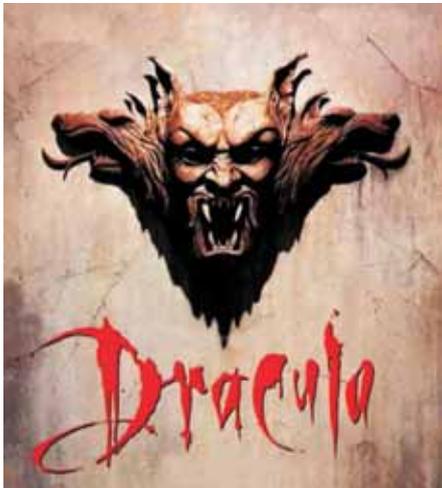


Hong Kong Inter-City Bridge Championships

Hotel Mirimar, Aug 10-15, 2004



After four rounds
Dracula surprise
leaders in open
section B —
Teramoto leads
in section A

Tohoku University lead the youth

THE PLAYERS market so far is off the money. No one picked the Dracula team of Alan Sze, W. K. Chan, W. K. Lai, K. F. Mak, Henry Wong and Steve Wong (last years bulletin editor) to make the top ten yet they are leading their section with 89.5 VPs. Second is one of the favourites Slam Dunk; Kenji Miyakuni, Sakiko Naito, Dawei Chen, Kazuo Furuta, and Kikuo Tatai with 84 VPs. In third spot is the highly fancied Ambassador team of Patrick Choy, Fu Zhong, Ju Chuancheng, Anthony Ching, David Chan and Lawrence Lau 76 VPs.

In section A things are going a little more to plan. Leading is the Teramoto team; Tadashi Teramoto, Hideki Takano, Masaaki Takayama and Zheng Liu with 92 VPs. Second is the highly fancied AIA team of Edmund Tse, Patrick Huang, C. H. Kuo, Derek Zen and Samuel Wan on 75 Vps. In third spot is local combination team Hang Zhou Hong Kong; Zhang Yu, Zhu Wei Xia, Robert Zajac, Sally Wang and Ringo Lee 73 VPs.

The fifth most popular pick in the Youth - Tohoku University; Yokoi Hiroki, Ajiki Kadai, Kan Satoshi, Shiga Motoaki and Uokoi Hiroki are leading with 85 VPs. Second is HK Sapphire; Sek Ching Hang, Kwok Wai

Kuen, Joseph Cheung, Yim Ka Wing, Lo Wing Ho and Chow Yee Mei 81 VPs. In third spot is the highly fancied Taipei Youth; Tzu-lin Wu, Yi-cheng Pan, Chih-hung Chien, Chung-wen Liu, Wei-bung Wang and Yen-hsiang Chen 74 VPs.

However with seven more rounds to go anything can happen!

Bloody good ones

In yesterday's bulletin, it was mentioned that Claude Rodrique commentated at the vu-graph at the 1981 Inter-City.

Once, when playing for England, Claude was asked by an opponent what sort of leads they played in this situation:

North (Dummy)

♠ K J

East (Rodrique)

♠ A Q 10 9 2

On a blind auction, Claude's partner, Tony Priday, had found a spade lead against 3NT.

In answer to the question about the sort of leads, Claude replied, "Bloody good ones!"

Problem du jour

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

N/EW

West	North	East	South
	pass	1♣	1♠
pass	pass	3NT	pass
pass	pass		

South leads ♠4 and you win with ♠J in dummy, while North plays ♠6. Let's say you rattle off all six clubs.

South follows three times then discards ♥2, ♥5 and ♦4.

How do you continue?

See deal 25 on page 2 for the answer

In this issue

- Match report - round two
- Deal of the day
- Problem du jour
- Fu makes a necessary unblock
- The SanMiguel Happy Hour Simultaneous Pairs
- The answer to Bulletin one's problem du jour

It could have been much worse

AFTER HAVING a bye on the first round the number one seeds, in their side of the draw, the Ambassador team were up against the Jia Qing Bridge Club from China. Although Jia Qing lost the match it could have been worse.

Board 17	♠ K 5 4		
N/nil	♥ —		
	♦ J 9 6 3 2		
	♣ A K Q 9 8		
♠ J 7 3		♠ A Q 9 6	
♥ 8 7 5 3 2		♥ A Q	
♦ K 5 4		♦ A 10 8	
♣ 7 6		♣ 10 4 3 2	
	♠ 10 8 2		
	♥ K J 10 9 6 4		
	♦ Q 7		
	♣ J 5		
West	North	East	South
	1♦	1NT	2♥
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

In the open room, for the Ambassador team, Fu Zhong as North stopped in three clubs failing by one trick but this was a 6 imp pick up when Shen as North in the closed room powered on to 3NT. The auction was the same up to 3♣ where perhaps Wu as South could have passed or given preference back to 3♦ but instead chose to call 3♥. No doubt North should pass but pressed on to 3NT which Chu as East doubled for two down.

Board 18	♠ J 5		
E/NS	♥ K 5		
	♦ K J 9 7 6		
	♣ J 9 7 6		
♠ A 9 7 6 2		♠ 10 4 3	
♥ A 9 8 3		♥ 10 7 6 4	
♦ 10 5		♦ A 3 2	
♣ 8 5		♣ 10 3 2	
	♠ K Q 8		
	♥ Q J 2		
	♦ Q 8 4		
	♣ A K Q 4		

Jia Qing Bridge Club picked up 10 imp when, Lawrence Lau and Fu Zhong (North/South) had a bidding misunderstanding languishing in 3♦ where Shen Wu for Jia Qing Bridge Club sailed into the easy 3NT.

The luck continued for Jia Qing Bridge Club when they picked up 11 imps on board 22.

Board 22	♠ 10 3 2		
E/EW	♥ Q		
	♦ K 8 2		
	♣ A Q 8 7 6 5		
♠ K		♠ A Q 8 6 5	
♥ A J 9 8		♥ 7 6 5 3 2	
♦ 10 6 5 4 3		♦ Q	
♣ K 10 2		♣ 9 4	
	♠ J 9 7 4		
	♥ K 10 4		
	♦ A J 7		
	♣ J 3		

Fu ended up in 3♣ as North and failed by two tricks. After winning the ♦Q lead with the ace Fu played a heart. Guo as West rose with the ace and played the ♠K, which held the ensuing ♦ return was ruffed and when the smoke cleared declarer was two down. In the other room Shen Wu drove on to 3NT. With the ♠s blocked declarer had no trouble coming to nine tricks.

Board 25	♠ 10 8 6		
N/EW	♥ J 10 8 4 3		
	♦ 9 8 6		
	♣ J 5		
♠ J 5 3		♠ K 7	
♥ Q 9 6		♥ A 7	
♦ 10 7 5 3 2		♦ K Q J	
♣ 9 7		♣ A K Q 10 6 3	
	♠ A Q 9 4 2		
	♥ K 5 2		
	♦ A 4		
	♣ 8 4 2		

This deal is the one mentioned in Problem du Jour.



Lawrence Lau - he read the position precisely to drop the singleton king

At both tables East arrived in 3NT after South had overcalled in spades. The play was identical to a point. The ♠4 was led, declarer winning the king then rattling off six club tricks.

The South players had to find three discards. They had to keep all their spades or else declarer would simply give up a diamond. So they both pitched a diamond and two hearts, baring the king.

Chu correctly read the position reasoning that had North held either the ♦A or the ♥K there was no play for his contract. He cashed the ♥A and dropped the ♥K to make his game. In the other room Wang exited the ♦Q and was one down - 12 imps back to the Ambassador team.

The following deal, featured in Deal of the Day, produced a most remarkable piece of luck for Jia Qing Bridge Club. South Wu opened 1♠ but North Shen didn't see the opening bid and passed! As did East. And the contract duly made with five overtricks. In the other room Lawrence Lau was at the helm in six spades but Guo found the dastardly clever lead of the ♦4. Rather than risk the diamond finesse at trick one Lawrence flew the ♦A and cashed the ♠K and now had to go one down for a 7 imp loss.

Board 27	♠ K 10 8 7		
S/nil	♥ 10 8 7 3		
	♦ A J 9		
	♣ K 7		
♠ —		♠ Q J 4 2	
♥ Q J 9 4 2		♥ A K 6 5	
♦ K 5 4 2		♦ 10 7 6 3	
♣ 10 9 6 5		♣ 3	
	♠ A 9 6 5 3		
	♥ —		
	♦ Q 8		
	♣ A Q J 8 4 2		

Although Jia Qing Bridge Club lost the match 14-16 it could have been much worse.



Deal of the Day

Fine play lands Tzu-lin a slam

S/nil ♠ K 10 8 7
 ♡ 10 8 7 3
 ◇ A J 9
 ♣ K 7

 ♠ A 9 6 5 3
 ♡ —
 ◇ Q 8
 ♣ A Q J 8 4 2

	Pan		Wu
West	North	East	South
			1♠
pass	3♣	pass	3◇
pass	3NT	pass	4♣
pass	4◇	pass	6♠
all pass			

West leads ♡Q. As South you ruff with ♠3 and lead the ♠5, West discarding the ♡2. What is your plan of play?

S/nil ♠ K 10 8 7
 ♡ 10 8 7 3
 ◇ A J 9
 ♣ K 7

♠ — ♠ Q J 4 2
 ♡ Q J 9 4 2 ♡ A K 6 5
 ◇ K 5 4 2 ◇ 10 7 6 3
 ♣ 10 9 6 5 ♣ 3

 ♠ A 9 6 5 3
 ♡ —
 ◇ Q 8
 ♣ A Q J 8 4 2

After an aggressive auction South Tzu-lin Wu for the Taipei Youth Team ended up in six spades. After ruffing the ♡Q with the ♠3 Wu next led the ♠5 and ducked the trick to East's jack when West showed out. In practice East exited the ♠4 which Wu won in dummy cheaply with the ♠8. He next ruffed a heart with the ♠9, cashed the ♠A, played a low club to dummy's king and drew the last trump with the ♠K, discarding the ◇8 from hand. Six club tricks followed and the slam made. This rare dummy reversal with a 4-0 break avoided the diamond finesse.

The 21st Guangzhou-Hong Kong-Macau Triangular Interport

by Steve Wang

THE GUANGZHOU Red Team captured the annual Triangular Interport champion in convincing style by winning all their four matches held at Hotel Miramar on August 7 and 8.

It was a Macau Red pair who bid to the first slam of the event.

E/Both ♠ A 9
 ♡ Q 10
 ◇ Q J 10 4
 ♣ K J 8 7 3

♠ K 6 3 2 ♠ Q J 10 8 7 5 4
 ♡ A J 7 4 ♡ 5 3
 ◇ 5 3 ◇ K 7 6
 ♣ 9 6 5 ♣ Q

 ♠ —
 ♡ K 9 8 6 2
 ◇ A 9 8 2
 ♣ A 10 4 2

West	North	East	South
	3♠	dbl	4♠
4NT	pass	5♣	5♠
6♣	pass	pass	dbl
pass	pass	pass	

With the diamond king inside and the club queen singleton the slam was easily made. Surprisingly, in the other room 4♠ was allowed to be played, going quietly one down. The 16 IMPs gained on this board was instrumental in their winning 20:10 VPs over the Hong Kong Red Team.

What would you lead against 6NT as West with

♠ 4 ♡ K 9 5 ◇ K 9 8 7 4 2 ♣ 10 6 3

West	North	East	South
	2◇	2♠	3◇
3♡	pass	3♠	pass
4♣	pass	4♡	pass
4NT	pass	5♣	pass
6NT	pass	pass	pass

See the next page for the answer.

The missing answer

In Bulletin one we offered you this Problem du Jour with the promise of the answer over the page. However, it wasn't there.

Apologies for that - here is the whole thing.

West		East	
♠ 3 2		♠ K 8 7 4	
♡ A K 4		♡ Q 7 2	
◇ 8 4 2		◇ 9 5 3	
♣ A J 9 4 3		♣ K 5 2	
N/nil			
West	North	East	South
	1◇	pass	1♠
2♣	2♠	3♣	pass
pass	pass		

North leads ◇A, K, Q. South follows twice then discards a low heart. North then cashes the ♠A and exits with another spade.

You win with ♠K in dummy. How do you continue?

ANSWER: North is known to hold five diamonds. From the bidding it is clear that North also holds three spades.

What about the heart position?

If South held four hearts along with his four spades, he would surely have responded 1♡, not 1♠. Therefore it is a bridge certainty that North has four hearts. So his distribution must be 3-4-5-1.

Top marks if you cashed ♣K and played a club to ♣9! As North shows out you return to dummy with ♡Q and take the club finesse again.

 ♠ A 10 5
 ♡ 10 9 6 3
 ◇ A K Q 7 6
 ♣ 6

♠ 3 2		♠ K 8 7 4	
♡ A K 4		♡ Q 7 2	
◇ 8 4 2		◇ 9 5 3	
♣ A J 9 4 3		♣ K 5 2	
		♠ Q J 9 6	
		♡ J 8 5	
		◇ J 10	
		♣ Q 10 8 7	

You can be sure that South will feel aggrieved about not making a single club trick. When he petulantly asks, "How did you figure that out?"

To really annoy him you should reply, "Hold your cards back!"

Hong Kong hosts a game that you would only expect to find in Ireland, Denmark or Australia!

San Miguel Happy Hour" Continuous Pairs Championship Thursday August 12 - 7.00pm till late.

HAVE YOU ever heard of a game of bridge where on offer is 240 bottles of beer? This fun event sponsored by San Miguel since the 80s allows players to drink as much as



Jason Hackett of England and Fu Zhong of Beijing - winners two years ago. They are aiming to regain their crown this year.

they wish during play. Two years ago this event was won by Jason Hackett and Fu Zhong, who managed just 7% after round six!

Players must play at least four of the six rounds of a Swiss Pairs format to qualify for trophies (first and runner up). The pair that drinks the most beer will also be awarded a prize (perhaps more beer).

Last years runner up was your Chief Tournament Director, S. S. Bux.

He said " I would have won the event. I was playing against a pair from the Philippines and the player on my left opened a strong club 16+. I called a slam and had to pick to finesse for a missing queen to win the event. Having counted the hand out I knew the queen was on my left and finessed through him and fell off my chair when the finesse lost to my right hand

opponent. My LHO had (not surprisingly) miscounted his hand and had opened one club on a 14 count!" Last year, SS was beaten when Alan Sze and WK Chan won the event. This year S.S. hopes to go one better. Even if his bridge results don't do it, he figures there is always a chance of winning the prize for drinking the most beer!

The 21st Guangzhou-Hong Kong-Macau Triangular Interport *continued from page 3*

The Macau Red Team led the only suit (with a slight misdefence) that helped the Guangzhou Red Team declarer make his contract — a club. The complete holding was:

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

The ♣6 was led and East erred in covering his ♠K when dummy's ♣Q was played. Declarer seized the opportunity and finessed ♣10 on the way back. With four tricks in clubs, declarer brought home the contract when the heart suit broke evenly though the finesse of ♥K failed.

In the other room, North - South reached 6♠ like this:

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

6♠ failed by two tricks. The 17 IMPs gained helped Guangzhou Red Team defeat Macau Red Team 19 : 11 in VPs.

Chief Tournament Director - SS Bux

He learned to play bridge at 13 but stopped after two months. However, he kept reading bridge books. He took it up again when he was 28, playing simple Precision.



He is now 51. He started directing in 1984 as an assistant director at the FEBF in Macau and in 1986 in Penang. In 1987 he was the NPC of the winning Hong Kong open team in Shanghai. In 1990 in Geneva, he (and Ashley Lung) were the first Hong Kong pair to qualify for the WBF Open Pairs final.

SS Bux writes...

Automatic Unblocking Play

As a Tournament Director, one of my duties is to wander around the playing area during competition. As I was cruising in the Closed Room during the fourth round, I happened to see a good defensive play by Fu Zhong of the Ambassador Team. (May be he regards this as automatic.)

Board 18	♠ Q J 10 9 5		
E/NS	♥ 10 6		
	♦ A 10 8		
	♣ 10 7 5		
♠ K 8 7 6		♠ 4 2	
♥ K 8 7		♥ Q 9 5 4 3 2	
♦ 6 3		♦ K 4	
♣ A J 3 2		♣ Q 9 4	
	♠ A 3		
	♥ A J		
	♦ Q J 9 7 5 2		
	♣ K 8 6		

West	North	East	South
		2♦ ¹	Pass
3♥	Pass	Pass	3NT
All pass			

1. Multi - a weak two in a major Fu, West, led ♥7 to ♥Q and ♥J from declarer. East returned the ♥4 taken by declarer with ♥A. Fu unblocked ♥K in lightning speed! After finessing a diamond to East's ♦K, East was now able to run the heart suit. After this, the contract was down 6 and 600 points to the Ambassador Team.