	8.86	Ekdalia (1)	11.14
2	NCR Greens (77)	2.32	Gladiators (9)	17.68
3	Kal Aaj Aur Kal (81)	6.28	Trick N Trump (19)	13.72
4	Ace of Spade (60)	12.18	Aspire (46)	7.82
5	Conquerors (44)	17.84	Sahyadri (32)	2.16
6	Miracle (79)	15.05	Ace Royale (14)	4.95
7	Ernis (34)	2.66	Playwell (47)	17.34
8	CAPA (30)	15.97	Blooming Bidders (43)	4.03
9	Tarams (73)	18.58	Tax Free (78)	1.42
10	EA Bridge B (69)	6.57	Team Vibrant (50)	13.43
11	Zenith (17)	2.84	Divakar Lohit (68)	17.16
12	Dr SSM (56)	12.51	Maitri (11)	7.49
13	Ranjan (8)	4.95	Karpag (52)	15.05
14	RSCSBP (84)	14.80	Tapoban (37)	5.20
15	Swen (22)	2.66	Team Kabra (54)	17.34
16	Sonarpur Bridge Club (45)	14.54	PKRS (25)	5.46
17	The Squad (5)	8.86	ARBI (58)	11.14
18	Dharma Yodhya (15)	15.97	Zenith Elevator Co. (36)	4.03
19	Mangalmurti (51)	7.82	Shaptarrathi (4)	12.18
20	Invincible (2)	17.84	Hakuna Matata (31)	2.16
21	Bid And Made (80)	8.15	Guha And Friends (42)	11.85
22	Dehradun (7)	15.05	United (82)	4.95
23	Team Anil (74)	5.46	Neelachakra (38)	14.54
24	Shiv Ganga (66)	14.80	Surprise (57)	5.20
25	Unique (23)	4.71	Milky Way Galaxy (6)	15.29
26	Andromeda (10)	15.05	Checkback (63)	4.95
27	Affinity (40)	12.83	Ninjas (29)	7.17
28	Bridgepremi (49)	6.00	S 4 (76)	14.00
29	RCBC (41)	12.51	Jhontu (53)	7.49
30	Savvy Acers (33)	7.82	Borivali Sports Club (16)	12.18
31	Now or Never (75)	14.28	Lal Mati (27)	5.72
32	Five Diamonds (35)	0.00	Shiva (61)	20.00
33	Alfa Aces (67)	3.82	TRECKers (39)	16.18
34	Contract Killers (13)	13.43	Ea Radhe Krishna (3)	6.57
35	Ganaraya (64)	7.49	Five Heart Patna (48)	12.51
36	Sweta Goenka Vi (71)	12.18	Dhanu (18)	7.82
37	Usha Kiran (12)	0.00	Super Lucky (70)	20.00
38	Shivalik (59)	14.80	Him (21)	5.20
39	Pelican (55)	0.00	Assasins (72)	20.00
40	Tasher Desh (20)	10.77	BOND (65)	9.23
41	Nuts And Bolts (83)	5.46	Quest (26)	14.54
42	Rising Stars (28)	1.85	Inspiration (62)	18.15

Round 7

Tbl	Home Team	Home VP	Away Team	Away VP
1	Gladiators (9)	16.18	Winning Minds (24)	3.82
2	Ekdalia (1)	11.85	Conquerors (44)	8.15
3	Trick N Trump (19)	6.86	Playwell (47)	13.14
4	Tarams (73)	5.20	Miracle (79)	14.80
5	Ace of Spade (60)	11.85	CAPA (30)	8.15
6	Divakar Lohit (68)	9.61	Kal Aaj Aur Kal (81)	10.39
7	NCR Greens (77)	6.00	Team Vibrant (50)	14.00
8	Aspire (46)	7.49	Team Kabra (54)	12.51
9	Karpag (52)	10.77	RSCSBP (84)	9.23
10	Dr SSM (56)	13.72	Invincible (2)	6.28
11	Dharma Yodhya (15)	15.52	Sonarpur Bridge Club (45)	4.48
12	Ace Royale (14)	18.44	Dehradun (7)	1.56
13	EA Bridge B (69)	2.49	Ranjan (8)	17.51
14	Zenith (17)	13.14	Swen (22)	6.86
15	Sahyadri (32)	10.39	Ernis (34)	9.61
16	Blooming Bidders (43)	10.00	Mangalmurti (51)	10.00
17	Tax Free (78)	9.61	The Squad (5)	10.39
18	Maitri (11)	11.85	Shiv Ganga (66)	8.15
19	Tapoban (37)	2.99	Bid And Made (80)	17.01
20	Shaptarrathi (4)	17.84	United (82)	2.16
21	PKRS (25)	10.39	Unique (23)	9.61
22	Hakuna Matata (31)	5.72	Andromeda (10)	14.28
23	Guha And Friends (42)	17.16	Team Anil (74)	2.84
24	Neelachakra (38)	6.00	Affinity (40)	14.00
25	Surprise (57)	10.77	RCBC (41)	9.23
26	Milky Way Galaxy (6)	9.61	Savvy Acers (33)	10.39
27	Checkback (63)	6.57	Now or Never (75)	13.43
28	Ninjas (29)	17.34	Five Diamonds (35)	2.66
29	S 4 (76)	12.51	Alfa Aces (67)	7.49
30	Jhontu (53)	11.14	Contract Killers (13)	8.86
31	Borivali Sports Club (16)	17.01	Ganaraya (64)	2.99
32	Lal Mati (27)	2.16	Sweta Goenka Vi (71)	17.84
33	Shiva (61)	13.14	Usha Kiran (12)	6.86
34	TRECKers (39)	14.54	Shivalik (59)	5.46
35	Ea Radhe Krishna (3)	20.00	Pelican (55)	0.00
36	Five Heart Patna (48)	14.80	Tasher Desh (20)	5.20
37	Dhanu (18)	8.15	Nuts And Bolts (83)	11.85
38	Super Lucky (70)	11.85	Rising Stars (28)	8.15
39	Him (21)	0.98	Affy (Type 2) (90)	19.02
40	Assasins (72)	9.23	Tenacious 6 (85)	10.77
41	BOND (65)	13.14	Sadashiv (86)	6.86
42	Inspiration (62)	7.82	Twilight (87)	12.18

Round 8

Tbl	Home Team	Home VP	Away Team	Away VP
1	Gladiators (9)	10.77	Ekdalia (1)	9.23
2	Winning Minds (24)	3.03	Miracle (79)	16.97
3	Playwell (47)	8.86	Conquerors (44)	11.14
4	Trick N Trump (19)	16.39	Ace of Spade (60)	3.61
5	Team Vibrant (50)	8.50	Ace Royale (14)	11.50
6	Divakar Lohit (68)	6.86	CAPA (30)	13.14
7	Kal Aaj Aur Kal (81)	12.51	Tarams (73)	7.49
8	Team Kabra (54)	11.85	Dr SSM (56)	8.15
9	Blooming Bidders (43)	3.61	Dharma Yodhya (15)	16.39
10	Sahyadri (32)	5.72	Karpag (52)	14.28
11	Aspire (46)	13.14	NCR Greens (77)	6.86
12	Neelachakra (38)	2.66	RSCSBP (84)	17.34
13	Maitri (11)	8.50	Affinity (40)	11.50
14	Ranjan (8)	18.15	Guha And Friends (42)	1.85
15	Invincible (2)	12.83	Milky Way Galaxy (6)	7.17
16	Sonarpur Bridge Club (45)	4.03	Zenith (17)	15.97
17	PKRS (25)	4.71	Mangalmurti (51)	15.29
18	Bid And Made (80)	11.85	Swen (22)	8.15
19	Shiv Ganga (66)	10.77	Shaptarrathi (4)	9.23
20	Team Anil (74)	13.72	Andromeda (10)	6.28
21	United (82)	18.30	The Squad (5)	1.70
22	Assasins (72)	9.23	EA Bridge B (69)	10.77
23	ARBI (58)	16.78	Shiva (61)	3.22
24	Dehradun (7)	15.75	Tapoban (37)	4.25
25	Ernis (34)	15.75	Now or Never (75)	4.25
26	Jhontu (53)	17.34	S 4 (76)	2.66
27	Checkback (63)	11.85	Tax Free (78)	8.15
28	Ninjas (29)	19.44	Super Lucky (70)	0.56
29	Zenith Elevator Co. (36)	3.03	Sweta Goenka Vi (71)	16.97
30	Borivali Sports Club (16)	14.00	Surprise (57)	6.00
31	Unique (23)	10.77	TRECKers (39)	9.23
32	Hakuna Matata (31)	4.48	Dhanu (18)	15.52
33	RCBC (41)	7.82	Lal Mati (27)	12.18
34	Ea Radhe Krishna (3)	6.57	Bridgepremi (49)	13.43
35	Contract Killers (13)	0.04	Shivalik (59)	19.96
36	Five Heart Patna (48)	1.42	Savvy Acers (33)	18.58
37	Ganaraya (64)	2.32	Five Diamonds (35)	17.68
38	Alfa Aces (67)	14.80	BOND (65)	5.20
39	Inspiration (62)	2.66	Quest (26)	17.34
40	Him (21)	5.72	Rising Stars (28)	14.28
41	Usha Kiran (12)	3.03	Pelican (55)	16.97
42	Tasher Desh (20)	6.57	Nuts And Bolts (83)	13.43

Round 9

Tbl	Home Team	Home VP	Away Team	Away VP
1	Miracle (79)	14.54	Gladiators (9)	5.46
2	Ekdalia (1)	5.72	Trick N Trump (19)	14.28
3	Conquerors (44)	11.50	Dharma Yodhya (15)	8.50
4	Playwell (47)	8.86	CAPA (30)	11.14
5	Ace Royale (14)	5.20	Winning Minds (24)	14.80
6	Kal Aaj Aur Kal (81)	4.48	RSCSBP (84)	15.52
7	Team Kabra (54)	13.72	Karpag (52)	6.28
8	Team Vibrant (50)	3.41	Ranjan (8)	16.59
9	Aspire (46)	9.23	Tarams (73)	10.77
10	Ace of Spade (60)	9.61	Dr SSM (56)	10.39
11	Divakar Lohit (68)	4.95	Sahyadri (32)	15.05
12	Zenith (17)	10.00	Affinity (40)	10.00
13	Invincible (2)	9.23	Mangalmurti (51)	10.77
14	United (82)	0.00	Blooming Bidders (43)	20.00
15	NCR Greens (77)	0.00	Maitri (11)	19.96
16	Ninjas (29)	18.00	ARBI (58)	2.00
17	Jhontu (53)	8.15	Team Anil (74)	11.85
18	Dehradun (7)	7.82	Bid And Made (80)	12.18
19	Milky Way Galaxy (6)	6.00	Ernis (34)	14.00
20	Shiv Ganga (66)	11.85	Neelachakra (38)	8.15
21	Shaptarrathi (4)	7.82	Sweta Goenka Vi (71)	12.18
22	Swen (22)	7.17	EA Bridge B (69)	12.83
23	Assasins (72)	15.75	Checkback (63)	4.25
24	Guha And Friends (42)	5.72	PKRS (25)	14.28
25	Sonarpur Bridge Club (45)	8.50	Borivali Sports Club (16)	11.50
26	Andromeda (10)	10.00	Dhanu (18)	10.00
27	Shivalik (59)	18.15	Tax Free (78)	1.85
28	Unique (23)	4.95	Lal Mati (27)	15.05
29	Tapoban (37)	11.14	Savvy Acers (33)	8.86
30	Now or Never (75)	1.85	Shiva (61)	18.15
31	The Squad (5)	1.03	Five Diamonds (35)	18.97
32	Bridgepremi (49)	5.46	TRECKers (39)	14.54
33	S 4 (76)	11.50	Zenith Elevator Co. (36)	8.50
34	Surprise (57)	16.18	RCBC (41)	3.82
35	Super Lucky (70)	0.78	Alfa Aces (67)	19.22
36	Ea Radhe Krishna (3)	11.50	Quest (26)	8.50
37	Hakuna Matata (31)	16.18	Contract Killers (13)	3.82
38	Pelican (55)	11.50	BOND (65)	8.50
39	Nuts And Bolts (83)	10.00	Five Heart Patna (48)	10.00
40	Ganaraya (64)	16.78	Inspiration (62)	3.22
41	Tasher Desh (20)	16.59	Rising Stars (28)	3.41
42	Him (21)	10.77	Usha Kiran (12)	9.23

HCL SILVER TEAMS

ROUND SCORES

Round 10

Tbl	Home Team	Home VP	Away Team	Away VP	Tbl	Home Team	Home VP	Away Team	Away VP
1	Trick N Trump (19)	4.71	Miracle (79)	15.29	22	Shiva (61)	3.03	Milky Way Galaxy (6)	16.97
2	Conquerors (44)	9.61	Gladiators (9)	10.39	23	Borivali Sports Club (16)	18.00	Shaptarrathi (4)	2.00
3	RSCSBP (84)	11.14	Winning Minds (24)	8.86	24	ARBI (58)	3.61	United (82)	16.39
4	Ranjan (8)	14.54	Ekdalia (1)	5.46	25	Lal Mati (27)	15.97	Swen (22)	4.03
5	Team Kabra (54)	1.03	Playwell (47)	18.97	26	NCR Greens (77)	2.84	Andromeda (10)	17.16
6	CAPA (30)	18.15	Dharma Yodhya (15)	1.85	27	Alfa Aces (67)	14.00	Sonarpur Bridge Club (45)	6.00
7	Blooming Bidders (43)	15.29	Maitri (11)	4.71	28	Dhanu (18)	8.86	TREckers (39)	11.14
8	Sahyadri (32)	10.00	Ninjas (29)	10.00	29	Guha And Friends (42)	15.75	Checkback (63)	4.25
9	Karpag (52)	13.72	Ace Royale (14)	6.28	30	Surprise (57)	6.86	Tapoban (37)	13.14
10	Tarams (73)	2.32	Ace of Spade (60)	17.68	31	S 4 (76)	0.00	Hakuna Matata (31)	20.00
11	Dr SSM (56)	17.34	Aspire (46)	2.66	32	Zenith Elevator Co. (36)	20.00	Unique (23)	0.00
12	Kal Aaj Aur Kal (81)	0.34	Zenith (17)	19.66	33	Tax Free (78)	14.80	Ea Radhe Krishna (3)	5.20
13	Affinity (40)	15.52	Team Vibrant (50)	4.48	34	Quest (26)	4.95	Bridgepremi (49)	15.05
14	Mangalmurti (51)	16.18	Ernis (34)	3.82	35	Now or Never (75)	18.71	The Squad (5)	1.29
15	Invincible (2)	12.18	Divakar Lohit (68)	7.82	36	RCBC (41)	5.20	Ganaraya (64)	14.80
16	Bid And Made (80)	11.50	Team Anil (74)	8.50	37	Pelican (55)	0.00	Super Lucky (70)	20.00
17	Shiv Ganga (66)	6.57	Assasins (72)	13.43	38	Tasher Desh (20)	12.18	Five Heart Patna (48)	7.82
18	Sweta Goenka Vi (71)	11.85	Shivalik (59)	8.15	39	BOND (65)	5.20	Nuts And Bolts (83)	14.80
19	EA Bridge B (69)	15.29	Jhontu (53)	4.71	40	Contract Killers (13)	14.28	Him (21)	5.72
20	PKRS (25)	3.61	Dehradun (7)	16.39	41	Inspiration (62)	4.48	Usha Kiran (12)	15.52
21	Neelachakra (38)	20.00	Five Diamonds (35)	0.00	42	Rising Stars (28)	12.00	0	0.00

A Creative Bidding Journey

20

Gold Teams,
Swiss League,
R2

♠ 54
♥ AJ105
♦ AKJ105
♣ 62

♠ KQJ7
♥ K8
♦ 964
♣ AJ104

♠ A83
♥ Q9632
♦ 7
♣ K953

♠ 10962
♥ 74
♦ Q832
♣ Q87

The Auction

West (Mukund Thapa)	North (Vijay R Phatarphekar)	East (P. Sridhar)	South (T.V. Ramani)
1♣	1♦	2♥*	3♦
X	Pass	3♠**	Pass
4♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Explanation of the alert bids

2♥* = FIT Jump.

3♠** = Fragment.



Narrated by
P. Sridhar

The Bidding

West, **Mukund Thapa**, opened 1♣. **Vijay R Phatarphekar** (North) responded 1♦ and **P. Sridhar** (East) jumped to 2♥, which was alerted as a **FIT Jump**. **T.V. Ramani** (South) bid 3♦. Mukund then doubled. Vijay passed and Sridhar bid 3♠, which was alerted as a fragment. Ramani passed and Mukund now bid 4♣, which ended the auction as everyone passed.

The Play

North led the diamond ace and continued with the diamond, which was ruffed in dummy. Declarer then played clubs to the jack and ruffed another diamond, cashed the spade ace and drew trumps. He claimed his **ten tricks**, even though **the trumps were 4-2**.

A Unique Find

This imaginative bid of 4♣ was **the only one in the entire field** to be made, giving the pair a **clean 11 IMP pickup**.



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HCL India 3-boards
tournament to get your
BridgeChamp bag





From Priyanka Gulati's Corner

When the Noise Disappears

Watching Alexander Zverev win the US Open, I kept thinking about Timothy Gallwey's book *The Inner Game of Tennis*.

Gallwey talks about two games. The outer game is against your opponent. The inner game is against the noise in your own head.

Speaking to Jesal & Shambhu after their win at the Mixed tournament in HCL, what struck me wasn't just that they won. It was how they won.

Jesal was so deep in her concentration that when the last board was over, she didn't even realise they had won. There was no immediate celebration. Just, "Is it over?"

That reminded me of Zverev. So completely inside the game that the result almost became irrelevant.

As she said, the mantra was simple:

**“ Stay in the zone.
First, stay calm.
Maintain.
Don't make mistakes. ”**

No chasing the win.
No looking too far ahead.
Just the next board. The next decision.
The next card.

And when they spoke about the win, neither talked about some magical moment. They talked about relentless practice. Patience. Time, and each praised the other for the support.

That stayed with me. Because in bridge, as in tennis, the IMPs and points are visible. But... what isn't visible are the hours of practice that make the mind quiet enough to trust the game.

***Maybe that is mastery.
When the noise disappears,
the game takes over.***

And sometimes, the most beautiful wins are the ones discovered only after they're over.

The Young Star Anirudh

Mark Horton

Guy Ritchie's second Sherlock Holmes movie, *A Game of Shadows*, features a chess game between Holmes and Moriarty. Many chess games are decided by brilliant combinations. On this deal from the Gold Teams Championship, one of the players demonstrated that they are not merely the prerogative of the chess masters.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

		North		
		A K 9 4		
		9 6		
		A 6		
		A 10 7 5 2		
West			East	
Q J			10 7 5 3	
J 10 3			4 2	
Q J 10 9 7 2			K 8 5 3	
9 3			J 8 4	
		South		
		8 6 2		
		A K Q 8 7 5		
		4		
		K Q 6		

In my report on Round 4 I commented that all the pairs who bid a grand slam won at least 13 IMPs. However...

Cacophonix v Mohota

Open Room

West Prakash	North Poddar	East Easwaren	South Ghosh
—	—	Pass	1 ♥
3 ♦	Dble*	Pass	4 ♥
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5 ♠*
Pass	5NT*	Pass	6 ♣*
Pass	7 ♥	All Pass	

4NT – RKCB
5♠ – 2 keycards + ♥Q
5NT – Grand Slam try
6♣ – ♣K

In the Open Room, NS had stopped in 6♥ so there was sure to be a swing.

Having survived his daring entry into the auction Anirudh Prakash led the ♦Q. Declarer won with dummy's ♦A and played a heart to the ace. When West followed with the ♥J declarer crossed to dummy with a spade and ran the ♥9, losing 16 IMPs.

West's overcall and the play of the ♥J had combined to bring about declarer's downfall!

MUMBAI TITANS

Mark Horton

Who could resist following a match involving Deep Finesse. In Round 6 they faced Phoenix Ruia.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ J	♠ Q 9 8 6 5 2	♠ AK 7
♥ AK 3	♥ 10 9 2	♥ 8
♦ Q 9 3 2	♦ A 10 5 4	♦ K 8 7 6
♣ 10 9 6 3 2	♣ —	♣ AK Q J 5
	♠ 10 4 3	
	♥ Q J 7 6 5 4	
	♦ J	
	♣ 8 7 4	

Deep Finesse v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
S Karmarkar	Bhiwandkar	Solani	Dhakras
—	2♠	Dble	3♠
Dble	Pass	6♣	All Pass

South led the ♠3 and declarer won and cashed the ♣AKQ, North discarding spades. A heart to the king was followed by a diamond to the king and that meant one down, -50. Having avoided a diamond lead declarer could have got home by eliminating the major suits and then playing a diamond for the jack, queen and ace. North then has to return a diamond into the ♦K8 or give a ruff and discard. 6♣ was made on four occasions, once after North led the ♦A.



Anal B Shah

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Shah	Shah	Alphonso	Raj
—	2♦*	Dble	3♥*
Dble	3♠	3NT	All Pass
2♦	Multi		
3♥	Pass or correct		

From the play record declarer got the diamonds wrong but was credited with +490 and 11 IMPs to **Deep Finesse**.



Ivan Alphonso

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ K 9 6	♠ Q 7
♥ 3	♥ AJ 10 7 4
♦ A 10 7 6 2	♦ K Q 9
♣ Q J 8 5	♣ K 9 7
♠ AJ 8 3	
♥ Q 8 2	
♦ J 5 4	
♣ A 4 3	
♠ 10 5 4 2	
♥ K 9 6 5	
♦ 8 3	
♣ 10 6 2	

The predictable BBO collapse means the bidding and play records from both rooms vanished, but both teams were in 4♥.

If South leads a diamond North must duck and can later give partner a ruff.

On a club lead, if declarer wins in hand and runs the ♠Q North wins and must switch to a low diamond as opposed to continuing with a second club.

At both tables South led the ♦8, but **Phoenix Ruia** emerged with +620 and 12 IMPs.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 9		
♥ 9432		
♦ AKJ8		
♣ AJ97		
♠ A32		♠ 76
♥ A10		♥ KQJ876
♦ 1054		♦ 962
♣ 108432		♣ Q6
	♠ KQJ10854	
	♥ 5	
	♦ Q73	
	♣ K5	

Deep Finesse v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
S Karmarkar	Bhiwandkar	Solani	Dhakras
Pass	1♦	3♥	4♠
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

South led the ♠K and declarer claimed for four down, -800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Shah	Shah	Alphonoso	Raj
Pass	1♦	2♥	4♠
All Pass			

West led the ♣2 and although there were two aces to lose, West did not take them, +680, but 3 IMPs to **Deep Finesse**.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ QJ2		
♥ AJ105		
♦ A3		
♣ 10987		
♠ 98743		♠ AK105
♥ Q64		♥ —
♦ QJ42		♦ 98
♣ A		♣ KQJ6542
	♠ 6	
	♥ K98732	
	♦ K10765	
	♣ 3	

Deep Finesse v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
S Karmarkar	Bhiwandkar	Solani	Dhakras
—	1♦	2♣	3♥*
Pass	4♥	4♠	All Pass

3♥ Fit jump

South led the ♥3 and declarer ruffed, cashed the ♠A, crossed to the ♣A, came to hand with a spade and could play winning clubs, discarding dummy's diamonds, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Shah	Shah	Alphonoso	Raj
—	1♦	2♣	2♦
Pass	3♥	Dble	4♥
Pass	Pass	5♣	5♥
All Pass			

It's not clear why East did not prefer 4♠ to 5♣.

East led the ♠A and switched to the ♣K, West winning and returning the ♠4. Declarer ruffed in dummy and cashed the ♥K, disclosing the 3-0 split. When he continued with two rounds of diamonds he had to go one down, -100, but 11 IMPs to **Phoenix Ruia**.

One way to make 5♥ is to draw trumps via the marked finesse and then play the ♣10. If East covers declarer ruffs and has an easy route to 11 tricks via the ruffing club finesse.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 653		
♥ A1098		
♦ 96		
♣ A1063		
♠ AJ82		♠ K74
♥ J3		♥ KQ52
♦ A742		♦ KQJ53
♣ Q52		♣ 7
	♠ Q109	
	♥ 764	
	♦ 108	
	♣ KJ984	

Deep Finesse v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
S Karmarkar	Bhiwandkar	Solani	Dhakras
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

North led the ♦9 and declarer won with dummy's ♦K and played the ♣7, North winning with the ♣10 and continuing with the ♦6. Declarer won in dummy and played a heart for the jack and ace, North returning the ♥10 to dummy's ♥K. Declarer played spades, finessing against the queen and claimed 11 tricks, +450.

In the replay West was the declarer in 3NT and North led the ♥10. Now declarer could score ten tricks by taking the spade finesse, +430 losing only a single IMP.

It was a good win for **Phoenix Ruia**, 31-16, 14.80-5.20 VP.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES 7

Mark Horton

In Round 7 we are following the fortunes of Poddar Aces and Mavericks Platinum.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 5 3		♠ 9 6 4 2
♥ A J 10 8 7		♥ 6 4 3 2
♦ A		♦ 6 3
♣ J 9 4 3		♣ K Q 2
♠ A Q 8		
♥ K Q		
♦ J 9 7 5 4 2		
♣ 8 7		
♠ K J 10		
♥ 9 5		
♦ K Q 10 8		
♣ A 10 6 5		

Poddar Aces v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	Somani	J Patreuha	Shetty
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♦	Dble*	Pass	1♥*
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Dble Hearts

West led the ♦5 to dummy's ♦A and declarer played the ♣J for the queen and ace and a second club to East's ♣K. The spade switch saw West win with the ♠Q and return the ♥K,

declarer taking dummy's ♥A, cashing two clubs and playing the ♠K. West won, took the ♥Q, and exited with a spade, eventually scoring the setting trick with the ♦J, -100. The way the play went, declarer needed to duck the ♥K. It might be an improvement to play the ♣10 from hand on the second round of the suit, preserving an entry to dummy. Then switching to the ♥K would not help West.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rajmohan	Lahrman	Vijayraghavan	Heiberg-Evenstad
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

2♣ Checkback

West led the ♠Q and declarer won, crossed to dummy with the ♦A and played the ♣J for the queen and ace and a club for the nine and king. Two rounds of spades saw declarer win with the ♠J and he cashed his clubs forcing West to part with a diamond. After cashing the ♦K declarer played two rounds of hearts forcing West to win and lead into the ♦Q 10 for +630 and 12 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A Q J 3		♠ 10 9 2
♥ 10 2		♥ A 9 7 5 4
♦ J 9 5 4 3		♦ K 10
♣ 5 4		♣ K Q J
♠ 8 7 4		
♥ Q 8		
♦ A Q 7 2		
♣ A 10 9 2		
♠ K 6 5		
♥ K J 6 3		
♦ 8 6		
♣ 8 7 6 3		

Poddar Aces v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	Somani	J Patreuha	Shetty
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

1♣ Polish Club
2♣ Checkback



Rahul Shetty

North led the ♠3 and the defenders cashed four tricks in the suit, declarer discarding a heart from each hand. North switched to the ♥10 and declarer took dummy's ♥A but could not generate a ninth trick, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rajmohan	Lahrman	Vijayraghavan	Heiberg-Evenstad
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the ♦3 and when dummy's ♦10 held, declarer had nine tricks, +600 and 12 IMPs to **Poddar Aces**.



Christian Lahrman

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ AKQ1032		
♥ 85		
♦ 8		
♣ A987		
♠ J85	♠ 974	
♥ AQJ43	♥ 972	
♦ 73	♦ KJ10954	
♣ Q104	♣ 2	
	♠ 6	
	♥ K106	
	♦ AQ62	
	♣ KJ653	

Poddar Aces v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	Somani	J Patreuha	Shetty
—	1♠	3♦	3NT
All Pass			

West led the ♥Q and declarer ducked, won the next heart with the king and cashed the spades, claiming 11 tricks, +660.

I'm sure you can work out how declarer could have taken an extra trick, ideally after winning the opening lead.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rajmohan	Lahrman	Vijayraghavan	Heiberg-Evenstad
—	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

West led the ♥A and waited for his club trick, -100 and 13 IMPs to **Poddar Aces**.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ K1064		
♥ A10		
♦ K82		
♣ AQJ6		
♠ AQ5	♠ 9872	
♥ K94	♥ QJ3	
♦ A1064	♦ QJ975	
♣ K83	♣ 9	
	♠ J3	
	♥ 87652	
	♦ 3	
	♣ 107542	

Poddar Aces v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	Somani	J Patreuha	Shetty
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	All Pass		



Jakub Patreuha

North led the $\diamond 2$ and declarer won with dummy's $\diamond 5$ and ran the $\clubsuit 9$, North winning with the $\clubsuit J$ and playing two rounds of hearts. Declarer won, ruffed a club, played a diamond to the ace and a diamond, claiming, +90.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rajmohan	Lahrmann	Vijayraghavan	Heiberg-Evenstad
—	—	Pass	Pass
INT	Dble	Pass	2 $\clubsuit$
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led the $\spadesuit A$ and switched to the $\diamond 4$. When dummy's $\diamond K$ held declarer played two rounds of hearts, East winning and returning a spade for the jack, queen and king. A diamond ruff, a club to the jack, a diamond ruff, a club to the queen, a spade ruff, a heart ruff, the $\clubsuit A$ and the $\spadesuit 10$ added up to three overtricks, +480 and 11 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

	$\spadesuit$ Q 9 2	
	$\heartsuit$ A Q 5 3	
	$\diamond$ A J 5 3	
	$\clubsuit$ Q 7 3	
$\spadesuit$ J 10 8 5 4	$\begin{matrix} N \\ W \quad E \\ S \end{matrix}$	$\spadesuit$ A 7
$\heartsuit$ J 10 2		$\heartsuit$ K 8 6 4
$\diamond$ K 10		$\diamond$ Q 9 6 5 4
$\clubsuit$ A 10 4		$\clubsuit$ K 8
	$\spadesuit$ K 6 3	
	$\heartsuit$ 9 7	
	$\diamond$ 8 7 2	
	$\clubsuit$ J 9 6 5 2	

Poddar Aces v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	Somani	J Patreuha	Shetty
—	—	1 $\diamond$	Pass
1 $\spadesuit$	Pass	INT	All Pass

South led the $\clubsuit 5$ and declarer took North's $\clubsuit Q$ and played a diamond for the king and ace. North switched to the $\heartsuit 3$ and declarer won with dummy's $\heartsuit 10$, ran the $\diamond 10$ and played the $\heartsuit J$, North taking the $\heartsuit A$ and continuing with the $\spadesuit 2$. Declarer took the $\spadesuit A$, cashed the diamonds, played a club to the ten and claimed the rest, +210.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rajmohan	Lahrmann	Vijayraghavan	Heiberg-Evenstad
—	—	1 $\diamond$	Pass
1 $\spadesuit$	Pass	INT	Pass
2 $\clubsuit$	All Pass		

North led the $\heartsuit Q$ and when dummy's $\heartsuit K$ held declarer played a diamond for the king and ace. North cashed the $\heartsuit A$ and switched to the $\diamond 3$, declarer winning with dummy's $\diamond Q$, cashing the $\spadesuit A$ and playing three rounds of clubs, ruffing in dummy. The $\heartsuit 6$ saw South ruff and play the $\clubsuit J$, ruffed by declarer with the $\spadesuit 8$ and overruffed by North who returned a heart, South's ruff ensuring one down, -100 and 7 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**, giving them a 35-31 win, which translated into 11.50-8.50VP.



Patryk Patreuha

YOUNGEST FACES

at the 23rd HCL International Bridge Championship

Jashith Narang (Under-21)

- Represented India at the 2024 World Youth Transnational Championships, Wroclaw, Poland.
- Represented India at the 2025 World Youth Team Championships, Salsomaggiore, Italy.
- Represented India at the 2026 World Youth Transnational Championships, Hefei, China.

Tilakraj Choudhary (Under-26)

- Represented India at the 2022 World Youth Open Championships.
- Represented India at the 2023 World Youth Teams Championships.
- Represented India at the 2024 World Youth Transnational Championships, Wroclaw, Poland.
- Represented India at the 2025 World Youth Team Championships.

HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

OCTOBER 02-11, 2026 New Delhi

Jashith Narang

Age 16 Years

Tilakraj Choudhary

Age 22 Years

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Orlov	Solani	Rudakov	Raj
3♣	All Pass		

North led the ♦K and declarer lost a spade, a diamond and two clubs for +110, but 8 IMPs went to **Phoenix Ruia**.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠ 6		
	♥ J2		
	♦ AQJ102		
	♣ KQ1063		
♠ 10		♠ AK872	
♥ A108543		♥ KQ97	
♦ 986		♦ K	
♣ A852		♣ 974	
	♠ QJ9543		
	♥ 64		
	♦ 7543		
	♣ J		

Gromov v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Athavale	Gromov	S Karmarkar	Gulevich
—	—	1♠	Pass
INT	2NT*	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

West led the ♦6 and when declarer put in dummy's ♦Q she was one down, -50.

Would you have doubled 3♦ as East?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Orlov	Solani	Rudakov	Raj
—	—	1♠	Pass
INT	2NT*	Dble	3♦
All Pass			

West led the ♦6 and declarer put up the ♦A collecting East's ♦K and played a club, easily securing nine tricks, +110 and 4 IMPs for **Phoenix Ruia**.

Do you think West should have bid 3♥ over 3♦?

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

	♠ KQ86		
	♥ Q954		
	♦ K7		
	♣ J62		
♠ AJ		♠ 105432	
♥ AJ10876		♥ K3	
♦ 65		♦ Q102	
♣ 954		♣ 873	
	♠ 97		
	♥ 2		
	♦ AJ9843		
	♣ AKQ10		

Gromov v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Athavale	Gromov	S Karmarkar	Gulevich
1♥	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	INT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

East led the ♥K and switched to the ♣3, declarer winning with dummy's ♣A and playing three rounds of diamonds, +150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Orlov	Solani	Rudakov	Raj
1♥	Pass	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♠5 and West won and returned the ♠J, declarer winning and playing three rounds of diamonds, +400 and 6 IMPs for **Phoenix Ruia**.



Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

	♠ KQ105		
	♥ 10987		
	♦ J3		
	♣ 982		
♠ J863		♠ 72	
♥ A643		♥ KQ5	
♦ Q872		♦ A95	
♣ 7		♣ QJ543	
	♠ A94		
	♥ J2		
	♦ K1064		
	♣ AK106		

Gromov v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Athavale	Gromov	S Karmarkar	Gulevich
—	—	1♦	INT
2♣*	Pass	2♥	All Pass

South led the ♥J and declarer won with the ♥K and played the ♦9, South going up with the ♦K and continuing with the ♥2. Declarer won with dummy's ♥A, played a heart to the queen, cashed the ♦A and played a diamond to the eight, North ruffing. Declarer eventually scored dummy's two red winners for two down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Orlov	Solani	Rudakov	Raj
—	—	INT*	Dble
2♦*	Pass	Pass	Dble
Rdbl*	3♦	Dble	3NT
All Pass			

INT (9)10-12
Rdbl Majors



West led the ♦2 and East won and returned the ♦5, West winning with the ♦Q and exiting with the ♦8 (not easy to find a heart switch) declarer winning, crossing to dummy with the ♠K and running the ♣8, playing a club for the jack and ace, cashing the diamonds and the ♣K. West pitched a spade on this trick, and three spade tricks were enough for game, +600 and 11 IMPs to **Phoenix Ruia**.

If East was confident West held the majors, switching to the ♥K at trick two and then going back to diamonds would have worked well.

Board 19. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ AKQ43	♠ 109	♠ J876
♥ 10	♥ 9542	♥ QJ83
♦ J9	♦ KQ108	♦ 74
♣ AQ543	♣ KJ9	♣ 872
	♠ 52	
	♥ AK76	
	♦ A6532	
	♣ 106	



Gromov v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Athavale	Gromov	S Karmarkar	Gulevich
—	—	—	1♦
1♠	Dble*	2♠	3♥
4♣	4♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Bidding 3♥ feels very pushy – if partner has a good hand he will bid again and then you bid 3♥ knowing that you have shown a minimum opening bid.

West cashed two spades and the ♣A, and declarer lost two hearts for -300.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Orlov	Solani	Rudakov	Raj
—	—	—	1♦
1♠	Dble	2♥*	Dble
4♣	All Pass		

North led the ♥4 and South won with the ♥A and played two rounds of diamonds, North winning and switching to the ♣9. That meant the contract was only one down, -100 but 9 IMPs to Phoenix Ruia.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 7	♠ K542	♠ QJ10
♥ AK1042	♥ 6	♥ J853
♦ J92	♦ AQ85	♦ K10743
♣ AQ76	♣ KJ54	♣ 9
	♠ A9863	
	♥ Q97	
	♦ 6	
	♣ 10832	



Gromov v Phoenix Ruia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Athavale	Gromov	S Karmarkar	Gulevich
1♥	Dble	2NT*	4♠
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

2NT Support

North led the ♠4 and South won and switched to the ♦6, North winning and returning the ♦5. South ruffed and switched to the ♣2 and declarer took the ♣A, cashed the top hearts and played a diamond to the ten, one down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Orlov	Solani	Rudakov	Raj
1♥	Dble	3♥	3♠
4♣	4♠	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♥K and switched to the ♦J, declarer taking dummy's ♦A, cashing the top spades and playing the ♣10. West took the ♣A and returned the ♦9, declarer ruffing and playing a club to the jack, East discarding a diamond. Declarer cross ruffed the red suits for one down, -200 and 9 IMPs to **Gromov**.

That made the final score 38-10 in favour of **Phoenix Ruia**, giving them.

Dealing Team



Murari Kumar Jha | Sharmistha Raval | Chetan Raval
SRC Sekar | Gajendra Singh

BBO Vu-Graph



Meenal Thakur | Subrata Adhikari | Somik Mitra
Sudip Mahato | Abhishek Roy

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES 9

Mark Horton

With two qualification rounds remaining the teams hovering around the cut-off zone would be hoping for good results. We are following Ash Gupta v Vedic.

Board 21. Dealer North. NIS Vul.

♠ —	♠ 9 5 4 2	♠ Q J 8 7 3
♥ K 8	♥ Q 3	♥ A 10 9 7 6
♦ 9 8 7 3 2	♦ K 10 4	♦ Q
♣ A 10 8 6 5 3	♣ K Q J 4	♣ 4 2
	♠ AK 10 6	
	♥ J 5 4 2	
	♦ A J 6 5	
	♣ 9	

Ash Gupta v Vedic

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Roy	Sensarma	Mukherjee	Lall
—	Pass	2♠*	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Dble
Pass	Pass	Rdbl	Pass
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

North led the ♥Q and declarer won with the ♥K and played a diamond, North putting up the ♦K and switching to the ♣K. Declarer won, ruffed a diamond, ruffed spade and exited with the ♣10, North winning and continuing with the ♥3. Declarer took dummy's ♥A, ruffed the ♠Q and exited with a diamond, South winning, cashing the ♥J and the ♦A, North taking the last two tricks with the ♣Q7 for five down, -1100.



Satyabrata Mukherjee

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Saha	Gupta	Malani
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
3♣	3NT	All Pass	

East led the ♥10 and declarer won with the ♥Q and played a spade to the ace, West discarding the ♣3. The ♣9 was covered by the ten and king and declarer played the ♠4 for the queen and king, West pitching another club. The ♠10 established a trick for the ♠9 and having won with the ♠J East switched to the ♦Q, declarer winning with the ♦K, cashing the ♦10 and settling for nine tricks, +400 but 11 IMPs for **Ash Gupta**.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 5	♠ Q 10 8 6	♠ A 4
♥ 10 8 5 3 2	♥ K 4	♥ A J 9
♦ 10 6 4 2	♦ K 8 5	♦ A Q J 7 3
♣ K 9 3	♣ A J 8 6	♣ Q 10 7
	♠ K J 9 7 3 2	
	♥ A 7 6	
	♦ 9	
	♣ 5 4 2	

Ash Gupta v Vedic

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Roy	Sensarma	Mukherjee	Lall
—	—	—	2♠
Pass	4♣	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♣3 and East won with the ♣10 and continued with the ♣Q, declarer winning in dummy and playing the ♠10. East won and played the ♣7, West winning with the ♣K. When he switched to the ♥2 the losing diamond went away on the ♠J, +790.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Saha	Gupta	Malani
—	—	—	2♠
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

West led the ♥2 and declarer won with dummy's ♥K and played the ♠10 to the jack followed by a diamond for the king and ace, eventually losing two clubs and the ♠A, -100 and 13 IMPs to **Ash Gupta**.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 10 5		
♥ 2		
♦ Q 8 7 5 4		
♣ A J 8 4		
♠ A J 9 6		♠ K 7 3
♥ A K 10 9 4		♥ 5
♦ 3		♦ K J 10 9 6
♣ 7 6 2		♣ K Q 5 3
		♠ 8 4 2
		♥ Q J 8 7 6 3
		♦ A 2
		♣ 10 9

Ash Gupta v Vedic
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Roy	Sensarma	Mukherjee	Lall
—	Pass	1♦	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♦3 for the seven, nine and ace and declarer ran the ♣9, East winning with the ♣Q and switching to the ♥5 for the queen and king. West returned the ♣6 and declarer took dummy's ♣A and continued with the ♣8. When East followed with the ♣5 declarer's losing diamond went away, and he played the ♣J, covered, ruffed with the ♥8 and overruffed by West who played two rounds of spades. East won and played the ♦K ruffed with the ♥7 and overruffed by West who exited with the ♠J to dummy's ♠Q. Declarer ruffed a diamond with the ♥J but West discarded and score the last two tricks with the ♥A4 for three down, -500.

If West switches to a low spade at trick four, East wins and plays two rounds of diamonds, West discarding a club then overruffing declarer. Now the defenders should get an extra trick for -800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Saha	Gupta	Malani
—	Pass	1♦	2♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♦3 and declarer won with the ♦A and ran the ♣10, East winning with the ♣Q and switching to the ♥5 for the ♥6, and ♥9. Declarer took the club continuation with dummy's ♣A and played the ♣8, ruffing East's ♣K and exiting with a diamond. East won and continued with the ♦K ruffed with the ♥J and overruffed by West who played two rounds of spades. When East exited with a club declarer erroneously discarded the ♠8 so West could score the ♥4 and exit with the ♠J, sure to collect the ♥A10 for four down, -800 and 7 IMPs to **Ash Gupta**.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ 6 4		
♥ K 8 2		
♦ A K J 7 3		
♣ 9 7 5		
♠ Q		♠ J 10 9 7
♥ Q J 9 7 6		♥ 10 5
♦ 10 8 6 4		♦ Q 5
♣ 8 4 2		♣ A K J 6 3
		♠ A K 8 5 3 2
		♥ A 4 3
		♦ 9 2
		♣ Q 10

Ash Gupta v Vedic
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Roy	Sensarma	Mukherjee	Lall
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The 4-1 trump split doomed declarer to one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Saha	Gupta	Malani
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Dble	Pass
4♥	Dble	All Pass	



Bhabesh Saha

Some misunderstanding here.

North cashed the ♦AK and switched to the ♠6, South winning with the ♠A and continuing with the ♠K. Declarer ruffed and ruffed a diamond with the ♥5, South overruffing and playing the ♠3, North ruffing as declarer pitched a club. If North now cashes the ♥K and then plays a diamond, South's ruff will be for four down, but when North played a diamond immediately declarer could ruff in dummy for three down, -500, still 11 IMPs to **Vedic**.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 7	♠ AKJ9	♠ 8542
♥ A109874	♥ K53	♥ QJ
♦ A1053	♦ 62	♦ QJ97
♣ A7	♣ Q964	♣ 1083
	♠ Q1063	
	♥ 62	
	♦ K84	
	♣ KJ52	



Ash Gupta v Vedic

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Roy	Sensarma	Mukherjee	Lall
4♥	All Pass		

That is how the auction is shown on BBO – I'm sceptical.

North led the ♠A and continued with the ♠K, declarer pitching the ♣7, ruffing the third spade and playing the ♥4. North took the ♥K and switched to the ♣6, declarer winning, crossing to dummy with the ♥Q and playing the ♦Q followed by the ♦J, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ginossar	Saha	Gupta	Malani
1♥	1♠	Pass	2♠
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

The play was more or less identical, +420 for an excellent push.

Only four pairs bid 4♥ – the other two were doubled for +590.

Ash Gupta won 33-13, 15.97-4.03 VP, taking them into sixth place. Vedic dropped to sixteenth and would need a decent result in the final round.



HCL

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GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES 9

Mark Horton

For the teams in the danger zone it was definitely a case of 'with the shield or on it' as they tried to reach the knock out phase. We will concentrate on the top two Shri Radhey and Hemant Jalan, both having already booked a ticket to the round of 16.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ K 3		
♥ 6 4		
♦ K Q 8 5		
♣ Q 9 7 3 2		
♠ Q 9 5		
♥ A J		
♦ A 10 6 3		
♣ A K 10 5		
	♠ A 10 8 4 2	
	♥ K Q 10 9 3	
	♦ 7 4 2	
	♣ —	
	♠ J 7 6	
	♥ 8 7 5 2	
	♦ J 9	
	♣ J 8 6 4	

Shri Radhey v Hemant Jalan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Dalal	Bhavnani	Padhye	Hegde
—	Pass	2♠*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Dble	4♠	All Pass

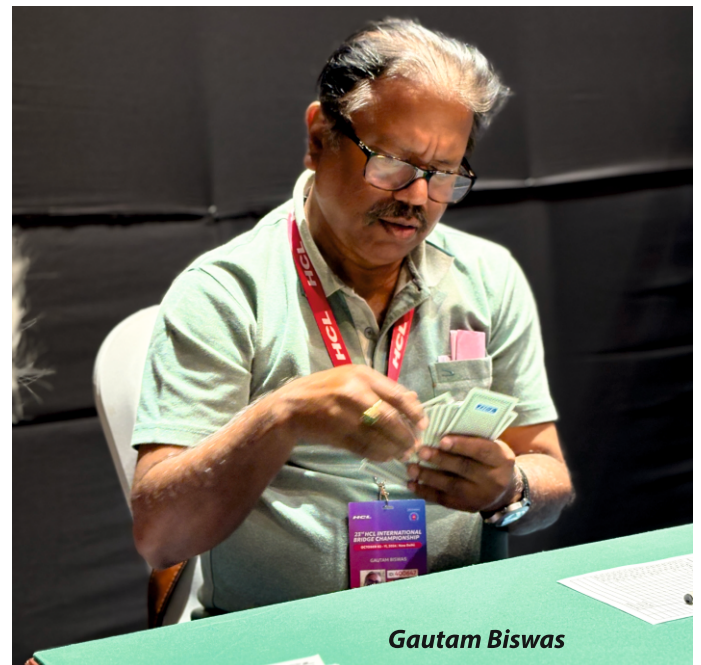


Rajesh A Dalal

South led the ♦J and declarer took dummy's ♦A, cashed the ♣AK pitching diamonds and played a spade to the eight and jack. That was good for 12 tricks, +480.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Biswas	Malhotra	Agrawal	Jalan
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		
4NT	RKCB		
5♣	1 keycard		



Gautam Biswas

The early play was identical, but here declarer tacked the trump suit by starting with the ♠Q. When it was covered that was +980 and 11 IMPs for **Shri Radhey**.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ K Q 8 5 3	
	♥ Q 3	
	♦ A 10 6	
	♣ A K 9	
♠ A 4		♠ 7 6 2
♥ 10 8 4 2		♥ 9 7 5
♦ K Q 5		♦ J 9 8 2
♣ 10 5 4 2		♣ 8 6 3
	♠ J 10 9	
	♥ A K J 6	
	♦ 7 4 3	
	♣ Q J 7	

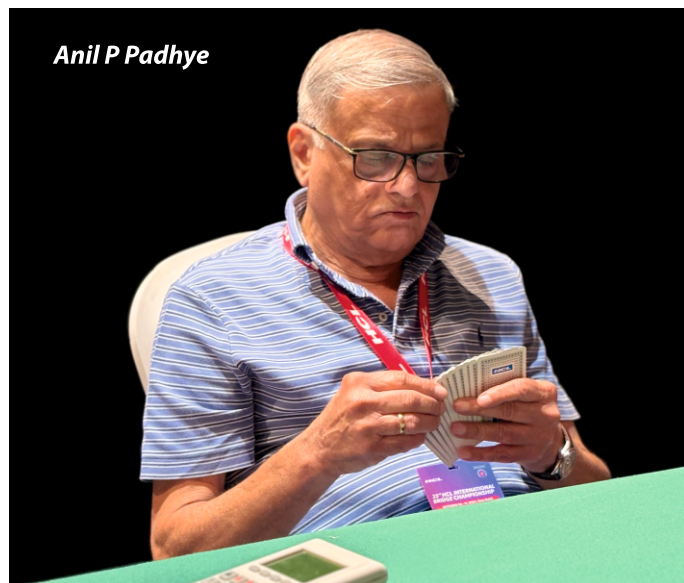
Shri Radhey v Hemant Jalan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Dalal	Bhavnani	Padhye	Hegde
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

4NT RKCB
5♣ 1 keycard

When East led the ♥5, declarer had 12 tricks, +680.



Anil P Padhye

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Biswas	Malhotra	Agrawal	Jalan
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

2NT Support
4NT RKCB
5♣ 1 keycards

West had not doubled 5♣, so East had to select a red suit. He went with the ♥5 and declarer was home, +1430 and 13 IMPs to Hemant Jalan.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 9854		♠ J732
♥ 65		♥ AJ7432
♦ K83		♦ 92
♣ K984		♣ 2
♠ AKQ6		
♥ 1098		
♦ J76		
♣ A105		
	♠ 10	
	♥ KQ	
	♦ AQ1054	
	♣ QJ763	

Shri Radhey v Hemant Jalan

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Dalal	Bhavnani	Padhye	Hegde
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

North led the ♠4 and declarer won with the ♠A and cashed the ♠K, South discarding the ♣7. Declarer ran the ♥9 and South won with the ♥K and played two rounds of diamonds, North winning the second with the ♦K and exiting with the ♦8. Declarer ruffed in dummy, played a club to the ace, cashed the ♠Q and tabled the ♥8. Time stood still when North followed with the ♥6. When declarer finessed, he was four down, -400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Biswas	Malhotra	Agrawal	Jalan
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	1♠	3♥	4♣
4♥	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

West led the ♠K and switched to the ♥10, one down, -100 and 11 IMPs to Shri Radhey.

Neither East was willing to open 2♥ (or a Mutli 2♦) although these days, the presence of four cards in the other major is not usually regarded as a deterrent. That would probably have made it difficult for NS to locate the excellent save against the heart game.

It was a good win for Shri Radhey, 32-18, (14.54-5.46 VP), and they topped the list of qualifiers.



Ram Avatar Agrawal

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