

January 2001

bridge

OLYMPIAD SILVER!

Canada



WORLD OLYMPIAD 2000 SILVER MEDALISTS • WOMEN'S TEAMS

(left to right) Beverly Kraft, Martine Lacroix, Dianna Gordon, Francine Simon,
Katie Thorpe, Rhoda Habert, Jim Green NPC



Happy 2001

FROM THE CBF

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from Nicholas Gartaganis

International Competition

By now most Canadians are aware of the silver medal performance of our Women's team at the Olympiad held in Maastricht last year. It is an exceptional result that still brings a sense of pride and it should inspire us all. Playing for Canada were Rhoda Habert, Beverly Kraft, Francine Cimon, Martine Lacroix, Katie Thorpe and Dianna Gordon with Jim Green as NPC.

In the Senior's event, Canada's representatives finished 8th in a field of twenty-four teams. During the round robin portion of the event, the team defeated both the USA and Sweden, teams that eventually finished first and third respectively. Playing for Canada were Peter Schwartz, Ralph Cohen, Andre Laliberte, Fred Hoffer and Jon Robinson.

The calibre of international competition continues to rise. Our Maastricht Open team knows this only too well as they were unsuccessful in qualifying for the playoffs. Playing for Canada were Robert Lebi, Nader Hanna, Drew Cannell, John Carruthers, George Mittelman and Eric Kokish with Martin Kirr as NPC.

Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup Qualification Rules

The final standing of Canada's Open team had the unfortunate consequence of triggering a World Bridge Federation (WBF) regulation, the net impact of which precludes Canada's participation in the next two Bermuda Bowls (2001 and 2003). Unlike the Olympiad, where each country is entitled to one representative, the Bermuda Bowl and the Venice Cup allow a limited number of teams from each of the eight WBF Zones. Canada's Venice Cup opportunities are not impacted because of the fine performance of Canada's Women's Team.

The WBF passed a special motion in Maastricht to allow WBF Zones the chance to regain their 2003 qualification spots based on performance at the 2002 World Championships in Montreal. Nevertheless, the current WBF regulations remain an ongoing threat to Canada's opportunity to participate in future international events. The ACBL Board of Directors has been petitioned to support the CBF's efforts to introduce appropriate amendments.

Another related change supported by the CBF is the establishment of an independent governing body for WBF Zone II of which Canada is a member. Currently, the ACBL acts as both the governing body of Zone II and the US administrative body. With the establishment of the United States Bridge Federation for the purpose of accessing funds from the US Olympic Committee, it is time for this arrangement to change.

Junior Team Trials

Congratulations to Erin Anderson, Ian Boyd, Josh Heller and Vincent Demuy, winners of the Junior Team Trials in Kingston this past August. In exciting fashion the team came from behind, posting a last quarter score of 59 – 36 to prevail by 5 IMPs. (see page 15)

CBF Board

Leo Weniger, chairperson for the highly successful Bridge Week 2000 held in Halifax, has retired from the CBF Board. Leo's contributions will be missed. Mary Moulton, who was an integral member of the Halifax organizing committee, is the new Zone I representative and brings a fresh perspective to the Board.

CBF - ACBL Relations

The CBF continues to work with the ACBL to resolve outstanding issues. To demonstrate its good faith, the ACBL flew Jan Anderson to Memphis for face-to-face discussions with her counterparts at ACBL headquarters. Jan has

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☞ (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

served as the CBF Executive Secretary and Treasurer for many years and knows more about the organization than all past and present Directors combined!

Amounts Owed to the CBF

The CBF Board has passed a motion stating that any members owing money to the CBF will not be allowed to participate at Bridge Week and other CBF-sponsored events until all outstanding amounts are paid.

CBF Liaison to the Canadian Olympic Committee

George Retek has been appointed as the CBF Liaison to the Canadian Olympic Association (COA). He has been working to ensure that the CBF will be in a position to be recognized by the COA should bridge achieve status as an Olympic sport. As a result of his efforts the Executive Committee of the COA has recommended to its Board of Directors that the CBF be accepted as a Class E member. Class E includes those sports recognized by the International Olympic Committee which are not yet on the program of the Pan American or Olympic games.

DEBRIEFING

Canada sent three teams the Olympiad in Maastricht. Our Open team placed 11th in the Round Robin, failing to make it into the next level. Our Senior Team placed 8th with a score of 383 (first was the USA team with 435.25) and by now you know of the Women's Team and their Silver Medal. This was not Canada's first time on the medalist podium at a World Team Olympiad. At the **3rd World Team Olympiad** in Deauville, France the Canadian Open Team placed 3rd. The members were: C B Elliott, W J Crissey, E R Murray, S R Kehela, G Charney, and P E Sheardown. At the **4th World Team Olympiad** in Miami Beach, Florida, USA our Open team placed 3rd again with B Gowdy, W J Crissey, E R Murray, S R Kehela, G Charney, and D R Phillips. At the **10th Women's World Team Olympiad** in Rhodes, Greece the Canadian Women's Team placed 3rd with D Gordon, S Reus, B Kraft, F Cimon, R Habert, and B J Saltzman.

Test your BRIDGE...

By Ray Lee

Here's a trio of problems from the recent Canadian National Team Championships: one each to test your skill in bidding, on defense, and on opening lead.

1: You are West, vul. vs. not (naturally). South deals and passes, and it's your call with: ♠ A ♥ 8 7 ♦ 8 ♣ A K J 10 8 7 5 4 3

2: You are West again:

North (Dummy)

♠ 8 3
♥ A Q 6 2
♦ 7 6 3
♣ A J 7 5

West (You)

♠ ---
♥ J 10 8 5 3
♦ 10 8 4
♣ K Q 10 4 3

North	South
1♣	2♠
2NT	3♦
3♠	4NT
5♥	6♣

You lead the ♣K, which declarer ducks in dummy. Partner plays the ♠2 (standard carding) and declarer the ♣6. How do you continue?

3: Yet again you are West: what do you lead on this hand?

♠ A J 9 6 5 ♥ A 6 ♦ 9 8 5 ♣ A 10 3

Neither vulnerable

West	North	East	South
-	-	-	1♥
1♠	2♦	3♠*	pass
pass	4♥	all pass	

* preemptive

Solutions on page 14

OLYMPIAD SILVER

by Eric Kokish & Beverly Kraft

Both Canadian teams were expected to survive the round robin stage of the World Teams Olympiad and reach the knockout phase. The Open team fared particularly badly and finished in the second half of its qualifying bracket, but the Women's team (Jim Green, npc: Francine Cimon-Martine Lacroix, Katie Thorpe-Dianna Gordon, Rhoda Habert-Beverly Kraft) came home with the silver medal, bowing in the 96-board final to the USA 144-176 despite winning four of the six segments.

The Canadians led by 3 IMPs after the second segment of the final, in no small measure due to the diagrammed deal at right. The bidding began the same way at both tables, but at the other, the Canadian South contented herself with 1♠ (forcing), then gave up when North rebid 2♣ and East introduced hearts, showing a powerful hand. 2♥ yielded nine tricks, plus 140, on a diamond lead.

The big news was at our featured table, where the American South jumped to 2♠, showing a weak hand with a long spade suit. When Katie Thorpe, East, reopened with a second takeout double, her partner, Dianna Gordon, took her chances and passed for penalties.

West found the best lead of a heart, ducked to the queen. East cashed the ♠A before

North-South vulnerable
West dealer

		North	
		♠ J	
		♥ A6	
		♦ QJ754	
		♣ KJ974	
West		East	
♠ 109874		♠ A	
♥ 932		♥ KQ874	
♦ 83		♦ AK102	
♣ Q53		♣ A86	
		South	
		♠ KQ6532	
		♥ J105	
		♦ 96	
		♣ 102	
W	N	E	S
Pass	1♦	Dble	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Opening Lead: ♥3

returning a low heart to dummy's ace, and declarer called for the ♦Q. East won the king, cashed the ♥K, and played another heart, both declarer and West discarding diamonds. East played another heart, ruffed and over-ruffed, and West switched to a low club. When declarer misguessed by playing the king from dummy, the contract was four down; minus 1100. Canada gained 14 IMPs.

A GOOD ONLINE READ

The Daily Bulletins for Maastricht can all be found on the ACBL site in html, PDF, and text. For just plain reading's sake, I recommend the text bulletins. These files have been hand formatted by the ACBL's tireless Chyah Burghard and are easy to download or just read online. Go to this web page - <http://www.acbl.org/tournaments/wbf/2000Olympiad/Olympiad.htm>

To save you time, I have found the Bulletins with write-ups about some of the the Canadian Women's matches:

- ROUND 3: Canada v Egypt
By Barry Rigal - Daily bulletin, Issue 4
- SEMI-FINAL: Germany v Canada
Set Five - Daily bulletin, Issue 13
- FINAL: Canada v USA
Set Two - Daily bulletin, Issue 14
Sets Three & Six - Daily bulletin, Issue 15



DETECTIVE WORK

by Brent Manley

Ralph Cohen, playing for Canada in the 1st Senior

International Cup at the World Olympiad in Maastricht, reported a good lead his partner, Peter Schwartz, made to defeat a slam.

At some tables in the Senior event, North was declarer in a heart slam and when East chose the singleton spade as his opening lead, the slam was defeated with a spade ruff when West won the first round of hearts.

It was also pointed out that it was much more difficult to defeat the slam when South was declarer, but Schwartz listened to the bidding and found the killing spade lead, giving Cohen a spade ruff at trick three.

Said Cohen of Schwartz's detective work: "He believed the opponents."

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Schwartz	-	Cohen	-
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT (1)	Pass	3♣ (2)
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

- (1) Balanced hand with a five-card suit
(2) Which one?

KEECH NAMED GOODWILL MEMBER OF YEAR

From the Fall NABC Bulletin Vol 74., No. 5

John Keech of Victoria BC was named ACBL 2001 Goodwill Member of the Year. Aileen Osofsky, chairman of the Goodwill Committee, informed him of his award by phoning from the Goodwill Committee meeting and letting him hear the rousing applause of those present.

Keech has been very active in volunteer bridge matters for many years. He is an accomplished bridge player who has been involved in the organization of approximately 25 sectionals over the past 16 years, working in virtually every capacity, including chair. Keech volunteers his talents to district regionals and was

Victoria's representative to District 19 for six years.

He is the editor and publisher of The Bridge Buzz, his area's newsletter. He donates the supplies, the printing costs, the paper and his time.

Linda Patton, who wrote the letter nominating Keech, added this: "John was chosen not only for these reasons, but more importantly for the intelligence, expertise, composure and dedication he brings to the unit meetings; for the diligence and effort given to the running of many tournaments (all accomplished with a smile); and specifically for the manner in which he conducts himself at the bridge table. All tasks performed by John are done with modesty and no thought of remuneration and recognition."

Bridge Olympiad

by Francine Cimon, Montréal

(translated from French by Denis Cimon)

Arrival

We arrive one day ahead of time so we can rest a bit and visit Maastricht, a beautiful old European city. The Convention Centre where we are playing is unfortunately situated in an empty area, some distance from the city, but the organisation is perfect: a lot of volunteers and a very nice Opening Ceremony. This is the seventh Olympiad for Dianna Gordon and myself, the fourth for Katie Thorpe, the second for Beverly Kraft and Rhoda Habert, but the first for my partner, Martine Lacroix. At the Captains' Meeting, Jim Green (our captain) learns that the rules have changed: 8 teams will be qualified in each section instead of 4. The schedule will therefore be more crowded and we will have to play 18 matches in 7 days before getting to the round of 16.

The Round Robin

We win the first three matches, but our bridge is not at its best and we finish the first day in sixth place, with 57 VP out of a maximum of 75. The second day starts against China, the same team that had blown us away in the semi-finals at the last Olympiad. This is a very important match because it is the first time that Martine will meet ex-World champions. How will she react? The team's morale will definitely be influenced by this match. Action starts very early in the match.



Dealer: East

Vuln.: N/S

North: Zhang

♠ Q

♥ AKJ10653

♦ 987

♣ 107

West: Cimon

♠ A65

♥ Q82

♦ AKJ1032

♣ J

East: Lacroix

♠ KJ732

♥ —

♦ 54

♣ AQ9432

South: Gu

♠ 10984

♥ 974

♦ Q6

♣ K865

Cimon

West

Zhang

North

Lacroix

East

Gu

South

1♦

4♦ (1)

6♦

(1) forcing.

3♥

Pass

Pass

1♣

3♠

5♦

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

Pass

North leads the heart King, ruffed by dummy; a small diamond to the Jack is followed by three other winning diamonds. Dummy discards two low clubs and a spade, North throws away a heart and South a heart and a spade. Then comes the club Jack to the Ace and the club Queen covered by the King and ruffed by declarer, satisfied to see the 10 show up.

At that moment, the hand is crystal clear: North started off with 3 diamonds, 2 clubs and probably 7 hearts because of the vulnerable preempt, which would leave her with a singleton spade. Declarer wins her last diamond, forcing South to discard her last heart.



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North: Zhang	
♠ ?	
♥ AJ106	
♦ —	
♣ —	
West: Cimon	East: Lacroix
♠ A65	♠ KJ7
♥ Q8	♥ —
♦ —	♦ —
♣ —	♣ 94
South: Gu	
♠ ?98	
♥ —	
♦ —	
♣ 86	

Now a low spade to dummy makes the contract : if the Queen doesn't show up, we play the King and, on the club 9, discard a heart; then we give South the lead with the small club while discarding our last heart. When the spade Queen does show up, this beautiful finale is destroyed. Nevertheless, it is still +920 for Canada and 10 Imps, the opponents at the other table having played 4♠. The match ends 80 Imps to 25 in our favour, which translates into 25 VP to 4. The VP scale is a bit bizarre: you can never win more than 25 VP but, depending on the margin, your opponents can get from 0 to 5 VP. The results of the match were posted on the Vu-Graph but, as a rule, we do not look at the television when we get out of a match and the captain, our teammates and our supporters don't say anything until the comparison. But this time it was too much for Matthew, our 12-year old mascot (the son of Beverly Kraft and Eric Kokish), who cried out: "We're good!" What a relief!

During these first few days, our position floats between first and fifth. In Round 12, we meet Poland. At that time, we are in fourth place (197) and Poland is fifth (191).

My hand is ♠ 53 ♥ A ♦ K10942 ♣ AQ1083. On my right, the opening bid is 1♣; I say 1♦

and my LHO bids 3NT, passed by my partner and declarer. My turn. In the weeks preceding our trip, Martine and I have worked a lot, and we specifically defined the meanings of the various doubles. In this situation, if I double, I'm asking for a lead in the dummy's strong suit and that's really what I want, a club lead. I double and the contract goes down one on the lead of the 7 of clubs. Here is the whole hand:

Dealer: East	
Vuln.: All	
North: Jeleniewska	
♠ AQ9	
♥ J64	
♦ AQ86	
♣ 965	
West: Cimon	East: Lacroix
♠ 53	♠ 10974
♥ A	♥ 107532
♦ K10942	♦ J3
♣ AQ1083	♣ 74
South: Kater	
♠ KJ86	
♥ KQ98	
♦ 75	
♣ KJ2	

At the other table, the bidding sequence is the same except for the double; 3 NT making, +600 and 13 Imps. I am very surprised to notice, in both the Open and the Women's events, that 3NT played by North almost always makes without the double. That means the majority of players either don't have an agreement on the meaning of the double or give it a different meaning. This was a very eventful match: 169 Imps in only 20 boards! The Polish team had the upper hand with 100 to 69 for 21 VP to 9. We go down to fifth place.

In Round 14, we play against Turkey; we are in fourth place, 3 VP behind Holland. It is important for Canada to finish in the three first positions in its group during the round robin.

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We can then choose the team we will meet during the round of 16. Thus, when we meet a "weaker" team, we can try to blitz it to get the maximum in Victory Points. Here is a very interesting, and also amusing, hand.

Dealer: West
Vuln.: E/W

North: Aykut
♠109
♥QJ1065
♦A9732
♣10

West: Gordon
♠ K6543
♥ K73
♦ —
♣ K8762

East: Thorpe
♠ AQJ872
♥ 82
♦ 6
♣ 9543

South: Kara
♠ —
♥ A94
♦ KQJ10854
♣ AQJ

Gordon	Aykut	Thorpe	Kara
West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	2♣	Double
3♦(1)	4♥	Pass	5♥
5♠	Pass	Pass	6♥
Double	Pass	Pass	Pass

(1) asks for a Diamond lead.

Imagine Katie's surprise when she leads her singleton diamond and sees it get ruffed by... her partner!

Result: 6♥, down one, +200 and 12 Imps. Canada reaches its goal of 24 VP against this team. After this win, we settle in third place, where we remain until the end of the Round Robin.

The "butlers"

In the computer era, you can count on statistics being made available. For the past four years, the *Daily Bulletin*, after each Round robin, publishes the "Butler" for each pair. For

every hand, the pair's result is compared to the average result of the hand and is converted into Imps. These statistics must be taken with a grain of salt since, if the best pair of a team plays in all the difficult matches and is always seated against the strongest opponent, it is obvious that its butler will be affected. Martine and I were pleased to see that we had maintained an average of 0.93 Imps per board, calculated over the 260 boards of the Round Robin.

The Playoffs - Round of 16

Germany finished first in our section and chose Japan; France went with Chinese Taipei and our choice is between Sweden and Israel. We choose Sweden. This team is made up of good players but things just didn't work out for them in the Round Robin, they ended up eighth.

At the very beginning of the match, I pick up ♠ 652 ♥ 10 ♦ QJ95 ♣ K10972 and the bidding goes as follows (the opponents don't interfere):

Lacroix	Cimon
2♣	2♦(1)
2♠	?

(1) 0 or 1 control (Ace = 2 controls and King = 1).

Usually, a splinter shows four trumps, but when partner has shown a very good suit and a strong hand, we can bid a splinter with three trumps and some extra on the side. I therefore bid 4♥ and Martine with ♠AKQ1073 ♥Q42 ♦AK7 ♣A naturally bid 6♣. There is no problem with the play, 12 tricks are always there. At the other table, the slam wasn't bid and we won 13 Imps. I noticed that the slam was not bid 10 times out of 16 in the Open and 11 times out of 16 in the Women's, which is surprising considering the calibre of the competition.

After three rounds, Canada leads 144 to 51 and Sweden concedes defeat.

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The Quarter Finals - South Africa

At breakfast, George Retek warned me to take South Africa seriously. On the previous day, they had beaten Austria, one of the favoured teams. We lose the first quarter 13 to 33, a 20 Imp deficit.

The three South African pairs play an Acol system based on weak 1NT. Rhoda and Beverly also play weak no-trumps. On the following hand, Martine showed very good judgement. She hears 1NT on her right. Over a weak no-trump, we play Cappelletti where a double promises a hand with 14 HCP or more. With her 13 HCP (all in controls) and a five-card suit, she decides to double and everyone passes. At the other table, Merle Modlin passed 1NT.

North: Lacroix

♠ A4
♥ K75
♦ K98
♣ QJ754

West: Bloom

♠ K976
♥ J6
♦ AJ32
♣ A92

East: Holroyd

♠ 532
♥ 9842
♦ 654
♣ K108

South: Cimon

♠ QJ108
♥ AQ103
♦ Q107
♣ 63

The lead of the ♣ 5 is won by dummy's eight. Bloom ducks a diamond, wins the club return in her hand and continues with the Ace and a low diamond. Martine continues a club to dummy's King but that is declarer's last trick: +800. At the other table, the play was almost the same for -300, an 11-Imps gain. We have slowly recovered our deficit but it is only in the fourth round that we start to see the outcome of the match which ends 172 to 137 in our favour.

The Semi Finals - Germany

Germany is the favoured team to win this tournament. Our captain Jim Green gives us some encouragement by saying that the two teams are well matched. We have to give it our best.

Dealer: South

Vuln.: N/S

North: Auker

♠ 1097
♥ KQ84
♦ J854
♣ Q3

West: Kraft

♠ AQ64
♥ 763
♦ AK632
♣ 10

East: Habert

♠ KJ82
♥ AJ10
♦ 1097
♣ AKJ

South: Arnim

♠ 53
♥ 952
♦ Q
♣ 9876542

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

Heart lead to the Queen and Ace. Rhoda plays three rounds of trumps, then Ace and King of diamonds, revealing the bad break. Now she doesn't have any other choice but to take the club finesse to get rid of dummy's two hearts, finding North's club doubleton along the way. Rhoda puts North in with Diamonds and there is no good return. North has to come back a diamond opening up dummy's long suit or a heart giving Rhoda a heart trick. The result: 6♠

☞ (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

making, +980 and 11 Imps for Canada (4♠ making five at the other table). We win this round 21 to 14. After 80 boards, the result is 141 to 123 for Canada. It is a very close match and anything can still happen in the fourth round but we keep going and win 177 to 133. Finally! For the first time Canada will play in an Olympiad Final! We feel like celebrating and go to bed a bit late although we don't start play until 5 pm the next day.

The Finals - USA

Canada eventually yielded, 176 to 144, to the USA team made up of Petra Hamman, Peggy Sutherlin, Joan Jackson, Robin Klar, Mildred Breed and Shawn Quinn, with Bobby Hamman as captain. Here is an interesting hand for those players who think that silence is sometimes golden.

Dealer: East
Vuln.: none

North: Breed

♠ —

♥ 97432

♦ KQJ952

♣ Q7

West: Cimon

♠ 10932

♥ 5

♦ A106

♣ AJ1062

East: Lacroix

♠ AKQJ8

♥ AKQJ8

♦ 43

♣ 3

South: Quinn

♠ 7654

♥ 106

♦ 87

♣ K9854

Cimon

West

4♥ (1)

5♦ (3)

6♠ (4)

Breed

North

4♠ (2)

Double

Pass

Lacroix

East

1♠

4NT

5NT

Pass

Quinn

South

Pass

5♣

Pass

Pass

The 4♠ bid makes Martine suspicious. North having declared that she holds at least 5 hearts and another five-card suit, Martine does not believe she will be able to discard diamonds on hearts, then ruff a diamond and a heart to make the grand slam, so she stops at 6♠. At the other table, North's silence helped Hamman-Sutherlin bid to 7♠. Under normal distributions in the North/South hands, this would be a very good contract. This hand allowed Canada to win 14 Imps.

The bidding at the other table:

Sutherlin West	Habert North	Hamman East	Kraft South
		2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	Pass	7♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

In spite of this hand, which occurred at the beginning, we were slow in starting the first two rounds, gaining only a small 3-Imps advantage. The third and fourth rounds were fatal, forcing us to catch up with a 63 Imp deficit. We reduced that margin to 32 Imps in the last two segments but that wasn't enough. Bridge is a test of endurance; my partner and I played 500 hands in 13 days. That is very demanding. You have to be in good physical shape and maintain your concentration throughout the whole tournament. Stress is a beast that wears down your energy.

Nonetheless, our team has achieved the best team bridge performance in Canadian history and the Silver medal that we bring back will shine brightly in our hearts for a long time.

2001 CWTC PARTICIPANTS - check out the CBF home page to find out who your Zone Coordinator is and what deadlines must be met in your Zone.

- (1) splinter
- (2) two-suited hearts + one minor
- (3) 2 controls
- (4) no Kings

TWELVES ARE WILD

By Rollande Makarewicz and Marc Fiset
Can-Am Bulletin, October 8th, 2000

Jeff Smith and John Zaluski won the "A" strata Sam Gold event at the Can-Am (Montreal, October 3-8, 2000) by some 50 matchpoints more than the next pair. Two light openings, which is very much part of their style, worked well for them on boards 12 in the afternoon and in the evening.

In the afternoon, Jeff opened his 10 point count one spade after which he confirmed his aggressive style when he passed his partner's negative double. The end result was that the opponents played 2♥ doubled, going down three, for a top to the Ottawa pair.

Board 12 - Saturday afternoon
Dealer: West
Vul.: N/S

		North	
		♠ AQ432	
		♥ AK864	
		♦ —	
		♣ 743	
Smith		Zaluski	
♠ K9876		♠ J	
♥ QJ92		♥ 753	
♦ 7		♦ AKJ1093	
♣ A106		♣ KQ8	
		South	
		♠ 105	
		♥ 10	
		♦ Q86542	
		♣ J952	
West	North	East	South
1♠	2♥	X*	pass
pass	pass		

*negative or game going one suiter (negative free bid style)

In the evening, Jeff picked up:
♠ J97 ♥ J ♦ Q842 ♣ AK765

True to his style, he opened 1♦ and the bidding went like this:

West	North	East	South
1♦	X	Pass (1)	1♥
2♣	2♥	3♥	Pass
3♠ (2)	Pass	5♦	

- (1) Redouble would show 11+, two 4-card suits and a strong desire to penalize opponent.
(2) Doesn't know what to bid.

Zaluski-Smith did well to avoid the dubious 3NT contract reached by many other pairs, which fails on a heart lead.

Could it be that Smith opens light hands because he has faith in his play? Let's see.

Board 12 - Saturday evening
Dealer: West
Vul.: N/S

		North	
		♠ AQ65	
		♥ KQ73	
		♦ 1073	
		♣ J2	
Smith		Zaluski	
♠ J97		♠ K83	
♥ J		♥ A64	
♦ Q842		♦ AJ96	
♣ AK765		♣ Q93	
		South	
		♠ 1042	
		♥ 109852	
		♦ K5	
		♣ 1084	

He won the lead of the ♥K with the Ace, and ruffed a heart, finessed the ♦J which lost to South's King. South returned the ♦5 which Smith let ride to the 9 in dummy. He then ruffed a heart with ♦Q, reached dummy with the ♣Q, drew the last trump and claimed 11 tricks.

In last year's Can-Am, this pair led the winners by coming first in five events.

CANADIAN BRIDGE FEDERATION CHARITY FOUNDATION

Charity

Chairperson: Marilyn White
182 Bowood Ave., Toronto, ON M4N 1Y6
Phone 416-322-5464 • Email: mpwhite@idirect.com

HOW TO APPLY for a donation from the CBF Charity Foundation

Your application should contain the following:

- name of charity and registered charity number if you have one
- name of contact person with the charity organization
- complete mailing address along with contact phone numbers
- E-mail address if available
- outline of the specific project or projects for which you would like funding
- indication of the amount you hope to receive
- indication of how you will acknowledge the donation

Mail or E-mail the above information to the Main Office (see back cover) or to the Charity Chair (see above).

The CBF Charity Foundation meets once a year - usually in May - to select the charities that will receive funding. Charities are usually designated one year in advance of receiving the funding. Actual dollar amounts of the donations are assigned in the year they are given out.

GUIDELINES for CBF Charity Foundation (CBFCF) Applications

1. The CBFCF supports charitable activities that are intended to benefit Canadians.
2. Donations are made only to non-profit, local, provincial, national or international organizations operating a program determined by the CBFCF Trustees to be important to the health and welfare of the community. These organizations NEED NOT have a registered charitable number.
3. The CBFCF Trustees are looking for applications that are for specific projects and contain budgets and time lines.
4. Donations may be made for definite or general purposes and for projects covering a specific period of time. (Multi-year projects are subject to periodic review by the Trustees.)
5. Preference is given to organizations that: a) contribute to a better quality of life b) encourage efficient use of human and community resources c) render a service which meets a widespread need d) demonstrate new approaches and techniques e) address the underlying causes of problems rather than dealing with symptoms f) benefit individuals with no preference given on the basis of race, sex, religion, creed, sexual orientation, etc. g) have a registered charity number h) are willing to publicly acknowledge the donation
6. Capital projects will be considered if there is a demonstrated need.
7. Pilot or demonstration projects must have an inherent realistic plan for viability beyond the pilot stage.
8. Donations are not usually made to: a) religious organizations for direct or indirect religious activities b) political organizations for any direct or indirect political activities c) establish or add to endowment funds d) support operating expenses of established organizations or programs or for sustaining support e) duplicate other funding from governmental sources

We encourage our membership to assist us in identifying potential recipients for CBFCF funds.

SOLUTIONS TO TEST YOUR BRIDGE

From page 4

1. Of course, there are no systems for this kind of hand. But what exactly does partner expect you to have if you open 5♣ in second chair, at unfavorable vulnerability? Will you miss a slam? If you open 1♣, or even 2♣, will the opponents find a good save in a major - or could this even be a double slam swing hand?

There's no right answer on this one, but there's certainly a story. Partner held

♠ J 10 9 3 ♥ A J 4 2 ♦ A K 7 5 2 ♣ -

Those who opened 5♣ usually got raised to six, although several with pessimistic partners played it right there in game ('look for reasons to bid, not reasons not to bid....'). The 1♣ and 2♣ bidders were not impressive either. One pair playing a relay system managed to get only to 5♣, while the rest generally decided to treat their clubs as solid and ended up in the grand. Fortunately, the ♣Q was doubleton, so all ended happily for them. It occurred to me that, since everyone had so much trouble, these hands might make a good 'Challenge the Champs' problem; certainly, it's worth discussing with your favorite partner.

2. North
 ♠ 8 3
 ♥ A Q 6 2
 ♦ 7 6 3
 ♣ A J 7 5

West
 ♠ ---
 ♥ J 10 8 5 3
 ♦ 10 8 4
 ♣ K Q 10 4 3

East
 ♠ J 7 5 2
 ♥ 9 7 4
 ♦ K Q J
 ♣ 9 8 2

South
 ♠ A K Q 10 9 6 4
 ♥ K
 ♦ A 9 5 2
 ♣ 6

Well, did you fall for it? More than one defender did, and continued a club looking to give partner a ruff, which is the only way South can make the hand after the devastating club lead. You really shouldn't go wrong, as if South actually had three clubs, why wouldn't he just draw trumps and play up to the ♣J?

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

West
 ♠ A J 9 6 5
 ♥ A 6
 ♦ 9 8 5
 ♣ A 10 3

East
 ♠ Q 8 3 2
 ♥ 10 5 2
 ♦ J 4
 ♣ Q J 8 6

South
 ♠ K 10
 ♥ Q J 9 7 4
 ♦ K 7
 ♣ K 9 7 5

This was a really sad hand. I started the ♠A, bringing off an Elvis Coup ('the king lives'), and the hand was over. Actually, there are three cards in your hand that will work, creating a vital entry for partner to lead a black card through: a low club, or the ♠J. But I haven't yet found anyone who wants to lead a club, let alone finding the esoteric ♠J!

How did you do?

THE WORLD JUNIOR PAIRS AND WORLD JUNIOR BRIDGE CAMP

are scheduled for July 2001 at a resort outside Budapest, Hungary. ACBL will pay part of the costs for up to 40 ACBL Juniors. The pairs competition is scheduled July 6--8 while the camp is set for July 9--18. ACBL will pay entries plus room and board (estimated cost: \$450 per person) for 40 ACBL Juniors. Juniors are responsible for their own airfare. Junior players between the ages of 16 and 25 are encouraged to apply by e-mailing Charlotte Blaiss, Director of ACBL Junior Programs, at charlotte.blaiss@acbl.org

THE CBF JUNIOR TEAM TRIALS

August 25-27, 2000 - Kingston, Ontario

Congratulations to the winners who were behind until the very end when they came through with a strong finish! In the 64 board final, the winners by 5 imps (actually 20 since the runners-up had a 15 imp carryover from the round robin) were:

Erin Anderson (Regina)
Ian Boyd (Calgary)
Vincent Demuy (Montreal)
Josh Heller (Toronto)

Runners Up were the strong team of:

David Grainger (Etobicoke)
Charles Halasi (Toronto)
Daniel Lavee (Thornhill)
Gavin Wolpert (Thornhill)

A Canadian Junior Oversight Committee will oversee training and make the final decisions as to team rosters. Announcements can be expected April 2001, about 4 months before the World Championship in Brazil (see right).

NO HERO FOR 2001 - The annual HERO International Youth Bridge Festival, a training ground for Junior players from around the world, has been canceled due to loss of sponsorship, organizers said. The festival, held in 's Hertogenbosch, the Netherlands in January for the past eight years, began in 1993 with seven countries participating. Twenty-five teams from 23 countries (the Netherlands and the U.S. both had two teams) competed in last year's fest val. Team Canada (Mike Nadler-David Halasi, Ben Zeidenberg-Darren Wolpert and David Grainger-David Brower) won the 1999 event.

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

Dates: March 24 & 25, 2001
Location: Hart House Bridge Club - University of Toronto
Contact: Bil Tzerpos
Phone: 416-598-3185
Email: vtzer@cs.toronto.edu

Organize your teams now and contact Bil with your entries. **Check out Bil's home page for more information:**
<http://www.utoronto.ca/bridge/CUTC>

2001 WORLD JUNIOR BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP IN BRAZIL

The dates for the 2001 World Junior Bridge Championship in Mangaratiba, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil are August 6 - 15, 2001. Hotel info can be found at:
<http://www.travelnow.com/hotels/hotelinfo.jsp?ID=144728&cid=2724>

Note: Any player born in 1975 will be eligible for the 2001 World Junior Teams in Brazil.

JUNIOR COLLEGIATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

sponsored by OKbridge, the ACBL (American Contract Bridge League) and Fifth Chair Foundation. This FREE event (no registration fees - with OKbridge providing courtesy accounts a couple of weeks before the event allowing ample time for online practice) is played online on OKbridge and the tentative dates are April 21-22, 2001.

Visit the 5th Chair Foundation web site for more information:
<http://www.fifthchair.org/college/college.html>

ATTENTION: CANADIAN YOUTH BRIDGE PLAYERS (19 AND UNDER)

The first disbursements of money from the Erin Berry Memorial Fund will happen in May of 2001. Any player wishing to apply for financial assistance should submit their application before May 1, 2001 to Jan Anderson, CBF Coordinator (address information on back page). An article with information about this fund was printed in Bridge Canada, September 2000, page 13. If you need any further information contact Jan.

FROM THE CBF ARCHIVIST

Madeline Conrad

BEHIND THE SCENES

Although by all accounts the most recent Canadian National Team Championship was a success, only the coordinators of these events know what went on "behind the scenes." It was not without many "growing pains" that the CNTC came into existence. In 1977, the first Canadian Team Championship was held with Ms C. Thorpe of Toronto acting as coordinator. As the first coordinator, she dispersed reams of information to all and sundry: *Facts About the 1977 Canadian Team Championships* and *What Is The 1977 Canadian Team Championships?*, were two memoranda I came across wherein everything from scheduling to eligibility to playing fees was first addressed - and readdressed as ground rules were hammered out. Note: The recommended playing fee was \$16 per team per session, \$32 per team for the two qualifying rounds.

Apparently things went well in 1977, but 1978 was another story. Fredericton, NB was the venue for that year with the teams scheduled to arrive by June 16th. However, James "Duff" Harper, the local coordinator, received a phone call from Erik Kokish on May 3rd asking what arrangements had been made. This phone call prompted Harper to write to those in "high places" as he had received nothing at that time. His "...plaintive requests [were] two in number - (1) Who in the hell is responsi-

ble? and (2) Why have we not received the material long ago?" He noted that "...very soon I must reserve a definite date for the play area as although Fredericton many not be cosmopolitan it is not uninhabited and the hotels and motels occasionally are booked well in advance. In addition, some of the members of the qualifying teams may not be either rich or retired and at least a few may require some advance notice."

He went on to say that "... insofar as some [of the teams] are concerned, I have no knowledge as to whether or not their selection was effected via the Divine Right of Kings, or like Topsy, they just grewed." Regarding the person responsible for giving Harper this information he wrote, "Is he dead or really alive and well living in Upper Canada? I note that someone going by his name is going to New Orleans in a dual capacity to represent our Country - I hope it is not an impostor!!"

The 1978 CNTC was held on schedule although it is remembered as a "near-miss" by some. In closing, I should tell you that the "behind the scenes" mystery re "Al The Man" and "Jack King" has been solved. They were "DEFINITELY NOT" the same person according to Gim Ong of Winnipeg who is the owner of J.Q.K. Enterprises and who wrote "Jack King" articles which were published worldwide. Al Hackett now living in Miramichi, NB is still Al The Man. Both parties contacted me and hopefully the historical record is now straight.

CANADIAN PLAYER WINS BULLETIN CONTEST IN MAASTRICHT

Jon Robinson, a member of Canada's Senior Team at the World Olympiad won the Daily Bulletin's popular bridge limmerick contest. Here are his two entries:

There was a young lady from Maastricht
Whose play was as bad as 'twas quick
At a very fast pace
She trumped partner's Ace
And revoked on the very last trick.

There was a young lady from Maastricht
Whose system was very gymnasticht
Her fit showing jumps
Could give you goose bumps
And her leaping Michaels? Fantasticht!!

a man about universe (II)

by Bernard Marcoux, Ste-Adèle

In 1996, I had given this title to an article published in the Can-Am Daily bulletin, an article that subsequently won the Bols Bridge Press Award, awarded annually by the International Bridge Press Association (IBPA). That article related a hand played by Fred Gitelman and was trying to differentiate a "man about town" (superficial) from an "a man about universe" (really going to the heart of things, a poet). Seeing the following hand played by Nicolas L'Écuyer in the finals of the Canadian National Team Championships, the same title popped into my head and I thought that Nicolas had all the qualities of "a man about universe", and then some.

Your partner opens 1♣, RHO (Eric Kokish) bids 1♥, and you have:

♠ K10 ♥ KQJ52 ♦ 73 ♣ K732

As the finals of the CNTC are not for the weak, you bid 3NT and everybody passes.

Fergani

♠ 852
♥ A96
♦ KJ4
♣ AQ96

Mittelman

♠ QJ964
♥ void
♦ Q1098
♣ J1085

L'Écuyer

♠ K10
♥ KQJ52
♦ 73
♣ K732

George Mittelman leads the 4 of spades (attitude: the lower the card, the higher the interest; sort of upside-down attitude on lead); Kokish wins the Ace and plays back the 7, showing probably three cards. You win the King and ... you have to make the rest, the spades being established.

You have 8 sure tricks: 1 spade, 4 hearts (your spots are not good enough to pick up Kokish's hearts) and 3 clubs. You can probably find the missing trick in clubs if they break 3-2; even if they divide 4-1, if you find the Jack or 10 singleton on your right, you will make 4 tricks. Are you going to play clubs right away? Many would, without thinking, and, after going down, complain of their bad luck. Nicolas, like every good player, hates to go down in cold contracts, and hates even more to go ahead without thinking, without trying like hell not to be forced to guess. Really good players don't guess, they count. And if they guess, if the events force them to guess, then some of them travel to another dimension, the 4th dimension maybe, exclusive to really exceptional players, brilliant players, men about universe.

Zia Mahmood, one of the 5 best players in the world, explains that a bridge player (or of any game for that matter) can find himself in one of 3 zones when he starts a competition:

zone 1: he finds all the cards, all his finesses work, every hunch is right; Zia tells then to take charge, to go ahead, everything works your way.

Zone 2: the player plays normally, he is not brilliant, but he doesn't make mistakes. Just continue, don't force things.

Zone 3: the player finds nothing, he is off, he misplays his contracts; Zia recommends then to transfer the control to partner; don't make decisions, let partner decide.

Once we have said that, we haven't said everything: Zia continues and adds that the most difficult part for the player is to **recognise as quickly as possible in which zone he is**.

After winning the second trick with the King of spades, Nicolas cashed 4 heart tricks, noting with interest the discards from Mittelman: he pitched 3 diamonds (the 8, the 9 and the 10), and the 9 of spades. Nicolas knew that Mittelman had 5 spades, and most probably 4

diamonds and 4 clubs. With 5 diamonds, he might have lead one. As he had led a spade, then it was his 5 card suit.

The more hearts were cashed, the more Mittelman found it difficult, if not unbearable.

	Dummy	
	♠ -	
	♥ -	
	♦ KJ4	
	♣ AQ96	
Mittelman		Kokish
♠ QJ		♠ 3
♥ -		♥ 10
♦ Q		♦ A652
♣ J1085		♣ 4
	'Écuyer	
	♠ -	
	♥ 2	
	♦ 73	
	♣ K732	

Finally Nicolas played his 2 of clubs, and Mittelman played the 5, in tempo, if not with this little haste of a player trying to act as if he has no problem. Nicolas knew at that moment that Mittelman had 4 clubs.

Follow closely : Nicolas knew that Mittelman knew that Nicolas was able to play a club towards the Ace, then come back to his King, discovering the 4-1 break and catching the stiff Jack or 10 in Kokish's hand, if that were the case.

«Why didn't he pitch a club?» Nicolas was asking himself. To put oneself in the other player's head, that is one of the most important qualities of a great player.

When he played his 2 of clubs, Nicolas knew he was missing the J10854 of clubs; he knew also Mittelman had 4 clubs and Kokish, one. When Mittelman played the 5 of clubs, Nicolas decided it was a true card (Kokish/Mittelman play upside-down), the lowest, and that Kokish, who had only 1 club, had the ... 4 ! If the 5 was the lowest in Mittelman's hand, then he had to have J1085.

So Nicolas called for the 9 of clubs, making 4 tricks in the suit, winning 13 Imps and the CNTC eventually.

If Mittelman had played the 8 of clubs instead of the 5, lying on his distribution (but maybe he was trying to lie ... nah, it is getting too complicated), he would have placed before Nicolas a difficult question. But, obsessed by his own discards maybe, he played what seemed to Nicolas an honest card : Nicolas, fully awake, fully in tune with all the vibrations around the table, perfectly read the situation.

Would you say Nicolas was lucky? No, there is no luck at bridge. Nicolas will tell you that playing the 9 was almost a 100% play, that **he was taking no chance**.

I told you : great players don't guess, they count, but into this arithmetic enters, not only the cards, but all the information floating around the table: the count of the hand obviously, but also the players' demeanour, their mannerisms, their tempo, **their will to play in tempo**, their determination not to hesitate. And, in the case of really superior players, we have to add, I think, this other capacity, impalpable, impossible to measure, that we can almost compare to animal instinct – sniffing the air and locating the cards, every time.

Only a man about universe has access to this supernatural arithmetic, and has enough confidence in himself, has enough **courage** to play like Nicolas did on this hand.

We have to feel a profound admiration for a player of such superiority; and we have to feel also a renewed amazement for this wonderful game we have the privilege to play, and that gives us sometimes the chance to emulate the gods.

I said it before in another article and I repeat it today: well done, Nicolas.

MOT DU PRÉSIDENT

Nicholas Gartaganis

Compétitions internationales

La plupart des Canadiens sont maintenant au courant de la performance de notre équipe féminine qui a remporté une médaille d'argent aux Olympiades tenues à Maastricht l'année dernière. Il s'agit là d'un résultat exceptionnel qui nous remplit encore aujourd'hui de fierté et qui devrait tous nous inspirer. Les représentantes du Canada étaient Rhoda Habert, Beverly Kraft, Francine Cimon, Martine Lacroix, Katie Thorpe et Dianna Gordon avec Jim Green comme capitaine non-joueur (CNJ).

Dans la compétition des Seniors, les représentants du Canada ont terminé au 8^e rang sur un total de 24 équipes. Au cours du tournoi à la ronde de cette compétition, notre équipe a vaincu à la fois les USA et la Suède, équipes qui ont respectivement terminé première et troisième. Les joueurs canadiens étaient Peter Schwartz, Ralph Cohen, André Laliberté, Fred Hoffer et Jon Robinson.

Le calibre des compétitions internationales continue de grimper. Notre équipe nationale à Maastricht s'en est bien rendu compte; ils n'ont pas réussi à se qualifier pour la ronde éliminatoire. Les joueurs du Canada étaient Robert Lebi, Nader Hanna, Drew Cannell, John Carruthers, George Mittelman et Eric Kokish avec Martin Kirr comme CNJ.

Règlements de qualification pour la Bermuda Bowl et la Venice Cup

La position finale de l'équipe nationale canadienne a eu une conséquence regrettable, celle de déclencher l'application d'un règlement de la Fédération mondiale de bridge (FMB), dont l'impact est d'empêcher la participation du Canada aux deux prochaines Bermuda Bowl (2001 et 2003). Contrairement aux Olympiades, où chaque pays a droit à un

représentant, la Bermuda Bowl et la Venice Cup n'allouent qu'un nombre limité d'équipes à chacune des huit zones de la FMB. La représentation du Canada dans la Venice Cup n'est pas affectée grâce à la belle performance de l'équipe féminine du Canada.

La FMB a approuvé une motion spéciale à Maastricht afin de donner aux zones de la FMB la possibilité de regagner leur qualification pour 2003, en se basant sur leur performance aux Championnats mondiaux de 2002 à Montréal. Cependant, les règlements actuels de la FMB demeurent une menace constante pour la participation du Canada aux compétitions internationales futures. Une requête a été envoyée par la FCB au Conseil d'administration de l'ACBL afin qu'elle supporte ses efforts dans la présentation des amendements appropriés.

Un autre changement du même genre soutenu par la FCB est l'établissement d'une entité indépendante pour gérer la zone II de la FMB, dont le Canada est membre. Présentement, l'ACBL agit comme administrateur à la fois pour la zone II et pour les USA. Avec la mise sur pied de la United States Bridge Federation, dont le but est d'obtenir des fonds du Comité olympique américain, il est temps de modifier cet arrangement.

Championnat d'équipes Junior

Félicitations à Erin Anderson, Ian Boyd, Josh Heller et Vincent Demuy, gagnants du Championnat d'équipes junior à Kingston en août dernier. L'équipe est revenue de l'arrière dans un match excitant, obtenant un résultat de 59 - 36 au dernier quart, et arrachant la victoire par 5 IMPs.

Conseil d'administration de la FCB

Leo Weniger, président de Bridge Week 2000 à Halifax (lequel tournoi a été un grand succès), a pris sa retraite du Conseil d'administration de

➡ (suite à la page 20)

☞ (suite de la page 19)

la FCB. L'apport de Leo aux discussions va nous manquer. Mary Moulton, qui était un membre essentiel du comité organisateur à Halifax, est la nouvelle représentante de la Zone I et apporte de nouveaux points de vue au Conseil.

Relations entre la FCB et l'ACBL

La FCB continue de travailler avec l'ACBL pour régler les questions non résolues. Pour montrer sa bonne foi, l'ACBL a amené Jan Anderson à Memphis pour des discussions directes avec ses vis-à-vis au quartier général de l'ACBL. Jan a été Secrétaire et Trésorière de la FCB pendant de nombreuses années et en sait davantage sur l'organisme que tous les directeurs, anciens et nouveaux, réunis !

Montants dus à la FCB

Le Conseil d'administration de la FCB a approuvé une motion déclarant que tout membre qui doit de l'argent à la FCB n'aura pas la permission de participer au Bridge Week ou à un autre événement commandité par la FCB tant et aussi longtemps que tous les montants dus n'auront pas été payés.

Liaison entre la FCB et le Comité olympique canadien

George Retek a été nommé au poste d'Agent de liaison de la FCB à l'Association olympique canadienne (AOC). Il doit s'assurer que la FCB soit reconnue par l'AOC si le bridge obtient le statut de sport olympique. Grâce à ses efforts, le Comité exécutif de l'AOC a recommandé à son Conseil d'administration que la FCB soit acceptée comme membre (Classe E). La classe E inclut les sports reconnus par le Comité olympique international, qui ne font pas encore partie des programmes des Jeux Pan-Américains ou Olympiques.

CNTC BITS - A & B

The winners of the National Final of the CNTC -Flight B will be awarded 50 Gold Points.

The ACBL passed this motion in Birmingham in late November so it wasn't included in Conditions of Contest.

A reminder to all that the Unit level has been eliminated from CNTC A and B.

Players advance from the club qualifying round directly to the Zone Final. All players playing in the Zone Final must have club qualification (either earned or purchased). Most Zones will be charging a non-refundable deposit that must be sent in prior to the Zone final. Please check the CBF home page on the internet to get the latest details on deadlines for entering Zone Finals.



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LES OLYMPIADES DE BRIDGE

par Francine Cimon, Montréal

L'arrivée

Nous arrivons un jour d'avance afin de nous reposer un peu et de visiter Maastricht, une très belle vieille ville européenne. Le centre des congrès où nous jouons se trouve malheureusement un peu en retrait de la ville dans un environnement désert, mais l'organisation est parfaite : beaucoup de bénévoles et une très belle cérémonie d'ouverture. Pour Dianna Gordon et moi, il s'agit de notre septième participation aux olympiades, la quatrième pour Katie Thorpe, la deuxième pour Beverly Kraft et Rhoda Habert alors que c'est la première fois pour ma partenaire, Martine Lacroix. À la réunion des capitaines, Jim Green (notre capitaine) apprend que les règlements ont changé : 8 équipes seront qualifiées dans chaque section au lieu de 4. L'horaire sera donc plus chargé et nous devrons disputer 18 matchs en 7 jours avant d'atteindre la huitième de finale.

Le tournoi à la ronde

Nous remportons les trois premiers matchs, mais le bridge n'est pas à son meilleur et on termine la première journée au sixième rang, avec 57 VP sur un maximum de 75. La deuxième journée débute contre la Chine. La même équipe qui nous avait balayées en semi-finale aux Olympiades précédentes. C'est un match très important puisque c'est la première fois que Martine rencontre des ex-championnes du monde. Quelle sera sa réaction? Le moral de l'équipe sera sûrement influencé par ce match. L'action se produit très tôt dans le match.

Donneur: Est
Vuln.: N/S

Nord: Zhang

♠ D

♥ ARV10653

♦ 987

♣ 107

Ouest: Cimon

♠ A65

♥ D82

♦ ARV1032

♣ V

Est: Lacroix

♠ RV732

♥ —

♦ 54

♣ AD9432

Sud: Gu

♠ 10984

♥ 974

♦ D6

♣ R865

Cimon

Ouest

Zhang

Nord

Lacroix

Est

1♣

Gu

Sud

Passe

1♦

3♥

3♠

Passe

4♦ (1)

Passe

5♦

Passe

6♦

Passe

Passe

Passe

(1) impératif

Nord entame ♥R, coupé au mort, un petit carreau vers le Valet suivi de trois autres carreaux maîtres. Le mort défause deux petits trèfles et un pique, Nord se débarrasse d'un cœur et Sud d'un cœur et d'un pique. Suivent le Valet de trèfle vers l'As et la Dame de trèfle couverte du Roi et coupée par le déclarant, satisfait de voir apparaître le 10.

À ce moment, la main est limpide : Nord a débuté avec 3 carreaux, 2 trèfles et probablement 7 cœurs à cause du barrage vulnérable, ce qui lui fait un seul pique. Le déclarant encaisse son dernier carreau obligeant Sud à se départir de son dernier cœur.

➡ (suite à la page 22)

THANK YOU ERIC - Eric Sutherland has resigned as Junior Manager of the CBF. The board would like to thank him for the time he has given to Junior Bridge in Canada. If anyone is interested in taking on the long term role of helping manager the CBF Junior Program, please contact CBF Coordinator, Janice Anderson.

☞ (suite de la page 21)

Nord: Zhang	
♠ ?	
♥ AV106	
♦ —	
♣ —	
Ouest: Cimon	Est: Lacroix
♠ A65	♠ RV7
♥ D8	♥ —
♦ —	♦ —
♣ —	♣ 94
Sud: Gu	
♠ ?98	
♥ —	
♦ —	
♣ 86	

Maintenant un petit pique vers le mort assure le contrat : si la Dame n'apparaît pas, on met le Roi et, sur le 9 de trèfle, on défausse un cœur, ensuite on met Sud en main avec le petit trèfle tout en défaussant son dernier cœur. Lorsque la Dame de pique apparaît, la belle finale est détruite. C'est tout de même +920 pour le Canada et 10 imps, les adversaires à l'autre table ayant joué 4♠. Le match se termine 80 imps à 25 en notre faveur, ce qui se traduit par 25 à 4 VP. L'échelle des VP est un peu bizarre : vous ne pouvez jamais remporter plus de 25 VP, mais selon la marge, vos adversaires peuvent obtenir de 0 à 5 VP. Les résultats du match étaient affichés au Vu-Graph mais on a comme règle de ne pas regarder le résultat sur la télévision en sortant du match et le capitaine, nos coéquipières et nos supporters ne disent rien en attendant la comparaison. Cette fois-ci, ce fut trop pour Matthew, notre mascotte, âgé de 12 ans (le fils de Beverly Kraft et d'Eric Kokish); il s'est exclamé : «We are good!». Quel soulagement!

Au cours de ces premières journées, notre position varie de la première à la cinquième. À la ronde douze, on rencontre la Pologne. À ce moment-là, nous sommes en quatrième position (197) et la Pologne (191) en cinquième.

Ma main est:

♠ 53 ♥ A ♦ R10942 ♣ AD1083.

À ma droite, on ouvre 1♣; je donne 1♦ et à ma gauche on déclare 3SA, passés par ma partenaire et l'ouvreur. À moi. Les semaines précédant notre départ, nous avons beaucoup travaillé, Martine et moi, et nous avons justement précisé les significations des différents contres. Dans cette situation-ci, si je contre, je demande l'entame de la couleur du mort et c'est bien ce que je veux, un trèfle. Je contre et le contrat chute de un sur l'entame du 7 de trèfle. La donne complète :

Donneur: Est
Vuln.: Tous

Nord: Jeleniewska	
♠ AD2	
♥ V64	
♦ AD86	
♣ 965	
Ouest: Cimon	Est: Lacroix
♠ 53	♠ 10974
♥ A	♥ 107532
♦ R10942	♦ V3
♣ AD1083	♣ 74
Sud: Kater	
♠ RV86	
♥ RD98	
♦ 75	
♣ RV2	

À l'autre table, c'est la même séquence d'enchères sauf pour le contre; 3SA fait trois, +600 et 13 imps. Je suis très surprise de constater, autant dans l'open que chez les femmes, que 3SA joué par Nord a presque toujours réussi faute de contre. Ce qui signifie que la majorité des joueurs n'ont pas d'entente ou ont une entente différente sur la signification du contre. Ce fut un match très mouvementé : 169 imps ont été échangés en seulement 20 planchettes! Ce sont les Polonaises qui ont eu le dessus 100 à 69 pour 21 VP à 9. Nous tombons en cinquième position.

☞ (suite à la page 23)

☞ (suite de la page 22)

À la ronde 14, nous affrontons la Turquie; on est quatrième à ce moment-là, 3 VP derrière la Hollande. C'est important pour le Canada de terminer parmi les trois premières équipes de son groupe dans le tournoi à la ronde. On pourra ainsi choisir l'équipe qu'on affrontera dans la ronde des 16. Alors, quand on rencontre une équipe plus «faible», il faut essayer de les blitzer pour aller chercher le maximum de points de victoire. Voici une donne très intéressante et en même temps amusante.

Donneur: Ouest

Vuln.: E/O

Nord: Aykut

♠ 109

♥ DV1065

♦ A9732

♣ 10

Ouest: Gordon

♠ R6543

♥ R73

♦ —

♣ R8762

Est: Thorpe

♠ ADV872

♥ 82

♦ 6

♣ 9543

Sud: Kara

♠ —

♥ A94

♦ RDV10854

♣ ADV

Gordon

Aykut

Thorpe

Kara

Ouest

Nord

Est

Sud

Passe

Passe

2♠

Contre

3♦(1)

4♥

Passe

5♥

5♠

Passe

Passe

6♥

Contre

Passe

Passe

Passe

(1) demande une entame carreau

Imaginez la surprise de Katie qui a entamé son singleton carreau et se l'est fait couper par... sa partenaire!

Résultat : 6♥, chute de un, +200 et 12 imps. Le Canada a atteint son objectif de 24 VP contre cette équipe.

Avec cette victoire, on se place en troisième, position qu'on conservera jusqu'à la fin du tournoi à la ronde.

Les «Butlers»

À l'ère informatique, les statistiques sont de mise. Au cours des trois dernières années, le «Daily Bulletin» a publié, après le tournoi à la ronde, les «butlers» de chaque paire. Sur chaque donne, le résultat d'une paire est comparé au résultat moyen de la donne et est converti en imps. Ces statistiques doivent être considérées avec un grain de sel puisque si la meilleure paire de l'équipe joue dans tous les matchs difficiles et affronte toujours la meilleure paire adverse, il est normal que son «butler» en soit affecté. Martine et moi étions contentes de voir qu'on avait conservé une moyenne de 0.93 imps par étui dans le tournoi à la ronde et, ce, calculé sur 260 planchettes.



PHOTO: MARCIA CHRISTIE

Les éliminatoires – La ronde des 16

L'Allemagne termine première de notre section et choisit le Japon; la France va pour Chinoise Taipei et nous avons le choix entre la Suède et Israël. Nous choisissons la Suède. Cette équipe est constituée de bonnes joueuses mais ça n'a pas fonctionné pour elles dans le tournoi à la ronde, elles se sont qualifiées huitième.

Au tout début du match, je relève
♠ 652 ♥ 10 ♦ DV95 ♣ R10972
et les enchères procèdent ainsi (les adversaires n'interviennent pas) :

☞ (suite à la page 24)

Lacroix Cimon
 2 ♣ 2 ♦ (1)
 2 ♠ ?

(1) 0 ou 1 control e (As = 2, Roi = 1).

En général, un splinter montre quatre atouts, mais lorsque le partenaire a montré une très bonne couleur et une main forte, on peut faire un splinter avec trois atouts et un peu d'extra à l'extérieur. Je déclare donc 4♥ et Martine avec ♠ ARD1073 ♥ D42 ♦ AR7 ♣ A a donné naturellement 6♠. Il n'y a aucun problème dans le jeu, il y a toujours 12 levées. À l'autre table, le chelem n'a pas été déclaré et on remporte 13 imps. J'ai constaté que le chelem n'a été déclaré que 10 fois sur 16 dans l'open et 11 fois sur 16 chez les femmes, ce qui est surprenant compte tenu du calibre de la compétition.

Après trois segments, le Canada mène 144 à 51 et la Suède lui concède la victoire.

Les quarts de finale — Afrique du Sud

Au déjeuner, George Retek me dit de prendre l'Afrique du Sud au sérieux. La veille, elles ont battu l'Autriche, une des équipes favorites. On perd le premier segment 13 à 33, un retard de 20 imps.

Les trois paires d'Afrique du Sud jouent un système Acoll basé sur 1SA faible. Rhoda et Beverly jouent également le sans-atout faible. Sur la main suivante, Martine a fait preuve d'un très bon jugement. Elle entend 1SA à sa droite. Sur le sans-atout faible, on joue Cappelletti et un contre promet une main de 14 HCP et plus. Avec ses 13 HCP tout en contrôles et une couleur cinquième, elle décide de contrer et tout le monde Passe. À l'autre table, Merle Modlin a passé sur 1SA.

Lacroix

♠ A4
 ♥ R75
 ♦ R98
 ♣ DV754

Bloom

♠ R976
 ♥ V6
 ♦ AV32
 ♣ A92

Holroyd

♠ 532
 ♥ 9842
 ♦ 654
 ♣ R108

Cimon

♠ DV108
 ♥ AD103
 ♦ D107
 ♣ 63

L'entame du 5 de trèfle est remporté par le 8 du mort. Bloom laisse filer un carreau, gagne le retour à trèfle dans sa main et continue avec l'As et un petit carreau. Martine continue trèfle pour le Roi du mort mais c'est la dernière levée du déclarant : +800. À l'autre table, le jeu a été sensiblement le même pour -300, un gain de 11 imps. Nous avons récupéré notre retard petit à petit mais ce n'est qu'au quatrième segment qu'on a vu se dessiner l'issue du match qui s'est terminé 172 à 137 en notre faveur.

La semi-finale — Allemagne

Pour les observateurs, l'Allemagne est l'équipe favorite pour remporter ce tournoi. Notre capitaine Jim Green nous encourage en nous disant que nos deux équipes s'égale. Nous devons donner le meilleur de nous-mêmes.

Voici une main qui a été jouée par Rhoda Habert (diagramme page suivante).

Entame cœur pour la Dame et l'As. Rhoda donne trois tours d'atout, puis As et Roi de carreau, découvrant le mauvais partage. Elle n'a plus le choix maintenant et doit prendre l'impasse à trèfle pour se débarrasser des deux cœurs du mort, découvrant au passage le doubleton trèfle en Nord. Rhoda rend la main à Nord en carreau et celle-ci n'a plus de

☞ (suite de la page 24)

retour. Elle doit revenir carreau pour affranchir la longue du mort ou cœur pour affranchir ceux de Rhoda.

Donneur: Sud

Vuln.: N/S

Nord: Auken

♠ 1097

♥ RD84

♦ V854

♣ D3

Ouest: Kraft

♠ AD64

♥ 763

♦ AR632

♣ 10

Est: Habert

♠ RV82

♥ AV10

♦ 1097

♣ ARV

Sud: Arnim

♠ 53

♥ 952

♦ D

♣ 9876542

Ouest	Nord	Est	Sud
			Passe
1♦	Passe	1♠	Passe
2♠	Passe	2SA	Passe
3♣	Passe	3♦	Passe
3♥	Contre	4♣	Passe
4♦	Passe	4SA	Passe
5♥	Passe	6♠	Passe
Passe	Passe		

Résultat : 6♠ fait six, +980 et 11 imps pour le Canada (4♠ faits cinq de l'autre côté). On gagne ce segment 21 à 14. Après 80 planchettes, le résultat est de 141 à 123 pour le Canada. C'est un match très serré et tout peut encore arriver dans le dernier segment mais nous continuons sur notre lancée pour l'emporter par 177 à 133. Enfin! Pour la première fois le Canada va se retrouver en finale pour une Olympiade! L'esprit est à la fête et nous allons nous coucher un peu tard, même si on ne commence à jouer qu'à 17 heures le lendemain.

La finale — USA

C'est contre l'équipe américaine formée de Petra Hamman, Peggy Sutherlin, Joan Jackson, Robin Klar, Mildred Breed, Shawn Quin avec Bobby Hamman comme capitaine que le Canada s'est finalement incliné 176 à 144. Voici une donne intéressante pour les joueurs qui croient que parfois le silence est d'or.

Donneur: Est

Vuln.: Personne

Nord: Breed

♠ —

♥ 97432

♦ RDV952

♣ D7

Ouest: Cimon

♠ 10932

♥ 5

♦ A106

♣ AV1062

Est: Lacroix

♠ ARDV8

♥ ARDV8

♦ 43

♣ 3

Sud: Quinn

♠ 7654

♥ 106

♦ 87

♣ R9854

Cimon	Breed	Lacroix	Quinn
Ouest	Nord	Est	Sud
		1♠	Passe
4♥ (1)	4♠ (2)	4SA	5♣
5♦ (3)	Contre	5SA	Passe
6♠ (4)	Passe	Passe	Passe

(1) splinter (2) bicolore cœur + une mineure
(3) 2 contrôles (4) pas de Rois

L'enchère de 4♠ met la puce à l'oreille de Martine. Nord ayant annoncé la possession d'au moins 5 cœurs et d'une autre couleur cinquième, Martine ne croit pas qu'elle puisse défausser les carreaux sur les cœurs, puis couper un carreau et un cœur pour réaliser le grand chelem, elle se contente donc de déclarer 6♠. À l'autre table le silence de Nord a amené Hamman-Sutherlin à déclarer 7♠. Sur des distributions normales des mains Nord/Sud, ce serait un très bon contrat. Cette

☞ (suite à la page 26)

donne a permis au Canada de remporter 14 imps. Les enchères à l'autre table :

Sutherland Ouest	Habert Nord	Hamman Est	Kraft Sud
		2♣	Passe
3♣	Passe	3♠	Passe
4♦	Passe	4♥	Passe
4SA	Passe	5♠	Passe
6♠	Passe	7♠	PPP

Malgré cette donne, qui est arrivée au tout début, nous avons pris un lent départ dans les deux premiers segments récoltant une minuscule avance de 3 imps. Les troisième et quatrième segments ont été fatals nous forçant à rattraper 63 imps. Nous avons réduit cet écart à 32 imps dans les deux derniers segments mais ce n'était pas suffisant. Du bridge d'endurance, ma partenaire et moi avons joué 500 mains en 13 jours. C'est très exigeant. Il faut être en bonne forme physique et garder sa concentration tout au long du tournoi. Le stress est un animal qui mine l'énergie.

Malgré tout, notre équipe a réalisé la meilleure performance de l'histoire canadienne du bridge par équipe et la médaille d'argent que nous rapportons va longtemps briller dans nos coeurs.

The Montreal World Championships in 2002

16-31 August 2002

A few years back, George Retek arrived at a Montreal Bridge League Board of Directors meeting and stunned everyone. He announced that the 2002 World Bridge Championships would be, you guessed it, in Montreal. ... Can-am Bulletin, Montreal. No 5, October 2000.

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George Retek, WBF Treasurer and Vice-president, is the WBF Liaison Officer for the Championships. And led by Chairman Tibor

Bertalan, the Montreal bridge community is already hard at work making preparations. For further details, information or accommodations info contact:

- George Retek
justkey@sympatico.ca
- Committee Chairman
Tibor Bertalan
email: superdentist@toothfairy.com

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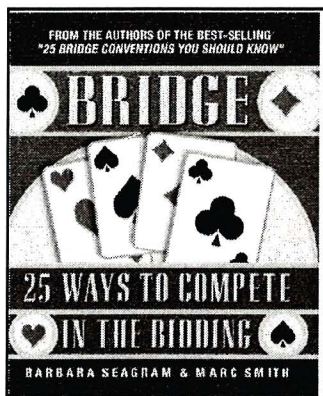
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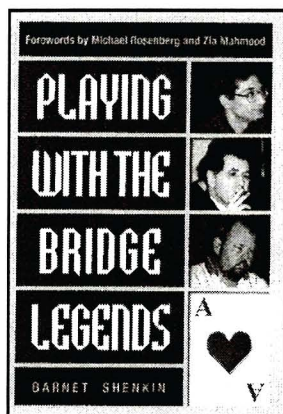
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For May 2001 Bridge Canada
FEBRUARY 20, 2001

A CALENDAR

COPC

National Final
August 8 - 9, 2001
Montreal Airport Hilton Hotel

CWTC

Zones must have confirmed their teams
no later than May 20, 2001
National Final
August 5 - 9, 2001
Montreal Airport Hilton Hotel

CNTC

Open and Flight B

Club Round Q games
Sept 1, 2000 - January 15, 2001
**** NO UNIT FINALS ****
Zone Finals must be completed
by May 20, 2001
National Final
August 5-12, 2001
Montreal Airport Hilton Hotel

ROOKIE-MASTER

Helen Shields RM Game
Wednesday, April 25, 2001
Erin Berry RM Game
Thursday, October 25, 2001

INTERNATIONAL FUND GAMES

Sat, Jan 27 (aft) ACBL Wide
Mon, Mar 5 (eve) Canada Wide
Wed, May 9 (aft) ACBL Wide
Fri, July 20 (eve) ACBL Wide
Thurs, Oct 18 (eve) Canada Wide

CHARITY FUND GAMES

Tues, Mar 20 (eve)
Mon, Nov 19 (eve)

CANADIAN REGIONALS 2001

April 2 - 8	Victoria, BC
April 11 - 16	Toronto, ON
April 18 - 22	Winnipeg, MB
May 16 - 21	Ottawa, ON
June 29 - July 4	Fredericton, NB
July 9 - 15	Red Deer, AB
July 19 - 29	Toronto, ON NABC
August 14 - 19	North Bay, ON
August 19 - 25	Vernon, BC - Seniors
August 20 - 26	Montreal, PQ
October 1 - 7	Saskatoon, SK
October 4 - 8	Ste Foy, PQ
October 10 - 14	Niagara Falls, ON

We will be attempting to keep this list current on the CBF website, with hot links to the regional's web site if there is one. This service is FREE to all Canadian Regionals.

Submit your regional corrections, updates and URLs to jude@cbf.ca. It is highly recommended that you confirm with tournament contacts before making hotel or airline reservations.

INTERNATIONAL 2001 CALENDAR

Jan 18-21
Cap Gemini World Invitation
The Hague

Mar 15-25
ACBL Spring NABC Kansas City

July 19-29
ACBL Summer NABC Toronto

August 6-15
World Junior Teams, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

October 20 - Nov 2
Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup
Bali

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Our home page is always being updated!
Check back often for news items and event information.

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