

# Delhi Bridge Association Newsletter

Editor: T.C. Pant

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Hon. Secretary: Mr. R.K. Gupta

Registered Office: 18, Institutional Area, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi

## TAMILNADU "A" Wins TCS Team Championship & D. Vijay – S.K. Chari annex the Agarwala Trophy in the 2010 Summer Nationals

The 41<sup>st</sup> Summer National Bridge Championships 2010 organized by the Bridge Federation of India jointly with the Tamil Nadu Bridge Association were held at the **Andhra Social & Cultural Association, Chennai, Tamilnadu** from 17<sup>th</sup> June to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

29 Teams of different State Associations and Sports Control Boards participated in the **TCS Team Championship**. The hosts **TAMILNADU "A"** became the worthy winners of the Team of Four Championship beating the **WEST BENGAL "A"** team by 49 IMPs in the 4\*14 boards final.

The winners **TAMILNADU "A"** were represented by **B. Prabhakar, S. Sundarram, P. Sridhar, R. Krishnan, K.R. Venkatraman** and the **BFI President N.R. Kirubakaramurthy**.



The Winners of the TCS Team Championship - From L to R: P. Sridhar, K.R. Venkatraman, President BFI - N.R. Kirubakaramurthy, B. Prabhakar, R. Krishnan & S. Sunderram

118 Pairs participated in the Open Pair event for the **Agarwala Trophy** and the pair of **D. Vijay – S.K. Chari** from Chennai won the event. It was an icing on the cake for the hosts Tamilnadu Bridge Association, winning both the trophies of the Summer Nationals.

The **Tolani Junior Nationals 2010** for selecting Indian Junior team for World Championship at Philadelphia were also held along with the Summer Nationals. Team **"BATMAN"** represented by **Guthi Rajasekhar, Prajwal B.V.S, Vinoth Kumar R. & Mohit Agarwal** won the event.

- See detailed report on Page 5

## DOUBLES (PART – 6)

### **Snapdragon Double**

Snapdragon Double is a popular convention but utility and effectiveness is doubtful. Snapdragon double is used by the intervening side and shows the fourth suit and mild support for the partner's suit (generally doubleton). This is how it works:

Your LHO opens 1C and partner overcalls 1D. RHO bids 1S and you hold: S-xxx, H-AKxxx, D-Qx, C-xxx. Playing Snapdragon you double which shows decent 5-cards in the fourth suit (heart) and mild support for partner's Diamond suit. Perfect convention when the hand comes. This clearly tells partner that you have enough values to compete and partner can decide where to play.

One important question here is upto which level you play this convention. I would make a simple guideline – try restricting it to one level or max two level provided partner's suit can be bid at two level if he doesn't have support for your fourth suit. The following are some of the auctions in which you can play this convention:

- 1C-1D-1S-Dbl    - 1C-1H-1S-Dbl    - 1C-1S-2D-Dbl    - 1C-1D-1H-Dbl (here dbl can show 4Sonly)
- 1D-1H-1S-Dbl    - 1D-1S-2C-Dbl    - 1D-1H-2C-Dbl    - 1H-1S-2C-Dbl

### **Rosencranz Double (Redouble)**

Rosencranz Double is a convention used to allow partner of a player who has overcalled to indicate whether his raise of partner's suit is made with a top honour in partner's suit. This information may be vital in defense if the opening side finally buys the contract. This is how it works:

Your LHO opens 1D and partner overcalls 1H. RHO bids 1S and you hold: S-Qxxx, H-Kxx, D-Jx, C-Kxxx or S-Kxxx, H-Jxx, D-Qx, C-Kxxx. Playing Rosencranz double you double with first hand to show a top honour and bid 2H with second hand to show raise without any of the top three honours. Perfect convention when the hand comes. This definitely helps in bidding as well as defense.

If RHO raises his partner's suit, then also you can double to show raise with an honour. In case RHO doubles (negative double), you can use Rosencranz Redouble for the same purpose:

However there is one problem with this convention. You might have already noticed that given auction was similar in both the above conventions - Snapdragon and Rosencranz. This means you can't play both conventions. You have to decide which one you would like to play. My vote clearly goes for Rosencranz. Similarly if you play Rosencranz double after RHO raises opener's suit, you can't play Responsive double (discussed last month). As you can play only one of them, I suggest you play Responsive Double.

### **Striped Tailed Ape Double**

This double is a Creative and Fanciful. The only purpose this double has is to prevent the opponents to bid a Slam (little or grand) which you think they are going to bid and is cold. You double so that opponents misjudge the auction. In case they know what they are doing and redouble to expose your psyche, you show your true colours and run to your long suit.

Let us discuss with an example:

Your partner deals and opens 3H, your RHO bids 4S showing a good hand. You hold nothing but 4-card heart support and a Q and J some where. You think that opponents are cold for slam and may be grand. You can jam the auction as many of us would do by bidding 5H or 6H. However if you are more creative you stage a drama of taking out your sword and double the opponent's contract. If opponents trust you and stay out of their cold slam, you will have a great result and a story to tell for years to come. If it back fires means opponents redouble, you run to 5H which is doubled and goes plenty down where as opponents were not making the slam, your partner needs to have a good sense of humour and short memory to forget this result.

Therefore, if you want to try this creative weapon : you must be sure that opponents are cold for slam and will bid it. Also you have a safe spot to run and as usual your judgement must be perfect.

*(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)*

# Local Bridge News & Results - June 2010

## Delhi Bridge Association Tuesday Pairs Event – Results

### 01/06/2010 – 10 Tables

NS 1: T.N. Tiku – Sarvesh Chopra	58.33%
NS 2: K.C. Kumar – M.M. Sinha	56.25%
EW 1: S.R. Malhotra – S.K. Syal	61.11%
EW 2: Sanjay Shrivastava–Mrs. Tutu Narula	58.68%

### 08/06/2010 – 12 Tables

NS 1: Mrs. Tutu Narula–Sanjay Shrivastava	62.94%
NS 2: Col. S.P. Arvind – Alok Khemmka	60.11%
EW 1: Arun Jain – A.K. Jha	63.28%
EW 2: T.C. Pant – Daleep Mutreja	61.15%

### 15/06/2010 – 12 Tables

NS 1: Noriko Watanabe – Sangram Guha	57.61%
NS 2: Mrs. Urmil Aggarwal – Ashok Chandra	57.40%
EW 1: K.C. Sikka – Mrs. Saklinder Sikka	58.67%
EW 2: EW Pair # 10	57.44%

### 22/06/2010 – 10 Tables

NS 1: S.R. Gupta – P.C. Gupta	59.72%
NS 2: Mukesh Shivdasani – Anoop Dhawan	59.03%
EW 1: Kavita Dhawan – Mrs. S Bansidhar	65.97%
EW 2: Prakash Bhandari – J.B. Sengupta	59.38%

### 29/06/2010 – 12 Tables

NS 1: Amarjit Wadhawan – Dr. Nikita Kamal	63.19%
NS 2: T. Bhattacharya – Sangram Guha	55.90%
EW 1: S. Mathew – Ravinder Sharma	60.07%
EW 2: Arun Jain – A.K. Jha	59.72%

## DBA – Hindustan Times Saturday Team Event – Results

### 05/06/2010 – 14 Teams

1. **ARUN - DADA** – (Arun Jain, A.K. Jha, Sunil Bhatia, Vijay Goel, Sukamal Das)
2. **PUSHPAK** – (D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta, Amarjit Wadhawan, Prakash Bhandari, Dr. Nikita Kamal)
3. **X'PLORERS** - (R.K. Gupta, R. Chakravarty, Mrs. Shashi Jain, Dr. Tushar Moghe, N. Roy)

### 12/06/2010 – 15 Teams

1. **PUSHPAK** - (D.K. Tewari, P.C. Gupta, Amarjit Wadhawan, Dr. Nikita Kamal, S.R. Gupta)
2. **KOSMOS** – (T.C. Pant, Daleep Mutreja, Namit Sharma, Rajesh Jain)
2. **ARUN JAIN** – (Arun Jain, A.K. Jha, Sunil Bhatia, R.S. Jasuja)

### 19/06/2010 – 12 Teams

1. **FORCE** – (Ravi Chandran, K.B. Sikand, Mukul Goel, B.R. Murar)
2. **TANKS** – (Sanjay Shrivastava, Ambrish Wadera, V.N. Puri, Mrs. Urmil Aggarwal)

### 26/06/2010 – 15 Teams

1. **PUSHPAK** – (P.C. Gupta, Paresh Gupta, Amarjit Wadhawan, J.B. Sengupta)
2. **CSC** - (S.K. Syal, Col. Om Prakash, Y.P. Punj, S.R. Malhotra)
3. **RC** – (Subodh Jain, Ravi Chandran, K.B. Sikand, N.K. Jain)

## Vasant Vihar Club Pairs Bridge Tournament

29 Pairs (14 & half Tables) participated in the monthly Vasant Vihar Club tournament held on **6<sup>th</sup> June 2010**. 24 boards were played and the results were:

NS 1: Col. S.P. Arvind – Anil Bharihoke	60.59%
NS 2: T.C. Jain – Raj Kumar	57.83%
NS 3: S.R. Gupta – P.C. Gupta	56.63%
EW 1: Sunil Bhatia – Sham Sharma	65.93%
EW 2: A.K. Upadhyay – Amrish Wadhwa	60.09%
EW 2: Arun Jain – A.K. Jha	59.63%

- Reported by Amarjit Wadhawan

## Delhi Gymkhana Club Monthly Pairs Tournament

24 Pairs (12 Tables) participated in the monthly Delhi Gymkhana Club tournament held on **12<sup>th</sup> June 2010**. 24 boards were played and the results were:

NS 1: C.P. Mittal – Narvir Singh	65.00%
NS 2: Mrs. Kunti Thakur – Col. Madan Seth	58.00%
NS 3: Maj. Gen A.L. Suri – Anil Gupta	55.50%
EW 1: Brig. M.L. Nasa – Col. K.L. Vasudev	60.50%
EW 2: Brig. V.K. Sawhney – Col. R. Vasudeva	57.00%
EW 2: A. Virmani – Brig. R.N. Batra	56.20%

- Reported by Maj. B.H. Iyer

## Corrigendum

There were few inadvertent errors under the head "Interesting Deal from 2010 WBP Cavendish", in last month's Newsletter.

On the first deal (Board 3) on page 7, the first line should have been "**East led the heart ten**" rather than "West led the heart ten". Also the first para on the right column of page instead of "As the cards lie, declarer can make the contract falling the doubleton diamond queen or by end-playing East in hearts and forcing him to play the diamond." should have been "**As the cards lie, declarer can make the contract falling the doubleton diamond queen**".

On Page 8, the spade holding of North on board 19 should be ♠2, ♥AQ4, ♦AQ9, ♣QJ9764, instead of ♠AQ4, ♥AQ9, ♦AQ9, ♣QJ9764. **The errors are regretted.**

- Editor

## Interesting Deal from DBA

### Funny Bidding yields good result

It is not at all unusual to play in major suit game contract with a 4-4, 5-2 or 4-3 fits. But rarely you will see someone playing a game contract in major suit with 5-1 fit. This is what happened on the following deal from the round-5 match in the weekly Saturday team event at Delhi Bridge Association on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

North-South are your opponents playing Standard American and you hear this funny bidding sequence:

West	North	East	South
			1D
Pass	1S	Pass	1NT
Pass	2C	Pass	3C
Pass	3H	Pass	4H
Pass	4S	All Pass	

You as East are on lead. When you enquire South about the 2C bid of North, South realizes that it could have been check-back in spades.

What do you lead as East with ♠7432, ♥QJ, ♦632, ♣T542?

Fearing that ♥Q from ♥QJ may give an unnecessary trick to declarer, East decides to lead the ♦2 and the following dummy comes in view.

♠T, ♥A843, ♦A875, ♣KJ76.

Declarer plays low diamond and West wins the trick with DK, declarer dropping the DQ. You wonder what his hand can be. Seeing the dummy, you know that there is surely a bidding confusion, which may have been created by South not alerting the check-back and not answering 2H with his 4-carder heart suit, with no 3-carder spade. Is it possible that declarer has 6-2-2-3 type of good hand and trying for slam? Considering your own 11 HCPs, that also does not look to be true. The chances are that 3H from North was basically asking for a heart stopper from partner and South messed it up by raising to 4H, thinking it to be natural and once 3NT has been by-passed, North felt that 4S is a better contract with his 6-carder. Not able to guess the hand, you return back the diamond ten and it is won by declarer with DJ.

He now goes to dummy with CJ, discards a heart on DA and plays the S10. West plays low and declarer allows it to ride. A club is played back to hand and won with Ace and SK played, West winning with the Ace and returning D9, declarer ruffing with S8 and taking out trump and claiming the contract.

#### The full hand is shown on the next column.

The deal was very unusual as both North & South were bidding in different frequencies and whereas 2C was check-back, South considered it to be suit and raised it to 3C. Now North with his 3H wanted to know whether there is a heart check and again South raised him to 4H. Poor chap, could not go back to 3NT and played 4S in a 5-1 fit and made.

Did the opponents were clueless due to the odd bidding and mis-defended the hand on lead? **Actually NO.**

Board 7, Dealer: South, Vul: Both

		♠KQ986	
		♥652	
		♦QJ	
		♣AQ3	
♠AJ5	N		♠7432
♥KT97	W	E	♥QJ
♦KT94			♦632
♣98	S		♣T542
		♠T	
		♥A843	
		♦A875	
		♣KJ76	

The contract gets defeated on both Diamond or Heart leads.

On Diamond lead, West wins with the DK and has returned the DT won by North with Jack. Declarer plays to HA and discards one heart on DA, and plays the S10. The crux of the defense was at this point. If West plays low or takes with Ace, declarer makes the contract. If low spade is played, declarer allows it to ride. Goes back to hand with CA and plays the SK. West can win with trump Ace and play HK or 4<sup>th</sup> diamond. In both cases, North is in control. If a diamond is returned, he ruffs with S8, takes out trump and gets 4 trumps, 1 heart, 2 diamonds and 3 clubs, whereas on HK and heart back the 3<sup>rd</sup> heart is ruffed and the same 10 tricks are available.

If West wins with the trump Ace, then he can take HK and any return after that will allow the same 10 tricks.

The only way West can defeat the contract is **by putting the SJ**. North will take it with SQ and play back SK. West wins with the Ace and after winning the HK, punches another heart / diamond promoting the S7 of partner.

The same case holds good, if partner opts to lead the HQ, instead of D2.

Declarer wins with Ace and plays the S10. If west makes the mistake of hopping up with SA, that's the end of defense as declarer will make 4 tricks each in black suits and two red aces for his 10 tricks. If he puts small, declarer allows the ten to ride. He now plays a low club to his CA and plays SK. West wins with the Ace and can win 2 hearts but that's all.

An alert, West after winning with Ace, will play a low heart to partner's HJ, asking him to shift to diamond. But that will not be helpful as declarer will rise up with DA, go to hand with CQ, take out trump and claim.

But try putting the SJ on S10 at trick 2. Now declarer wins with the SQ and plays the SK won by west. He can now cash HK and HT and lead the 4<sup>th</sup> heart for an upper cut trick to partner's S7.

The beauty is that if NS play 3NT, on the lead of heart, South has to duck once and after winning the 2<sup>nd</sup> heart trick with Ace, play S10 and allow it to ride for making the contract.

- Reported by Editor

# The 41<sup>st</sup> Summer National Bridge Championship 2010

The 41<sup>st</sup> Summer National Bridge Championships 2010 organized by Bridge Federation of India jointly with Tamilnadu Bridge Association were held at Andhra Social and Cultural Association (ASCA) building, 22 Vijayaraghava Road, T Nagar, Chennai – 600017, Tamilnadu from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

A player friendly, shorter format of 4 days was adopted by the newly appointed executive committee of BFI from this year. The IMP Pair event for **Agarwala Trophy** was also thrown open for all players this year onwards. They also had attractive prize money of Rs. 1,62,000 for Team event and Rs. 41,000 for Pair event, besides offering the replicas of the Trophies to the winners. **TATA Consultancy Services (TCS)** were the sponsors for the Team Championship event.

The **Tolani Junior Nationals 2010** for selecting Indian Junior team for World Championship at Philadelphia were also held along with the Summer Nationals. Report of each event is detailed below:

## TCS Team Championship (Team of Four) Event:

The tournament started with the **Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Team Championship (Team of Four event)** in which 29 teams participated. The teams played a Swiss league of 8 rounds (10 boards each) after which the TOP 8 teams qualified for the quarter-finals. For the first time in the Indian Nationals, computer generated deals were played from league stage itself, giving good exposure to Indian players of computer generated boards.

At the end of Day-1, 6 rounds of the Team of Four event got completed. The TOP position holders after Round-6 were: WEST BENGAL "A" (121 VPs), TAMILNADU "A" (114), WEST BENGAL "B" (109), GUJARAT (106), KERALA (106), MAHARASHTRA "B" (105), ORISSA (103) & VIDHARBHA (102).

The 2 remaining rounds of the Team event were played on Day-2 and the leaders of day-1, WEST BENGAL "A" comfortably retained their top position in the TCS Team Championships. The **detailed result of the round-robin was as follows:**

Rnk	T#	Team Name	R1		R2		R3		R4		R5		R6		R7		R8		TOT
			Vs	VP	Vs	VP	Vs	VP	Vs	VP	Vs	VP	Vs	VP	Vs	VP	Vs	VP	
1	2	WEST BENGAL "A"	1	22	8	19	3	25	15	13	14	23	19	19	23	24	25	18	163
2	15	TAMILNADU "A"	16	24	9	25	26	18	2	17	19	11	25	19	27	20	14	25	159
3	25	GUJARAT	26	8	16	23	28	22	27	19	18	23	15	11	19	23	2	12	141
4	19	WEST BENGAL "B"	20	16	11	25	24	21	26	17	15	19	2	11	25	7	27	20	136
5	26	VIDHARBHA	25	22	17	21	15	12	19	13	5	20	23	14	14	11	28	23	136
6	9	UTTARAKHAND	10	25	15	5	29	20	23	15	22	10	12	23	28	15	7	22	135
7	23	KERALA	24	13	6	16	7	22	9	15	20	24	26	16	2	6	21	17	129
8	3	MAHARASHTRA (D PODDAR)	4	20	21	22	2	5	18	13	11	18	14	6	1	23	5	22	129
	14	ORISSA	13	14	20	16	17	21	21	21	2	7	3	24	26	19	15	5	127
	20	KARNATAKA "B"	19	14	14	14	5	12	17	25	23	6	16	9	12	25	18	21	126
	27	MAHARASHTRA "B"	28	17	29	16	8	19	25	11	24	22	22	20	15	10	19	10	125
	21	MAHARASHTRA (V)	22	18	3	8	10	25	14	9	7	16	5	15	24	19	23	13	123
	6	UTTAR PRADESH	5	13	23	14	13	13	29	21	12	16	28	10	18	13	11	23	123
	7	TAMILNADU "B"	8	8	1	21	23	8	28	16	21	14	13	25	22	22	9	8	122
	16	KARNATAKA "A"	15	6	25	7	B	17	1	16	4	25	20	21	5	14	8	16	122
	28	BFI	27	13	22	18	25	8	7	14	29	25	6	20	9	15	26	7	120
	8	PETROLEUM SPORTS BOARD	7	22	2	11	27	11	5	9	13	15	1	14	11	23	16	14	119
	24	INDIAN RAILWAYS	23	17	5	20	19	9	12	18	27	8	18	19	21	11	22	16	118
	22	SOUTH ZONE	21	12	28	12	11	19	13	21	9	20	27	10	7	8	24	14	116
	5	ANDHRA PRADESH "A"	6	17	24	10	20	18	8	21	26	10	21	15	16	16	3	8	115
	18	DELHI	17	9	4	25	12	16	3	17	25	7	24	11	6	17	20	9	111
	17	MADHYA PRADESH	18	21	26	9	14	9	20	2	B	17	29	18	4	11	10	22	109
	1	ALL IND ELECT SP CNT BRD	2	8	7	9	4	15	16	14	10	20	8	16	3	7	13	19	108
	4	ORDINANCE FACTORY	3	10	18	3	1	15	B	17	16	4	10	21	17	19	29	16	105
	12	BIHAR	11	16	13	19	18	14	24	12	6	14	9	7	20	3	B	17	102
	13	CEN REVENUE SPORTS BRD	14	16	12	11	6	17	22	9	8	15	7	4	B	17	1	11	100
	11	ANDHRA PRADESH "B"	12	14	19	4	22	11	10	25	3	12	B	17	8	7	6	7	97
	29	GOA	B	17	27	14	9	10	6	9	28	0	17	12	10	14	4	14	90
	10	CCSCSB	9	2	B	17	21	0	11	4	1	10	4	9	29	16	17	8	66

Orissa (127), Karnataka "B" (126) and Maharashtra "B" (125) were the unlucky teams not able to make it to the Quarterfinals. However, the most surprising name missing from the QF list was that of Indian Railways (118 VPs, 18<sup>th</sup> place) having the players of the calibre of Manas Mukherjee, Rana Roy, Sumit Mukherjee, Debbrata Majumder (Laltu), Subir Majumder & Amarnath Banerjee.

**The Quarterfinal line up was: 1 x 8, 2 x 7, 3 x 6 & 4 x 5**

#### Quarter-Finals:

The 3\*12 boards quarterfinals were played on 2<sup>nd</sup> day afternoon. The results were:

**WEST BENGAL "A" (#1)** beat MAHARASHTRA (Poddar #8) by **70-63 (CO: 8-0, 29-15, 21-26, 12-22)**. The MAHARASHTRA (Dipak Poddar) team was represented by Dipak Poddar, Jitendra Solani, R.A. Agrawal and Anand K.S. Samant.

**TAMILNADU "A" (#2)** beat KERALA (#7) by **98-57 (22-22, 27-11, 49-24)**. KERALA was represented by Shaju Mathew, Mathew Chandy, NCJ John, S. Rajeev, P.R. Nair, George Mohan.

In one of the most thrilling match, where the result was decided on the last board, **GUJARAT (#3)** beat **UTTARAKHAND (#6)** by **71-69 (15-7, 28-43, 28-19)**. **UTTARAKHAND** was represented by Justice B.P. Singh, C.P. Agarwal, R.P. Bhatnagar, R.M. Gupta.

In the last QF, **WEST BENGAL "B" (#4)** beat **VIDARBHA (#5)** by **95-50 (CO: 4-0, 31-25, 41-13, 19-12)**. **VIDARBHA** were represented by B.K. Mohata, G. Sundermurthy, S. Chhajed, V.W. Deshpande.

All the TOP 4 seeds qualified for the Semi-finals.

#### Semi-Finals:

The 4\*14 board semi-finals were played on Day-3.

In the first semi-final **WEST BENGAL "A"** beat **WEST BENGAL "B"** (Bhabesh Saha, S.P. Ghosh, K. Nandi, S. Basak, H.K. Jalan, A. Malhotra) by **161-137 (24 IMPs) (40-36, 38-19, 53-37, 30-45)**.

In the second semi-final **TAMILNADU "A"** beat **GUJARAT** (Sunit Chokshi, Keyzad Anklesaria, Arif Anklesaria, P. V. Vahalia) by **198-118 (80 IMPs) (63-17, 14-56, 58-35, 63-10)**.

#### Final:

In the 4\*14 boards TCS Team of Four finals played on the last day, **TAMILNADU "A" (B. Prabhakar, S. Sundarram, P. Sridhar, R. Krishnan, K.R. Venkatraman, N.R. Kirubakaramurthy)** beat **WEST BENGAL "A"** (C.V. Rao, Badal Das, Alope Sadhu, Shibnath De Sarkar, Pranab Bardhan, Parthasarthi Mukherjee) by 136-87 (49 IMPs) (29-30, 35-22, 36-3, 36-32).

Tamilnadu "A" after losing the 1<sup>st</sup> set by a solitary IMP led by 12 IMPs at half way stage. They thrashed their opponents 36-3 to have a commanding lead of 45 IMPs with last set to go. They further won 4 IMPs in the last set for a comfortable win.

#### **WELL PLAYED TAMILNADU "A". HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS FROM ALL.**

The 41<sup>st</sup> Summer Nationals will be the last Summer Nationals as an inter-state affair. The Bridge Federation of India has made Agarwala Pairs an open event from this year onwards and has already taken a decision that from 2011 onwards, the Summer Nationals will be thrown open.

#### **AGARWALA PAIRS Event:**

The AGARWALA IMP Pairs event started on Day-2 evening. 108 Pairs participated in this 1<sup>st</sup> elimination round. Pairs were divided in 6 sections of 9 tables each and played 7 rounds of 3 boards each in 2 sessions. The qualifying criteria was too lenient with only the bottom 8 NS & EW getting eliminated. The remaining 92 Pairs (46 NS & 46 EW) qualified for the 2<sup>nd</sup> elimination round. The leaders of elimination-1 were:

NS1: S. Patnaik – Manoj Kumar	- 100 IMPs
NS2: S.K. Chari – D. Vijay	- 78
NS3: S.M. Moin – D.N. Sinha	- 75
NS4: Subir Majumder – Rana Roy	- 54

EW1: Dr. Vasanth – Mrs. Vasanth	- 68 IMPs
EW2: C.M. Kulkarni – Himanshu Joshi	- 62
EW3: P. Sarkar – A. Tosh	- 59
EW4: R. Sreekrishnan – K. Krishnakumar	- 57

The 92 qualifiers from elimination-1 were joined by 4 losing QFs pairs. They were divided into 4 sections of 12 tables each and played 3-sessions (Each session of 9 rounds of 2 boards each). The TOP 50 pairs qualified for the final. The leaders in the elimination-2 were:

1. Subir Majumder – Rana Roy	138 IMPs
2. D. Majumder – Sumit Mukherjee	97
3. Afshar Majeed – Paul Abraham	87
4/5. V.M. Lal – S. Bhiwandikar	74
4/5. S.M. Moin – D.N. Sinha	74
6/8. S. Vasanth – Mrs. Sathyavati Vasant	69
6/8. Dipak Poddar – Jitu Solani	69
6/8. S. Roy – R.P. Deshpande	69

The 50 qualifiers from elimination-2 were joined by 6 losing SFs pairs. The 56 pairs were divided into 2 sections of 14 tables each and played 2 boards against each of the opponents within their own section in 2-sessions with Scrambled Mitchell movement. The winners were:

1. <b>D. Vijay – S.K. Chari</b>	92 IMPs
2. Ariz Anklesaria – P. Vahalia	78
3. D. Majumder – Sumit Mukherjee	73
4. Maneesh Bahuguna – S. Sadhukhan	59
5/6. Namit Sharma – Rajesh Jain	56
5/6. Manoj Nair – S. Patnaik	56
7. K. Gupta – Daya Dhaon	55
8. Dipak Poddar – Jitu Solani	52
9. B.P.S. Pai – H.S. Nanda	51
10. S.M. Moin – D.N. Sinha	49
11. Afshar Majeed – Paul Abraham	47
12. Bhabesh Saha – Kaustab Nandi	46

**CONGRATULATIONS to D. VIJAY – S.K. CHARI for winning the AGARWALA TROPHY.**



The Agarawala Winners - D.Vijay and S.K.Chari with the Chief guest N.C.Sarabeswaran

### Tolani Junior Championship:

5 teams participated in the Tolani Junior Championship being played to select the team for representing India in the Junior Championships at the World Championship at Philadelphia. The participating team members were:

**BATMAN** - Guthi Rajasekhar, Prajwal B.V.S., Vinoth Kumar R., Mohit Agarwal

**JOKER** - Anurag Mohota, Aniket Sanghvi, Srinivasan Iyengar, Anindya Bhattacharya

**CRAZY 4** - Amitra Bhattacharya, Jenish Shah, Saunak Mitra, Joyrup Mullick

**CHENNAI JUNIORS** – G. Karthik, S. Hindushree, S. Jayashri, K. Raghavendran, K. Vijayshankaran, R. Aparajith.

**BAFANA BAFANA** – Soham Shah, Rahul ravichandra, Karthik, Sumedh

The teams played a double round robin of 8-boards each. The scores at the end of 1<sup>st</sup> round-robin were:

ROUND-ROBIN # 1						
Team No & Name	1	2	3	4	5	Total
1. CRAZY 4		25	12	7	22	66
2. BAFANA BAFANA	3		3	6	8	20
3. BATMAN	18	25		23	25	91
4. JOKER	23	24	7		25	79
5. CHENNAI JUNIORS	8	22	3	5		38

The BATMAN team continued their good performance in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round-robin also and the final scores at the end of RR2 were:

ROUND-ROBIN # 2							
Team No & Name	1	2	3	4	5	CO - RR1	Total
1. BATMAN		15	25	19	23	91	173
2. JOKER	15		25	25	23	79	167
3. CRAZY 4	5	4		20	19	66	114
4. CHENNAI JUNIORS	11	2	10		10	38	71
5. BAFANA BAFANA	7	7	11	20		20	65

In the 16-board final of the Tolani Junior Championship being played to select the Junior team for representing India at the World Championship at Philadelphia, **BATMAN (Guthi Rajsekhar, Prajwal B.V.S. Vinoth Kumar R., Mohit Agarwal)** beat JOKER (Anurag Mohota, Aniket Sanghvi, Srinivasan Iyengar, Anindya Bhattacharya) by **40-30**. BATMAN also had a carry over of 4 IMPs and with a late arrival penalty of 6 IMPs on JOKER team, the winning margin for BATMAN became 50-30.

**Congratulations to the Winners BATMAN Team and Best Wishes for World Championships at Philadelphia.**

*- Reported by Editor*

## Interesting Deals from Summer Nationals 2010

Some of the interesting deals from the 41<sup>st</sup> Summer Nationals are detailed below:

RR #5, Board 19, Dealer: South, Vul: EW

	♠AQ97		
	♥5		
	♦AQJ964		
	♣J8		
♠	<b>N</b>	♠KJT86	
♥AKQ9832	<b>W</b>	♥7	<b>E</b>
♦32		♦6	
♣KQT5		♠A97543	
	<b>S</b>		
	♠6432		
	♥JT64		
	♦KT87		
	♣2		

West	North	East	South
			Pass
1H	2D	DBL	3D
3H	4D	DBL	Pass
5C	Pass	Pass	5D
Pass	Pass	6C	All Pass

The bid was closing at 5C but the opponents helped EW to reach the slam contract (though East was not sure, that they are not having 2 losers), which was cold. On one table, North bid 3S over 3H and it was raised to 4S by South. This was doubled and NS would have gone for plenty but defense allowed them to get free with 800 against the vulnerable slam.

RR #8, Board 15, Dealer: South, Vul: NS

	♠A		
	♥J		
	♦A52		
	♣KQT98642		
♠765	<b>N</b>	♠98432	
♥AT9874	<b>W</b>	♥KQ52	<b>E</b>
♦9		♦K76	
♣J75		♣3	
	<b>S</b>		
	♠KQJT		
	♥63		
	♦QJT843		
	♣A		

West	North	East	South
			1D
Pass	2C	Pass	2D
Pass	4C (1)	Pass	4H (2)
DBL	6C	All Pass	

(1) – RKC in Clubs; (2) – 1 or 4 Keycards

The bidding was pretty funny. With his 8-carder suit, North bid clubs and on partner's rebid of diamonds bid directly 4C asking for the keycards with club suit as trump. Partner replied 4H (1 or 4) and that was promptly doubled by West. That was enough for North to understand that partner may have club Ace and he banged slam.

It was funny that on club lead declarer can not reach his partner's hand and would have gone down. But luckily for him the lead was HK and a heart continuation. That was enough for declarer to discard his diamonds on spades.

Pair Elim – 1, Board 1, Dealer: North, Vul: None

	♠KJ86		
	♥K		
	♦KT932		
	♣KJ5		
♠A975	<b>N</b>	♠T2	
♥J86542	<b>W</b>	♥73	<b>E</b>
♦A5		♦Q6	
♣7		♠AQT9832	
	<b>S</b>		
	♠Q43		
	♥AQT9		
	♦J874		
	♣64		

West	North	East	South
	1D	3C	DBL
3NT	All Pass		

East led the Spade 10. Declarer played low and when West ducked, the trick was won with Jack. With only one clear cut entry through hearts, declarer decided to continue with spades, hoping that East may have the S9 also. East played low and dummy's queen was won by West with Ace and a club played. Declarer put the Jack and East won with queen, cashed club Ace and played another club.

Declarer faltered at this time. After winning the club trick, his only concern should be that at no cost the lead should go to East. It is unlikely that with AQ of clubs and Ace of diamonds, he would have overcalled pre-emptive 3-clubs. In any case, if he has the Ace of diamonds, no one can stop declarer in going down. Hence the correct line is to play HK to HA and play a low diamond. If West wins with Ace, your problems are solved. But if he plays low, you should play the DK and you are through with 2 spades, 2 hearts, 4 diamonds and a club.

Alas the declarer took another line, hoping for a singleton DQ with East or both diamond Ace & Queen with west and went 5 down.

Pair Elim – 1, Board 27, Dealer: South, Vul: None

	♠A62		
	♥KQ873		
	♦Q93		
	♣53		
♠	<b>N</b>	♠J984	
♥9	<b>W</b>	♥AJ2	<b>E</b>
♦T886542		♦AKJ7	
♣AKJ987		♣42	
	<b>S</b>		
	♠KQT753		
	♥T654		
	♦		
	♣QT6		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
3S	4S	5D	2S All Pass

Bridge sometimes turns out to be very hilarious as a game which can never make is allowed by opponents to make; a slam which is making is not tried and so on.

On the above board, South opened a weak two in spades and West employed Leaping Michaels to show his minor 2-suiter. North tried to pre-empt but EW reached the very reasonable 5D. As the cards lie, slam in diamonds was cold but no one reached it.

At one table, South passed and West did not had the right gadgets to show minor 6-6 carder suit, it was North who opened with 1H and the bidding went as 1H-1S-1NT-3H-4H.

East led DA, which was ruffed and played a low heart to King. East not sure what to lead after winning with Ace, thought ducking as the best way. Declarer now played a low spade to King and got surprised when West showed out and did not ruff. It was easy now. Spade was played to the Ace and declarer after taking the spade finesse, discarded one club on SQ and continued with spade. East could finally get only the 2 heart tricks for +450 to NS against a possible 1 or 2 (on spade lead) down contract.

Elim 2, Session -1, Board 8, Dealer: West, Vul: None

		♠A432		
		♥T743		
		♦95		
		♣JT3		
♠K7	<b>N</b>		♠J5	
♥Q85	<b>W</b>		♥A2	
♦QJ7	<b>E</b>		♦AK8642	
♣KQ865	<b>S</b>		♣942	
		♠QT986		
		♥KJ96		
		♦T3		
		♣A7		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West opened a 11-14 NT and partner with his good 6-carder diamonds raised it to three.

The lead was S2 and declarer won the Ten with the King. He immediately was aware of South's 5-carder spade suit (based on 4<sup>th</sup> best lead from North). He played 5-rounds of diamonds, discarding 1 spade and 1 club from hand and carefully watching the discards from South hand. South discarded 2 hearts and a club. When the last diamond was played from dummy, South did extremely well by playing his HJ, exposing the bare HK (he hoped partner to have the HQ). But West was also upto the task. He rightly calculated that as South has not discarded any spade, playing club will 100% mean defeat. Whoever wins the Ace will play spades. So he played the heart Ace and the HK dropped to give the HQ as the 9<sup>th</sup> trick for declarer.

Elim 2, Session -3, Board 21, Dealer: North, Vul: NS

		♠AQ6542		
		♥2		
		♦J98		
		♣T82		
♠K9	<b>N</b>		♠J87	
♥AKJ5	<b>W</b>		♥QT986	
♦AKQ2	<b>E</b>		♦7	
♣A64	<b>S</b>		♣KQJ9	
		♠T3		
		♥743		
		♦T6543		
		♣753		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1C (1)	2H (2)	DBL	Pass
3H	Pass	4C	Pass
4NT	Pass	5C	Pass
5D	Pass	6C	Pass
6H	Pass	All Pass	

(1) – Precision 16+

Right siding a contract is an art. But the way it got done above was unique. North bid 2H (transfer to Spades) over Precision club and though maximum players play the double by partner as 5-8 HCPs, here the double showed a hand with heart suit and 9+ HCPs. So West bid hearts and when East cue bid 4C, West became interested in slam. 5C showed no keycard and on 5D (queen ask), East's 6C showed the trump Queen and Club King. West gladly bid and made the 6H from the right side.

Final, Session -2, Board 4, Dealer: West, Vul: Both

		♠AQ754		
		♥7		
		♦K985		
		♣983		
♠92	<b>N</b>		♠6	
♥J	<b>W</b>		♥KQT6432	
♦AQJT63	<b>E</b>		♦2	
♣AQJ2	<b>S</b>		♣T654	
		♠KJT83		
		♥A985		
		♦74		
		♣K7		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1D	Pass	1H	1S
3D	4S	All Pass	

Tables where West led the HJ, South won the trick, played 2 rounds of trumps and played a low diamond towards the King. That was the end of defense as declarer only gave a diamond and 2 clubs. However, when the DA was led and DQ continued, declarer played the DK ruffed by East, who led the club back to defeat the contract.

One declarer came up with a nice solution. After DA, when DQ was played he played low from dummy and East made the mistake of not ruffing. That was the end of defense.

- Reported by Editor

## 2010 Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs Bridge Contest

The 2010 Worldwide Simultaneous Pairs Bridge Contest organized by WBF was held throughout the World's Bridge clubs on 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

Both the events i.e. event held on 4<sup>th</sup> June (Friday event known as session # 4610) and on 5<sup>th</sup> June (Saturday event known as session no. #5888) were totally separate and a pair could play in one or both the events.

The event gets scored across all the participants taking part in the event throughout the world at the [www.ecatsbridge.com](http://www.ecatsbridge.com) site (of Anna Gudge & Mark Norton) and everyone can view the detailed results and compare their performance within their clubs, Nation-wise, Zone wise or in the whole world.

### THE FRIDAY EVENT OF 4<sup>th</sup> June 2010 (Session # 4610):

The results of Delhi Bridge Association for the Friday event in which 29 pairs participated and played 24 boards were:

1. R.P. Misra - Sant Sharma (Rank – 358) 60.71%
2. P. Bhandari - J.B. Sengupta (Rank – 435) 59.89%
3. D.K. Tewari & P.C. Gupta (Rank – 475) 59.62%
4. T.N. Tiku & Sarvesh Chopra (Rank – 811) 57.29%
5. Kavita Dhawan- Alok Khemka (Rank 855) 57.04%
6. Sangram Guha– V.K. Mutreja (Rank 969) 56.41%

A total of **4741 Pairs from 272 Clubs in 32 countries** participated in the Friday event. The TOP 10 pairs from the world were as follows:

Pos	Pair Name	%
1	<u>Morelli Fabrizio &amp; Bastardini Elvio</u> ( <i>Bridge Bordighera, Italy</i> )	78.43
2	<u>Susanne Bohnsack - Henning Bohnsack</u> ( <i>BV Fair Play 90 Köln-Süd, Germany</i> )	75.64
3	<u>Vital St-Gelais &amp; Huquette Dufour</u> ( <i>Club De Bridge De Chicout, Canada</i> )	72.70
4	<u>Rebecchi Giovanni &amp; Golinelli Giampiero</u> ( <i>C.lo Cittadino Verona Br, Italy</i> )	71.93
5	<u>Justin Lall &amp; Jeremy Fournier</u> ( <i>Bridge Academy, USA</i> )	71.86
6	<u>Margaret James &amp; Kim Marsh</u> ( <i>Aberystwyth Bridge Club, Wales</i> )	71.04
7	<u>Peter Avery &amp; Frank Springett</u> ( <i>Cramlington Bridge Club, England</i> )	71.04
8	<u>Saleh Fetouh &amp; Brian Meyer</u> ( <i>Bridge Center of Buffalo, USA</i> )	71.01
9	<u>Tom Joyce &amp; Jim Cleary</u> ( <i>Hartford Bridge Club @ Th, USA</i> )	70.99
10	<u>Mucha Rita &amp; Pana Alecu</u> ( <i>Bridge Center, Switzerland</i> )	70.92

A total of 8 clubs (total 171 Pairs) from India participated in the Friday event. The details of the participating clubs & the number of pairs in each are:

- Calcutta Club A @ *Kolkata*: 24
- Calcutta Club B @ *Kolkata*: 24
- Delhi Bridge Association @ *Delhi*: 29
- *Jdba*: 10
- Karnataka State Bridge Assoc. @ *Bangalore* : 26
- Lucknow Bridge Association@ *Lucknow*: 10
- *Mumbai Bridge Association*@ *Mumna*: 34
- Nainital Bridge Association @ *Nainital*: 14

The TOP 10 pairs from India were as follows:

Nat	World	Pair Names	%
<b>Position</b>			
1	134	<u>Kapil Bhalla &amp; Uttam Gupta</u> ( <i>Karnataka Bridge Associat, India</i> )	64.19
2	157	<u>G Rajendra &amp; Cm Kulkarni</u> ( <i>Karnataka Bridge Associat, India</i> )	63.67
3	164	<u>Dr. VASANTH &amp; Mrs VASANTH</u> ( <i>Karnataka Bridge Associat, India</i> )	63.49
4	239	<u>Sanat Saha &amp; Prasun Mukherjee</u> ( <i>Calcutta Club A, India</i> )	62.32
5	284	<u>Mukul Chatterjee &amp; Pritish Kushari</u> ( <i>Calcutta Club B, India</i> )	61.72
6	350	<u>Tapas Mukherjee &amp; Kalyan Nandi</u> ( <i>Calcutta Club B, India</i> )	60.82
7	358	<u>R.P. Misra &amp; Sant Sharma</u> ( <i>Delhi Bridge Association, India</i> )	60.71
8	362	<u>Tushar Bedi &amp; Vasanti Shah</u> ( <i>Mumbai Bridge Association, India</i> )	60.63
9	397	<u>Alok Daha &amp; Ajay Brahmachari</u> ( <i>Calcutta Club B, India</i> )	60.25
10	408	<u>B.N. Parasrampurua &amp; Arvind Prasad</u> ( <i>Nainital Bridge Associati, India</i> )	60.19

The leaders of Friday session at the respective participating clubs in India were:

Nat	World	Pair Names	%
<b>Position</b>			
1	134	<u>Kapil Bhalla &amp; Uttam Gupta</u> ( <i>Karnataka Bridge Associat, India</i> )	64.19
4	239	<u>Sanat Saha &amp; Prasun Mukherjee</u> ( <i>Calcutta Club A, India</i> )	62.32
5	284	<u>Mukul Chatterjee &amp; Pritish Kushari</u> ( <i>Calcutta Club B, India</i> )	61.72
7	358	<u>R.P. Misra &amp; Sant Sharma</u> ( <i>Delhi Bridge Association, India</i> )	60.71
8	362	<u>Tushar Bedi &amp; Vasanti Shah</u> ( <i>Mumbai Bridge Association, India</i> )	60.63
10	408	<u>B.N. Parasrampurua &amp; Arvind Prasad</u> ( <i>Nainital Bridge Associati, India</i> )	60.19
19	614	<u>JN Bajpai &amp; Pravin Agarwal</u> ( <i>Lucknow Bridge Association,</i> )	58.49
53	1568	<u>P.K. Sarkar &amp; T.K. Bhattacharya</u> ( <i>Jdba, India</i> )	53.46

**THE SATURDAY EVENT OF 5<sup>th</sup> June 2010  
(Session # 5888):**

The results of Delhi Bridge Association for the Friday event in which 31 pairs participated and played 24 boards were:

1. Sangram Guha - V.K Mutreja (Rank 42) 66.26%
2. Amarjit Wadhawan - Mukesh Shivdasani (Rank 359) 60.31%
3. Arun Jain & A.K. Jha (Rank 563) 58.63%
4. Mrs. Bhavna Naraindas - Alok Khemka (Rank 662) 57.96%
5. Col. S.P. Arvind - K.C. Kumar (Rank 696) 57.66%
6. D.K. Tewari - P.C. Gupta (Rank 710) 57.50%

A total of **4894 Pairs from 240 Clubs in 28 countries** participated in the Saturday event. The TOP 10 pairs from the world were as follows:

Pos	Pair Name	%
1	<u>John Currie &amp; Virginia Giza</u> ( Halifax Bridge World, Canada )	74.64
2	<u>Baneet Malhotra &amp; Bhabesh Saha</u> ( Calcutta Club B, India )	72.42
3	<u>Bernard Donde &amp; Robert Stephens</u> ( The Links Bridge Club A, South Africa )	71.64
4	<u>Norman Bolton &amp; Debra Eaves</u> ( Bridge Connection, USA )	69.63
5	<u>Hung Jui - Hung &amp; Kuo Yu - Tsung</u> ( Hsinchu club, Chinese Taipei )	69.63
6	<u>Michael Salomon &amp; Elaine Caganoff</u> ( The Links Bridge Club A, South Africa )	69.29
7	<u>Chang-Biau Yang &amp; Chun-Fong Cheng</u> ( Kaohsiung Bridge Center, Chinese Taipei )	69.25
8	<u>Masahide Kaneko &amp; Yumiko Yamamoto</u> ( Hamamatsu Bridge Club, Japan )	68.94
9	<u>Casu Giovanni &amp; Lombino Annamaria</u> ( Bridge 3a S.s.d. A R.I., Italy )	68.88
10	<u>Allen Bowman &amp; Ron Payne</u> ( Saguaro Duplicate Bridge, USA )	68.80

A total of 8 clubs (total 171 Pairs) from India participated in the Saturday event. The details of the participating clubs are:

- Calcutta Club A @ Kolkata: 26
- Calcutta Club B @ Kolkata: 24
- Delhi Bridge Association @ Delhi: 31
- Jdba: 10
- Karnataka State Bridge Assoc. @ Bangalore : 26
- Lucknow Bridge Association@ Lucknow: 11
- Mumbai Bridge Association@ Mumnai: 30
- Nainital Bridge Association @ Nainital: 13

**The TOP 10 pairs from India in the Saturday event were as follows:**

Nat	World	Pair Names	%
<b>Position</b>			
1	2	<u>Baneet Malhotra &amp; Bhabesh Saha</u> ( Calcutta Club B, India )	72.42
2	42	<u>Sangram Guha &amp; V.K Mutreja</u> ( Delhi Bridge Association, India )	66.26
3	53	<u>Rana Roy &amp; Ramkrishna Majumder</u> ( Calcutta Club B, India )	65.80
4	57	<u>Samir Basak &amp; S P Ghosh</u> ( Calcutta Club A, India )	65.72
5	166	<u>Sonal Pakwasa &amp; Shrikant Tembey</u> ( Mumbai Bridge Association, India )	62.62
6	251	<u>Ravi Saberwal &amp; Ajay Brahmachari</u> ( Calcutta Club B, India )	61.44
7	298	<u>SI Sharma &amp; Mukarjee K</u> ( Karnataka Bridge Assoc., India )	60.91
8	348	<u>Badal Das &amp; Sumit Bhowmick</u> ( Calcutta Club B, India )	60.48
9	359	<u>Amarjit Wadhawan &amp; Mukesh Shivdasani</u> ( Delhi Bridge Association, India )	60.31
10	383	<u>SA Abbasi &amp; Dr DC Gupta</u> ( Lucknow Bridge Association, India )	60.08

The leaders of Saturday at the respective participating clubs in India were:

Nat	World	Pair Names	%
<b>Position</b>			
1	2	<u>Baneet Malhotra &amp; Bhabesh Saha</u> ( Calcutta Club B, India )	72.42
2	42	<u>Sangram Guha &amp; V.K Mutreja</u> ( Delhi Bridge Association, India )	66.26
4	57	<u>Samir Basak &amp; S P Ghosh</u> ( Calcutta Club A, India )	65.72
5	166	<u>Sonal Pakwasa &amp; Shrikant Tembey</u> ( Mumbai Bridge Association, India )	62.62
7	298	<u>SI Sharma &amp; Mukarjee K</u> ( Karnataka Bridge Assoc., India )	60.91
10	383	<u>SA Abbasi &amp; Dr DC Gupta</u> ( Lucknow Bridge Association, India )	60.08
18	667	<u>Pankaj Mehta &amp; Ajay Vaish</u> ( Nainital Bridge Assoc., India )	57.92
25	846	<u>A.K. Saxena &amp; Anupam Rai</u> ( Jdba, India )	56.67

**Baneet Malhotra – Bhabesh Saha** of Calcutta Club "B" deserve a special mention being ranked second in the World. **Congratulations to both of them for the great achievement.**

- Reported by Editor

# USBF Open Team Trials 2010

## FLEISHER to represent USA as USA-1 in Bermuda Bowl 2011

The 2010 United States Bridge Championship (aka Open Team Trials), to select USA1 for the 2011 Bermuda Bowl in the Netherlands, was played from 18<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at the Sheraton Gateway Suites, Chicago.

The 2010 USBC has only an Open Trials, as both the Women and Seniors trials to select 2 teams along with the trials for selecting USA2 team for open event will be held in 2011 only.

The **Fleisher** team won the 2010 USBC defeating the **Diamond** team in the 120 board final and will represent USA as USA-1 in the Bermuda Bowl 2011 to be played in Netherlands.

The winners are represented by **Martin Fleisher – Capt, Michael Kamil, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby.**

23 Teams participated in the Championships. The #1 seed **NICKELL** Team, #2 seed **DIAMOND** team and the #3 seed **FLEISHER** team were given a bye to the quarter-finals and the **MELTZER & ROBINSON** teams earned a bye to the last 16 of the 2010 USBC.

As per the format of play, the remaining 18 teams started with a Round Robin to select 10 teams to join the two teams with byes to the Round of 16.

The 18 teams were divided into two groups (The Bears and the Bulls) and played round robin matches (of 9 boards each) against each of their opponents within their group. The matches were scored at IMPs converted to Victory Points using the USBF 9 board Victory Point scale. The bottom 3 teams in each group were eliminated. The scores at the end of RR1:

BEARS		BULLS	
TEAM NAME	Scores	TEAM NAME	SCORES
2. Jacobs	126.70	14. Deutsch	120.89
5. Chan	105.17	11. Welland	100.45
8. Weinstein	92.79	13. Gordon	96.17
1. Schwartz	92.12	18. Todd	94.11
3. Milner	91.86	16. Cohen	88.32
6. Miller	86.73	15. Harris	86.76
4. Rogoff	79.67	17. Stauber	81.93
7. Demirev	71.66	12. Mahaffey	81.57
9. Zeller	63.30	19. Rosenfeld	59.80

Each of the surviving 6 teams from both the groups played a round robin-2 constituting of 9 board matches against each of the survivors from the other group. The surviving teams carried over 100% of their VPs against other surviving teams and a percentage of their VPs against teams that have been eliminated.

The final scores after RR2 was:

Rank	Team Name	Score
1	14. Deutsch	182.83
2	2. Jacobs	152.57
3	11. Welland	146.13
4	8. Weinstein	144.22
5	16. Cohen	139.52
6	3. Milner	137.21
7	15. Harris	128.09
8	5. Chan	127.36
9	13. Gordon	126.60
10	6. Miller	125.58
11	18. Todd	116.69
12	1. Schwartz	108.18

At the end of the complete Round Robin 2, the top eight teams qualified to join the Meltzer and Robinson teams in the Round of 16 and played 90 board KO matches. The scores of round of 16 matches were:

T. #	Team Name	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	TOT
3	Meltzer	21	18	11	34	17	23	124
14	Weinstein	32	30	14	34	11	25	146
5	Robinson	39	55	12	51	56	48	261
12	Chan	33	33	45	9	50	35	205
6	Welland	40	31	54	19	50	5	199
11	Cohen	32	20	27	37	19	22	157
7	Jacobs	44	42	69	43	35		233
10	Deutsch	22	41	42	27	9	wd	141
8	Milner	6	41	50	28	16	35	176
9	Harris	38	39	43	29	33	24	206

Except for the elimination of #3 seed Meltzer team (Rose Meltzer, Kyle Larsen, Alan Sontag, David Berkowitz, Michael Rosenberg & Mark Feldman), which lost to Weinstein team, there were no other setbacks. The 5 winners were joined by the 3 seeded teams - Nickell, Diamond & Fleisher for the 120 boards quarter-final KO.

### The Quarter-Finals: (8\*15 boards):

In the 8\*15 boards, quarter-final matches, **Nickell (#1)** beat Harris (#8) by 299-226 (16-44, 23-28, 40-13, 29-28, 44-35, 50-34, 57-17, 40-27). Harris team (Martin Harris, Stephen Landen, Ira Chorus, Jacob Morgan, Dan Gerstman, Venkatra Koneru) played well till the half way stage leading by 113-108, but then it was all Nickell as they won all the remaining 4 sets for a comfortable victory.

**Diamond (#2)** beat Jacobs (#7) by 244-123 (51-16, 39-29, 58-26, 21-9, 42-9, 33-34, WD). The match turned out to be one-sided and finally Jacobs team (George Jacobs, Chris Compton, Marc Jacobus, Steve Beatty, Bart Bramley, Eddie Wold) withdrew with 2 sets to go.

**Weinstein (#3)** beat Wellend (#6) by 271-197 (11-16, 24-27, 55-43, 26-10, 22-40, 34-28, 21-12, 78-21). At half way stage, the match was tight with Weinstein leading by 116-96. The next set saw the margin reducing to 138-136. With one set to go, there was still enough interest in the match with Wellend team (Roy Welland, Steve Garner, Ron Smith, Chris Willenken, Howard Weinstein, Billy Cohen) trailing by 17 IMPs (193-176). But Weinstein thrashed their opponent 78-21 in the last set to easily win the match.

**Fleisher (#4)** beat Robinson (#5) by 286-130 (35-27, 35-8, 39-22, 36-22, 56-8, 41-12, 44-21, WD). Robinson team (Steve Robinson, Kit Woolsey, Adam Wildavsky, Peter Boyd, Fred Stewart, Doug Doub) withdrew in the last set.

### **The Semi-Finals: (8\*15 boards):**

In the first semi-final Nickell (#1) lost to **Fleisher (#4)** by 231-244 (20-21, 26-40, 34-38, 30-41, 7-8, 50-39, 18-49, 46-8).

The Nickell team (Frank Nickell – Capt, Ralph Katz, Robert Hamman, Zia Mahmood, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell), which represented as USA1 in the 2009 Bermuda Bowl at Sao Paulo was given a very tough fight by the Fleisher team and they led by 30 IMPs (140-110) at half way stage. Nickell team fought well and reduced their losses to 20 IMPs with 2 sets to go. However the 7<sup>th</sup> set turned out to be bad for the Nickell team as they lost it by 31 IMPs and it was an uphill task to cover 51 IMPs in the last set. They tried hard but could recover only 38 IMPs losing the match by 13 IMPs to the worthy Fleisher team.

In the second semi-final, **Diamond (#2)** beat Weinstein (#3) by 305-216 (25-32, 85-17, 29-30, 42-31, 30-12, 34-42, 38-39, 22-13).

The Weinstein team was represented by Jonathan Weinstein - Capt, Franco Baseggio, Clement Jackson, Josh Sher, Bob Etter, Alex Kolesnik. The Diamond team consistently build pressure over their opponents and led 181-110 at half way stage. The 2<sup>nd</sup> set turned out to be Weinstein's nemesis. They won the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> set by small margins but the lead was too heavy for recovering and Diamond was an easy winner over their opponents.

### **The Finals: (8\*15 boards):**

In the final, **Fleisher (Martin Fleisher – Capt, Michael Kamil, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby)** beat Diamond (John Diamond – Capt, Brian Platnick, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Brad Moss, Fred Gitelman) by 260-218 (28-45, 51-6, 20-33, 33-37, 34-34, 16-30, 57-4, 21-29). The match was neck-to-neck till the half way stage with Fleisher leading by 132-121. The 5<sup>th</sup> session ended in a tie and Diamond team turned the table leading by 3 IMPs with 2 sets to go. But the 7<sup>th</sup> set completely turned the tables in Fleisher's favour when they outplayed their opponents by 57-4. Diamond tried their best in the last set but couldn't do much and **Fleisher was the worthy winner and will represent USA as USA1 in the 2011 Bermuda Bowl at the Netherlands.**

### **USA Under 21 Trials for Damiani Teams:**

The trials for selecting two US under-21 teams (Players must be Under 21 (born in 1990 or later) to compete) for the Damiani Cup was held along with the Open Team Trials on June 26-27, in Rosemont, IL. 4 teams participated in the event.

In a 2\*16 boards double elimination format, the KAPLAN team (#1) beat DAS (#4) by 94-72 (72-50, 22-22); whereas RIZZO (#2) beat DHIR (#4) by 82-76 (46-22, 36-54).

In the 3\*16 boards final **KAPLAN team** beat RIZZO by 105-20 (45-8, 60-12, WD). **CONGRATULATIONS to Adam Kaplan - Capt, Adam Grossack, Alex Hudson, John Marriott III, Jourdain Patchett & Jesse Stern, who will be USA1 for the Damiani Cup at the World Bridge Series in Philadelphia in October.** The Kaplan team won their Semi-final and Final matches convincingly and we hope they will continue their winning ways in Philadelphia.

In the 3\*16 boards 2<sup>nd</sup> elimination match, DAS beat DHIR (Arjun Dhir, Capt, Kendrick Chow, Zhuo Wang, Edmund Wu) by 146-86 (67-15, 15-46, 64-25) to meet RIZZO team in the 2<sup>nd</sup> final for selecting USA2 team.

The winner of the second final was **RIZZO (Zandy Rizzo - Capt, Murphy Green, Andrew Jeng, and Richard Jeng)**, who defeated DAS (Ricoh Das, William Dang, Angie Green, and Mili Raina) by 159-90 (50-47, 55-2, 54-41) to become USA 2. Well done to all.

The tournament welcomed a lot of talented young players, with the majority being 10-16 years old. Most of the players were also part of a thriving youth program in Atlanta, and the second final was all Atlanta players.

- Reported by Editor  
- Courtesy live BBO Vu-graph and USBF Site

### **MADHAVAS PRASAD MEMORIAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT**

The "MADHAVAS PRASAD MEMORIAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT" (famously known as the Corbett Park tournament) will be held at "The Corbett River View Retreat", Garjia (Corbett Park) from 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

The tournament starts at 1400 Hrs. on 8<sup>th</sup> July allowing teams from Delhi and nearby areas to start early morning and reach Garjia by afternoon and will be over on 11<sup>th</sup> July by 1400 Hrs giving enough time to reach back Delhi by night.

Contact: Mr. Arvind Prasad - 9810112634  
Email: arvind.prasad@leisurehotels.in

## Interesting Deals from USBC 2010

Some of the interesting deals from the USBC 2010 are detailed below:

### Bad Bidding but Good Play by Jacobs

#### JACOBS Vs HARRIS (RR2)

Board 2, Dealer: East, Vul: NS

♠2 ♥KQT974 ♦Q84 ♣JT6	<b>N</b> <b>W</b> <b>E</b> <b>S</b>	♠K984 ♥62 ♦972 ♣K983	♠AQJ3 ♥A83 ♦AK653 ♣Q7  ♠AT765 ♥J5 ♦JT ♣A542
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West <i>Chorus</i>	North <i>Jacobs</i>	East <i>Koneru</i>	South <i>Beatty</i>
2H	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass		Pass	

The contract is odd... stemming from a discussion between sessions. What does that mean? Steve laid down the dummy and explained that because of a conversation at dinner, he had no way to show spades on the auction. Apparently, a discussion involving three level preempts confused the situation... but that won't happen again.

On the other hand, if it hadn't happened, Jacobs would not have had a chance to exhibit his prowess as declarer.

Koneru led the heart six and Jacobs ducked the queen. The king was continued and Jacobs rose with the ace. He considered his options. It didn't look good, but George never gives up when there's even a remote chance to make his contract. The spade jack was led and ducked around. The spade queen followed, covered by the king and ace. George led the jack of diamonds off dummy and Chorus covered with the queen, completely freezing the suit when George won his ace. Jacobs tanked.

After thoughtful consideration, he played a diamond to the ten, cashed the ten of spades and exited dummy with a spade to Koneru. Koneru was helpless. He could lead a club and Jacobs could win the queen in hand and cash his diamonds (In point of fact, that's what happened at the table...) or he could exit a diamond to allow Jacobs to take his diamonds in hand and lead a club to dummy and cash his good spade. Contract making with two overtricks. Great play George.

#### Round of 16 – Jacobs Vs. Deutsch

On board 36, Deutsch and Kranyak stole from their opponents. Jacobus, North, opened one club strong in second seat.

Board 36, Dealer: West, Vul: All

♠4 ♥KQ ♦KT642 ♣JT952	<b>N</b> <b>W</b> <b>E</b> <b>S</b>	♠AK95 ♥AJT83 ♦ ♣K743  ♠QJ3 ♥972 ♦AQJ8753 ♣	♠T8762 ♥654 ♦9 ♣AQ86
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Deutsch preempted two diamonds; Wold doubled showing a positive response; and Kranyak blasted five diamonds. Jacobus doubled with his AK/A opposite a value showing response, and lived to regret it. As you can see from the diagram, with only two losers, it was +750 for Deutsch.

In the other room, Bathhurst, opened one heart in second seat. Bramley pre-empted 3D Lall bid 3H Compton bid 5D and Bathhurst's 5H ended the auction.

Bramley thought a club ruff was his best chance to beat 5H. He led his SMALLEST diamond from his AQJxxxx. Compton tried to win it, but Bathhurst ruffed. Needing an entry to dummy to lead toward his hearts, Kevin led a small club, and Bramley was gratified to score his trump deuce. Now, however, he simply needed to wait for his spade trick to defeat 5H. Bramley made a somewhat reckless play at this point, leading the THREE! of spades to force Compton to win the ace if he held it. Of course, had Bramley chosen the jack of spades, Chris still would have won the ace if he held it, and it would not have allowed Bathhurst to make the hand. At the table, Bathhurst won the spade nine, played ace of trump and a trump and claimed, losing only two trump tricks. The double game swing was worth 16 IMPs to Deutsch.

#### QF – Session – 1 Nickell Vs. Harris

Board 2, Dealer: East, Vul: NS

♠KQ5 ♥AT7 ♦K4 ♣K6532	<b>N</b> <b>W</b> <b>E</b> <b>S</b>	♠T9843 ♥96 ♦JT32 ♣AQ  ♠A62 ♥Q4 ♦A9875 ♣984	♠J7 ♥KJ8532 ♦Q6 ♣JT7
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West <i>Chorush</i>	North <i>Rodwell</i>	East <i>Koneru</i>	South <i>Meckstroth</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	2H
3NT	All Pass	DBL	Pass

In the closed room the contract was again 3NT but with a different bidding sequence:

West	North	East	South
<b>Nickell</b>	<b>Morgan</b>	<b>Katz</b>	<b>Harris</b>
		Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	3D	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

In the open room, Meckstroth opened a weak 2 in hearts and that prompted the H9 lead from partner. Declarer ducked after putting Queen from dummy and King from South. South shifted to SJ, won in dummy with Ace and played a low club to 7, K and Ace. The spade continuation was won and another club played. The 3<sup>rd</sup> club was won by South but he was left with only red suits. With marked heart finesse, declarer got 3 spades, 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and 2 clubs and made his contract.

In closed room, North led S9 from his natural spade suit, won by West with SK. Declarer rightly played on club suit. The C2 was won by CQ and now North shifted to H9, 4, Jack and Ace. A spade was played to dummy's Ace and C9 was played to 10, King and Ace. North continued with heart and South after winning cleared the heart suit. When in with the last club, he was able to enjoy his hearts and the contract went 3 down for a juicy 11 IMPs to Harris team.

**QF – Session 1 - Diamond Vs. Jacobs**

Board 10, Dealer: East, Vul: All

		♠Q8		
		♥AQT853		
		♦K8		
		♣T94		
♠AKT9763	<b>N</b>		♠542	
♥K	<b>W</b>	<b>E</b>	♥J742	
♦A9		<b>S</b>	♦QT2	
♣532			♣AQ8	
		♠J		
		♥96		
		♦J76543		
		♣KJ76		

West	North	East	South
<b>Diamond</b>	<b>Beatty</b>	<b>Platnick</b>	<b>Jacobs</b>
		Pass	2D
2S	3D	3S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<b>Compton</b>	<b>Greco</b>	<b>Bramley</b>	<b>Hampson</b>
		Pass	Pass
1S	Pass	2S	Pass
4S	All Pass		

Steve Beatty thought he had a great chance to defeat this game when his partner opened a weak two diamonds. Diamond King and a diamond to partner's likely ace, a promotion for the queen of spades... and the heart ace... down one!

Unfortunately for Steve, George's hand contained neither the ace nor queen of diamonds. Instead of the planned outcome, Steve's king of diamonds was won by declarer's ace and North/South's diamond trick was history.

Collecting only two off side club tricks and the ace of hearts, Diamond made his contract easily.

At the other table, in the absence of a pre-empt, Greco led the easy ten of clubs and the defense earned its two clubs, one diamond and a heart for down one. Perhaps "Diamond" should realize that when there is a known "Diamond" on his left, he should leave that suit to John! 12 IMPs to Diamond.

As the cards lie, there were 9 TOP tricks in 3NT for EW, which neither side bid.

**QF – Session – 1: Fleisher Vs. Robinson**

Board 12, Dealer: West, Vul: NS

		♠Q5		
		♥KQJT875		
		♦A943		
		♣		
♠KJ9	<b>N</b>		♠62	
♥42	<b>W</b>	<b>E</b>	♥9	
♦K87		<b>S</b>	♦QJ52	
♣JT976			♣K85432	
		♠AT8743		
		♥A63		
		♦T6		
		♣AQ		

West	North	East	South
<b>Levin</b>	<b>Wildavsky</b>	<b>S. Weinstein</b>	<b>Doub</b>
Pass	1H	2C	2S
3NT(1)	5H	Pass	7H
All Pass			

(1) – A good 4 club raise

West	North	East	South
<b>Woolsey</b>	<b>Martel</b>	<b>Stewart</b>	<b>Stansby</b>
Pass	4C(1)	Pass	4S (2)
Pass	5C(3)	Pass	5D (4)
Pass	5H	Pass	6H
All Pass			

(1) – Namyats (2) – Slam Try (3) – Club Void / 2 Keycards (4) - Transfer

On Board 12 in the Fleisher/Robinson match, Wildavsky and Doub bid to a very aggressive grand slam using little or no science after interference by Weinstein and Levin. After Levin's 3NT bid, Wildavsky had no good way to show the playing strength of his hand except by jumping to five hearts.

With three aces and the well placed clubs, Doub couldn't resist bidding the grand.

The opening lead was a club and Adam finessed the queen to discard a diamond. Since spades were three/two, this discard was really unnecessary. Wildavsky cashed the black aces and trumped a spade high. He played the heart queen and a heart to the ace and trumped another spade. He led his carefully preserved five of hearts to dummy's six to enjoy his good spades!

At the other table, Martel, taking full advantage of science, started with a four club Namyats bid. Using scientific responses, Stansby settled for the small slam. A spade was lead and Martel took the safest line for 12 tricks.

He won the ace of spades, played the ace of clubs, discarding a spade, and ducked a diamond. He could now crossruff for 12 tricks with little fear of an overruff. That was 13 IMPs to Robinson team.

**QF – Session 2 - Nickell Vs. Harris**

Board 22, Dealer: East, Vul: EW

	N		
♠T97			♠Q
♥J72		W	♥A83
♦K76		E	♦5432
♣AKT9		S	♣87653
♠K8432			
♥Q9			
♦AT98			
♣42			
			♠AJ65
			♥KT654
			♦QJ
			♣QJ

West <i>Rodwell</i>	North <i>Landen</i>	East <i>Meckstroth</i>	South <i>Gerstman</i>
Pass	1NT	Pass	1H
Pass	3H	All Pass	2S

West <i>Harris</i>	North <i>Hamman</i>	East <i>Morgan</i>	South <i>Zia</i>
Pass	3H	Pass	3S
Pass	4H	All Pass	

(1) - Flannery

Defending the part score, on lead from West, Rodwell led the club four. Gerstman won in dummy with the ace and led a small heart toward his hand. Meckstroth, disdaining the old adage "second hand low" rose with the ace and played his spade queen. Gerstman won in hand and cashed the heard king felling Rodwell's queen. When the smoke cleared, the hand made five.

At the other table, Hamman and Zia, employing Bart Bramley's favorite convention, opened Flannery. They got to the game from North. Morgan and Harris were like a well oiled machine. The defended this perfectly and beat it two tricks. Morgan led his spade queen. Hamman won in dummy and played the queen of diamonds. Harris won, and returned a club. Hamman won in dummy and played a small heart. Morgan ducked and Hamman played the ten, losing to Harris' queen.

NOW Harris cashed his spade king and gave Morgan his ruff. In total, the defense collected three heart tricks, one spade and one diamond for a seven IMP pick up against the arguably strongest team in the field. Nice job!

In the first seven boards of the 2<sup>nd</sup> segment, it was 25-0 Harris. On board 23, Nickell finally gained 12 IMPs when his team mates bid the cold grand that Morgan and Harris missed. The Harris auction was full of relays. Harris may have known his partner held the SQ from one of the responses, but he didn't ask for the club king. Had Morgan known they had all the keycards, he might have liked his hand enough to go.

Board 23, Dealer: South, Vul: All

	N		
♠J75			♠KQ9643
♥J93		W	♥5
♦KJT3		E	♦654
♣T98		S	♣K53
♠AT			
♥AK7			
♦AQ			
♣AQJ642			
			♠82
			♥QT8642
			♦9872
			♣7

West <i>Rodwell</i>	North <i>Landen</i>	East <i>Meckstroth</i>	South <i>Gerstman</i>
1C(1)	Pass	1H(2)	Pass
2C	Pass	2NT	Pass
4D	Pass	4S	Pass
5D	Pass	7C	All Pass

(1) –Strong, Artificial (2) – Positive Hand with Spades

West <i>Harris</i>	North <i>Hamman</i>	East <i>Morgan</i>	South <i>Zia</i>
1C(1)	Pass	2S	Pass
2NT	Pass	3C	Pass
3D	Pass	3S	Pass
4H	Pass	4S	Pass
4NT	Pass	5D	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

(1) - Strong

**QF – Session 2 – Weinstein Vs. Wellend**

Board 30, Dealer: East, Vul: None

	N		
♠KT732			♠A5
♥Q8		W	♥K3
♦72		E	♦AQJ9
♣Q876		S	♣AT543
♠8			
♥A97652			
♦K54			
♣K92			
			♠QJ964
			♥JT4
			♦T863
			♣J

The EW of Wellend team played in 4H making 12 tricks for +480 in open room. In the closed room the bidding went as below.

West <i>Baseggio</i>	North <i>Willenken</i>	East <i>Weinstein</i>	South <i>Wellend</i>
		1C	1S
2H	4S	DBL	Pass
5C	Pass	5S	Pass
5NT	Pass	6C	All Pass

South choose to lead the D6 instead of the bid spade suit and declarer won in hand. Played the CA and a low club. When South showed out, he inserted the C9, North winning with the CQ and returning a diamond back.

Declarer won with the DQ, played HK and heart to Ace. Another heart was played and North was helpless, if he ruffs, it gets over-ruffed and declarer takes out the last trump and the hearts are good, If he discards, declarer ruffs low, goes to dummy with CK and can come up with spade and take out the last trump and dummy has the DK entry to cash the heart winners. It was 10 IMPs to Weinstein.

**QF - Nickell Vs. Harris – Session 6**

Board 84, Dealer: West, Vul: All

		♠AT7652		
		♥8		
		♦K864		
		♣J8		
♠QJ9			♠84	
♥AJT93			♥542	
♦J			♦732	
♣9432			♣KQT76	
		♠K3		
		♥KQ76		
		♦AQT95		
		♣A5		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>Rodwell</b>	<b>Landen</b>	<b>Meckstroth</b>	<b>Gerstman</b>
Pass	2S	Pass	4S
All Pass			

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>Harris</b>	<b>Nickell</b>	<b>Morgan</b>	<b>Katz</b>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1D
1H	2S(1)	Pass	4NT
Pass	5H	Pass	6D
All Pass			

(1) – Fit showing

Landen opened a weak two spades and Gerstman with 18 HCP, four quick tricks and a trump fit, promptly jumped to game. Meckstroth led the club king and the defense took one heart, one spade and one club.

At the other table, Nickell decided against the pre-empt and passed. Katz opened one diamond; Harris overcalled one heart and Nickell made a fit showing jump shift. Ralph key carded and found his partner with two key cards and no queen of trump. He dutifully placed the contract in six diamonds.

Harris made it easy by leading the ace of hearts. But even on a club lead, Ralph is cold. He simply wins the ace of clubs, cashes the ace and queen of diamonds, leads king of spades and a spade to the ace, and ruffs a spade in hand.

A diamond to the king pulls the trump and Ralph pitches one club and two hearts on the run of the spades. He concedes the heart ace and makes six for 13 IMPs to Nickell.

**Semi-Final: Nickell Vs. Fleisher – Session 1**

In the open room, EW bid well to reach 4H. West bid 2D (transfer to Hearts) and then bid 2S, showing an invitational hand with 5H and 4 Spades. The lead was D10 and declarer won the trick in dummy and played low heart to ten.

Board 7, Dealer: South, Vul: Both

		♠AT92		
		♥KJ9		
		♦84		
		♣T862		
♠T764			♠K83	
♥86542			♥AQT	
♦KQ			♦AJ753	
♣K3			♣J5	
		♠Q5		
		♥73		
		♦T962		
		♣AQ974		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>Fleisher</b>	<b>Hamman</b>	<b>Kamil</b>	<b>Zia</b>
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2D(1)	Pass	2H	Pass
2S	Pass	4H	All Pass

When that held, he played another diamond to dummy and took another heart finesse, and took out the last trump. The diamonds were cashed discarding a spade and both the dummy's clubs. Declarer now played a low spade and South won the trick with queen and played back a club, ruffed in dummy. Another spade was played and East inserted the King, when East played low to score 11 tricks for +650. The bidding in the closed room went as follows:

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>Katz</b>	<b>Levin</b>	<b>Nickell</b>	<b>S. Weinstein</b>
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2C	Pass	2D	Pass
2NT	All Pass		

The lead was C4 to 3, 10 and Jack. The declarer now cashed 2 top diamonds in dummy and played a heart. He could have taken the heart finesse to score his 8 tricks but fearing a 6-carder club suit, went up with Ace and cashed his diamonds to go down 1 for -100. That was 13 IMPs to Fleisher team.

**Semi-Final: Nickell Vs. Fleisher – Session 3**

Meckwell is known to be one of the most aggressive pairs in the world and this hand is a perfect example of how successful that can be.

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>Rodwell</b>	<b>S. Weinstein</b>	<b>Meckstroth</b>	<b>Levin</b>
	Pass	1H	Pass
1S	Pass	2C	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<b>Fleisher</b>	<b>Hamman</b>	<b>Kamil</b>	<b>Zia</b>
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1S	Pass	1NT	Pass
2D	All Pass		

At Kamil's table, he didn't consider his hand an opening bid. After all, it is only a 5/5 nine count. Once he passed, Fleisher opened one spade and Kamil responded one no trump. Fleisher bid his diamond suit and Kamil happily passed, having a strong preference for diamonds over spades.

Board 41, Dealer: North, Vul: EW

	♠AT763		
	♥KQ7		
	♦742		
	♣73		
♠KQJ42	<b>N</b>	♠	
♥2	<b>W</b>	<b>E</b>	♥AJ653
♦AJT86			♦953
♣K2	<b>S</b>		♣A8654
	♠985		
	♥T984		
	♦KQ		
	♣QJT9		

Meckstroth opened one heart on the nine count in second seat. Rodwell, looking at an opener in anyone's book, responded one spade and bid 3NT over Meck's two clubs. With the well placed red king/queens, there was no way to stop nine tricks from scoring. Weinstein led a fifth best spade and Rodwell won in hand. He played a club to the ace and a small diamond off dummy. When it went queen, ace, he led a second diamond, knocking out the king. Levin switched to a heart but Eric was able to collect an easy nine tricks and a 10 IMP swing for Nickell.

**Semi Final – Nickell Vs. Fleisher – Session 4**

Board 77, Dealer: North, Vul: All

	♠AJ65		
	♥4		
	♦AJ875		
	♣J54		
♠T973	<b>N</b>	♠K842	
♥KT9	<b>W</b>	<b>E</b>	♥Q8763
♦Q94			♦Kt2
♣987	<b>S</b>		♣A
	♠Q		
	♥AJ52		
	♦63		
	♣KQT632		

West <i>Rodwell</i>	North <i>Martel</i>	East <i>Meckstroth</i>	South <i>Stansby</i>
Pass	Pass	1H	2C
2H	3H	Pass	5C
All Pass			

West <i>Levin</i>	North <i>Nickell</i>	East <i>Weinstein</i>	South <i>Katz</i>
Pass	Pass	2D(1)	Pass
2H	All Pass		

(1) – Flannery

Meckstroth's one heart opening made it easy for Stansby to enter the auction. Rodwell made a simple raise and Martel cued in support of clubs. Stansby's 6<sup>th</sup> club plus his knowledge that his partner held a singleton heart made five clubs a winning call.

Rodwell led the nine of hearts to Meck's queen and declarer's ace. Stansby ruffed a club, cashed the ace of spades, ruffed a spade, ruffed a heart, ruffed a spade and led the good jack of hearts. Rodwell pitched a spade so Stansby threw a diamond from dummy.

Stansby led a diamond to the ace and claimed 11 tricks, losing only one diamond and one club.

At the other table, Stevie Weinstein opened Flannery. Katz passed and Levin bid two hearts. It is a little surprising that when this came around to Katz, he didn't balance with three clubs. Instead, he passed and Levin played it there going down one after the lead of Nickell's singleton heart. This resulted in an 11 IMP swing to Fleisher.

**Semi-Final: Diamond Vs. Weinstein – Session 6**

Board 88, Dealer: West, Vul: None

	♠A43		
	♥9632		
	♦JT976		
	♣2		
♠K976	<b>N</b>	♠J85	
♥QT4	<b>W</b>	<b>E</b>	♥85
♦532			♦AQ4
♣873	<b>S</b>		♣KQ964
	♠QT2		
	♥AKJ7		
	♦K8		
	♣AJT5		

West <i>Baseggio</i>	North <i>Gitelman</i>	East <i>Weinstein</i>	South <i>Moss</i>
Pass	Pass	1C	DBL
1H!!	2D	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West <i>Diamond</i>	North <i>Kolesnik</i>	East <i>Platnick</i>	South <i>Etter</i>
Pass	Pass	1D	DBL
Pass	1H	Pass	3H
Pass	4H	All Pass	

Kolesnik made four hearts after the lead of the club king to dummy's ace, followed by the ace of trump and the club jack, declarer tossing one of his losing spades while Platnick won his queen. Platnick played a heart to the jack and queen and Diamond tried the nine of spades which Kolesnik ducked to dummy's ten. Kolesnik cashed his spade ace and led the jack of diamonds to Platnick's ace. Platnick played a spade which Kolesnick trumped in his hand. A diamond went to dummy's king. It went club ruff, diamond ruff, and Kolesnick claimed ten tricks.

What a great effect Baseggio's one heart bid had on the auction at the other table. He completely stole the heart suit from Gitelman and Moss. Moss ended up in 3NT. This was not a success when Baseggio led a spade, ducked to Moss's queen, and Moss led the king of diamonds ducked around.

Another diamond went to Weinstein's queen and a spade was played to Baseggio's nine. Baseggio cleared the spade suit. Moss led a club to the queen and ace, and followed that with the jack of clubs to the king. A heart was played to the ace and a club was cashed. A heart was led to Baseggio's ten and the king of spades was cashed. A diamond went to the ace and the 13th trick was taken with Weinstein's nine of clubs... contract failing by three tricks. 11 IMPs to Weinstein.

## Par for the Course!

### Final – Fleisher Vs. Diamond

The seventh segment of the finals was a decisive victory for the Fleisher team. Fleisher outscored the Diamond team 57 to 4 in that set of fifteen boards. Their biggest swing of the segment came on Board 102.

Board 102, Dealer: East, Vul: EW

	♠85		
	♥Q2		
	♦AQJ5		
	♣86432		
♠AJ932	N	♠KQT76	
♥KJT985	W	♥A6	E
♦	S	♦643	
♣K5		♠Q97	
	♠4		
	♥743		
	♦KT9872		
	♣AJT		

West	North	East	South
<b>Diamond</b>	<b>Weinstein</b>	<b>Platnick</b>	<b>Levin</b>
5D (1)	7D	1S DBL	2D All Pass

(1) – Exclusion Keycard

West	North	East	South
<b>Stansby</b>	<b>Gitelman</b>	<b>Martel</b>	<b>Moss</b>
4D (1)	5D	Pass 6S	2D Pass All Pass

(1) – Majors

In an effort to take science away from his opponents, Weinstein put on maximum pressure by jumping to seven diamonds over the exclusion keycard bid.

Since Diamond knew his side was missing an ace, he had no choice but to double seven diamonds and settle for the four trick non-vulnerable set.

At the other table, on a similar auction, Gitelman bid only five diamonds with Weinstein's cards and Stansby/Martel bid a less scientific six spades. This made with an overtrick when the opponents didn't cash their club ace at trick one. 12 IMPs to Fleisher.

### The mistakes....

Who says experts don't have mis-understandings? Here are some glaring examples.

#### QF – Session 5: Nickell Vs. Harris

(See the board on right column)

West	North	East	South
<b>Hamman</b>	<b>Landen</b>	<b>Zia</b>	<b>Gerstman</b>
2NT(1)	3C(2)	Pass	1H 4S(3)
Pass	5H(4)	Pass	6H
All Pass			

(1) – Minors (2) – Good fit in Hearts  
(3) – RKC in Hearts (4) – 2 Keycards

The bidding in the closed room was as above. Landen & Gerstman bid well to reach the cold slam in hearts.

Board 63, Dealer: South, Vul: NS

		♠K	
		♥A9864	
		♦Q762	
		♣A65	
♠93	N	♠JT8765	
♥T	W	♥J3	E
♦AK943	S	♦T85	
♣T9873		♣J4	
		♠AQ42	
		♥KQ752	
		♦J	
		♣KQ2	

However, OPEN room, had big confusion:

West	North	East	South
<b>Chorush</b>	<b>Nickell</b>	<b>Koneru</b>	<b>Katz</b>
2NT(1)	3C(2)	Pass	1H 3S
Pass	4C	Pass	4D
Pass	4S	All Pass	

(1) – Minors (2) – Good fit in Hearts

3S, 4C and 4D were all cue bids. But when North bid 4S (RKC in Hearts), South got confused on whether 3C was a forcing bid for Hearts or Spades. He thought otherwise, and passed the 4S bid, which went 2 down, giving 17 IMPs on the board to Harris team. Surprising, from a pair of world's best team.

### Final: Fleisher Vs Diamond

Board 59, Dealer: South, Vul: None

		♠Q874	
		♥J954	
		♦873	
		♣53	
♠AT	N	♠KJ953	
♥A72	W	♥KQT3	E
♦AKJ654	S	♦	
♣K4		♣AQ87	
		♠62	
		♥86	
		♦QT92	
		♣JT962	

West	North	East	South
<b>Moss</b>	<b>Weinstein</b>	<b>Gitelman</b>	<b>Levin</b>
2C	Pass	2D	Pass
2NT	Pass	3C	Pass
3D	Pass	3H	Pass
3NT	Pass	4C	Pass
4S	Pass	7C	Pass
7D	All Pass		

In the other room, Martel and Stansby reached a calm 6NT and made it. Gitelman and Moss had a colossal misunderstanding when Moss meant seven diamonds as pick a major and Gitelman thought it was a solid suit. Seven diamonds went down two ... Gitelman losing two trump tricks... and a heated discussion followed. 14 IMPs to Fleisher.

(By Editor: Courtesy - BBO Vu-graph & Daily Bulletins of USBC 2010)



**THE WORLD BRIDGE SERIES CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**1 – 16 October 2010**  
**Philadelphia, PA, USA**

This year, The World Bridge Series Championships (WBSC) will be held in the USA 1-16 October 2010! It is the first such event to be held in the United States since 1994 and approximately 100 nations are expected to participate in the world series, represented by thousands of the world's best players competing for world titles. Along with the WBSC, the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) District 4 will be hosting a two week World Bridge Federation Regional tournament, which will enable bridge players of all abilities to share in the excitement! The World Youth Team Championships (Pre-qualification required) will also take place in Philadelphia at this time. WBF Master Points will be given out for these events. Our sincerest thanks to the United States Bridge Federation (USBF) and the ACBL for their support and sponsorship.

For WBSC schedules, housing, and additional information please click on the following links:

WBF- [www.worldbridge.org/tourn/Philadelphia.10/Philadelphia.htm](http://www.worldbridge.org/tourn/Philadelphia.10/Philadelphia.htm)

USBF - [http://www.usbf.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=627&Itemid=282](http://www.usbf.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=627&Itemid=282)

Brochure - <http://www.usbf.org/docs/2010wc/Philadelphia2010.pdf>



## ALL INDIA SIMULTANEOUS CLASSIC PAIRS, 2010

The PYC Hindu Gymkhana, Pune is going to organize the **First All India Simultaneous Classic Pairs 2010** event on **Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2010**. The event will be held under the auspices of BFI and Master Points will be awarded as per the BFI norms. Any bridge club / association in India can participate in the event. The deals are set by Mr. Suhas Vaidya of Pune.

The event will be held in two independent sessions of 26 boards each. A pair can play either or both the sessions. ODD ENTRY is not allowed.

The PYC is planning to conduct this event annually on the **FIRST SUNDAY of JULY** every year. The total prize money will be Rs. 20000 /- (Rs. 10000 for each session) sponsored by "**AMANORA PARK TOWN**".

PRIZES : N – S I Rs. 2000 /-; II Rs. 1500 /-; III Rs. 1000 /-; IV Rs. 500 /-

E – W I Rs. 2000 /-; II Rs. 1500 /-; III Rs. 1000 /-; IV Rs. 500 /-

*Same prizes will be given for the Afternoon Session.*

The registration fee is Rs. 1000 for 30 booklets & Rs. 1500 for 50 booklets.

Please register at the earliest.

Contact: *Suhas Vaidya*

E-mail : [suhasvaidya@hotmail.com](mailto:suhasvaidya@hotmail.com)

## GOA BRIDGE FESTIVAL

Goa Bridge Association solicit your participation in the Interstate Bridge Tournament "**GOA BRIDGE FESTIVAL**" to be held under the auspices of Sports Authority of Goa at **Clube Tennis de Gaspar Dias, Miramar, Panaji** from **16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July 2010**.

Contacts: Mr. Suresh Kamat – 09881075756  
Mr. A.K. Jahagirdar - 09422064995

### Editorial board

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

### Technical Consultants:

Mr. Subhash Gupta, Mr. B. Satyanarayana

## DELHI BRIDGE SCHEDULE

1. Pair event on every Tuesday evening from 1830 Hrs. onwards & Team event on every Saturday from 1430 Hrs. onwards at Delhi Bridge Association Bldg., 18, Institutional Area, Lodi Estate. **Contact: T.C. Pant – 09811094407.**
2. Open Pairs tournament on the first Sunday of every month in the evening at Vasant Vihar Club. **Contact: Amarjit Wadhawan – 09811452647**
3. Open Pairs tournament on every Friday at FRIENDS CLUB, Friends Colony (West), from 1400 Hrs organized by the Ladies Bridge Association. **Contact: Mrs. Shashi Jain – 0120-2512470.**

## HINDUSTHAN CLUB TOURNAMENT

The **5<sup>th</sup> All India Hindusthan Club Tournament** conducted by the West Bengal Bridge Association is scheduled to be held at **Hindusthan Club, Kolkata** from **23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July 2010**.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2010

### National

- 04 Jul: All India Simultaneous Classic Pairs  
08-11 Jul: Corbett Park Tournament at Garjia  
16-18 Jul: Goa Bridge Festival, Goa  
23-25 Jul: Hindusthan Club Tournament at Kolkata  
14-17 Aug: Poddar National Masters, Mumbai  
27-29 Aug: 8<sup>th</sup> Sir Padampat Singhanian Memorial Invitational Pairs, Kanpur  
03-05 Sep: Kerala Bridge Festival  
16-19 Sep: KN Modi Tournament, Nainital  
24-26 Sep: Prize Money event at Mumbai  
30 Oct-02 Nov: HCL Tournament New Delhi, India  
26-28 Nov: Delhi Gymkhana Club  
10-17 Dec: 52<sup>nd</sup> Winter Nationals, Kolkata

### International

- Jul 22-Aug 1: ACBL Summer NABC New Orleans, LA  
Sep 13-16: 3<sup>rd</sup> Buffett Cup, Cardiff, Wales  
Oct 1-16: 13<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Series, Philadelphia, PA  
Oct 24-29: 3<sup>rd</sup> Commonwealth Nations Cup New Delhi, India

### CONTACT US:

You can send your bridge articles, comments, results & tournament schedules to us on the following e-mails:

[tcpant@hotmail.com](mailto:tcpant@hotmail.com),  
[sgaggarwal@gmail.com](mailto:sgaggarwal@gmail.com)

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