

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE CBF | AUGUST 2013



bridge *Canada*

The Road to Bali

CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fun in Mexico

PLAYOFF STORIES

Meet ... Did you know?

TWO NEW FEATURES IN BRIDGE CANADA



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A

s of this issue I have taken over the responsibility for the overall content of Bridge Canada, the publication issued by the CBF for all Canadian bridge players. Jude Goodwin will continue her fine work in the layout, organization and formatting of the final content.

I look forward to this challenge. I have ideas for some different types of information that might be of interest to CBF members, who in the near future, will be the only ones who will have access to this publication.

Your feedback is important to me. Tell me what you like, what you don't, and make any suggestions for improvements. Email me at editor@cbf.ca.

Neil Kimelman Managing Editor, CBF Bridge Canada



Neil Kimelman - Editor

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CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Canadian Bridge Federation is to promote bridge within Canada and protect and advance the national interests of Canadian bridge, including the selection and support of Canadian bridge teams and players for international bridge competition.

letter

from the president

If you did not attend this year's Canadian Bridge Championships (CBC), held in Toronto in late May, you missed a good 8-day party. Participants greatly appreciated the hospitality and enjoyed the nice hotel and the friendly welcoming service by the hotel staff. Not only did we crown our national champions in several events, but we also celebrated the induction of three distinguished Canadians into the CBF Hall of Fame.

I am also pleased to report that, unlike the previous year, this year we did not have any unpleasant incidents of misconduct or unacceptable behaviour. This is largely due to the CBF emphasizing and strictly enforcing its Zero Tolerance policy as part of our continuing efforts to provide a pleasant playing environment for all participants at our events.

One area of disappointment was the low participation in Flight C of the Canadian National Team Championship in which only three teams competed. The CNTC-C was created in 2012 to provide an opportunity for players with fewer than 1,000 masterpoints to win a national championship.

I hope that you start planning to join us at next year's CBC 3 – 10 May 2014 in Calgary.



Nader Hanna

2014 CNTC-A Winners

The CBF Board of Directors has decided to fund the winners of the 2014 CNTC-A National Final to represent Canada at the 2014 Commonwealth Games Bridge Event which is planned for Glasgow, Scotland 8-13 September 2014. This decision was made because 2014 is the Open World Championships in which all events are Transnational and the number of entries from any country is unlimited. The Commonwealth Nations Bridge Championship is restricted to one team from each member country of the British Commonwealth.



2013 CBF Board of Directors: Jerry Mamer - Zone 5, Kathie Macnab - Zone 1, Nader Hanna - Zone 3, CBF President, Jean Castonguay - Zone 2, Neil Kimelman - Zone 4 and Peter Morse - Zone 6.

SUPPORT THE CBF

Are you a member of the CBF?

You can check your CBF status through My ACBL on www.acbl.org. If you did not include CBF dues with your ACBL dues you can still become a paid-up member of the CBF by completing the form at the bottom of this page.

Time to renew your ACBL

membership? Don't forget to include the CBF dues with your ACBL renewal!

ATTENTION CLUB MANAGERS

Packages containing information and sanction applications for all CBF events were mailed out to all club managers of Canadian bridge clubs in August. Please make sure to apply for sanctions if your club wishes to hold any CBF games. On-line sanction applications for CNTC, COPC and Rookie-Master games are available on the CBF website (left hand menu - under application forms). This fall will see the gradual transition from the Regina office, where Janice Anderson resides to the new office in Maple, ON where Ina Demme works. As a result of this transition, COPC and CNTC sanction applications will be processed by Ina Demme (ina@cbf.ca). The fall Erin Berry RM Game will still be handled by Janice Anderson (jan@cbf.ca). Beginning in January of 2014, all sanction applications will be handled by Ina Demme.

C.B.F. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

(Please print clearly to ensure you receive your mailings)

NAME: _____

ACBL PLAYER NUMBER (if you have one): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

FEE ENCLOSED: _____ \$22.00 (\$13 for Junior members) DATE: _____

Make cheques payable to CBF | MAIL TO : Canadian Bridge Federation 2719 Jolly Place Regina SK S4V 0X8
1 Pietro Drive Maple, ON L6A 3J4 (after May 1, 2014)

CBF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The CBF Board of Directors meetings were held May 22 - 24, 2013 in Toronto, ON. Some of the items covered have been written up separately in this issue of Bridge Canada. Some other points of interest are:

The CBF Board of Directors and the membership at the AGM passed the new CBF Bylaw #1. In conjunction with this, the Board examined what other measures are required for the transition to the new Federal "Not for Profit" Act. We hope to have met all requirements by the end of 2013.

Formed a committee to look into expanding and developing our website. The committee members are Nader Hanna, Kathy Macnab and Jerry Mamer.

Passed a motion that playing directors will be allowed to place in the overall results in the CBF STAC. The next STAC is 17-23 February 2014

Nader Hanna was elected as CBF President for the 2013 – 2014 year.

Peter Morse was elected as the CBF Vice President for the 2013 – 2014 year.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The terms of office for the CBF Zone Directors in Zones II and V expire on December 31, 2013. The CBF is currently accepting nominations for these positions. (Term of office will be January 1, 2014 until December 31, 2016)

Any person interested in running for one of these positions should notify the CBF office in writing of their intent to seek election. To run for election a person must be a paid-up CBF member and must reside in the Zone in which he/she is running for election. Declaration of candidacy will be accepted until September 30, 2013. The declaration shall contain the name, address, ACBL number and Unit of said candidate and may contain biographical material which is not to exceed 100 words. Voting will be conducted from October 15, 2013 until November 20, 2013.

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION

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HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

A full house packed the Heritage Room at Toronto's Delta East Hotel

For what has become one of the most anticipated highlights of our annual Bridge Week, a full house packed the Heritage Room at Toronto's Delta East Hotel to honour the Hall's 2013 inductees Francine Cimon, Audrey Grant and Joey Silver.

Francine is the first Francophone inductee (although several members of the HOF have Montreal roots: Sam Gold, Eric Kokish, George Mittelman, Ralph Cohen, Boris Baran and Mark Molson). Pierre Daigneault, Francine's presenter at the Induction ceremony,

switched effortlessly from English to French as he told us about Francine's early days in bridge.

No longer is Diana Gordon the sole female member of the HOF as the fairer sex's membership has been trebled.

All of the 2013 inductees are still very active either as Players (Francine and Joey) or as Teacher-Promoter-Author extraordinaire (Audrey).

Both Francine and Joey attended the 2013 Bridge Week to compete as

FRANCINE CIMON

AUDREY GRANT

JOEY SILVER

2013

well as to receive their HOF honours. Francine's team fell just short in a thrilling Canadian Women's Team Championship final while Joey's senior squad never got on track in their bid to qualify for the Bali World Championship.

Here are some highlights of the inductees' careers (to date only as I'm sure there will be many more notable accomplishments by all three).



PHOTOS left to right: Joey Silver, (in shades) with his family. Commemorative glass carvings given to all the CBF Hall of Fame inductees. Audrey Grant and Francine Cimon (Photos, Jonathan Steinberg)



"the fairer sex's membership has been trebled ... "

FRANCINE CIMON

- First represented Canada in a World Bridge Olympiad at the age of twenty-five.
- 14 CWTC wins and many other high finishes.
- Competed in seven consecutive Olympiads and nine Venice Cups winning one Silver and three Bronze Medals at the World level.
- One Canadian Open Pairs Championship (with Mark Yudin).
- With husband Denis, Francine serves as the French translator for Bridge Canada magazine.
- Having fallen agonizingly short in the 2013 CWTC final, Francine will make the trip to Bali anyway as Team Caley recently announced that Francine will be their non-playing captain. Bonne Chance and Good Luck in Bali!

AUDREY GRANT

- Well-known wherever bridge is played as “The Teacher of Teachers” having taught how to be a better teacher to an estimated 10,000 eager students from all corners of the globe.

- The driving force behind Better Bridge (along with husband and HOF presenter David Lindop and son Jason) an all-things bridge enterprise that publishes books and “Better Bridge” magazine, offers cruises and festivals, and to fill in Audrey’s “spare” time has recently started an online Daily Bridge Column.

- Author of several classics that are well-used by teachers everywhere: “The Joy of Bridge”, “Bridge Maxims” and “Better Bridge” to name a few.

- 2013 Honorary Member award recipient from the American Contract Bridge League (one of the highest honours the League can bestow!).

- Title honouree for Unit 166’s annual “Audrey Grant Award”, special recognition for a bridge teacher who consistently demonstrates excellence and professionalism in the field.

JOEY SILVER

- A semi-retired lawyer from Montreal who adds colour and interest whenever and wherever he sits down to play.

- Won the 1974 Vanderbilt (along with Eric Kokish and the Crossley brothers from California) while still relatively unknown in the world of big-time bridge.

- Other notable wins: Epson Teams (in Japan), the Cavendish Invitational Pairs, the Hong Kong Inner-City, the IOC Cup.

- Several more North American and Canadian Championships

- Bermuda Bowl Silver Medal (the best result a Canadian Team has ever had in this most prestigious of all World events).

- The John Simon Sportsman of the Year award (along with partner Irving Litvack).



Erin Berry Fund recipient Victor Lameaux, above right, was a finalist in the Youth NABC Sportsmanship Award 2013.

ERIN BERRY MEMORIAL FUND

This fund was established in 2001 as a trust fund set up by Erin Berry’s father, Larry Berry. The Trust Fund is meant to help Junior players 19 or younger with expenses incurred to attend bridge events.

The Trustees of the Erin Berry Memorial Fund met at the end of May in Toronto and granted subsidies to the following individuals:

Dru Guimond - \$750 towards expenses of attending the Youth NABC in Atlanta

Robert Guimond - \$750 towards expenses of attending the Youth NABC in Atlanta

Victor Lamoureux - \$1,090 towards his expenses for attending the NBC & Youth NABC in Atlanta

VJ Lamoureux - \$650 towards expenses of attending the Youth NABC in Atlanta

Vivian Lamoureux - \$650 towards expenses of attending the Youth NABC in Atlanta

Jacob Rice - \$750 towards expenses of attending the Youth NABC in Atlanta

For information on the Erin Berry Memorial Fund please visit the CBF website at www.cbf.ca.



CHANGES TO THE CWTC

The last few years have seen a significant decline in participation in the CWTC.

by Nader Hanna

In the 1990's it was common to have 16 - 20 women's teams compete for the honour of representing Canada at the world championships. However, that number has consistently declined and this year only four teams competed in the CWTC in Toronto (a 5th team had to withdraw due to medical emergency).

Declining participation in women's events is a North American trend and not unique to Canada. In the U.S. only six teams participated in the 2013 USBF women's trials to select the two teams representing the U.S. in this year's Venice Cup competition in Bali. Declining women's participation has also been noticeable in women's events at NABCs. For example, while 28 teams competed in the Wagar Knockout

teams at the 2006 Summer NABC in Chicago, only 13 teams competed in the same event this year in Atlanta and more than 25% of participants were from Europe.

During the recent Canadian Bridge Championships (CBC) in Toronto, the CBF organized a meeting with the players participating in the CWTC to discuss their views on the reasons for the declining participation and ways of encouraging more women to participate in future CWTCs. As a result of the feedback received by the CBF, the following changes will be in effect starting in 2014:

The trials to select the Canadian women's team will take place the year before the world championships (i.e. the 2014 trials will select the team to compete in the 2015 Venice Cup). This will allow the trials to be held in the

summer thus permitting more women (specifically teachers) to participate. However, this means that the women's trials will be held separately and not as part of the CBC which is usually held in late May.

To minimize the cost of holding the trials as a stand-alone event (not as part of the CBC) the trials will be held in conjunction with an ACBL regional held in Canada during the month of July or August. At the moment the Edmonton Regional (August 11 - 17) is the likely venue for the 2014 trials.

There will be no CBF subsidized Canadian women's team participating in the 2014 World Bridge Series (McConnell Cup) in Sanya, China. The subsidy designated for 2014 women's team will be divided equally and added to the subsidies of the Canadian women's



CHANGES to the CWTC continued

NON PLAYING CAPTAINS

In 2008 the CBF established a list of potential non-playing captains for our open, women's and senior teams competing in the various World Championships.

The purpose of the NPC list is to assist teams in selecting their NPC in a timely fashion in order to maximize the team's preparation time for the championships. The list, which is updated annually, includes CBF members in good standing who have adequate international experience, either as a player or as a NPC, who have expressed interest in performing the NPC role, and have been approved by the CBF Board of Directors. All people on the NPC list *must* be paid-up members of the CBF and, beginning in 2014, continuous membership from January 1 of the previous year will be required (for 2014 this means a NPC must have been a CBF member since January 1, 2013).

If you are interested in being an approved NPC, please send your name, contact information and a brief description of your international experience, to Janice Anderson at jan@cbf.ca. The deadline for submitting an expression of interest is 1 January 2014.

teams competing in the 2015, 2016 and 2017 world championships.

Additionally, this year's experience showed that a team trial is not the preferred format when fewer than 6 teams participate. Accordingly, the following changes will also be in effect starting 2014:

The deadline for teams to register for the CWTC, including the payment of a \$300 deposit, shall be February 15.

Should fewer than 6 teams register for the CWTC the deposit will be refunded, and the championship will be converted to the Canadian Women's Imp Pairs Championship (CWIPC). Pairs interested in participating in the CWIPC must then register their interest by April 15 and pay a deposit of \$150. Should fewer than 16 pairs register for the event it shall be cancelled and all deposits shall be refunded. The outcome of the CWTC or the CWIPC, as the case may be, will determine the women's team representing Canada for the following year's world championship. Subject to meeting the eligibility requirements, the Canadian women's team will be determined as follows:

Should a CWTC be held, the winners will represent Canada.

Should a CWIPC be held, the winning pair plus two of the next four pairs in the final standings (as described in the event's conditions of contest) will form the team representing Canada.

Should neither a CWTC nor a CWIPC be held, the CBF Board of Directors will form a committee to select the team (if any) representing Canada.

SAYING GOODBYE

MIKE BETTS



BRIDGE CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

1981: The August 1st New York Times reported how Mike's team (including Tom Goodwin, Ed Spear and Jim Greer-all of Maine) upset the reigning Vanderbilt champions (B. Jay Becker, Mike Becker, Jeff Rubens, Ron Rubin, Edgar Kaplan and Norman Kay) in the 2nd round of the Spingold. Mike was 30 at the time.

1982: Mike's team (including Alan Doane, Gerry Callaghan, Eric Balkam, John Stewart and Victor Goldberg) lost by 1 IMP in the final of the Canadian National Team Championship (CNTC) before the event was flighted.

1991: Playing with Randy Bennett, his team won the CNTC, then went on to defeat Bermuda and Mexico in the tri-country playoff to represent North America in the Bermuda Bowl placing 11th in the World in the Bermuda Bowl. The team also included the late Doug Heron, Ed Zaluski, John Valliant and Dave Willis.

1997: Mike and Randy won the Canadian Open Pairs Championship (COPC)

2007: Mike and partner, the late Jim Gordon (Vermont), playing with Karl Hicks (Cape Breton) and Brian Alexander (New Brunswick) won the 6-day Mini Spingold (under 5000 MP). In the finals the opponents withdrew with 16 boards remaining.

MICHAEL "MIKE" BETTS 1951 - 2013

Mike Betts passed away in Fredericton, NB on May 19th, after a long battle with cancer. He was one of the best players from the Atlantic Provinces, but was unfortunately little known outside of the Maritimes. He lived most of his life in Fredericton, but also lived in Halifax and the US later in life.

Mike Betts was a loving family man, humble and modest and a role model for how to interact with others. He never said a bad word about people or dwelled on his illness. In his younger years he was involved in his Unit's administration and in the last years of his life he gave back to bridge by mentoring, coaching and teaching newer players, even when his health started to fail. I think Karl Hicks; Editor of the Maritime Bridge Line said it best in the publication's obituary:

"He will be remembered by those who knew him as a fierce competitor who loved the game and did not subscribe to winning at all cost. ...He believed in total disclosure and his demeanor at the table was always welcoming and friendly.... We can all take a lesson from Mike's example not only in bridge but in life itself. He was a warrior, a friend, and above all a principled human being. He will be missed by all who had the good fortune to have met him".

by Leo Weniger
District 1 Director, ACBL

SAYING GOODBYE

FAY TEAL

Barry Harper
Regina, SK

FAY MARJORIE TEAL 1939 - 2013

Fay Marjorie Teal passed away at Lisaard House in Cambridge, Ontario on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at the age of 74.

Fay was born in Watrous, Saskatchewan. Her father, Ches Teal, was a school principal and was one of the founding members of the Regina Bridge Club. Fay learned duplicate as a teenager, and was a Life Master by her early twenties.

Bridge then took a back seat to life. She won provincial championships in debating as well as tennis and swimming. Following dad's footsteps she became a teacher. She and her husband lived most of their lives in Ontario, raising two babies, but she always said that her heart would always remain in Saskatchewan. She became a high school vice-principal, rare for a female at that time, and was intensely involved in rights for teachers and specifically female teachers. She had divorced and remarried. Her second husband Kenneth Aram was a firefighter, who died from complications involving lung injuries at work.

Fay was highly involved in charitable work, and made frequent donations, often anonymously. She retired relatively young and ran several different successful businesses. She then decided to spend her winters in Arizona. About then she rediscovered bridge and found she was a bronze Life Master, something that hadn't existed when she had last played. She got back into bridge with a vengeance, becoming in relatively short order, Silver LM, Gold LM and finally Diamond LM.



I played with her for the last 2 1/2 years and we had great success. One of my favourites was a morning game in Toronto, where we were the only pair above average with 80.56% Just to show that this was no fluke we were almost +100 IMPs in a flight A pairs that afternoon.

In 2012 Fay won the first ever mini-Richmond trophy in the Gold Life Master category with over 1,000 points for the year! She rounded out bridge play by teaching and directing (a new pursuit when she was already in her 70's). She just recently joined the ACBL Board of Governors as a representative for District 2 (Ontario and Manitoba).

I think my favourite hand with her was in a Las Vegas KO where she opened 4S in 1st seat vul, and I took her seriously, raising to six with ♠ Q x ♥ Q x x ♦ AK x x x x ♣ A K. LHO doubled and a club was led, Fay holding ♠ K 10 9 8 x x x x ♥ x x ♦ Q x ♣ x. Apparently she believed that an eight card suit equals the four level, end of story. She played very fast, taking two clubs and then three high diamonds. When her LHO failed on the third round and didn't ruff, she looked at the doubler and said 'I'm leading a low spade, playing you for the Jack ...' +1660!

Fay was fun to play with and loved the game. She was a fierce competitor and a strong individual. I will miss her. Bridge will miss her.

DID YOU KNOW?

ERIC KOKISH'S VERY EARLY COACHING DAYS

by Stephen Cooper

THREE FRIENDS AND I WERE

Eric Kokish's first test subjects for coaching. He was already a young star in the early 70's, and the four of us were in our late teens, maybe 20. One has since died; one no longer plays; but Jay Saks still plays out of Montreal. Kokish tried to teach and train us. We had notes, practices, questionnaires, etc. He asked for nothing in return.

Before moving to Toronto, I played in the Montreal Bridge IMP league. Our team was Kokish, me, Joan Lupovich, Sol Weinstein, Henry Cukoff, and Peter Hollander,

One match I played with Kokish. He taught me that if you doubled a 1NT opening, it was a penalty double; none of this "I got a bunch a points" business. You had a good hand and a good lead. Playing against two top players, Steve Brown and Pierre Daigneault, I doubled their 1NT opening. Responder had a nice 11 HCP hand with a 1543 shape, so he redoubled, for business. The whole world would have run with Kokish's hand, (some



weak distributional thingy) but he knew what he had taught me, so he passed.

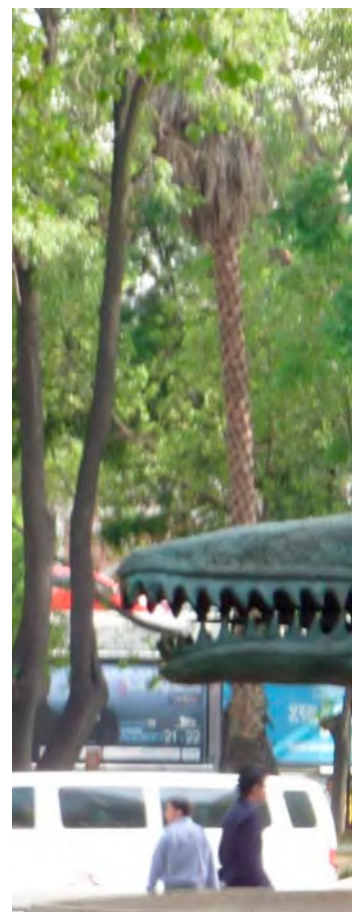
I cashed my A K Q J x x of spades and side ace for +1000 while our partners scored +650.

Article and artistic creation by Stephen Cooper

MEXICO CALLING 911

CANADIANS WIN PLAYOFFS IN MEXICO

BY JUDITH AND NICHOLAS GARTAGANIS



On the last weekend of June the winners of the 2013 CNTC and CWTC played their Mexico counterparts to determine who would play in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup, respectively, slated for September 2013 in Bali, Indonesia.

The matches would be 128 boards in length, played over two days in eight 16-board segments. Screens were in use, but the boards were shuffled at the start of each segment so the hands in the Open and Women's matches were different and there were no hand records.

After a slow start, the Women's team (Sondra Blank, Sylvia Caley, Karen Cumpstone, Ina Demme, Joan Eaton, and Katie Thorpe) gained complete control and eventually triumphed by more than 130 IMPs. The Open Team (Paul Thurston, Jeffrey Smith, Darren Wolpert, Hazel Wolpert, Judith Gartaganis, Nicholas Gartaganis) had a far more difficult road. Daniel Korbel was unable to participate and Hazel Wolpert, the Open Team's NPC, substituted for him.

The Mexico team (Moises Ades, Gonzalo Herrera, Enrico Pagani, and Mauricio Smid) had added Gerry Marshall, one of Canada's top masterpoint holders, to their squad. A long-time Calgarian, Marshall has established residence in Mexico and now claims that country as his own.

The contest was characterized by highly aggressive and often successful pre-empts by Mexico. Although Canada won the first three of eight segments, the Mexico team scored heavily in the fourth segment to lead by 13 IMPs at the end of the first day. However, their lead was reduced to 10 IMPs as a result of a cell phone violation. The WBF has a policy in place requiring a mandatory IMP penalty for the first infraction (i.e. if the cell phone rings or makes any



noise) and a financial and IMP penalty for each subsequent infraction. During the two-day match there were at least six incidents of cell phone violations at our table and at least one violation at our partners' table. We never called the director and the only time a penalty was imposed was when the director was nearby and had no choice but to do so.

On the second day Canada won the first two segments to take the lead by 20 IMPs, but lost the third segment and entered the final segment 14 IMPs behind. The first two boards added 16 IMPs to Mexico's lead, but then it went all Canada's way. With four boards remaining Canada nosed ahead by 2 IMPs and added a further 8 IMPs on boards 15-17. Disaster struck on the last board and our initial tally indicated Mexico had won. Fortunately a second tabulation confirmed that Canada had triumphed by 1 IMP – phew!! Close matches tend to add years to one's age and we are at the point in life where we can't afford to be frivolous.

It so happened that a second cell phone penalty had been assessed during the eighth segment, which Mexico would no doubt have appealed had it been relevant. Fortunately the second penalty proved immaterial to the outcome.



MEXICO CALLING 911

BY JUDITH AND NICHOLAS GARTAGANIS

HANDS FROM THE MATCH

HAND 1

With everyone vulnerable Nicholas' RHO opened 3♦. The auction proceeded Pass, Pass, 4♥ by Judith. Nicholas was admiring this collection:

♠ 9 7 4 2
♥ —
♦ A Q J 4
♣ A K Q J 10

It was possible that even 7♥ might be cold (e.g. partner has seven solid hearts and the ♠ A). He tried 4NT. When partner showed two key cards without the ♥ Q Nicholas wished for an "undo". He passed and LHO doubled. Now what? There were two winning bids (5♠! and 5NT), but he passed and his partner went down two after a spade lead. Partner had:

♠ K 8 6 4 3
♥ A K J 9 8 6 3
♦ 2
♣ --

The doubler's partner led his singleton ♠ J and got a ruff with his singleton ♥ 2. Gonzalo Herrera had opened a vulnerable 3♦ on:

♠ J
♥ 2
♦ K 10 9 8 7 6 5
♣ 8 7 6 5

This debacle resulted in a loss of 9 IMPs because our counterparts reached 6♠ in an uncontested auction. That contract failed by one trick (two trump losers) but a double was avoided. Not only did the Mexicans pre-empt frequently, but they seemed to sacrifice at every opportunity.

HAND 2

Moises Ades held:

♠ Q 4
♥ 8 3
♦ J 10 5 2
♣ J 10 7 6 4.

In third seat at favourable vulnerability, his partner opened 2♠ showing 5+ spades with a second 5+ suit, 3-10 HCP. The auction proceeded:

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	P
P	2♠	X	P
4♥	P	6♥	?

He took the dive to 7♣ (pass or correct), catching his partner with:

♠ K J 10 7 4
♥ 5
♦ 4 3
♣ K 9 8 5 2.

Ades misguessed clubs and went for 1400, but won 1 IMP for his enterprise. A better club guess would have garnered 8 IMPs.

But two can play the sacrifice game!

HAND 3

At favourable vulnerability, you hear partner open 2♣ (5 or more good quality clubs, 11-16 HCP; if only 5 clubs will have a 4-card major). RHO jumps to 4♥ and you hold:

♠ K 9 8 7
♥ 6
♦ 10 7 4 3
♣ 7 6 3

Perhaps the sensible choice is pass, but Nicholas chose 5 ♣. That was followed by two passes, double by RHO. LHO now bid 5 ♥ which failed by one trick – win 13 IMPs. The full deal:

Segment 3 – Board 2
Dlr: East Vul: N/S

	♠ 4 2	
	♥ Q 10 7 4 2	
	♦ A 8 6	
	♣ J 8 4	
♠ K 9 8 7		♠ Q J 10 6
♥ 6		♥ 5
♦ 10 7 5 4 3		♦ K J 9
♣ 7 6 3		♣ K Q 10 9 5
	♠ A 5 3	
	♥ A K J 9 8 3	
	♦ Q 2	
	♣ A 2	

Sometimes the IMPs generated were totally unexpected. You hold:

♠ K Q J 7 5 2
♥ K 6 4
♦ K 10
♣ 10 5

The auction started with:

West	North	East	South
-	1♠	2♥	3♥ ¹
P	4♠	P	?

1) Limit raise or better in spades

Partner did not cue bid, but he did jump to game opposite a potential limit raise ... it feels as though you have more than a little in reserve. Herrera continued with 4NT, thinking the five level would be safe even if two key cards were missing. His partner responded 5 ♥ and Herrera bailed out at 5♠. The good news was the ♦ A was onside ... the bad news was the ♣ K was offside. Unfortunately for Herrera, partner's hand was:



♠ A 9 8 6 3
♥ Q
♦ 5 4
♣ A Q 9 7 3

-50 meant Canada gained 10 IMPs on this unforced error. With the same cards and the same start to the auction Nicholas made the value bid of 3 ♠, certain that with almost any hand that could generate 10 tricks, Judith would carry on to game.

Both Mexico and Canada had numerous occasions to smile or grimace as a result of slams bid by the opponents. This was one of our more fortunate outcomes.

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MEXICO CALLING 911

BY JUDITH AND NICHOLAS GARTAGANIS

In general, Canada showed sharper declarer skills

HAND 4

Segment 6 – Board 27

Dlr: South Vul: None

	♠ A J 8 3		
	♥ A K 9 6 2		
	♦ J 10		
	♣ A 3		
♠ 7		♠ 2	
♥ J 10 8 3		♥ Q 7 4	
♦ 9 8 7 6 5 4 2		♦ K 3	
♣ 5		♣ K J 10 9 7 4 2	
	♠ K Q 10 9 6 5 4		
	♥ 5		
	♦ A Q		
	♣ Q 8 6		

West	North	East	South
Smid	Smith	Ades	Thurston
-	-	-	2 ♠(1)
Pass	2NT(2)	3 ♣	DBL(3)
Pass	3 ♦(4)	Pass	3 NT(5)
Pass	4NT	Pass	5 ♠(6)
Pass	5NT(7)	Pass	7 ♠(8)

- (1) 10-14 HCP with 6+ spades
- (2) Asks for further description
- (3) Maximum with undisclosed shortness
- (4) Asks for shortness
- (5) Heart singleton
- (6) Two key cards with the ♠ Q
- (7) We've got them all ... anything extra
- (8) I've got lots of kings (or maybe none :-))

With the friendly heart distribution and the onside ♦ K ... Bob's your uncle. 11 IMPs to Canada.

In general, Canada showed sharper declarer skills and defended more accurately. Here is an instructive deal played late in the match:

HAND 5

Segment 7 – Board 16

Dlr: West Vul: E/W

	♠ K 9 8		
	♥ A K 9 8 7 2		
	♦ Q 7 6 5		
	♣ --		
♠ A Q 6 5 3		♠ J 7 4 2	
♥ Q J 10		♥ 5 4	
♦ J 3		♦ A 9 8	
♣ 10 9 2		♣ Q J 6 3	
	♠ 10		
	♥ 6 3		
	♦ K 10 4 2		
	♣ A K 8 7 5 4		

North declared 4 ♥ after opening 1 ♥ in 2nd seat. The lead at both tables was the ♣ Q. Smith won the club lead, pitching a diamond and led a spade. He recognized that even if the ♠ A were behind the King and the opponents played trumps, he would be able to win the first round of trumps, ruff a spade and then pitch his last spade on the ♣ A. It would then be a matter of playing diamonds for one loser (assuming trumps split 3-2). With the ♠ A onside it was trivial to make 10 tricks as another diamond went away on the ♣ K. Marshall, however, discarded a *spade* and had no choice but to guess diamonds for one loser. There were strong indications that diamonds were 2-3 or 3-2 with East holding the ♦ A (West playing 11-13 no trumps had already shown the ♠ A and the ♥ Q J). A diamond from hand to the King is a 2-to-1 favourite, winning in six of the nine cases where East holds two or three diamonds to the ♦ A. However declarer, somewhat mechanically, led a diamond to the ♦ 10 and went one down – 10 IMPs for Canada. And another instructive deal...

HAND 6

Segment 8 – Board 5

Dlr: North Vul: N/S

	♠ A J 4	
	♥ Q 10 7 3	
	♦ A Q	
	♣ K 8 7 2	
♠ 6 3		♠ 9 8 2
♥ J 9 5 4		♥ K 6
♦ K 10 6 5		♦ J 4 3 2
♣ A J 10		♣ Q 9 6 3
	♠ K Q 10 7 5	
	♥ A 8 2	
	♦ 9 8 7	
	♣ 5 4	

West	North	East	South
NicholasG	Marshall	JudithG	Herrera
-	1 NT	P	2 ♣
P 2 ♥	P	3 NT	
All Pass			

At the other table Smith-Thurston reached 4 ♠ and Thurston (South) made 12 tricks after West led the ♥ 4 to the ♥ K and ♥ A. At our table Marshall declared 3NT from the North side on the ♣ 3 lead (4th best) from Judith. Nicholas won the ♣ A and, with no attractive switch apparent, he continued the ♣ J. With eight tricks on top and a virtual guarantee from the lead that the clubs are distributed 4-3 there is a 100% line of play as long as East is the one with four clubs and also holds fewer than four spades. Duck the first two clubs (it can't hurt to play the ♣ 7 8 to encourage West to continue the suit) and win the third round. Play three rounds of spades ending in hand and exit a club. East is forced to give you a ninth trick in either hearts or diamonds – no guessing required.

However, declarer won the ♣ K on the second round and had to generate a ninth trick on his own. He cashed five spades, pitching two clubs from hand. Nicholas discarded the ♦ 6 (discouraging), ♦ 5 and ♦ 10 while Judith threw the ♦ 3 (encouraging) and the ♣ Q.



These cards remained:

♠ -	♠ -
♥ Q 10 7 3	♥ K 6
♦ A Q	♦ J 4 2
♣ -	♣ 9
♠ -	♠ -
♥ J 9 5 4	♥ A 8 2
♦ K	♦ 9 8 7
♣ 10	♣ -

At this juncture a low heart from dummy provides an opportunity to guess hearts correctly or additional chances even if you misguess. Declarer decided to cash the ♥ A and played a second round of hearts to the ♥ Q, losing to Judith's ♥ K, and thus setting himself up for a suicide squeeze! Judith exited the preserved ♣ 9 to Nicholas' ♣ 10 and Marshall had only losing options. If he pitched the ♦ Q Nicholas could return the ♦ K and collect the last two tricks with the ♥ J 9. If instead declarer pitched a heart (as he did) Nicholas could cash two heart tricks. Plus 100 translated into 13 IMPs for Canada.

With the match winding down, every hand came with increased pressure. This was the last hand played at the table where Smith-Thurston sat N/S:

MEXICO CALLING 911

BY JUDITH AND NICHOLAS GARTAGANIS

HAND 7

Segment 8 – Board 24

Dlr: West Vul: None

	♠ 4 3 2		
	♥ 6 2		
	♦ J 9 8 6 5 3		
	♣ 10 5		
♠ J 10 9		♠ Q 8 6 5	
♥ J 10 8 5		♥ K 7 4	
♦ Q 2		♦ A K 7	
♣ K J 7 2		♣ 8 6 3	
	♠ A K 7		
	♥ A Q 9 3		
	♦ 10 4		
	♣ A Q 9 4		

West	North	East	South
Smid	Smith	Pagani	Thurston
P	P	1 ♣	DBL
1 ♥	P	P	1NT ¹
2 ♣	2 ♦	2 ♥	DBL
P	?? ²		

1) 17-20 HCP or so

2) Gulp ... it's your call. Get it right and you go to Bali. Get it wrong and you go home to Ottawa, a loser.

As you can see, if North passes and leads a club, North-South will earn +100. If North instead pulls to 3 ♦, the result will be -50. Smith passed and led a club to push the board! The auction at the other table saw North buy the contract for 2 ♦, just making.

It was a desperately close match that would have made for wonderful drama for the kibitzers had there been BBO coverage. Both teams were equally deserving to qualify for the Bermuda Bowl, but in the end Canada prevailed by the slimmest of margins.

2013 HELEN SHIELDS ROOKIE MASTER GAME

National Winners

JOHN SILVER & JEAN BRACH

Scenic Powell River (population = 18,000) is located 90 miles north of Vancouver on the west coast of British Columbia. The Powell River Duplicate Bridge Club (www.prdbc.ca) holds 3 weekly ACBL-sanctioned games. Our club members are a close knit group with everyone caring for each other, even beyond the bridge tables.

John Silver, our Rookie, moved to Powell River "on an impulse" 5 years ago. Since 2009, he has been a keen club member, always willing to participate in all our club activities. Jean Brach, our master, has been a member of our club since its inception over 40 years ago. Besides possessing great card sense, Jean always has something positive to say to her partner.

The first time John and Jean played together was in the Helen Shields Rookie-Master game on April 23rd. They were thrilled to win at the club level. Now, they cannot believe they were first overall across Canada!

Thank you to the Canadian Bridge Federation for hosting this event. View complete results at www.cbf.ca

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FUN

IN MEXICO

BY SYLVIA CALEY

IN MEXICO CITY

I had the pleasure of captaining the Women's Team of Katie Thorpe/Ina Demme, Joan Eaton/Karen Cumpstone and Sondra Blank/Sylvia Caley in the recent playoff in Mexico City. The winners of the playoff would become the zone representatives to the World Championships which will be held in Bali this September.

My flight into Mexico City was uneventful. Upon arrival I headed directly for the Money Exchange. One Canadian dollar will get you about 11.70 Pesos. An American dollar is worth about 12.25 Pesos. If you use your American Dollars in the restaurants you will only get 10 Pesos credit per dollar so it's a good idea to visit the Exchange.

Eventually the entire team arrived and it was approaching game time. The event would be played in 8 segments over two days.

SEGMENT 1

With neither side vul, as West I held:

♠ x x ♥ x x x ♦ x x ♣ Q J 10 x x x

West	North	East	South
Sylvia	Opp	Sondra	Opp
-	-	-	2♠
P	4♠	DbI	P
?			

Is this primarily takeout or penalty? Apparently I thought it was takeout and Sondra played that this was a two-way bid, a big flat hand that was willing to play or defend. I bid 5♣, which went down when we could have beaten 4♠X. Sondra and I have since agreed to play that double is a big flat hand, play or defend and 4NT is a two or three-suited takeout.

We lost 11 IMPs on this board and at the end of Segment 1 we were down by 4 - 31 to 35.

Partner and I sat out Segment 2. Our teammates picked up 1 IMP so we trailed by 3.

SEGMENT 3

This segment went very well for us. Sondra and I beat two 3NT contracts that Joan and Karen brought home in the other room. Sondra also made a vulnerable 4♥ game that was not bid in the other room. The score for this segment was 47 for us and 4 for them. We were now comfortably ahead by 40, never to look back.

As the event continued Sondra and I started stepping out.

With neither side vul I held:

♠ Q x ♥ x ♦ x x x ♣ Q 10 x x x x x

West	North	East	South
Sylvia	Opp	Sondra	Opp
-	-	P	P
3♣	Dbl	3NT ¹	P
P ²	4♣	P	4♠
P	P	P	

1) This is probably a joke. She's a passed hand opposite a 3rd seat preempt.

2) I think that 3NT is a club raise but nobody has doubled us yet.

The hand that doubled and then bid 4♣ held:

♠ K J 10 x ♥ A K Q x x ♦ A K Q J ♣ -

Responder held the ♠A so they needed to find the ♠Q to make 7. Katie and Ina had no trouble bidding and making 6.

This was another fun hand. With neither vul, I held:

♠ x x ♥ x x ♦ x x x ♣ Q x x x x x.

The bidding went:

West	North	East	South
Sylvia	Opp	Sondra	Opp
	P	1♦	Dbl
?			



BY SYLVIA CALEY

FUN IN MEXICO

"We are now Bali bound and our team would like to welcome aboard our Hall of Fame NPC, Francine Cimon."

CANADIAN TEAMS IN THE 2013 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

OPEN TEAM: Hazel Wolpert - NPC

Judith Gartaganis, Nicholas Gartaganis, Paul Thurston, Jeffrey Smith, Darren Wolpert, Daniel Korbel

WOMENS TEAM: Francine Cimon - NPC

Sylvia Caley, Sondra Blank, Joan Easton, Karen Cumpstone, Katie Thorpe, Ina Demme

SENIOR TEAM: Michael Yuen - NPC

Robert Lebi, David Lindop, Dan Jacob, Jurek Czyzowicz, Boris Baran, George Mittelman

My bid at this point was highly dependent on the system that we play. In our system 1♦ is either natural showing 4+ diamonds or it's a 13-14 balanced NT hand. With my major suit doubletons I thought that the worst case scenario would be to find partner with a 4-4-4-1 hand that included a stiff club. If partner held five diamonds, I held three, so diamonds was a possible strain. All things considered I bid 1♥. The auction continued:

West	North	East	South
Sylvia	Opp	Sondra	Opp
	P	1♦	Dbl
1♥ ¹	Dbl	Rdbl ²	P
?			

- 1) Dancing between raindrops. (Next hand doubles in an attempt to expose the psyche.)
- 2) Support of course. I have 3 hearts for you partner!

Well, what was I going to do now with the fine auction that I had created? I decided that 1NT had the virtue of being non-forcing. I bid 1NT and I played it there.

Sondra tabled:

♠ A x x x
 ♥ x x x
 ♦ K Q x x
 ♣ K J x

 ♠ x x
 ♥ x x
 ♦ x x x
 ♣ Q x x x x x

The defenders took two heart tricks

and then switched to spades (I ducked). Next they took their other two heart tricks and played a club. After winning the ♣ A LHO went back to spades. I scored one spade and five clubs for down one, -50. In the other room Katie and Ina bid and made 4♥.

The following hand doesn't even include a psyche! Vul against not I held:

♠ A 8 x ♥ A Q J x ♦ Q x x ♣ K x x.

The bidding began:

West	North	East	South
Sylvia	Opp	Sondra	Opp
	1♦	P	1♠
?			

I bid 1NT, and it went all pass. The opening lead was the ♠ 10 and dummy appeared:

♠ 9 7 x x x
 ♥ x x x
 ♦ K x x
 ♣ x x

 ♠ A 8 x
 ♥ A Q J x
 ♦ Q x x
 ♣ K x x

RHO obviously had the KQJx of spades. I ducked the ♠ 10 so that the opening bidder had to lead something else. She switched to a low club, ♣ x ♣ Q ♣ K.

Next I played the ♥ J and it went all low. I exited a club and LHO took her three club tricks and then played a low diamond. I floated the diamond to my Queen and then played a

diamond back toward the King. LHO ducked and it was over. I won the ♦ K and threw her in with her now AJ tight of diamonds. She was end played in hearts. I scored one spade, three hearts, two diamonds and one club. LHO was 1-4-4-4. In the other room I believe that Katie was +110 playing in diamonds.

Sometimes it's great to play with the Young and the Fearless!

Finally, with Both Vul, Sondra held:

♠ Q J 10 x x x ♥ x x ♦ Q ♣ J x x x.

In 2nd seat she opened 2♦ Multi, showing a weak two bid in one of the majors. I'm sure that I would not have opened this hand at this vulnerability, but the bid worked out well when she caught me with:

♠ A K x ♥ A K x x ♦ A x x x x x ♣ -.

The opponents lead a heart. Spades were 3-1 and diamonds were 3-3 so making six was really quite easy. Somehow the declarer in the other room got tied up and went down two.

IN SUMMARY

When the smoke had cleared we won the playoff 365 to 222. We are now Bali bound and we would all like to welcome aboard our Hall of Fame NPC, Francine Cimon.

2013 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS WINNERS

DELTA TORONTO EAST

Total masterpoints:
7204.73

Earned by 322 players

Total attendance:
512 tables.

The prize for the Senior's, Women's and Open team champions was a trip to Bali, Indonesia for the world championships to be held September 16-29, 2013.



CNTC A GOLD Darren Wolpert, Jeff Smith, Paul Thurston,
Daniel Korbel, Nicholas Gartaganis, Judith Gartaganis

Silver: Irving Litvack, Ian Findlay, Arno Hobart, Roy Dalton,
Vince Oddy, Harmon Edgar



CWTC GOLD Ina Demme, Karen Cumpstone, Joan Eaton,
Sondra Blank, Sylvia Caley, Katie Thorpe

Silver: Francine Cimon, Sandra Fraser, Diana Gordon,
Samantha Nystrom, Sharyn Reus, Isabelle Smith



CSTC GOLD Robert Lebi, David Lindop, Dan Jacob, Jurek Czyzowicz

Silver: Kamel Fergani, Pierre Daigneault, Boris Baran, Michael Schoenborn



COPC GOLD Jordan Cohen & Stephen Cooper

Silver: Bryan Maksymetz - Gray McMullin
Bronze: Don Domansky - David McLellan



CNTC B GOLD Miroslav Kovacevic, Aleksandar Vujic, John Cook, Craig MacIntosh, David Cohen, Ken Collins

Silver: Michael Moore, Terry Bradley, Robert Panchuk, David A B Wickes, Michael Sidnell, Steven Mehta



CNTC C GOLD Richard Watson, Hui-Zhi Song, Catherine Kinsella, Steve Roberts. Missing: Scott Franklin

Silver: Margot Loren, Paul Selick, William Breedyk, Chris Robinson, Stan Fong, Steve Roberts, Ross Driedger



CIPC GOLD Uday Maitra & Lino D'Souza

Silver: Edmund Fok, Wendy Liu
Bronze: Jonathan Steinberg, Daniel Miles



Neil Kimmelman, Bridge Canada's Managing Editor, and bridge partner Brad Bart before the start of the championships.



ROAD *to* BALI

by Judith and Nicholas
Gartaganis

Some of Hollywood's most iconic films are known as "road movies" immortalized, not by Jason Statham (the Transporter series) nor Mel Gibson (the Mad Max series), but by Bing Crosby, Dorothy Lamour and Bob Hope. Some of you are nodding (old movie aficionados) or frowning (who the heck are those people?) or have already gotten bored and moved on the next bridge article. Crosby, Lamour and Hope made a series of movies with the titles "Road to Singapore", "Road to Morocco", "Road to Zanzibar", "Road to Rio" and "Road to Bali". Although participants in this year's Canadian Bridge Championships did not have to be able to sing or make an audience laugh, the prize for the Seniors', Women's and Open team champions was, indeed, a trip to Bali, Indonesia for the world championships to be held September 16-29, 2013. The winner of the Seniors' event could start making travel arrangements immediately while

winners of the other two events would head South for a 128-board playoff against their Mexican counterparts for the right to a berth in the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup.

Our team was a new mix, and, interestingly, each of the pairs was playing a different system: Jeffrey Smith (Ottawa) and Paul Thurston (Wellington) playing a Swedish-style Club; Daniel Korbel (Waterloo) and Darren Wolpert (Toronto) playing Standard 2/1; Judith and Nicholas Gartaganis (Calgary) playing Modified Precision.

Before we tell you the rest of the story, decide what you would do in the following situations:

1. You are in 3NT as South after LHO opens 1 ♠ and leads the ♠ 6. Dummy's ♠ K wins the trick. What is your plan?

♠ Q 8 4	♠ K
♥ K 3	♥ A 8 6 4
♦ Q 8 7 5 3	♦ A 4 2
♣ 7 4 3	♣ A K 10 8 5

2. At favourable vulnerability you hold:

♠ A
♥ 10 2
♦ A K J 9 4
♣ A K 10 7 4

After two passes RHO opens 1 ♠. What is your bid? If you choose 2NT partner bids 3 ♣? What now?

3. At favourable vulnerability you hold:

♠ J 7 5
♥ A 8 7 3
♦ —
♣ Q J 10 6 4 3.

The auction proceeds as follows:

West	North	East	South
	You		
-	-	-	1 ♠
2 ♦	DBL	5 ♦	5 ♥
6 ♦	?		

What do you bid? If you choose to defend what is your lead?



CNTCA Silver: Harmon Edgar, Ian Findlay, Irving Litvak, Vince Oddy, Roy Dalton, Arno Hobart

This year, the Canadian Bridge Championship was held May 25th to June 1st in Toronto. Winners of the various events can be found on page 26.

FLIGHT A CNTC ROUND ROBIN

Twenty teams entered the Flight A CNTC. A complete round robin of 12-board matches was played over four days to decide eight qualifiers for the quarter-finals. The new World Bridge Federation 20 Victory Point (VP) scale was in use. It awards fractional VPs for each IMP won, not so easy to add to be sure, but treating IMPs more equally has long been promoted as a fairer scoring method. For 12-board matches, 52 IMPs were required to score a blitz, and every single IMP counted for some fraction of the 20 VP total. The field included many previous winners.

ROAD to BALI

by Judith & Nicholas Gartaganis

At the end of Day 2, after ten rounds, the leader board looked like this (VP totals rounded):

- 157 GARTAGANIS** (Judith Gartaganis, Nicholas Gartaganis, Paul Thurston, Jeffrey Smith, Daniel Korbel, Darren Wolpert)
138 L'ECUYER (Nicolas L'Ecuyer, Leslie Amoils, George Mittelman, Vincent Demuy, Zygmunt Marcinski)
131 LITVACK (Irving Litvack, Arno Hobart, Roy Dalton, Vince Oddy, Ian Findlay, Harmon Edgar)
126 KUJIRAI (Eiji Kujirai, Lewis Richardson, John Duquette, Ron Bishop)
113 SABOURIN (David Sabourin, Gordon Zind, Gray McMullin, Bryan Maksymetz, Tom Walsh, Shan Huang)
109 JOTCHAM (Ray Jotcham, Steve Mackay, Dave Colbert, Doug Baxter, Mike Cafferata)
108 WANG (Difan Wang, Yan Wang, Peter Wong, Jianfeng Luo, Edward Xu, Qun Liu)
102 MARTINEAU (Charles Martineau, André Chartrand, Serge Chevalier, Jean La Traverse, Don Piafsky, Fred Hoffer).

The distance between 1st and 9th was significant (58.96 VPs on the new WBF scale), but many teams were still within striking distance since the 8th place score was barely above average.

At the end of Day 3, with four rounds remaining, DAVIDSON (Ranald Davidson, Michael Gamble, Rene Pelletier, Hervé Chatagnier, Paul Janicki, John Gowdy) had climbed into 8th place with 147.15 (2.85 VPs below average), pushing WANG out of a qualifying spot. With one round to go on the last day, TODD (Bob Todd, Douglas Fisher, Neil Kimelman, Brad Bart, Michael Kenny, Jonathan Steinberg), after a rough start to the tournament, had worked its way into 8th (184) more than 11 VPs clear of 9th (Wang). GARTAGANIS (254), L'ECUYER (230), LITVACK (215), JOTCHAM (208), KUJIRAI

(198) and SABOURIN (195) had clinched playoff spots. Realistically, MARTINEAU (191) was safe. DAVIDSON (171), CARRIERE (167) and WANG (172) needed big wins combined with a TODD loss to have a hope.

In the last round TODD faced ZHANG (Hang Zhang, Mike Xiao-Fang, Richard Chan, Alan Lee, Kole Meng) while WANG squared off against Martineau. In an unexpected ending TODD lost heavily (3-17) and WANG secured a good win (15-5), vaulting into the last qualifying spot by the slenderest of margins.

After 19 rounds over four days, the round robin had produced this top ten:

GARTAGANIS	269.67
L'ECUYER	250.41
LITVACK	226.96
JOTCHAM	222.84
KUJIRAI	205.77
SABOURIN	199.96
MARTINEAU	195.87
WANG	187.27
TODD	186.60
CARRIERE	179.49

HANDS FROM THE ROUND ROBIN

In the third round declarers in 3NT had the opportunity to engineer an avoidance play.

RR3 – Board 34

Dlr: East Vul: N/S

♠ 10 9 2	♠ Q 8 4	♠ A J 7 6 5 3
♥ J 7 5 2	♥ K 3	♥ Q 10 9
♦ J 9 6	♦ Q 8 7 5 3	♦ K 10
♣ Q 9 6	♣ 7 4 3	♣ J 2
	♠ K	
	♥ A 8 6 4	
	♦ A 4 2	
	♣ A K 10 8 5	

After East started proceedings with 1 ♠, North found himself in 3NT on the lead of a low spade. The play went ♦ A (intending to play East for a doubleton ♦ K) and Judith, as did several others, smoothly unblocked the ♦ K leaving North to hope for a favourable lie of the club suit (i.e. East needed to hold three clubs). As is evident this line of play failed. Full credit goes to those defenders who found the unblocking play. However, as David Turner was quick to point out, if declarer intends to play for a doubleton ♦ K he should travel to hand with the ♥ K and lead a low diamond. Now the defense has no recourse since declarer can win the ♦ 10 or duck the ♦ K.

In the 13th round we played against Roy Dalton and Vince Oddy from the LITVACK team. There were a number of exciting hands including the following:

RR13 – Board 35

Dlr: South Vul: E/W

	♠ J 7 5	
	♥ A 8 7 3	
	♦ --	
	♣ Q J 10 6 4 3	
♠ A Q 10 9 6		♠ --
♥ 10 9		♥ Q J
♦ K Q 10 9 8 6		♦ A J 7 4 3 2
♣ --		♣ 9 8 7 5 2
	♠ K 8 4 3 2	
	♥ K 6 5 4 2	
	♦ 5	
	♣ A K	

West	North	East	South
Oddy	NicholasG	Dalton	JudithG
--	--	--	1 ♠
2 ♦	DbI	5 ♦	5 ♥
6 ♦	P	P	P

Nicholas led the ♥ A, ensuring the first two tricks for the defense. As long as West leads a spade against a N/S contract of 5 ♥ or even 6 ♥, the defense can take the first five tricks on a cross ruff plus the ♠ A. At the other table Nicholas' counterpart found a less effective lead against 6 ♦ doubled. The match saw an average of 6.5 IMPs per board exchanged, at the end of which we came away with a 14-IMP victory.

The quarter-final matchups were:

GARTAGANIS	versus	KUJIRAI
L'ECUYER	versus	MARTINEAU
LITVACK	versus	WANG
JOTCHAM	versus	SABOURIN

QUARTER-FINALS

KUJIRAI got off to a good start for fewer down tricks in a game contract (5 IMPs) and when Eiji Kujirai made 3NT after an early morning doze caused Judith to strand a defensive trick (7 IMPs). The lead didn't last long. Nicholas escaped for down two in 1NT while Smith-Thurston were bidding and making 4♠ with the opponents' cards (9 IMPs). Then Ron Bishop and John Duquette got unlucky on the following hand:

QF1 – Board 5

Dlr: North Vul: N/S

	♠ 7 4 2	
	♥ Q 7	
	♦ 10 8 6 5 3	
	♣ 8 5 2	
♠ A		♠ 10 9 5 3
♥ 10 2		♥ A J 9 8 5
♦ A K J 9 4		♦ Q 2
♣ A K 10 7 4		♣ Q 6
	♠ K Q J 8 6	
	♥ K 6 4 3	
	♦ 7	
	♣ J 9 3	

Nicholas and Judith reached a pedestrian 3NT after Lew Richardson had opened 1 ♠ in third seat. At the other table Bishop got to open 1 ♦ in fourth seat and reached 6 ♦. That contract will succeed at least 80% of the time but not today. GARTAGANIS continued to score IMPs and finished the quarter ahead by 44-17.

The second quarter was a relatively low-scoring affair that ended up tied at 21. In the third quarter GARTAGANIS broke the match open with a 67-17 effort, gaining from aggressively-bid games and slams that were unbeatable or that mistimed defense allowed to slip through. GARTAGANIS led 132-55 and KUJIRAI chose not to contest the fourth quarter.

ROAD to BALI

by Judith & Nicholas Gartaganis

In the other quarter-final matches L'ECUYER got off to a strong start against MARTINEAU (47-6) and cruised to a comfortable win (190-114). The remaining contests were very close. WANG led LITVACK 101-91 after three quarters, but lost the last quarter 22-46 and the match by 14. In the final pairing SABOURIN led JOTCHAM 115-114 after three quarters. 87 IMPs were scored in the fourth quarter with JOTCHAM just getting the upper hand 45-42 to prevail 159-157.

SEMI-FINALS

For the semi-finals, GARTAGANIS chose JOTCHAM leaving L'ECUYER to battle LITVACK.

In the first quarter JOTCHAM snared 10 IMPs when Jotcham-Mackay reached 3NT rather than 4♠ on the following combination:

North	South
♠ A K 10 9	♠ J 6 5 2
♥ Q J 2	♥ K 8 5
♦ K 7 6 2	♦ J 9 8
♣ 7 6	♣ A K Q

JOTCHAM finished the quarter leading 31-22, confirming that its round robin victory over GARTAGANIS (who had only lost two of nineteen matches) was no accident.

In the other semi-final match LITVACK landed a major blow against L'ECUYER and led by 50-7 after the first quarter. In a remarkable display of consistency, LITVACK won all four quarters to take the match 188-109.

In the second quarter, the only major swing was a NT game played from different sides of the table. With a different dummy on display, Nicholas was able to scramble for nine tricks, 12 IMPs for GARTAGANIS who won the quarter 31-13 and now led 53-44.

The third segment went mostly in favour of GARTAGANIS.

SF3 – Board 2

Dlr: East Vul: N/S

♠ A 10 8		
♥ Q 9 6 5 4 2		
♦ A 5		
♣ K Q		
♠ J 7 4 2		♠ Q 9
♥ --		♥ K J 8 3
♦ Q 6 3 2		♦ K J 9 7
♣ A 5 4 3 2		♣ 9 8 7
	♠ K 6 5 3	
	♥ A 10 7	
	♦ 10 8 4	
	♣ J 10 6	

4♥ revolves around:

- getting a club set up to pitch a loser, and
- holding the trump losers to one.

Korbel-Wolpert duly arrived in the heart game, taking ten tricks when, based on West's passed-hand takeout double, Wolpert advanced the ♥ Q on the first round of trumps. At the other table the opponents stopped in a partscore -- win 10 IMPs. In the other semi final match both tables reached 4♥, but only the LITVACK declarer managed to hold the trump losers to one. The quarter finished 41-15 in favour of GARTAGANIS now leading 94-59.

With one segment remaining it was still anybody's match to win. Early on JOTCHAM went on a 30-0 run to narrow the gap to 7 IMPs. The first major swing occurred here:

West	East
♠ K Q 10 9 3	♠ A 8 7
♥ 10	♥ A J 7 3
♦ 9	♦ 8 6 4 2
♣ K J 10 8 5 3	♣ A Q

Baxter-Colbert easily reached 6♠ and made when there were no bad breaks. Nicholas was probing for a slam and made a passable bid of 5♣. Judith duly obliged – 11 IMPs for JOTCHAM. Two boards later Steve Mackay made a very nice lead against 4♠ which declarer should

have survived but didn't -- 12 IMPs away. After two quiet boards we reached 5 ♦ doubled on the following collection:

West	East
♠ K 7	♠ A 9 8 6 3
♥ K J 6	♥ A 8 7 5
♦ A Q J 10 8 6 5	♦ 2
♣ 2	♣ 10 6 3

At our table North had shown at least 10 cards in spades and clubs. In a misguided effort to squeeze the opponents Judith failed by two tricks when the ♥ Q was doubleton offside. Baxter Colbert reached 3NT off the entire club suit and went -200, but it was still a win of 7 IMPs for JOTCHAM.

GARTAGANIS then went on its own IMP run outscoring JOTCHAM 29-1 over the last eight boards. The quarter finished in a 31-31 tie and a win by 35 for GARTAGANIS.

FINALS : DAY 1 - SEGMENT 1

LITVACK versus GARTAGANIS rated to be an interesting match. Both teams qualified for the playoffs easily, but GARTAGANIS had had a tougher go in the semi-finals compared to LITVACK.

On Board 1, with North the dealer, Edgar-Hobart bid efficiently to 7 ♦, jumping out to an 11 IMP lead when Smith-Thurston languished in the small slam.

Board 1

North	South
♠ K 10 9 8 7	♠ A 6
♥ 6	♥ A J
♦ K J 6 5	♦ A Q 9 8 3 2
♣ A K 10	♣ 8 7 3

Boards 2-6 featured overtrick and double partscore pickups in favour of GARTAGANIS who moved ahead 21-11. Then they landed a more substantial pickup on Board 7 when Korbel-Wolpert succeeded in 3NT while their counterparts were in 4 ♥ minus one. The defense should have prevailed against 3NT. Partner leads the ♠ 3 (4th best). Dummy tables ♠ Q 6 and you hold ♠ A 10 9 5. The ♠ A or the ♠ 9? The ♠ A is clearly correct because

if declarer held K x x he would have played the ♠ Q from dummy. The ♠ 9 lets declarer score the doubleton ♠ J and run for home. Another 6 IMPs went to GARTAGANIS when Smith-Thurston reached 4♠ making 11 tricks while Edgar-Hobart rested in a partscore. Having relinquished 39 IMPs, while gaining none, LITVACK put 6 IMPs on the scorecard when Edgar-Hobart avoided a "wing and prayer" 3NT bid by Smith-Thurston.

The reprieve was short-lived when both LITVACK pairs bought the contract ... but in the same strain. That strategy rarely has a happy outcome:

Segment 1 - Board 14

Dlr: East Vul: None

	♠ 10 9 3	
	♥ A 8 3	
	♦ Q 8 3	
	♣ Q 10 5 2	
♠ --		♠ A Q J 7 2
♥ K J 7 6		♥ 10 9
♦ A K 10 7 6		♦ J 9 4
♣ 8 6 4 3		♣ J 9 7
	♠ K 8 6 5 4	
	♥ Q 5 4 2	
	♦ 5 2	
	♣ A K	

West	North	East	South
Korbel	Edgar	Wolpert	Hobart
--	--	P	1 ♠
Dbl	2 ♥ ¹	P	3 ♥
P	4 ♠	Dbl	All Pass

1) Transfer to spades

West	North	East	South
Litvack	Smith	Findlay	Thurston
--	--	2 ♠	P
P	P		

It appears that Hobart misinterpreted his partner's 2 ♥ bid, so 3 ♥ issued an invitation to the spade game. Both contracts failed sending another 9 IMPs to GARTAGANIS. They added six more IMPs on Board 15 when their N/S took seven tricks in no trump while their E/W took nine tricks in 2NT. The segment wound up 54-19 in favour of GARTAGANIS.

ROAD to BALI

by Judith & Nicholas Gartaganis

FINALS : DAY 1 - SEGMENT 2

There were seven push boards in the second 15-board segment, but three double-digit swings went to GARTAGANIS. The biggest was:

Segment 2 - Board 18

Dlr: East Vul: N/S

♠ 4	♠ A 8 7 3	♠ K J 10 9 6
♥ 8 5 2	♥ A K 10 7	♥ --
♦ A K J 5	♦ 9 3 2	♦ Q 10 8 7
♣ K J 7 6 2	♣ 4 3	♣ A Q 9 8
♠ Q 5 2		
♥ Q J 9 6 4 3		
♦ 6 4		
♣ 10 5		

With no opposition bidding from Judith-Nicholas, Dalton-Oddy had a power auction to 4♠ after Dalton opened 1♠. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Korbel	Edgar	Wolpert	Hobart
--	--	1♠	Pass
2NT(1)	DBL	3♣(2)	4♥
DBL	All Pass		

- (1) Forcing spade raise
(2) Natural

On this hand Edgar's vulnerable-versus-not double was ill-advised. In any case, Korbel led the ♣ 4 and Hobart subsequently lost trump control, down six for

minus 1700 and 15 IMPs. The segment ended 44-7 for GARTAGANIS with a significant 72 IMP cushion.

FINALS: DAY 1 - SEGMENT 3

This was a wild segment with 95 IMPs being exchanged. GARTAGANIS added to its lead when Smith-Thurston bid and made 4♥ on:

West	East
♠ 10 4 2	♠ 8 6 5
♥ K 6 5 4 3 2	♥ A J
♦ A Q 6	♦ K 10 5
♣ 10	♣ A J 9 7 3

Hearts were 3-2 with the Queen onside - win 6 IMPs. An offbeat 2♠ opening scored heavily for LITVACK here:

Segment 3 - Board 3

Dlr: South Vul: E/W

♠ 10 3 2	♠ K Q 9 5
♥ 8 7	♥ K 9
♦ K Q 8 3	♦ 10 7
♣ K 9 4 3	♣ A Q 10 7 6
♠ J	
♥ A Q J 3 2	
♦ A 6 4	
♣ J 8 5 2	
♠ A 8 7 6 4	
♥ 10 6 5 4	
♦ J 9 5 2	
♣ --	

West	North	East	South
Thurston	Litvack	Smith	Findlay
--	--	--	2♠
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Dalton-Oddy duly reached 3NT at the other table and made 11 tricks -- 11 IMPs to LITVACK. Then Nicholas and Judith redefined the term "overboard", reaching 5♦ on this combination:

North	South
♠ K Q 10 9 6 2	♠ 8
♥ --	♥ A 10 6 5
♦ A J 9 7 6	♦ Q 10 8
♣ K 5	♣ Q 9 8 6 4

Both spades and diamonds broke badly and the opponents happily chalked up +400 for four vulnerable undertricks. That translated to another 11 IMPs for LITVACK. The streak continued when Dalton-Oddy reached an unbeatable 5 ♦ while Smith-Thurston failed in 3NT. The match score had tightened to 111-57.

A few partscore swings bumped up the GARTAGANIS lead by 11 IMPs, but these were lost when Litvack outplayed Nicholas in 4♠, divining the location of the trump Queen. Thereafter LITVACK was held off the scoreboard as GARTAGANIS added 29 IMPs to its total. The biggest swing was 10 IMPs when Smith-Thurston made the winning decision to play in 3NT on:

West	East
♠ 10	♠ A K Q 9 6 4
♥ A K 8 6 4 3	♥ Q
♦ K 9 5	♦ 10 4
♣ Q 10 4	♣ 9 6 5 2

Spades split 3-3, hearts were 4-2 (♦ A and ♣ J onside) which meant that the Dalton-Oddy 4 ♥ contract failed by a trick. The quarter finished 53-42 in favour of GARTAGANIS who now led 151-68.

FINALS: DAY 1 - SEGMENT 4

The last segment of the day was a difficult one for LITVACK who gave up three major swings and managed to reply with just 4 IMPs. One of the gains for GARTAGANIS was:

Segment 4 - Board 30
Dlr: East Vul: None

	♠ J 9 5	
	♥ 10 8	
	♦ Q J 9 7 2	
	♣ Q 5 2	
♠ Q 10 8 3		♠ K 6 2
♥ Q		♥ A 9 5 3
♦ 6 3		♦ A K 4
♣ K J 10 9 8 4		♣ A 7 6
	♠ A 7 4	
	♥ K J 7 6 4 2	
	♦ 10 8 5	
	♣ 3	

Smith-Thurston defeated 3NT declared by East when Thurston (South) made an inspired diamond lead. Declarer, concerned about a heart switch, won the lead and then erred in the mid game when clubs did not run. Wolpert made 11 tricks on the lead of the ♥ 6. The segment finished 35-4 for GARTAGANIS.

FINALS: DAY 2 - SEGMENT 5

There were still plenty of boards remaining (80), but the 114 IMP deficit would be difficult to overcome. Based on the start of the fifth segment, LITVACK supporters had nothing to cheer about.

Segment 5 - Board 1
Dlr: North Vul: None

	♠ A 5	
	♥ K 2	
	♦ 6 5 3	
	♣ A J 8 7 3 2	
♠ K 6		♠ Q 7
♥ J 10 9 8 7 6		♥ Q 5 4 3
♦ 10 8		♦ K Q J 9 4 2
♣ K Q 6		♣ 4
	♠ J 10 9 8 4 3 2	
	♥ A	
	♦ A 7	
	♣ 10 9 5	

West	North	East	South
JudithG	Litvack	NicholasG	Findlay
--	1 ♣	1 ♦	1 ♠
P	2 ♣	P	2 ♠
P	P	p	

At our table Findlay played in a sedate 2 ♠ making 11 tricks when Judith was uncharacteristically silent. At the other table hand evaluation differed.

West	North	East	South
Hobart	Wolpert	Edgar	Korbel
--	1 ♣	1 ♦	1 ♠
2 ♥	P	4 ♥	4 ♠
Dbl	P	P	P

The same 11 tricks were scored ... +690 compared to -200 and 10 IMPs. Board 2 gave several players a chance to shine.

ROAD to BALI

by Judith & Nicholas Gartaganis

Segment 5 - Board 2

Dlr: East Vul: N/S

♠ J 4	♠ K 5 3	♠ A 10 9 8
♥ Q 10 6 5 4	♥ A 9 8 7	♥ J 3
♦ 7 4	♦ 8 2	♦ A K Q 10 9 6 5
♣ A K J 2	♣ 10 9 5 3	♣ --
	♠ Q 7 6 2	
	♥ K 2	
	♦ J 3	
	♣ Q 8 7 6 4	

West	North	East	South
JudithG	Litvack	NicholasG	Findlay
--	--	1 ♦ ¹	P
1 ♥	P	2 ♠ ²	P
3NT	P	P	P

1) Could be short

2) 4+ spades, 5+ diamonds 14-16 HCP

Litvack came up with the only lead to give the defense a chance -- the ♥ 7! Findlay won his ♥ K and returned a heart to Litvack's ♥ A, who exited with a diamond. Judith cashed two diamonds and played a spade to her Jack. Litvack won with the King and returned a spade. Declarer played the ♠ A and cashed two more rounds of diamonds. This was the end position:

♠ --	♠ 3	♠ 10 9
♥ Q 10	♥ 7	♥ --
♦ --	♦ --	♦ 9 5
♣ A K	♣ 10 9	♣ --
	♠ Q	
	♥ --	
	♦ --	
	♣ Q 8 6	

Judith exited a spade throwing a winner from hand, and claimed. Cashing all the diamonds would have been embarrassing as declarer would have had to guess whether to keep a winning heart or a winning club in the one-card ending.

At the other table Edgar-Hobart reached 5 ♦ and Korbel's ♥ K lead torpedoed that contract. Without a dummy entry, there was no chance for declarer to dispose of his losers. This meant another 11 IMPs on the GARTAGANIS ledger. Fortunes reversed over the next three boards. First, 10 IMPs to LITVACK when Edgar-Hobart found a good save against 4 ♥. Then another 7 IMPs when Edgar-Hobart outbid Judith-Nicholas to reach an aggressive, but making game contract. Finally, 4 IMPs when Korbel-Wolpert got one level too high. LITVACK had drawn even for the segment. Then GARTAGANIS went on a 33-1 run, the biggest swing generated when Edgar-Hobart bid a slam off two Aces. The segment finished 55-22 in favour of GARTAGANIS, now leading by 241-94.

LITVACK took the 6th segment 41-29 and decided to retire from the field of battle.

The LITVACK team were worthy opponents who had defeated a very strong team in the semi-finals. However, our squad started the final match well and sound play coupled with a little favour from Lady Luck resulted in a lopsided outcome.

We often choose to play in the CNTC four-handed, but this year we found having three effective pairs to be a positive development. Our team was a good mix of youth and experience (aka old age). The "youngsters" (Daniel Korbel, Jeffrey Smith and Darren Wolpert) were an energizing force and eternally optimistic. Paul Thurston has been both a team-mate and an opponent on many occasions, but at all times a formidable competitor. Were we blasé about winning? Never -- it is always a thrill to do well in one of our favourite events of the year.



WOLPERTS RULE!

Family Reunion set for Bali Indonesia

Not one, not two, not three but four members of the Wolpert family will be participating in the World Team Championships this September in Bali Indonesia.

It all started in late May when Darren Wolpert helped his squad secure a convincing victory in the CNTC. The team recruited Hazel Wolpert to serve as non-playing captain. Team Canada's later win against Mexico in the Bi-Country Playoff, in which Hazel substituted for Darren's regular partner, locked down a spot in the Bermuda Bowl.

Just a few days after Canada's championship had been decided, the US trials saw Gavin Wolpert and his team emerge as USA 1. It would be brother versus brother with mom watching it all! Could it get any better than that?

Yes it could! In mid-July, Gavin's wife, Jenny, put the last piece in place as she and her teammates prevailed to become USA 2 for the Venice Cup.

So the whole of the bridge-playing family - Hazel, Darren, Gavin and Jenny - will represent their countries in the World Championships. If this doesn't set a record, it must be darn close!

And how does Hazel feel about the fast-approaching trip to Bali? "All I can say is that I am very proud of my family and I will be on cloud nine to be there to see them perform. What a time for the 'Wolpert Clan'. I have to thank Darren's team for giving me the opportunity to be there in person."



*It was the best of slams,
It was the worst of slams*

A Tale of **2 GRAND SLAMS**

by Neil Kimelman

HUMILITY IN

THIS GAME IS GOOD.

EVEN THE BEST

PLAYERS ARE NOT

PERFECT.

We all make mistakes at some time. Despite my successes, I try not to overrate my ability, so that these inevitable errors are easier to take.

I also try to learn something from each session I play, and realistically gauge how well I and my partner/teammates play.

In this case I was playing with a local expert and we bid a grand slam on the first and last boards of a local matchpoint game. The first one we were off a cashable ace. That was the better of the two ... I digress.

Grand Slam I

Let's start at the beginning.

With E-W vul, you hold as south:

♠ 5 4 ♥ A Q T 8 6 5 ♦ K T 5 ♣ A Q.

The bidding proceeds:

West	North	East	South
-	1 ♥ ¹	P	2NT ¹
P	3 ♠ ²	P	4 ♣ ³
P	4 ♠ ⁴	P	4NT ⁵
P	5 ♥ ⁶	P	7 ♥ ⁷

All pass

- 1) Jacoby
- 2) Shortness
- 3) Cue bid
- 4) Void
- 5) Key card
- 6) Two keycards
- 7) Well that was easy

You are not worried when partner says you have a better hand than he, but you start to clue in when he says to the opponents, 'Sorry guys'. The full deal:

♠ A	♠ K 10 9 6 3 2
♥ K J 9 7 4 2	♥ 3
♦ 2	♦ Q 6 4 3
♣ K J 10 9 2	♣ 8 5
♠ Q J 8 7	♠ 5 4
♥ -	♥ A Q 10 8 6 5
♦ A J 9 8 7	♦ K 10 5
♣ Q 7 6 4	♣ A Q

My expert partner, pulled trumps and quickly disposed of dummy's three diamonds on the good clubs

THE LESSONS FROM GRAND SLAM I

1. I have always played a 2nd cuebid of shortness is a void. Obviously my partner had a different point of view. What is your partnership agreement?
2. Recovering from a bad start or fix. The E-W pair ended up with a good game. One player was experienced

enough to realize that stuff happens, even on the 1st board. And obviously that person did enough to instill the same outlook in his/her partner.

3. Notice the cue bid of 4 ♣. I realized that partner might have a void in spades, and I wanted to give him an opportunity to show me that feature before I used keycard.

Grand Slam II

Here was the auction that my partner and I perpetrated:

North	South
♠ K Q 8 7	♠ A 5 3
♥ 10 3	♥ A K Q J
♦ A K 5	♦ 10
♣ A 4 3 2	♣ Q 10 9 8 7

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1 ♣ ¹
P	1 ♠ ²	P	2 ♥ ³
P	3 ♦ ⁴	P	3 ♠ ⁵
P	5NT ⁶	P	6 ♣ ⁷
P	7 ♣ ⁸	All pass	

- 1) A good start
- 2) Bidding normally, before the insanity set in
- 3) To me rebidding 2 ♣ is criminal, and 2 ♠ is highly mis-descriptive.
- 4) Thumping of the chest saying, 'I have a good hand!'
- 5) Likely 3-4-1-5 or 3-4-0-6 shape.*
- 6) Pick a slam
- 7) OK
- 8) Well maybe I should show my club support.

**I would also bid this way with 3-3-1-6 shape.*



After it went all pass I said, 'At least we are not off the ♣ A.' LHO with a slight hitch led a diamond. I crossed to the ♥ A, and led the ♣ Q and it went all small! I told partner so far so good! I then led a club to the ace and mighty was the fall, and 2140 was the score.

LHO asked if there was anything she could have done better ... no I am kidding. But she did ask was there any way she should know to cover the ♣ Q.

THE LESSONS FROM GRAND SLAM II

1. The proper bid at North's 2nd round of bidding was 3 ♣. This shows a game forcing hand with three or more clubs. In that way a key card ask could have been employed and if nothing else, there would have been no need to embarrass West.
2. West stopped thinking. I had shown my distribution and had only five clubs as I had already shown a diamond at trick one. If I had the ♣ J I was going to finesse. Her only chance was to cover.
3. Make sure you understand the opponent's auctions so that you have best chance to find the maximal defence, including any false cards or the like.
4. You should have inferred that I did not react to reaching such a poor slam. I went on to play in a reasonable tempo, as I would any decent contract! (being the last hand I was looking forward to my post game drink more than normal!)
5. The longer you stew thinking of your arguments and counter-arguments in the inevitable post-mortem discussion, the sooner the opponents will realize you have a big problem(s)! Try to play normal and hope for a miracle!

Epilogue

The rest of our game was only fair, but with these two boards we scored 62.29% to trounce the 2nd place pair who scored 62.13%. If they read this article they will realize our victory was not quite deserving. Maybe next time it will be...



Daddy, what did you do on Saturday night?

By George Retek

Friday night, June 1, 2013, the mainly Montreal team of K. Fergani, P. Daigneault, B. Baran and M. Shoenborn (Shoe) reached the final of the Canadian Senior Championships by defeating the powerful Todd team.

This semi-final victory was partially due to a fine defensive play by Kamel Fergani in the South position:

♠ 9 5 ♥ Q 5 3 ♦ J 10 8 7 5 2 ♣ K 10			
♠ Q J 8 4 3 2 ♥ 4 ♦ K 9 4 ♣ A J 7		♠ K ♥ A K J 8 7 ♦ 6 3 ♣ Q 9 6 4 2	
♠ A 10 7 6 ♥ 10 9 6 2 ♦ A Q ♣ 8 5 3			
West	North	East	South
1♠	P	2♥	P
2♠	P	3♣	P
3NT	All pass		

When Pierre led the J♦, Kamel followed with the Queen. West could not be certain who had the Ace and naturally won the trick with the King. Had South routinely played the A♦ on the first trick, followed by the Q♦, West would duck and the diamond suit could not be established before declarer had nine tricks. At trick two Kamel won the ♠K, cashed his ♦A, and waited for North to get in with ♣K to cash the good diamonds. Double dummy declarer could have succeeded by knocking out the ♣K instead of playing a spade, but this does not take anything away from Kamel's farsighted defence.

On Saturday, for those watching the final, Fergani faced the Lebi team (Robert Lebi, David Lindop, Jurek Czyzowicz and Dan Jacob). Fergani was up 23 IMPs at the start of the final quarter, but this lead was quickly reduced when the Lebi team successfully bid and made a slam which was not bid at the other table.

On board 18, Lebi finally had a chance to take the lead when Fergani stopped in 2♥ at the other table.

Lindop ♠ Q x ♥ A J 9 x x x ♦ x x ♣ A K J			
Baran ♠ x x ♥ 10 8 ♦ Q J 9 x x ♣ Q x x x		Shoe ♠ K J x x x ♥ Q x x ♦ A K x ♣ x x	
Lebi ♠ A 10 x x ♥ K x ♦ 10 x x ♣ x x x x			
West	North	East	South
-	-	1♠	P
1NT	2♥	P	3♥
P	4♥	All pass	

The defence started with three rounds of diamonds. How would you play the hand? East has already shown up with five spades and three diamonds. West has the ♦Q J. Who has the ♥Q and the ♣Q? Obviously some kind of end play against East is the best chance hoping to force a spade return. A better play is to cash the ♥A K and then take the club finesse. There are only five hearts outstanding, versus six clubs. Therefore, Q x is more likely in hearts. Plus, even if East has the ♥Q x x there may still be an end play – declarer can cash clubs, exhausting East's holding in that suit, and finally lead a heart to endplay East. However, declarer simply played a heart to the king and returned another one to the Jack. Down one. Instead of Fergani losing its lead, it went up.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

On board 22 you hold as East ♠Q x x ♥J x x ♦J 9 6 x x ♣J x. What do you lead against a 2NT-3NT sequence? The complete deal:

♠ A K x x
♥ A K x x
♦ A
♣ A 10 9 7

♠ J 10 9
♥ Q 9 x
♦ Q 10 x x
♣ K Q x

♠ Q x x
♥ J x x
♦ J 9 6 x x
♣ J x

♠ x x x
♥ T x x
♦ K x x
♣ 8 x x x

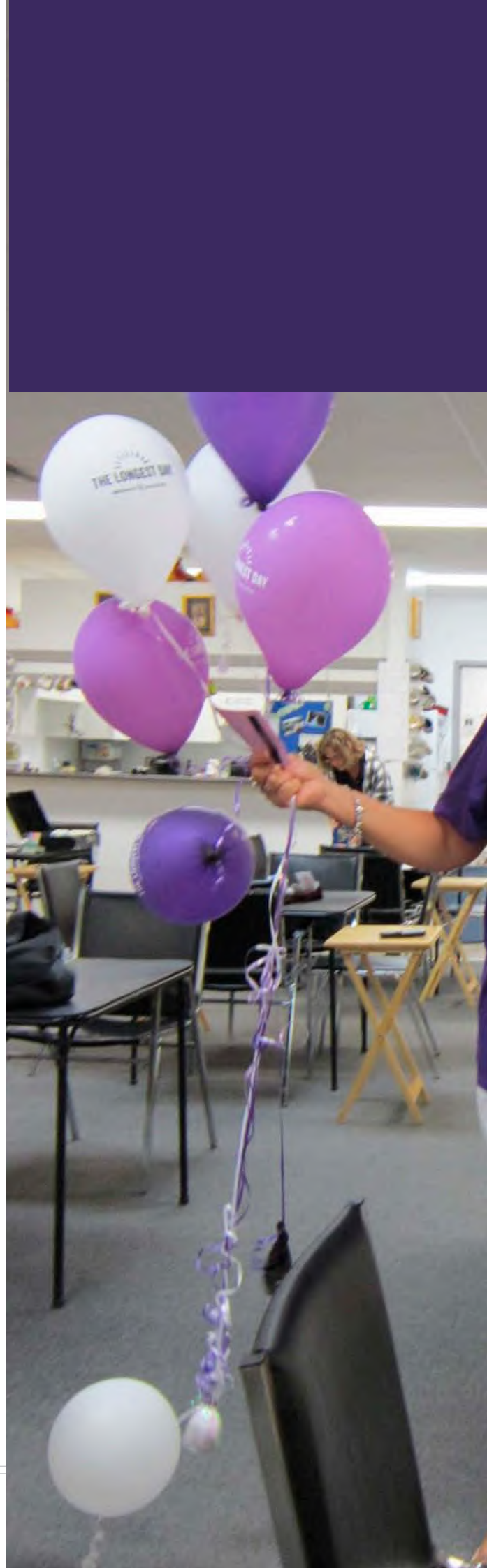
Shoe led a spade and continued a spade when he gained the lead with ♣J (not lucky) while Jurek believed in leading his longest suit, and was rewarded with a 6 IMP gain.

More problems followed on Board 23 for Fergani, when a teammate led a spade from Q x x x against 3NT setting up three tricks for declarer. A diamond lead against the same contract played from the other side of the table would have been successful. Fergani's lead was down to zero.

Board 25 is an interesting study in trump suit evaluation. The Lebi team sailed into a 6♠ contract after identifying all controls in the side suits, but with a trump holding of K 4 3 2 opposite Q9xx while Fergani carefully stopped in game. A J 8 7 in one hand was not what declarer was hoping for, so Fergani regained the lead. However it quickly evaporated on the next board when an unfortunate opening lead at one table allowed 3NT to make, while the Fergani declarer lost the way to his nine tricks.

The match again was very close... and over. Lebi by one!! NO wait!! An appeal gave one IMP back to Fergani, tying the match! In the late hours the players filed back to the room to play another eight boards.

By then your scribe who, besides following the bridge match was watching the hockey playoffs (Boston beat Pittsburgh), and the basketball playoffs (favoured Miami lost to back-home -again Indiana), and the soccer match (the win propelled Montreal to first place in Kansas City) was fast asleep! Next morning we all learned that the Lebi team was the victor. Congratulations! Team Lebi got its ticket to Bali, Indonesia.



THE LONGEST DAY

Maritime Style



by Kathie Macnab ~ CBF Zone I Director

In November 2012 the ACBL partnered with the U.S.A. Alzheimer Association for their newest signature event “The Longest Day”. The Canadian Bridge Federation Charity Foundation Committee (CBFCF), worked hard to make sure that any money raised in Canada would stay in Canada to be donated to either the Canadian Alzheimer Society or the local societies. All monies raised in Canada during future ACBL charitable events will remain with the appropriate Canadian Charities.

Many clubs in the Maritimes took part in this incredible event and held games, raising funds for our Alzheimer Societies. And thanks to the work of the CBFCF all of our Canadian Alzheimer Societies will benefit from The Longest Day.

The Maritimes premier contributor to the event was the Charlottetown Duplicate Bridge Club. They held three pairs games. The first game started at 6:00 AM, a Rookie/Master game and a team game. Prizes were awarded to the winners in every event, all of which were contributed by local sponsors across PEI. Lunch was served and even a dinner with wine from 6:30 – 7:00. The last pairs game ended at 10:00 PM. Members of the local Alzheimer Society of PEI came to draw the 50/50 winner. More than 100 bridge players representing clubs

THE LONGEST DAY Maritime Style *continued*



from all across Prince Edward Island attended this event and raised \$2,700.00 for the Alzheimer's Society of PEI.

Back in Halifax, NS, the MCG Bridge Studio started their day a little later – with the first game beginning at 8:00 am and a new duplicate game every 90 minutes. By the end of the day they held 9 sessions, 64 tables, and awarded 146.84 Masterpoints. One player, Gerardo Malazdrewicz, came to The Studio, paid for all 9 sessions and said he would play with whomever or whenever he was needed. Gerardo played all 108 hands of bridge. The Bridge Studio donated over \$1,000 for the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia and our table fees will be donated to the Canadian Alzheimer Society.



Also in Halifax, Halifax Bridge World made some last minute changes to their schedule in order to make their contribution to the Longest Day Event. HBW hosted 13 tables for their morning game and another 9 in the evening. Meanwhile Campbellton DBC in New Brunswick and the Bridge on The Edge, St. John's Newfoundland held 3 games each, with both clubs actively raising money for their local Alzheimer Societies.

Next year, the Longest Day will be held on Saturday June 21st, and, with the efforts of the CBFCF and the Canadian Alzheimer's Society we hope to have many, many more clubs across Canada participate. It is such a great way to expose our incredible game to "at home" bridge players and future students of the game. Mark the date and plan your events. The possibilities are endless and the results, priceless.



SYLVIA CALEY

PRINCIPLES OF PLAY

Fourth in a series of articles on Principles of Play
By Sylvia Caley

Expanding your Convention Card Part 4

Now we are getting into the thick of it! Many, many hands are won or lost because of missing or unclear partnership agreements. In the lower right hand section of the convention card we have already discussed New Minor Forcing, 4th Suit Forcing, Weak Jump Shifts in Competition and competing after partner opens 1m and the opponent's overcall 1NT. There are a good number of other items that we should add to this section of the card.

1. UNUSUAL VS. UNUSUAL

We usually play that if the opponents show either both majors or both minors, by using conventions such as Michaels or an Unusual 2NT bid, our cue bids show a limit raise size hand (or better) in the appropriate suit. We also play that a minimum raise of partner's suit is non forcing, and a minimum bid in the 4th suit is natural and constructive, but again not forcing.

Example 1

- 1♦ 2♦¹
- i) 2♥ shows a limit raise (or better) with 5+ clubs
 - ii) 2♠ shows a limit raise or better with 4+ diamonds.
 - iii) 3♣ shows a constructive hand with 5+ clubs
 - iv) 3♦ shows a good single raise with 4+ diamonds

¹ Both majors.

Example 2

- 1♥ 2NT¹
- i) 3♣ shows a limit raise or better with 3+ hearts
 - ii) 3♦ shows a limit raise (or better) with 5+ spades
 - iii) 3♥ shows a good single raise with 3+ Hearts
 - iv) 3♠ shows a good weak two bid in Spades

¹ Both minors

The opponents may also use Michaels or an Unusual 2NT bid to show non-touching suits. In this case if they are showing ♣ + ♥ we cue bid to show ♦ + ♠ and if they are showing ♦ + ♠ we cue bid to show ♣ + ♥. Again our cue bids show a limit raise or better in the suit indicated. Our minimum bid of partner's suit is non-forcing and a minimum bid of 4th suit is constructive but non-forcing.

SYLVIA CALEY PRINCIPLES OF PLAY

Example 3

- 1♦ 2NT¹
- i) 3♣ shows a Limit Raise or better with 4+ Diamonds
 - ii) 3♦ shows a good single raise with 4+ Diamonds
 - iii) 3♥ shows a Limit Raise (or better) with 5+ Spades
 - iv) 3♠ shows a good weak two bid in Spades
- ¹ Hearts and Clubs

2. FLANNERY DEFENSE

When the opponents open 2♦ Flannery (opening hand with 4♠ and 5♥), we normally play that:

Double	is a defensive Strong NT
2♥	is a three-suited takeout of Hearts
2♠	is natural
2NT	is an offensive Strong NT (alternatively you could play that 2NT shows both minors)

Editors note: Another common option is to double with a hand you would overcall an opening one of a major with 2♦.

When the opponents open 2♥ Flannery we simply lose the 3-suited takeout.

3. DEFENSE TO A BIG CLUB SYSTEM

Forcing Club systems are notoriously more accurate for slam bidding than are standard systems. Many top players would agree that the best way to stop the

accurate progression of the opponents' auction is to toss in an interfering bid. Here, as elsewhere, there are a number of options:

a) MATHE named for the great Lou Mathe is simply double to show the majors and bid 1NT to show the minors. Most would play that this system is on over 1♣ P 1♦. Note: This defense is also often played against the Polish Club although caution is advised since 1C may simply be an ordinary 1♣ opening.

b) CRASH (an acronym for Color, RAnk, and SHape). This usually means:

- 1♣¹ Step 1 DOUBLE - Shows two suits of the same colour
 Step 2 1♦ - Shows two suits of the same Rank
 Step 3 1♥ - Shows two suits of the same Shape

¹ Strong club

Note: Some players prefer that Step 1 Double shows an equal sized hand, and step 2 starts the progression of 2 of the same colour. Also it is important to clarify with partner whether CRASH is on over 1♣ P 1♦.

c) TRANSFER BIDS every bid is a transfer to the next higher suit.

d) TRANSFER BIDS at the 1 level and CRASH at the 2 level

4. SLOW DOWN BIDS OVER REVERSES

A reverse occurs when the opening bidder bids a higher suit at the two level than the one he or she opened at the one level, providing that a one level bid in the second suit is not available. For examples:

1♣ 1NT
 2♦ is a reverse

1♣ 1♠
 2♥ is a reverse

1♣ 1♦
 2♥ is the equivalent strength of a strong jump shift (Hearts were still available at the one level)

1♣ 1♥
2♠

is the equivalent strength of a strong jump shift (Spades were still available at the one level)

Most good players play that either a reverse or a Strong Jump Shift is forcing. Responding to reverses is not an easy subject but I would play these agreements.

The player who reverses promises another bid if the partnership remains below game. If responder's rebid is at the two level the auction is not Game Forcing. If responder's rebid is at the three level the auction is Game Forcing.

Thus:

1♣ 1♠
2♥ 2♠

Opener promises another bid but the auction is not GF. Responder may pass opener's 2NT or 3C rebid! If responder's next bid is 4th suit, then the auction would be GF.

1♣ 1♠
2♥ 2NT¹

Opener promises another bid but the auction is not GF. Responder may pass opener's 3♣ rebid.

¹ A prelude to a sign off. Opener is forced to respond 3♣, and then responder sets the contract with their next bid.

1♣ 1♠
2♥ 3 any

This auction is GF

(Note: this includes a responder's rebid of 3♣)

5. AFTER OPENER'S 2NT REBID

My partnerships play a system where 3♣ transfers to 3♦ to create the slow-down auction in which responder can stop in 3♦ or 3 of his/her original major. 3♦ is a major suit checkback and 3 of a Major is natural and forcing. In the special case of 1 of a major, 1NT, 2NT, I prefer to play that all bids are transfers to the suit above.

This will take some getting use to but if you are dealt

♠ x
♥ x x
♦ K J 10 x x x
♣ x x x

You can happily transfer to diamonds.

Editor's Note: This system does not work well when your minors are reversed.

Most often opener accepts the transfer but opener is allowed to bid 3NT with:

♠ Q J 10 x x
♥ A x x
♦ A Q x
♣ A x

Editor's note: The prevalent Wolff system works a little differently:

1♦ 1♥
2NT

i) 3♣ forces opener to rebid 3♦ and then signs off by passing or or rebidding 3♥. If instead responder rebids 3♠, this is 4-4 in the majors, game forcing.

ii) 3♦ 4+ diamonds, slam try.

iii) 3♥ 5+ hearts, game forcing, maybe slammish. Opener cuebids with a maximum and 3+ hearts, otherwise bids 3NT or 4♥ with two and three hearts, respectively.

iv) 3♠ 4-5 in the majors, game forcing.

There are also other more complex continuations for avid players - or ones with very good memories.

Of course we are not yet finished with this section of the convention card but I think that this is a good place to take a break. As Eric Kokish has said, "We have work to do!"

MEET ...

BRYAN MAKSYMETZ

MANAGER CBF JUNIOR PROGRAM

BRIDGE PRO

Bryan Maksymetz is currently the manager of the CBF Canadian Junior Program.

He has coached youth teams since 2006. In 2012, he took a team to Shanghai and will be at the World Youth Games and Summer Nationals in Atlanta August 2013. Past events he has coached or captained include Tianjin, China 2006; Lodz, Poland 2008; Beijing, China 2008.

Bryan is a local bridge professional and instructor, and has represented Canada on a number of occasions in international events starting in 1985.

The events, mostly World Bridge Championships, include Brazil (85), Bermuda (99), Montreal (02), Sweden (03), Germany (03), Italy (06), and Turkey (08). Bryan also has two Spingold seconds, a second in a North American Swiss and a NA Pairs.



A little known fact is that Bryan met his wife at a blind bridge date in 1983 in Edmonton.

Bryan started life in Manitoba, getting a BSc in Computer Science in 1974. He then worked in Winnipeg until 1980, Edmonton until 1995, when he moved to Vancouver where he still resides. Most of his career was spent as a Programmer Analyst and a Database Administrator. Prior to becoming a Bridge

Director and professional, Bryan spent about 10 years as a financial advisor.

Bryan has a son, a biochemist, living in LA and a daughter, attending university in London, England.

Players interested in the CBF Junior Program may contact Bryan by email: maks@shaw.ca

Meet... is a new feature for Bridge Canada.

THE TOY *by Michael Yuen*

The toy in this deal played a big part in the match between Jotcham and Sabourin, especially considering that the margin of victory for Jotcham was only 2 imps. Board 24. None vulnerable. West deals.

♠ A Q J 10 9 4
♥ A 8
♦ A K 9 8
♣ K

♠ K 7 5
♥ K Q 7 2
♦ J 6
♣ A 10 9 8

West	North	East	South
	Mackay		Jotcham
P	2♣	P	2♦ ¹
P	2♠	P	3♠
P	4♦ ²	P	4♥ ³
P	4NT ⁴	P	5♥ ⁵
P	6♦ ⁶	P	7♠ ⁷
P	p	p	

- 1) Waiting.
- 2) Cue bid.
- 3) Tell me more.
- 4) Keycard ask.
- 5) Two key cards without the queen.
- 6) **THE TOY** promising the ♦K and asking partner to bid 7♠ with third round diamond control, either the queen or a doubleton.
- 7) Got a doubleton

The auction at the other table:

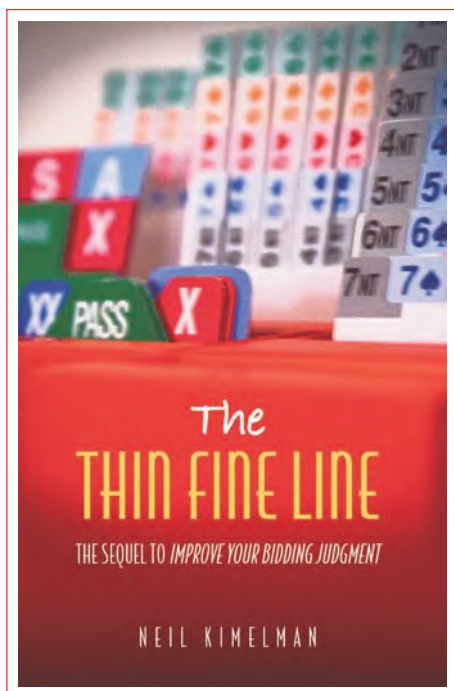
West	North	East	South
P	1♠	P	2♣
P	2♠	P	3♠
P	4♦	P	4♥
P	4NT	P	5♥
P	6♦	P	6♠
P	P	P	

Here South was not on firm ground. Not knowing if North had good Spades, South bid only 6♠.



NEW FROM

Master Point Press



THE THIN FINE LINE

Neil Kimelman

A sequel to *Improve Your Bidding Judgment* – continues the discussion of the ideas behind good decision-making during the auction, getting into areas and agreements not covered in the first book.

\$19.95

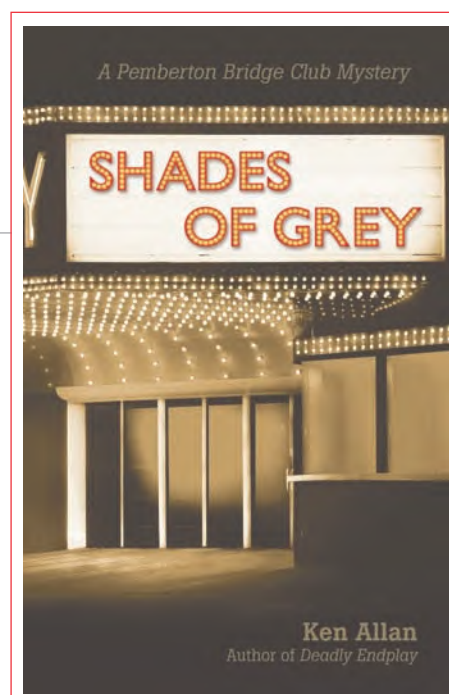
Shades of Grey

Ken Allan

A Pemberton Bridge Club Mystery

The members of the Pemberton Bridge Club, along with the wickedly funny *Jay's Nest* bridge columns, were first introduced in Ken Allan's debut novel, *Deadly Endplay*. The sequel involves something perhaps worse, for bridge players, than a mysterious death – the growing suspicion that someone in their midst is systematically cheating.

\$19.95



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2014 CANADIAN BRIDGE Championships



RADISSON HOTEL CALGARY AIRPORT 1 403 291 4666

Be sure to mention the Canadian Bridge Federation event when booking your room. Airport Shuttle available.

CNTC-A, CNTC-B, CNTC-C PRE-REGISTRATION DETAILS

Pre-register with the CBF Office by MARCH 7, 2014. Registration forms also online at cbf.ca. Registration must include:

- Team Captain's Name & ACBL Number
- Captain's postal address, phone number and email
- Name and ACBL # for all team members
- Round robin entry fee (non-refundable)
CNTC-A: \$924.00 CNTC-B: \$540.00
CNTC-C: \$300

All team members must be paid up members of the CBF. For CNTC-A, CNTC-B & CNTC-C, all team members must have club round qualification earned in a club game or purchased from the CBF prior to being listed on a team.

No Zone Finals • Form your teams • Enter by March 7, 2014

To pre-register contact: Ina Demme - CBF
1 Pietro Drive Maple, ON L6A 3J4
(416) 706-8550 canbridge@rogers.com

CNTC-A | Sat, May 3 - Sat, May 10, 2014

Pre-registration required (details bottom left).

CNTC-B (<2500mpts) | Sun, May 4 - Thur, May 8, 2014

Pre-registration required (details bottom left).

CNTC-C (<1000mpts) | Wed, May 7 - Fri, May 9, 2013

Pre-registration required (details bottom left).

CSTC | Wed, May 7 - Sat, May 10, 2014

- All team members must be born in 1954 or earlier
- All team members must be paid-up CBF members
- Pre-registration is not required. Purchase entry on site prior to game time. Guaranteed two days of play.

CIPC | Thu, May 8, 2014

No pre-qualification required and no pre-registration. Participants must be paid-up CBF members. Stratified for masterpoints. Cash prizes to first through third (\$400, \$250, \$150)

COPC | Fri, May 9 and Sat, May 10, 2014

- Club qualification required and must be paid up members of the CBF
- Pre-registration not required
- Two-session one day qualifying followed by two session final
- Cash prizes to 1st and 2nd overall (\$1500, \$750)

SWISS TEAMS | Sat, May 10, 2014

- Two-session Regionally rated Swiss teams (gold pts)
- Open to all. No pre-registration, no pre-qualification & CBF membership is not required

EVENTS & DEADLINES

CANADIAN CALENDAR

2013

September	International Fund Month
September	Club qualifying games in the COPC (\$4/table) CNTC (\$4/table)
Sept 30	Deadlines for submitting nominations for Zone II and V CBF Director
October	Club qualifying games in the COPC (\$4/table) CNTC (\$4/table)
Oct 3	(Thurs. Eve.) Canada-Wide Olympiad Fund Game (\$8.35/table)
Oct 24	(Thurs. Eve.) Erin Berry RM Game (\$6 a table)
November	Club qualifying games in the COPC (\$4/table) CNTC (\$4/table)
Nov 25	(Mon. Eve.) ACBL-Wide Charity Game #2 (\$6.35/table)
December	Club qualifying games in the COPC (\$4/table) CNTC (\$4/table)
Dec 31	Deadline for submitting name for consideration for CBF Pre-approved Non Playing Captains list

2014

January 1-13	Qualifying games in CNTC (\$4/table)
January	Grassroots Month
February	Junior Fund Month
February 17-23	CBF Canada-wide STAC
Feb 15	Registration deadline for CWTC
March 7	Registration deadline for CNTC A, B & C
March 3	(Mon. Aft) ACBL Wide Senior Pairs
March 13	(Thurs. Aft) ACBL Wide International Fund Game #1 (\$8.35/table)
April	Charity Fund Month
April 4	Deadline for submitting Pre-alerts and making roster changes in CNTC A, B & C
April 20	Deadline for submitting applications for Erin Berry Memorial Fund
April 28	(Mon. Aft) Helen Shields RM Game (\$6/table)
April 30 - May 2	CBF Board of Directors Meetings, Calgary AB
May 3 - 10	Canadian Bridge Championships, Calgary AB (see page 41)

Important Dates

41st World Team Championships Bali, Indonesia 16-29 Sept 2013
 9th Transnational Teams Bali, Indonesia 23-28 September 2013
 2014 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS : Calgary AB : 3-10 May 2014
 2014 CBF INTERNATIONAL FUND REGIONAL : Toronto ON : 16-22 Sept 2014

Canadian Bridge Federation Calendar of Events as of August 2013.

For more information see our website www.cbf.ca