

Hong Kong Contract Bridge Association Ltd.

Web Site: http://www.hkcba.org

April 2003

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Minutes of 4th Council Meeting, 2002/3

Date &	& Time	:	December 16, 2002	(Monday) a	t 6:53 pm			
Venue	;	:	Room 2105, West T	ower, Shun	Tak Centre, Sh	eung Wan, Hong Kong	5	
Preser	nt	:	Anthony Ching – Pr Steve Wong – Treas <u>Council Members</u> Bell Tam Flora Wong Laurance Lo			AC SW Billy Szeto Chan Yiu Shirley Chang	BS CY SC	
In atte	endance	2:	David C.C. Ng			DN		
Apolo	gies:	Nano	cy Neumann – Vice P Benjamin Kwok – S Lawrence Lau Ringo Lee		NN BK	LL RL		
Item				Content			When	By
1. 2.		TERS AR New Har further co adopted. Bridgzett question hard cop	the 3rd meeting 2002 ISING:- ndbook – After final r comment is received w te – 297 questionnair naires returned, 99 pr y only while 10 other	evision by F vithin 1 mont es were sent eferred readi rs wanted it b	W, LLo will poth, the new har to our member ing bridgzette o both ways.	ndbook will be rs. Out of 129 on web, 20 preferred	Next Meeting	FW/LLO FW/CY
posted on web on a quarterly basis, with hard copy being sent to those who specifically requested it. Minutes will not be posted on web for privacy sake. Typing may be handled by others at nominal cost in future but FW and CY will be responsible for the first issue to see whether there is any other unforeseen difficulty.				Nevt Meeting	RL			
	(c) (d)	Booking	RL will submit the report of PABF Ladies Team in next meeting Next Meeting Booking of National Squad Training Centre – RL will formally apply for a venue, preferrably in Wanchai.					RL
	 (e) Wearing the SFOC Hong Kong team uniform in international events – in progress and will report in next meeting. 			Next Meeting	SW			
	(f)	Subventi	on budget from LCS	D – in progre	ess and will su	bmit in next meeting.	Next Meeting	AC/SW/LL
	(g)		e – LLo will follow u	р.				LLO
	(h)	B.P. Inter Macau Jo	Venues :- rnational House – DN ockey Club – LL will – LL will make the	follow up.	• negotiate rate		Next Meeting	DN LL LL

3. IN PROGRESS:-

4.

5.

6.

7.

(a) Financial situation, membership and tournament attendance – SW reported as follows: -

Financial situation	Sumplue IIV¢1 756			
	Surplus HK\$4,756	Surplus HK\$13,031		
Tournament attendance	9.56 tables	10.04 tables		
Membership	291	297		
Intercity – It was resolved th	at Intercity 2003 will be	held at Regal Kowloon		
Hotel.				
Bid for Bermuda Bowl 2005	- As there is no feedbac	k from WBF, it was		AC
resolved that HKCBAL with	ndraws her bid to host the	e event. AC will advise		
WBF accordingly.				
				AC/DN
	•	-		
	can investigate whether	they may be of further		
assistance.				
	-	that HKCBAL will		
	s at Mariners' Club.			
	1 1 10			AC/DN
•	es nad registered for a 5 t	o o day trial to be need on		
			Next Meeting	LL
•		viage the librarian of the	Next Meeting	LL
		-		
-	-	inci y.		
	ces of smart card.			
	ninded to attend the Spri	ng Dinner of SEOC to be		
	innuce to attend the Spir	ing Diffiner of 51 OC to be		
	anding of the Association	AC will send our		AC
	-			AC
1	enculation before her he.	xt meeting on reordary		
	orine Auken for activities	related to the "Bridge at		BS
		Folded to the Dhuge ut		25
	-	format		
-				LLO
-		•		LLO
•		st will be apaated by the		
		irman of the Tournament		
Operations Subcommittee.				
-	0, February 17. March 1'	7.		
s of next meetings – January 2 e being no other business, the	-			
	Intercity – It was resolved the Hotel. Bid for Bermuda Bowl 2005 resolved that HKCBAL with WBF accordingly. Venues :- AC and RL met with LCSD tournament frequency, site re- potential venues before they assistance. The Chinese Club is not avai may change if we cut their be continue to host tournaments the Ladies Trial airs of youth and 4 pairs of ladi tends. ary Card & Membership Card as resolved that HKD1,500 is ciation, for purchase of book s vill look for other cheaper sour B.:- All Council members are ren- held on March 10. To enhance SFOC's understa Annual Report to SFOC for 25, 2003. BS will co-ordinate with Sall School" programme advocat It was resolved to adopt the LLO will circulate his report directly deals with our Offic Association from time to tim	Intercity – It was resolved that Intercity 2003 will be Hotel. Bid for Bermuda Bowl 2005 – As there is no feedback resolved that HKCBAL withdraws her bid to host the WBF accordingly. Venues :- AC and RL met with LCSD staff. AC and DN will st tournament frequency, site requirements and size of se potential venues before they can investigate whether assistance. The Chinese Club is not available on weekends and r may change if we cut their booking. It was resolved continue to host tournaments at Mariners' Club. th & Ladies Trial tirs of youth and 4 pairs of ladies had registered for a 5 th tends. rry Card & Membership Card : - as resolved that HKD1,500 is allocated to Robert Za ciation, for purchase of book shelf and necessary static vill look for other cheaper sources of smart card. B.:- All Council members are reminded to attend the Sprif held on March 10. To enhance SFOC's understanding of the Association Annual Report to SFOC for circulation before her ne 25, 2003. BS will co-ordinate with Sabrine Auken for activities School' programme advocated by WBF. It was resolved to adopt the revised Knock-out Team LLO will circulate his report on the LCSD programm directly deals with our Official Instructors whose his Association from time to time.	Intercity – It was resolved that Intercity 2003 will be held at Regal Kowloon Hotel. Bid for Bermuda Bowl 2005 – As there is no feedback from WBF, it was resolved that HKCBAL withdraws her bid to host the event. AC will advise WBF accordingly. Venues :- AC and RL met with LCSD staff. AC and DN will submit the minimum size, tournament frequency, site requirements and size of storeroom required for potential venues before they can investigate whether they may be of further assistance. The Chinese Club is not available on weekends and rate for Mariners' Club may change if we cut their booking. It was resolved that HKCBAL will continue to host tournaments at Mariners' Club. h & Ladies Trial tirs of youth and 4 pairs of ladies had registered for a 5 to 6 day trial to be held on tends. ury Card & Membership Card : - as resolved that HKD1,500 is allocated to Robert Zajac, the librarian of the ciation, for purchase of book shelf and necessary stationery. till look for other cheaper sources of smart card. B.:- All Council members are reminded to attend the Spring Dinner of SFOC to be held on March 10. To enhance SFOC's understanding of the Association, AC will send our Annual Report to SFOC for circulation before her next meeting on February 25, 2003. BS will co-ordinate with Sabrine Auken for activities related to the "Bridge at School" programme advocated by WBF. It was resolved to adopt the revised Knock-out Team format. LLO will circulate his report on the LCSD programme. In future, LCSD may directly deals with our Official Instructors whose list will be updated by the	Intercity – I was resolved that Intercity 2003 will be held at Regal Kowloon Hotel. Bid for Bermuda Bowl 2005 – As there is no feedback from WBF, it was resolved that HKCBAL withdraws her bid to host the event. AC will advise WBF accordingly. Venues :- AC and RL met with LCSD staff. AC and DN will submit the minimum size, tournament frequency, site requirements and size of storeroom required for potential venues before they can investigate whether they may be of further assistance. The Chinese Club is not available on weekends and rate for Mariners' Club may change if we cut their booking. It was resolved that HKCBAL will continue to host tournaments at Mariners' Club. 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Minutes of 5th Council Meeting, 2002/3

Date a	e & Time : January 22, 2002 (Wednesday) at 7:00 pm						
Venue	•	:	Room 2105, West Tower, Shun Tak Centre, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong				
Presei	nt	:	Anthony Ching – Pres Nancy Neumann – Vic Steve Wong – Treasure <u>Council Members</u>	ce President er	AC NN SW	PG	
			Bell Tam	BT	Billy Szeto	BS	
			Flora Wong	FW	Chan Yiu	CY	
			Laurance Lo	LLO	Lawrence Lau	LL	
			Ringo Lee	RL			
In atte	endance	e:	David C.C. Ng		DN		
Apolo	gies:	Beni	jamin Kwok – Secretary	BK			
11000	81001	2011	Shirley Chang	211	SC		
Item			(Content		When	By
1.	The n	ninutes of	the 4th meeting 2002/3	was adopted as a	mended.		·
2.	MAT	TERS AR	ISING:-	_			
	(a)	The Cap	tain's Report on PABF I	Ladies Team was	adopted as amended.		
	(b)	Booking of National Squad Training Centre – RL will formally apply for a venue, preferrably in Wanchai.				Next Meeting	RL
	(c)	Wearing the SFOC Hong Kong team uniform in international events – in progress and will report in next meeting.				Next Meeting	SW
	(d)	Subventi	ion budget from LCSD -	- in progress and	will submit in next meeting.	Next Meeting	AC/SW/LL
	(e)	Web-Site	e – LLO will follow up.				LLO
	(f)	Potential	l Venues :-			Next Meeting	
		B.P. Inte	rnational House – DN w	vill further negotia	ate rate.		DN
		Macau J	ockey Club – LL will fo	llow up.			LL
		Y.M.C.A	A. – LL will make the co	ntact.			LL
	(g)	g) Venue - AC and DN will submit the minimum size, tournament frequency, site AC/DN requirements and size of storeroom required for potential venues before LCSD can investigate whether they may be of further assistance.					AC/DN
	(h)		ship Card - LL will look		LL		
	(i)		nce SFOC's understandi	-			SW
		Annual Report to SFOC for circulation before her next meeting on February 25, 2003.					
	(j)	Sabine A	uken has not replied to	BS for activities	related to the "Bridge at		
		School"	programme advocated b	y WBF.			
	(k) LLO will circulate his report on the LCSD programme. Next Meeting LLO					LLO	
3.	3. IN PROGRESS:-						

(a) Financial situation, membership and tournament attendance – SW reported as follows: -

4.

5.

6.

7.

	follows: -				
		November 02	December 02		
	Financial situation	Surplus HK\$13,031	Surplus HK\$7,621		
	Tournament attendance	10.04 tables	10.56 tables		
	Membership	297	301		
(b)	Intercity – Sponsorship has n	ot yet been confirmed. Th	ne first invitation letters		
	will be sent after Chinese Ne	ew Year.			
(c)	Withdrawal from Bid for Be	rmuda Bowl 2005 – The le	tter drafted by AC was		AC
	adopted and will be sent to V	VBF.			
(d)	Venue – Mariners' Club may	be demolished by August	2003. However, this		
	could not be confirmed until	their staffs receive formal	6-month termination		
	notice after the Chinese New	Year.			
You	uth Development Fund Raising :	-			
Tou	urnament fee for the Youth Deve	lopment Fund Raising Pair	rs on February 22 is		
HK	D250 per person. Venue is free	but buffet dinner costs HK	D126 per person. As		
far	as sponsorship is concerned, All	en Zemann, Linda Tao and	l Koon Cheng have		
agre	eed to donate HKD10,000, HKI	02,500 and HKD2,000 resp	pectively while David		
Tan	ng has agreed to donate HKD2,2	00 worth of Shanghai Tang	coupon. SC will also		
don	nate HKD2,500 worth of prizes a	and is looking for more gif	ts as raffle prizes. SC		
aim	ns at raising HKD50,000 from th	is event.			
Inte	er Post-secondary Subsidy – Fur	ther details have to be prov	vided by Eric Tang	Next Meeting	LLO
bef	ore Council may consider wheth	er subsidy can be granted.			
A.C	D.B.:-				
(a)	It was resolved that New Yea	r IMP Pairs on February 4	will be cancelled due to		LLO
	venue problem. It was also	resolved that to avoid clas	h with Youth		
	Development Fund Raising	Pairs, Open League 9 will	be re-scheduled from		
	February 22 to March 8 while	e Open League Semi-final	will be delayed to		
	March 9. The first 16 board	ls of Open League Play-of	f will be played in the		
	evening of March 9 and the	-			
	on March 16. LLo will upd	ate the schedule on web and	d send revised schedule		
	to those members not prefer	ing e-mail contact.			
(b)	If there are more than 4 pers	ons in the team, free game	bonus will be awarded		
	to the 4 persons nominated b	y the team captain provide	d that the bonus value		
	does not exceed tournament	fee collected from that tea	m.		
(c)					RL
	25 & 26, February 16 & 23 a	and March 2. As 1 of the	4 pairs of ladies are not		
	available on January 25. It	was resolved that there wil	l be a separate trial for		
	Ladies which will be schedu	led on February 16 & 23 a	nd March 2, alongside		
	with Youth Trial. It was als	o resolved that tournament	fee for these trials are		
	HKD60 per day per person.				
Dat	tes of next meetings - February	17, March 17.			
The	ere being no other business, the	meeting was adjourned at 9	9:15 p.m.		
				Prepared	by SW

Prepared by SW

Minutes of 6th Council Meeting, 2002/3

Date	& Time	:	February 17, 2003 ((Monday) at 6:45 p.	.m.		
Venue	e	:	: Room 2105, West Tower, Shun Tak Centre, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong				
Prese	nt	:	Anthony Ching – Pr Benjamin Kwok - S <u>Council Members</u> Bell Tam Flora Wong		AC BK Billy Szeto Chan Yiu	BS CY	
			Laurance Lo Ringo Lee	LLO RL	Lawrence Lau	LL	
Apolo	ogies:	Nan	cy Neumann – Vice P Steve Wong – Treas Shirley Chang		NN SW SC		
Item	l			Content		When	By
1.			the 5th meeting 2002	2/3 was adopted and	l amended.		
2.		TERS AR			~		
	(a)	-	of National Squad Ti	-		Next Meeting	AC
	(b)	-	the SFOC Hong Kon await for reply.	g team uniform in i	international events – Letter	Next Meeting	SW
	(c)		ion budget from LCS	D – No undate proc	TRACC	Next Meeting	AC/SW/LL
	(c) (d)		e – LLo will report on		21035.	Next Meeting	LLO
	(u) (e)		l Venues :-	next meeting.		Next Meeting	LLO
	(0)		rnational House – rate	e too expensive and	l will not consider	Next Wreeting	
				-	and will report in next		
		meeting.	-	I	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I		
	(f)	Venue -	AC will reply and foll	low up with LCSD.			AC
	(g)	Member	ship Card – LL receiv	ved quotation of Hk	K\$16K to HK\$18K for 300	Next Meeting	BT/LL
		cards inc	cluding SKD/program	ming/1 set termina	l. LL will also provide specs		
		to BT to	get new quotations.				
	(h)	LCSD p	rogram – LLO will re	port in next meetin	g	Next Meeting	LLO
3.		ogress:-					
	(a)	Financia follows:		ip and tournament	attendance – SW reported as		
		<u>Jan 200</u>	<u>3</u>				
			l situation - Surplus H	HK\$6,321-			
			nent attendance – 8.42				
		Member	ship - 304				
	(b)	Intercity	– reported all invitati	ion letters sent out a	already.		
4.	Inter l	Post-seco	ndary Subsidy – Furth	er details by Eric Ta	ang received and all agreed the	Next Meeting	BK
	total s	subsidy w	ould be HK\$7,000	Also agreed the bu	udget for 2003 should be		
	received by April for our approval. BK will draft the replied letter.						

received by April for our approval. BK will draft the replied letter.

- 5. A.O.B.
 - (a) All agreed to cancel the Promotional Pairs in April and May and move Paul Jones Pairs to supersede the May's schedule.
 - (b) Adopted the total expenses for AIA Swiss Team under the AIA Funding which was held on December 21, 2002 at Tak Sun Secondary School was HK\$12,064-
- Dates of next meetings March 17, March 17.
 There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Prepared by BK

💙 Acknowledgement with Thanks 🎔

The Youth Development Fund Raising Committee of The Hong Kong Contract Bridge Association Limited wishes to acknowledge our heart-felt thanks to the following sponsors and donors for cash and prizes on the occasion of the YOUTH DEVLOPMENT FUND RAISING BRIDGE TOURNAMENT held on February 22, 2003 at The Ladies' Recreation Club, 10 Old Peak Road, Hong Kong. (*Names are in alphabetical order*)

Mimi Ashworth (Ms.)	York Liao (Mr.)
Sunil Bahirwani (Mr.)	Lola Linker (Ms.)
Tad Beczak (Mrs)	Ashley Lung (Mr.)
Gilbert Chan (Mr.)	A. M. Mansfield (Mr.)
Shirley Chang (Ms.)	Baghwanti Mohan (Mrs.)
Doreen Pao Cheng (Ms.)	Carol Murray (Mrs.)
Koon Cheng (Mr.)	Nancy Neumann (Mrs.)
Vivien Chou (Ms.)	Raju Ramchandani (Mr.)
Patrick Choy (Mr.)	J. M. Shen (Mr.)
Nagy. A. El-Azar (Mr.)	Shi Jia Xiang (Mr.)
Timothy Fok Tsun Ting (Mr.)	Linda Tao (Ms.)
Judy Freshwater (Mrs.)	Kelly Tsang (Mr.)
Fu Kwan (Mr.)	Edmond Tse (Mr.)
Irene Ho (Ms.)	Terence Tung (Mr.)
Nelson Hsu (Mr.)	Samuel Wan (Mr.)
I. L. Ieong (Mr.)	C. C. Wong (Mr.)
Wendy Kwok (Mrs.)	Lise Wong (Ms.)
Shirley Leong (Ms.)	Allan Zeman (Mr.)
Vincent Li (Mr.)	Derek Zen (Mr.)
	RATIONS
Excalibur Electronics	By Mr. Richard Law
Cybertronics	By Mr. Daniel Lee
Godiva	By Ms. Helen Ng
King Kow	By Ms. Sabrina Chu
Ladis Recreation Club	
LeaderGene	By Dr. K. T. Tam & Ms Karina Chau
Northeast Wines & Spirits Ltd.	By Ms Angel Cheng
Shanghai Tang	By Mr. David Tang
Viceroy Restaurant	By Mr. Rajeev Bhasin

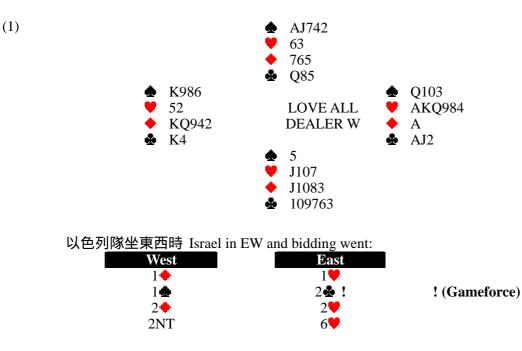
聖洲冠軍盃橋牌錦標賽 European Champions Cup

二零零二年十月二十五日到二十七日在波蘭首都華沙舉行歐洲冠軍盃橋牌錦標賽。比賽辦法是仿 照歐洲足球聯賽,先分四組大循環,各組首二名出線,再舉行淘汰賽。結果,意大利 LAVAZZA TORINO 隊贏得冠軍,獲獎金七仟美元,而亞軍為以色列的 BRIDGE TEL-AVIV 隊,挪威、保加利亞、荷蘭分 別獲三、四、五名。

European Champions Cup was held in Warsaw, Poland during October 25-27, 2002. The tournament format follows the model of European Football League. It's divided by 4 sections and followed by a knockout between the 2 winning teams in each section. The result, LAVAZZA TORINA, Italy won and awarded a cash prize of USD7,000. The 1st runner-up is BRIDGE TEL-AVIV, Israel, 2nd, 3rd and 4th by Norway, Bulgaria and Netherlands.

冠、亞軍決賽中,以色列隊在處理牌的能力方面,明顯不如意大利隊,最後以 34:83 (IMP)敗 北。請看下面二例:

Israel performed badly in the final match by losing 34:83 IMP to Italian. Two hands in example :-



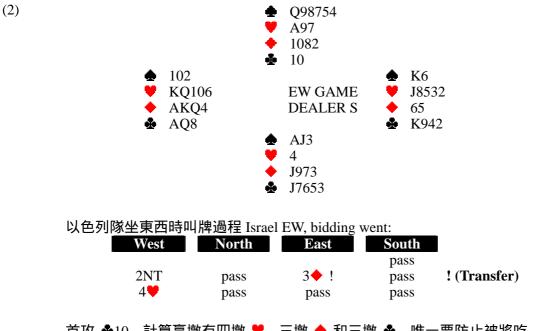
東最後選擇 6♥ , 並非最佳合約。因為西是開叫方 , ◆ 和 ◆ 至少有九張 , ◆ 有檔 , 應有 ◆K。如果 ♥ 可得六墩 , 6NT 必無問題。如 ♥ 不能拿六墩 , 還有 ◆ 和 ◆ 可以補救 ; 結果外 面 ◆ 5 - 1 分配 , 首攻是 ◆ , 一下。再看意大利隊叫牌 :

Final choice of contract of 6^{\clubsuit} by East from which was not an optimum contract. As from the bidding by West showing at least 9 cards in both \clubsuit and \blacklozenge with \clubsuit stopper, which should be $\clubsuit K$. When you are able to obtain 6 tricks in \clubsuit , 6NT contract wouldn't be a problem; otherwise there are still \blacklozenge and \clubsuit available. The result, \clubsuit was 5 - 1 break by singleton \clubsuit led, 6^{\clubsuit} one down. Lets see the bidding by Italian:

West	East	
1	1 🛨 !	! (🧡 suit)
2 🔶	3 🎍 !	! (Gameforce)
3NT	6NT	

東依賴大牌點叫到 6NT 完成合約毫無困難。

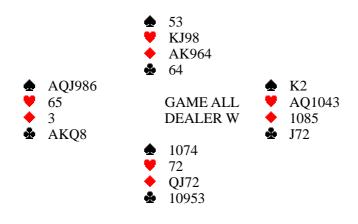
6NT bid by East making without any difficulty.



首攻 壘10。計算贏墩有四墩 ♥、三墩 ◆ 和三墩 壘,唯一要防止被將吃。西第一墩以 壘K 贏得,即出 ♥,北進手出 曡 明手上 ♠K,南用 ♣A 得回 壘 將吃,北再用 ♣Q 得一墩一下。 如果南家出 ♣J,北再回小 ♣ 定約將二下。不知何以西不能先出三墩◆ 去一張 ♣,這樣將 是平牌一付。

▲10 was led. The winning tricks were 4 in ♥, 3 in ◆ and 3 in ♣, only to prevent from a ruff by opponents. West won the 1st trick by ♣K and a ♥ played. North won and ♠ to dummy's ♣K, South took by ♠A and ♣ returned, ruff by North and took ♠Q for one down. If South played the ♣J for North would be happened 2^{nd} ruff in ♠ for down 2. Having no idea why didn't West play 3-round of ♦ for a discard a ♠ to make a fair board.

(3) 挪威隊對荷蘭隊。Norway vs Netherlands.



挪威 Helgemo 坐西家時叫牌 Helgemo from Norway in West, bidding went:

West	North	East	South
1 🗭	X	XX	pass
Pass	2 🔶	pass	pass
4 🔶	pass	4	pass
4 🗭	pass	5 🔶	pass
6 🗭	pass	pass	pass

5◆ 邀請滿貫,叫得非常好。因為北叫過牌後,東的 ♣K、♥AQ10 非常有價值了。如果我 拿南家的牌,既然同伴叫了 2◆,我會叫 4◆,不知西還會叫到 6◆ 嗎?

An excellent bid of 5 \blacklozenge which was inviting to slam. Since after North made actions, East judged that his cards placed, $\clubsuit K$, $\forall AQ10$ valuable. If I were South, I would have bid 4 \diamondsuit . In such case, guess if West still could reach 6 \bigstar !

(4) 荷蘭隊對保加利亞隊 Netherlands vs Bulgaria.

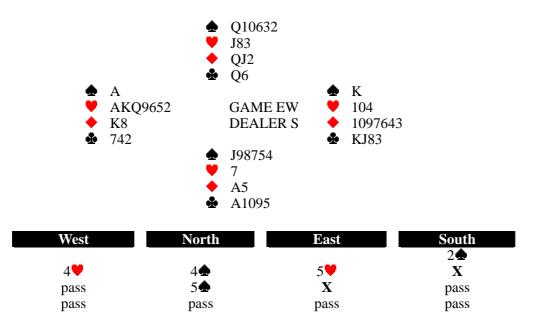


保加利亞隊坐南北時叫牌 Bulgaria N-S, bidding went: West East South North 2 pass Х 4 pass pass XX 4 4NT pass 5 pass pass pass

首攻 ♣, 莊家用 ♣A 拿, 調二輪將牌, 從明手出 ◆, 南家 ◆A。最後下一。荷蘭隊坐南北 時, 南並未重開叫, 讓西打 4♥。我不知道讀者拿南家的牌會重開叫嗎? 這付牌重開叫的結果可 以贏 10 IMPs。

was led and won by A and cashed 2-round of trump, played small \diamond from dummy and won by South $\diamond A$, one off. Netherlands didn't re-open when they were at N-S. I wasn't sure whether you would take any auction after 4Ψ ; as a result, you would win 10 IMPs if you did.

(5) 以色列隊對波蘭的華沙隊,華沙隊二邊搶打 When Israel vs Poland:



波蘭的華沙隊坐南的加倍表示大牌在另二套上,北的 ◆ 和 ♣Q 是有防守價值的,不知何 以還要叫 5♣。首攻 ♥K,再打 ♣A,然後 ♥A 送出,莊家打的很好最後還要輸一墩 ♣ 一下。 Poland in N-S, South's double was showing strength on the other 2-suit, while North had good defensive value in both ◆ and ♣Q and still bidding 5♣. ♥K was led, followed by ♣A, ♥A. The contract was down one as there was still a ♣ loser.

另一桌的叫牌為 The	e bidding at the other tal	ole went:	
West	North	East	South
			pass
1 🕊	pass	1NT	2
4 🤎	4 🌨	pass	pass
5 🦊	pass	pass	X
pass	pass	pass	pass

從好的分配來看,無法不輸三墩牌,亦是一下。結果以色列隊二邊得分 +7 IMPs。 Although a good distribution, West still couldn't get ride of the 3 losers for down 1. Israel gained positive scores from both sides, +7 IMPs.



牌桌戒律,對專家來說,可以寫出幾拾條,這裡我摘錄幾條,供香港橋友參考:

To Bridge Experts, there could easily be tens of table laws or regulations, I have selected some of them from Bergen :-

- 絕不可教訓同伴,除非你亦想得到同樣的教訓。
 Never give lesson to your partner; unless you are prepared to be lectured likewise.
- (2) 當你們叫了一個注定要宕的定約,不要一味責怪同伴,研究他的牌情,要先檢討自己。 When a bad contract is reached, do not blame on partner immediately, gather evidence from his angle and check your own bids too, first.
- (3) 如果你忘了以禮相待,小心會自取其辱。If your manners somehow escape you, remember, when you have a finger pointing at others, you have 3 pointing at yourself.
- (4) 把牌打完再與同伴討論,不要急著一吐為快,除非需要溝通,搞清楚二人之間的叫品,信 號是不是有誤會的地方。

To discuss with partner when the hand is over, not in the middle of it, and to discuss the overall method, bidding, signals; not just that single hand.

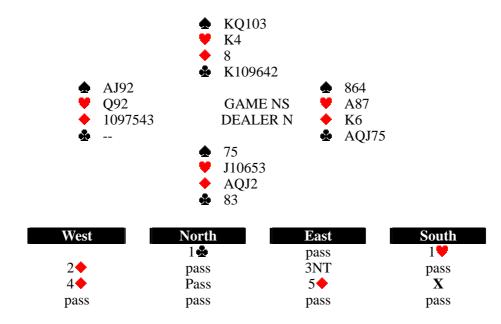
(5) 任何錯誤都是共負其責的,如果他表現失常,對他再責備是徙勞無益,說到底,這只是一場牌戲。

All errors should be borne by both partners. If partner had a bad day, killing him or destroying him boosts no ego, it just happens, shrug it off.

"勇敢的"專家叫牌 "Exotic" Experts Bidding "Exotic" Experts "Exotic" Experts "Exotic"

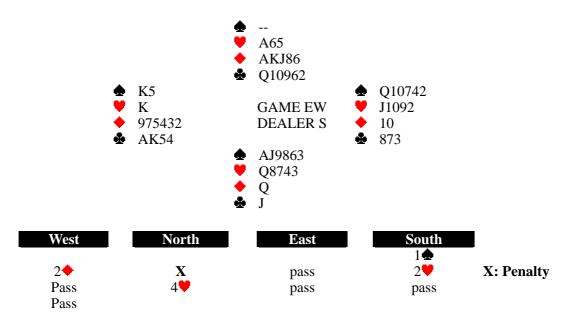
大多數專家的表演,都值得我們學習,但有些非常離譜的叫牌,遠背離教科書的教導,大概只有 專家才能表演。下面試舉數例,不知讀者會和專家一樣勇敢嗎?

The majority of bridge experts bidding would appeal to us as inspirational, yet there are times when they are way off the classic methods. Probably they have their individual reason to make such calls, let's see if you would make alike decision.



坐西的是荷蘭女將 Berry Westra,雖然是無局方,拿著以 10 為首的六張小方塊,就超叫 2◆。套的質量,遠不符合教科書的教導,在同伴 3NT 之後,又不肯停叫,如果那時 pass,北未 必會加倍,最後一錯再錯, 5◆ 四下,-800 分,輸 13 IMPs。

West was Berry Westra, veteran Dutch Lady star, her initial bid of 2 with such a miserable suit and overall hand quality, was perhaps in nobody's book. Her 4 subsequently was not recommendable too, had she passed partner's 3NT, opponents had no real reason to double, now that cost -800 and 13 IMPs.



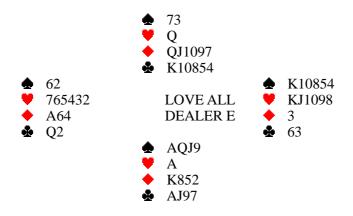
(1)

這是 1961 年百慕達盃美國隊對法國隊的比賽。坐西的是大名鼎鼎的 Howard Schenken, 超 叫的套的質量太差,如果南肯放過加倍,南北方可得 800 分。不過據說 20 位專家中,只有兩位 拿南家的牌肯放過加倍。此牌實戰中首攻 ♣K,再轉攻 ◆ 結果會二下。另一桌,法國隊(東西 方未叫牌)亦叫到 4♥,平牌一付。

This hand was from 1961 Bermuda Bowl, USA vs France. West was the formidable Howard Schenken, overcalling with even a worse Diamond suit but a stronger hand overall, had South passed partner's double of 2^{4} , that would be another +800. However according to the then records, only 2 out of 20 bridge experts would pass with South's hand. Anyway, after \mathbf{A} K and \mathbf{A} switch, it was 2 down. France played in the same contract with no opposition bidding, flat board.

(3) 前二副牌,超叫的套與同伴失配,故失敗居多,這副牌與同伴極配,但仍遭敗績。

The previous 2 hands, bids with no fit with partner and failed. This one hit partner perfectly yet lost still :-



1985 年百慕達盃,巴西對美國隊,坐西是 Lew Stansby: 1985 Bermuda Bowl, Brazil vs USA, West was Lew Stansby, overcalling with the weakest:

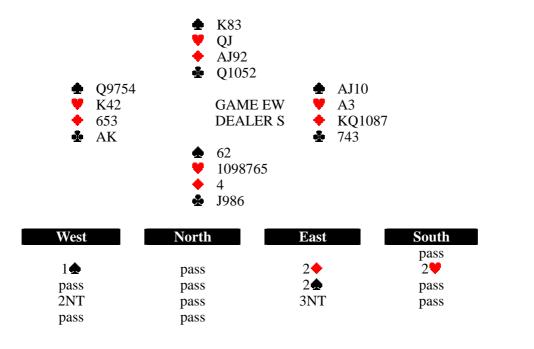
West	North	East	South	
		pass	1 • !	! (Strong)
2 🦊	3 🔶	4	4NT	_
pass	5 💁	pass	6🔶	
pass	pass	pass		

拿著最小的六張 ♥, 一樣超叫 2♥, 照牌的分配, 東最佳是立刻叫 5♥, 如果這樣, 不知 南北方仍能叫到 6◆, 還是 7◆?東西方不能犧牲叫 6♥, 最佳防守可以五下。此牌 6◆ 正好 完成。另一桌 Hamman 和 Wolff 只停在 5◆, 因猜錯 ♣Q, 正好做成 5◆。

Another miserable suit with 6-carder in \P . Seeing all hands, East best bid would possibly be $5\P$ giving South a hard time for $6\P$ or $7\P$. Of course, EW might bid $6\P/7\P$ after that, anyway the board was a loss as Hamman-Wolff stopped in $5\P$, just making.

(4) 一個點的超叫 Overcalling at 2 level with 1 single point

2000 年波蘭對美國 Year 2000, Poland vs USA:-



波蘭坐南選手一個點,超叫 2♥,如果對方超一做成 3NT。另一桌美國隊開叫 3♥,北加 叫 4♥,加倍只下三,-500,還嬴 4 IMPs。

The Polish South made that now familiar 2-level overcall with a single-pointer and lost when opponents made 3NT + 1 as, in the other room, the USA South opened 3^{\clubsuit} with that single-pointer and was raised to 4, got a double and 3 off, -500 but gained 4 IMPs.

(5) 在 1981 百慕達盃賽中,美國對巴基斯坦的一副牌 Bermuda Bowl 1981, when USA vs Pakistan

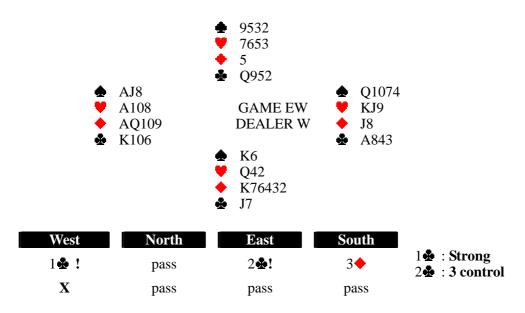


美國隊 Solodar 坐西	時的叫牌 Solodar of U	JSA was in West :-	
West	North	East	South
	1 🔶	pass	1 💙
3	X	pass	pass
pass	pass	pass	

拿著 壘9 為首的七張牌,可以叫 3壘,結果二下,-500, 美國隊坐南北時 Jeff Mekstroth 和 Eric Rodwell 叫到 3♥,結果二下,輸 12 IMPs。綜觀南北牌,在正確防守下,沒有任何成局定約, 西拿七張小 壘 叫 3壘 值得嗎?

A 3 level bid with a 9 headed suit was 2 down, -500. Meanwhile, Jeff Mekstroth and Eric Rodwell in NS also bought the contract in 3, 2 off, -200 totalling 12 IMPs lost. Taking the 4 hands as a whole, game was unlikely reached by NS, so wasn't 3 with such a suit a bit premature!

(6) 在 1958 年百慕達盃賽中,美國隊 John Crawford 坐南對意大利藍隊: In 1958 Bermuda Bowl, USA's John Crawford was South against the Italian Blue Team:

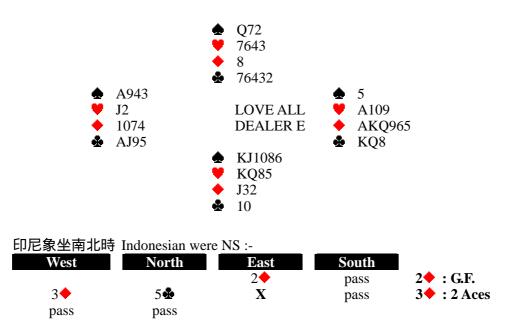


結果南家只拿兩墩 ◆,七下。即使東西家有 6NT (何況很難打),都已輸了。另一桌只叫 到 3NT +1 而已。

Result: John only took 2 trump tricks and 7 down. Even if EW could make 6NT (not so easy anyway), they would still lose a lot. In reality, the Italians bid 3NT + 1 in the other room.

(7) 1989 年世界青年橋牌賽, 澳洲隊對印尼隊:

1989 World Junior Teams, Australia vs Indonesia:



結果八下,-2000分。拿著五張幾乎最小的 ♣,可以叫到 5♣,是不是亂來!即使對方有大 滿貫,都要輸 10 IMPs 吧!!另一桌印尼隊坐東西時,居然叫到 7NT,共輸 19 IMPs。

That was 8 off, -2000. With next to the smallest 5 cards possible North could still bid 5^{\bullet} irresponsibly, even with a grand slam the opposing way, that would still cost 10 IMPs. Well, the teammates in the other room did bid to 7NT predictably, 19 IMPs in just one hand.



Larry Cohen

(1)

二零零二年度美國大獎盃

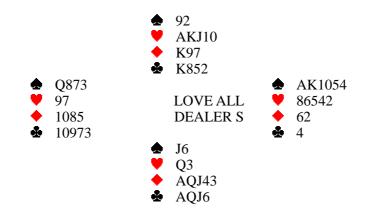
2002 ACBL Player of the Year Award

在每一個年度中,在所有國家級的隊式、對式比賽中獲得最多大師分的選手,即獲得【P.O.Y.】 大獎,二零零二年度前三名選手分別為:

Every year, the player amassing the most master points from teams or paris events at the national level, will be awarded "Player of The Year Award" **[**P.O.Y.**]** in U.S.A. The best 3 in the 2002 are: (1)

	752 MP	
(2)	Jeff Meckstroth	718 MP
(3)	Norberto Bocchi	705 MP

下面我們介紹 Larry Cohen 有運氣的幾副牌 Here are some "lucky" hands by Larry Cohen:



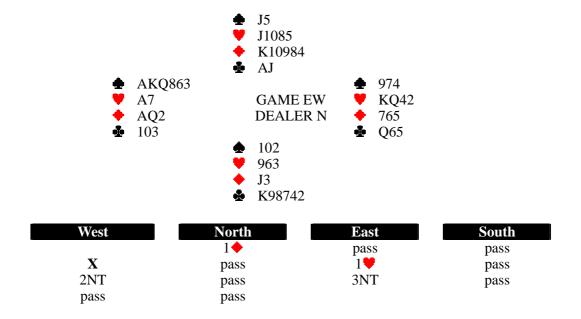
這是論對比賽, Larry Cohen 坐南和新搭擋 Lisa 為伴:

In a Pair Event, Larry was in south and playing with a new partner, Lisa:

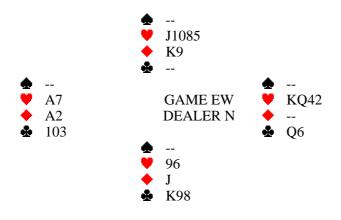
West	North	East	South	
			1 🗰	1 : 16 +
pass	2NT	pass	6NT	2NT : 14-15 Bal.
pass	pass	X	7 🛨	
pass	pass	X	pass	
pass	Pass			

6NT 是北做莊,東首攻,東有 ♠AK,隨你拿什麽牌,從東的角度來看,合約最少一下, 實際是四下(可拿五墩 ♠)。也許是論對比賽吧,+200 已是很好的分數,但他還要更多分數, 想得頂分的頂分(?)於是加倍,讓南改成 7♣ 後,東無奈只好再次加倍,即使西出對牌(由 西首攻)也不過二下,多 100 分而已。實戰中,西首攻 ♥,你能責怪西嗎?結果南立刻席捲十 三墩(+1630)絕對的頂分。坐東的是瑞典國家隊名將 Peter Fredin (二零零二年蒙特利爾世界 大賽團體進入前四名的隊,僅次於意大利和印尼隊)。

6NT by North would begin with East leading, at least 1 down, 4 off as the cards lay. Peter Fredin, Swedish International was so contented that little. Did he think Larry would "correct" to 7 switching West to lead an agonizing \P and -1630. I think the 4 players must have fallen from their chairs after the first Club was played and the hands tabled, laughing, I trust, such "luck" Larry deserved! To select Clubs was no major feat, East must have either major tops, \blacklozenge might be just long enough to make useful discards! Likewise, West must have thought this Pair's bidding was bad, but not as bad as AKQ off in a suit. Incidentally, Sweden came 3rd in 2002 Montreal Olympiad from about 100 teams.



這副牌北家拿看帶三個 J 的 10 點就輕開叫,如果不開叫,東西方很可能的合約是 4金,正 常也只有十墩,現在打無將合約,首攻 ◆10,結果莊家連出六副 金 剩餘六張牌將為: North opened light with a 3Js 10-pointer, had he not opened, E-W would probably reached 4金 and 10 tricks. As 3NT was now contracted, North led ◆10, 6 more 金 ensued with this 6-card ending:-

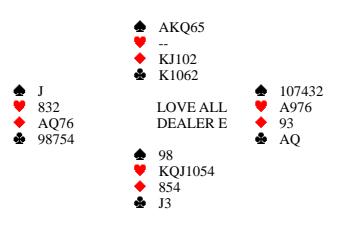


Larry Cohen 和他同伴 David 坐東西方,現在莊家只要送出一墩 🎍 即獲十二墩,即使防守 方首攻 🎍 A 再攻 💩 J,明手只要不上 Q,最後通過擠牌也有十一墩。

Larry simply played a \clubsuit for his 12th trick and a top. The cards were so friendly that even a hypothetical lead of \clubsuit A and continuation would yield 11 tricks so long as \clubsuit Q was not played at any time.



(2)



West	North	East	South
		pass	3♥
pass	pass	pass	

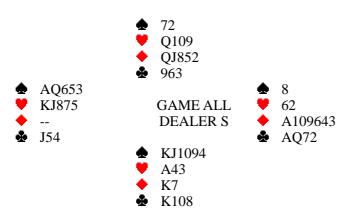
首攻 会J(Larry 坐西),表面上看,只輸 ◆A、♥A、兩墩 叠,實戰中橋路不通,結果會下 四,想不到吧! Larry 又得一高分。且看莊家怎麽會打成下四:第一墩 会A 拿,第二墩出 会K, 也許他希望西是從 会Jx 中攻出吧。Larry 將吃,出 叠,東提走兩墩 叠 再出 会,莊家大將吃, 出 ♥K,東用 ♥A 得,再出 会,南再用大將吃,調將,送出將牌,莊家希望西原有四張將牌, 實際東有四張,一共出了四墩 会、兩墩 会、三墩將牌,各剩四張牌時為:

Larry, West, led \clubsuit J, apparently there were 4 losers, 2 red Aces and 2 in \clubsuit , but it was 4 down!! Declarer won \clubsuit A and continued \clubsuit K, Larry ruffed and played \clubsuit to East who cashed the 2nd round too before a 3rd round \clubsuit play. Declarer ruffed high and then \clubsuit K taken by East's Ace for a 4th \clubsuit , declarer ruffed high again and drew a 2nd round of trump then a 3rd round \clubsuit 5 exit. So far, 9 tricks had been played: 4 Spades, 2 Clubs, 3 trumps, the 4-card ending:-



East's \clubsuit 9 now played and squeezed dummy, North actually discarded \blacklozenge J, so West took 2 more \blacklozenge for 4 down.

(4) 隊式賽,運氣的一副牌 Another hand from Team Event.



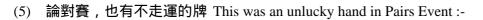
West	North	East	South
			1
pass	1NT	2 🔶	pass
27	pass	pass	X
pass	2 🗭	X	pass
pass	pass		

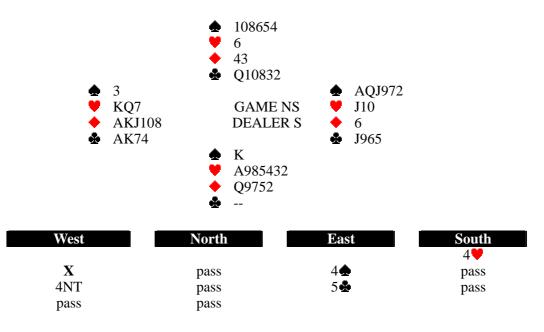
莊家只得到三墩 ♣,兩墩 ♥,下三,-800,這桌 Larry 坐東。另一桌,他的隊友是 Zia 坐南,叫牌如下:

Declarer could only manage 3 trump tricks and two ♥ tricks, 3 off, -800. Larry was East. In the other room, South was Zia, Larry's teammates, the bidding went:-

West	North	East	South	
			1NT	
2	2 🔶	pass	pass	2 : 2 Majors
pass	pass	pass		

對著 6-0 的 ◆, 結果下三, -300。這樣的牌還贏 500 分。Trumps broke 6-0, 3 down.



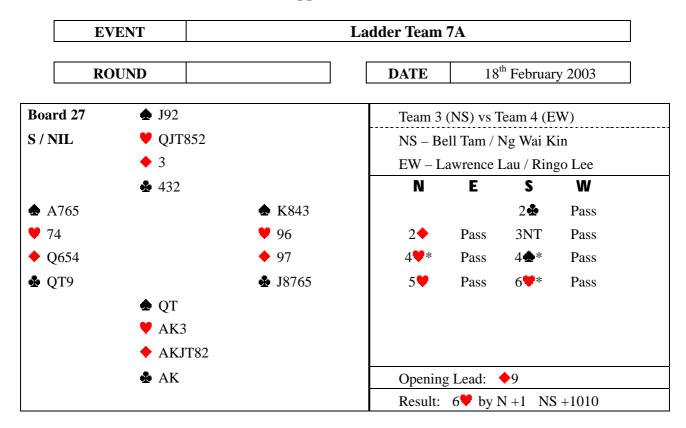


首攻 ♥A,將吃 ♥,還要再輸一墩 ♣,下一。拿著西的牌共二十點,不叫嗎?叫加倍也 預料同伴叫 4♣,你肯 pass 嗎?可能 4NT,4♣或加倍 4♥ 是最佳合約,停得來嗎?二手共二十 九點的牌,被南阻擊後,一樣叫不到最佳合約。

A was led and \forall ruff, 1 sure trump loser for 1 down. Larry had the 20-point hand and the bidding could hardly be criticized, 29-point yet no way to reach the optimum contract after the 4 \forall preempt. Nowadays, we would bid 3NT over 3 \forall on West's hand, but 4 \forall , should the reasoning be the same, particularly if the vulnerability were reversed?



Appeals Form



Facts collected by ATD at the table: -:

- 1. 2 by South was explained as strong and 2 shown 0-1 controls by North.
- 2. After South had bid 3NT, showing a balance hand with 25-27 HCP, North bid 4♥ with 'obvious' break of tempo. According to ATD, Ben Lam, the Chinese word of '*obvious*' was used and agreed at the table when the ATD collected the facts. South then bid 4♠ without alerting North's 4♥ bid. All the bids made thereafter were in normal tempo.
- 3. The final contract was 6♥ by North. Before the opening lead, East intended to point towards the bids of 4♥ & 4♠. Before any question was being asked, South volunteered the information that he and his partner (i.e. Anthony Ng and Bell Tam) seldom played together, and therefore, he did not know whether 4♥ was a transfer bid for Spade or natural. Hence he bid 4♠.
- 4. TD was summoned after the play. East **claimed** that:
 - 4.1 There was hesitation before North bid 4.
 - 4.2 After bidding was completed, North failed to correct the wrong explanation/guess by South. East then trusted North got 2 Majors due to no interference by EW and just South was uncertain on the conventional bid of 4♥. As East held short Diamonds and long Clubs, he assumed that South, holding a balance hand, could not provide 4 to 5 minor winning tricks to discard North's Spade. If ♠A was held by NS, it should be on South hand due to 0-1 control by North, there was no reason for East to lead Spade to give North a free finesse especially the position of ♠QJT9 were unknown. East, with no choice but finally led ♦9.

5. Subsequent clarification with South by David CC Ng over the phone the next day as to his bidding of 4♠, and 6♥. South claimed that he purely guessed the meaning of 4♥ on the table in view of the absence of any partnership agreement. After North's 5♥, he guessed that the North hand might be either, both majors or single ♥ suit. Having known that North had only a maximum of 1 control, his bid of 6♥ was purely a gamble and would not be accused of utilizing the unauthorized information. South volunteered the information to East that his bid of 4♠ was taken that the 4♥ was a transfer bid, without partnership agreement, because he was trying to be ethical so as not to mislead East on his first lead.

DIRECTOR'S RULING: The table result stands since South had disclosed all his partnership agreement with North. Also, South had acted on his good faith, explaining to East his reason for bidding 4^{\clubsuit} and the subsequent 6^{\clubsuit} and he did mention that he was not sure whether North had Spade suit or not. He had disclosed all he needed to disclose. The TD also trusts that South has not utilized any unauthorized information (UI) with his bidding 6^{\clubsuit} . Now the question is whether North has the obligation under the law to reveal his actual holding to East. If North has such obligation, then East is being misinformed in a way that he has not be given the information he is entitled to receive under the law.

Law cited: Law 21B; Law 75D and Law 40C

Under Law 75 D.2 Partnership Agreement [Correcting Error in Explanation]: -

A player whose partner has given a mistaken explanation ---- the player MUST inform his opponents about his partner's erroneous explanation.

The reason for ruling in favor of North-South is that, in the opinion of the TD, North has no obligation to inform his opponents about his partner's erroneous explanation because his partner was not explaining the partnership agreements to this opponents. South has mentioned clearly that he and North were not fixed partnership (which the TD agreed), so his bidding of 4^{\textcircled} and 6^{\textcircled} was purely taking a position. The intricate point of this case is that North-South has no partnership agreement regarding to the bid of $4^{\textcircled}/4^{\textcircled}/5^{\textcircled}$ and 6^{\textcircled} . South only volunteers the information as how he takes the meaning of 4^{\textcircled} , as an ethical player always does. Under such circumstance, North has no obligation to clarify any explanation, which is outside the scope of their partnership agreement.

In the prevailing practice, most of us, occupying North's position, would inform the opponents in case our partner's explanation was erroneous. However, it is **active ethics** promoted by the WBF. As Bobby Wolff, in one of the appeal cases, did mention that we have to be very careful when we draw a line between active ethics and obligation under the law. We are not empowered to punish a player whose ethical standard is minimal so long as he does not break the law. In spite of the lack of any convention card, the TD trusts that NS did not have any partnership agreement with regard to the development of 3NT.

Since the similar cases occur very often during the Club games, I strongly recommend Lawrence Lau to appeal because my intention is to have the Appeal Committee to clarify the issue so that the majority of the players can have a guidance to follow.

REASON FOR APPEAL (written by Player [East]: Lawrence Lau):

EW appealed that an established partnership should not be bid and explained like that without any interference, if North corrected South's explanation of 4 was not a transfer bid for \clubsuit but really natural \forall to play before East's led, East would not have many options to lead for defeating 6 since South marked with at least 3 Aces. The only hope for East was either West has \clubsuit A or \clubsuit Q plus another winning entry from the rest of 3 suits.

Lawrence Lau disputes part of the facts mentioned above after reading the TD's report. The following being his reply in e-mail: - (those statements in *italic* are further clarification with ATD).

The appeal case has been perused and most of the facts agreed except:

1. Anthony Ng & I agreed when I pointed to 4♥ & 4♠, it was equivalent to asking the meaning of the bid. Hence Anthony was trying to answer my QUESTION rather than volunteered inform me the meaning/guess of the bid. Hence, North has the obligation to inform his opponents about his partner's erroneous explanation.

The ATD confirmed that he received the following statements when he was collecting facts at the table: -

"While East leans forward, showing his intention to ask questions, South starts to explain."

2. Although there was no convention card at the table, N- has never mentioned they were not fixed partnership at the table. Even so, my argument was obvious, and that's the reason why I appeal, any partnership should not abused by claiming, "we are not regular partner" and take advantage of not correcting partner's erroneous explanation.

The ATD repeated the following statement as what he heard at the table in Cantonese: -South stated that "My partner and I seldom played together, and therefore, I do not know whether 4♥ was a transfer bid for Spade or natural. Hence I bid 4♠."

RESPONSES ON THE APPEALS CASE (written by Player [North]: Bell Tam):

A. On the Facts (collected by ATD at the table and the disputes made by Lawrence Lau "LL"):

- (1) Seems Anthony and LL can't agree on whether the words from Anthony are volunteer offer of information PLUS a guess or answering questions. I won't have much to say on this because the timing of this process was very short and maybe both think that they have the initiation.
- (2) I was shocked that LL said, "N-S has never mentioned they were not fixed partnership at the table". This was loudly and clearly said when Anthony started to offer his explanations and guess.

B. On the "claims" made by LL

- (1) "North <u>failed</u> to correct the <u>wrong</u> explanation/guess by South"
 - -- As I considered that there was no erroneous explanation, Anthony has clearly explained that "there was no agreement on the 4♥ bid", there is nothing to correct.
 - -- I don't know whether a player needs to correct partner's guess on his own hand or not, at that time, I thought it is not, so I remained silence.

- (2) "East then <u>trusted</u> North got 2 Majors"
 - -- I don't know where from East draw this conclusion, from opponent's guess?
- (3) "Assumed that South, holding a balance hand _____ could not provide _____ winning tricks"
 - -- I don't think we are responsible for what an opponent assumes our hands are. When you heard your opponents open 2 and then rebid 3NT, how many times you have seen it is flat balance or with a running suit? Look at the actual South hand and you will know that LL's guess was wrong.
- (4) "East, with <u>no choice</u> but finally led D9"
 - -- This is really derisory. I can't buy LL's linking up of the "both major" North hand and "balanced" South hand to his unsuccessful lead, give North ♥QJxxx and ♦Q, whatever shape, there is 13 tricks in pocket if he doesn't cash his side's winners. It is very clear that the poor lead was a result of his wrong guess rather than from any legal information he obtained.
- (5) "An <u>established</u> partnership should not be <u>bid</u> and <u>explained</u> like that without any interference"
 - -- Excuse me, what's mean by established partnership? I don't think there is anyone in HKCBA considers that Anthony and I are an established partnership, the last time I played with Anthony was at least 1.5 years ago. Despite that, we tried our best to respect the tournament/opponents and have discussed our system 45 minutes before the game started (hard luck, we haven't covered that 22-2-3NT-4 sequence). I can't recall how many times did my opponents only started to discuss system/convention with his partner AFTER the game had started and used our tournament time (the last time happened at my table was last week's <u>Open League</u> when LL partner with Yau Ngai).
 - I don't think you can find more than 2 convention cards in HKCBA that will clearly state what that 4♥ bid is after this not frequent appear sequence. However, I have heard that LL and his Grand Master partner, playing in <u>Open League</u>, doesn't have a mutual understanding on a simple sequence of 1NT-2♥. So this "bid like that" comment should apply to them, not us.
 - -- The explanation given can't be more clear and precise, "ad hoc partnership, no agreement on this bid".
- (6) "Any partnership should not <u>abuse</u> by claiming 'we are not regular partner' and <u>take advantage</u> of not correcting partner's <u>erroneous</u> explanation"
 - -- Totally agree on the above statement, although this is irrelevant for this Appeal Case.

C. Director's comments on active/minimal ethics and LL's comments on abuse/take advantage

 I personally don't like the tone of the director's comments on the above, although I know David doesn't mean it, but it sounds like accusing me of not having active ethics or ethical standard is minimal. I always believe myself is one of the most ethical players in HKCBAL and always want to play fair game. I remained silent after Anthony had given his explanation to LL was because I was very satisfied of what he said and at that time I had zero doubt and trusted that opponents already known that I had a single suiter in \P (Now I know I was wrong, of course, he said he doesn't know). Partner did not alert my $4\P$ bid and I didn't say he failed to alert it, to me, this negative inference was enough for clarification, if I had a \clubsuit suit and intended $4\P$ was a transfer, I would inform opponents that partner really "failed" to alert.

- (2) LL's comments on abuse/take advantage, if he intends to apply to this case, it is totally unacceptable to me. On the contrary, I am very suspicious on opponent's ethics in this case:
 - a) I feel that opponents want to take advantage by trying to catch the non-perfect wordings from the explanations given ->> As an ethical player, Anthony Ng, volunteered information to opponents in desire to play a fair game, the opponents took it but keep trying to catch mistakes/tones in his wordings (not the meaning). I know that David has spent more than a week's time and lots of works to do in order to obtain the "facts" on the "actual wordings".
 - b) After that bidding sequence, I think all knows that there is some problem in the bidding ->> why didn't East ask North for further clarification if you want to play a good game? LL, a very experienced player and many times HK representative, for sure knows that he has that right. I can't stop assuming that he wants to reserve rights for calling director for "damage" if there is something wrong, because he knows that the onus is on North to correct his "claim" erroneous explanation. And, just in case, if, North really turned out to have both majors, he can call director for North's failure to say that South failed to alert 4♥, and he has trusted that North is single suiter in heart and that's why he lead wrong?
- (3) I don't understand why David "strongly recommends Lawrence Lau to appeal". This is not a recurring issue, from my point of view; it is a single joke only. I don't know after David has "strongly recommended LL to appeal", will it affect the Appeals Committee's rulings on "without merit" decision.
- **D.** Sorry to make my statement so long. My teammates and myself always enjoy playing good bridge under friendly environment, like most of the players in the Association. However, if somebody tries to attack our integrity and level of ethics, we are very firm and won't step back.

Deposit Received	Tournament Director
HK\$500 was received on 4 th March 2003	Ben Lam (ATD)
	David CC Ng (TD)

DECISION OF APPEALS COMMITTEE					
(Appeals committee members participating: S.S. Bux, Karic Chiu, Samuel Wan. Anthony Ching abstaining as					
an interested party and David Chan abstained, as he was involved as a party on N-S's rebuttal.)					
The Appeals Committee unanimously decided that this is not a case of ethics and that there was no unauthorized					
information involved. It was felt that there was obvious misunderstanding and confusion between N-S. South					
final bid of 6♥, looking at his hand, was quite justified. The Committee also felt that the Director did the right					
thing when he advised E-W to appeal, as this is not a clear-cut case.					
What the Committee took time on was whether "North has an obligation to explain to East what happened".					
The Committee unanimously agreed that North should, under Law 75D2, clarify the situation to East, and					
especially when there is no Convention Card available. It was felt that N-S has caused the confusion and North					
should not assumed that E-W could have known about it.					
The Committee did not particularly like East's argument, especially when he is an experienced international					
player. However, in line with the WBF Code of Practice the Committee resolves any doubtful point in favor of					
the non-offending side, in accordance with Law 84D.					
The Committee resolves that in future the TD should rule in accordance with Law 84D in the absence of a					
Convention Card.					
Result:					

Adjusted to 6♥ by North -1 for - 50 to N-S.

Chairperson Signature

Commentary on Appeals Case 200301

This case has aroused a lot of interest, and induced a lot of heated arguments as seen in the latest email exchange. I believe that as the Appeals Committee, we should provide some additional commentary on the matter. First of all, let us clarify a few points.

Alert Policy

As the HKCBAL adopts the WBF policy on alerts, we should note that in the absence of screens "We should not alert bids, with the exception of conventional opening suit bids, at the four level or higher". In this context, we would assume that in this case all bids starting from 4 were not alerted. However, this does not prohibit a player from asking.

Convention Card

The policy, adopted since April 2000, is that a player must have a properly filled out convention card at the table. A copy of the policy is attached in Appendix A. The directors at our regular tournaments, however, have not strictly enforced this policy. It has hence resulted in some unnecessary disputes.

What is a properly filled out convention card? WBF has some very clear guidelines. However, since we are adopting an ACBL version at our regular events, these guidelines are not appropriate. We would suggest that a convention card is properly filled if it includes all conventions used, general approach, response methods, offensive and defensive methods, leads and signals, <u>and</u> all exceptional cases. It will then be up to the director to ascertain the "correct" meanings of bids not covered on the convention card.

The Case

The Appeals Committee is satisfied with the facts of the case as presented on the Appeals Form. The following points were considered before coming to the final decision:

- 1. Was there an infraction?
- 2. Was there damage caused?
- 3. Was the damage, if any, caused by the infraction?
- 4. Was there an ethical issue involved?

Infraction

In accordance with the alert policy, N-S was proper in not alerting the bids at 4-level and above. South offered an explanation when asked after the bidding was over. However, since N-S was not a regular partnership and the bidding sequence probably has never come up before, South might not be certain what the meaning of 4^{\clubsuit} and the subsequent 5^{\clubsuit} meant. According to the Laws, E-W is entitled to full disclosure of the partnership agreement and treatment. Since this was probably not a convention or an agreement, South's explanation should be adequate.

However, in the absence of a convention card, there was nothing to support South's claim. Whether there was no agreement or South simply forgot was not clear to E-W. In a case like this, North should have offered the explanation in accordance with Law 75D2. This would remove any doubt for E-W. Granted East could have asked North, but not doing so did not remove N-S's responsibility. (Note: It was clear to us that there was probably no agreement as South claimed because we know the players, and East probably knew as well. However, we can only be objective in applying the Laws.) The current HKCBAL practice, in the absence of a convention card and where there is a difference between the explanation and the hand, is to rule for a mis-bid unless the situation is clear. We therefore believe that there was an infraction.

Damage

This point is clear. If a spade was led and continued, the contract of 6^{\clubsuit} would have been defeated. Any other lead would have allowed the contract to make. The damage was directly a result of the choice of the lead.

We can understand why East did not lead a spade in case North was holding both majors. Whether East could have led a spade had he known the meaning of all the bids was not at all clear to us. East argument on the Appeals Form was not convincing. However, leading a spade is a viable option in this case. According to Law 84D and the WBF Code of Practice, the director and the Appeals Committee can only rule in favor of the non-offending side. Since we believe that there was an infraction, the damage would be likely be a result of the infraction, in not having a clearer option available.

Ethics

On the matter of ethics, the Appeals Committee had a clear view. We believe that N-S had acted ethically in this case. We felt that it was normal for North and South to think thoroughly in this situation and that unauthorised information was neither passed nor used. We believe that North should have offered East an explanation of his 4, bid. However, in not doing so were not a matter of ethics but his lack of full knowledge of the Laws. We felt that East accusation was groundless and not fair to the N-S pair, who has tried to be helpful.

The Appeals Committee did question why East had not asked North for further explanation. By not doing so, was he trying to play both ways and "have the cake and eat it too". However, we gave him the benefit of the doubt and assumed that in the midst of the rather unusual auction and discussion, he had simply forgotten.

Recommendation

Why wasn't the director called when the bidding was over the explanation not clear? None of these would have happened if the director were called then. He could have given clear instructions to the players to follow according to the Laws. We recommend players, once faced with an irregularity or even suspecting an irregularity, should call the director immediately.

We wish to remind the directors to strictly enforce the convention card policy. This will make the game more enjoyable for everyone and prevent uneasy feeling from developing amongst players.

We strongly recommend that players be very careful on the ethical issue. It is a very serious matter to accuse another player of being unethical. Unless you have solid proof, you can face disciplinary action according to the Laws. Remember what Confucius said, "Do not treat others in ways you do not want to be treated".

<u>Appendix A</u>

Convention Card Procedure

The HKCBA published the convention card procedure in the HKCBA Handbook in 1991 with the intention of enforcing this in our regular tournaments. A number of minor revisions have since been introduced to make the procedure simpler. The current practice, however, is inconsistent with that of the WBF. The Council at the 13 April 2000 meeting, resolved that:

- 1. Effective 1 June 2000, all pairs must have a HKCBAL or WBF convention card, properly filled, at all HKCBAL regular tournaments. The requirement for trials will be 2 copies of WBF convention card, properly filled, for each pair. If a pair does not have a properly filled convention card, the director will prescribe one and only "natural" system will be allowed.
- 2. All conventional calls and the general offensive and defensive approaches of the pair *MUST* be included in the convention card. Should this not be the case, any explanation that is different from the actual holding will be treated as a misexplanation.
- 3. We understand that it is not impossible, nor is it practical, for players to include all subsequent offensive bids in the convention card. This is especially true of offensive bids against uncommon overcalls and openings. In these cases when there is a difference between the explanation and the actual holding, the directors are explicitly instructed to ascertain whether it is a misbid or a misexplanation based in the consistency with the system approach described in the convention card.
- 4. If players intend to reuse the conventions, we will store them for you at the venues. Just deposit them with the directors.

SCHEDULE FOR APRIL - MAY 2003

TOURNAMENT CANCELLED TUE 1 4 FRI TOURNAMENT CANCELLED 7-13 全國橋牌協會錦標賽 - 四川成都 8 TUE TOURNAMENT CANCELLED 11 FRI TOURNAMENT CANCELLED 12 SAT TOURNAMENT CANCELLED 13 SUN TOURNAMENT CANCELLED 15 TUE TOURNAMENT CANCELLED FRI TRIAL 18 National Team Trial 01 2003 (Semi-Final) 19 SAT National Team Trial 02 2003 (Semi-Final) TRIAL 22 TUE Ladder Team (9) 2-Session FRI Knock-Out Team (6) 25 2-Session SAT National Team Trial 03 2003 (Final) TRIAL 26 SUN National Team Trial 04 2003 (Final) TRIAL 27 TUE Paul Jones (9) 29 YEAR

APRIL 2003

MAY 2003

2	FRI	IMP Pairs (10)	YEAR
3	SAT	Knock-Out Team (7)	YEAR
6	TUE	Quadruple Pairs (1)	CUP
9	FRI	Continuous Pairs (10)	YEAR
10	SAT	Quadruple Pairs (2) & (3)	CUP
13	TUE	Ladder Team (10)	YEAR
16	FRI	Open Team of Six (1)	CUP
17	SAT	Triangular Interport Trial 2003	TRIAL
20	TUE	Open Team of Six (2)	CUP
23	FRI	Open Team of Six (3)	CUP
27	TUE	Knock-Out Team (8) IF NECESSARY	YEAR
30	FRI	Paul Jones (10)	YEAR
31-5		廣東"得勝盃"橋牌邀請賽 廣東省汕尾市遮浪鎮(紅海灣) - 廣東省國際海上運動俱樂部 FAX: 020-84100687 \$150 /日 食宿費 \$500 報名費	