



China teams lead in the open – Hong Kong in the youth

Open

After three rounds in section A Guangzhou Zhujiang have bounced out to a commanding lead with 73 VPs well in front of THT on 57 VPs.

In section B the Smartie Ants (Flora Wong, Patrick Yum, Daniel Chui, Ng Wai Kinare, Bell Tam and Lawrence Lo) on 64 VPs leading from Shenzhen on 56 VPs. Group C, a packed field sees Guangzhou out in front with 63

VPs just in front of Snow job 61 VPs. Last years winners Teramoto is sitting in fourth place with 56 VPs.

In the tough section D, Wellwise leads with 69 VPs just in front of the fancied Ambassador team on 63 VPs.

Youth

In the Youth Hong Kong is again doing well (Kyip Tang, Becky Chow, Simon Sek, Victor Kwok, Tse Yin and Ho Ching Fai).

In section Y, Red Ghost, also of Hong Kong, are in front. They have 68 VPs from IPS Bronze 60 VPs. In section Z there is a tie for first place with Rockets (HK) and Wuhan (China) with 62 VPs. ♡♣

Flying start for the rockets



KC Li and Lo Wing Ho from Our future team, comparing notes with Mick Yeung and Sunny Mo from the Rockets

NEWS FLASH

Due to computer problems, the organizing committee has decided that matches will be manually scored. Each team is now required to hand in their signed score sheets, open and closed rooms, to the result table.

We sincerely apologise for any problems that are caused by this change of service.

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Schedule for Wednesday 17 August

17 Aug	12:30 - 14:30	AIA Open/Hang Lung Properties Youth Teams QR 4
	14:50 - 16:50	AIA Open/Hang Lung Properties Youth Teams QR 5
	19:00 - 23:00	Hang Lung Properties Youth Pairs
	17:10 - 19:10	AIA Open Teams QR 6
	21:10 - 23:10	AIA Open Teams QR 7

The swing deals from round one

BOARD ONE saw most pairs playing in 6♦, some in 6NT. The best line is to take the heart finesse, which guarantees 12 tricks if it works, but it here it fails so the result was flat at many tables at one down. However, there was the odd exception when 12 tricks rolled home.

Jak Zhao for Ambassador made it by playing as though he could see through the backs of the cards.

was home.

1.N/Nil	♠ A 6	
	♥ 10 2	
	♦ A J 10 6 5	
	♣ A 10 7 6	
♠ J 10 9 7 3		♠ 8 5 2
♥ K 8 7 6 3		♥ 9 5 4
♦ –		♦ 9 8 7 3
♣ K 3 2		♣ Q 9 8
	♠ K Q 4	
	♥ A Q J	
	♦ K Q 4 2	
	♣ J 5 4	

He won the spade lead with the ace and played two more rounds of spades, pitching a heart. He drew two trumps then played a heart to the ace and ran the queen of hearts, pitching a club. Next he pulled the jack of clubs from dummy.

West fell from grace by playing low! East won the queen and returned a heart, which declarer ruffed. He finally drew the rest of the trumps, ending in dummy and led a club to the ten, followed by the ace for 12 tricks.

Board two was another exciting deal. (See the top of the next column.)

In the match between Guangzhou and Sichuan Hongsheng, West Li Jianwei and East Zhang Guangyang, playing Precision were unlucky not to nearly tie the board when they ended in 5♣ and their opponents played in the iron clad 3NT.

Peter Moon found a spade lead as North and South did well to cash his two aces, thereby ensuring defeat. Had North led a diamond, the result would have been minus 2 imps rather than minus 12.

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		pass	pass
1♣	pass	1NT	pass
2♣	pass	3♣	pass
3♥	pass	3♠	pass
4♣	pass	5♣	all pass

More was to follow on board 3.

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

Many pairs played in 4♥ and did well taking the double finesse in trumps. Some NS pairs took the dive in 5♣, which was not a success. They had to guess well to hold the loss to down four and minus 800.

On board 5, many pairs failed to get to game after East opened 1NT and West transferred to hearts.

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

The trick of course is for East to super accept.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	pass	1NT	pass
2♦	pass	3♥	pass
4♥	all pass		

With every thing sitting right ten tricks is easy and an overtrick is available with an end play (or the double dummy play of playing ace and a low diamond). A club was led to the ace, followed by the ♥J covered, ace, then the ♥Q drawing the trumps.

Next came the ♣K and a low spade to the king when South played low followed by a spade off the board, taken by North. Declarer ruffed the club return, ruffed a spade and led a low diamond, inserting the seven. This put South on play for a well deserved overtrick.

Board 13 was one of those freaks.

13.N/All	♠ K	
	♥ K 6 5 2	
	♦ A Q J 10 4 2	
	♣ K 10	
♠ 10 6		♠ A 9 7 5 3 2
♥ J 10 8 7 4 3		♥ –
♦ K 9 8 7		♦ –
♣ 6		♣ A J 8 5 4 3 2
	♠ Q J 8 4	
	♥ A Q 9	
	♦ 6 5 3	
	♣ Q 9 7	

A lot of Easts declared four or five spades paying a penalty between -500 and -1400. At one table North rued his missed opportunity.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♦	1♠	2NT
pass	pass	4♣	dbl
4♥!	4NT!	all pass	

In 4♥ doubled, West would have to cash in the family silver to pay the bill but no doubt East or West would run to 4♠. However, this is no thing of beauty either, as a lot of players found out. ♥♠

Slams a plenty in round two

BOARD 21 STARTED proceedings. A great fit with just the ace of spades wasted! Many pairs managed to bid the slam via the following auction.

21. N/NS ♠ –
 ♥ A 9 8 7 5
 ♦ A K 9 8 2
 ♣ 9 8 6

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

♠ A 10 6 4 3
 ♥ K Q J 3
 ♦ Q 6 5
 ♣ 2

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	1♥	2♣	4♣
5♣	5♦	pass	6♥

All pass

Nobuyuki Hayashi and Tadashi Teramoto did well bidding to 6♥. Their opposition took the dive in 7♣ for minus 1400. Surely a 1 imp loss.

This was not to be when the opponents stopped in 4♥. This gave Teramoto a 12 imp pick up.

26. E/All ♠ 9
 ♥ Q 10 9 7 5
 ♦ J 9 8 7 3
 ♣ Q 8

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

♠ J 5
 ♥ J 8 4 3 2
 ♦ K Q
 ♣ J 10 7 4

In nearly all the matches 6♠ was bid at one or both tables and twice an ambitious grand slam.

After East opens 1♠ and West makes an invitational or game forcing spade raise (my choice), nothing can stop East bidding on to 6♠ – good trumps and great controls.

I wonder if any pair was able to discover that West held the ♥K for the vital club discard?

27. S/Nil ♠ A J 7 5 3
 ♥ A K 6
 ♦ Q J
 ♣ K 6 2

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

♠ 10
 ♥ Q 10 5 4
 ♦ K 9 8 3
 ♣ A Q 10 4

6♥ may be a making slam for NS but it is hardly a great slam. Basically it needs trumps to be 3-3.

Not surprisingly few pairs bid to slam. However, Violet Liu and Albert Hsiao for the Wellwise team bid to 6NT and made on a non spade lead.

The last board of the set produced drama. One bit of advice I always gave to my team mates is to make sure you have a good last board. Why? It is a great moral boast at score up.

After the agony or ecstasy of scoring up 15 boards - take a look at this for a great way to finish! It stars the chairperson of the organising committee, Nancy Neumann and her partner, Shirley Chang.

32. W/EW ♠ A K Q 10 9 3
 ♥ Q 10 6 4
 ♦ –
 ♣ 10 6 4

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

♠ J 8 7 5
 ♥ 8 2
 ♦ J 9 3
 ♣ 8 7 5 3

Most pairs bid to 6♦. Only one pair bid the grand slam and that was Shirley Chang East and Nancy Neumann West for HKES.

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	1♠	dbl	pass
2♠	4♠!	6♦	6♠
pass	pass	7♦	all pass

Over 6♠, Shirley figured that Nancy would double with some spade values. So after much thought she reasoned there was no wasted values in spades and judged correctly to bid the grand.

Other pairs who bid 7♦ were deprived the pleasure of playing there when NS found the save in 7♠, which went five down for -1100.♥♠



Grand slam hero, Nancy Neumann from Hong Kong Executive Search, photographed here with Patrick Choy at the opening ceremony.



North made one small slip and look how West ruthlessly punished him for it

W E RAN ACROSS DM Chui at a café near the hotel during the dinner break. Besides recommending the congee, he reported a great play from Mitsutaka Takemura of the Amigos team.

It was 3NT on board 31 from round 2.

31. S/NS ♠ K 5 3
♥ A 10 5
♦ A 9 6 2
♣ J 5 4

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

♠ A 8
♥ Q 9 3
♦ Q 5 4
♣ K Q 10 7 6

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♠	2NT	pass	3NT
all pass			

Her partner did the right thing and led her suit, spades. DM Chui made the hasty play of winning the king making the play more difficult. If he had ducked the first or second spade he could have shut West out before establishing the ninth trick in hearts. At trick two declarer played a club. West won the ace and returned a spade to the bare ace in dummy while East played the jack.

Declarer ran the clubs. West pitched two hearts so declarer came to the ace of hearts to leave the cards in the diagram in the next column.

Now declarer correctly played a spade. But West, Mitsutaka, had made the good play of keeping the two of spades so she was able to leave her partner on play, giving declarer a losing option.



Congratulations to CH Kuo and Jessica Lee of Taipei on their recent marriage.

♠ 3
♥ 10
♦ A 9 6
♣ -

♠ Q 10 2 ♠ 6
♥ - ♥ K 8
♦ K 8 ♦ J 10
♣ - ♣ -

♠ -
♥ Q 9
♦ Q 5 4
♣ -

East played the ♦J and declarer made the fatal mistake of winning the ♦A to lead a heart. East won the ♥K and played a diamond to her partner's king and the good spades.

If East does not keep the ♠2 she is forced to win the spade exit and her eventual diamond play gives declarer a certain path to nine tricks.



DM Chui from team Winston

World Juniors in Sydney

The final of 96 boards ends today. It sees the two pre-tournament favourites fighting it out - Poland and USA1.

After 64 boards, Poland leads USA1 by 148.5 to 107.

In the round robin:

1. Poland	345
2. France	333
3. USA1	311.8
4. Canada	299
5. Hungary	276
6. Chinese Taipei	272
7. Australia	270
8. Israel	265.7
9. Chinese Hong Kong	259
10. Chile	247
11. Japan	246
11. Norway	246
13. England	245
14. Egypt	226
15. USA2	224
16. Brazil	219
17. New Zealand	167
18. Pakistan	59

For the 64 board semi-final, Poland chose second placed France where they would have a 16 imp carry forward. They won by 172 imp to 116.

That left USA 1 to play Canada. USA1 won by 181 to 115.

The playoff for third was over 64 boards between Canada and France, Canada won by 140-107.

Vugraph schedule

Wednesday 17 August

12:30 Round 4 Section A
ThT v Guangzhou Pearl River

14:50 Round 5 Section B
Angel v Smartie Ants

17:10 Round 6 Section D
Ambassador v Aces

21:10 Round 7 Section A
AIA v Hayashi