

THE KIBITZER

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REGIONAL WRAP-UP

The 7th White Hat Regional is now history. As Tournament Chairman, it is not for me to judge whether the tournament was a success or not; but it should be noted that the table count was 2,271, down only 8% from 1977, in spite of an upcoming North American Championship, and a gas shortage. Financially, we broke exactly even, which is just what we had hoped to accomplish. And I know for a fact that the tournament was a success for the large number of unit members who placed first or second in a major event:

Jill Savage won the Women's Pairs with Edmonton's Pat Lapushinsky.
Ron Bass and Doug Deschner won the Men's Pairs.
Charlie Roberts and Terry Mikkelsen won the Flight B Master's Pairs.
Archie Hess and Pat Todd placed second in the same event.
Maddie McGill and Marj Andrukow were second in the Women's Pairs.
Nancy Stewart and Pat Wesley were on the winning team in the Flight B Swiss.
Alex and Tony Orlandini were second in the Open Swiss.

The performance of the small Red Deer contingent was absolutely amazing!

In addition to the above, congratulations are also due to the dozens of other unit members who won side games, placed in the over-alls of major events, or won section tops. Congratulations to all, many thanks to all who worked so hard on the tournament committees, and my apologies to my partners for my miserable play throughout the week.

Allan Simon

INSUFFICIENT BID DEPARTMENT

Ron McNeill was inadvertently omitted from the list of unit members. Ron is Publicity Chairman for our unit (282-4819).

And his near-namesake, Ken MacNeal, was a member of the team that placed second in the Helena Regional Swiss Teams.

ROOKIE GRAND NATIONAL PAIRS

This is an exciting new event for all players with less than 20 master points.

The Calgary area qualifying round will be held at the Martinique on Thursday, September 13th at 7:30 P.M.

One pair from each A.C.B.L. district will participate in a one-day, two-session playoff for the Rookie Grand National Championship in Cincinnati on November 17th. The trip award will include transportation, hotel and food allowances, and an Awards Brunch.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our newer members to taste the excitement of major competition, so line up a partner and get in some practice games!

OVERHEARD AT THE REGIONAL

Garth Eger (looking for his partner, a well-known chirpractor):
"Is there a third for bridge?"

Eric Kokish (after RHO opened 2 diamonds): "Flannery will get you nowhere."

Ron Andersen (to Leslie Tsou): "Funny, you don't look Jewish."

GRAND NATIONAL PAIRS

The second annual Grand National Pairs gets underway in August. This year, the rules have been slightly modified, so that any two players who qualify for the Unit playoffs may enter these playoffs as partners, whether they qualified together or not. In order to qualify, a player must place in the top 30% of the field in any one of the qualifying rounds. (You can enter as often as you like.)

Qualifying rounds will be held at the following locations:

August 10 - Martinique
 August 12 - Calgary Bridge Centre
 August 13 - Canmar
 August 14 - Calgary Bridge Centre
 August 19 - Martinique

The Unit playoffs will be held September 15th at the Calgary Bridge Centre, at 1:00 and 6:30 P.M. The top 30% of this event will advance to the District Playoffs, and the top 3 pairs in that game go on to Fresno, California for the Grand National Pairs Championship.

CLUB NEWS

In addition to the above special events, look out for these games:

August 6 (1:00 PM)	Martinique	Open Pairs Club Championship
August 6 (7:30 PM)	Martinique	Swiss Teams Club Championship
August 21 (7:30 PM)	Martinique	Intermediate Pairs Championship
August 29 (7:30 PM)	Martinique	Restricted Pairs Club Championship
Sept. 11 (7:30 PM)	Calgary Bridge Centre	Open Pairs Club Championship
Sept. 18 (1:00 PM)	Calgary Winter Club	North "Y" Ladies' Club (first game at new location)
Sept. 6 (7:30 PM)	Canmar Bridge Club	Canada-wide Olympiad Fund Game

TRIVIA

Have you ever held a nine-card suit? If you play two sessions a week, you will average one nine-card suit a year, while a ten-bagger will come around once every 12 years. Just in case, keep in mind that the three remaining cards figure to split 2-1-0 rather than 1-1-1 or 3-0-0.

KIBITZER BIDDING CONTESTThe August Problems

A.) Matchpoints, E-W vul., South holds:
 S: K32 H: AJ984 D: Q1084 C: A

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
-	Pass	Pass	1H
2D	Db1	Pass	?

<u>The scoring:</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Panel Votes</u>	<u>Score</u>
	Pass	6	100
	2S	2	60
	2NT	0	20
	2H	0	10

Most panelists were influenced by the vulnerability and the fact that we are playing matchpoints. They decided to pass partner's negative double, hoping to collect +200. Acting as panel spokesman:

CHARLIE LIEGEROT: Pass. Partner must have 8 - 10 HCP, which makes 6 defensive tricks about 4 to 1 odds. People who think this bid can show 6 defensive tricks know nothing about negative doubles.

Even the dissenters were apologetic.

DOUG DESCHNER: Two spades is best although I love to play for +200 on hands like this.

B.) IMP's, both vul., South holds:
S: J96 H: J86 D: KQ1084 C: 92

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
-	1C	2C*	?

*natural

The scoring:	<u>Action</u>	<u>Panel Votes</u>	<u>Score</u>
	Pass	6	100
	2D	1	40
	Db1	1	40

Another clearcut majority. The South hand is simply too weak to take constructive action at this point. Summarizing the majority viewpoint:

DEV PRAKHYA: Pass. What else? If I bid 2 diamonds my partner will still be bidding and probably will never play with me again.

This hand has a little history behind it. When your editor held this in a playoff match in Great Falls, he passed. North (Chris Jonasson) also passed and we missed a cold 3NT. I therefore have sympathy for:

HELEN ROCHE: Now or never - negative double and hope it will not be too taxing to partner. He could - somewhat unlikely - leave the double in, and barring that will be playing on a 4-3 major fit.

This makes sense only if we can be sure partner will interpret our double correctly.

C.) Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds:
S: 764 H: AKQ985 D: 2 C: 742

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
-	-	1D	1H
Pass	4NT	Pass	5D
Pass	6D	Pass	?

The scoring:	<u>Action</u>	<u>Panel Votes</u>	<u>Score</u>
	7H	5	100
	Pass	2	60
	6H	1	30
	6NT	0	30

There are really only two possible hands for partner. Our presidential husband on the panel opines:

BRIAN CARPENTER: 7 hearts. 6 diamonds asks about hearts. Partner's hand:
S: Ax H: Jxxx D: A C: AKQJxx. Note GSF will not work.

This is certainly reasonable (KERGER suggests: A - xxxx - Axxx - AKQJ, and WAGLER laconically notices that his suit is solid) but I prefer this answer:

RICK TEWARI: Pass. Confucius say: 'Man who bid Blackwood place contract'. Partner holds: S: x H: x D: AKQJxxxx C: AKx

Finally, CHARLIE LIEGEROT was our lone 6 heart bidder. He gives partner: S: A H: J10xxxx D: x C: AKQJx, and he thinks we are lacking a diamond control. Were it not for my great respect for Chas, I would award this weird bid minus 10 points.

D.) IMP's, neither side vul., South holds:
S: Q5 H: A107 D: AQJ432 C: AQ

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
-	-	Pass	1D
Pass	1H	Pass	?

The scoring:	<u>Action</u>	<u>Panel Votes</u>	<u>Score</u>
	3D	3	100
	3H	2	80
	3C	1	70
	3NT	1	40
	4H	0	40
	2C	1	10

Except for our iconoclastic DEV PRAKHYA, who invented a convention on the spur of the moment and rebids "a forcing two clubs", our panel had a lot of trouble with this number. LIEGEROT calls it a nasty little mess, and bids three hearts. ROCHE also bids 3 reluctant hearts and TEWARI shrugs his shoulders and essays 3NT. This leaves the underbid of 3D, chosen, among others, by JOE KERGER and DOUG DESCHNER (I shouldn't really agree with them since each won more master points last year than most of us win in a lifetime), the overbid of 4H (selected by many write-in votes), and the misbid of 3C (wrong shape, not enough points). I guess Charlie L. hit the nail on the head after all!

E.) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds:
S: K H: A D: AJ108653 D: Q864

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
Pass	1C	2H*	3D
4H	Db1	Pass	?

*weak

The scoring:	<u>Action</u>	<u>Panel Votes</u>	<u>Score</u>
	5H	3	100
	5NT	0	100
	4NT	2	80
	6C	1	70
	5C	2	50
	Pass	0	20

This one comes from an Edmonton sectional. Partner held:
S: Axxx H: Q10x D: Kx C: A10xx and 6 of either minor was cold (if you played the club suit right). But even without the benefit of hindsight, pass or even 5C seems unduly timid. The real problem is how to get to the right slam (remember, partner could be 4-4-2-3), and five panelists tried with either 5H or 4NT (not Blackwood, of course), or a frequently-mentioned but never-chosen 5NT. LIEGEROT also discusses the (to me, obscure) merits of 4S, while DESCHNER leaps to the most likely spot. Summarizing the plurality viewpoint:

JOE KERGER: 5 hearts and let partner decide what to bid with:
S: AQx H: xxx D: Kx C: AKxxx

I don't think this hand is consistent with either of his previous calls (he would open 1NT, and he wouldn't double 4 hearts) but I still like the cue-bid best.

F.) Rubber bridge, E-W vul., South holds:
S: 643 H: 95 D: AKQ1098 C: 43

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
1D	Pass	1NT	Pass
4NT*	Pass	Pass	Pass

*quantitative

Which card do you lead?

The scoring:	<u>Action</u>	<u>Panel Votes</u>	<u>Score</u>
	DA	4	100
	DK	2	100
	DQ	0	100
	D8	2	50
	D10	0	50
	D9	0	50

First, let's decide what kind of dummy to expect. A little reflection will lead to something like: S: AKJ10 H: AKQx D: Jxxx C: A
This kind of hand is awkward to bid if you open two clubs. So the best chance to beat 4NT is to underlead your diamonds and hope to fool declarer. Our panel divided into 4 groups. First, the skeptics:

HELEN ROCHE: There is an air of suspicion around the table . . . If Jack-fourth of diamonds is on my left I can't do anything about it (you can't? I sure can - AS) so I lead Ace of diamonds.

JOE KERGER: Diamond ace. West is giving me the fish business.

Second, the stodgy traditionalists:

DOUG DESCHNER: King of diamonds. Partner should unblock or give count.

Third, the desperadoes:

TOM WAGLER: Eight of diamonds. What's the problem?

Lastly, the humorists:

BRIAN CARPENTER: Eight of diamonds. Longest and strongest. This rides to East's Jx for sure.

Come to think of it, why does nobody lead the queen? This combines safety with deception, methinks.

And what happened in real life? South led the 10, but dummy didn't have the jack. Declarer didn't have the jack either - partner had it, singleton!

47 readers sent in their votes. The winners, with perfect scores of 600, were STAN MATHESON and CHRIS JONASSON (that's right, Chris seems to have forgotten hand B). They will join the expert panel next month. All readers are urged to vote on the September problems by using the coupon.

September Problems

A.) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds:

S: A1065 H: 62 D: Q95 C: Q1076

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
Pass	1NT	3H	- ?

B.) IMP's, E-W vul., South holds:

S: A104 H: - D: Q107653 C: KQ72

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
Pass	Pass	3H	?

C.) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds:

S: KJ1072 H: KQJ84 D: 72 C: 6

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
-	1D	Pass	1S
2S	4S	Pass	4NT
Pass	5C	Pass	?

CONTINUED

D.) Matchpoints, N-S vul., South holds:

S: -	H: J732	D: 986543	C: 642
<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
-	2H	Dbl	?

E.) Matchpoints, E-W vul., South holds:

S: -	H: AQ106	D: 109743	C: AKQ4
<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
-	-	1S	Dbl
Pass	1NT	2S	?

F.) Matchpoints, neither vul., South holds:

S: J53 H: 1097 D: 876 C: KQ92

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
1S	Pass	2H	Pass
3S	Pass	4D	Pass
4H	Pass	4NT	Pass
5H	Pass	5NT	Pass
6D	Dbl	7H	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Which card do you lead?

UPCOMING SECTIONALS

August 3 - 6	Lethbridge Lodge, Lethbridge
August 23 - 26	Assembly Hall, Waskesiu, Sask.
August 31 - Sept. 3	Jubilee Auditorium, Calgary

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September Solutions: A) _____
B) _____
C) _____
D) _____
E) _____
F) _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

