Hang Lung Properties
Hong Kong Inter-City
Bridge Championships
Excelsior Hotel, Aug 16-21 2005

Bulletin 5
Saturday 20 August, 2005
Editors:
Paul Marston and
Nigel Rosendorff

AIA on track to make third final in a row

After 16 boards in the Semi finals AIA lead Shenzhen 59 – 6 and JLL lead Guangzhou Zhujiang 33 – 18

Quarter finalsof the AIA Open Teams Championship

Guangzhou Zhujiang 77: Jetox 44

JLL 84: Ambassador 75

Shenzhen 67: Kaohsiung YB2 60

AIA 70: Yunnan 58.

S-final action from JLL v Guangzhou

JLL picked up 8 imps when they played in a 4-3 fit making 10 tricks while Guangzhou Zhujiang played in their 5-3 heart fit and went two down.

7.N/EW ♠ A K 6
♡ 9 8 4
◇ 10 9 5
♣ A K 10 5

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

♠ J 10 7 4
♡ A 7 6 5 2
◇ 3
♣ Q 8 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Lee		Ling
	1♣	pass	1♡
pass	1NT	pass	2♣
All pass			

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Si-Dong		Y'-Chuan
	1NT	pass	2♣
pass	2◇	pass	2♡
All pass			

JLL picked up 11 more here.

8 .W/Nil ♠ 8 4
♡ K J 5
◇ A K Q 5
♣ A 8 7 6

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

♠ K J 10
♡ A Q 10 9 8 6 2
◇ 10 9 6
♣ –

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Lee		Ling
pass	1NT	pass	2◇
pass	2♡	pass	4♣
pass	6♡	All pass	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Li	Si-Dong	Lee	Y'Chuan
pass	1♣	2♣	2♡
3♣	4♡	pass	4♠
dbl	5♣	pass	5♡
All pass			

Schedule for Saturday August 20, 2005

10:00 - 12:15 AIA Open SF2 & Hang Lung Properties Youth SF1
13:30 - 15:45 AIA Open SF3 & Hang Lung Properties Youth SF2
16:15 - 18:30 AIA Open F1 & Hang Lung Properties Youth SF3
11:00 - 18:00 HKES Swiss Team HKES
19:30 - 23:30 Open Pairs Qualifying

Side Games

Saturday 20 at 11 am
HKES Swiss Teams
6 rounds of 8-board matches, run in a Swiss format.

Saturday 20 at 19:30
Open Pairs Qualifying
12 pairs from each direction will qualify into the finals.

Saturday 21 at 12:00
Open Pairs Final
46 boards will be played.

Saturday 21 at 12:00
Open Pairs Consolation
For pairs not qualified for the Open Pairs Final and other walk-in pairs.

Saturday 21 at 12:00
Mixed Pairs
In conjunction with the Open Pairs Final. Each pair must consist of 1 man and 1 woman.

Registration Deadline
You have to register for all pairs events within 15 minutes of the start.

In this issue

Saturday vugraph
10:00 Guangzhou v JLL

Quarterfinal - AIA vs Yunan

Yunan came out flying in the first set of the quarterfinal, winning by 44 imps to 18.

Board 2 was 5 imps to Yunan. Game for North South is on the diamond finesse, which happens to lose. Minus 200 is therefore a normal score. Yunan did better when Samuel Wan went speculating.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Ma	Zen	Xun	Wan
		1◇	1NT
2♡	3♡	4♡	4♠
All pass			

The aggressive bidding from EW created opportunities for NS to pick up a windfall result – 4♡ doubled is worth 800 – but it also forced them to make decisions. Samuel got caught up in the bid-'m-up mood and tried four spades. He made the obvious seven tricks for minus 300.

In the other room, Hu and Maio bid uncontested to 3NT and Morris Chang led the ♡Q. CH Kuo played the four on this and when in with the queen of diamonds he returned the ♡7, blocking the suit. Nevertheless, Maio was still one down.

On Board 10, EW are due for a plus score in three hearts or from defending spades. Yunan got more than this when AIA reached game.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Ma	Zen	Xun	Wan
		1◇	1♠
2♡	2♠	3♡	4♠
Dbl	All pass		

NS got too high when both Zen and Wan took aggressive positions. They were punished in full when the trumps broke badly and Ma said double. Declarer lost two diamonds, a heart and two trumps for -500.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Chang	Hu	Kuo	Maio
		1◇	1♠
Dbl	pass	2♣	pass
2♡	All pass		

Hu's decision to not take a bid kept them out of trouble. In fact, Hu might have used West's double to more benefit. He could have bid 2♠ on the second round to show a weak 2♠ bid. But East would have no doubt competed to 3♡ and the result would be the same.

That was 9 imps to Yunan.

Then a slam on a finesse.

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

There is a spade loser. If the diamond finesse works you make slam, pitching the losing diamond on the ♡A.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Chang	Hu	Kuo	Maio
	2♣	pass	2◇
pass	2NT	pass	3♣
pass	3NT	All pass	

When North limited his hand with 2NT, South was not inspired to venture beyond game. North made 5NT.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Ma	Zen	Xun	Wan
	2♣	pass	2◇
2♠	3♣	pass	3♠
pass	3NT	pass	4♣
pass	4◇	pass	4♡
pass	4♠	pass	6♣
All pass			

The 2♠ bid inspired Zen to show his clubs which fuelled Wan with ambition. The bidding suggests that the diamond finesse will work but it didn't. Bad luck - 13 away instead of 13 in. Slams is perhaps the area of bridge where luck plays the greatest part.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Chang	Hu	Kuo	Maio
			1♡
1♠	Dbl	pass	2◇
pass	3NT	pass	4◇
pass	5◇	All pass	

West led a low trump, taken with the ace in dummy. Maio played a club to the ace followed by the ace of hearts and a heart ruff. The spade was discarded on the ♣K and later declarer lost one heart and one diamond to make exactly.

continued on page 3

Quarter final - Kaohsiung YB2 v Shenzhen

After 16 boards Shenzhen led Kaohsiung YB2 40- 16. Shenzhen won 12 imps on the first board.

1. N/Nil

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

EW make 4♡. When YB2 sat NS they found the good save in 5♣ for -300. But the YB2 EW had a mixup after 1♣ from North and 2♣ from East and they ended up in 5◇ doubled -300.

On 9, Shenzhen bid a game that was missed at the other table.

9. N/EW

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Gui	Chen	Liu	Shih
	1♠	pass	1NT
pass	3♡	All pass	

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Yeh	Shi	Shen	Zhong
	1♠	pass	pass
2♣	2♡	2♠	3♡
pass	4♡	All pass	

YB2 won back 12 imps on 12 with a well-timed psych.

Champion women's team from Yunan

Lei Si, Zhu Al Ping, Hu Tong Hua, Yu Ping

12. W/NS

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

When YB2 sat NS they bid and made 3NT. When Shenzhen sat NS, East, opened 1◇, South doubled, North bid 3♠ and South bid 4♠. North won the diamond lead and played a club to the ♣Q and ♣K. West returned a diamond. Declarer can now make by tackling trumps but he ruffed a diamond and played four rounds of hearts, ruffing with the ten.

YB2 picked up more imps on the last board.

16. W/EW

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

After two passes, the YB2 East opened 1◇, South overcalled 1♠ and West jumped to 3◇, passed out. This made losing three clubs and a spade.

In the other room the Shenzhen East also opened 1◇ and South bid 1♠. West bid 2♠ and East bid 2NT and played it there. South led the ♠4; declarer played low from dummy and won the ace. A low diamond was led to the board followed by the ♡Q covered and won with the ace.

Declarer pinned his hopes on finding a doubleton ♡10 for his eighth trick. It is a better line to play a spade to the ♠Q.

AIA v Yunan from page 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Ma	Zen	Xun	Wan
			1♡
1♠	Dbl	pass	3◇
pass	3NT	pass	4◇
pass	4NT	All pass	

Unlike Hu, Zen chose to bid 4NT instead of raising diamonds. Xun led the ♣Q and Zen was in trouble. He gave it his best shot, leading a spade but Ma found the essential play of rising with the ace. He can now beat 4NT for sure by shifting to a heart, shutting out dummy before the diamonds are set up. But Ma continued clubs. Zen can now rise with the king, cash one spade, and set up diamonds keeping East off play. However, he ducked the club. East won and made no mistake, shifting to the ♡J. He ended up one down.♡♠

Links to China-net (CCBA)

Information: http://game.1001n.com.cn/bridge/subject_contents.asp?paperid=000049

Vugraph: http://game.1001n.com.cn/bridge/gamedownload/bridgeradio35.exe

JLL fights back
ousting Ambassador from the quarter final

AFTER BEING 26 imps down after 16 boards JLL out scored Ambassador 69 – 34 in the second 16 to win their quarter final by 9 imps. These three boards helped to swing the match to JLL.

23. S/All

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
WC Li	Fu Zhong	Ringo Lee	Jack Zhao
			pass
1♡	pass	1♠	pass
2◇	pass	2NT	pass
3NT	All pass		

Against East's 3NT, Jack Zhao, for Ambassador, led the ◇4, won in dummy with the ace, as Fu played a discouraging ◇5, reverse attitude. When the ♣J was ducked round to South's king, Jack thought Fu's ♣6 was a high club showing interest in ◇s, a Smith Peter and so continued diamonds. This now allowed declarer to set up the clubs for nine tricks. In the other room the bidding was the same as was the lead except declarer won the first trick with ◇J and then ran the ♡Q. The defence now had no trouble switching to spades for a two trick set and 13 imps to JLL.

Then a slam swing to JLL:

26. E/All

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
WC Li	Fu Zhong	Ringo Lee	Jack Zhao
		1♡	pass
2♠	pass	3◇	pass
3♠	pass	4♠	pass
4NT	pass	5♡	pass
6♠	All pass		

A view of the 29 tables in the San Miguel Continuous Pairs

Profile - Team Guangzhou-Zhujiang

From left, rear: Yang Xio-Guang - 47, manager, Li Yong-Chuan - 33, manager, Li Si-Dong - 42 engineer, Ma Zhi-Wei - 42, manager
Front - Wang Hui-Jun - 42, doctor, Gu Xue-Hai - 77, manager

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
S Chen	J Lee	D Chan	R Ling
		1♡	pass
1♠	pass	2◇	pass
3♣	pass	3◇	pass
3♠	pass	4♠	All pass

Another swing when Jack and Fu got too high:

29. N/All

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
WC Li	Fu Zhong	Ringo Lee	Jack Zhao
	1◇	1♠	dbl
2♠	3♠	pass	3NT
pass	4♡	pass	4♠
pass	5♣	pass	5◇
pass	6♠	All pass	

With the ace of clubs to lose and an unavoidable trump loser the slam was one down Jessica and Roger stopped in game.

Condolences to Patrick Choy on the death of his father

活動花絮

著者: 王汝?

麗星郵輪國際序分雙人錦標賽賽場拾綴：

1. 牌好人靚風度高雅的章瑜小姐

Nancy 持：?A ? AKQ9865 ?102 ? Q102 「獨醒」開叫 4? （她認為是使用 Texas 約定：?阻擊叫）。其餘三人「皆醉」以為是自然阻擊開叫。結果拿了一個「頂分」。Nancy指責同伴沒有 alert（提示），章瑜小姐含笑解圍，而 Shirley Hui更是謙虛地自我批評。我想起了「文化大革命」時，「友誼第一，比賽第二」不禁啞然失笑。

2. **清純微笑永常駐的王文霏小姐**

牌如其人，外秀內慧的王文霏小姐不但牌技高超，而且? 文爾雅，但做? 起來， 巾幗不讓鬚眉，錦標賽至今已是第五天，還無法「偷」拍到她在牌桌上的「怒容」。國內外不少朋友，紛紛道，看王文霏打牌是一種 enjoy， 真不為過。

3. 假做真來真亦假，真做假來假亦真

真沒有想到，這句俗語在賽? 上能夠用來印證某些參賽選手所使用的叫牌法。並被用來作為橋牌防守叫中的一種心領神會的約定叫：東西來訪者拿出一張叫牌 Summary：「叫 1 ? 示? 套；叫 1? 示? 套……」第十六輪雷惠芳小姐持：?A9654 ? AKJ108 ?95 ? Q 在對方開叫 1? （示 4張?），同伴「技術性」加倍後，直叫 4? 成局。橋牌中「你假我真，我真你假」的叫牌處理難道還少嗎？！

4. 語言雖然五花八門　文流卻是喜氣洋洋

參加香港城市錦標賽真是非常開心。在「麗星雙人錦標賽」上，國人使用的普通話，南腔北調，參賽港台同胞時常誤解。一些日本選手講英語，臨時起身隔桌找同伴翻譯問單詞，菲律賓的英語初聽不習慣，倒是台灣同胞純正的國語，聽來使人親切，畢竟同宗同源，世界橋牌名家黃光輝先生甚至能講一口流利的上海話，再加上香港和廣東話一起交熾成一曲語言交響大合唱，聽來真使人心裡樂開了花。加上手勢居然交流無礙，再來聽一次尊敬的 Patrick Choy（WBF 副會長）的致辭 "……I am sure all of you will enjoy a wonderful time at the tournament and a fond memorial stay."

你們還會為連日的陰雨綿綿而遺憾嗎？

2言語ブリッジコラム

じゅんちぇん

このゲームのおもしろいことは、いろいろあります。そのひとつはさまざまな国と交流をすることです。交流するのは、ブリッジはもちろん、国の文化もお互いに認識することです。

おもしろいことに、国によって、ブリッジのやりかたが違うようにみえます。プレイとディフェンスは決まっているのであまりちがいませんが、ビッドは明らかに違うようにみえます。

我がユースチームは中国の武漢のチームと対戦をしていました。相手のシステムはとても複雑なのでわたしはビッドの意味を教えてもらってもわからないほうです。ぜんぜんわからないので、わたしの聞いたものはどのビッドはスーツかとのことしかありません。相手のビッドがわからなくても、ひとつ間違いないのは、パートナーのビッドは必ずパートナーの本当のものをいうことです。

このボードのおもしろいことは、パートナーの信頼を示すことではないでしょうか。

W; ♠ K75 ♥ Q7 ♦ AT72 ♣ J874
N; ♠ A964 ♥ AJ84 ♦ Q94 ♣ A6
E; ♠ QT8 ♥ K9653 ♦ K65 ♣ 53 （わたし）
S; ♠ J32 ♥ T2 ♦ J83 ♣ KQT92

W	N	E	S
		P	P
＊1♦	＊1♥	＊2♦	P
＊2♥	P	P	3♣
ALLPASSED			

＊ 1♦; 11－14バランスハンズ、ウイークNTと同じ
＊ 1♥; ハートスーツかもしれない
＊ 2♦; 2Hのトランスファー、ハートをビッドして下さい
＊ 2♥; ハートをビッドしてくれた

1H はなんですかと聞いたら、答えは“ハートかもしれない、ハートはなくてもいい”です。本当はなにを持っているかわかり難いです。わたしはハートを5枚もっているので、1H をパスしてディフェンスするのは良いはずなのに、相手は“かもしれない”のことで、信用は無くなりました。

多分、パスしてみて後で対応することは一番いいかもしれない、1H で終わる可能性があるようですから。それにしても、相手のビッドは無視してパートナーの1D は信じていました。ウイークNT なのでハートは少なくとも2枚を持っているでしょう。わたしはそれで2D をビッドして2H をプレイするつもりでした。

サウスプレーヤーは3C でバランスビッドしました。それはおもしろかったです。パートナーは1H をビッドしたでしょう、自分もハート2枚をもっているので2H のディフェンスはいいんじゃないですか。確かに、もしかしたらわたしは1H をパスしている場合、サウスも1H をパスっぽくはありません。1H の本当の意味は、とても複雑です。頭の悪いわたしは“かもしれない”を無視してパートナーを信じているほかはできません。

3C の結果は1ダウンで我がチームは5IMP を獲得していました。2H をやっている場合、ダウンをしてIMP は渡しましたのに。このボードの5IMP は信頼ポイントとは言えるでしょうか。

Bilingual Bridge Column
Jun Cheng

This game is interesting due to various reasons. One of the reasons is the chance that we can communicate with bridge players in other countries. We can understand the culture of each other.

Do you ever think that the bridge strategies between different countries are pretty different? The declarer play and defense would be nearly the same because the correct lines to make or set contracts are fixed. On the other hand, the bidding conventions and styles look to be quite different.

My team versus a Chinese Team from Muhan. When we sat on the table we talked with each other happily, and therefore the atmosphere of the round was really relaxing on my table. The youth team from Muhan used a quite complex system. I hardly could understand most of their biddings. It was fine, I was seeing how they could strangle with their system. I believed my partner's biddings, which was enough.

W; ♠ K75 ♥ Q7 ♦ AT72 ♣ J874
N; ♠ A964 ♥ AJ84 ♦ Q94 ♣ A6
E; ♠ QT8 ♥ K9653 ♦ K65 ♣ 53 (me)
S; ♠ J32 ♥ T2 ♦ J83 ♣ KQT92

W	N	E	S
		P	P
* 1♦	* 1♥	* 2♦	P
* 2♥	P	P	3♣

ALLPASSED

- * 1♦; 11-14 high card points, same as weak nt opening
- * 1♥; MAYBE heart suit
- * 2♦; transfer to 2H
- * 2♥; finishing the transfer

"What does 1♥ mean please?"
"MAYBE heart suit, I am not sure!"
I had 5 cards of heart, wasn't it good that I passed 1♥ and defense it? It didn't seem to be making, right? However, "the MAYBE" made me think differently.

Perhaps I should pass and saw whether they ended up in 1♥, if not I could bid hearts later. But I believed that weak nt opening should be including at least 2 cards heart. I neglected opponents' 1♥ bid and bid 2♦ for 2♥. Very interestingly, South bid 3♣ instead of defensing 2♥ with 2 cards of heart. Well, were South sure that 1♥ really mean heart? I believed that if I passed 1♥, South won't stand it.

Since I am not a clever boy, I only know how to bid regarding to my partner's information. I bid my heart and prepared to play it. It was not making but somehow south bid 3♣ rather than defensing 2♥. 3♣ was 1 down and our team got 5 imps of the trust.

REFLECTION ON MY PERFORMANCE IN 2005 INTER-CITY BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP

I have not regularly played in Inter-city over team championship in recent years. Eager to find out whether my game has deteriorated to a rusty state or not, I look forward to play reasonably well to qualify for the QF as my team is ranked second seed. The final result is an unpleasant surprise. I stopped to make a closer look to find out what really happened.

Fixed, fixed, fixed … …

Day 1 set the tone for the fate of the team. On board 1 of match 1, I played in 6N.T ?. On the ?J lead, I can count 12 cold tricks on simple arithmetic and H finesse. Can you find a way to improve the % of making the contract? After winning trick 1 with ?A, one could make 12 tricks without the H finesse by playing a low club from dummy and guess correctly whether E held KQ / 98 / Q8 / Q8 / K8 / Q9 / K9 doubloons. I played E for honour-8 or honour-9 double tons, which had a greater chance \. (Good players with academic ambition are welcome to work out the total % of making the contract for me) Trick 2 went C6, 8, J and K.

On regaining the lead, I played C4 to the Ace and saw nothing of interest happened. I took the unsuccessful H finesse and went down 1.

BOARD 1, Round

	?A6 ?T2	
?JT973 ?K8763 ? ?K32	?AJT65 ?AT76 ?KQ4 ?AQJ ?KQ42 ?J54	?852 ?954 ?9873 ?Q98

BOARD 6

You went down in a very good contract with par play. Es… …

If the H finesse were right, can you see a defense by E to divert the declarer from the successful line.

On board 6 of the same match, I ended up in 3N,T as ?. On a low club lead from W, it was natural for me to play low from dummy. Winning with CK, E returned the ?Q to set the contract by 1 trick. Simple and effective defence. On any other lead, I would play the CA to dion the K and make the contrat. Er, Er, … … .

BOARD 20

Doubtful Plays

On board 20 of round 2, I played in 4H as ? again. The lead was D2 which may be a singleton. I did not want to risk defeat on trick 1 as I could make the contract on the C finesse and avoiding a H loser. Young up with DA on trick 1, (a doubtful decision) I played a H to the Ace to see W needed the ten. Crossing to dummy with ?Q I took the H finesse to go one down. I was not too worried about my play in the H suit as I took it to be a case of restricts choice and would switch all the blame to Terence Reese. Then at dinnertime, I realized that the H10 was as significant of restrict choice to apply. To put it in principle of restrict choice to apply. To put it in polite way, my play was highly questionable.

BOARD 13

BOARD 25

On board 25 of round 6, I played in an ambitions contract of 3N.T as W after ? opened 1?. N lad a low H and I won with the K. I passed the CJ

successfully, ? playing low. At that time, I should realize that the Hs was 6-2 and play a D to the ten for 2H tricks, 3D tricks and 3 ? tricks plus the C tricks. Instead, I played N for double ton CQ by playing a D to the K at trick 3 and continuing with CK. The result was down 2.

Our board 13 of round 7, it was my partner's turn to make a doubtful play. Playing in 4H as ?, he received the C2 lead. He played low, lost the trick to CK and a diamond came back to defeat the contract by 1 trick. I think it was a better line to play the CA at trick one and continue with a low C at trick two, especially against average or weak opponents. You would succeed if E held at least one missing C honour and you guessed right or E panicked by played CK if he had it.

The Lucky Ones

WE HAD been lucky on many hands and the following were just the more striking ones. In round 6, we had made a slam on board 20 and a game on board 21 by escaping from crucial ruffs as the defenders did not find them.

Board 20

	?T52 ?A4 ?J954 ? KJ52	
?AJ ?KQJT865 ?T3 ? A4	N W E S	?K96 ?9 ?AK8762 ?Q97
	?Q8743 ?732 ?Q ? T863	

Defending 6H on board 20, north failed to lead a D, which set up a ruff to defeat the contract.

Board21

	?KT8764 ?T432 ? ? 874	
?A ?AKQJ98 ?KQ96 ?T2	N W E S	?J952 ?65 ?AK8752 ?Q5
	?Q8 ?7 ?J843 ? AKJ963	

It was his partner's turn on board 21. Winning the C lead, ? cashed the second C winner and switched to a D belatedly to find only 1 ruff, sadly, not enough to defeat the contract.

In round 7, we ended up in an inferior contract of 5C on board 3, made it on a lucky distribution to lose 3 IMP. The important thing is we did lose 11 IMP.

Board 3

	?A4 ?J632 ?6 ? AT5432	
?KT95 ?Q9 ?AQ852 ? J8	N W E S	?Q763 ?T7874 ?JT743 ?
	?J82 ?AK5 ?K9 ? KQ976	

In round 8, we managed to capitalize on our crazy bidding on board 20. Partner(s) doubled E's strong 2C opening and I jumped to 5C, E rebid 5H to go 1 down. My 5C contract was in the penalty zone of 500, 800, 1100 or more.

Board20

	?AT9 ?965432 ? ? T643	
?KJ743 ?7 ?T754 ? K95	N W E S	?5 ? AKQJT8 ?AKJ2 ? 87
	?Q862 ? ?Q9863 ? AQJ2	

A really close shave.

On reflection, I cannot claim that our team's fate is due to bad luck alone. My apology to my team captain and all (except one) of my teammates. I would not tell who the exception is. You have to guess. Ha, ha!