



HCL 23rd INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP



The Leela Ambience Convention Hotel, Delhi

DAILY BULLETIN

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THE FINAL PUSH FOR THE PRESTIGIOUS HCL TROPHIES AND MEDALS



GOLD TEAMS

Mavericks Gold Prevail in a High-Octane Encounter

The Gold Teams semi-final between Mavericks Gold and Mavericks Platinum, both sponsored by Subodh Maskara, produced a gripping contest between two formidable sides. Platinum made a strong start, establishing a substantial lead through accurate bidding and excellent play in game and slam contracts. Mavericks Gold responded in the second segment, clawing their way back through profitable decisions, including doubled contracts. The third segment remained closely contested, setting the stage for a tense finish. When it mattered most, Mavericks Gold delivered. Composed under pressure and decisive in the closing auctions, they edged past Platinum 139-114, winning by 25 IMPs to book their place in the final.

WHAM One Step Away from a Historic Hat-Trick

WHAM produced a commanding performance against Monica Jajoo's team to secure their place in the Gold Teams final. Building their advantage across the opening sets, they maintained a very competitive, fierce and aggressive strategy and are now within one victory of a remarkable milestone in the legacy of greatness. The reported final score was 129-15, as Team Monica Jajoo's challenge ended before lunch.

A Legacy of Greatness: The Quest for Three in a Row

Recent History of Indian Hat-Trick Achievements

On Indian soil, based on the recent available records, Team Formidables has been the only team to have won three Winter National Bridge Championships consecutively from 2012 to 2014, as well as three All India Shri Cement National Championships from 2023 to 2025.



SILVER TEAMS

CAPA Turn the Tide in a Close Contested Match

The semi-final between Trick N Trump and CAPA began with Trick N Trump in control, holding a 31-IMP advantage after the opening segment. CAPA, however, refused to let the match slip away. A powerful second segment saw CAPA recover 38 IMPs and swing the contest in their favour. They continued to build their advantage with gains of 11 IMPs in the third segment and another 19 in the fourth. The result was a superb turnaround, with CAPA winning by 33 IMPs to earn their place in the Silver Teams final. It was a performance built on resilience, momentum and the ability to deliver when the pressure was greatest.

Gladiators Weather the Storm

The other semi-final between Gladiators and Winning Minds offered its own share of drama. Winning Minds took the opening segment by 12 IMPs, but Gladiators struck back emphatically with a 30-IMP gain in the second segment. They extended their advantage by another 21 IMPs after lunch, appearing to have established a decisive cushion. Winning Minds, however, mounted a spirited late challenge, scoring 25 IMPs in the first five boards of the final segment. Gladiators held their composure through the closing boards and secured victory by 30.5 IMPs, completing a hard-fought passage to the final.

Hat-Trick Titles in World Championships by Team Italy

Years	Achievement
1957 - 1959	Three consecutive titles
1961 - 1963	Three consecutive titles
1965 - 1967	Three consecutive titles

Important Announcements MP & IMP PAIRS EVENT

MP GOLD & MP SILVER PAIRS FINALS

- The Final of the **MP GOLD** Pairs event (28 pairs) and **MP SILVER** Pairs event (26 pairs) will be played today in 2 Sessions at **TURQUOISE Hall**.
- It will be an all play all event:
 - Gold:** 27 Rounds of 2 boards each (54 boards)
 - Silver:** 25 Rounds of 2 boards each (50 boards)
- Please check your starting position and take your seats in your respective sections at least 10 minutes before the start time of **0930 Hrs.**

IMP PAIRS FINAL

- The Final of the **IMP Pairs** event will also be played today in 2 sessions of 24 boards each at **SAPPHIRE Hall**.
- 112 pairs are divided into 4 sections of 14 tables each.
- Please check your starting position and take your seats at least 10-15 minutes before the start time of **1000 Hrs.**

IMP PAIRS STRATA

- The IMP Pairs **STRATA** will be played today at **CORAL & RUBY Hall** from **1030 Hrs.**
- It will be in 2 sessions of 22 boards each.
- There will be 6 sections of 12 tables.

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR PLAYERS / PRIZE WINNERS

- All Prize Winners are requested to submit their account details as early as possible on the tournament web site <https://hcl-bridge.com/bank-details-for-prize-money/> along with a **Crossed Cheque** of their account and **PAN copy** as attachments.
- All payments will be made online to your bank account within 10 to 15 days at the end of the tournament.
- Those who want Participation Certificate are kindly requested to collect it from **Mr. TC Pant** in **VIP Room 3** from **1300 to 1400 Hrs.** and **1800 to 1900 Hrs.** today onwards.

ENTRY FEE REFUND



Players who reach the **Semi-final** stage of the **Gold or Silver Team Event** will be **automatically refunded** their MP Pairs entry fee, as they will be unable to participate in the event.



FINAL REMINDER for GIFT BAGS

3:30 PM - 6:00 PM TODAY
Next to the **Vugraph Theater Hall**
(in the Lobby Area)

**HCL GOLD TEAMS
RESULTS**
FINAL RESULT >

**HCL SILVER TEAMS
RESULTS**
FINAL RESULT >



PRIZE CEREMONY | Today at 6:30 p.m.



MATCHPOINT PAIRS ELIMINATION 3

Five Foreign Pairs Conquer the Top Spots in Elimination 3

The third and final elimination stage of the Matchpoint Pairs event brought together 66 pairs for a 54-board barometer contest.

Yury Khiuppenen and Vadim Kholomeev produced a superb performance to top the field, followed closely by two more Russian pairs. The Israeli pair of Daniel Msika and Ido Moskovitz and the Bangladesh pair of Md Zahid Hossain and B M Mahmud Hossain also finished among the top five, underlining the high quality and international flavour of the event.

TOP 5 PAIRS IN ELIMINATION 3

1	Yury Khiuppenen & Vadim Kholomeev	63.07%
2	Andrey Gromov & Anna Gulevich	62.99%
3	Daniel Msika & Ido Moskovitz	62.40%
4	Sergey Orlov & Evgeny Rudakov	61.86%
5	Md Zahid Hossain & B M Mahmud Hossain	61.35%



GOLD AND SILVER FINALS

The top 28 pairs from the elimination qualify for the Gold Final, while the next 26 pairs qualify for the Silver Final. Both finals will be played today in **Turquoise Hall**, starting at **09:30 hrs**.

IMP PAIRS

Saswata Ballav and Sankha Goswami Lead the Charge

The IMP Pairs elimination attracted an impressive 245 pairs on the seventh day of the championship, reflecting the depth and popularity of the event.

Saswata Ballav and Sankha Goswami delivered a strong performance, recording 129 IMPs in the third session. Souvik Kar and Pradip Dey also put up an excellent result with 111 IMPs.

TOP 5 PAIRS IN IMP PAIRS ELIMINATION

1	Saswata Ballav & Sankha Goswami	+129.00
2	Souvik Kar & Pradip Dey	+111.00
3	Sandeep N Karmarkar & Marianne Karmarkar	+104.00
4	Koushik Mukherjee & Priya Ranjan Sinha	+100.00
5	Partho Sarathi Mukherjee & Alope Kumar Sadhu	+98.00

QUALIFICATION FOR FINAL AND STRATA

The top 98 pairs qualify for the IMP Pairs Final, while the balance pairs will be playing the IMP Pairs Strata.

The 98 qualifying pairs, combined with the 14 seeded pairs from the Matchpoint Pairs Elimination 3, will be playing the IMP Pairs Final.

IMP PAIRS FINAL

TODAY 10:00 hrs | **Sapphire Hall**

112 pairs

Two sessions of 24 boards each (48 boards)

IMP PAIRS STRATA

TODAY 10:30 hrs | **Coral and Ruby Halls**

Two sessions of 22 boards each (44 boards)



SARTAJ EYES A THIRD HAT-TRICK

Having steered WHAM to back-to-back HCL titles in 2024 and 2025, Sartaj is once again in the finals of the 2026 HCL. In a candid conversation, he shares key moments from the event, his partnership work, preparation and thoughts on the challenge of going for a historic third consecutive title.

WHAM IN HCL TEAMS

Year	Result	Stage
2024	Winners	Final
2025	Winners	Final
2026	Result awaited	Final

1 Was there a particular hand or moment that turned the qualification in your favour?

My bridge memory is such that I only remember disasters! In the Swiss League (7th October), we had one where we pushed the opponents to six Hearts, my partner had all these points and key cards, he doubled, they redoubled and they made six. But I think there was a bit of a change in the last set. The whole match was going in favour of our opponents, and in the very last set, they bid a grand slam which went down. After that, things started changing in our favour. So yeah, I think that was it, and I'm glad it went down.

2 What work have you and your partner been focusing on recently?

We've been working a lot more on defense, especially in terms of carding. Over the last year or so, we focused heavily on slam bidding and improving our competitive agreements. Now we're investing more time in defensive carding. We're good defenders, but we haven't always put in the time we probably ought to at this level. It's been a lot of fun and I've really enjoyed it.

3 Which aspect of your game would you like to sharpen before the final?

One day is not enough to sharpen your game, at my level or any level. It takes a concerted effort, the right guidance, training exercises and a good support network. I'm fortunate to have that. I don't think anything will change before the final, but in principle I've been trying to improve more on defensive signals — signaling well and following partner's signals.

4 At this stage of the championship, does the approach become more aggressive?

Not particularly. We play a very aggressive style anyway — whether it's the first round of the Swiss or a close knockout match. When I was learning bridge in Chandigarh, Namit Sharma — a strong player and a star in the town — watched us on BBO/VuGraph and asked me, "How do you bid with three or four points even when you're vulnerable? What does partner do with 16 points?" It was a special moment. So we've always played aggressively, and our approach doesn't change.

5 Is there a particular pair you are looking forward to playing in the final?

Not particularly. The two Mavericks teams are quite strong, with Boye playing with Keyzad — both very strong players, though not a regular partnership. I think the final will be a great match. HCL just keeps getting stronger every year and the quality is excellent. There's no one in particular that I'm looking to play, but I'm enjoying being here. It's a fantastic event, and it's great that HCL and Kiran put this together.

HCL GOLD TEAMS SEMI-FINAL RESULTS

Match	Team	C-O	Segment 1	Segment 2	Segment 3	Segment 4	Total
1	 Mavericks Gold		35	31	23	50	139
	 Mavericks Platinum		52	11	26	25	114
2	 WHAM	5	59	65	-	-	129
	 Monica Jajoo		6	9	-	-	15

HCL SILVER TEAMS SEMI-FINAL RESULTS

Match	Team	C-O	Segment 1	Segment 2	Segment 3	Segment 4	Total
1	 Trick N Trump		51	12	14	13	90
	 CAPA		20	46	25	32	123
2	 Gladiators	10.5	38	45	23	23	139.5
	 Winning Minds		50	15	2	42	109

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GOLD AND SILVER MATCH POINT PAIRS FINAL

1 ONE DOWN WONDERS

Most contracts going exactly one down.
Top two pairs will be eligible for this prize.

2 BULLSEYE

Maximum number of 50% scores.
Top two pairs will be eligible for this prize.

IMP PAIRS FINAL REWARDS

1 DOUBLE DELIGHT

Most successful double contracts made.
Top two pairs will be eligible for this prize.

2 SLAMAHOLICS

Pair that bid and makes the most slams
during the day.
Top two pairs will be eligible for this prize.

HCL IMP Pairs Elimination Results

Rank	Player 1	Player 2	Session 1 Score	Session 2 Score	Session 3 Final Score	Rank	Player 1	Player 2	Session 1 Score	Session 2 Score	Session 3 Final Score
1	Saswata Ballav	Sankha Goswami	+47.00	+54.00	+129.00	63	V Rama Murthy	Ramesh Ramagudu	-8.00	+2.00	+32.00
2	Souvik Kar	Pradip Dey	+37.00	+63.00	+111.00	64	Kinjal Desai	Aman Tyagi	0.00	0.00	+31.00
3	Sandeep N Karmarkar	Marianne Karmarkar	+45.00	+31.00	+104.00	65	Viswanathan M	M Elumalai	+24.00	+8.00	+31.00
4	Koushik Mukherjee	Priya Ranjan Sinha	+24.00	+11.00	+100.00	66	Maneesh Bahuguna	Bhaskar Sarkar	+32.00	-1.00	+30.00
5	Partho Sarathi Mukherjee	Aloke Kumar Sadhu	+13.00	+52.00	+98.00	67	R S Muthuswami	Jatin Baruah	+15.00	+10.00	+30.00
6	Sujit Kr Bhattacharjee	Joy Narayan Roy	+47.00	+44.00	+98.00	68	K P Mathur	Narendra Kumar Sharma	+12.00	-22.00	+29.00
7	Pritam Das	Partha (Bulu) Saha	+55.00	-3.00	+96.00	69	Sujit Sadhak	Sanjib Majumdar	+17.00	-3.00	+29.00
8	D P Acharya	Prasun Kr Mukhopadhyay	+25.00	+29.00	+96.00	70	Prafulla Kumar Das	Ajit Mahadar	+26.00	-1.00	+28.00
9	Rajendra V Mekal	Parimal N Shah	+24.00	+27.00	+90.00	71	Raju Tolani	Vinay Desai	-26.00	-9.00	+27.00
10	Sanat Roy	Goutam Banerjee	+24.00	+9.00	+89.00	72	Ashis Pan	Sandip Gharai	+47.00	-10.00	+27.00
11	Tapan Kumar Roy ¹	Sunil Das	+25.00	+53.00	+87.00	73	Kajal Chandra Das	Suren Mewar	-9.00	+6.00	+27.00
12	Anuradha Bakshi	Soumitra Das	+52.00	+49.00	+86.00	74	Goutam Mukherjee	Ajit Saldhana	+46.00	+7.00	+26.00
13	Eldad Ginossar	Ashwini Gupta	-2.00	+25.00	+80.00	75	Naina Shah	Kumar Shah	-4.00	+19.00	+26.00
14	Biswajit Mahata	Subhas Mahata	+29.00	+76.00	+76.00	76	Amar Kumar Bose	Bhola Nath Ghosh	-9.00	+23.00	+25.00
15	Tamal Dasgupta	Prasanta Bera	+20.00	+48.00	+75.00	77	Rathindra Nath Kundu	Vivekananda Ghosh	-25.00	+32.00	+24.00
16	M R Goyal	Anil Bharihoke	+13.00	+20.00	+74.00	78	Sunil Misra	S K Gautam	-12.00	+31.00	+24.00
17	Biswadip Roy	Sukanta Das	+1.00	+49.00	+73.00	79	K K Sabherwal	Anukul Mandal	+15.00	-1.00	+24.00
18	Puneet Gangal	Ibrat Khan	+20.00	+5.00	+70.00	80	Ignatius Bezzam	Gabriele Zanasi	+10.00	+45.00	+23.00
19	Kamna Sharma	Abhijit Pal	+47.00	+31.00	+69.00	81	Arun Kumar Majhi	Chandan Kumar Mitra	+4.00	-18.00	+23.00
20	Ramkrishna Majumder	Pinaki Prasad Khan	+7.00	+43.00	+69.00	82	Kalyan Kumar Roy	Amit Chakraborty	+7.00	+31.00	+23.00
21	Dharma Narayan Bordoloi	Dhruba Dey	+5.00	+43.00	+67.00	83	Chainraj Nahar	Prashant Sinhal	+1.00	-3.00	+23.00
22	Asit Baran Chakraborty	S P Chatterjee	+4.00	+54.00	+63.00	84	Kumar Venkataraman	Pradeep Deshpande	+23.00	-5.00	+23.00
23	Nayana P Vahalia	P Vaikuntlal Vahalia	+40.00	+31.00	+63.00	85	Arun Kumar Sinha	Nikita Kamal	-16.00	+5.00	+22.00
24	Goutam Pore	Amitava Ghosh	+36.00	+6.00	+63.00	86	S K Garg	V K Rattan	+8.00	-24.00	+21.00
25	Provat Roy	Samir Kumar Datta	+5.00	+5.00	+60.00	87	Asit Kr Bandopadhyaya	Kiran Shankar Pal	+25.00	-6.00	+21.00
26	Biswajit Poddar	Shambhu Nath Ghosh	+47.00	+1.00	+59.00	87	N Rajachandra	Gurudev Shyamsundar	-6.00	+25.00	+21.00
27	Shiv Shankar Gupta	R K Garg	+22.00	+18.00	+59.00	89	Sankar Narayan Ghosh	Shakti Dhar Chowdhury	+24.00	+5.00	+21.00
28	Subir Majumdar	Satyabrata Mukherjee	+25.00	+33.00	+57.00	90	Kannan S	N Sudhakar Babu	+3.00	+5.00	+20.00
29	D V Ravi	Sumathi Iyer	+15.00	+12.00	+56.00	91	Asim Saha	Smita Govilkar	+1.00	+10.00	+20.00
30	Hemant Dhananjay Bhawe	Makrand M Luley	+20.00	+4.00	+53.00	92	Rohit Gupta	Deepika Mehta	0.00	+17.00	+19.00
31	K S Samant	R Sridharan	+24.00	+12.00	+53.00	93	Sudhir Kumar	Sanjeev Tomar	-6.00	+7.00	+18.00
32	Milind P. Athavale	Jitendra J Solani	+11.00	+23.00	+53.00	94	Sukumaran Rajeev	Asok Jose Lean	+57.00	-31.00	+17.00
33	Raj Kumar Srivastava	Rashmi Agarwal	+40.00	-1.00	+52.00	95	Savleen Thadani	Sunil Kumar Sinha	-6.00	+19.00	+17.00
34	V Ravindran	Arabinda Kumar Mishra	-19.00	+37.00	+52.00	96	Mrinal Kanti Mukherjee	Ashwin Tolani	+14.00	-4.00	+17.00
35	Souvik Saha	Anirban Sasmal	+43.00	-21.00	+51.00	97	Saurav Sil	Goutam Majumder	+8.00	0.00	+16.00
36	Yamini Merchant	Pandu Chedalavada	+25.00	+17.00	+51.00	98	Arnab Basu Roy	Abhirup Ghosh	+22.00	-1.00	+15.00
37	Sriram Bhikaji Khanolkar	Kausar Hasan Syed	+23.00	+22.00	+51.00	99	Sailaja Tahlilani	Pradip Ghosh	-13.00	-3.00	+14.00
38	Anil Vijaywargiya	Pankaj Agrawal	+17.00	+22.00	+49.00	100	Jitesh Agrawal	Andrey Purushottam	+11.00	-10.00	+14.00
39	Dipak K Poddar	Rajesh Somani	-11.00	+19.00	+48.00	101	Chintamani Bhikaji Damale	Vinayak Bhikaji Mulye	-47.00	+47.00	+13.00
40	Prakash Gupta	Dipak Kumar Paul	+15.00	+19.00	+48.00	102	Tirthankar Sengupta	Amit Palit	+8.00	+37.00	+13.00
41	Subhash Bhavnani	Prakash G Hegde	-2.00	+13.00	+47.00	103	Monu Kumar Ranchhad	Monu Kumar	-5.00	+25.00	+13.00
42	Debasish Ghosh	Gautam Roy	+11.00	+18.00	+45.00	104	Siddhartha Ghosh	Indranath Chatterjee	+17.00	-7.00	+13.00
43	Gaurav Rajwade	Parag Joshi	-11.00	+45.00	+44.00	105	Protap Bandyopadhyay	Bapi Das	-20.00	-1.00	+12.00
44	Prabhat Kumar Gupta	Mohan Gurunath S	+17.00	+29.00	+43.00	106	Sarveswar Bhattacharya	Sajal Banerjee	+17.00	+32.00	+12.00
45	Anushree Jalan	Deepa Jacob	+10.00	+27.00	+41.00	107	Ramesh Srinivas	Sampath Srinivasan	+30.00	-8.00	+10.00
46	Anant Vikram Somani	Rahul Shetty	-3.00	+20.00	+41.00	108	Rakesh Nanda	B S Gupta	0.00	-8.00	+10.00
47	Pijus Kanti Baroi	Surajit Bar	-3.10	+43.00	+40.90	109	Sundar Shekar Polavaram	Vijay Ramchandran	+38.00	+2.00	+8.00
48	Amol Deshmukh	V Chandrasekhar	-7.00	+43.00	+40.00	110	Sanjay Kundu	Sagar Bhuia	-11.00	+7.00	+8.00
49	Hironmoy Banerjee	Sumanta Roy	+26.00	-15.00	+40.00	111	Sanjib Naskar	Proshanto Bhattacharya	+7.00	+5.00	+8.00
50	Ranga Khadloya	Ajit B Chakradeo	+7.00	+16.00	+40.00	112	Ranjan Bhattacharya	Wrik Chakraborty	0.00	+4.00	+8.00
51	Gautam Aich	Gautam Chattopadhyay	+48.00	+3.00	+38.00	113	Bidyut Goswami	Ananda Roy	-20.00	+26.00	+7.10
52	Tamal Kr Bhattacharyya	Bikas Dutta	+34.00	-8.00	+38.00	114	T J Alexander	Saila Ranjan Das	+34.00	-8.00	+7.00
53	Bijon Kumar Mondal	Swarup Ghosh	+32.00	+4.00	+38.00	115	Bholanath Dash	Asim Das	-10.00	+11.00	+7.00
54	Amitava Banerjee	Jayanta Dutta	+30.00	-12.00	+38.00	116	Gautam Chatterjee	Sujan Chowdhury	+11.00	+4.00	+7.00
55	Prakash Easwaran	Anirudh Prakash	+21.00	+7.00	+38.00	117	Subrata Chakraborty	Ramprosad Das	+3.00	+10.00	+7.00
56	D K Tewari	Daleep Mutreja	+25.00	+6.00	+37.00	118	Kannan Krishnamurthy	S Vijayraghavan	-6.00	+28.00	+6.00
57	Vijay R Phatarphekar	T V Ramani	+31.00	-7.00	+36.00	119	Prakash Achar	Suresh Senapaty	-13.00	+5.00	+6.00
58	Ajit Mukherjee	Sanjay Kumar Dasgupta	-6.00	+12.00	+35.30	120	Vinay Mohan Lal	Avijit Sarkar	-22.00	0.00	+5.00
59	Sisir Kumar Banerjee	Rajesh Jain	+44.00	-4.00	+35.00	121	Amit Pal	Bijan Kr Bandopadhyay	0.00	-9.00	+5.00
60	Vivan Khubchand	Siddhartha Behura	+9.00	+46.00	+33.00	122	Jibak Tewari	Santanu Chakraborty	+10.00	-16.00	+5.00
61	Ranjit Ghosh	Chandan Chowdhury	-5.00	+63.00	+32.00	123	Tanmoy Majumder	Gajendra Kumar Vyas	+29.00	-12.00	+4.00
62	Satya R Chakraborty	Soumitra Chakraborty	-12.00	+40.00	+32.00	124	R K Pradhan	Basant Kumar Panda	+2.00	-11.00	+4.00

HCL IMP Pairs Elimination Results

Rank	Player 1	Player 2	Session 1 Score	Session 2 Score	Session 3 Final Score	Rank	Player 1	Player 2	Session 1 Score	Session 2 Score	Session 3 Final Score
125	Chandrashekhara K Damle	Nitin M Dharmadhikari	+2.00	-5.00	+4.00	186	Anuradha Krishna	Devangshu Datta	+1.00	-25.00	-31.00
126	Bijal Shah	Sejal Shah	-41.00	-4.00	+3.40	187	Deepak Ramnani	K P Baskaran	-18.00	-10.00	-31.00
127	Rana Chakraborty	Arnab Ghosh	-5.00	+22.00	+3.00	188	A K Guha	Rajendra Ray	-57.00	+8.00	-32.00
128	Sanjib Ganguly	Partha Sarkar	+9.00	+17.00	+3.00	189	Asokan Pitchai	R N Subramaniam	0.00	-31.00	-32.00
129	Subashish Gope	Vikram Jain	-19.00	-19.00	+2.00	190	Krishna Das Chakraborty	Swetadri Saha	-1.00	+14.00	-33.00
130	Jiten Chakraborty	Subir Kumar Chaudhuri	-1.00	+35.00	+2.00	191	Md. Shahidul Islam	Taymur Reza Hossain	-10.00	-14.00	-33.00
131	Prithvi Raj	P K Bandhu	+1.00	-7.00	+1.00	192	Subrata Sadhukhan	Nirmal Raja	-17.00	-14.00	-34.00
132	Namit Sharma	Asha Sharma	+4.00	+14.00	0.00	193	Md. R Hasan Ripon	Sk. Aminur Rahman	-19.00	+32.00	-35.00
133	Shantanu Rastogi	Ratnesh	-11.00	+9.00	-1.00	194	Alka Jain	Devi Muthu Bhatnagar	-10.00	+8.00	-35.00
134	J K Bhosale	Sudhir S Chaudhari	-2.00	+9.00	-1.00	195	Arnab Guha	Tapan Kumar Roy1	-20.00	-27.00	-36.00
135	N K Chitlangia	Sekhar K Bandopadhyay	-18.00	0.00	-3.00	196	Kavita Dhawan	Bhavna Naraindas	-17.00	+1.00	-36.00
136	Amit Pathria	Sunil Kumar	+2.00	-4.00	-3.00	197	Arup Lodh	Gautam Kumar Chanda	-12.90	-8.00	-36.90
137	Subir Das	Sanjay Raha	+24.00	+16.00	-4.00	198	Shyam Bihari	Anil Kumar Mehta	-2.00	-43.00	-38.00
138	Rajib Roy	Sudipta Adhikary	+12.00	-5.00	-5.00	199	Anindra Kumar Sarkar	Meenu Dugal	+21.00	-22.00	-39.00
139	Sergio Bianchi	Koren Retter	+1.00	-14.00	-5.00	200	Beneeta Chandra	Madhu Agarwal	-26.00	-34.00	-40.00
140	Pradeep Govil	S K Sharma	-17.00	-21.00	-6.00	201	Lalit Mendiratta	Bidyut Kanti Thakur	-13.00	+6.00	-40.00
141	Deval Mehta	Ravindra Amritkar	-24.00	+23.00	-7.00	202	Nag Bhusan Rao	Ajay Kumar Singh	+6.00	+4.00	-41.00
142	M Venkatesan	C K Madheswaran	+6.00	-9.00	-7.00	203	Anup Kumar Mahajan	Hemkanti Talukdar	-10.00	-39.00	-44.00
143	Maheswar Pradhan	Sankarsan Behera	-8.00	0.00	-7.00	204	Amit Nangpal	Indrajit Sensarma	-13.00	-18.00	-44.00
144	Peiyush Jain	R Anbazhagan	0.00	0.00	-7.00	205	Ravi Goenka	Ajay Kumar Bagadia	-9.00	+4.00	-46.00
145	P Narayan Iyer	Aparajitha Iyer	-10.00	-1.00	-7.60	206	Bhalchandra S Musale	Mangesh Shridhar Musale	-47.00	-13.00	-48.00
146	K S R V Challam	Chandrashekhara V Kekre	+32.00	-21.00	-8.00	207	Amal Kumar Sarkar	Sudipta Mukherjee	-22.00	-28.00	-48.00
147	Rajendran Ramesh	S Karuppannan	-13.00	+14.00	-8.00	208	J Prathihari	D N Lenka	-9.00	-23.00	-48.00
148	Jai Prakash Agrawal	Shiv Kumar Kithania	-9.00	-9.00	-9.00	209	Soumen Sardar	Kalpna Varshney	-34.00	+7.00	-48.40
149	Umesh Ram	J P Singh	+7.00	-20.00	-9.00	210	Raghu Nath P Tripathi	Shankar Acharya	-14.00	+5.00	-50.00
150	Ajoy Sonak	Sukrit M Vijayakar	+20.00	-60.40	-9.40	211	Anand W Golwalkar	Aroon Birla	-18.00	-19.00	-52.00
151	Salil Kumar Mondal	Bimalendu Das	+34.00	-41.00	-10.00	212	Saptarshi Chanda	Bikramjit Das	+17.00	-7.00	-54.00
152	Godwin Jeyaseelan	K Venkataramani	+8.00	-32.00	-11.00	213	Sunil Dutta	Raj Kumar Mukherjee	-3.00	-16.00	-54.00
153	U V Athavale	V Ravichandran	-14.00	+13.00	-11.00	214	R B Ketkar	S G Surve	-11.00	-59.00	-55.00
154	J B Sengupta	Tushar Moghe	-9.00	-18.00	-12.00	215	Suchet Dhar	Ashim Kumar Ghosh	-43.00	+2.00	-58.00
155	Jenish Shah	Subhasish Sarkar	+6.00	-12.00	-13.00	216	Vijay Krishnan	Srinivasan A	-38.00	-4.00	-58.00
156	Dinabandhu Sahu	Prakash Chandra Das	0.00	+1.00	-13.00	217	Joy Saikia	Gautam Sarma	0.00	-34.00	-59.00
157	Santanu Das	Ashim Chandra Karmakar	+30.00	-39.00	-14.00	218	S K Verma	Raman Kumar	-45.00	-3.00	-59.00
158	Asis Tosh	Priyotosh Sarkar	-16.00	+14.00	-14.00	219	Sumita Wahi	Bubbles Bawa	+12.00	-45.00	-63.00
159	Daljit Marwah	Mukul Goel	-42.00	-17.00	-15.00	220	Jashith Narang	Bindiya Naidoo	-44.00	-14.00	-64.00
160	Sanjoo Melwani	R. Darshanpal Kuckreja	-25.00	+17.00	-15.00	221	Rajesh Kochhar	Ashok Kumar Sinha	-58.00	+11.00	-65.00
161	Pareesh J Gandhi	V K Manglik	-26.00	-6.00	-16.00	222	Priyanka Gulati	Ekta Chadha	-44.00	-17.00	-65.00
162	Srikar Palem	Sajiv K Menon	+10.00	+3.00	-16.00	223	Subhas Basu	Tapan Choudhury	-28.00	-4.00	-67.00
163	Soumen Chakraborty	Subir Dey	+12.00	-11.00	-17.00	224	S Jayram Tamhankar	Madhav K Agashe	-30.00	-10.00	67.00
164	Pradeep Anand Singh	Vijayanand Singh	-39.00	+26.00	-18.00	225	Pabitra Majumder	Tapas Das	-24.00	-61.00	-68.00
165	R P Shivhare	Ratan Lal Sanghi	-13.00	-23.00	-18.00	226	Kunal Chander	Ashish Kr Vishwakarma	+9.00	-37.00	-68.00
166	Surendra Nath Kar	Aviram Rout	-1.00	+4.00	-18.00	227	Rajan Nischal	Bibeknanda Ghadei	-49.00	-28.00	-74.00
167	Paban Agarwal	Kalindi Mewar	+10.00	-27.00	-19.00	228	Bhanumati Shah	Ramula Shah	-18.00	-19.00	-77.00
168	Kishor Dutta	Jyotirmoy Dey	-5.00	-9.00	-19.00	229	Hari Narayan	R M Parmer	-11.00	-52.00	-80.00
169	Yogeshwar Banavali	Sunil Desai	+33.00	-20.00	-20.00	230	Sudhir Kumar Agrawal	Dilip Kumar Borpuzari	-17.00	-22.00	-80.00
170	M K Halder	Biswajit Ghosh	-27.00	+18.00	-20.00	231	Ansu Prasad Biswas	Sibo Ram Basak	-22.00	-11.00	-86.00
171	Ashwajit Singh	G S Saluja	-39.00	+33.00	-21.00	232	Avijit Dutta	Kedar Nath Samaddar	-11.00	-34.00	-88.00
172	Ramendra Chowdhury	Pradip Mondal	-23.00	+22.00	-23.00	233	Deepak Gangajaliwale	Mahavir Bhupal Savadatti	-23.00	-12.00	-90.00
173	Sudipta Mitra	Shekhar Chakravorty	+19.00	-23.00	-23.00	234	Chanchal Dass	Abhijit Roy Chowdhury	-14.00	-63.00	-96.00
174	Madhav A Kshirsagar	Kailash Agarwal	-13.00	-14.00	-23.00	235	Amar Wadhwa	Divyaroop Bhatnagar	-39.00	-50.00	-98.00
175	Gopika Tandan	Arun Jain	-15.00	+23.00	-23.50	236	Shathi Rangan Dey	Md F Hossain Patwary	-38.00	-39.00	-98.00
176	Manoj Das	Kedar Nath Shaw	-13.00	-22.00	-24.00	237	Sharad Kumar	Sanjay Shrivastava	-26.00	-40.00	-99.80
177	Samar Kumar Maity	Mithun Biswas	+6.00	-42.00	-25.00	238	Kishore Das	Debobrata Mondal	-70.00	-27.00	-114.00
178	Ashok Girdhar	Sandeep Narang	-29.00	-28.00	-27.00	239	P Varalakshmi	Guru Shankar Sundaram	-33.00	-77.00	-115.00
179	Borhan Ali Molla	Sujit Kumar Sur	+10.00	-23.00	-27.00	240	S Srinivasan	C Sathish Kumar	-61.00	-47.00	-119.00
180	Anil Kumar Bansal	B N Agarwal	-8.00	+6.00	-27.90	241	A K Sinha	Samina Esmail	-29.00	-69.00	-125.00
181	Deepika Andlay	Anjali Semwal	-32.00	+12.00	-28.00	242	Amitava Mukherjee	Pradip Gupta	-47.00	-5.00	-132.00
182	S M Patnaik	Ranjan Bose	-3.00	-7.00	-29.00	243	Sunandan Thakur	Saumitra Basu	-31.00	-64.00	-134.00
183	Sowmik Das	Aloke Kumar Sardar	+39.00	-49.00	-30.00	244	Md Rezaul Karim	Tahsin Eatheshum Nasif	-52.00	-54.00	-138.00
184	Sanat Kumar Saha	Sudeep Saha	+10.00	-28.00	-31.00	245	Usha Joshi	Rabindra Kumar Singh	-64.00	-86.00	-179.00
185	Ashok Kumar	Netai Pada Kabiraj	0.00	-40.00	-31.00						

HCL

MATCH POINT PAIRS



ELIMINATION 3 RESULTS



Rank	Players	Score	Rank	Players	Score
1	Yury Khiuppenen & Vadim Kholomeev	2268.37	34	Debasish Ray & Sukamal Das	1752.49
2	Andrey Gromov & Anna Gulevich	2232.30	35	R G Bhiwandkar & Subhash A Dhakras	1749.51
3	Daniel Msika & Ido Moskovitz	2168.30	36	Mithun Mukherjee & Hasibul Hasan	1739.89
4	Sergey Orlov & Evgeny Rudakov	2084.81	37	Ambrish Wadera & Rajesh K Jain	1735.95
5	Md Zahid Hossain & B M Mahmud Hossain	2047.21	38	Samir Basak & Sandip Datta	1734.66
6	Arvind Srinivasan & Ramaratnam Venkatesh	2021.71	39	Md Moshir Rahman & Md Rashedul Ahsan Nayem	1729.91
7	Arun M Bapat & Ajay P Khare	1987.95	40	Stanley Nazareth & Asvin Ganger	1719.40
8	Rajeshwar Tewari & Sumit Mukherjee	1979.80	41	Rajendra Sirohia & Sukalyan Sarkar	1706.92
9	Vijay Deshpande & Shailendra Chhajed	1978.05	42	Vinita Gupta & Morten Bilde	1700.55
10	Ashok Kumar Goel & K R Venkataraman	1936.74	43	Pradyut Bhattacharjee & Arup Dutta	1691.89
11	Hemant Lall & Joyjit Sensarma	1926.26	44	Saurendranath Chakrabarti & Prosenjit Roy Sarkar	1690.30
12	Emil Jepsen & Simon Ekenberg	1923.07	45	Rajesh A Dalal & Anil P Padhye	1687.39
13	Rob Stephens & Lex van Vught	1910.37	46	Prahalad Rajkumar & Mukund Thapa	1684.91
14	Shibnath De Sarkar & Badal Das	1881.15	47	Anurag Mohota & Basant K Mohota	1677.02
15	Bhabesh Saha & Rana Roy	1878.78	48	Swapan Some & Sourendra Coomer Dutt	1666.16
16	Hemant K Jalan & Ashis Malhotra	1868.44	49	Saswata Bhattacharya & Pranay Majumder	1647.85
17	Pulak Panji & Gourav Biswas	1859.69	50	Moloy Kumar Mondal & Kingshuk Bhattacharya	1642.33
18	Sapan Desai & Debabrata Majumder	1853.82	51	Subhash Gupta & Swarnendu Banerjee	1613.43
19	Sayantan Kushari & Kaustubh Milind Bendre	1835.04	52	Mukund Jagannathan & Vivek Bhand	1611.10
20	Adrians Imsa & Druvis Jansons	1833.30	53	Shrikant B Tembey & Yogesh B Shah	1610.11
21	Sandeep Thakral & Vikrant Mehta	1833.20	54	Arup Kumar Hudait & Animesh Majumder	1609.61
22	Shubham Acharya & Richa Shriram	1830.36	55	Hemant Purkar & Bhalchandra G Ogale	1602.21
23	Pramod Kumar Mishra & Sudhir Kumar Tripathy	1828.56	56	Nitin I Shirole & Ajit Rajaram Padalkar	1601.25
24	Pankaj B Doshi & Soumya Das	1812.31	57	Soren Cilleborg Bilde & Simon Cope	1590.84
25	Karlis Rubins & Edgars Olla	1808.81	58	N R Kirubakaramoorthy & Ramaratnam Krishnan	1574.35
26	Gopinath Manna & Uttam Swarup Gupta	1807.24	59	Anal B Shah & Animesh Raj	1569.36
27	S M Moin & Naveen Kumar	1803.50	60	Prasanta Saha & Prabir Kumar Paul	1546.29
28	Vibhas Todi & Satyabrata Lahiri	1797.92	61	Kamal Kabra & Indranil Chakraborty	1528.83
29	Prosenjit Manna & Joyrup Mullick	1778.49	62	Dilip Mistry & Raju Santra	1514.54
30	Rajesh Nathani & Thakur Hingorani	1765.69	63	Shailendra Kumar & Abhay Todankar	1463.42
31	Swapn Sardar & Sumit Saha	1764.73	64	Aman Kumar Sahani & Tarun Manna	1460.50
32	R Sreekrishnan & Prashanth Kandulakunta	1758.02	65	Manas Kumar Das & Kishore Kumar Ganguly	1458.53
33	Rajeev Khandelwal & Himani Khandelwal	1757.75	66	Craig Gower & Diana Rosslee	1393.25

FANTASTIC FOUR

Mark Horton

For the first session of the semifinals, I concentrated on the match between the pair of Mavericks. I don't think you will be disappointed.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	—	2♠*	All Pass

2♠ Spades and a minor 13

South led the ♥8 and declarer came to nine tricks, +140.



Jakub Patreuha

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Filipowicz	Heiberg-Evenstad	Maskara	Brogeland
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
2♣	Checkback		

North led the ♦3 and when dummy's ♦Q held declarer ran the ♣J, cashed five tricks in the suit and then played a spade for the jack, queen and king (South had pitched two spades). When North exited with the ♥Q declarer took the rest, +490 and 8 IMPs to **Mavericks Gold**.



Subodh Maskara

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	Pass	Pass	2♣*
3♣	Pass	Pass	3NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

East led the ♣3 and West won with the ♣A and returned the ♣7, one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Filipowicz	Heiberg-Evenstad	Maskara	Brogeland
—	Pass	Pass	2♦*
2♠	Pass	3♠	Dble
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

West led the ♠3 for the jack, queen and ace and declarer cashed the ♦AK and took the ♥AK. When the ♥Q obliged declarer could pitch a spade on the ♥J, ruff a spade, draw the outstanding trump and claim, +1370 and 16 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**.



Dominik Filipowicz

West led the ♣J and declarer won and ran the ♦10, East winning with the ♦Q and exiting with a spade. Declarer won and rattled off his spades to reach this position:

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

He cashed the ♥A and crossed to dummy with a heart at which point East became the victim of a criss cross ruffing squeeze. When he pitched the ♦2 declarer could cash dummy's ♦A, ruff a club and score the ♦J for a dazzling +980.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Shaw	Whibley	Dey
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

West led the ♣J and declarer won, drew trumps ending in dummy and played a low diamond. East won with the ♦K and although at this point declarer was on the right track he did not find the winning line so it was 14 IMPs for **Wham**.



Sanjit Dey

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Wham v Monica Jajoo

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nandi	Hung	Roy	Hans
—	—	Pass	1♣*
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♦*	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♦	Dble	4♠
All Pass			

West led the ♦5 and East won with the ♦Q and exited with a spade. It's not clear how the play went, but declarer emerged with 12 tricks, +480.



Mikael Rimstedt

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Filipowicz	Heiberg-Evenstad	Maskara	Brogeland
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠*
Pass	4♦*	Dble	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

4♣	Control
4♦	Control
Rdbl	First round control
4♥	Control

West led the ♦6 and East won with the ♦Q and returned a spade, declarer winning and running the trumps. After five rounds of the suit both defenders had discarded three clubs and declarer cashed the ♣A collecting East's ♣K, +480.

If the defenders discard differently declarer will arrive at this position:

♠ —		♠ —
♥ K 10 8		♥ Q 6
♦ A		♦ K 2
♣ Q 9		♣ K 2
♠ —	♠ N	♠ —
♥ J 9 5	♥ W	♥ —
♦ —	♦ E	♦ —
♣ J 10 7	♣ S	♣ —
♠ 2		
♥ A 7		
♦ J 10		
♣ A		

When declarer plays the ♠2 West must discard a club. Declarer discards a heart from dummy and cashes two hearts. On the second of these East, down to ♦K2 ♣K8 is the victim of a criss cross squeeze.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	Pass	INT	Pass
2♣*	Dble	2♥	4♣
Dble	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	5♣	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♣5 and East cashed the ♣KA and switched to the ♥4, West winning with the ♥Q and returning the ♥7. Declarer pitched a diamond from dummy so East won with the ♥K and returned the ♥2, declarer ruffing West's ♥A, ruffing a diamond and playing the ♠6. West took the ♠K for three down, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Filipowicz	Heiberg-Evenstad	Maskara	Brogeland
—	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♠	Dble*	3♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

North's double probably indicated possession of a useful spade honour.

South led the ♠3 and when declarer played dummy's ♠5 North won with the ♠Q and returned the ♦4, South ruffing

and switching to the ♣10. Declarer was booked for one down, -100 and 12 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ J10853		♠ KQ62
♥ J85		♥ A1073
♦ Q106		♦ 85
♣ 82		♣ 654
♠ A97	♠ 4	
♥ Q9	♥ K642	
♦ AK742	♦ J93	
♣ A97	♣ KQJ103	

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣*	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	5NT*	Pass
6♦	Pass	6NT	All Pass

1♣ Polish Club
4NT RKCB
5♦ 3 keycards

North led the ♥J and declarer was allowed to win with the ♥Q. He ducked a diamond, South winning with the ♦J and switching to the ♣K. Declarer won with the ♣A and cashed his diamonds. It looks like declarer has ten tricks, but the BBO score was shown as -100, which would make for an unusual push!



Ola Rimstedt

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Filipowicz	Heiberg-Evenstad	Maskara	Brogeland
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	INT	2♣
3NT	All Pass		

South led the ♣K and declarer won the third round of the suit, played a spade to the queen and the ♦8 for the nine, ace and ten. When the ♥Q lost to the ♥K South cashed two clubs for one down, -100.



Nicolai Heiberg-Evenstad

Instead of running the ♥Q, declarer should have come to hand with a spade and played a second diamond. South can be kept off lead and declarer will have nine tricks.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ AQ84		♠ 1065
♥ AQ65		♥ K7
♦ 109854		♦ 73
♣ —		♣ QJ9753
♠ K93	♠ J72	
♥ J109432	♥ 8	
♦ —	♦ AKQJ62	
♣ K1062	♣ A84	

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	—	—	1♦
2♥	3♣	3♥	Dble
4♥	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Filipowicz</i>	<i>Heiberg-Evenstad</i>	<i>Maskara</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	—	—	1♦
2♥	Dble*	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥*	Pass	5NT*
Pass	7♦	All Pass	
4♥	Control		
5♥	Spade control		
5NT	Pick a slam		

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ K963
 ♥ A98743
 ♦ A75
 ♣ —

♠ Q742
 ♥ 5
 ♦ Q862
 ♣ Q1096

♠ AJ108
 ♥ Q10
 ♦ 104
 ♣ AK732

♠ 5
 ♥ KJ62
 ♦ KJ93
 ♣ 1854

W N E S

West	North	East	South
<i>P Patreuha</i>	<i>O Rimstedt</i>	<i>J Patreuha</i>	<i>M Rimstedt</i>
—	I♥	Dble	2NT*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East led the ♣A and declarer took 11 tricks, +650.

West	North	East	South
Filipowicz	Heiberg-Evenstad	Maskara	Brogeland
Pass	1♥	Dble	2NT*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

East led the ♠A and continued with the ♠8, declarer ruffing in dummy, ruffing a club, cashing the ♥A, playing a heart to the king, ruffing a club, pitching a diamond on the ♠K, ruffing a spade and ruffing a club. At this point he knew spades were 4-4 and that East had started with two hearts and at least three clubs (having played the ♣32K). If he had cashed his last trump West would almost certainly have discarded the ♣Q, marking him with four spades, four clubs and a heart. West had already discarded the ♦8, so there was a case for taking the backwards finesse, but declarer cashed the ♦A and was gone down, -100 and 13 IMPs to **Mavericks Gold**.

♠ 106
♥ J2
♦ KJ106543
♣ K8

♠ K83
♥ 753
♦ 92
♣ AJ1064

♠ A Q J 9 5 4
♥ K Q 9 4
♦ A 8
♣ 5

♠ 72
♥ A 10 8 6
♦ Q 7
♣ O 9 7 3 2

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	3♦	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South led the ♦Q and declarer won, played a club to the ace and a heart for the queen and ace. North took the diamond return with the ♦10 and played the ♣K, declarer ruffing, cashing the ♠Q and the ♥K and exiting with a heart. South won with the ♥10 and played a club, but declarer could claim, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Filipowicz	Heiberg-Evenstad	Maskara	Brogeland
—	3♦	Dble	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

South led the ♦Q and declarer won, played a club to the ace, ruffed a club, played the ♠AJ overtaking with dummy's ♠K and ruffed a club, taking ten tricks, -200 and 13 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum** who led 52-32.



Boye Brogeland

THE DEDICATED HANDS BEHIND THE HCL CHAMPIONSHIP



FANTASTIC FOUR 2

Mark Horton

After the first session of the semifinal, Wham led Monica Jajoo 64-6.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ 104	♠ AJ752	♠ Q9
♥ Q976	♥ 108	♥ AKJ543
♦ 10874	♦ AK53	♦ J6
♣ AQ4	♣ 86	♣ 752
	♠ K863	
	♥ 2	
	♦ Q92	
	♣ KJ1093	

Wham v Monica Jajoo

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bhattacharya	Hung	Jajoo	Hans
Pass	1♠	2♥	4♠
5♥	Dble	All Pass	

From a technical point of view West can consider bidding 5♣ over 4♠, the idea being to assist partner if NS bid on to 5♠.

South led the ♥2 and declarer had to lose two spades, two diamonds and a club for three down, -800.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Shaw	Whibley	Dey
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT*
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2NT Support

East led the ♥A and continued with the ♥3, declarer ruffing in dummy, cashing the ♠K and then finessing the ♠J to finish one down, -50 and 13 IMPs to **Wham**.



Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 75	♠ KJ962	♠ Q10843
♥ J92	♥ Q93	♥ 75
♦ KJ1086	♦ AQ9	♦ 5
♣ A32	♣ J10	♣ 98654
	♠ A	
	♥ AK1064	
	♦ 7432	
	♣ KQ7	

Wham v Monica Jajoo

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bhattacharya	Hung	Jajoo	Hans
—	INT	Pass	2♦*
Dble	2♥	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East led the $\diamond 5$ and declarer won with the $\diamond 10$, drew trumps ending in dummy, unblocked the $\spadesuit A$ and played the $\clubsuit K$, finishing with 11 tricks, +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Shaw	Whibley	Dey
—	1 $\spadesuit$	Pass	2 $\heartsuit$
Pass	3 $\heartsuit$	Pass	4 $\clubsuit^*$
Pass	4 $\diamond^*$	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5 $\clubsuit^*$	Pass	5 $\diamond^*$
Pass	5 $\spadesuit^*$	Pass	6 $\heartsuit$
All Pass			

4 $\clubsuit$ Control
 4 $\diamond$ Control
 4NT RKCB
 5 $\clubsuit$ 1 keycard
 5 $\diamond$ $\heartsuit Q$?
 5 $\spadesuit$ $\heartsuit Q + \spadesuit K$

West led the $\diamond J$ and when the $\diamond Q$ held declarer played the $\clubsuit J$, West winning and returning the $\diamond K$ to dummy's $\diamond A$, East ruffing and exiting with a club. That meant two down, -100 and 11 IMPs to **Wham**.



Michael Whibley

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

$\spadesuit$ J 6 4		$\spadesuit$ A K Q 3
$\heartsuit$ Q J 10 7 3 2		$\heartsuit$ A 9 6
$\diamond$ 10 4 3		$\diamond$ Q 7 6
$\clubsuit$ K		$\clubsuit$ 6 5 4
$\spadesuit$ 10 7	$\spadesuit$ 9 8 5 2	
$\heartsuit$ 5	$\heartsuit$ K 8 4	
$\diamond$ A J 9 5	$\diamond$ K 8 2	
$\clubsuit$ A 10 9 8 7 3	$\clubsuit$ Q J 2	



Wham v Monica Jajoo

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bhattacharya	Hung	Jajoo	Hans
—	—	INT	Pass
2 $\spadesuit^*$	Pass	3 $\clubsuit^*$	Pass
3 $\heartsuit^*$	Dble	Pass	Pass
5 $\clubsuit$	All Pass		

2 $\spadesuit$ Transfer
 3 $\heartsuit$ Shortage



Monica Jajoo

South led the $\heartsuit K$ and declarer won and played a club to the ten and king, North returning the $\spadesuit 4$. Declarer won with the $\spadesuit A$, played a diamond to the jack, a spade to the king, pitched a diamond on the $\spadesuit Q$ and claimed for one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Shaw	Whibley	Dey
—	—	INT	Pass
2 $\spadesuit^*$	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3 $\heartsuit^*$	Pass	3 $\spadesuit$	Pass
3NT	Pass	4 $\heartsuit^*$	Dble
5 $\clubsuit$	All Pass		

2 $\spadesuit$ Transfer
 3 $\heartsuit$ Shortage
 4 $\heartsuit$ Control

North led the $\heartsuit Q$ and declarer took dummy's $\heartsuit A$ and played two rounds of clubs, South winning and cashing another club. At this point a spade switch is essential to break up the impending squeeze, but when South exited with the $\heartsuit K$ declarer ruffed, played a spade to the ace and the $\diamond Q$ for the king and ace. Declarer cashed two clubs discarding a spade, then cashed two spades, squeezing North in the red suits. When he pitched a diamond declarer could play a diamond to the jack collecting the $\diamond 10$ for +600 and 12 IMPs to **Wham**.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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



♠ Q J 10 9
♥ 9 4
♦ 9 6 4 3
♣ 10 6 3

Wham v Monica Jajoo

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bhattacharya	Hung	Jajoo	Hans
—	INT	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♠	All Pass

2♦ One major
2♥ Pass or correct

South led the ♠Q and declarer won and returned the ♠5, North winning with the ♠K and cashing the ♥A, +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Shaw	Whibley	Dey
—	1♥	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

3♥ Checking for a stopper

North led the ♥5, +630 and 10 IMPs to **Wham**, taking the score at the end of the session to 129-15.

Binod Kumar Shaw



In memory of
Late Shri. Ashok Ruia

68th ASHOK RUIA MEMORIAL WINTER NATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP 2026

17th – 27th DECEMBER 2026

JABALPUR, MADHYA PRADESH

CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

	♠	♥	♦	♣
17 DEC 2026 THURSDAY	Amla Ruia Women Cup – Elimination Stage	Ashok Ruia Senior Pairs		
18 DEC 2026 FRIDAY	Amla Ruia Women Cup – Final	Ashok Ruia Senior Teams – Round Robin (R1–R5)	Women Pairs Strata	
19 DEC 2026 SATURDAY	Phoenix Mixed Pairs Cup – Elimination Stage	Ashok Ruia Senior Teams – R6–R7 & Quarter Finals		
20 DEC 2026 SUNDAY	Phoenix Mixed Pairs Cup – Final	Ashok Ruia Senior Teams – Semi-finals & Final	Mixed Pairs Strata	
21 DEC 2026 MONDAY	Ruia Gold Teams – Round Robin (R1–R6)	Ruia Silver Teams – Round Robin (R1–R6)		
22 DEC 2026 TUESDAY	Ruia Gold Teams – Round Robin (R7–R8) & Pre-Quarter Finals	Ruia Silver Teams – Round Robin (R7–R8) & Pre-Quarter Finals	Swiss Pairs	
23 DEC 2026 WEDNESDAY	Ruia Gold Teams – Quarter Finals	Ruia Silver Teams – Quarter Finals & Semi-finals	Phoenix Marketcity Cup IMP Pairs – Elimination	
24 DEC 2026 THURSDAY	Ruia Gold Teams – Semi-finals	Ruia Silver Teams – Final	Phoenix Marketcity Cup IMP Pairs – Final	IMP Pairs Strata
25 DEC 2026 FRIDAY	Ruia Gold Teams – Final	Mall of the Millennium Cup Matchpoint Pairs – Elimination 1		
26 DEC 2026 SATURDAY	Mall of the Millennium Cup Matchpoint Pairs – Elimination 2	Dabriwala Cup Board-a-Match	Matchpoint Strata Pairs	
27 DEC 2026 SUNDAY	Mall of the Millennium Cup Matchpoint Pairs – Final			

Venue: **Hotel Pasricha - Banquets & Lawns**, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh

Good Cards & Great Memories Await!



A CONVERSATION WITH

KRZYSZTOF BURAS

On World Championships, Indian Bridge and the Road Ahead

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

2019	Bermuda Bowl (World Teams Championship)
2022	World Open Pairs Championship with Piotr Lutostański
2024	World Bridge Games Open Teams Championship
2026	World Open Pairs Championship with Piotr Lutostański

Krzysztof Buras is one of the leading players of his generation in a World Grand Master from Poland. Over the years, he has enjoyed an exceptional career at the highest level of the game, with multiple World Championship titles to his name.

We congratulate Krzysztof on his remarkable achievement at the 2026 World Open Pairs, where he and Piotr Lutostański successfully defended the world title they had first won together in 2022. Their ability to return four years later and reclaim the most coveted title in pairs bridge is a remarkable testament to their partnership, consistency and class.

Having played extensively in India in recent years, particularly at the HCL International Championships, we spoke with him about his World Championship experiences, the standard of Indian bridge, the country's growing presence on the international stage, and what it will take for Indian players to compete for medals in the future.

*“ Have the right attitude, work hard
and everything is in front of you.
You can reach whatever you want. ”*

Congratulations on your remarkable victory in the recent World Open Pairs. You and Piotr Lutostański had already won this title in 2022 and have now regained it four years later. How confident were you going into the championship, and what made this victory particularly special for you?

The victory, like for the first time with Piotr, was really special because Piotr just come back to bridge, as he has a serious job and is not a professional player. We basically play from one championship to another. I wasn't so confident because it's a really hard tournament. You need to have some luck and there are a lot of good players. I was pretty sure that we can do okay, but not that we would win for sure. A medal position would have delighted me, and the gold medal, even more.

You have been playing extensively in India for the past three to four years, particularly in the HCL International Championships. What has impressed you most about the standard of bridge, the competitiveness of the players and the overall atmosphere of these tournaments?

I think the friendly people and the atmosphere. I have never had any problems with anybody. Almost everybody is really polite and nice at the table, so we can talk to each other, make a laugh and make some friendships. It's not only the bridge, but the social element of the tournament which is really important, especially for those who come from abroad. This is one of the things which makes the Indian tournaments special for me.

You have competed at the highest level around the world. When you play against India's strongest players, how do you assess the level of Indian bridge compared with international competition, and where do you see the biggest opportunities for Indian players to improve?

Internationally, I play sometimes against Indian players, but not so much as against other top players. My observation is that probably the bidding is the area where you can improve the most. This is what I observed during my tournaments here as well. So, the bidding is the area to focus on.

India has a strong ambition to win a medal in the Open category at a World Championship, which is arguably the most competitive sector of international bridge. From your experience at the highest level, what do you believe Indian players need to do in terms of training, partnerships, preparation and exposure to realistically challenge for a World Championship medal?

I believe that work on the system and partnership agreements is one of the most important things. What is best for players from India is to play as much as possible against other good players from different countries, to get familiar with different systems and different styles. This is the most important part, and of course, training like in every sport.

After achieving so much internationally, what is it about coming to India and playing in these tournaments that continues to excite you? And what would you like to see happen next for Indian bridge?

It's basically the same as what I said, that the atmosphere and the places where we play are usually great. I would not change anything about this. The venue is really nice, it's really comfortable and the hotel is good. It's also convenient for me because there are direct flights from Warsaw to New Delhi, so this is nice. There is not much to improve about the organization, maybe to try to get more good teams from around the world to come here. This will be the most important part. It also connects to what I said before, that it is good for Indian bridge to play against other top players from other countries. The more that come, the better.

Finally, if you could give one piece of advice to young Indian players who dream of competing and winning medals at the highest international level, what would you tell them?

Basically the same as for the adults: to have the good attitude, to work hard. And I know that they do, so everything is in front of them. They can reach whatever they want.

FANTASTIC FOUR 3

Mark Horton

At half time Mavericks Gold led Mavericks Platinum by 3 IMPs, 66-63.

On Board 29 EW held ♠92 ♥AK875 ♦-♣AJ10642 opposite ♠AK4 ♥J3 ♦Q87652 ♣75 and saw North open 1NT and South respond 2♥. Both West's bid 2♠. Toledano's 3♥ ended the auction while Heiberg-Evenstad's 2NT saw Lahrman's 4♣ end proceedings. Hearts were 3-3 and clubs 3-2, so 5♣ was making, but it was +140 v +150 for a push.

Board 33. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 8	♠ 1096	♠ AKQJ73
♥ J82	♥ Q9643	♥ A107
♦ K73	♦ 964	♦ 1082
♣ KJ8743	♣ Q9	♣ 10
	♠ 542	
	♥ K5	
	♦ AQJ5	
	♣ A652	

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lahrman	O Rimstedt	Heiberg-Evenstad	M Rimstedt
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2♣ Gazzilli
2♦ 8+

North led the ♥3 and South won with the ♥K and played the ♦A followed by the ♦J, declarer winning and playing a heart to the ten, +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	J Patreuha	Toledano	P Patreuha
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	All Pass

North led the ♥6 and South won with the ♥K and switched to the ♦Q followed by the ♦5. Declarer put up the ♦K and cashed his winners, +120 but 7 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**.

Board 34. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ 7	♠ 98632
♥ Q985432	♥ K6
♦ J95	♦ K863
♣ Q2	♣ 7
♠ QJ10	♠ K54
♥ J	♥ A107
♦ A1074	♦ Q2
♣ KJ1053	♣ A9864

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lahrman	O Rimstedt	Heiberg-Evenstad	M Rimstedt
—	—	1♠	Dble
4♠	4NT*	Pass	5♣
Dble	5♥	Pass	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

South led the ♥A and switched to the ♠5, declarer winning with dummy's ♠10, playing the ♠J to the ace and the ♣7, South taking the ♣A and cashing the ♠K. Dummy's clubs took care of the losing diamond, one down, -100 and 12 IMPs to **Mavericks Gold**.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	J Patreuha	Toledano	P Patreuha
—	—	1♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South led the ♠4 and when dummy's ♠10 held declarer played the ♥J for the queen, king and ace, South switching to the ♣6. Declarer put up dummy's ♣K and was home, +620.

Board 39. Dealer South. None Vul.

	♠ A 103		♠ J 98754
	♥ A Q J 1073		♥ K
	♦ 942		♦ K 1075
	♣ 5		♣ 102
♠ —			
♥ 9864			
♦ Q63			
♣ Q98763			
	♠ K Q 62		
	♥ 52		
	♦ A J 8		
	♣ A K J 4		

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lahrman	O Rimstedt	Heiberg-Evenstad	M Rimstedt
—	—	—	2♦*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

2♦	18-19 balanced
4♣	Hearts
4NT	RKCB
5♥	2 keycards

West led the ♣9 and declarer won with the ♣J and played a heart to the queen, East winning and returning the ♠7. West's ruff was a cruel blow: -50.

Would you have played a heart to the ace at trick two? That's fine here, but imagine that West held a doubleton ♥K and seven clubs.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	J Patreuha	Toledano	P Patreuha
—	—	—	1♣*
Pass	1♥	1♠	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

1♣	Polish Club
4♣	Control
4♦	Control

East led the ♠9 and West ruffed and switched to the ♦3, declarer winning with the ♦A, cashing two clubs for a diamond discard and then playing a heart to the ace, +480 and 11 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**.

Board 42. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠ A Q 5		♠ 62
	♥ A J 986		♥ K Q 10
	♦ K Q 6		♦ A 82
	♣ 64		♣ 1097
♠ J 10843			
♥ 42			
♦ 10			
♣ Q J 852			
	♠ K 97		
	♥ 5		
	♦ J 97543		
	♣ A K 3		

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lahrman	O Rimstedt	Heiberg-Evenstad	M Rimstedt
—	—	Pass	1♦
2♣	2♦*	Pass	2♥*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

2♦ Transfer

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	J Patreuha	Toledano	P Patreuha
—	—	Pass	1♦
1♠	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the ♠6 and declarer claimed 11 tricks, +460.

With neither team finding the excellent slam, the scores were now tied at 89-89!



Ami Zamir

FANTASTIC FOUR 4

Mark Horton

With the scores tied at 89-89, the final session of the match between the Mavericks was full of potential.

Board 43. Dealer South N/S Vul.

♠ J7	♠ K86	♠ AQ2
♥ 63	♥ Q97	♥ AK842
♦ AQJ82	♦ 9753	♦ K1064
♣ AK63	♣ J72	♣ 8
	♠ 109543	
	♥ J105	
	♦ —	
	♣ Q10954	

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠*	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♦	All Pass

2♠ Fourth suit forcing

There was nothing to the play, +940.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Heiberg-Evenstad	Toledano	Brogeland
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣*	Dble
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♦	All Pass

2♦ Transfer

Ditto my song.

It's the type of deal where must not dwell on whether the opponents will have bid 7♦.

Board 44. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ J107	♠ K3	♠ A986
♥ Q965	♥ KJ843	♥ 107
♦ 1098	♦ AKQJ42	♦ 753
♣ 753	♣ —	♣ QJ64
	♠ Q542	
	♥ A2	
	♦ 6	
	♣ AK10982	

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT*
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
3NT	All Pass		

1NT Game forcing balanced or ♣ or ♦

West led the ♠J for the king and ace and declarer claimed 11 tricks (although the score was shown as +490 on BBO).

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Heiberg-Evenstad	Toledano	Brogeland
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West led the ♠A and declarer took 11 tricks, +450, which might (or might not) have given Mavericks Gold an IMP.

Making 2♠ as EW and 2♥ as NS gave Mavericks Platinum 6 IMPs on Board 45.

Board 47. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ J763	♠ AQ8	♠ K10954
♥ 8	♥ K105	♥ 763
♦ 83	♦ Q965	♦ K74
♣ KJ10852	♣ A43	♣ Q7
	♠ 2	
	♥ AQJ942	
	♦ AJ102	
	♣ 96	

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

2♣ Game forcing balanced or ♣ or ♥

West led the ♥8 and declarer won in dummy and ran the ♦9, taking all the tricks, +940.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Heiberg-Evenstad	Toledano	Brogeland
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	5NT*	Pass	6♥*
All Pass			

4♣	Control
4♦	Control
4NT	RKCB
5♠	2 keycards + ♥Q
5NT	Grand Slam interest
6♥	No kings

West led the ♣2 and declarer took dummy's ♣A, drew trumps ending in dummy and played the ♦Q. When East followed with the ♦4 declarer had to consider the possibility of winning with the ♦A and taking a spade finesse to dispose of the losing club. Eventually that is what he did and was two down, -100 and 14 IMPs to **Mavericks Gold**.

Zia (if they don't cover they don't have it) is not always right.

Board 48. Dealer West. All Vul.

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



Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
1♣	1♠	3♦*	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

North led the ♣3 and declarer drifted two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Heiberg-Evenstad	Toledano	Brogeland
1♦*	1♠	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

1♦	2+♦ 1-15 stiff honour possible
2♣	Hearts

North led the ♥10 and declarer took dummy's ♥A and played three rounds of clubs, North winning and exiting with a spade (a diamond is better but not an easy play). Declarer won with the ♠Q, cashed the ♣7 and played two rounds of spades, collecting one more trick, two down, -500 and 7 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**.

Board 50. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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



Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	—	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣*	Dble	4♦*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

2♣	Weak (5) 6+♦ or 22+ balanced or any game force
2♦	Pass or correct
2♥	5+♥ or 25+ balanced
3♦	Hearts
4♣	Control
4♦	Control

The spade position meant there were 12 tricks, declarer ruffing the third round of diamonds and playing a spade to the jack, +480.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Heiberg-Evenstad	Toledano	Brogeland
—	—	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♥

All Pass

5♣ Exclusion Blackwood
5♦ 0 keycards

This time the score was +980, and 11 IMPs to **Mavericks Platinum**.

Board 53. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 843	♠ J9	♠ AKQ
♥ 107542	♥ QJ83	♥ AK
♦ 87	♦ Q1065	♦ KJ432
♣ A54	♣ J93	♣ Q106
	♠ 107652	
	♥ 96	
	♦ A9	
	♣ K872	

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♦*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass
1♣	Polish Club		
1♦	Negative		
3♦	Transfer		

South led the ♠7 and declarer won with the ♥K and played the 2, North winning with the ♦10 and switching to the ♥3. Declarer won with the ♥A, played a club to the ace and a diamond to the jack and ace. South returned the ♥9 and declarer won and cashed the ♦K and the ♠Q, two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Heiberg-Evenstad	Toledano	Brogeland
—	Pass	1♣*	1♥*
Pass	1♠	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
1♣	16+		

South led the ♣2 and declarer won with the ♣Q and played the ♦K, South taking the ♦A and returning the ♠K, declarer winning with dummy's ♠A and running the ♦8. South won and needed to find a heart switch. When he exited with a club declarer won with the ♣10 (who would have thought he would score three club tricks!) exited with a diamond and claimed nine tricks, +600 and 13 huge IMPs for **Mavericks Gold**.

Board 54. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ Q107	♠ K84	♠ A532
♥ 832	♥ 4	♥ AJ106
♦ K108754	♦ AJ6	♦ Q
♣ 8	♣ AKJ1053	♣ Q762
	♠ J96	
	♥ KQ975	
	♦ 932	
	♣ 94	

Mavericks Gold v Mavericks Platinum

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Patreuha	O Rimstedt	J Patreuha	M Rimstedt
—	—	1♣*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
7♣	All Pass		

1♣ Polish Club
4♦ Splinter
4♥ Control
4♠ Control
4NT RKCB
5♠ 2 keycards + ♣Q

South led the ♣4 and declarer had no way to manufacture a thirteenth trick, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Heiberg-Evenstad	Toledano	Brogeland
—	—	2♦*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♥*	Pass	5♦*	Pass
5♠*	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♣	All Pass		
2♦	11-15 short ♦, 4405, 4414, 3415		
2NT	Asking		
3♣	Minimum		
3♦	Asking		
3NT	4414		

Here too South led the ♣4 but +1370 gave **Mavericks Gold** 16 IMPs, ensuring their appearance in the final.



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