



Chinese teams dominate the finals in the open - Hong Kong in the youth

Three Chinese teams come through, two from Taipei, two combined teams from Hong Kong and Taipei and one combined team from Hong Kong and China

AFTER NINE qualifying rounds the top two teams in each section qualified with China dominating. In section A there were no great surprises.

Section A: Guangzhou Zhujiang Dui; Gu Xue-Hai, Wang Hui-Jun, Ma Zhi-Wei, Yang Xiao- Guang, Li Si-Dong, Li Yong-Chuan finished with 173 VPs in Section A also winning the first trophy with the highest imp quotient of 1.9585. Second on 156.5 VPs Kaohsiung YB-2; Yeh Chen, Shen Chi-Kuo, Chen Chi-Hua, Shih Juei-Yu, Lai Yi-Wen, Wang Chien-Kuo.

Section B saw Smartie Ants in great form but they faded.

Section B: Shenzhen Bridge Club; Chen Sheng- Hang, Wang Rui, Shi Xia, Gui Sheng-Yue, Liu Wei-Dong, Zhong Hong-Lu finished with 170Vps just in front of AIA;

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The Happy Yunan Team

Xun Yong Hong, Maio Pu, Ma Tao, Hu Xiao
 They qualified thanks to a fine last round win.

9.N/EW ♠ Q J 10 6 4

♥ 7 4

♦ A 9 5

♣ K J 8

♠ K 3

♥ J 5

♦ K Q 8 6 4 3

♣ 7 5

♠ 9 7 2

♥ Q 8 6

♦ J 10 7

♣ A Q 9 4

♠ A 8 5

♥ A K 10 9 3

♦ 2

♣ 10 6 3 2

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♠

pass

2♥

pass

2♠

pass

4♠

All pass

Hu Xiao played well on the hand at left to make 4♠ as North. The contract failed in the other room. East started off with a low spade won with dummy's ace. A diamond to the ace and a diamond ruff came next. ♥A, ♥K and a third heart ruffed allowed declarer to ruff his last diamond in dummy. Next a club was led to the jack and East's queen but that was all the defence could take along with the spade king.

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Schedule for Friday August 19, 2005

10:00 - 12:15 AIA Open QF1, Ladies F1 & Hang Lung Properties Youth QF1
 13:30 - 15:45 Open QF2, Ladies F2 & Hang Lung Properties Youth QF2
 10:30 - 18:00 Team of Six
 16:15 - 18:30 Open SF1 & Ladies F3

Friday vugraph

10:00 Guangzhou v Jetox
 13:30 AIA v Yunan

Match report

AIA vs HAYASHI

In round 7 AIA beat HAYASHI by 65 imps to 13.

Board 1 was 5 imps to AIA.

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

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

♠ A K Q 7 4
♥ 10 9 7 6 2
♦ Q 8 7
♣ –

Both Easts opened 1♦. Mark La Forge overcalled 1♠, North bid 3♦, East doubled, South passed, North bid 3♠, East bid 4♦ and West bid 5♦, doubled by South. At the other table Samuel Wan overcalled 3♣, showing the majors and North jumped to 4♠, and East bid 5♦, doubled by North. The challenge is to get out for one down in 5♦.

The ♠A was ruffed and two top trumps followed. The winning line is to lead the ♥J. North takes the ♥K but you can later pitch a club and lead a club to set up another winner.

However, both declarers led a low heart to ♥Q. Derek Zen, North for AIA, won the ♥K and exited with a heart. Declarer overtook the ♥J with the ♥A and played a club to his ♣J. But he still had two club losers.

Makiko Hayashi won the ♥K and exited with the ♣K. Declarer won the ace and overtook the ♥J to lead clubs, holding the club losers to one.

After partner opens a strong notrump what do you bid ♠J106, ♥A108753, ♦6, ♣965?

Mark La Forge for HAYASHI took the optimistic view and bid game.

Team profile - Grand Slam, Philippines



Gerry Alquiros (left) learnt bridge by stealing the only bridge book from the De La Salle University library. He won the HK Intercity Swiss Teams in 2002 and the HK Intercity Open Pairs in 2003.

Suena Manalang has only been playing bridge for four years having learnt with fellow managers at the Bank of Philippine Islands and loves playing with her husband.

Felipe Manalang Learned bridge while at Ateneo de Manila University but stopped playing for 25 years to build a career becoming CEO of Fujitsu Philippines. He resumed playing three years ago and plays with his wife Suena.

Tomas Quiogue is head of HRD of Fujitsu Philippines and learnt bridge with his younger brother Albert when he was only eight years old.

Edmund Tse, East for AIA, did well finding the ♣2 lead. The defence took the first three club tricks and switched to spades. It all came down to the trumps.

4. W/All ♠ A K
♥ K 9 2
♦ A Q J 8 5
♣ 8 7 3

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

♠ J 10 6
♥ A 10 8 7 5 3
♦ 6
♣ 9 6 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
pass	1NT	pass	4♦
pass	4♥	All pass	

North, Makiko, cashed the ♥K and played a heart to the ♥8, which unluckily was one down. On any other lead she can cash the top hearts before looking to diamonds for a club discard if the trumps do not break.

In the other room, AIA played in 2♥ and made 11 tricks when East led a diamond around to declarer. 7 imps to AIA.

HAYASHI struck back on board 7.

7. S/All ♠ 8 5
♥ A
♦ A K J 5 4
♣ K Q J 10 4

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

♠ A Q 10 6 4
♥ 10 9 7 3
♦ 8 7 2
♣ A

		Makiko		Mark
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	
pass	1♦	pass	1♠	
pass	3♣	pass	3♦	
pass	3♥	pass	3♠	
pass	4♦	pass	5♣	
pass	6♣	pass	6♦	
All pass				

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AIA vs HAYASHI continued

Derek Zen	Samuel Wan
WEST	NORTH EAST SOUTH
	pass
pass 1♦	pass 1♠
pass 3♣	pass 3♥
pass 3NT	pass 4♦
pass 4♥	pass 4♠
pass 4NT	pass 5♣
pass 5♦	All pass

There was confusion about the 4NT. Derek meant it as Blackwood while Samuel thought it was a waiting move. So Derek thought he was off two aces. With everything friendly, 12 tricks were no problem.

Board 11 saw another slam swing but this time to AIA.

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

Samuel Zen, South for AIA, opened 1♦. North, Derek Zen, avoided his poor spade suit and bid 2♣. South rebid 2NT simply raised to 3NT.

In the other room, Makiko Hayashi, North, bid thus:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			1♦
pass!	1♠	pass	3♠
pass	4NT	pass	5♦
pass	6♠	All pass	

Some days 6♠ will make but not with the ♠Q off side.

A conservative bid and lead cost HAYASHI dearly on board 15.

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

EW make 3♥ and NS make 4♦. AIA beat this par when they sat NS. Samuel Wan opened 1NT on the South hand and West, Hitomi Arak, quietly passed. North used Stayman and bid 3NT when South showed no major.

A heart lead would have produced first seven tricks but Hitomi led the ♣J. Declarer grabbed the first nine tricks.

In the other room South opened 1NT, Patrick Huang overcalled 2♥ and North Mark leapt to 5♦. East cashed the ♥A so declarer had to go one down 12imps to AIA.

OzOne Project

The August issue of - *Australian Bridge Magazine* announces a new initiative designed to lift the standard of bridge in Australia so that it will become competitive at the top for the first time ever.

The project, known as OzOne, is being funded by a generous donation that is expected to be in the order of \$1 million per year.

Eric Kokish has been hired as the coach.

Pairs will be paid a retainer plus travel expenses and there will be significant bonuses for success.

Links to China-net (CCBA)

Information: http://game.100/n.com.cn/bridge/subject_contents.asp?paperid=000049

Vugraph: <http://game.100/n.com.cn/bridge/gamedownload/bridgeradio35.exe>

Side Games

Friday 19 at 10:30 am Transnational Open Team of 6

This format was founded in Hong Kong in the late 60s. Each team will consist of a minimum of 6 players, ideally from more than one country.

Friday 19 at 19:15 San Miguel Happy Hour Continuous Pairs

For each round (of 6 boards) the winning pair will get HK\$500. The overall winner will be the pair with the highest accumulated percentage based on best 4 out of 5 scores.

Special prizes for man and woman who drink most beer.

Saturday 20 at 11 am HKES Swiss Team

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. For the Transnational Team of 6 it will be a half hour prior to the start.

Please register at the Secretariat at Kellett Room 2 on the 3rd floor.

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Edmund Tse, Patrick Huang, CH Kuo, Derek Zen, Samuel Wan, Morris Chang 169 VPs.

Section C was full of surprises. Last year's champion, Teramoto failed the qualify as did Sichuan Hangsheng. Snow Job, first last night also drifted. Also Guangzhou / Huachu who perhaps paid the price for being only four.

Section C: JLL; Ringo Lee, WC li, Alex Leigh, Jessica Lee, Sally Wang, Roger Ling finished on 164.5 and had the second best imp quotient 1.7860. In second place Jetox; Xia Xiu- Qing, Zhang Zhi-Song, Sun Zheng-Xian, Chen Shi-Fang, Yan Shi-Wen, Kuo Jie-Yi 160.5

In section D, much was expected of Wellwise but in the end they finished third. Japanese team Bunta also failed to make the qualifying mark, contrary to expectations.

Section D: Ambassador; Patrick Choy, David Chan,, Jack Zhao, Fu Zhong, Simon Chan 171 VPs. Second Yunan; Xun Yong Hong, Miao Pu, Ma Tao, Hu Xiao 168.

In the Youth Three teams qualified. In Section Y Red Ghost; Sukon Hung, Jason Chu, Sam Lau, Keith Chu, Perry Shek, Ray Cheung 118 VPs, Our Future; Eric Tang, Tiffany Tse, Lo Wing Ho, K. C. Li, Chris Fung, Wilson Mok 110 Vps IPS Bronze; Leung Kin Pang, Chan Ho Fai, Yu Hok Pun, Wong Wai Kei, Man Ka Ki, Law Siu Chun 110

In Section Z Rocket; Jacky Ip, Li Ka Him, Sunny Mo, Mick Yeung, Jun Cheng, Double Ho 126 CityU; S. T. Lam, Karl Kwan, Leung Chun Kit, Sioman Leung, Helen Yeung, Yan Fung 119 HKY@HKU; Simon C. K. Lee, Felix T. Y. Wong, Ivan Leung, Yiu Wai Sing, Terence Leung, Kelvin Yim 104



A grand for the making

You are North declarer in 7♦ and West leads the ♠10. What is your plan of attack?

♠ K 8 4 3 2
♥ Q 7 3
♦ 7 3
♣ A Q 5

♠ A 7 6
♥ A K 6 4
♦ A K Q J 5 2
♣ -

S/all

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			2♣
pass	2♠	pass	3♦
pass	4♣	pass	4♥
pass	4NT	pass	5♦
pass	6NT	pass	7♦
All pass			

This is board 26 from round six (rotated for convenience).

♠ K 8 4 3 2
♥ Q 7 3
♦ 7 3
♣ A Q 5

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

Andy KO Leung did well to bid to the top spot. He won the spade lead with his ace and drew East's trumps. West threw two clubs and his ♠9 while dummy let go a spade and a heart.

He now continued with the last two trumps but West clung on to his hearts and East was discarding in the black suits after dummy so he finished one down.

The winning line is to draw trumps then cross to the ♠K, pitch your spade on the ♣A, and ruff out East's spade with the ♥Q as an entry.

At another table, Nakatani from Japan opened 2♣ and when his partner bid 2♠ he bid 5NT, asking partner to bid 7♠ with two of the top three spade honours. North cuebid his ♣A, Nakatani bid 6NT and his partner bid 7NT. West led the ♣J.

There is a double dummy line to make 7NT - can you spot it? Nakatani won the ♣A and naturally discarded a spade. He would make if hearts were 3-3; if East has the long hearts, as well as the ♣K, which we are assuming he holds; if West has long hearts plus length in spades. But Nakatani had no such luck - with West holding the heart length and East holding the guard in both black suits, sitting over dummy.

The winning line is to discard a heart at trick one! Now you can squeeze East between the ♣K and spades. But you would need a hand record to find this line.



Nakatani - Bold bidding, but an impossible play problem