

Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter

Editor: T.C. Pant

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Hon. Secretary: R.K. Gupta

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From the Editor's Desk

The month of February turned out to be another great month for the Bridge lovers. Every week there was atleast one good tournament. The month started with the Shree Cement tournament at Kolkatta and then we had the Cavendish Pairs at Ahmedabad. Next came the PYC Hindu Gymkhana tournament at Pune followed by Lohia tournament at Kanpur. Many associations held their selection trials for Rama Jain in February and the month ended with All India Ubhayakar trophy organized at various associations on 29th February.

On the International front, there was NEC cup in Japan, tournaments at Egypt and Iceland and the Gold Coast congress in Queensland, Australia. So Bridge players enjoyed one of their best periods.

However, with the arrival of summer in India, things will slow down a bit, but we have the All India Rama Jain Tournament at Delhi on 13th & 14th March for you. The Summer nationals were initially thought to be held in April but due to the coming Elections, it has been postponed to June. The Corbett Park tournament from 6th to 9th May is a fantastic tournament and players can enjoy the jungles along with Bridge. This is one tournament where families of Bridge players are very eager to join the players. So you can enjoy this tournament with your family along with some interesting bridge.

Coming to the Ubhayakar trophy, the organizers are requested to see one important aspect of this tournament. Since last 2 years it has been noted that many of the Ubhayakar deals are the ones, which, have been earlier, played in one or the other important tournaments of India. All good players remember such deals. While playing the tournament on 29th Feb, Mr. B. Satyanarayana was able to recollect atleast 20% of the deals. The players (as well as the opponents) loose the charm of playing such deals. Hence persons setting the deals should make sure that either the deals are generated or they should be from tournaments atleast 6-7 year old, so that the deals cannot be remembered easily.

Lastly I will like to congratulate Mr. Sartaj Hans (a young player from Delhi, who was my partner once upon a time) and who is currently based in Sydney, Australia. Sartaj is going great guns in Australia and his team reached the Finals of Team of Four in the Gold Coast congress, where they lost by 14 IMPs. Keep it up Sartaj.

Wishing you all a Very Happy Holi.

Editor

PUPPET STAYMAN

In the August Bulletin, we discussed the very common Stayman 2C bidding sequences over 1NT Opening. Many people use Stayman over strong 2NT as well. As it is very common to bid 2NT holding a 5 card major, many bridge players prefer to use Puppet Stayman over strong 2NT.

There are various versions of Puppet Stayman, each with some particular drawbacks. However the version presented below based on Romex Puppet Stayman is perhaps the best one. This method generally makes the stronger hand declarer and responder has additional bidding space to show a hand containing 5 spade and 4 hearts. Also if required responder can discover 5 card or 4 card minors through relay sequences.

Responses and Re-bids after Strong 2NT

Responder bids 3C as puppet Stayman, 3D/H & 4D/H as transfer to H/S, 3S to show slammish hands with one or both minors. The following are the various responses and re-bids to 3C (Puppet Stayman) bid:

2N – 3C (Puppet Stayman) – ?

3D – Either no major suit or 4-card spade
 3H – Shows a 4- or 5-card Heart suit
 3S – 5-card Spades
 3N – Both 4-card majors

2N – 3C – 3D (no major or 4 spades) – ?

3H – Either Relay or 4 Spades
 3S – 5 spades and 4+ Hearts
 3N – to play
 4C/D – Natural 5-card suit, Slam interest

2N – 3C – 3D – 3H (relay or 4 spades) – ?

3S – 4 Spades
 3N – Relay for further description
 4C – 4-card club (4NT-to play)
 4D – 4-card diamond
 4H/S – 4-3-3-3 min/max
 4C/D/H – Cue bid agreeing spades
 3N – No major
 4C – Relay for further description
 4D – Any 5-card minor (4H – relay)
 4S – 5-card Club
 4N – 5-card diamond
 4H – 2-3-4-4
 4S – 3-2-4-4
 4N – 3-3-3-4 or 3-3-4-3
 4D – Natural 5-card suit, Slam interest
 4H – 5-card Club suit, Slam interest
 4N – Quantitative

2N – 3C – 3D – 3S (5 spades & 4+ hearts) – ?

3N – No spade fit
 Pass – 5-4-x-x distribution
 4N – Quantitative
 4D – Transfer to 4H, 5-5 majors, slammish
 4H – 5-5 in majors, to play
 4C/D – Cue bid agreeing spades
 4S – to play

2N – 3C – 3H (4 or 5 card heart suit) – ?

3S – Relay for heart length (3 cards in H must)
 3N – 4-card heart only
 4C – Relay for further distribution
 4D – 4-card diamond
 4H – 4-card club
 4S – 3-4-3-3 min
 4N – 3-4-3-3 max
 4D – Nat 5-card suit, Slam interest
 4S – 5-card club suit, Slam interest
 4C/D – 5-card heart, doubleton C/D
 4H – 5-card heart, doubleton spade
 3N – to play, probably interested in spades
 4C/D – Natural 5-card suit, Slam interest
 4H – to play
 4S – RKCB with hearts agreed
 4N – Quantitative

2N – 3C – 3S (5 card spade suit) – ?

3N – to play
 4C/D – Natural 5-card suit, Slam interest
 4H – Cue bid agreeing spades
 4S – to play
 4N – Quantitative

2N – 3C – 3N (both 4 card majors) – ?

4C – Any 5-card minor suit, Slam interest
 4D/H – Transfer to 4H/S
 4N – Quantitative

With the above sequences, it is possible to discover 4-4 or 5-3 major as well as minor suit fits. Responder can first try for major suit fit, failing which he can either show his 5-card minor or ask opener for his distribution, if responder is interested in Slam. Whenever responder relays at 4-level for distribution, 4NT will be to play.

We would strongly recommend the above version for those who like to play Puppet Stayman.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aqqarwal)

Local Bridge News & Results

Delhi Bridge Association Tuesday Pairs Event - Results

03/02/2004 – 12 Tables

NS 1 : A.K. Jha – A.K. Ghosh	64.64%
NS 2 : M.S. Sharma – D. K. Mutreja	61.53%
EW1 : T.C. Pant – Sunil Bhatia	67.01%
EW2 : Yogesh Tewari – Arun Jain	63.63%

10/02/2004 – 15 Tables

NS 1 : Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	61.17%
NS 2 : Dr. Nikita Kamal – Amarjit	55.08%
NS 3 : Prof. S.C. Gupta – Mrs. Mani Gupta	52.10%
EW 1 : D.K. Tewari – Anand Bhatia	61.63%
EW 2 : Ms. Uma Tewari – Ms. Rinku Singh	59.60%
EW 3 : A.K. Narang – R.C. Consul	54.06%

17/02/2004 – 11 Tables

NS 1 : R.C. Consul – A.K. Narang	66.29%
NS 2 : Santosh Kumar – A.K. Srivastava	57.78%
EW 1 : V.N. Puri – Sanjeev K. Singh	61.36%
EW 2 : N.P. Singh – D.D. Gulati	56.48%

24/02/2004 – 12 Tables

NS 1 : Yogesh Tewari – Arun Jain	60.82%
NS 2 : Suraj Jain – Kamesh Rao	57.31%
EW 1 : N.P. Singh – D.D. Gulati	63.44%
EW 2 : R. Chakravarti – M.S. Sharma	62.07%

DBA – Hindustan Times Saturday Team Event – Results

07/02/2004 – 14 Teams

1. **SONCHEL**– (Mukesh Shivdasani, Sudhir Aggarwal, Amod Rele, Sunil Sarin, M.S. Sharma)
2. **Asha Surana's Team** – (Mrs. Asha Surana, Vijay Kumar, S. Nagpal, A.K. Guha, Raghubir Jasuja)
3. **NAPLES** – (O.K. Mohan Dass, S. Dharni, Rajesh Jain, J.B. Sengupta)

14/02/2004 – 14 Teams

1. **Friends** – (Ravi Sawhney, S. Sunderrajan, A.K. Jha, Gopal Saxena)
2. **Torpedoes** – (A.K. Sinha, T. Bhattacharya, Arun Jain, Yogesh M. Tewari)
3. **Delhi Blues** – (T.C. Pant, Sunil Bhatia, Vinod Sharma, Pareshe Gupta)

21/02/2004 – 10 Teams

1. **NAPLES** – (O.K. Mohan Dass, S. Nagpal, Sunil Sarin, J.B. Sengupta)
2. **ORIENTAL** – (Dr. Saroj Mohan, Mrs. Kulshreshta, B.R. Murar, S.K. Uppal)

All India Ladies Bridge Association Results

06/02/2004 - 11 Tables

NS 1 : Mrs. Kunti Thakur – Mrs. Litvik
NS 2 : A.K. Jha – P.K. Rajgarhia
EW 1 : Dr. R.L. Sanghi – Amarjit Wadhawan
EW 2 : Sanjeev Kumar Singh - Ranjan

- Reported by Mrs. Shashi Jain

Selection Trial for Summer Nationals

The trials for selecting the Team/Pair for representing Delhi state at the Summer Nationals for T.P. Khosla / Agarwala Trophy will be held at DBA in Apr 2004.

Initially it was thought to be done in March but as the Summer Nationals are to be held in June, we have enough time in hand for organizing it in April. The exact dates will be informed on DBA Notice Board.

VASANT VIHAR CLUB Tournament

Vasant Vihar Club will organize their Annual Bridge Tournament on **21st Mar 2004** at Vasant Vihar Club. The Mixed Pairs event will be played in the morning and the Open Pairs will be played in the afternoon.

Registration with BFI

The Delhi Bridge Players not yet registered with BFI for the "Master Point scheme" are requested to get registered immediately. This will enable them to get their Master Point awards for the local & National tournaments.

SELECTION TRIAL at DBA For RAMA JAIN Tournament

The trials for selecting the Pair for representing Delhi in the All India RAMA JAIN Tournament was held on 28th Feb 2004 at DBA.

25 Pairs (13 Tables) participated in the trials, and first played an elimination round of 26 boards. The top 8 NS & EW qualifiers went through to the final round and played a 30 boards (15*2 boards) final.

The Final Results:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. T.C. Pant – Sunil Bhatia | 63.03% |
| 2. Gopal Saxena – Ajay Tankha | 62.24% |
| 3. V.N. Puri – Sanjeev Kumar Singh | 58.74% |
| 4. A.K. Narang – R.C. Consul | 57.92% |
| 5. Sunil Mahajan – T. Bhattacharya | 55.44% |
| 6. Yogesh Tewari – Arun Jain | 52.52% |

The pair of T.C. Pant – Sunil Bhatia will represent Delhi in the All India Rama Jain Tournament, to be held at Delhi on 13th & 14th Mar 2004.

- Reported by Editor

All India UBHAYAKAR Trophy At DBA

14 Pairs (7 Tables) participated at DBA in the All India Ubhayakar trophy played all over India on 29th Feb 2003 in 2 sessions. The toppers of each session were as follows:

Session – I

North – South

1. N.K. Gupta – A.K. Ghosh - 1587 (66.13%)
2. Mrs. Kiran Nadar – B. Satyanarayana – 1556 (64.83%)

East-West

1. Anand Bhatia – P.C. Gupta – 1301 (54.21%)
2. T.C. Pant – Sudhir Aggarwal – 1130 (47.08%)

Session – II

North – South

1. Rajesh Jain – J.B. Sengupta - 1344 (56.00%)
2. Brig. Sai – M.R. Goel – 1297 (54.04%)

East-West

1. Anand Bhatia – P.C. Gupta – 1400 (58.33%)
2. T.C. Pant – Sudhir Aggarwal – 1386 (57.75%)

- Reported by Editor

Master Point List (at Delhi) The 300 MPs Club

The following is the Master points list (more than 300 MPs) of Delhi registered players updated till 31st Jan 2004:

1	SUBHASH GUPTA	2635.03
2	N K GUPTA	2136.90
3	BUCHIRAJA SATYANARAYANA	2100.91
4	MRS. KIRAN NADAR	1645.00
5	ASHOK GOEL	1643.18
6	M M CHOPRA	1488.78
7	RAJESHWAR TIWARI	1487.80
8	R R GUPTA	1144.38
9	INDER PAL SINGH	1065.46
10	S R MALHOTRA	942.64
11	H K L CAPOOR	926.09
12	D K TIWARI	918.07
13	RITA CHOKSI	899.15
14	PARESH GUPTA	875.65
15	HARBHAJAN SINGH	841.96
16	K K ZUTSHI	825.58
17	JOGINDER SINGH	697.48
18	SUNIL BHATIA	690.41
19	P C GUPTA	687.12
20	SUBODH GOPAL BOSE MULLICK	686.30
21	SUDHIR G AGGARWAL	659.26
22	HANS VERMA	648.98
23	RAGHUBIR S JASUJA	640.86
24	K B SIKAND	585.56
25	DR. ASHWINI MEHTA	534.25
26	S GOPALAKRISHNAN	520.32
27	ASHOK BEDI	507.01
28	V K SAWHNEY	473.67
29	K CHANDRAMOULI	472.33
30	D S AHLUWALIA	457.23
31	RAVI GUJRAL	436.21
32	J S BAKSHI	421.58
33	S N MATHUR	376.89
34	A K NARANG	372.96
35	N K JAIN	364.02
36	T C PANT	357.37
37	SANGRAM GUHA	309.58
38	R C CONSUL	301.52

Note: The detailed list has been put up on the DBA Notice board.

Courtesy: Master Point Secretary (DBA)

All India Shree Cement Tournament

ALL INDIA SHREE CEMENT BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP was held at Bengal Rowing Club, Kolkata on 30th, 31st January and 1st February 2004 organized by WEST BENGAL BRIDGE ASSOCIATION. Team of Four as well as Pairs events was played.

In the Team of Four event 32 teams vied for the honor. **ALOK DAGAS IV** (Subhas Gupta, Manas Mukherjee, Rana Roy, Subir Majumdar, Chandrasekhar Majumdar, Alok Daga) emerged as the Champions. **MANAS SAHAS IV** (Manas Saha, Hasibul Hassan, Pranob Roy, Santanu Chowdhury, Prasanto Bera) were the runners-up.

The 32 board final was very interesting. Alok Daga's pipped Manas Saha's IV by only 4 IMPs. The runner-up team comprised of young players who were new to the circuit, but gave run for their money to all seasoned campaigners of Alok Daga's outfit.

The Champions took away 1 lac in prize money.

The Semi-finalists were **Rajiv Khandelwal's IV** (Rajiv Khandelwal, Himani Khandelwal, Saroj Bhattacharya, Snehashis Roy) & **3G Milestone** (Partha Sarathi Mukherjee, Pranab Bardhan, Kajal Das, Uttam Das, Anirudhha Mukherjee, Prabir Paul)

The quarter finalists were:

JP Goenkas IV (JP Goenka, Shankar Prasad Ghosh, Tapan Roy, Jagadish Biswas, Gopinath Manna)

Calcutta Bridge Club (T) (Bivas Todi, Satyabrata Lahiri, AB Chakraborty, Kamal Roy, Alok Sadhu, Bhabesh Saha)

CIPHER (Bikas Mukherjee, Debashis Dutta, Biswajit Poddar, Sombhunath Ghosh)

Trambak Rubber (Hari Shankar Bajoria, Ajoy Brahmachari, Sukho Ranjan Ghosh, Sudhir Ganguly, Samir Basak)

In the PAIRS Event, 76 Pairs took part. After two eliminations, 28 pairs played the final. The results:

- 1 **PK Bera/Swapan Ghosh**
- 2 **Arijit Guha/Saroj Bhattacharya**
- 3 **Kajal Mukherjee/Pradip Banerjee**
- 4 **Pritish Kushari/Sumit Mukherjee**
- 5 **Bijan De/Ashim Mukherjee**
- 6 **JP Goenka/SN Kejriwal**
- 7 **Vijay Goel/Kingshuk Bhattacharya**
- 8 **Ranjit Das/AK Chakraborty**

The Total prize money was Rs 2.80 lacs and the winner of the Pairs event won Rs. 30,000.

Mr Y Kamalakara Rao, the President of BFI took part in all the events. Mr George Sibley, Consul General, American Consulate took part in the pairs event and also distributed the prizes.

Heartiest Congratulations to All the Winners

(Courtesy: Report from Mr. Arijit Guha, Secretary, West Bengal Bridge Association)

Cavendish Pairs Tournament

A Cavendish Pairs Bridge Tournament was held at Ahmedabad on 7th & 8th February 2004. 24 Sponsors and 24 professionals were invited for this interesting event and were paired together through slips picked randomly. The random pairing and the auctioning of the pairs were held on the evening of 6th Feb 2004.

As many of the Sponsors themselves were excellent players, the auction turned out to be very exciting. The young Sandeep Thakral got paired with the seasoned Ashok Ruia and the pair was sold for a whopping 1.6 Lacs, which turned out to be the highest bid for a pair. The other pairs to attract the attention in the auction were: Rajesh Dalal – Nitin Shah, Anil Padhye – Amita Raithatha, J.M. Shah – Ariz Anklesaria & Kiran Nadar - N.K. Gupta.

The tournament was held with IMP scoring with maximum 20 IMPs to be gained or lost in a 4-board match, each pair playing with the other 23 pairs. Finally it was the pair of **RAJESH DALAL – NITIN SHAH** who won the tournament with a score of 563 (+103), keeping the confidence of the auctioneers on them intact. They were one of the pairs who had gone for more than a lac. The final results were:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Rajesh Dalal – Nitin Shah | 563 |
| 2. Anil Padhye – Amita Raithatha | 560 |
| 3. Sandeep Thakral – Ashok Ruia | 524 |
| 4. Raju Tolani – Shekhar Jain | 513 |
| 5. Suni Chokshi – Andre Purshottam | 509 |
| 6. Archie Sequiera – Janak Shah | 501 |
| 7. J.M. Shah – Ariz Anklesaria | 496 |
| 8. R. Krishnan – V.H. Panchal | 478 |
| 9. K.R. Venkatraman – M. Bahuguna | 476 |
| 10. N.K. Gupta – Kiran Nadar | 474 |
| 11. Ashok Kulkarni – Usha Kabra | 474 |
| 12. Jitu Solani – Parimal Vahalia | 471 |
| 13. B. Satyanarayana – Amol Dalal | 455 |
| 14. Vinay Desai – Kalpana Mishra | 452 |
| 15. Keyzad Anklesaria – Maj. Hooda | 445 |
| 16. Raju Bhiwandikar – Pankaj Doshi | 436 |
| 17. Arvind Vaidya – Kamal Kabra | 434 |
| 18. Sumit Mukherjee – Mahendra Gandhi | 434 |
| 19. Pritish Kushari – Vijay Ranchor | 428 |
| 20. Subhash Gupta – D.K. Rao | 406 |
| 21. Jimmy Mehta – Jairaj Desai | 393 |
| 22. Anal Shah – Punit Gangal | 387 |
| 23. Ajit Chakradeo – Kavi Patel | 387 |
| 24. K. Krishnakumar – Monish Munshaw | 344 |

Out of the top players Subhash Gupta, Pritish Kushari & Sumit Mukherjee could not help their sponsors much. J.M. Shah tried but could take only the 7th spot. There were few partnerships where both Sponsor as well as the professional was supposed to be very good but they could not gel together. Partnerships of Anal Shah – Punit Gangal & N.K. Gupta – Kiran Nadar came into this category. All in all it turned out to be quite satisfying for the bidders as there were not too many surprises in the results.

- Reported by Editor based on information gathered courtesy Mr. B. Satyanarayana

PYC Hindu Gymkhana, "Golden Era" Super Bowl Bridge Championship

PYC Hindu Gymkhana, organized the "Golden Era" Super Bowl Bridge Championships at PYC Hindu Gymkhana, Pune from 12th Feb to 15th Feb 2004, in memory of its late members.

Team of Four Event:

The tournament started with the Team of Four event, in which 44 Teams participated. After a Swiss league of 9 rounds (10 boards each), the top 6 teams, which qualified for the Super League, were: **SUNIL MACHHAR, J.P. GOENKA, AGSAR PAINT 'A', AGSAR PAINT 'B', JERO MANGO & TOLANI SHIPPING**. Formidables, out of the participating top teams could not make it to the last six.

In the 5 * 10 boards super league, **J.P. Goenka & Agsar Paint 'A'** came first & second respectively to go through the Finals. The Super league scores were:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------|
| 1. J.P. GOENKA | - 98 VPs |
| 2. AGSAR PAINT 'A' | - 92 VPs |
| 3. AGSAR PAINT 'B' | - 74 VPs |
| 4. TOLANI SHIPPING | - 69 VPs |
| 5. SUNIL MACHHAR | - 63 VPs |
| 6. JERO MANGO | - 52 VPs |

In an exciting 6 * 14 boards finals, which went to the last board, **J.P. Goenka's team** from Kolkatta (J.P. Goenka, B. Saha, Saroj Bhattacharya, Snehasis Roy, Jagdish Biswas & Tapan Kumar Roy) won the T-4 championships beating Agsar Paint 'A' team from Chennai (N.R. Kirubakara Murthy, B. Prabhakar, S. Sunder Ram & P. Sridhar) by 5 IMPs. The score line up to the 5th set in favour of Goenka's team was: 179-171 (44-32, 34-39, 40-17, 50-50, 11-33). Agsar team did their very best in the last set, but could reduce the margin only by 3 more IMPs. The winners took a cheque of Rs. 151,000, whereas the runners-up got Rs. 75,000.

PAIRS Event:

The Pairs Tournament started with a 3-session (of 22 boards each) elimination I round. 96 Pairs played in 6 sections and 22 NS & 22 EW qualified for elimination II from Section ABC & DEF respectively. The 12 pairs playing in the T-4 Super league joined these 44 pairs. From the 2-session Elimination II round, 32 pairs qualified for the 62 boards Finals.

Raju Tolani - Vinay Desai, won the Pairs event. Keyzad Anklesaria - Sapan Desai came 2nd and the pair of V.M. Lal - Kamal Mukherjee was 3rd. The winners got Rs. 25,000 and the 2nd & 3rd positions received Rs. 15,000 & Rs. 10,000 respectively.

The tournament was very well organized and PYC team with excellent technical support from Mr. Suhas Vaidya deserves all the credit for the excellent arrangements & hospitality.

Heartiest Congratulations to All the Winners

- Reported by Editor based on information gathered courtesy Mr. B. Satyanarayana

XVIII All India Shrinivas LOHIA Bridge Tournament

The XVIIIth All India Shrinivas Lohia Bridge Tournament under the kind patronage and Presidentship of Shri B.P. Birla was organized by Kanpur Bridge Association at the Ganges Club, Arya Nagar, Kanpur from 19th Feb to 22nd Feb 2004.

Team of Four Event:

52 Teams participated in this event. After 10 rounds of swiss league (each of 10 boards), Maya Mira (204 VPs), Dhampur Sugar Mills (203), Manas Saha IV, Kolkatta (186), Kochas, Kolkatta (180), S.P. Sinha, Patna (178), SCPCC (172), ABC Kanpur (169), & Central Sec. Club (168) qualified for the QFinals.

In the 2*10 boards Quarter Finals, **Maya Mira** (Vijay Goel, Kingshuk Bhattacharya, Tapas Mukherjee, Ashim Mukherjee, Kalyan Nandi & Sukomal Das) beat Central Sec. Club by 51-31 (21-18, 30-13); **Dhampur Sugar Mills** (Ashok Goel, Kamal Mukherjee, Manas Mukherjee, Rana Roy, Subroto Saha) beat ABC Kanpur by 85-31 (46-16, 39-15); **Manas Saha IV** (Manas Saha, Pranob Roy, H. Hasan, Prasanta Bera, Santanu Chaudhary, Snehashish Roy) beat SCPCC by 48-27 (33-7, 15-20); **Kochas** (S.P. Ghosh, D.S. Roy Chaudhary, G. Banerjee, J. Sarkar) beat S.P. Sinha, Patna by 29-22 (20-1, 9-21).

In the 2*12 boards Semi-finals, **Dhampur** beat Manas Saha IV by 92-26 (40-25, 52-1) and **Kochas** beat Maya Mira by 73-67 (49-30, 24-37). The 2*16 board final turned out to be totally one-sided and **Dhampur Sugar Mills** beat Kochas comfortably by 144-18 (73-1, 73-17) to win the team title.

PAIRS Event:

A total of 96 pairs played the first elimination out of which 56 qualified for the 2nd elimination. The qualifiers along with 12 loser quarter finalists played the 2nd elimination, out of which 44 pairs got qualified for 3rd elimination. 8 Pairs playing SF/Finals joined the qualifiers for the 3rd elimination and 26 Pairs qualified for the Finals. The winners were:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. J. Biswas - B. Saha | - 191.96 |
| 2. D.P. Acharya - T.N. Swain | - 190.13 |
| 3. K. Bhattacharya - Kalyan Nandi | - 182.88 |
| 4. S.R. Gupta - Ved Prakash | - 182.29 |
| 5. S. Chowdhary - M. Saha | - 179.54 |
| 6. S. Das - T. Mukherjee | - 175.88 |
| 7. Kamal Mukherjee - Ashok Goel | - 173.54 |
| 8. T.C. Pant - Sunil Bhatia | - 172.20 |

Board-a-Match Event:

44 Teams participated in this event. Winners were:

- | | |
|------------------------|------|
| 1. Dhampur Sugar Mills | - 94 |
| 2. Delhi Blues | - 88 |
| 3. Respectors | - 85 |
| 4. Six Aces | - 85 |

Heartiest Congratulations to All the Winners

- Reported by Editor

International Bridge News

9th NEC Cup Bridge Festival 2004

The 9th NEC Cup Bridge Festival 2004 was held at Yokohama, Japan from 9th to 15th Feb 2004. It boasted of the largest and one of the strongest international fields ever at NEC cup, including many of the world's top players. Stage One was an 8-round Swiss Teams consisting of 20-board matches, IMPs converted to Victory Points, qualifying eight teams for the KO phase. The 52-team field was divided into top and bottom halves and the first Swiss match was arranged in a fashion, that each team in the top half matched at random against a team from the bottom half. The subsequent match pairings were based on current VP totals.

The team from the USA (Garey Hayden, Jim Robison, Simon Kantor, Mark Itabashi) defeated the team from Poland/Russia (Adam Zmudzinski, Cezary Balicki, Andrew Gromov, Alexander Petrunin) 21-9 in the final Swiss match to take the top qualifying spot for the NEC Cup quarterfinals. Indonesia (Henky Lasut, Eddy Manoppo, Santje Panelewen, Franky Karwur, Munawar Sawiruddin) and Israel (Israel Yadlin, Doron Yadlin, Michael Barel, Migry Zur Campanile) round out the other two top-four qualifiers followed by Canada, Germany/USA, China Ladies and the defenders, England. The final rankings in the qualifying Swiss is shown below.

1 USA	154
2 POLAND/RUSSIA	151
3 INDONESIA	150
4 ISRAEL	147
5 CANADA	144
6 GERMANY/USA	143
7 CHINA LADIES	140
8 ENGLAND	136

Quarter Final Results– 40 Boards

China Ladies bt USA 131.5-60 (C/o 0.5,67-42,64-18)
Indonesia bt Ger/USA 71.5-57(C/o 0.5, 58-22,13-35)
England bt Canada 97-93.5 (C/o 0-0.5,48-56, 49-37)
Israel bt Poland/Russia 64-63.5 (C/o 0-.5, 38-47, 26-16)

Semi Finals – 40 Boards

In the upset match of the tournament, China Ladies (Hou Yunyan, Zhu Xiaoyin, Yan Ru, Dong Yongling, Lu Yan, Wang Yanhong) dethroned the defending NEC Cup champions, England in their semifinal match. They meet the winners of the other semifinal match in which Israel (Israel Yadlin, Doron Yadlin, Michael Barel, Migry Zur Campanile) defeated perennial PABF power Indonesia.

Israel bt Indonesia 92-47.5 (C/o 0-.5, 36-30, 56-17)
China Ladies bt England 94-65.5 (C/o 0-.5,54-33, 40-32)

China Ladies Wins NEC Cup

They beat the top seeded USA team in the quarterfinals. They beat the defending champions in the semifinals. They won three of the four quarters in the finals to defeat the team that beat the high-powered Poland/Russia team in the other semifinal match. They are the 2004 NEC Cup champion - **The China Ladies** team.

They won 163-130.5 (c/o 0-0.5, 49-40, 44-40, 24-30, 46-20) against the Israel team.

Yokohama Swiss Teams: (33 Teams) - Final Results

1. POLAND/RUSSIA 192 Adam Zmudzinski,Cezary Balicki, Andrew Gromov, Alexander Petrunin
2. CHINA OPEN 189 Li Xin, Sun Shaolin, Kang Meng, Li Xiaoyi, Fu Zhong, Zhao Jie
3. CANADA 185 George Mittelman, Allan Graves, Joey Silver, John Carruthers
4. KINKI 183 Toru Tamura, Mimako Ishizuka, Sonoko Namba, Chizuko Sugiura
5. USA 180 Garey Hayden, Jim Robison, Simon Kantor, Mark Itabashi
6. ONODERA 173 Shunsuke Morimura, Takao Onodera, Yukinao Honma, Ryo Okuno
- 7-8. ARAI 164 Ikuko Arai, Kazuko Ebisawa, Teruyo Tsuruno, Taiko Bando
- 7-8. ICELAND 164 Throstur Ingimarsson, Bjarni Einarsson, Anton Haraldsson, Sigurbjorn Haraldsson

Asuka Cup:

Fu-Zhou Win for Second Straight Year

Top Ten Finishers in Asuka Cup

1 Fu Zhong–Zhou Jie	3896.5
2 R. Trendaffilov–K. Karaivanov	3751.0
3 Doron Yadllin–Israel Yadlin	3667.5
4 Garey Hayden–Simon Kantor	3628.0
5 Chen Dawei–Takahiko Hirata	3568.5
6 Chia Hsin Wu–Chih Kuo Shen	3566.0
7 Shunsuke Morimura–Kyoko Shimamura	3519.5
8 Zhao Jinlong–Akiko Yanagisawa	3509.5
9 Yoshinori Kurachi–Ayako Matsubara	3494.4
10 Jerry Stamatov–Ivan Tsonchev	3474.5

(Courtesy: Daily Bulletins of NEC Cup)

The 2004 Gold Coast Congress

The 2004 Gold Coast Congress was played at ANA Hotel, Golf Coast, Surfers Paradise, Queensland from 22nd Feb 2004 to 28th Feb 2004.

Pairs Event:

More than 1000 Pairs participated in the event. After 2 round of qualifications and 3 rounds of Finals, the pre-tournament favourites, Jacek Pszczola (PepsiCola) and Ryszard Jedrychowski, won Australia's premier Pairs event from the fast finishing Ishmael Del Monte and David Mortimer, who were lying a distant 13th as the field turned for the final round. Early leaders, Stephen Burgess and Tania Lloyd cantered into third place. The top rankings went to:

1. R Jedrychowski - J Pszczola
2. I Del™Monte - D Mortimer
3. S Burgess - T Lloyd
4. J Ebery - L Gold
5. B Polii - M Hendrawan
6. C. Baker – N. Brink

Team Event:

There were 102 teams for Level 2, 120 for Level 4, 84 teams under Restricted category and 40 Senior teams for the Team event. After a swiss of 10 rounds, the top teams were:

Level 2		Level 4	
Hans	204	Cummings	200
Blackstock	197	Polii	195
Klinger	187	Harouni	185
Noble	184	Brunner	185
Hunt	180	Brifman	183
Ziggy	179	Stark	179
Strong	179	Moses	178
Ewart	178	Callaghan	177
Mill	177	Rothfield	177
Williams	175	Walsh	177

In the first semi-final Hans (Sartaj Hans - D Horton, M Courtney - P Wyer) beat Polii, the Indonesian team (B Polii, T Asbi, L Bojoh, A Jusuf, M Hendrawan, J George) by 96-56.

In the Second semi-final Blackstock, the Newzealand squad (S Blackstock - S Henry, T Jacob - M Mayer) beat Cummings (V Cummings - M Mullamphy, P Gumby - W Lazer) 112-100.

In the 60 board finals, the Newzealand team Blackstock beat Hans 134-120 (48-47, 28-38, 35-24, 23-11)

It is a great pride to me (editor) that my ex-partner (the young lad from Delhi *Sartaj Hans*) has been doing exceedingly well at the National level in Australia. Congratulations Sartaj (Hans).

(Courtesy: Daily Bulletins of Gold Coast Congress)

Interesting Deal From LOHIA Bridge Tournament

You often feel, why good players require so many gadgets and signaling systems to defend a hand. An average player will do what he thinks is best to defeat a contract not bothering too much about the *Card Count and ducking mechanism*. His idea is simple – If one strategy is not working he just shifts to another suit, with a prayer that the new strategy may work. Unluckily most of the times things does not work out well for the poor soul and then they have to hear a long lecture from either their partner or the opponents itself. But sometimes, the average player may bid and play a hand in a manner unknown to the TOP class players, getting the long awaited applause from the kibitzers (if there are any) and a story to tell to his team members. This is exactly what happened on the following board from the Lohia Pairs Final:

	♠ x ♥ AQxx ♦ KQJxx ♣ Qxx	
♠ 987x ♥ Jx ♦ Axxx ♣ Kxx	N W E S	♠ Txx ♥ Kxxx ♦ xx ♣ AJxx
	♠ AKQJx ♥ Txx ♦ Tx ♣ 9xx	

The bidding went as follows:

West	NorthEast	South	
	Pass	Pass	1D (1)
Pass	1S	Pass	2D
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

(1) – Precision 11-15 HCP with minimum 2 carder ♦

The bidding was very simple and poor West, with nothing best to lead choose the ♥J. The declarer seeing the dummy got slightly perplexed at the thought of losing 4 or 5 club tricks along with the Diamond Ace, but trying his best played the ♥A from dummy and a diamond to the Ten. The TOP player smoothly ducked and the declarer continued with the Diamond to dummy. West again ducked (may be he wanted to know the count). Now declarer did something unusual by playing a low heart from dummy. East stared at South (declarer felt as if he is saying : You fool! Do you thing my King is going to come doubleton and you will get a trick for your queen. I know my partner has led from JTx or JT) and smoothly ducked the ♥K. Declarer took the ♥10 and reeled off his 5 spades to make the contract and a big round of applause from the kibitzers (luckily they were there this time)

- Reported by Editor

LAW 45 - CARD PLAYED

Law 45 is perhaps the most frequent judgement ruling the director is called upon to make and is one of the most difficult rulings for players to accept because it usually costs an offender/declarer a trick or two.

➤ **A – Play of Card from a Hand**

Each player except dummy plays a card by detaching it from his hand and facing it on the table immediately before him.

➤ **B – Play of Card from Dummy**

Declarer plays a card from dummy by naming the card, after which dummy picks up the card and faces it on the table. In playing from dummy's hand declarer may, if necessary, pick up the desired card himself.

➤ **C – Compulsory Play of Card**

1. **Defender's Card** – A defender's card held so that it is possible for his partner to see its face must be played to the current trick (if defender has already made a legal play to the current trick, see Law 45E).
2. **Declarer's Card** – Declarer must play a card from his hand held face up, touching or nearly touching the table, or maintained in such a position as to indicate that it has been played.
3. **Dummy's Card** – A card in the dummy must be played if it has been deliberately touched by declarer except for the purpose of arranging dummy's cards, or of reaching a card above or below the card or cards touched.
4. **Named or Designated Card** –
 - a. **Play of Named Card** – A card must be played if a player names or otherwise designates it as the card he proposed to play.
 - b. **Correction of Inadvertent Designation** – A player may, without penalty, change an inadvertent designation if he does so without pause for thought; but if an opponent has, in turn, played a card that was legal before the change in designation, that opponent may withdraw without penalty the card so played and substitute another (see Law 47E).
5. **Penalty Card** – A penalty card, major or minor, may have to be played, subject to Law 50.

➤ **D – Card Misplayed by Dummy**

If dummy places in the played position a card that declarer did not name, the card must be withdrawn if attention is drawn to it before each side has played to the next trick, and a defender may withdraw (without penalty) a card played after the error but before attention was drawn to it; if declarer's RHO changes his play, declarer may withdraw a card he had subsequently played (see Law 16C2).

➤ **E – Fifth Card Played to Trick**

1. **By a Defender** – A fifth card contributed to a trick by a defender becomes a penalty card, subject to Law 50, unless the Director deems that it was led, in which case Law 53 or Law 56 applies.
2. **By Declarer** – When declarer contributes a fifth card to a trick from his own hand or dummy, there is no penalty unless the Director deems that it was led, in which case Law 55 applies.

➤ **F – Dummy Indicates Card**

After dummy's hand is faced, dummy may not touch or indicate any card (except for purpose of arrangement) without instruction from declarer. If he does so, the Director should be summoned forthwith. The Director shall rule whether dummy's act did in fact constitute a suggestion to declarer. When the Director judges that it did, he allows play to continue, reserving his right to assign an adjusted score if the defenders were damaged by the play so suggested.

➤ **G – Turning the Trick**

No player should turn his card face down until all four players have played to the trick.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

BRIDGE HUMOUR

The famous professional player Eric Paulsen comes back to Upland, his California hometown after being a member of the U.S team that had just won the 1976 World Championships in Monte Carlo.

The local players are surprised to see him playing with a client at the evening duplicate, but there he is and about halfway through the game he is competing in spades against the opponents who are bidding hearts. Finally, he bids 3 Spades, loudly, so he won't get doubled. It doesn't work.

The player to his left doubles. Paulsen looks at him and says: "Do you know who I am?" The guy says: "Yes I know who you are." The champion continues: "Do you know how many masterpoints I have?" The guy replies, stone-faced: "No, but do you know how many spades I have?"

Master Point Notice

The Master Point list (updated till 31st Jan 2004) for the Delhi registered players have been put up on the notice board at DBA.

Players may note down their respective Master Points.

DELHI BRIDGE SCHEDULE

2. Pair event is played at DBA on every Tuesday evening from 1830 Hrs. onwards.
3. Team event is played at DBA on every Saturday from 1430 Hrs. onwards.
4. The Ladies Bridge Association holds an Open Pairs tournament on every alternate Friday or on Holidays at PHD House.
5. Central Secretariat Club holds an open Pair event on every Monday commencing at 1800 Hrs.

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Mr. T.C. Pant, Editor
Mr. S.N. Mathur, Mr. Sudhir Aggarwal

Technical Consultants:

Mr. Subhash Gupta, Mr. B. Satyanarayana

RAMA JAIN TOURNAMENT

The ALL INDIA RAMA JAIN Tournament will be played at Delhi Bridge Association Building, New Delhi on 13-14th Mar 2004.

TOURNAMENT at GWALIOR

A Prize Money Tournament (with approx. Rs. 1 Lac prize) is being planned at Gwalior, somewhere in the last week of March. Details will be furnished once the dates are finalized.

TOURNAMENT at CORBETT PARK

May 2004

The K.K. Birla All India Bridge Tournament will be organized at "The Claridges Corbett Hideaway", GARJIA (Corbett Park), Ramnagar, Distt: Nainital from 6th (After Lunch) to 9th (Afternoon) May 2004. The event with a total prize money of Rs. 1 Lac will have T-4 duplicate & Open Pair events. For further details, contact Mr. Arvind Prasad on 9810112634 or e-mail at arvind_prasad@leisurehotels.co.in.

The tariff for the tournament is between Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 16,000 (depending on the no. of cottages required) and is inclusive of tea, lunch, dinner as well as the complete entry fee of the tournament.

Forthcoming Events - 2004

National

13-14th Mar – All India Rama Jain, New Delhi
06-09th May – Tournament at Garjia (Corbett Park)

International

18-28th Mar – ACBL Spring NABC, Reno, NV
19th June – 3rd July – 47th European Bridge Team Championships & 10th Swedish Bridge Festival at Malmo, Sweden
23rd Oct – 6th Nov – World Bridge Olympiad, Istanbul

CONTACT US:

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