

Newsletter

April ~ June 2015



HKCBA LTD

<http://www.hkcba.org>

Member of World Bridge Federation

Member of Pacific Asia Bridge Federation

Member of Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China

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11th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: January 5, 2015 (Monday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: Unit 1103, 11/F, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, TST, KLN, HK

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Christopher Leung – Treasurer (CL)

Council members:

Arthur Lau (AL)

CC Wong (CC)

Charlie Lee (XL)

KF Mak (KF)

Tony Lau (TL)

WK Lai (WK)

Apologies: Council members:

John Tsang (JT)

Ronald Hui (RH)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopt minutes of last meeting.		
2	Matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): a) Progress update: HKCBA website revamp: working committee to follow up with Alan Sze and set a deadline for completion of the outstanding items. b) LC to confirm with CRC whether we can use their venue for the life and non-life master pairs on April 17 & 24.		AL, TL, WK LC

3	<u>Financial Affairs:</u>		
3i	Latest Bank Balance: HKD652K.		
4	<u>Internal Affairs:</u>		
4i	AGM: WK to add AL to the special voting member list. PC to prepare the AGM notice. There will not be prize presentation in the AGM. AL to arrange white board for voting purpose. DZ will call the special voting members to attend the meeting, and LC will inform the youth.		DZ, LC, PC, AL, WK
4ii	Intercity 2015: DZ will contact Anthony Ching regarding formation of the organizing committee. LC has submitted proposal to government for funding already and will search for other sponsorships.		DZ, LC
5	<u>External Affairs:</u>		
5i	APBF: PC to revert to Kelvin Yim regarding the criteria for representing Hong Kong.		PC
5ii	CMSG: Will be held in September 2015, trial dates to be confirmed.		
5iii	World Simultaneous Pairs: LC will explore whether HKCBA should join this event again.		LC
6	<u>A.O.B.</u>		
6i	HKCBA event: If there are not enough players by 7:15pm the event should be cancelled. Directors are only recommended to substitute in case of emergency where player need to drop off. If the event is cancelled due to insufficient players, HKCBA will pay for any rental charge and director fee unless negotiable.		
	The next council meeting will be held on February 9, 2015.		

12th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: February 9, 2015 (Monday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: Unit 1103, 11/F, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, TST, KLN, HK

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Christopher Leung – Treasurer (CL)

Council members:

Arthur Lau (AL)

CC Wong (CC)

Charlie Lee (XL)

John Tsang (JT)

KF Mak (KF)

Tony Lau (TL)

WK Lai (WK)

Apologies: Officers:

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Council members:

Ronald Hui (RH)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopt minutes of last meeting.		
2	Matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): c) Progress update: HKCBA website revamp: working committee to follow up with Alan Sze and set a deadline for completion of the outstanding items.		AL, TL, WK
3	<u>Financial Affairs:</u>		
3i	Latest Bank Balance: HKD608K.		
4	<u>Internal Affairs:</u>		
4i	AGM: TL to send email to members remind them of the coming AGM		

<p>4ii</p> <p>4iii</p> <p>4iv</p> <p>4v</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>6i</p> <p>6ii</p> <p>6iii</p>	<p>APBF 2015: Council endorsed “AAA” team (Players: Laurance Lo, Baron Ng, Tony Lau, KF Mak, WK Lai and WK Chan) to be the representatives for China Hong Kong Open Series. Samuel Wan will be their NPC. Senior Team and Ladies Team trials are scheduled to be held on March 14 & 15 subject to the no. of registration received. Deadline for registration is March 1. Council endorsed KF to be the NPC for junior and girls, while XL will be the NPC for youngsters.</p> <p>Interport: will possibly be held on June 6 & 7 or June 13 & 14. Tentative Trial dates will be May 16 & 17.</p> <p>Sponsorships for APBF youth representatives: Council agreed to sponsor HK\$5000 for each NPC and HK\$2000 for each player in the junior, youngsters and girls team. If they won the first 3 places in their series, they will be given extra sponsorships/incentive:</p> <p>Champion: extra HK\$2000 for each player 1st runner-up: extra HK\$1000 for each player 2nd runner-up: extra HK\$500 for each player</p> <p>Intercity 2015: will be held on July 29 to August 2 at Regal Hong Kong Hotel.</p> <p><u>External Affairs:</u> Nil</p> <p><u>A.O.B.</u></p> <p>HKCBA website: the working committee to provide all outstanding tasks to be discussed in the next council meeting.</p> <p>Selling of Bridgemate machines: Thailand Bridge Club has asked about whether HKCBA can sell any Bridgemate machines to them. Council decided that if it is for APBF purpose we can borrow them 30 machines. WK to revert to them on this arrangement.</p> <p>Director Fee & allowance for caddies: RH proposed to review the director fee as it has been freeze for many years. Council decided that there is no valid reason to raise the fee – one of the reasons is that we also didn’t raise the registration fee and membership fee for our tournament and we have no increased income for a larger expense. For caddies who help in Open League, Council agrees to increase their allowance to HK\$250 per session.</p>		<p>AL, TL, WK</p> <p>WK</p>
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	The next council meeting date to be confirmed.		
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1st Council Meeting Minutes

Date: March 23, 2015 (Monday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: Unit 1103, 11/F, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, TST, KLN, HK

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Christopher Leung – Treasurer (CL)

Council members:

Arthur Lau (AL)

CC Wong (CC)

Charlie Lee (XL)

John Tsang (JT)

KF Mak (KF)

Ronald Hui (RH)

Tony Lau (TL)

WK Lai (WK)

Apologies: Officers:

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopt minutes of last meeting.		
2	Matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): d) Progress update: HKCBA website revamp: Alan Sze to provide completion deadline by March 26.		AL, TL, WK
3	<u>Financial Affairs:</u>		
3i	Latest Bank Balance: HKD539K.		

<p>4</p> <p>4i, 4ii</p> <p>4iii</p> <p>4iv</p> <p>4v</p> <p>4vi</p>	<p><u>Internal Affairs:</u></p> <p>Roles of council members:</p> <p>Board of Tournament Director: DZ, RH, YC Lai</p> <p>Tournament Operations: RH, XL, AL, CL</p> <p>Appeals Committee: DZ (chairman), Samuel Wan, LH Chin, Raju, RH, Kenny Lau and CC Wong</p> <p>Youth Committee: JT (chairman), LC, KF, WK, TL and Baron Ng</p> <p>Membership: WK, JT</p> <p>SSBL: RH, XL, Billy Szeto</p> <p>HKPBL: XL (advisor/consultant)</p> <p>Tournament schedule for new bridge year: To be released by mid April.</p> <p>Intercity update:</p> <p>Registration fee: HKD7,000/team. For those teams occupied at least 10 rooms night will get a discounted price at HKD6,000. Teams with at least 4 HKCBA members will get a discounted price at HKD5,500. Foreign youth team HK\$3,000/team, local youth team HK\$1,500/team (max 16 teams allowed), max capacity for all series is 58 teams.</p> <p>Sell of bridgemate to Thailand Bridge Association:</p> <p>There are total 108 bridgemates per stock record, and max needed for local tournaments is 70-80, therefore approximately 30 spares. We have borrowed 30 bridgemates + server to Thailand for APBF purpose. PC to write a formal email to Kelvin Yim and Zoe Li advise them that Council has never seen the quotation for selling the equipment and they must inform Council for approval before selling any of the equipment (CC is the contact person). Besides, Council aware that there is a laptop being taken away without authorization from Council, they should return it immediately. Council endorsed to sell 20 bridgemates to Thailand (CL to confirm the price).</p> <p>Council endorsed the following youth to represent Hong Kong in the 2015 APBF youth championships:</p> <p>Junior Team: Xavier Chan, Francis Chan, Mark Ng, Gavin Tang, Zia Wai and Vinci Wan</p> <p>Youngster Team: Sam Tseng, Niko Man, Chris Chan, Dominic Wong, Selina Leung and Kimmy Kam</p> <p>Girls Team: Krystal Fang, Ruby Hui, Joyce Leung, Elaine Lu, Crystal Tang and Joyce Tung</p>		<p>RH, XL, AL</p> <p>PC</p>
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5	<u>External Affairs:</u>		
5i	CMSG: will be held on Sept 12-22 in Shandong.		
6	<u>A.O.B.</u>		
6i	Fund raising event for youth team: tentative May 4. Cannot use the name of HKCBA and the donations will not be taxable.		
6ii	Upload old tournament results to HKCBA website: it will be a very manual process and take much time. WK to ask Chorin to do.		WK
The next council meeting will be held on April 27, 2015 (Monday).			

不太可能的錯

Unlikely Mistakes

橋牌比賽的失利，是很平常的事，我這裡講的是 2015 年 3 月，北美春季大賽 Quarter Final :Monaco 對 Assael 一場。這場一共打 60 副牌，打完 45 副牌時，Monaco 隊領先 40 IMP，最後 15 副牌，輸 53IMP，結果以 13IMP 之差被淘汰。輸牌一方，主要還是自己一方的錯較多。請看

Losing at bridge competitions is not uncommon. I am going to talk about the Quarter Final match of 58th Spring North America Championships 2015 between Monaco and Assael in March 2015. The match consisted of 60 boards. After 45 boards, Monaco led by 40 IMPs but Monaco lost 53 IMPs in the last 15 boards and was knocked out due to a net loss of 13 IMPs. The losing team lost due to making more mistakes. Please see below:

(1) 不太可能的錯 Unlikely mistakes

Board 23

# 23	♠ Q 9 7 2
S/All	♥ A J 3 2
	♦ 8 5 2
	♣ J 9
	♠ A K 6
	♥ Q T 7 4
	♦ 7 6
	♣ A K 8 6

叫牌： Bidding:

W	N	E	S
			1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

首攻 3 輪♦, ♦A, ♦K, ♦J, 東跟 ♦3, ♦4, ♦Q。你將第 3 輪, 第 4 輪♥10, 依次♥5, ♥2, ♥K, 第 5 墩東出♣5, 你上♣A, 成

1st 3 tricks: 3 rounds of ♦: ♦A, ♦K and ♦J, East followed with ♦3, ♦4 and ♦Q. You ruff the 3rd ♦. You play the ♥10 at trick 4, followed by ♥5, ♥2 and ♥K. At trick 5; East plays the ♣5 and you place the ♣A, with the following cards remaining:

# 23	♠ Q 9 7 2
S/All	♥ A J 3
	♦ --
	♣ J
	♠ A K 6
	♥ Q 7
	♦ --
	♣ K 8 6

第 6 墩♥7, 明手♥A, 這是不應有的錯。如果東西方♥是 2 - 3 分布, 就沒有問題, 那是初學者的打法, 專家牌手應考慮 4 - 1, 甚至 5 - 0 分布的情形, 現在東有 4 張♥, 明手只有♠Q 一座橋, 沒有辦法將東的第 4 張將牌調出, 除非東有 3 張♠, 否則第 4 張♠就不起作用了, 結果橋路阻塞, 下 2, 輸 13IMP

Trick 6: ♥7, Dummy ♥A. This mistake should not be made. If East-West's ♥s are 2 - 3, you will not have problem, but this is beginners' play. Expert players will consider a distribution of 4 - 1, or even 5 - 0. Now East has 4 times ♥, but Dummy has only the ♠Q as an entry and so there is no way to force out

East's 4th trump. Unless East has only 3 times ♠, else the 4th ♠ has no use. Due to blockage, down 2, loss of 13 IMPs.

# 23	♠ Q 9 7 2	
S/All	♥ A J 3 2	
	♦ 8 5 2	
	♣ J 9	
♠ J 8 5 3		♠ T 4
♥ 5		♥ K 9 8 6
♦ A K J T 9		♦ Q 4 3
♣ T 7 3		♣ Q 5 4 2
	♠ A K 6	
	♥ Q T 7 4	
	♦ 7 6	
	♣ A K 8 6	

另一桌，前幾輪出牌一樣，東♥K進手，回♠4，南♠A，再調3輪將：

At the other table, the first few rounds of tricks were the same. East gained entry with the ♥K and returned the ♠4, South ♠A and drew 3 more rounds of trump:

# 23	♠ Q 9 7	
S/All	♥ --	
	♦ --	
	♣ J 9	
♠ J 8 5		♠ T
♥ --		♥ --
♦ --		♦ --
♣ T 7		♣ Q 5 4 2
	♠ K 6	
	♥ --	
	♦ --	
	♣ A K 8	

到這時，有哪位莊家打不成呢。

At this moment, will there be any declarer not able to make the contract?

雖然誰都有錯，但世界一流專家犯這類錯較少見。或者有其它我們不知道的原因，例如非常疲倦等。

Though everyone may make mistakes but world-class players rarely make this type of mistakes. Perhaps there may be other unknown reasons, e.g., very tired, etc.

(2) 運氣也不佳 Bad luck also.

Board 26

你是南，持 You are South, holding:

26
E/All
♠ K 4
♥ A Q T 9 6 3
♦ A K 9
♣ A 6

叫牌 Bidding:

W	N	E	S
		4♦	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	Dbl
5♣	Pass	5♦	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

東在有局方，沒有♦A，♦K的情形，叫4♦，至少有8張♦，4張♠，你認為他是4090還是5080牌型。現在你首攻哪個花色？可能沒有十全十美的首攻。如果首攻：

♥A，如莊家是4081牌型，單張♣的輸張墊在♥K下。如攻

♣A 遇到4180牌型，同樣♥輸張消失。如攻

♦A 同伴有♦Q, ♦J, ♦10 任一張時, 你少拿 1 墩將牌。

你會攻哪張? 如果你能猜出東是 5080 牌型, 攻♥A 最佳。

East is vulnerable, without ♦ A and ♦ K, bid 4♦. He must have at least 8 times ♦ and 4 times ♠. Do you think he has the shape of 4090 or 5080? Now, which suit would you attack? Perhaps there may not be a perfect first lead. If the 1st lead:

- ♥A, if declarer's shape is 4081, singleton ♣ loser can be discarded on the ♥K
- ♣A, if declarer's shape is 4180, the loser in♥ will disappear similiary;
- ♦A, if partner has the ♦Q, ♦J or ♦10, you will win one less trump.

Which one will you lead? If you guess East's shape to be 5080, ♥A is best.

你看 4 家牌, 實際出♦A,

Let's see the 4 hands. In reality, South lead the ♦A.

# 26	♠ T 9 2	
E/All	♥ J 8 7 5 2	
	♦ T	
	♣ 9 5 4 2	
♠ A Q 6		♠ J 8 7 5 3
♥ K 4		♥ --
♦ 4		♦ Q J 8 7 6 5 3 2
♣ K Q J T 8 7 3		♣ --
	♠ K 4	
	♥ A Q T 9 6 3	
	♦ A K 9	
	♣ A 6	

南有 3A, 2K 那麼多大牌, 首攻♦A 後, 也只能拿 2 墩牌, 可見大牌點力和

贏墩不是一定成正比。

這牌 Monaco 隊輸 11IMP，如果首攻除♦外，任一張牌，將勝 9IMP，一張首攻牌，來回 20IMP。沒有攻對，可算運氣不佳。

South had many high cards: 3 Aces and 2 Kings. On the 1st lead of the ♦A, he could only have 2 winning tricks. Therefore, HCPs and winning tricks may not be proportionate.

Monaco team lost 11 IMPs for this board. With the exception of the 1st lead of ♦, any other lead would win 9 IMPs, with the net difference of 20 IMPs. The failure to making the right lead might be due to lack of luck.

(3) 明顯低叫的牌 Obvious underbid

# 29	♠ K 9 6 5 3
N/All	♥ 6
	♦ A 7 5 4
	♣ 8 7 3
	♠ A J 8
	♥ A J 8 3 2
	♦ 8
	♣ K Q J 5

叫牌 Bidding:

W	N	E	S
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

南的牌，如果沒有♠A，11分開叫，是不是也這麼叫，牌力相差一個A，叫品一樣，應該有問題。這樣不積極叫牌，不像是 Monaco 隊的牌風。

South's card, if without the ♠A, could be open bid with 11 HCPs. It is questionable if you bid the same way with one more Ace. This non-aggressive bidding did not look like the Monaco Team's bidding style.

另一桌叫牌 Bidding at the other table:

W	N	E	S
	Pass	Pass	1♥
2♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

首攻♦，莊家♦A，出♣，西忍讓，莊家交叉將吃，已有10墩牌。

First lead a ♦, declarer ♦A, and played a ♣, West ducked. Declarer cross ruffed and got 10 winning tricks.

# 29	♠ K 9 6 5 3	
N/All	♥ 6	
	♦ A 7 5 4	
	♣ 8 7 3	
♠ 4		♠ Q T 7 2
♥ K T 9		♥ Q 7 5 4
♦ K Q T 6 2		♦ J 9 3
♣ A 9 6 2,		♣ T 4
	♠ A J 8	
	♥ A J 8 3 2	
	♦ 8	
	♣ K Q J 5	

考慮牌型的叫牌

Bidding with Consideration of Shape

如果你只算點叫牌，一定有很多牌低叫，這種牌例隨處可見，我這裡用 2015 NEC Cup 的牌例來說明。下面第 1-4 付牌，是進入前 8 名的第 1 場淘汰賽的牌例。

If you just count high card points (HCPs) for bidding, you would likely underbid your hands many time. These examples can be seen everywhere. I shall use some examples in the 2015 NEC Cup to illustrate. The hands from 1 to 4 below are examples selected from the first session of knock out match for the top 8 teams.

對陣雙方是：Sanden (中國高手組成)對 England/Netherland 聯隊。

Competitors: Sanden (China experts) versus England/Netherland joint team.

(1) Board 20

假定你是東，持 Assume you are East, holding:

# 20	
W/All	
	♠ A K 4
	♥ A 7 6 3 2
	♦ J 9
	♣ A K 5

叫牌：Bidding:

W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dbl
Pass	1♦	1♥	2♦
4♣	Pass	?	

同伴在 Dbl 後的不叫，表示大牌點不多，現在 4♣，明顯是邀請，你是接受還是不接受？如果只算點，聯手不會有 28-29 點，不夠。但橋牌是講贏墩的。有贏墩的最重要一點是將牌配合，並且有牌型。你來分析一下同伴的牌，應該不會有 4 張♠，否則不該叫 4♣，他最多 2 張♥，否則應該用 3♥邀請，他的紅牌張數最多 3 張，（點少就應該有牌型）才能邀請。這樣一算，他的牌型是 7321，你已有 10 墩牌，第 11 墩能不能在♥中產生？

實際西是國家級大師王為民，他叫的非常好，但東最後不叫。我想，東如考慮西有邀請的牌型，特別在♣套上有♣A，♣K，應該接受邀請。

Partner's silence after South's double indicates that he would not have many HCPs. Now, his bid of 4♣ is obviously an invitation. Do you accept or not? If you just count HCPs, you hold 28-29 HCPs jointly, not enough. However, bridge relies on winning tricks. In order to have winning tricks, you need to have matching and shape. When you analyse your partner's cards, he would not have 4 times ♠, else he would not have bid 4♣, . He has at most 2 times ♥, else he should invite with 3♥, he has at most 3 red cards (if he has just a few HCPs, he should have shape) in order to invite. After the analysis, his shape should be 7321. You have already 10 winning tricks, can the 11th trick be obtained from the ♥ suit?

實際西是國家級大師王為民，他叫的非常好，但東最後不叫。我想，東如考慮西有邀請的牌型，特別在♣套上有♣A，♣K，應該接受邀請。

In reality, West was National Master Wang Wei Ming. He bid very well. However, East passed. I think if East has considered West's inviting shape, in particular his own ♣ suit with ♣A and ♣K, he should have accepted the invitation.

另一桌叫牌 The bidding at the other table:

W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	A.P.

請看 4 家牌，任何首引，都有 11 墩，輸 10 IMP

Please read the 4 hands. On any first lead, 11 tricks should be won, lost 10 IMPs.

# 20	♠ Q 7 5	
W/All	♥ T 8 5	
	♦ Q T 8 7 3	
	♣ T 8	
♠ 9 8 3		♠ A K 4
♥ J 9		♥ A 7 6 3 2
♦ 5		♦ J 9
♣ Q J 9 7 6 4 2		♣ A K 5
	♠ J T 6 2	
	♥ K Q 4	
	♦ A K 6 4 2	
	♣ 3	

東西聯手只有 23 點，只算點的選手，能叫到 5♣嗎？東沒有牌型，但要考慮西有牌型。

East and West jointly have 23 HCPs. Will those players who just count HCPs bid 5♣? East has no shape but he has to consider West's shape.

(2) Board 28

28
W/NS
♠ K 8 6 2
♥ J
♦ A 9 6 4
♣ T 9 6 4

你是西，聽到叫牌 You are West and you heard the following bids:

W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dbl
1♦	2♠	3♣	3♠
?			

4 家都在叫牌，算點的人，如果統計一下，一共有多少點？我想，我們普通選手，或者不叫，或者叫 4♣，但西實際叫 5♣：

All 4 players bid. If you count HCPs, how many HCPs are there in total? I think ordinary players like us may have passed or bid 4♣, but West in reality bid 5♣:

W	N	E	S
Pass	Pass	1♣	Dbl
1♦	2♠	3♣	3♠
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Rdl	Pass	Pass	Pass

最厲害是叫再加倍，坐西是荷蘭高手 L.Verhees。

He even re-doubled. The one who sat West was a Netherland expert - L.Verhees.

從叫牌判斷，4 家都有牌型，也即都有單缺。西叫 5♣，雖然積極，也有道理。也許他認為南的加倍，應該有 2 高花套，這 2 套牌，最多輸 2 墩。同伴在低花上應有大牌。請看 4 家牌，除首引♦，其他首攻，莊家都能取到 11 墩，實際首攻♥10，5♣做成。+800 分。東西聯手只有 23 點。東西都有牌型。並且♣配合。

Judging from the bidding, all 4 hands have shape, i.e., void or singleton. West's bid of 5♣, though aggressive, is reasonable. Perhaps, he considered that South's double indicated 2 major suits and they would only lose up to 2 tricks for these 2 suits and his partner should have honor cards in the minors. Please see the 4 hands. With the exception of a first lead of a ♦, declarer can win 11 tricks

with other first leads. In reality, the first lead was the ♥10, 5♣ was made, +800.

East and West jointly had 23 HCPs. Both East and West have shape and have fit in ♣.

# 28	♠ T 9 5 4	
W/NS	♥ 2	
	♦ K Q 8 5 2	
	♣ 7 5 3	
♠ K 8 6 2		♠ 3
♥ J		♥ A K Q 6 3
♦ A 9 6 4		♦ T 3
♣ T 9 6 4		♣ K Q J 8 2
	♠ A Q J 7	
	♥ T 9 8 7 5 4	
	♦ J 7	
	♣ A	

另一桌停在 3♣, 12 I M P 的出入。

The other table stopped at 3♣, a net difference of 12 IMPs.

坐南的是前國家隊員楊立新, 現在很多高手, 持他的牌, 都會叫加倍。

The one who sat South was China's player Yang Li Xin. Most experts, holding his cards, will double nowadays.

(3) Board 29

假定你是南, 持 Assume you are South, holding:

# 29	
N/All	
	♠ Q J 6 5
	♥ A Q 8 6
	♦ A K T 6 4
	♣ --

叫牌, 你們用強♣開叫

Bidding: you use strong ♣ opening

W	N	E	S
	Pass	Pass	1♣
3♣	3♠	4♣	?

同伴有 5 張♠, 不叫過的牌, 最多 10 點, 聯手最多 26 點, 你叫什麼? 只算點叫牌的選手能叫 6♠嗎? 實際叫牌是:

Partner has 5 times ♠ and was a passed hand. He has at most 10 points. The number of total joint HCPs is at most 26. What will you bid? If a player just uses HCPs, will he bid 6♠? The actual bidding was:

W	N	E	S
	Pass	Pass	1♣
3♣	3♠	4♣	6♠
Dbl	Pass	Pass	Pass

首攻♥7 (長3), 明手放小, 輕易做成。南的♠和同伴配合, 還有牌型, 增加贏墩。如算點, 聯手只有 24 點, 北真正有用的 3 張牌只有 5 點, ♠A 和 ♦J, 還有不算點的♠10。

First leads the ♥7 (long 3), dummy small, 6♠ was easily made. South's ♠ matched partner's suit and has shape, thus increasing the number of winning tricks. They had 24 HCPs jointly. North's useful 3 cards accounted for 5 HCPs, ♠A and ♦J, and the non-HCP counting ♠10.

# 29	♠ A T 9 3 2		
N/All	♥ 9 2		
	♦ J 7 3 2		
	♣ K 5		
♠ K 7 4			♠ 8
♥ K 5 3			♥ J T 7 4
♦ --			♦ Q 9 8 5
♣ A J 8 7 6 4 3			♣ Q T 9 2
	♠ Q J 6 5		
	♥ A Q 8 6		
	♦ A K T 6 4		
	♣ --		

另一桌叫牌, Bidding at the other table

W	N	E	S
	Pass	Pass	1♦
4♣	DBL	5♣	DBL
Pass	Pass	Pass	

首攻♦, 在出♥上, 防守方出錯, 只下 1, 勝 16IMP。

First lead a ♦, the defending side went wrong on the play of ♥, only down 1, won 16 IMP.

(4) Board 18

假定你是北，持 Assume your North, holding:

# 18	♠ A K 8
E/NS	♥ 2
	♦ A T 9 8 6 5 3
	♣ J 6

叫牌： The bidding:

W	N	E	S
		1♠	Pass
2NT	3♣	Pass	4♦
4♠	?		

西的 2NT 表示配合東♠套，北 3♣表示♦套，同伴跳叫 4♦，表示♦套配合。坐北是前國家隊員戴建民，他叫 5♦，應該說叫的很好。首先他正確判斷 4♠能打成，這是最重要，實際叫牌：

West's 2NT indicates matching with East's ♠ suit, North's 3♣ indicates the ♦ suit., partner's jump bid of 4♦, indicates fit in ♦. North was a former National player Dai Jian Ming and he bid 5♦, a very good bid. First, he judged that 4♠ could be made. Most important, the actual bidding:

W	N	E	S
		1♠	Pass
2NT	3♣	Pass	4♦
4♠	5♦	Pass	Pass
5♥	Dbl	5♠	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

5♦叫品，給西一個難題，結果西沒有選對，得負分。那麼 5♦能打成嗎？，你看 4 家牌：

The bid of 5♦ gave West a problem. West chose wrongly and got a negative score. Can 5♦ be made? Let's see the 4 hands:

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

西如首攻♠，做成了。如首攻♥，再♣，多數會下2。所以最佳是加倍5♦，但在牌桌上，能叫得那麼準嗎？

If West first leads a ♠, 5♦ can be made. If he first leads a ♥, and then a ♣, most likely down 2. Therefore, the best bid is to double 5♦, . However, at the table, who can bid so accurately?

另一桌叫牌： Bidding at the other table:

W	N	E	S
		1♣	1♥
Pass	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♠	3♦	3♠	4♦
4♥	Dbl	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	Pass
Pass			

北沒有叫5♦，東西4♠做成。勝12IMP。

North has not bid ♦, East West's 4♠ was made, won 12 IMPs.

(5) 或者你看10多年前 Spingold 決賽的一副牌，那時，也有專家牌手重視分，不重視牌型的。

Perhaps, you might have watched a board in the final competition of Spingold more than 10 years ago. At such time, there was also expert players who stressed on HCPs and not shape.

你是西，持 You are West, holding:

12
E/NS
♠ J T 8 7 5 3
♥ J
♦ A Q J 8 7 5
♣ --

你會開叫嗎？進入決賽的都是當時世界一流專家，坐西的 2 位專家，一位開叫 1♠，一位沒有開叫，結果有 14IMP 的相差。先看沒有開叫的叫牌進程：

Would you open bid? Those who entered the final competition were world-class experts. The two experts who sat West opened 1♠, and passed respectively. The net difference was 14 IMPs. Let's see the bidding of the table at which West passed:

W	N	E	S
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
3♥	4♣	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
Pass			

西第 1 輪不叫，當然是因為點力不夠啦，即使第 2 輪扣叫 3♥，表示♠+♦，同伴只能想到你的牌力不夠開叫，很難想象你有 6-6 的牌型，結果還是不叫。6♣鐵成。

West did not bid in the 1st round, considering insufficient strength. He cuebid 3♥, in the 2nd round, indicating ♠+♦, partner could only think that he had insufficient strength to open his hand, and could not image he had the shape of and so he also passed. 6♣ was cold.

西開叫后，情形完全不同：After West's opening bid, the situation was completely different.

W	N	E	S
1♠	2♥	Pass	3♣
3♦	3♠	4♠	Pass
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
6♦	Dbl	6♠	Dbl
Pass	Pass	Pass	

西重視牌型，叫到最佳合約，6♠X -2，勝 14 IMP。

West knew the importance of shape and bid the best contract. 6♠X -2, won 14 IMPs.

# 12	♠ A 9 2	
E/NS	♥ A K T 6 3	
	♦ 4	
	♣ A T 7 6	
♠ J T 8 7 5 3		♠ K 6 4
♥ J		♥ J 9 7 4 2
♦ A Q J 8 7 5		♦ T 3
♣ --		♣ 9 8 5
	♠ Q	
	♥ Q 8	
	♦ K 9 6 2	
	♣ K Q J 4 3 2	

提升將牌贏墩

Promotion of Trump Winning Trick

一般遇到將牌提升的機會不多，但當它來臨時，很多人常常不留意，錯過機會也很可惜。以前我遇到多次，這次在 Open League Round 10 中也有，請看

In general, the chances of trump promotion are few. When the situation arises, many people would not aware of it and so miss the chance. I have experienced it a number of times in the past. It also happened in the Open League Round 10. Please see:

Board 2 假定你是東，持 Assuming that you are East, holding:

# 2	
E/NS	
	♠ A 9 7
	♥ T 7
	♦ A 7 6 4 2
	♣ J 5 2

聽到叫牌 You heard the bidding:

W	N	E	S
		Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

2NT 一般有 15 – 18 點。同伴首攻♠5 (長 3/5)，你♠A，再回♠，莊家♠K，第 3 墩莊家手中♣K，再♣A，♣Q，墊去手中♠J，也即看到明手的牌：

2NT in general shows 15 – 18 points Partner first leads the♠5 (long 3/5), you ♠A, and return another ♠, declarer ♠K. At trick 3, declarer plays the ♣K from hand, and then ♣A, ♣Q, discarding ♠J from hand. The dummy's hand can be seen below:

# 2	♠ 8 4 3	
E/NS	♥ J 4 2	
	♦ Q J 3	
	♣ A Q 9 6	
		♠ A 9 7
		♥ T 7
		♦ A 7 6 4 2
		♣ J 5 2
		25

打了 5 墩牌後： After playing 1st 5 tricks:

#2	♠ 8		
E/NS	♥ J 4 2		
	♦ Q J 3		
	♣ 9		
		♠ 7	
		♥ T 7	
		♦ A 7 6 4 2	
		♣ --	

第 6 墩，明手♥2，依次♥7，♥Q，♥K。同伴回♣10，你出哪一張？莊家有：

♠KJ6，♣K7，♥應該有AQxxx 五張或六張，他還有♦K，才夠叫2NT，你們已經取到2墩牌，加上♦A共3墩，有沒有第4墩？牌打到這裡，只有希望同伴有♥9，這是不高的要求，可惜同伴沒有多想，墊一張♦被打成。如果你用♥10將吃，就提升同伴的♥9，我們可以得4墩牌，4家牌是：

At trick 6, dummy ♥2, followed by ♥7, ♥Q, and ♥K. Partner returned the ♣10, which card would you play? Declarer has

♠KJ6, ♣K7, ♥ should be AQxxx (5 or 6 times) and he should have ♦K in order to bid 2NT. You have already won 2 tricks. With the ♦A, we could win a total of 3 tricks. Could we win the 4th trick? At that moment, you could only hope that your partner had the ♥9 as a basic requirement. It was a pity that partner did not think much but discarded a ♦. 4♥ was made. If you ruff with the ♥10, partner's ♥9 would be promoted and we would have won 4 tricks. The 4 hands were:

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

其實，我如果首攻♦，一定打不成。在首攻♠后，就一定打成，莊家第6墩出♥A，不需要飛牌，再送一墩♥，沒有將牌提升的問題，也就打成啦。

In reality, if I first led a ♦, the contract could not be made. After the 1st lead of a ♠, the contract was cold. Declarer could play the ♥A at trick 6 without having of finesse, gave a ♥, there was no more trump promotion and he could make his contract.

看香港 Girls 打牌

Watching

Hong Kong Girls' Play

4月4日在BBO上看到香港Girls對泰國B的比賽，那是APBF青年錦標賽中的一場。結果42:34香港隊獲勝。香港隊打的不錯，我舉例說明：

On 4 April 2015 I watched the competition between Hong Kong Girls and Thailand B. This was the one of the match in APBF Youth's Championships. HK team won 42:34. Hong Kong team played quite well. I quote some examples below:

(1) Board 3

你是南，第一家，持 You are South and the dealer, holding:

# 3	
S/EW	
	♠ Q T 6 3
	♥ 4
	♦ 6
	♣ A K 9 7 6 5 4

9個大牌點，開叫嗎？不考慮牌型的牌手，大概不會開叫，香港女孩開叫1♣，非常好，如果同伴有♣配合，贏墩就很多（橋牌是講贏墩的），你不叫，就永遠不知道有沒有配合。實際叫牌

With 9 HCPs, would you open bid? If you do not consider the shape, you may not open bid. Hong Kong Girls opened 1♣, very good. If partner's has ♣ match, there will be many winning tricks (bridge is dependent on winning tricks). If you do not open, you will never know whether there is a fit. The actual bidding was:

W	N	E	S
			1♣
Dbl	1♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Pass			

南的 4♦ 很兇吧，但把東西 4♥ 鐵牌，關在門外。首攻♦到♦A，接著♥A，♠A，♠J，最後只下一。

South's 4♦ was rather fierce, it closed East-West's door to the cold contract of 4♥.

First lead a ♦ to ♦A, then ♥A, ♠A, and ♠J. Finally the contract of 4♠ was down 1.

另一桌叫牌 Bidding at the other table:

W	N	E	S
			Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

4♥是鐵牌，勝 12 IMP。4♥ was cold, win 12 IMPs.

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

(2) 改進讀牌技術，還需要全面分析牌情

Need to improve card-reading ability and also to analyze fully the situation:

Board 7

你是南，聽到叫牌 You are South and you heard the bidding:

W	N	E	S
			Pass
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

你首攻♥7，同伴♥A，莊家♥2,第2墩同伴♥5，莊家♥9，你♥10，明手墊♠3，

第3墩你出那一張？

You first led the ♥7, partner the ♥A, declare the ♥2. Trick 2: partner the ♥5, declarer the ♥9, and you the ♥10, dummy discarded the ♠3. What will you play at trick 3?

# 7	
S/A11	
♠ J T 3	
♥ 4	
♦ A Q 9 8 6 5	
♣ A K J	
	♠ A 8 5
	♥ K T 8 7
	♦ J T
	♣ 9 8 5 4

如果只看♥，你不知道莊家有 3 張還是 4 張，最好等同伴出♥，你就有 4 墩♥，擊敗定約。但你從全牌考慮，同伴還有什麼牌可以進手？，他已有♥A+♥J（莊家不會有♥Q+♥J，否則第 2 墩不會出♥9），同伴不會有♦K，不然莊家只有 9 分牌，不大可能叫 2♣，再退一步講，就算同伴有♣Q，只要莊家有 4 張♥，3NT 是鐵牌，實際第 3 墩出♣，莊家有♦K，再有♣Q，已有 9 墩牌，如沒有♣Q，必有♠K+♠Q，送 1 墩♠給你，也有 9 墩牌，所以只有假定莊家 3 張♥，才能擊敗定約。

If you just look at ♥, you do not know whether declarer has 3 or 4 times. If partner can return a ♥, you will win 4 ♥s and defeat the contract. However, judging from available information, how can partner gain entry? She has already got the ♥A+♥J (declarer will not have the ♥Q+♥J, else she

would have played at trick 2 the ♥9), partner cannot have the ♦K, else declarer will have only 9 HCPs and she will unlikely have bid 2♣. Stepping back, even if partner has the ♣Q, if declarer has 4 times ♥, 3NT will be cold. In reality, South played a ♣ at trick 3, declarer has the ♦K, and the ♣Q and has 9 tricks. If she has not got the ♣Q, she must have the ♠K+♠Q, give 1 ♠ to you and she will have 9 tricks. Therefore, you must assume that declarer has only 3 times ♥, in order for you to defeat the contract.

4 家牌是 The 4 hands were:

#7	♠ 9 6 4 2	
S/A11	♥ A J 6 5 3	
	♦ 7 3	
	♣ 6 2	
♠ J T 3		♠ K Q 7
♥ 4		♥ Q 9 2
♦ A Q 9 8 6 5		♦ K 4 2
♣ A K J		♣ Q T 7 3
	♠ A 8 5	
	♥ K T 8 7	
	♦ J T	
	♣ 9 8 5 4	

從叫牌，東第一次叫 2♣，沒有叫 1♥，一般情形沒有 4 張♥，各種情形顯示，你只有假定東只有 3 張♥來防守。

Based on the bidding, East bid 2♣ first instead of 1♥, . Usually, she will not have 4 times ♥. Based on different clues, you can only assume that East has only 3 times ♥ for your defense.

A Testing Hand

Samuel Wan

Picture yourself playing in the Swiss Team of the prestigious Yeh Bros Cup in Pudong. With one round to go, your team had won 5 matches and lost 2, and was lying in a respectable 6th position amidst a star-studded international field. You needed to do well in this match in order to have a chance of pocketing some prize money (only awarded to the top three teams). This would be a 10-board match.

The good news was that you had avoided the ‘drop-ins’ – strong teams eliminated in the knock-out phase of the main event such as Israel, Germany, England, Japan, Indonesia and USA Hampson. Instead, you were pitched against a team who labeled themselves ‘Chinese Americans’ – several technically competent Chinese players from North America who grace the international bridge scene from time to time.

Early in the match, you picked up this inauspicious collection as South:

♠ J1095

♥ J1093

♦ 3

♣ A953

With West dealer and both sides vulnerable, LHO opened 1♥. Partner doubled. RHO redoubled and you bid 1♠, of course. LHO rebid 2♣ and partner bounced to 4♠, promptly greeted by another double on your right, which ended the auction.

You never expected to come under the spot light, did you?

Anyway, the opening lead was a merciful ♣J.

Partner proudly put down

♠ AQ76

♥ 52

♦ AKJ10975

♣ ---

Judging from the earnest look on his face, he fully expected you to make the contract.

How would you play the hand?

Let's see. Your side had 20 hcps combined, leaving the remaining half pack with the opposition. It certainly looked like RHO had around 10 hcps and LHO a shapely hand for his light opening.

Because of West's failure to lead a diamond, he rated to hold 1-5-2-5 distribution, with perhaps the AQ of hearts and KJ/QJ of clubs (depending on opponents' leading methods).

Is that enough reason to cash the AK of diamonds and establish the suit?

That would be taking an unnecessary risk. What about a complete cross-ruff?

Well, that required diamonds to be 3-2 as well. Perhaps a better alternative could be found.

The best line, as suggested by my erstwhile teammates, is the following:

At trick two, play a diamond to the Ace, then ruff a diamond with ♠J. If West showed out, trumps were likely to be 2-3 and you could safely draw trumps and ruff another round of diamonds, thereby establishing the suit. Note that you could not make your contract if LHO was 1-6-1-5 or 1-5-1-6.

What happens if LHO followed to two rounds of diamonds? In that case, trumps were likely to be 4-1 (or even 5-0). Here comes the critical play –

At trick four, play a spade to the Ace and trot out the good diamonds. You don't care if LHO turned out to be 2-5-2-4 and could ruff your diamond because all you would lose were two trumps and one heart.

If you played this way, dummy could not be forced and you had enough trumps to control the

hand – if East ruffs, you simply over ruff.

The full hand was:

♠ AQ76
♥ 52
♦ AKJ10975
♣ ---

♠ 4
♥ AQ874
♦ 84
♣ QJ1064

♠ K832
♥ K6
♦ Q62
♣ K872

♠ J1095
♥ J1093
♦ 3
♣ A953

Well....did you manage to keep your team's hope alive?

PS. The tournament was eventually won by the China Open Team, edging out Red Bull (another fundamentally Chinese team reinforced by professional Dutch players Simon de Wijs and Blake Muller) in a nail-biting affair. The final margin was 6.5 imps over 48 boards. In the playoff for third place, Poland beat pre-tournament favorites Italy convincingly, which surprised everybody.

China Hong Kong Youngster Team
Captain's Report
20th APBF Youth Championships 2015
2nd April – 7th April, 2015

By: Charlie Lee

Background of the Championship

This year's APBF Youth Championships took place in the Petpimarn Boutique Resort in Bangkok, which is that the suburb of Bangkok. It takes around 40 minutes even at a good transportation condition to travel from the Suvarnabhumi International Airport.

The venue's condition was not really well. Before we get there the hotel claimed to have free Wi-fi service, however the connection was very bad there. Fortunately a number of us bought SIM Card in Bangkok so that we can have good connections when managing line-up and looking at results.

This year is to select the Zone 6 representative for the 16th World Youth Teams Championships, which will be held in Salsomaggiore Terme in Italy from 3rd to 13th August in 2016.

Training

The team was mainly coached by Mr. David Ip, who was the coach of the youngster team in the Asia Cup held in 2014 in Jinhua. The team held regular practice and they are told to read a number of bridge books so that to enhance their bridge skills. Besides having regular practice with them, I have also joined their team to take part in the Open Team of Six tournament and reviewed every hands with them so that they have more knowledge on handling different bridge hands in a real tournament. The team is quite self-motivated on holding regular practices. They usually actively proposed dates for practices with the presence of David or (and) me. This is greatly appreciated.

Participants of the team

The participants in the Youngster Team must be born in or after 1995. The Hong Kong Youngster Team consists of three pairs: Sam Tseng – Niko Man; Chris Chan – Dominic Wong;

Kimmy Kam – Selina Leung. Sam is studying in The Hong Kong Baptist University, and was one of the members in the Hong Kong Youngster Team in the 2nd Asia Cup in Jinhua and also the last APBF Championship in Wuhan. Niko, Chris and Dominic are studying in The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Niko was one of the members in the Hong Kong Girls Team in the last APBF Championship in Wuhan. Kimmy and Selina are studying in The University of Hong Kong.

Therefore, other than Sam and Niko, the other four participants are new to the field of international bridge championships.

Performance of the team

There were 8 teams in the Youngster Series this year. The match was in the form of double round-robin, which means each team had to play against the other teams twice, thus 14 rounds in total. 16 boards per round with WBF Continuous VP Scale.

Maybe they were not quite getting used to the field of international bridge championship, on the first day they lost all the two rounds of 1 IMP each against Chinese Taipei and Singapore (9.69 VPs). They got back the momentum on the next day and got two quite considerable wins against Japan (15.92 VPs) and China (13.28 VPs, the final champion), while a big lost (2.41 VPs) to Indonesia. At the end of the first round-robin, they played against the two Thailand teams, which were relatively weak in the field, and got two big wins of 20 VPs (against Thailand A) and 19.07 VPs (against Thailand B). The ranking after the first round-robin is as follows:

1. Singapore	105.90
2. China	101.94
3. China Hong Kong	90.06
4. Chinese Taipei	88.65
5. Indonesia	73.30
6. Japan	64.00
7. Thailand A	23.05
8. Thailand B	13.10

At the beginning of the second round-robin, they experienced a great loss to Indonesia and Chinese Taipei (respectively 6.96 VPs and 3.58 VPs), and dropped to rank 5. I led them away from the venue right after the match to have a good dinner, and they were told by me to relax and not to review any of the hands on that night so that they can have a better condition to carry on to the subsequent matches. In the remaining 5 rounds, they won Japan (17.03 VPs) and Thailand B (19.16 VPs), then lost to China (5.61 VPs), and finally won Singapore (11.20 VPs) and Thailand A (16.26 VPs). The ranking after the second round-robin is as follows:

1. China	194.65
2. Singapore	189.28
3. Chinese Taipei	173.52

4. China Hong Kong	170.40
5. Indonesia	170.04
6. Japan	125.75
7. Thailand A	71.00
8. Thailand B	26.58

Unfortunately, they finished at rank 4 with 3.12 VPs behind the third-ranked team. So they did not gain any medal in the APBF Youth Championship, as well as not getting the berth in the Youngster Series of the World Youth Teams Championships.

The final champion goes to China. Therefore China, Singapore and Chinese Taipei will represent Zone 6 in the Youngsters Series in the World Youth Teams Championships.

Here is the summary of the first round-robin:

(Team Score)

Round	Opponent	IMP	VP	Total	Rank
1	Chinese Taipei	37-38	9.69-10.31	9.69	5
2	Singapore	44-45	9.69-10.31	19.38	5
3	Japan	46-21	15.92-4.08	35.30	4
4	China	53-41	13.28-6.72	48.58	5
5	Indonesia	15-51	2.41-17.59	50.99	5
6	Thailand A	94-34	20.00-0.00	70.99	4
7	Thailand B	56-7	19.07-0.93	90.06	3

(Datum of each pair after the first round-robin)

Name	IMP per board	Rank
Kimmy Kam – Selina Leung	1.64	2
Chris Chan – Dominic Wong	0.37	9
Sam Tseng – Niko Man	0.33	10

Also, here is the summary of the second round-robin:

(Team Score)

Round	Opponent	IMP	VP	Total	Rank
1	Indonesia	36-47	6.96-13.04	97.02	3
2	Chinese Taipei	5-33	3.58-16.42	100.60	5
3	Japan	47-15	17.03-2.97	117.63	4
4	Thailand B	77-27	19.16-0.84	136.79	4
5	China	30-47	5.61-14.39	142.40	5
6	Singapore	40-36	11.20-8.80	153.60	4
7	Thailand A	63-36	16.26-3.74	169.86	4

(Datum of each pair after the second round-robin)

Name	IMP per board	Rank
Kimmy Kam – Selina Leung	1.88	1
Sam Tseng – Niko Man	0.26	11
Chris Chan – Dominic Wong	0.23	12

Evaluation

Although I have taken part in the Youngster Series a few years ago, I do not have quite an idea of the level of players in the series. To know the level of the other teams well, I frequently watched the BBO Vugraph Broadcast and also went to the Open Room of the playing area to look at the performance of the other teams in the same series. Due to the insufficient experience of the team, I did not set a very rigid goal of the team regarding its rank in the series, but just simply got above average VPs. After the first round-robin, I set the goal on getting the berth. The team has a great room of improvements on hand evaluations, especially on slam-bidding. They frequently missed some obvious slams or reaching slams with wrong trump suit, or even got some obviously over board slams. But on the other hand, in general, the team maintains a good team harmony and partnership harmony, and also listen to my advice when I evaluated and shared my experience on handling various problems encountered at the table. They are willing to learn from their former bridge players, and interested to play in the international event, and the most important point is, they are willing to learn from their mistakes. This is a good sign for the future of bridge of Hong Kong in my opinion.

From the APBF Championships, we shall not only focus on improving the skills and techniques of the young players, but also their attitude towards to championship. Having high-concentration, and handling their emotions are the two important aspects that they have to learn when taking part in the international bridge events. It is not necessary for the team to be too depressed after greatly lost a match or too excited after greatly won a match. Also, sometimes they were just too cared about the mistakes made by themselves or their partners. Not only in the youngsters series, but also other youth players. I think there were too much discussion in between rounds, and the content of discussion was mainly about “why you return that card when defending the contract?”; or “why would you bid that way in that board?”. Instead of doing this, the spirit of maintaining good partnerships should be always thinking of what you can do better to avoid the mistakes and what you can do better to help partner when he or she encounters a problem at the table. These are what youth players nowadays did badly in my opinion.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the coach of the team, Mr. David Ip, who did so much to help the team to prepare for this championship. I would also like to thank all the Hong Kong bridge fans keep on cheering up the teams by whatsapp messages. Although I was very busy in the venue to check with everything, when I got these messages, they were the momentum for me and my team to do their best in taking part the championships.

I hereby wish these young players can learn from the experience of taking part in this kind of

championships and carry on with this game in their lives. Last but not the least, I would like to thank to the HKCBA Council on behalf of the team on supporting the team to take part in the championship.