

Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter

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Vol.1 Issue 6 – November 2003

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World Championships – 2003

USA Takes 3 World Titles

Three gold medals and two bronzes. What a triumph for American bridge. At the World Championships held at Monte Carlo from 2nd Nov to 15th Nov 2003, the **United States** won the **Bermuda Bowl**, the **Venice Cup** and the **Senior Bowl**. American teams also finished in third place in the Bermuda Bowl and the Senior Bowl.

In the most dramatic finish in **Bermuda Bowl** World championship history, **United States I** gained 12 IMPs on the last board of the event to emerge with an amazing **304-303** victory over **Italy**. The champions are **Nick Nickell, Richard Freeman, Eric Rodwell, Jeff Meckstroth, Bob Hamman and Paul Soloway. Sidney Lazard was non-playing captain.** Playing for Italy were Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria, Fulvio Fantoni, Claudio Nunes and Alfredo Versace. USA II, which had reached the playoff stage with a tremendous comeback, defeated Norway in the playoff for the bronze medal. The American team consisted of Adam Wildavsky, Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Bobby Wolff, Dan Morse, Steve Landen and Doug Doub, with Ralph Cohen as non-playing captain.

The **Venice Cup** victory did not come easy for the **USA I** team against a determined team from China, but **USA I** was finally able to celebrate with a **229.3-210** triumph. When it was over, Kathie Wei-Sender, who has done a lot to promote bridge in China, and has personally helped the Chinese women's team to climb the international ladder over the years, congratulated her students for their good showing. At the same time she breathed a sigh of relief that her proteges didn't play just a little bit better. The champions are **Wei-Sender, Betty Ann Kennedy, Jill Levin, Sue Picus, Janice Seamon-Molson and Tobi Sokolow. Kent Massie was npc.** The Silver medallist **Chinese** team was represented by NPC: Xiaojing Wang; Wenfei Wang; Hongli Wang; Yu Zhang; Liping Wang; Ling Gu; Yalan Zhang. The Netherlands team took the Bronze medal.

USA I was the victor in the Senior Bowl. They lost to runner-up France in the final match, but they salvaged enough Victory Points to win the gold medal. The winners are **Gaylor Kasle, Roger Bates, Steve Robinson, Kit Woolsey, Garey Hayden and Grant Baze.** The silver medallists from France are Pierre Adad, Maurice Aujaleu, Guy Lasserre, Philippe Poizat, Christian Mari and Francois Leenhardt, with Yves Aubry as npc. Playing for USA II (bronze medallists) were Dennis Dawson, Arnold Fisher, Zeke Jabbour, Clement Jackson, John Mohan and John Sutherlin, with Carolyn Lynch as npc.

The Italian team **LAVAZZA** won the 4th event of the Championships – "**The Transnational Teams**". They were represented by **L. Burgay, C. Mariani, A. Buratti, Lanzarotti & G. Ferraro.** They beat **ZHUANG** of China in the finals.

Bidding After Opponent's Take Out Double

Expert bidding has undergone a major upheaval during the last decades. There is a saying that "Necessity is the mother of Invention". It is the necessity of accuracy in competitive bidding on the tournament scene that has given birth to hundreds of gadgets and conventions.

A) Bidding after One Major and Opponent's take out double

When partner Opens One of a major and Opponent doubles for Take out, it is necessary to support partner immediately, if you have support before opponents preempt you totally. Since opponent who has doubled, is usually short in partner's suit, you are more likely to hold support for partner's suit. Also it is important to be able to show and distinguish the various support hands you may hold. You may get only one chance and you don't want to leave partner guessing over left hand opponent's bid. There are various ways to respond but the following scheme that is based on what has been recommended by Andrew Robson and Oliver Segal in their book "Partnership Bidding", appeals most to us:

- **Redouble**, 10+ hcp either a balanced hand or lacks support for partner's suit
- **1NT / 2C / 2D** transfer to 2C / 2D / 2H, generally denies fit for partner's suit. You may not bid again.
- **Transfer to partner's major** - 2D transfer to 2H after 1H-dbl or 2H transfer to 2S after 1S-dbl shows good 3-card raise, generally unlimited in strength (8+ hcp).
- **Direct bid of Two-major** - 2H after 1H-dbl or 2S after 1S-dbl shows a preemptive raise to the 2 level.
- **Direct bid of Three-major** is preemptive same as without a take out double.
- **2NT** – At least Four-card support; limit or better. This convention is known as Jordan.
- **Jumps** – All jumps in new suits are fit-showing i.e. at least 4-card support for the partner's suit and a good 5-card suit.
- **Direct raise to Four-major** is preemptive same as without a take out double.
- **Splinter** - If you like splinter bids than we suggest that all single jumps are splinter bids (mini splinter or better) and all double jumps are fit-showing.

B) Bidding after One Minor and Opponent's take out double

When partner opens One of a minor and RHO doubles for Take out, game for your side is much less likely. More often partner will have a fair suit if opponent is short. We suggest following scheme for responding:

- **Redouble**, 10+ hcp
- **New suit**, Natural and one round force.
- **1NT**, Natural 7-9 hcp.
- **Simple Raise of Opener's minor** – No longer inverted, generally denies 4-card major suit and shows support for opener's minor (at least 4-cards) and 5-9 HCP.
- **2NT and 3 of opener's minor**– A convention known as Flip-Flop is recommended in which 2NT shows a preemptive raise of opener's minor and jump raise of the minor suit shows a limit raise. The reason for this is - in case the contract is in No-trumps (after limit raise), the take out doubler will be on opening lead and will be leading away from the values.
- **Jumps** – All jumps in new suits are fit-showing i.e. at least 4-card support for the partner's minor suit and a good 5-card suit.

C) Examples:

♠ Axx ♥ xx ♦ Jx ♣ AQxxxx	♠ Ax ♥ AJx ♦ Kxxxx ♣ xxx	♠ xx ♥ Kxx ♦ Qxxx ♣ xxxx	♠ QJxxx ♥ x ♦ xx ♣ KQ10xx	♠ KQJxx ♥ xx ♦ KJxx ♣ xx	♠ x ♥ xxx ♦ KJxxx ♣ Qxxx
After 1H-X bid 1NT to show club suit. Bid once more to show Inv. Hand.	After 1H-X bid 2D to show good 3 card raise & then bid again.	After 1H-X bid 2H which is preemptive.	After 1S-X bid 4C (fit-jump).	After 1D-X bid 2S (fit jump).	After 1D-X bid 2NT which is preemptive.

(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

Local Bridge News & Results

Delhi Bridge Association Tuesday Pairs Event - Results

04/11/2003

NS 1: A.K. Narang – R.C. Consul	68.20%
NS 2 : Mrs. Madhuri Modwel – J.D. Gupta	64.63%
EW1 : Yogesh M. Tiwari – Arun Jain	61.77%
EW2 : M.M. Sinha – Ashim Kumar Ghosh	57.00%

11/11/2003

NS 1 : M. Shivdasani – Sudhir Aggarwal	56.75%
NS 2 : Mrs. Madhuri Modwel – J.D. Gupta	54.76%
EW 1 : D.K. Mutreja – Joyjit Sen Sarma	64.29%
EW 2 : Mohan Hirani – Yogesh Chandra	62.70%

18/11/2003

NS 1 : Mrs. Madhuri Modwel – J.D. Gupta	59.85%
NS 2 : S.N. Mathur – M.S. Sharma	56.94%
EW 1 : Arun Jain – Yogesh Tiwari	70.14%
EW 2 : R. Tibrewala – Sandeep Thakral	67.32%

25/11/2003

NS 1 : A.K. Sinha – S. Krishnamurthy	59.83%
NS 2 : P.C. Gupta – R.C. Consul	58.04%
EW 1 : T.C. Pant – Sunil Bhatia	63.73%
EW 2 : M. Shivdasani – Sudhir Aggarwal	61.88%

DBA – Hindustan Times Saturday Team Event – Results

01/11/2003

1. **Dr. Nikita Kamal's Team** – (Dr. Nikita Kamal, Amarjeet Wadhawan, S.K. Agrawal, Ved Prakash, A. Virmani)
2. **Sonchel** – (Mukesh Shivdasani, Sudhir Aggarwal, Ravi Sawhney, A.K. Ghosh)

15/11/2003

1. **Consul's Team** – (R.C. Consul, P.C. Gupta, A.K. Narang, K.G. Sharma)
2. **Amarjeet's Team** – (Amarjeet Wadhawan, N.K. Jain, Anand Bhatia, J.B. Sengupta)

29/11/2003

1. **Hathras IV** – (Ajay Tankha, Gopal K. Saxena, Subodh Jain, J.B. Sengupta)

All India Ladies Bridge Assoc. Results

31/10/2003

1. C.P. Mittal – S.K. Agarwal
2. Maj. Iyer – V.N. Puri
3. Mrs. Urmil Agarwal – Amarjeet Wadhawan

14/11/2003

1. Suraj Jain – Dr. R.L. Sanghi
2. Mrs. S. Singla – Sanjiv Bery
3. C.P. Mittal – S.K. Agarwal

26/11/2003

1. Mrs. S. Singla – Sanjiv Bery
2. Mrs. Rajesh Gupta – P.K. Rajgarhia
3. Mrs. Brij Judge – Narvir Singh

Mr. Dalmia, President DBA visits AILBA



Mr. M.D. Dalmia at PHD House with the AILBA Members

Mr. M.D. Dalmia, President of Delhi Bridge Association visited the Ladies Bridge Assn., when he was invited to the AILBA event at PHD House on 14 Nov. The AILBA members requested him to allow them to hold the Weekly/ Fortnightly events at DBA, instead of PHD House because of financial constraints. Though he didn't confirm but agreed to look in to it and inform after consulting his committee members.

The next AILBA pair event will be held at PHD House from 1430 Hrs. onwards on **5th Dec**. Entry is open to all the Bridge players.

Delhi State Championships

The **Delhi State Championships** were held at the **Delhi Bridge Association building** on the weekends starting from **21st to 30th November 2003**. Four events were conducted as part of the championships. Each event is detailed below:

Mixed Pairs – 21st Nov (Evening)

20 Pairs took part in this event and played 20 boards. The winners were:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Mrs. Mona Singla – Sanjiv Beri | 66.67% |
| 2. Mrs. Asha Surana – Vijay Kumar | 61.94% |
| 3. Mrs. Chand Vir – Ganpat Rai | 61.67% |
| 4. Mrs. Sushma Gupta – Ujjwal Gupta | 55.00% |

TEAM OF FOUR – 22nd, 23rd & 29th Nov

13 teams took part in this event. After playing a full league of 13 rounds (everyone had one bye round) on 22nd & 23rd Nov, the top 6 teams qualified for the Super league stage. The qualified teams were:

3. **PURI's Team** – 221 VPs (V.N. Puri, Ahluwalia, Col. K.K. Sabharwal, S. Sunderarajan, Kamesh Rao)
4. **SONCHEL** – 219 VPs (Mukesh Shivdasani, Sudhir Aggarwal, Ravi Sawhney, R.R. Gupta, A.K. Ghosh, S. Majumder)
5. **TEWARI's Team** – 219 VPs (D.K. Tewari, N.K. Gupta, Joyjit Sen Sharma, D.K. Mutreja, Ashok Bedi, R. Chakravarti)
6. **SHAM SHARMA's Team** – 217 VPs (Sham Sharma, A.K. Guha, R. Nanda, S.N. Mathur)
7. **DHARNI's Team** – 206 VPs (S. Dharni, O.K. Mohan Dass, Vijay Kumar, Mrs. Asha Surana)
8. **TOPPERS** – 205 VPs (A.K. Narang, K.G. Sharma, R.C. Consul, P.C. Gupta)

In the 5* 12 boards Super League played on 29th morning, the leaders were:

- | | |
|------------------|--------|
| 1. TOPPERS - | 93 VPs |
| 2. SONCHEL - | 86 |
| 3. TEWARI - | 84 |
| 4. DHARNI - | 65 |
| 5. SHAM SHARMA - | 58 |
| 6. PURI - | 58 |

The 2 top teams, **“TOPPERS”** & **“SONCHEL”** have qualified to play the finals, to be held on 6th Dec 2003.

OPEN PAIRS – 22nd & 30th Nov

26 pairs participated in the tournament. After playing elimination round of 26 boards on 22nd Nov morning, the top 16 pairs (8 NS & 8 EW) qualified for the finals. The qualifiers were:

North – South

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Vijay Kumar – Mrs. Asha Surana | 58.96% |
| 2. Mrs. Kunti Thakur – Dr. R.L. Sanghi | 58.29% |
| 3. Ravi Sawhney - Sunderarajan | 57.63% |
| 4. Sudhir Agarwal – S. Majumder | 55.70% |
| 5. Dr. Nikita Kamal – Amarjeet | 53.69% |
| 6. K.B. Sikand – V.N. Puri | 52.94% |
| 7. T.C. Pant – S.N. Mathur | 52.02% |
| 8. Deepak Prakash – Kanwaljit Singh | 51.66% |

East – West

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. D.K. Tewari – R. Chakravarty | 59.36% |
| 2. O.K. Mohandass – S. Dharni | 56.38% |
| 3. A.K. Bala – Ashim Kumar Ghosh | 56.26% |
| 4. Ganpat Rai – Deepak Arora | 55.46% |
| 5. Sham Sharma – A.K. Guha | 54.59% |
| 6. J.B. Sengupta – Anand Bhatia | 54.17% |
| 7. M.M.L. Sharma – B.R. Murar | 50.91% |
| 8. M.S. Malik – R.K. Singh | 46.86% |

The 30 boards final was played on 30th afternoon and the winners were:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| 1 Dr. Nikita Kamal – Amarjeet | 57.74% |
| 2 Anand Bhatia – J.B. Sengupta | 57.14% |
| 3 Sudhir Aggarwal – S. Majumder | 56.85% |
| 4 Ganpat Rai – Deepak Arora | 55.65% |
| 5 Gopal Saxena – Ajay Tankha | 53.27% |

Board-a-Match – 30th Nov

7 teams participated in the tournament. After playing 24 boards the winners were:

1. **TOPPERS** – 84 (A.K. Narang, K.G. Sharma, R.C. Consul, P.C. Gupta)
2. **SONCHEL** – 76 (Sudhir Aggarwal, A.K. Ghosh, D.K. Tewari, R. Chakravarty)

Our sincere thanks to Mr. S.N. Mathur & Mr. Sudhir Aggarwal for conducting the tournament smoothly & efficiently.

Heartiest Congratulations to All the Winners

- Reported by Editor

Delhi Gymkhana Club Tournament

The **Delhi Gymkhana Club "MTNL"** Open Team of Four & "**Haren Choksi**" Open Pairs Bridge Tournament was held at the **Delhi Gymkhana Club** premises (Woodland) from **7th to 9th Nov 2003**. The event details are as follows:

TEAM OF FOUR:

37 teams took part in this event. After playing a round robin of 10 rounds, the top 7 teams along with the "best Gymkhana Club team" qualified for the last 8 stage. The qualified teams were:

1. **Dhampur Sugar Mills** (Ashok Goel, Kamal Mukherjee, V. Desai, V.M. Lal, Sunil Machar)
2. **Azure** (Maj. S. Hooda, Sumit Mukherjee, Badal Das, Sarkar, Ravi Batra and Mrs. Rita Chokshi).
3. **VRW** (Iyengar, Rajendra Gokhale & team)
4. **HOT SHOT**
5. **Friends**, Delhi
6. **SONCHEL**, Delhi
7. **RM Gupta's team**, Muzaffarnagar
8. **Beagles** (The best Gymkhana Club team)

The qualified teams were divided in 2 groups (Gr. 1: Team Nos. 1,4,5 & 8 & Gr. 2: Team Nos. 2,3,6,7) and played a Super league within their groups. **Dhampur & Beagles** from Group 1 and **Azure & RM Gupta's** teams from Group 2 qualified for the Semi Finals.

In the 32 boards Semi Finals, **Azure** beat Dhampur and **R.M. Gupta's** team beat Beagles. The 36 boards Final was won by **Azure** (Delhi) beating R.M. Gupta's team from Muzaffarnagar.

OPEN PAIRS:

78 pairs participated in the tournament. There were 2 elimination rounds and a total of 30 pairs (24 qualified pairs and the 6 losing semi finalist pairs) played the finals. The winners were:

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------|
| 1 | Dr. Ashwini Mehta - P Kushari | 58.60% |
| 2 | Sandeep Thakral - Rajesh Tibrewala | 58.44% |
| 3 | O S Gaba - T N Krishnamoorthy | 57.75% |
| 4 | Sudhir Agarwal - R Chakravarty | 56.35% |
| 5 | Harbhajan Singh - M.M Chopra | 56.23% |
| 6 | S. Roy – A. Mukherjee | 55.49% |

The organizers, CTD - Mr. N.K. Jain and the TD - Mr. Sailen Banerjee deserve all the praise for conducting the tournament smoothly.

Heartiest Congratulations to All the Winners

- Reported by Editor

Yeshwant Club Pairs Tournament

The **Yeshwant Club Open Pairs Prize Money Bridge Tournament** was held at **Indore** from **21st to 23rd Nov 2003**. The tournament winners were:

1. **Y. Kamlakar Rao – K. Suryanarayana**
2. **Dr. T.K. Patel – Swapan Desai**
3. **R.S. Gupta – R.P. Airen**
4. **B. Satyanarayana – Puneet Gangal**

Heartiest Congratulations to All the Winners

- Reported by Editor

TIT-BITS FROM World Championships - 2003

- The match between USA I & USA II on the 2nd day attracted lot of attention because Bobby Wolff, a member of USA II, played for more than 25 years with Bob Hamman of USA I until they parted ways about five years ago. However, they did not face each other in the round.
- The first round of day 2 (Round 5 for Bermuda Bowl & Round 3 for Venice Cup) produced a funny statistics. In all, 2014 IMPs changed hands in 20 matches in the two events – an average of 100.7 IMPs per match or around 6.29 IMPs per board.
- This was the second time in the last three Bermuda Bowls that this American team has beaten Italy as the result of carryover. In Bermuda in 2000 the victory margin in their quarterfinal match was 7 IMPs and the Americans had a 13-IMP carryover. This time the Americans went into the final with a 7-IMP carryover. The Italians gained back all but one of those IMPs.
- This was Hamman's 9th Bermuda Bowl championship. Soloway now has five, but he has the key one to his credit—his team finally wrested the Bermuda Bowl from the Italian Blue Team in 1976. And incidentally, that championship also was in Monte Carlo. Rodwell and Meckstroth now have four wins each, while Nickell & Freeman each have three.
- In the Venice Cup round robin match between Brazil and Sweden, the Brazilian team prevailed 82-73. That's nearly 10 IMPs swing per board! Out of 16 deals, there were 12 double-digit swings. It was actually a disappointment for the audience in the VuGraph theatre when the final board came in as a push – the only one of the match.
- Sergei Bubka, World record holder in the pole vault from Ukraine and now a member of the IOC Executive Committee was shown around the venue of the 2003 World Bridge Championships by WBF President Jose Damiani on 7th Nov.

International Bridge News

The World Championships – A Report

The World Bridge Championships were held at Sporting d'Hiver, Monte Carlo, Monaco from 2nd to 15th Nov 2003. The WBF President, Mr. Jose Damiani declared the Championships open on 2nd Nov in a glittering opening ceremony held at Hotel de Paris, Monte Carlo. The President in his welcome speech emphasized on the need of fair play and proper explanation mainly of the "brown-sticker" systems. He was of the opinion that the documentation of the "brown-sticker" systems has fallen short of requirements and this is not acceptable. In future, WBF will have clear-cut guidelines for having proper documentation of these systems, so that it is easy for the opponents to understand and have corresponding mitigating strategies. The teams were further welcomed by one of the Minister of the Principality of Monaco. After that each participating team was called to the podium and introduced.

22 teams for the Bermuda Bowl, 18 teams for the Venice Cup and 15 teams for the Senior Bowl participated in the championships. After 6 grueling days of Round Robin, the quarter finalists of the Bermuda Bowl & Venice Cup events could be identified. The top teams were:

RANK VENICE CUP

(After complete Round Robin of 17 Rounds)

Team	Total	Rank
CHINA	318	1
USA1	309	2
USA2	309	-
NETHERLANDS	285	4
GERMANY	282	5
CHINESE TAIPEI	274	6
CANADA	267	7
SWEDEN	255	8
INDONESIA	253	9
ENGLAND	251	10
ITALY	246	11
BRAZIL	242	12
VENEZUELA	229	13
INDIA	226	14
SOUTH AFRICA	224	15
AUSTRALIA	219	16
EGYPT	189	17
PAKISTAN	175	18

RANK BERMUDA BOWL

(After complete Round Robin of 21 Rounds)

Team	Total	Rank
ITALY	405	1
USA1	385.5	2
POLAND	371.5	3
NORWAY	364	4
CHINESE TAIPEI	356.5	5
AUSTRALIA	351.5	6
BULGARIA	351	7
USA2	339	8
CANADA	338	9
INDONESIA	323.5	10
EGYPT	318	11
CHINA	309	12
SWEDEN	305	13
MONACO	296	14
SPAIN	288	15
NEW ZEALAND	282	16
URUGUAY	278	17
BRAZIL	274	18
INDIA	271	19
PAKISTAN	270	20
SOUTH AFRICA	232	21
BERMUDA	161	22

The Quarter Finals (6 * 16 boards)

Bermuda Bowl:

Italy bt **Australia 292.5 –180** (C/o 6.5-0, 57-24, 77-13, 36-45, 30-49, 57-15, 19-34)

USA I bt **Chinese Taipei 323 – 148** (C/o 16-0, 33-20, 92-14, 46-61, 50-9, 42-14, 44-30)

USAII bt **Poland 262-156** (C/o 0-4, 62-24, 49-28, 34-40, 49-20, 29-29, 39-11)

Norway bt **Bulgaria 261.5-192** (C/o 4.5-0, 44-36, 60-17, 35-48, 64-35, 32-12, 22-44)

Venice Cup:

China bt **Sweden 266-187** (C/o 10-0, 56-31, 54-23, 28-38, 53-17, 37-53, 28-25)

USA I bt Chinese Taipei **271.5 – 205.5** (C/o 16-0, 22-40, 24-44, 53-40, 66.5 – 30.5, 58-26, 32-25)

USA II bt Canada **234-175** (C/o 16-0, 15-52, 61-28, 57-14, 24-27, 38-25, 23-29)

Netherlands bt Germany **232-195** (C/o 6-0, 41-44, 40-25, 41-20, 20-44, 37-31, 47-31)

The Semi Finals (6 * 16 boards)

Bermuda Bowl:

Italy bt Norway **223-187.7** (C/o 0-1.7, 41-12, 38-39, 49-9, 36-51, 28-66, 31-9) and got revenge for their semi-final loss to Norway two years ago.

USA I bt **USA II** **221.5 - 134** (C/o 13.5-0, 41-17, 21-34, 27-34, 67-5, 21-19, 31-25)

So it is Italy Vs. USA I for the Final of the Bermuda Bowl.

Venice Cup:

China bt Netherlands **279-202** (C/o 0-1, 32-30, 53-19, 44-32, 74-27, 54-52, 22-41)

USA I bt **USA II** **251.5-179** (C/o 9.5-0, 28-24, 31-41, 45-17, 54-20, 49-23, 35-54)

it is China Vs. USA I in the Venice Cup Final.

The Play-off for Bronze (3 * 16 boards)

Bermuda Bowl:

USA II won the bronze medal by defeating **Norway 104-83** (C/o 0-8, 32-35, 35-8, 37-32). The **USA II** was represented by Adam Wildavsky, Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Bobby Wolff, Dan Morse, Steve Landen and Doug Doub, with Ralph Cohen as non-playing captain.

Venice Cup:

Netherlands won the bronze medal beating **USA II** by **121-80** (C/o 0-6, 34-32, 32-26, 55-16). The **Netherlands** team was represented by Bep Vriend, Marijke Van Der Pas, Jet Pasman, Anneke Simons, Wietske Van Zwol, Carla Arnolds with Chris Niemeijer as the Coach and Ed Franken as Manager & npc.

The Finals (6 * 16 boards)

Bermuda Bowl:

In one of the most dramatic finish **USA I** trailing by 11 IMPs till last board gained 12 IMPs on the last board to win the gold medal by defeating **Italy 304-303** (C/o 13-0, 32-43, 14-45, 20-21, 77-31, 40-31, 46-34, 29-38, 33-60).

Venice Cup:

USA I won the gold medal beating a determined Chinese team by **229.3 - 210** (C/o 5.3-0, 33-45, 41-38, 44-17, 21-48, 49-21, 36-41).

Halfway through the last round, played before a packed VuGraph auditorium, China had edged to within 13.3 IMPs with a 6-IMP swing and seemed poised to overtake the Americans. On the next board, USA I engineered an 11-IMP swing when China went four off in 3NT for minus 400 in the closed room while Levin took 10 tricks in 2NT in the open room. This was the deal:

Dlr: North Vul: EW	♠J5 ♥8632 ♦AK976 ♣Q9	
♠KT ♥AKT ♦82 ♣AJT863	W N E S	♠832 ♥J97 ♦QT543 ♣K5
	♠AQ9764 ♥Q54 ♦J ♣742	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Levin	Liping	Picus	Wenfei
	Pass	Pass	2D
2NT	All Pass		

Wenfei's 2D showed a weak two-bid in a major (Multi). Liping, correctly deducing that partner's suit was spades, started with the SJ. Wenfei ducked to Levin's king. The contract was very shaky. Levin could not afford to lose an early trick – if she did she would be down a lot.

At trick two, Levin put the CJ on the table, covered by North with the queen. Levin took the CK and advanced the HJ, also covered, and she finished with 10 tricks for plus 180.

It might seem to have been an error for North to cover the CJ at trick two, but Seamon-Molson, defending 3NT in the other room, said she probably would have done the same, reasoning that West was unlikely to have a six-card club suit and that the only chance was for her partner to have four to the 8-7.

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
Yu	Seamon-Molson	Hongli	Sokolow
	Pass	Pass	2D
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Seamon-Molson started with her fourth-best diamond, and Yu Zhang considered her play for a long time before putting in dummy's 10. Sokolow won with the jack and returned the S9. Yu played the king, then a club to the king and a club to the jack. That was a disastrous decision. Seamon-Molson won the CQ, cashed her top diamonds (Sokolow discarded a spade on one of them, then played her SJ to the South hand. Instead of plus 600,

declarer was minus 400. It was an 11-IMP swing to USA I instead of a 10-IMP loss. The 21-IMP swing was particularly meaningful in a match won by only 19.3 IMPs. China managed an 11-IMP swing on the next-to-last board, but by then the margin was too great for them to overcome. The final score was 229.3-210. In the playoff for the bronze medal, the Netherlands defeated USA II.

Transnational Teams

74 Teams from all over the world took part in this event. Besides the Indian team (Nadar K.), which represented India in Bermuda Bowl another team - "**Venkatesh G.**" (From USA) of Indian players also played in this tournament. Kiran's team also had Sabine Auken (considered to be the best Women's player in the circuit) in their ranks for this event. Venkatesh's team consisted of G. Venkatesh, G. Prabhu, B. Prabhakar, Kirubakara Moorthy and J.M. Shah.

After playing a round robin of 15 rounds, the top qualifying teams who reached the quarterfinal stage were - **JANSMA** of Netherlands, **BRACHMAN** from USA, **ZHUANG** from China, **LAVAZZA** from Italy, **GAMRATH** from Denmark, **DEBOTTON** from UK, **MILNER** from USA (Zia Mehmood was part of this team) and **LASUT** from Indonesia.

The Indian teams did not fare well. After playing 16 rounds, Kiran Nadar's team was placed at 44th position (with 231 VPs) and Venkatesh's team was placed at 39th position, with 235 VPs.

The Quarter Finals (2 * 16 boards)

JANSMA	bt.	GAMRATH	99-71
BRACHMAN	bt.	DEBOTTON	111-18
ZHUANG	bt.	MILNER	49-37
LAVAZZA	bt.	LASUT	68-58

The Semi Finals (2 * 16 boards)

LAVAZZA	bt.	JANSMA	55-45
ZHUANG	bt.	BRACHMAN	91-40

The Finals (3 * 16 boards)

LAVAZZA	bt.	ZHUANG	122-53
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The LAVAZZA team from Italy won the finals of the Transnational team. They easily beat the Chinese team ZHUANG by 122-53 (45-29, 56-0, 21-24). The winners were represented by L. Burgay, C. Mariani, A. Buratti, Lanzarotti & G. Ferraro.

Gold medal for USA1 in Senior Bowl

In the Senior Bowl, where the end of the round robin was the end of the event, USA I was the victor. The Americans' opponent in the final round was France, which was in second place and which had led through much of the competition. France needed a strong triumph in that final match to win the title. If they won by 20 IMPs, the championship would be theirs. If they won by less or lost, the United States would win.

France led by 10 at the half. All they had to do was to repeat that performance in the second half. But that didn't happen. The boards in the second half were flat - 10 of them were pushes. France made two small gains, but the gold medals went to the Americans. In fact, France edged USA II by only half a Victory Point for the silver medal. The winners are Gaylor Kasle, Roger Bates, Steve Robinson, Kit Woolsey, Garey Hayden and Grant Baze. The silver medalists are Pierre Adad, Maurice Aujaleu, Guy Lasserre, Philippe Poizat, Christian Mari and Francois Leenhardt, with Yves Aubry as non-playing captain.

Playing for USA II were Dennis Dawson, Arnold Fisher, Zeke Jabbour, Clement Jackson, John Mohan and John Sutherland, with Carolyn Lynch as npc. All six of the gold medalists are previous winners of world championships.

FINAL RANKING - SENIOR BOWL

(After complete Round Robin of 15 Rounds including one bye round)

Team	Total	Rank
USA1	285	1
FRANCE	280	2
USA2	279.5	3
INDONESIA	271	4
ISRAEL	268	5
ITALY	245	6
AUSTRALIA	237.5	7
DENMARK	231	8
BRAZIL/ARGENTINA	222.5	9
JAPAN	218	10
EGYPT	214.5	11
GUADELOUPE	204	12
PAKISTAN	189	13
MONACO	121	14
FRENCH POLYNESIA	71	15

(Excerpts taken from the Daily Bulletins of World Championships)

INDIAN Performance in the World Championships

The performance of the Indian team in Bermuda Bowl as well as Transnational Teams was well below par. It was surprising to see them loose their matches against some ordinary teams. There was no chance for them after they lost against Spain (25-0) and against Uruguay (24-6). They could only tie their match against minnows Monaco. The only consolation they had was beating two strong teams - Norway 18-12 & USA II by 16-14. After performing exceedingly well in the earlier World Championships, they finished at 19th position out of 22 teams in this tournament.

INDIA's Score in Bermuda Bowl – Round Robin							
Rnd	Opponent	IMPs		VPs		Total VPs	Ran
		IND	Opp	IND	Opp		
1	INDONESIA	21	40	11	19	11	18
2	BERMUDA	71	25	25	5	36	5
3	SWEDEN	12	26	12	18	48	9
4	USA1	23	36	12	18	60	10
5	SPAIN	8	91	0	25	60	18
6	POLAND	20	53	7	23	67	18
7	EGYPT	27	17	17	13	84	18
8	URUGUAY	11	49	6	24	90	20
9	S. AFRICA	55	26	22	8	112	19
10	PAKISTAN	32	26	16	14	128	18
11	MONACO	35	36	15	15	143	18
12	CANADA	23	34	13	17	156	18
13	BULGARIA	37	43	14	16	170	18
14	ITALY	54	71	11	19	181	19
15	AUSTRALIA	45	49	14	16	195	18
16	BRAZIL	29	28	15	15	210	18
17	NORWAY	34	21	18	12	228	17
18	CHINA	39	48	13	17	241	18
19	USA2	16	10	16	14	257	16
20	NEWZEALAND	1	24	10	20	267	18
21	CHINESE TAIPEI	9	61	4	25	271	19

The ladies team created a sensation by beating the strong USA I team 25-4 but alas that was the last hurrah for the team and finally they were placed 14th out of 18 teams.

INDIA's Score in Venice Cup – Round Robin

Rnd	Opponent	IMPs		VPs		Total VPs	Rank
		IND	Opp	IND	Opp		
1	CHINESE TAIPEI	13	23	13	17	13	13
2	SWEDEN	49	48	15	15	28	10
3	USA2	27	57	8	22	36	14
4	EGYPT	9	45	7	23	43	16
5	CANADA	25	19	16	14	59	16
6	INDONESIA	52	10	25	5	84	12
7	NETHERLANDS	21	36	12	18	96	10
8	ENGLAND	4	43	6	24	102	17
9	USA1	63	12	25	4	127	11
10	AUSTRALIA	24	11	18	12	145	9
11	BRAZIL	48	61	12	18	157	9
12	GERMANY	12	28	10.5	19	167.5	13
13	PAKISTAN	27	29	15	15	182.5	11
14	VENEZUELA	17	18	15	15	197.5	12
15	CHINA	8	47	6	24	203.5	14
16	ITALY	6	45	6	24	209.5	15
17	S. AFRICA	29	21	16	13	225.5	14

Well the Indian players would have surely learnt a lesson on attacking brand of Bridge on this trip mainly from their European counterparts. It was felt that the European players were far more tuned to the freak distributions dealt by Computer, which called for the offensive style of bidding and paid at least in this tournament.

The whole world has introduced Computer generated hands for all their important tournaments, hence it will not be a bad idea for BFI to also introduce Computer generated hands from Quarter Final stage onwards in all the major National Tournaments in India, so that our players can also get more exposure of these deals.

GOLDWATER RULE

The satirical suggestion by Tournament Director Harry Goldwater that an opening lead out of turn should generally be accepted. The rationale is that a player who does not know whose turn it is to lead probably does not know the right lead either.

(Encyclopedia of Bridge)

- By Mr. V.K. Sharma of Assam

The story behind that last Bermuda Bowl deal

In the most dramatic finish in Bermuda Bowl world championship history, United States I gained 12 IMPs on the last board of the event to emerge with an amazing 304-303 victory over Italy.

What was so dramatic? Well, the issue was not settled until an appeals committee had rendered a ruling on a disputed ending on the final board of the 128-board match. In the closed room, Rodwell and Meckstroth had gone plus 400 against 4H by Italy's Bocchi and Duboin.

But it was in the open room that there were fire-works. Italy and USA I had played 127 boards, and the Bermuda Bowl was still up for grabs with just one board to go. Italy had the edge by 11 IMPs, but that's just a game swing. As a matter of fact, Italy had led by 21 with two boards to go, but the Americans gained 10 when the Italians got a bit too aggressive on Board 127.

Then came true drama.

Board: 128 Dir: West Vul: EW	♠2 ♥AJ93 ♦KQT9865 ♣5	
♠JT ♥542 ♦A7 ♣KT7642	N W E S	♠A6543 ♥KQT86 ♦42 ♣A
	♠KQ987 ♥7 ♦J3 ♣QJ983	

Something went wrong in the Closed Room. The Italians got way too high. This was the auction:

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Rodwell	Bocchi	Meckstroth
Pass	1D	2D	Pass
2H	3D	Pass	Pass
3H	Pass	4H	All Pass

As Meckstroth never bid, it convince the Italians that they were stronger than they originally believed. When Duboin took a second heart bid over Rodwell's 3D, Bocchi decided his side had enough to make game a reasonable shot. It didn't work out that way. Rodwell led the DQ to the ace as Meckstroth unblocked the jack, and declarer led a heart to the king. Next he led a low spade, won by Meckstroth with the queen. He led a diamond to Rodwell's 8. Rodwell switched to the H9 and Duboin went up with the queen. He tried to cash the SA, but Rodwell ruffed and cashed the ace of trumps. Then he led a diamond, and declarer was through. He could take his CA and his last trump, but his remaining three

spades were all losers. Down 4 – minus 400. The bidding took an entirely different turn in the open room.

West	North	East	South
Hamman	Lauria	Soloway	Versace
Pass	1D	2D	Dbl
2H	3D	Pass	Pass
3H	5D	Dbl	All Pass

Versace took a different view from Meckstroth when he doubled the Michaels 2D. Lauria bid merely 3D over Hamman's 2H, but when Hamman bid hearts again, Lauria's view of the deal got rosier. His partner had some stuff for his double and the bidding indicated strongly that Versace had a singleton heart. He felt this put the deal in game territory, so he leaped to the diamond game. Soloway started with the CA and switched to the HQ. Lauria won this and ruffed a heart. He crossed to his hand with a club ruff and led the HJ, hoping to pin the 10. Soloway covered and Lauria ruffed in dummy. He called for the SK, won by Soloway.

At this point Soloway could cash the good H10 for a two-trick set. That would have given the Americans 12 IMPs, just enough to win the Bermuda Bowl. But he didn't – he led a spade! Something very strange happened next. Lauria's partner had left the table, so Lauria was playing both his hand and dummy. Fully expecting that Soloway was cashing the good heart, he pulled the S7. Suddenly he realized Soloway had played a spade, not a heart! He attempted to replace the S7 with the queen. If he had been allowed to do this, the contract would have gone down one – America would gain 11 IMPs, and the match would end in a tie. An eight-board playoff would be necessary to determine the world champion.

The director was called. After hearing all the facts, she ruled that the S7 was a played card since that's the card Lauria touched. The Italians appealed, but the Appeals Committee agreed with the director, citing Rules 45B and 45C3. These are the rules, according to the Laws of Duplicate Bridge:

45B — Declarer plays a card from dummy by naming the card, after which dummy picks up the card and places it on the table. In playing from dummy's hand declarer may, if necessary, pick up the desired card himself.

45C3 — 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.

Both the director and the committee concluded that Lauria had indeed touched the S7 with an intent to play. That meant the Italians suffered a two-trick set – minus 300. That was 12 IMPs and the gold medal for the United States.

Paul Soloway's version:

Of course the big question is, why did Soloway lead a spade instead of the good heart? There were clues suggesting the spade lead. First of all, his partner had bid hearts twice, which made it likely that Hamman had four hearts, in which case Lauria would have no more. Second, Hamman followed to the opening club lead with the 7. Soloway was sure that Hamman knew that they couldn't cash the second club, so the 7 could have been a suit preference signal asking for spades. Also, in playing hearts Hamman played the 2, then the 4 and then the 5. He might have played 2-5-4 with three. Soloway had a very tough choice to make. Did his partner have four hearts and therefore a single-ton spade, or did he have just three hearts along with two spades?

"I saw the C7 and it looked like a signal for spades," said Paul. "In the heart suit, our first play is attitude, and the second shows present count. Bob played the 4 second, and in our methods that showed an even number originally, So it seemed that Bob had started with four hearts and a single-ton spade. "But then there was the auction. Bob bid only 2H the first time. If he had four hearts, very likely he would have jumped to 3H.

Soloway eventually made the wrong choice — he relied on the play rather than the auction and played partner for a singleton spade. But because Lauria didn't realize that Soloway had made the wrong choice, the Americans still got their two-trick set – and the gold medal in the closest Bermuda Bowl in history.

"At the table I thought I had it right," said Paul. "In retrospect, I feel I should have given stronger consideration to the bidding. Bob didn't bid 3H, so he probably didn't have four hearts. So in retrospect I feel I should have led the heart, not the spade."

What Happened on the 126th & 127th Boards:

The next-to-last board that contributed 10 IMPs to the American cause?

Board: 127 Dir: South Vul: NS	♠765 ♥7 ♦A9652 ♣8632	
♠Q8432 ♥KQT3 ♦KQT3 ♣AQT4	W N E S	♠AJ ♥AKJT9652 ♦J8 ♣7
	♠KT9 ♥Q843 ♦74 ♣KJ95	

Duboin (West) opened a strong club and Bocchi (East) leaped to 2D, which showed a strong hand with long hearts. After a series of relay bids that tested the waters

for slam, they stopped in 5H, but that was one level too high when the SK was offside.

West Hamman	North Lauria	East Soloway	South Versace
1S	Pass	3D	Pass
3NT	Pass 4H		All Pass

Soloway's 3D bid showed a good hand with long hearts. Hamman's 3NT was the key bid – it said, "Warning! Proceed with caution!" Soloway liked his hand very much opposite an opening bid, but he listened to his partner's warning and signed off in 4H. This made for a 10-IMP gain.

Now, let's take a look at Board 126.

Board: 126 Dir: East Vul: None	♠QJT754 ♥KJ94 ♦AK6 ♣	
♠AK983 ♥Q84 ♦Q84 ♣AKQT3	W N E S	♠T7532 ♥973 ♦96542 ♣
	♠62 ♥AQ86 ♦JT52 ♣J87	

West Hamman	North Lauria	East Soloway	South Versace
1C	1S	Pass	Pass
2C	Dbl	5C	Dbl
Pass	5H	Pass	Pass
6C	Dbl	All Pass	

Not surprisingly, Laurier tried diamonds and the contract went down two — minus 300. Here is Soloway's comment on this one: "I guess I should have doubled 5H. Again that's in retrospect. At the time I thought my best action was to pass the decision to Bob. I thought chances were good that we had only one loser in diamonds."

West Duboin	North Rodwell	East Bocchi	South Meckstroth.
1S	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Redbl	2S	Pass	3D
4C	4H	5C	5D
Dbl	All Pass		

Clearly this contract did not fare well. It actually went down three tricks – minus 500, and that was a 13-IMP gain for the Italians. That made Italy's lead 21 IMPs with two boards to go. And then came the drama.

(Excerpts taken from the Daily Bulletins of World Championships & ACBL Bulletins)

**** ANNOUNCEMENTS ****
PRIZE MONEY TOURNAMENTS

December 2003

Punjab Bridge Association is organizing a Prize money Bridge tournament from 12th to 14th December 2003 at Sutlej Club, Ludhiana. There will be T-4 and Open Pair events. Free gifts to all the participants will also be given.

December 2003

HCL under the patronage of Mr. Shiv Nadar is organizing one of the highest Prize money Bridge tournament from 18th to 21st December 2003 at Hotel Claridges, New Delhi. The tournament will have T-4 duplicate as well as Open Pair events.

January 2004

PHD-GPI under the patronage of Shri K.K. Modi will organize their 2nd Prize money Bridge Tournament at PHD House, New Delhi from 22nd to 25th 2004 (Please note the change – Now it is 4 days instead of the earlier announced 3 days). Further details will follow soon.

February 2004

P.Y.C. Hindu Gymkhana, Pune will organize The "GOLDENERA SUPERBOWL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2004", a Prize money Bridge Tournament at PYC Hindu Gymkhana, Pune from 12th to 15th Feb 2004. The event will have T-4 duplicate & Open Pair events.

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. The Ladies Bridge Association holds an Open Pairs tournament on every alternate Friday or on Holidays at PHD House.
4. Central Secretariat Club holds an open Pair event on every Monday commencing at 1800 Hrs.

Editorial board

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

Technical Consultants:

Mr. Subhash Gupta, Mr. B. Satyanarayana

Inaugural HCL Prize Money BRIDGE Tournament

Dates: 18th - 21st December 2003

VENUE: Hotel Claridges, Janpath, New Delhi

Prizes: T-4 – Rs. 520,000, Open Pairs: Rs. 225,000

PROGRAMME

Thursday 18th December 2003

0830 – 0915 Hrs.: Entry fee collection

0930 – 1900 Hrs.: Round 1 to 6 of T-4 Swiss League

Friday 19th December 2003

0900 – 1530 Hrs.: Round 7 to 10 of T-4 Swiss League

1615 – 1815 Hrs. : 1st Session QF

1830 – 2030 Hrs. : 2nd Session QF

1700 – 1930 Hrs. : Session 1 - Pair Elimination I

Saturday 20th December 2003

0900 – 1100 Hrs. : 3rd Session QF

1000 – 1230 Hrs. : Session 2 - Pair Elimination I

1120 – 1330 Hrs. : 1st Session SF

1430 – 1910 Hrs. : 2nd & 3rd Session SF

1400 – 1630 Hrs. : Session 1 - Pair Elimination II

1645 – 1915 Hrs. : Session 2 - Pair Elimination II

Sunday 21st December 2003

0900 – 1340 Hrs. : T-4, Finals – Session 1 & 2

0900 – 1330 Hrs. : Pair Finals - Session I

1430 – 1910 Hrs. : T-4, Finals – Session 3 & 4

1430 – 1900 Hrs. : Pairs Finals - Session II

1930 Hrs.: Prize Distribution & Closing Ceremony

Forthcoming National Events

12-14th Dec – Punjab Bridge Assoc. Prize Money, Ludhiana

18-21st Dec – HCL Prize Money Tournament, N. Delhi

03-13th Jan'04 – Winter Nationals at Aurangabad

15-18th Jan'04 – Madras Gymkhana, Chennai

22-25th Jan'04 – PHD-GPI Prize Money, New Delhi

31st Jan– 2nd Feb'04 – Shree Cement Prize Money, Kolkata

12-15th Feb'04 – P.Y.C. Hindu Gymkh. Prize Money, Pune

19-22nd Feb'04 – Lohia Memorial, Kanpur

29th Feb'04 – Ubhayakar Open Pairs at Home (All India)

06-07th Mar'04 – All India Rama Jain, New Delhi

Forthcoming International Events

14-26th Jan'04 – Summer Bridge Festival, Canberra, Aust.

09-15th Feb'04 – 9th NEC Festival, Yokohama, Japan

18-28th Mar'04 – ACBL Spring NABC, Reno, NV

CONTACT US:

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