

# Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter

Editor: T.C. Pant

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## **BRIDGE OLYMPIAD NEWS**

### **Play for a World title in Transnational Mixed Teams**

For most world championships, it is necessary to qualify in your home country to take part. In the last few years, the World Bridge Federation has offered expanded opportunities for world championship play.

Such an event is the third World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship, scheduled to take place during the World Bridge Olympiad in Istanbul, Turkey, Oct. 23 through Nov. 6. The Mixed Teams will begin Nov. 2 and will be played in 15 rounds of 10 boards each to qualify teams for the semifinal and final rounds.

The event was first played in Rhodes, Greece, in 1996, and repeated in Maastricht, Netherlands, in 2000. Teams can be made up of any combination of countries, with at least two men and two women playing in mixed partnerships.

Entry fees are \$800 for new teams, free for players eliminated from the Olympiad. If a team is composed of players from the Olympiad and new players, the players who have not competed will be charged \$150 per person for a team of six, \$200 per person for a team of four.

Entries are due by Aug. 15, although late entries may be accepted if there is sufficient space at the venue.

The World Bridge Olympiad and concurrent events will be held in the heart of Istanbul at the Grand Cevahir Hotel and Convention Centre, which combines a state-of-the-art convention center with an extremely comfortable hotel. Accommodation will also be available in hotels nearby, which will include 2- and 3-star hotels as well as the more expensive 4- and 5-star hotels, so that as wide a range of rates as possible can be offered to players coming to the championships.

*Courtesy: Summer NABC Daily Bulletin*

## **RAJU ARONDEKAR IS NO MORE**

With regret we inform the sudden demise of Rajiv Arondekar, one of our bridge colleagues from Mumbai. He was 44.

In a very tragic, sudden & shocking manner, after a 15 days of painful fight at Lilavati hospital against a sudden, rare & bizzare health complication, Rajiv Arondekar died on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2004.

An avid & keen bridge player with a flair, Raju was the Holkar Champion at Baroda Nationals 2000 & runners up in Summer Nationals 2001 at Goa. A complete team man - always accommodative & co-operative with least ego hassles - Raju was a warm-hearted human being.

He was a senior bank officer and a very hard working indeed. Only very recently, his employers - Bank of India, chose him for a posting at NEW YORK. He was on top of the world when he had shared this news with his friends.

It is very difficult to accept that he has left us forever. It is also very difficult to imagine that he will not be seen at a bridge tournament anymore. It is unimaginable what his wife, 2 daughters & old parents must be going through.

May his soul rest in peace.

*(Courtesy - BridgeinIndia.homestead.com site)*

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

**Congratulations to K.R. Venkatraman – Sunit Chokshi for their superb performance in the Von Zedtwitz Gold Cup Life Master Pair of Summer NABC 2004.**

In a very tough international field, they were 5<sup>th</sup> with a score of 1596.97, in the finals of the Life Master Pair. Zia Mahmood – Walid Elahmady were the winners with a score of 1671.82. It was great to see Sunit perform well again. Last year, he along with Subhash Gupta was overall 6<sup>th</sup> in this event.  
**Well done SUNIT and well done VENKY.**

## BEKKEVOLD

We have been discussing Lebensohl convention in our earlier articles. This article is the last one in this series. Here we will discuss two specific situations where Lebensohl like ideas have been used effectively against opponent's preempts.

### **A) BEKKEVOLD - Lebensohl after Double of Opponent's 3 Club Preempt**

This convention has been made by Thomas Bekkevold and Tor Ivar Bang. After partner doubles opponent's 3C opening bid, there are no invitational bids available. By using 3D bid like Lebensohl 2NT, it is possible to bid much more effectively.

- **3D**, is puppet to 3H. Doubler bids 3H only if he has a hand with which he is ready to play in 3H. With a very strong balanced hand or an unbalanced hand with a long suit, doubler may make other suitable bids. Responder over 3H, then rebids:
  - **Pass**, shows a weak hand.
  - **3S/4D**, is to play, shows a weak hand.
  - **3NT**, to play without a club stopper.
  - **4C (cue-bid of opponent's suit)**, slam invitational with both major suits.
  - **4H/4S**, slam invitational.
- **3H**, invitational with Hearts.
- **3S**, invitational with Spades.
- **3NT**, to play with club stopper.
- **4D**, invitational with Diamonds.
- **4H/S**, to play.

### **B) Defence to Preemptive Jump raises**

Another use of Lebensohl idea is against preemptive jump raises. Now a days every one plays preemptive jump raises in competition. After partner's take out double when opponent jump raises the suit (e.g. 1D – Double – 3D), the following structure can be used:

- **Dbl**, is puppet to 3H. Take out Doubler bids 3H only if he has a hand with which he is ready to play in 3H. With a very strong balanced hand or an unbalanced hand with a long suit, doubler may make other suitable bids. Take out doubler's partner over 3H, then rebids:
  - **Pass**, to play
  - **3S/4C**, to play, shows a weak hand.
  - **3NT**, Game values but may be only one stopper.
  - **4D (cue-bid of opponent's suit)**, slam invitational.
  - **4H/4S**, not forcing, but somewhat slam invitational.
- **3H/S**, invitational.
- **3NT**, to play with Diamond stopper.
- **4C**, invitational with Clubs.
- **4H/S**, to play.

Similar auction can develop after 1H – Dbl (by partner) – 3H. However only problem is that you cannot play responsive double in these situations.

There are other similar situations where it is possible to play this form of Lebensohl to be able to bid effectively.

*(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)*

# Local Bridge News & Results

## Delhi Bridge Association Tuesday Pairs Event - Results

### 06/07/2004 – 13 Tables

NS 1: A.K. Jha – A.K. Ghosh	62.19%
NS 2: J.S. Bakshi – Mrs. Meera Bakshi	59.68%
NS 3: Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	55.90%
EW 1: T.C. Pant – Paresh Gupta	60.11%
EW 2: Sartaj Hans – Subhash Gupta	59.03%
EW 3: R. Bajaj – S.K. Wahi	58.64%

### 13/07/2004 – 13 Tables

NS 1: A.K. Narang – R. Chakravarty	69.47%
NS 2: Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	63.16%
NS 3: Sham Sharma – R.C. Consul	55.83%
EW 1: S.K. Agarwal – Ved Prakash	64.62%
EW 2: Narvir Singh – Daya Dhaon	62.31%
EW 3: Santosh Kumar – Brij Kishore	58.40%

### 20/07/2004 – 14 Tables

NS 1: Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	63.54%
NS 2: Subodh Jain – M.S. Sharma	56.12%
NS 3: A.K. Narang – R. Chakravarty	54.12%
EW 1: T.C. Pant – Ajay Tankha	62.00%
EW 2: Ashim Kumar Ghosh – M.M. Sinha	57.02%
EW 3: Narvir Singh – Daya Dhaon	55.24%

### 27/07/2004 – 13 Tables

NS 1: Sudhir Aggarwal – Amod Rele	64.10%
NS 2: R.K. Vir – Mrs. Chand Vir	64.10%
NS 3: D.D. Gulhati – Brig. D.N. Khanna	59.12%
EW 1: Gopal Saxena – Ajay Tankha	61.50%
EW 2: A.K. Bala – T.P. Singh	57.39%
EW 3: R. Chakravarty – Vijay Kumar	54.21%

## AILBA - Weekly Results

### 02/07/2004 - 16 Pairs

1. Daya Dhaon – N.K. Jain
2. Mrs. Rashmi Agrawal – Sandeep Jain
3. Mrs. Neena Thadani – Aditya Prasad

### 23/07/2004 - 14 Pairs

1. J.S. Bakshi – Mrs. Meera Bakshi
2. Daya Dhaon – N.K. Jain
3. Mrs. Madhu Agrawal – Mrs. Madhu Agrawal

### 30/07/2004 - 19 Pairs

1. Mrs. Asha Surana – Raghubir S Jasuja
2. Amarjit Wadhawan – Ved Prakash
3. D.D. Gulhati – Brg. D.N. Khanna
4. Mrs. Madhuri Modwel – Narvir Singh

- Reported by Mrs. Shashi Jain, Secretary LBA

## DBA – Hindustan Times Saturday Team Event – Results

### 03/07/2004 – 13 Teams

1. **FRIENDS** – (A.K. Jha, A.K. Ghosh, Ravi Sawhney, S. Majumder, R. Nanda)
2. **VIJAY GOEL** – (Vijay Goel, Kingshuk Bhattacharya, N.K. Gupta, Sandeep Thakral)
3. **SUBHASH** – (Subhash Gupta, Vinod Sharma, Paresh Gupta, T.C. Pant, Sartaj Hans)

### 10/07/2004 – 10 Teams

1. **ASHA SURANA** – (Mrs. Asha Surana, Raghubir S. Jasuja, Sham Sharma, A. Mandal,)
2. **Tewari** – (D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta, J.B. Sengupta, Anand Bhatia, Kingshuk Bhattacharya)

### 17/07/2004 – 13 Teams

1. **NK Gupta** – (N.K. Gupta, Sandeep Thakral, Kingshuk Bhattacharya, Sukamal Das)
2. **SONCHEL**– (Mukesh Shivdasani, Sunil Bhatia Sudhir Aggarwal, Amod Rele)
3. **Tewari** – (D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta, J.B. Sengupta, Anand Bhatia)

### 24/07/2004 – 13 Teams

1. **SUBHASH** – (Subhash Gupta, Joy Sen Sharma, T.C. Pant, Paresh Gupta, Vinod Sharma)
2. **K.K.**– (K.K. Sabharwal, V.N. Puri, Dr. Tushar Moghe, A. Tankha)
3. **CRYSTALS** – (Madhu Sharma, Subodh Jain, A.K. Bala, Ashim Kumar Ghosh, M.M. Sinha)

### 31/07/2004 – 13 Teams

1. **SUBHASH** – (Subhash Gupta, Vinod Sharma, T.C. Pant, Paresh Gupta)
2. **SONCHEL**– (Sudhir Aggarwal, Amod Rele, Sunil Bhatia, Atanu Ganguly)
3. **YALGAAR**– (Sham Sharma, R.C. Consul, Arun Jain, Yogesh Tiwari, Prof. T.C. Goel)

## CHELMSFORD CLUB TOURNAMENT

Chelmsford Club organized a Pairs tournament on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2004, in which 43 Pairs participated. The 2 session event (of 18 boards each) was won by **Ravi Sawhney - S. Sunderrajan**. The first Four positions were awarded prizes worth Rs. 5000, Rs. 3000, Rs. 2000 & Rs. 1000 respectively.

### The Final Results (Top 9 positions)

1. Ravi Sawhney - S. Sunderrajan	374.77
2. Sunil Bhatia - Mukesh Shivdasani	369.56
3. S.K. Syal - S.R. Malhotra	358.46
4. Hans Varma - N.K. Bidani	355.38
5. Paresh Gupta - T.C. Pant	347.95
6. Mrs. Asha Surana - R.S. Jasuja	346.48
7. Mrs. Shashi Jain - Anand Bhatia	346.25
8. Narveer Singh - Sanjiv Bery	337.43
9. P.C. Gupta - D.K. Tewari	331.37

*- Reported by Editor*

## GOA Bridge Festival - 2004

The Goa Bridge Festival 2004 was held in Goa from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July 2004. The results are:

### **TEAM OF FOUR:**

1. TOLANI SHIPPING (R.A. Agarwal, A.R.D. Sequeira, R.G. Bhiwandkar & R.L. Dudhane)
2. MONOTONA (D.K. Poddar, A. Shah, B. Bapat, K.S. Samant, R. Sridharan, S. Vaidya)
3. H.K. GROUP & PARASRAMPURIA (joint third)

### **TEAM OF FOUR PROGRESSIVE FOR V.S. DEMPO TROPHY:**

1. PARASRAMPURIA ( B.N. Parasrampur, P.G. Hegde, G. Manna, N. Rajmohan)
2. TOLANI SHIPPING (R.A. Agarwal, A.R.D. Sequeira, R.G. Bhiwandkar, R.L. Dudhane)
3. MAYA MIRA (Vijay Goel, A.K. Mukherjee, N.K. Gupta, S. Thakral, K. Bhattacharjee, Sukamal Das)

### **OPEN PAIRS FOR RAJARAM HEDE MEMORIAL TROPHY:**

#### **North-South**

1. S. Naimuddin - U. Gupta
2. A.R.D. Sequeira - Finton Lewis
3. Vijay Goel - Sukamal Das

#### **East-West**

1. A.K. Jahagirdar - A.F. Rodrigues
2. S.K. Iyengar - K.N. Shyamsunder
3. S. Vaidya - A. Shah

*- Reported by Shree Niranjan Ubhayakar in  
BridgeinIndia.homestead.com site*

## UNDERSTAND LAWS OF DUPLICATE CONTRACT BRIDGE

### LAW 46

#### INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS CALL OF CARD FROM DUMMY

➤ **A - Proper Form for Designating Dummy's Card**

When calling a card to be played from dummy, declarer should clearly state both the suit and the rank of the desired card.

➤ **B - Incomplete or Erroneous Call**

In case of an incomplete or erroneous call by declarer of the card to be played from dummy, the following restrictions apply (except when declarer's different intention is incontrovertible):

1. **Incomplete Designation of Rank** - If declarer, in playing from dummy, calls "high", or words of like import, he is deemed to have called the highest card: in fourth seat he may be deemed to have called for the lowest winning card of the suit indicated; if he directs dummy to win the trick, he is deemed to have called the lowest winning card; if he calls "low", or words of like import, he is deemed to have called the lowest.
2. **Designates Suit but Not Rank** - If declarer designates a suit but not a rank, he is deemed to have called the lowest card of the suit indicated.
3. **Designates Rank but Not Suit** - If declarer designates a rank but not a suit:
  - a. **In Leading** - Declarer is deemed to have continued the suit in which dummy won the preceding trick, provided there is a card of the designated rank in that suit.
  - b. **All Other Cases** - In all other cases, declarer must play a card from dummy of the designated rank if he can legally do so; but if there are two or more such cards that can be legally played, declarer must designate which is intended.
4. **Designates Card Not in Dummy** - If declarer calls a card that is not in dummy, the call is void and declarer may designate any legal card.
5. **No Suit or Rank Designated** - If declarer indicates a play without designating either a suit or rank (as by saying, "play anything", or words of like import), either defender may designate the play from dummy.

*(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)*

## Interesting Deal from DBA Saturday Event

The following deal came in the match between Subhash's team against COSMOS team, in the Saturday DBA Team event on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2004. The hand is being rotated to make South as declarer.

Dir: South, Vul: None

♠ x	♥ Q73	♦ AKxxx	♣ Axxx
N			
W	E		
S			
♠ JT9xx	♥ AJTxxx	♦ Kx	

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
Pass	1D	1S	Pass
Pass	6H		4H

Lead: ♠Q by West

North - South were Paresh Gupta - T.C. Pant and Pant (South) passed the hand as it didn't feel good to open a weak two hearts with another 5 card spades against an un-passed partner. Playing Tartan, may be the hand could have been opened as 2H (Hearts and another suit with minimum 5-5 and less than opening hand). Once North opened the hand as Precision diamond and East overcalled with Spade, South knew that Partner is going to be short in Spades and banged 4 hearts. This put North in confusion as to what can be South's hand, which was passed initially and now is OK for four hearts. He finally thought it over and bid 6 Hearts hoping for the best. Well no marks for the bidding (or bad bidding), however the hand turned out to be an excellent play exercise and hence is being published.

The lead was ♠Q and once the dummy was placed, the declarer's thoughts were - well it is not that bad a contract. If the ♥K is inside and hearts are 2-2, 2 spades can be ruffed in dummy and dummy's 3<sup>rd</sup> heart can be utilized for the heart finesse. East however did some thing peculiar, he overtook the Queen with the King and returned ♣8. Declarer took the trick with his King and played a spade on which West played a small spade, ruffed in dummy.

Declarer now planned the play as follows: He can discard 2 spades on the A & K of diamonds and considering Heart King on side and hearts 2-2, he can come to the hand with diamond ruff, ruff a spade with ♥Q, and take finesse. Not a bad probability at all.

But declarer went further in his thoughts and started

considering the extra possibility of East having Kxx of hearts. In that case the contract will be down, as you cannot ruff 2 spades in dummy as well as take 2 finesses. However in that case there would be an excellent chance of a squeeze, if East has specific 5-3-2-3 hand. Once East leads a club after taking the first trick with ♠King, declarer takes it in hand with ♣K, ruffs a spade and discards 2 spades on Ace & King of diamonds. Further the ♥Q is played from dummy. If East covers it, you can play 2 more rounds of hearts to take out all trumps and if he does not cover, you play low heart to the Ten and then the Ace to take out the trumps. After playing 2 more rounds of trumps, the last 3-card position will be:

♠ x	♥ Q73	♦ AKxxx	♣ Axxx
N			
♠ J	W E		♠ A
S			
♣ JT	♥ J	♥ J	♥ Q9
♣ JT	♣ x	♣ x	

When you play the last trump, West gets squeezed in Diamonds & Clubs, whereas East gets squeezed in Spades & Clubs and you score your contract.

The declarer thought about both the possibilities but unluckily after ruffing a spade in dummy, he can exercise only one option and he has to choose that option right away after 3<sup>rd</sup> trick. After lots of thought, and seeing the dummy's cards, Pant finally decided that there are more chances of the East hand being 5-2-3-3 or 5-2-4-2 rather than 5-3-2-3 (The 8 diamonds will have more probability of breaking 4-3 or 5-3 rather than 6-2). The interesting part is that if East's hand is 5-3-3-2, there will be no club squeeze as East can throw all clubs and West can throw all diamonds. So he required specific 5-3-2-3 for squeeze or 2-2 hearts for the option 1. He finally decided for the 2-2 hearts probability and went down. Alas **the full hand was:**

♠ x	♥ Q73	♦ AKxxx	♣ Axxx
N			
♠ Qx	W E		♠ AKxxx
S			
♥ 9	♥ JTxxxx	♥ K82	♥ Q9
♣ JTxx	♣ JT9xx	♣ Q98	♣ Q98
♣ JTxx	♥ AJTxxx	♦ Kx	

Only if he could have gone for the squeeze.....

**- Reported by Editor**

# International Bridge News

## 76<sup>th</sup> Summer North American Bridge Championships 2004

The Summer NABC 2004 was played from 8<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July at New York. The details of important events are being presented below:

### Grand National Teams (GNT) Championship Flight

22 Teams participated in this event.

Teams captained by Malcolm Brachman, Ken Scholes, Mark Dahl and Jim Mahaffey reached semifinal round of the Grand National Teams, Championship Flight. In the semi-finals Brachman (District 16) beat Scholes (District 19). Scholes' teammates were Harry Steiner, Henry Lortz and Wayne Olrich. In the second semi-final Mahaffey (District 9) beat Dahl (District 6). David Butler, Alan Schwartz and Ai-Tai Lo represented Dahl.

In the 64 boards final, the **District 9 team** from Florida captained by **Jim Mahaffey** rallied from 35 IMPs down in the fourth quarter to win the Grand National Teams, Championship Flight **146-144** over the District 16 squad led by Malcolm Brachman. For Mahaffey and Barnett Shenkin, the victory was their first in the event. Teammate Jeff Meckstroth has won the GNT six times, while Eric Rodwell and Michael Seamon of Miami Beach have captured the title five times. Gary Cohler is now a two-time GNT winner.

The runners-up, from Texas, are Brachman, Bart Bramley and Sidney Lazard of Dallas, Mike Passell of Plano and Eddie Wold of Houston. Brachman jumped out to a 55-47 lead after one quarter, but Mahaffey was ahead by 7 IMPs at the half way stage. The Texans blasted their opponents 53-11 to take the lead with a quarter to go but could not hold it.

### The Von Zedtwitz Gold Cup Life Master Pair

At the end of the first day - after two qualifying sessions of the the prestigious Life Master Pairs event, there were 208 qualified pairs left for Semi finals. The Indian pairs of Subhash Gupta - Pritish Kushari (1<sup>st</sup> position), K.R. Venkatraman - Sunit Chokshi (2<sup>nd</sup>), Prahlad & Raghavendra Rajkumar (3<sup>rd</sup>), Anil Padhye - Rajesh Dalal (5<sup>th</sup>), S. Sundarram - P.Sridhar (7<sup>th</sup>) & Kiran Nadar - B. Satyanarayana (7<sup>th</sup>) qualified for the two-session semi-final rounds from their respective sections (the number within brackets after the pair name, denotes the positions they achieved in their respective section).

The Indian players again performed well in the 2 session semi-finals and S. Sundarram - P.Sridhar (1<sup>st</sup> position), K.R. Venkatraman - Sunit Chokshi (5<sup>th</sup>), Prahlad & Raghavendra Rajkumar (10<sup>th</sup>), Subhash Gupta - Pritish Kushari (15<sup>th</sup>) & Kiran Nadar - B. Satyanarayana (21<sup>st</sup>) all qualified for the 2-session final. Only Anil - Rajesh, could not qualify for the finals. Total 104 Pairs qualified for the finals.

**Zia Mahmood and Walid Elahmady**, a partnership formed at the last minute, surged from well back in the pack with a session to go to win the Von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs by nearly a board and a half.

With a top of 51, the winners scored 1671.82 matchpoints to 1606.89 for runners-up Reese Milner & John Mohan. The winners posted a 62.42% game in the second final session, normally not enough to rise from ninth in the field, but Rosenberg and Katz who were leading the first session had a poor game in the evening session to drop out of the lead.

Elahmady is one of Egypt's top players. He has represented his country in international play since 1988. He and his regular partner, Tarek Sadek, have finished second twice in the Cavendish Invitational Pairs.

Zia made the partnership with Elahmady after his team was knocked out of the top flight of the Grand National Teams. It was only the second time they had played together, the first being in Jamaica in the Eighties. Said Elahmady of Zia: "He's a great player and a great partner."

The standings for the first 10 places in the Life Master Pairs finals were:

1 Zia Mahmood - Walid Elahmady	1671.82
2 Reese Milner - John Mohan	1606.89
3 Ralph Katz - Michael Rosenberg	1601.06
4 Michal Kwiecien - Amir Levin	1596.97
5 K.R. Venkatraman - Sunit Chokshi	1596.84
6 Ken Cohen - Dan Gerstman	1596.63
7 John Fout - Wafik Abdou	1595.84
8 Bryan Maksymetz - Lars Andersson	1591.61
9 Howard Weinstein - Steve Garner	1584.96
10 Martin Andresen - Jon Aabye	1579.84

### Congratulations to Venky - Sunit for their superb performance throughout this event.

They finally came overall 5<sup>th</sup> in the finals. It was great to see Sunit perform well again. Last year, he along with Subhash Gupta was overall 6<sup>th</sup> in this event. **Well done SUNIT and well done VENKY.**

### SPINGOLD Team of four Knockout Event

101 teams took part in this prestigious event, which included two Indian teams, **Formidables - seeded #53** (Kiran Nadar, B. Satyanarayana, Subhash Gupta, Pritish Kushari, K.R. Venkatraman & Sunit Chokshi) & **Kirubakara Moorthy's team - seeded #38** (Kirubakara Moorthy, G. Venkatesh, S. Sundarram, P. Sridhar, Anil Padhye & Rajesh Dalal).

Both the Indian teams won their first round match to reach the last 64 stage. Formidables lost their second round match to Mahaffey (#12) by 151-114 (50-42,51-16,37-31, 13-25), whereas Moorthy beat

the strong Hackett team (#27) in a tight match by 137-124 (68-24, 29-42, 26-15, 14-43) to reach the last 32 stage.

There were two major upsets in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Spingold KO as teams captained by Rose Meltzer and Rita Shugart went out. Meltzer's all-star squad – Kyle Larsen, Peter Weichsel, Alan Sontag, Chip Martel and Lew Stansby – fell to the No. 61 seed, an all-England team captained by Jack Mizel. Meltzer jumped out to a 48-13 lead after the first quarter but were blasted 52-5 in the second quarter and never recovered and finally lost by 135-88.

By contrast to the other match, Shugart held a 41-IMP lead with a quarter to go but were outscored 53-8 by a New York-Canada team led by Fred Hoffer. The final score was 140-136. In another upset, the No. 15 seed, captained by Bart Bramley, lost a close match to the team led by Phillip Becker by 101-118.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> round (last 32 stage), Moorthy's team lost to the strong #6 seeds JACOBS team by 178-99 (34-35, 55-22, 44-23, 45-19).

In the 4<sup>th</sup> round (last 16 stage), the biggest upset was the loss of #1 seed WELLEND team by #16 KAMIL. In a very tight match, Mike Kamil's team rallied in the fourth quarter to reach the quarterfinals winning by 179-175 (48-57, 32-50, 44-25, 55-43). Welland's wife, Christal Henner-Welland, plays on the Kamil team. Welland's all-star squad includes Bjorn Fallenius, Zia Mahmood-Michael Rosenberg and Polish experts Cezary Balicki-Adam Zmudzinski.

In another upset, the original No. 19 seed (Peter Schneider) came from 19 down with a quarter to go to oust the No. 3 seed (Richard Schwartz) 128-119.

In the other matches Weed beat Brachman 145-110, Spector beat Mahaffey 164-105, Moss beat Mizel 155-118, Jacobs beat Milner 171-105, O'Rourke beat Simson 166-135 & Nickell beat Becker 106-21, the Becker team withdrawing after 32 boards. The lowest seed still in contention is the original No. 28 (Warren Spector), who took the measure of Jim Mahaffey's No. 12 seed 164-105.

Teams captained by Mike Kamil, Nick Nickell, George Jacobs and Warren Spector advanced to the semifinal round of the Spingold Knockout Teams.

All but one of the quarterfinal matches was close as Kamil took the measure of the Jimmy Cayne squad (Charles Weed npc) 127-118. Nickell led the Lou Ann O'Rourke squad by only 10 IMPs going into the final quarter before prevailing 129-103. Spector's lead over the Mike Moss squad was only 7 IMPs, but they came through with a 149-138 victory. The only runaway involved Jacobs, who knocked off the Peter Schneider squad 182-102.

In one of the greatest comebacks in bridge history, the Nick Nickell squad erased a 71-IMP deficit over the final 16 boards to charge into the final of the Spingold Knockout Teams with a 154- 143 (24-52, 32-36, 14-53, 84-2) victory over the George Jacobs team. The result was held up while an appeal that would have affected the outcome was settled in Nickell's favor.

George Jacobs, Ralph Katz, Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace, Steve Garner and Howard Weinstein represented the Jacob's team.

Entering the fourth quarter, things did not look good for Nickell, reigning Bermuda Bowl champions and possessors of many North American titles. They fell behind 52-44 after a quarter and saw the margin grow to 32 at the break. On the first four boards of the third quarter, the Jacobs squad outscored Nickell 32-0 and ended up winning the quarter 53-14. With 16 deals to be played, Jacobs had a 141-70 lead. All of it – plus 11 IMPs – evaporated as Meckstroth-Rodwell and Hamman-Soloway were spectacular, outscoring their opponents 84-2 to make it to the final.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-final, Spector took care of the Mike Kamil squad with relative ease, 178-116 58-35, 51-17, 34-30, 35-34). Spector started as the No. 28 seed, but the team has played as though that number should have been a low single digit. The Mike Kamil squad was represented by Christal Henner-Welland, Peter Bertheau, Fredrik Nystrom, Fulvio Fantoni, Claudio Nunes.

**The Spingold Knockout Final:** If anyone thought the Nick Nickell squad might have a letdown after the amazing comeback in the Spingold Knockout Teams semifinal, they don't know the team that is arguably one of the best in bridge history. They easily defeated Warren Spector squad, defeating them 150- 106 42-13, 37-28, 20-30, 51-35) in the Spingold final.

The Spingold champions are Nickell, Richard Freeman, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway. Hamman was winning his 13th Spingold, the most in the history of the event. Meckstroth and Rodwell now have won it 10 times each.

The runners-up, who started the event seeded No. 28, included Warren Spector, Mark Feldman, Billy Cohen, Ron Smith, and 21-year-old Canadians Gavin Wolpert and Vincent Demuy.

Asked if this victory was the best of his eight Spingold wins, Nickell said, "They're all very, very good. This one might have been the most surprising." Said Meckstroth of the semifinal comeback: "That was amazing." Against Spector, who had mowed down one top team after another to get to the championship round.

#### **WAGAR Women's T-4 Knockout Event**

The Wagar Women's team of four event attracted 25 teams. In the semi-finals the team captained by JoAnn Sprung staged a powerful last-ditch rally to defeat the Valerie Westheimer team, 116-108 (21-26, 22-29, 19-28, 54-25). Westheimer (Judi Radin, Mildred Breed, Shawn Quinn, Stasha Cohen, Cheri Bjerkan) led by 21 after 3 sessions. But Sprung (Kathleen Sulgrove, Pam Wittes, Renee Mancuso, Karen Allison, Peggy Sutherland) piled up 54 IMPs against Westheimer' 25, in the final 16 boards.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-final Hansa Narasimhan's team led all the way against the Lynn Baker team, fending off a Baker rally to win 181-154 (58-15, 35-50, 46-9, 42-80). Baker (Lynn Deas, Beth Palmer, Kay Schulle, Kerri Sanborn, Disa Eythorsdottir) scored 80 IMPs during the last 16 boards – more than the 74 they got in the first 3 quarters. But it was a case of too little too late – Narasimhan had a 65-point lead with 16 boards to go.

The team captained by JoAnn Sprung jumped out to a 55-IMP lead in the first quarter and were never threatened in winning the Wagar Women's Knockout Teams 169-119 over the squad led by Narasimhan. The match was decided more or less in the first set when Sprung jumped out to a 66-11 lead. Narasimhan won the second and third quarters, but picked up only 24 IMPs. They dropped the final set 60-41.

The winners are JoAnn Sprung, Kathy Sulgrove, Pam Wittes, Renee Mancuso, Karen Allison and Peggy Sutherland. They defeated Hansa Narasimhan, Irina Levitina, Jill Levin, Sue Picus, Debbie Rosenberg and JoAnna Stansby.

### IMP Pairs

Total 400 pairs participated in this event and 208 qualified after the first round. K.R. Venkatraman – Sunit Chokshi (24<sup>th</sup>), Kiran – Satya (25<sup>th</sup>), G. Venkatesh – K. Kirubakara Moorthy (62<sup>nd</sup>), Subhash Gupta – Pritish Kushari (141<sup>st</sup>) and Prahlad – Raghavendra Rajkumar (158<sup>th</sup>) were the qualifiers among the Indian Pairs.

In the finals, Jiang Gu - Nikolay Demirev won the NABC IMP Pairs champions. In the final session they climbed all the way from 20<sup>th</sup> to the top. Right behind them were Steve Robinson and Peter Boyd. The final standings were:

1 Jiang Gu - Nikolay Demirev	106.29
2 Peter Boyd - Steve Robinson	92.97
3 Larry Sealy - Paul Munafo	92.59
4 Jack Lacy - James Thurtell	91.27
5 Thomas Carmichael - Joel Wooldridge	85.20
6 Cindy Bernstein - Robert Bernstein	78.71
7 David Yang - Sangarapil Mohan	74.60
8 Barbara Clinton - Vince Oddy	70.76

Kiran – Satya, with a score of 56.69 were 17<sup>th</sup> overall and G. Venkatesh – Kirubakara Moorthy with 35.59 score were 49<sup>th</sup>.

### Mixed Board-a-match

The Steve Robinson team was in second place, not quite a board behind the leaders, the Rose Meltzer squad. On the final round, Meltzer scored only a half while Robinson and company came through with 1.5 to eke out a victory. The leaders ended with 34.75 to 34.68 for the runners-up. Robinson's teammates were Lynn Deas, Beth Palmer, Bill Pettis, Bill Pollack and Rozanne Pollack. Meltzer played with Peter Weichsel, Jan and Chip Martel and JoAnna and Lew Stansby.

*- Reported by Editor*

*- Courtesy: Daily Bulletins of Summer NABC 2004*

## Nickell Team 2004 USBF Champions

The NICKELL team (Nick Nickell, Dick Freeman, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell, Paul Soloway, Bob Hamman) are the 2004 USBF Champions. In the 120 boards final of USBF 2004 played at Memphis from 4<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2004, they beat the WELLEND team ( Roy Welland, Bjorn Fallenius, Zia Mahmood, Michael Rosenberg) by 293-199 (25-57, 11-28, 40-8, 13-19, 35-13, 22-24, 89-23, 58-27).

In the Semi-finals Nickell has beaten MELTZER (Rose Meltzer, Kyle Larsen, Alan Sontag, Peter Weichsel, Lew Stansby, Chip Martel) by 254-248. In the other semi-final, WELLEND beat EKEBLAD (Russ Ekeblad, Ron Rubin, Fred Gitelman, Brad Moss, Sam Lev, Mark Molson) by 273-189.

The teams to win their 120 boards quarter finals matches were EKEBLAD who beat BRACHMAN (Malcolm Brachman, Mike Passell, EddieWold, Eric Greco, Geoffolm Hampson) by 259-190. WELLEND who beat SCHWARTZ (Richard Schwartz, Mike Becker, Steve Robinson, Peter Boyd, Larry Cohen, David Berkowitz) by 243-90. MELTZER beating ONSTOTT (John Onstott, Garey Hayden, Mark Lair, Chris Compton, Bart Bramley) by 269-226 and NICKELL beating WEED (Charlie Weed, npc, Jimmy Cayne, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein, Michael Seamon, Bobby Wolff, Sidney Lazard) by 237-163.

We have it on good authority that due to the current world situation the Nickell team will opt not to go to Istanbul this year. Instead, they will elect to be one of the USA's representatives in next year's Bermuda Bowl. Which means that the Welland team's consolation prize for being runner-up will be to represent the USA in the 2004 Olympiad in Istanbul, Turkey this coming October-November. Not a bad consolation prize, really.

*Courtesy: USBC 2004 Daily Bulletins*

## Live VuGraph

The 6<sup>th</sup> GENERALI World Masters Individual Championships to be played at Verona, Italy from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> September would be shown live on **Bridge Base Online**.

India is being represented by Subhash Gupta. So Bridge addicts and specially supporters of Subhash, please note down the date carefully to see live the World's TOP BRIDGE MASTERS in play. It is really going to be electrifying.



## Interesting Deals from Summer NABC 2004 at New York

### Zia the magician

By Barry Rigal

With Zia, the difficult is done at once – the impossible takes only a little longer. How many would you expect 4♣ doubled to go down on this deal from the LM Pairs? Would you settle for minus 100?

Board 9, Dir: North, Vul: E-W

	♠ AQ8542 ♥ Q92 ♦ KQT6 ♣	
♠ K7 ♥ 4 ♦ A8732 ♣ QJT43	N W E S	♠ J963 ♥ KJ73 ♦ 9 ♣ K762
	♠ T ♥ AT865 ♦ J54 ♣ A985	

West	North	East	South
	1♠	Pass	1NT
2♣	2♠	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♦	4♣	Dbl
All Pass			

Zia (West) won the diamond lead in hand and immediately led the ♠K! North won and played a low heart. Zia ducked (!) and South won his ace and returned the suit. That gave Zia the discard for his other spade and a diamond. But he could see the problem – he needed to ruff diamonds in dummy and prevent South from overruffing or discarding his diamond (which he would do if Zia tried to ruff a spade to hand).

So Zia sneakily led a trump toward his hand, and when South ducked it was all over. Zia won in hand, ruffed a diamond, ruffed a heart and ruffed another diamond to reach this ending:

	♠ AQ85 ♥ Q ♦ ♣	
♠ ♥ 8 ♦ ♣ QJ4	N W E S	♠ J96 ♥ ♦ ♣ K
	♠ T ♥ ♦ ♣ A98	

When Zia led a spade from dummy, South was held to one trump trick. Contract made!

## Never give up

Going into the final quarter of the Grand National Teams, Championship Flight, the District 9 team was trailing their District 16 opponents by 35 IMPs. Making up such a deficit is a tall order, but it's certainly not unheard of.

Here are a couple of key deals from the decisive fourth quarter that propelled Florida, captained by Jim Mahaffey, to victory. This deal was a body blow to the District 16 team.

Dir: West, Vul: None

	♠ T543 ♥ AK ♦ KJ62 ♣ KJ2	
♠ AKJ2 ♥ JT872 ♦ 95 ♣ A7	N W E S	♠ Q98 ♥ Q5 ♦ AQT4 ♣ QT65
	♠ 76 ♥ 9643 ♦ 873 ♣ 9843	

At one table, Mike Passell opened 1♥ and North overcalled 1NT, which was doubled by Eddie Wold in the East seat. South redoubled as a runout, and when North bid 2♦, Wold doubled again. That was passed back around to North, who ran to 2♠. Wold, uncertain whether a pass in that situation would be forcing, simply bid 3NT. There was no problem in the play, and Wold ended with 10 tricks for plus 430.

North-South were punished much more severely at the other table, where Sidney Lazard and Bart Bramley opposed Seamon and Cohler.

West	North	East	South
Seamon	Lazard	Cohler	Bramley
1♥	Dbl	Redbl	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dbl	Pass	Pass	2♣
Pass	Pass	Dbl	All Pass

Lazard's takeout double was perfectly normal – he just happened to catch his partner with a true yarborough. The defense was brutally accurate. Seamon started with the ♠A, switching to the ♦9 at trick two. Bramley went up with the king, taken by Cohler with the ace. A low club was next, and Seamon won the ♣A and returned the suit. Bramley won the ♣K and could have gotten out for down five had he cashed dummy's two high hearts. Instead, he played a spade from dummy. Cohler alertly rose with the ♠Q, pulled the opposing trumps with the ♣Q and ♣10 as Bramley discarded a spade from dummy.

Now when Cohler played a spade to Seamon's hand, dummy was squeezed when Seamon cashed his fourth spade. If Bramley discarded a diamond from dummy on the fourth spade, all three diamonds in Cohler's hand would be good. If Bramley discarded one of the winning hearts to maintain the diamond stop, Seamon would get out with a heart to the bare

ace, Cohler could unblock to make the high heart declarer's last trick.

That was down six for minus 1400, a loss of 14 IMPs. Had Bramley cashed the two high hearts before playing a spade, he would have been minus 1100 and the match would have ended in a tie.

When you lose a set by 37, of course, there are usually several deals that represent major losses. This was another one.

Dir: North, Vul: Both

	♠ T98 ♥ 754 ♦ J5 ♣ KQ743	
♠ K653 ♥ 6 ♦ K62 ♣ J9865	N W E S	♠ A2 ♥ A983 ♦ AQT94 ♣ A2
	♠ QJ74 ♥ KQJT2 ♦ 873 ♣ T	

In one room, Wold and Passell played 3NT, making three. Cohler and Seamon took a decidedly more optimistic view with the East-West hands.

West	North	East	South
Seamon	Lazard	Cohler	Bramley
Pass	1♦	1♥	
Dbf(1)	2♥	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥(2)	Pass
4NT(3)	Pass	5♥(4)	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

- (1) Negative.
- (2) Roman Key Card Blackwood for diamonds.
- (3) One key card. (4) Kings? (5) Nope.

Seamon apparently felt he had done enough with his 7 high-card points, so he declined to reveal his ♠K. Bramley made the normal-looking lead of the ♥K, and Cohler cross-ruffed for 12 tricks.

It appears that a trump lead would defeat the contract, but the favorable lie of the club suit makes the slam unbeatable, albeit on a double-dummy basis.

If South leads a trump, East can win in hand, cash the HA and ruff a heart, re-enter his hand with a spade to the ace, ruff another heart, then make the key play of the CJ from dummy, blotting out South's C10. North has to cover, but later when declarer, having drawn trumps, plays a club to dummy's 9, the defense is dead. North can win but he has no heart to return. Declarer can enter dummy with the SK and discard his losing heart on the C8.

This is the line of play one would take looking at all the cards. Would - or should - anyone find that line in real life?

### New player on the block

By Barry Rigal

Hansa Narasimhan may not be a name you know too well, but you will be seeing a lot more of her soon. Her team has reached the round of 8 in the Wagar Women's Knockouts. She served notice of her skills after a robust bidding sequence on this deal from the first round of the event.

	♠ AJ94 ♥ AK93 ♦ A6 ♣ KQ5	
♠ T83 ♥ Q7 ♦ 92 ♣ J87432	N W E S	♠ KQ652 ♥ JT52 ♦ 53 ♣ AT
	♠ 7 ♥ 864 ♦ KQJT874 ♣ 96	

Irina Levitina opened 2NT with the North hand and Hansa leaped to 6D. East won the opening club lead by taking dummy's king and returned a passive trump. Hansa ran all her trumps but one, producing the classic ruffing-squeeze ending:

	♠ AJ9 ♥ AK ♦ ♣	
♠ T83 ♥ Q7 ♦ ♣	N W E S	♠ KQ6 ♥ JT5 ♦ ♣
	♠ 7 ♥ 864 ♦ 4 ♣	

East still had to make a discard, but whatever she did, Hansa had her 12th trick by playing on that suit.

- Courtesy: Daily Bulletins of Summer NABC 2004

### BRIDGE HUMOUR

#### Why he left Hungary

George Rosenkranz responded 1NT to his partner's 1♦ opening bid and played it there. After the play, a defender from Hungary said, "In Budapest we would have bid 4NT with your cards."

"I know," said George. "That's why I left Hungary."

**HCL**  
**Prize Money**  
**BRIDGE Tournament 2004**

**Team of Four Duplicate**  
for  
**"The Naresh Tandan Trophy"**

**&**  
**Open Pairs Event**  
for  
**"The Neena Bonerjee Trophy"**

**12<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> August 2004**

**VENUE**  
**Hotel Claridges**  
**Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2004**

0830 - 0915 Hrs. : Entry  
0930 - 1345 Hrs. : T-4, Round 1 to 3  
1445 - 1900 Hrs. : T-4, Round 4 to 6  
1930 Hrs. : Dinner & Cocktails

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2004**

0900 - 1325 Hrs. : T-4, Round 7 to 9  
1415 - 1530 Hrs. : T-4, Round 10  
1615 - 2030 Hrs. : T-4 QF, Session 1 & 2  
1700 - 1930 Hrs. : Session 1 - Pair Elim. I

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2004**

0900 - 1100 Hrs. : T-4 QF, Session 3  
1000 - 1230 Hrs. : Session 2 - Pair Elim. I  
1120 - 1910 Hrs. : T-4 SF, Session 1, 2 & 3  
1400 - 1915 Hrs. : Session 1 & 2 -Pair Elim. II

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2004**

0900 - 1910 Hrs. : T-4 Finals, Session 1 to 4  
0900 - 1900 Hrs. : Pair Finals, Session 1 & 2  
1930 Hrs. : Prize Distribution & Closing Ceremony

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**PRIZES**

**Total Prize Money: Rs. 9.6 Lacs**

**Note:** Additional Prize of Rs. 10,000 for 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> positions in T-4, and Rs. 7500 & Rs.5000 respectively for Pairs tournament have been added.

**Team of Four**

Winner	Rs. 250,000/-
Runner-up	Rs. 120,000/-
Losing Semi-Finalists	Rs. 60,000/-
Losing Quarter-Finalists	Rs. 35,000/-
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> Palces	Rs. 10,000/-

**Pairs**

Winner	Rs. 100,000/-
Runner-up	Rs. 60,000/-
Third	Rs. 35,000/-
Fourth	Rs. 24,000/-
Fifth	Rs. 18,000/-
Sixth	Rs. 15,000/-
Seventh	Rs. 12,000/-
Eighth	Rs. 10,000/-
Ninth	Rs. 7,500/-
Tenth	Rs. 5,000/-

**Session Winners**

**Pair Elimination Rounds Rs. 1,500/-**  
**(Separate prizes for NS & EW of each section)**

**NOTE:**

1. TDS will be deducted as per the prevailing IT rules.
2. The sponsors have increased the prize money for both the events to suitably cover the deducted TDS amount.

**ENTRY FEE:**

**T-4: Rs. 5000/- (Rs. 1000 for each additional member)**  
**Pair: Rs. 1200/- for first elimination & Rs. 800 from those qualified to play the 2<sup>nd</sup> Elimination**

**Entries Close on**

**Team of Four: 11<sup>th</sup> Aug'04 at 2000 Hrs.**  
**Pairs: 13<sup>th</sup> Aug'04 at 1500 Hrs.**

## GOLCHA BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

The GOLCHA Bridge Tournament will be held from 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2004 at JAIPUR.

Mr. Puneet Gangal from Jaipur has informed that this year onwards the format of the tournament would be revised. Invitation will be sent to the TOP 10-12 Indian teams based on their current rating. Besides this each Bridge Association would be given a fixed quota of teams to participate in the tournament.

The format of Pair event may also change with 16 pairs only playing the finals.

## 20<sup>TH</sup> ALL INDIA K.N. MODI BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

Nainital Bridge Association will organize the 20<sup>th</sup> All India K.N. Modi Bridge Tournament from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at Boat House Club, Nainital.

There will be 3 events viz. "Team of Four Duplicate" for the running K.N. Modi Trophy, "Open Pairs" for a running trophy presented by Shri J.K. Lohia in memory of his brother late Shri Rishabh Lohia and a running trophy presented by Shri D.P. Varshni in memory of his father late Shri H.P. Varshni, for the "Board-a-Match" event. There will be attractive cash prizes for all events.

## 5<sup>TH</sup> ALL INDIA CHATTISGARH BLACK DIAMOND TOURNAMENT

The 5<sup>th</sup> All India Chattisgarh Black Diamond Trophy (Chief Minister Cup) will be held at Railway Sanskrit Niketan, Bilaspur from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug 2004.

Free boarding to all the teams & free lodging to 20 out station teams on first cum first serve basis will also be provided.

There will be 3 events viz. Team of Four - "Chief Minister Cup", BAM - "Black Diamond Cup" & Pairs - "Santosh Dey Memorial Cup". The total prize money is Rs. 85,000/- plus.

## TOURNAMENT at KOLKATA

All India SREE CEMENT Bridge Tournament will be held under the aegis of Bridge Federation of India at Bengal Rowing Club, KOLKATA from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2005.

Information by: Mr. Pronob Bhattacharya, West Bengal Bridge Association

## Forthcoming Events - 2004

### National

12-15<sup>th</sup> Aug - HCL Prize Money Tournament, Delhi  
20-22<sup>nd</sup> Aug - Chattisgarh Black Diamond Trophy (Chief Minister Cup), Bilaspur, Chattisgarh  
23-26<sup>th</sup> Sep - All India K.N. Modi, Nainital  
01-03<sup>rd</sup> Oct - Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad  
29-31<sup>st</sup> Oct - Golcha Tournament, Jaipur  
05-15<sup>th</sup> Dec - Winter Nationals, Waltairs Club, Vizag

### International

8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> Sep - The Generali Master World Individual Championship, Verona, Italy  
23<sup>rd</sup> Oct - 6<sup>th</sup> Nov - World Bridge Olympiad, Istanbul  
18<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> Nov - Fall NABC 2004, Orlando

## DELHI BRIDGE SCHEDULE

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

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