



DAILY BULLETIN

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FUN IN THE SUN



Players and officials enjoying the visit to the Grand Palace

For the first time since the Championships began the sun really shone for the Players' Outing yesterday. It was a busy day with visits to four different attractions to be squeezed in and the dreaded Bangkok traffic to overcome.

First stop was the Snake Farm, where many different types of snake were on show and it was possible to touch some of the non-venomous varieties. Some of the snake-handlers were proud to show off their scars from the numerous bites they had received over the years — rather than me!

Next stop was the Gem Factory and an opportunity to buy gifts for those back home. Also there was the possibility to watch as the fine jewellery was being made.

Moving along, the Grand Palace was an impressive sight and the complex offered many opportunities to take beautiful photographs to remind us all of our visit to Thailand.

And last, but by no means least, a struggle through the traffic to the Crocodile farm, where there are apparently over 100,000 crocodiles of various species in residence.

All-in-all, an interesting day out and an opportunity to catch just a glimpse of a few facets of this beautiful and fascinating country.

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TODAY'S PROGRAM

JUNIORS SESSION 10

1	ITALY	JORDAN
2	AUSTRALIA	FRANCE
3	JAPAN	CANADA
4	SINGAPORE	USA2
5	CHILE	USA1
6	POLAND	HUNGARY
7	EGYPT	ISRAEL
8	THAILAND	NORWAY
9	BRAZIL	CHINA HONG KONG

SCHOOLS SESSION 9

41	INDONESIA	ISRAEL
42	SWEDEN	LATVIA
43	ITALY	POLAND
44	AUSTRALIA	NORWAY
45	USA BLUE	PAKISTAN
46	CHINA HONG KONG	USA RED
47	CHINA	CANADA
48	CHINESE TAIPEI	THAILAND

JUNIORS SESSION 11

1	JORDAN	BRAZIL
2	CHINA HONG KONG	THAILAND
3	NORWAY	EGYPT
4	ISRAEL	POLAND
5	HUNGARY	CHILE
6	USA1	SINGAPORE
7	USA2	JAPAN
8	CANADA	AUSTRALIA
9	FRANCE	ITALY

SCHOOLS SESSION 10

41	ITALY	INDONESIA
42	AUSTRALIA	SWEDEN
43	USA BLUE	ISRAEL
44	CHINA HONG KONG	LATVIA
45	CHINA	POLAND
46	CHINESE TAIPEI	NORWAY
47	THAILAND	PAKISTAN
48	CANADA	USA RED

JUNIORS SESSION 12

1	JAPAN	JORDAN
2	SINGAPORE	AUSTRALIA
3	CHILE	ITALY
4	POLAND	FRANCE
5	EGYPT	CANADA
6	THAILAND	USA2
7	BRAZIL	USA1
8	CHINA HONG KONG	HUNGARY
9	NORWAY	ISRAEL

SCHOOLS SESSION 11

41	INDONESIA	CANADA
42	USA RED	THAILAND
43	PAKISTAN	CHINESE TAIPEI
44	NORWAY	CHINA
45	POLAND	CHINA HONG KONG
46	LATVIA	USA BLUE
47	ISRAEL	AUSTRALIA
48	SWEDEN	ITALY

Team Profiles

We would like to publish team profiles in the Daily Bulletin of all 34 teams at this Championship. This is not only of interest to others present in Bangkok or reading the bulletins on the internet, but is valuable material for bridge journalists around the world. Ideally, we would like to receive the profiles in electronic form, however, handwritten is OK, but only if your handwriting is more legible than mine.

Thank you

Public Computers

The computers which we have made available for the players' use, and also the internet connections, are for emails only. Please respect this. If you use them for other purposes you take up essential bandwidth which is required for the smooth running of the tournament.

There is a Business centre on the 18th floor and several internet cafes nearby for other purposes.

Thank you for your understanding.



RANKINGS



JUNIORS RANKING AFTER SESSION 9

1	POLAND	177
2	ISRAEL	172
3	USA 1	171
4	SINGAPORE	166
5	FRANCE	149
6	EGYPT	148
7	NORWAY	146
8	CHINA HONG KONG	141
9	ITALY	140
10	USA 2	138
11	BRAZIL	137
12	CANADA	133
13	CHILE	121
14	AUSTRALIA	112
15	HUNGARY	109
16	JAPAN	102
17	THAILAND	87
18	JORDAN	52

SCHOOLS RANKING AFTER SESSION 8

1	ISRAEL	174
2	CHINA HONG KONG	148
3	AUSTRALIA	148
4	USA BLUE	144
5	LATVIA	138
6	CHINESE TAIPEI	133
7	NORWAY	131
8	SWEDEN	129
9	USA RED	127
10	POLAND	126
11	ITALY	92
12	INDONESIA	88
13	CANADA	87
14	PAKISTAN	79
15	CHINA	78
16	THAILAND	66

VUGRAPH MATCHES

Schools Series – ROUND 9 – 10.00
Sweden v Latvia

Junior Series – ROUND 11 – 14.00
USA1 v Singapore

Junior Series – ROUND 12 – 17.30
Poland v France



Line-Ups

Team Captains are reminded that they must put in their line-ups 15 minutes after the end of the previous match.

PLAY SCHEDULE

10.00—12.50	Juniors, Round 10 Schools, Round 9
14.00—16.50	Juniors, Round 11 Schools, Round 10
17.30—20.20	Juniors, Round 12 Schools, Round 11

WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP 5 (1995)

The fifth edition of the World Junior Championship was held on the beautiful island of Bali, Indonesia, in 1995. Twelve teams played a complete round robin to decide the semi-finalists, with Great Britain topping the standings fairly comfortably from Denmark.

1.	Great Britain	231
2.	Denmark	205
3.	New Zealand	200
4.	Canada	194
5.	Italy	187
6.	China	178
7.	USA2	155
8.	USA1	134
9.	Argentina	131
10.	Japan	128
11.	Australia	116
12.	Indonesia	85

GB elected to face Canada, against whom they would have a 16-IMP carry-over advantage, in the 64-board semi-final. GB won all four sets to coast to a 243-95 victory. That left New Zealand to play Denmark, with New Zealand having a 15.3 IMP carry-over. New Zealand doubled their lead in the first set, were held in the second set, then pulled away in the second half to win by 194-108.

GB had the maximum 24-IMP carry-over in the 96-board final. After 32 boards GB had extended their lead to 132-66 and, though, New Zealand pulled a few points back in the third set, a massive 79-7 fourth set ensured that GB would

become the first nation to win the World Junior Championship for a second time. New Zealand played the fifth set but then conceded with 16 boards unplayed, the final score being 276-152 in favour of GB.

Denmark defeated Canada to take the bronze medal.

1. Great Britain (Jeffrey Allerton, Tom Townsend, Phil Souter, Danny Davies, Jason and Justin Hackett, NPC Raymond Brock, Coach Phil King, Assistant Su Burn)

2. New Zealand (Ishmael DelMonte, Ashley Bach, Scott Smith, Nigel Kearney, Charles Ker, David Ackerly, NPC Michael Sykes)

3. Denmark (Lars and Morten Lund Madsen, Freddi Bron-dum, Nicolai Kampmann, Jacob Ron, Mathias Bruun, NPC Jens Kofoed, Coach Lars Walter Petersen)

Ishmael DelMonte, who of course now lives in and represents Australia, was the star of this deal from the final:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ J 8 6 4 ♥ K 7 4 3 ♦ K 5 ♣ 9 4 2	♠ A 7 5 2 ♥ A Q J 6 5 ♦ A Q 10 ♣ J	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 10 9 3 ♥ 10 2 ♦ 9 6 4 ♣ A Q 8 5
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ Q ♥ 9 8 ♦ J 8 7 3 2 ♣ K 10 7 6 3												

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Townsend</i>	<i>DelMonte</i>	<i>Allerton</i>
—	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	3♦(i)	Pass	3NT

All Pass

(i) Four spades and game values

Ashley Bach led the four of clubs to DelMonte's ace and it looked as though the contract was about to succeed, but Ishmael found the one card in his hand to break the contract. At trick two he placed the king of spades on the table, pinning the queen. The defence continued spades and established three winners in the suit. With no entry to hand, Jeff Allerton had no option but to play ace then queen of diamonds. That gave the defence a fifth trick for down one and 5 IMPs to New Zealand, who had bid and made 3♥ in the other room. Any other card at trick two and it would have been 6 IMPs to GB.

Justin Hackett is well known the world over, and showed his class on this next deal from the round robin encounter between GB and New Zealand.



Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A 9 3 ♥ 9 7 ♦ K Q 5 ♣ 10 7 5 4 3	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 10 7 ♥ A J 6 ♦ 10 9 7 2 ♣ Q 9 8 2	♠ J 8 4 2 ♥ Q 4 2 ♦ J 8 4 ♣ A K 6
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Jason</i>	<i>DelMonte</i>	<i>Justin</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

In the other room, West led the king of diamonds against the same contract, and continued with the ♦5 when that was allowed to hold. The jack of diamonds won, declarer played on trumps, and played the hearts in normal fashion to lose two tricks in the suit for one down. No doubt he thought nothing of it and expected a flat board.

Bach led the ♦K and continued with the queen to dummy's ace. Justin led a trump to the jack and ace and won the trump return in dummy. Justin continued with the jack of clubs, rising with the ace when DelMonte played low, then crossed to dummy with a trump and led the ten of hearts, running it when DelMonte played low! After that there was only one heart loser so the contract was made for 12 IMPs to GB. Why play this way? West had already shown up with the king and queen of diamonds and the ace of spades. When East played low on the club lead from dummy, Justin thought that he probably did not hold the queen, which would give West 11 HCP. Surely, in that case, he could not hold the ♥J, as he would not have passed as dealer with 12 HCP. As it happened, East did hold the ♣Q, but fortunately he also held the ♥J, as required.

In Round Four, GB met Australia and Justin Hackett was again declarer on this next deal.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ 6 ♥ J 6 ♦ A K Q 10 8 6 5 4 ♣ 10 4	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 9 8 5 3 2 ♥ K 10 8 ♦ 9 ♣ K J 9	♠ A J 4 ♥ A 5 4 2 ♦ 3 2 ♣ Q 8 3 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											

In the other room the Australian West, Ben Hutchinson opened 5♦ and played there. Tom Townsend cashed the ace of hearts, led a club to his partner's ace, and Jeff Allerton returned a spade to the ace for down one.

Justin opened a gambling 3NT and was left to play there. Jason Pitt did as recommended when he cashed the ace of spades to take a look at dummy. Seeing stoppers in all three side-suits, and not liking his chances, Pitt found the excellent switch of a diamond forcing Justin to cash his suit immediately and squeeze dummy in the process. This was the ending with one diamond left:

♠ — ♥ J 6 ♦ 4 ♣ 10 4	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K ♥ K 10 ♦ — ♣ K J	♠ J ♥ A 5 ♦ — ♣ Q 8
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Justin now cashed the last diamond and saw Pitt throw a spade. As that was the last outstanding spade, Justin threw dummy's ♠K, then led a heart, misguessing by putting in dummy's jack. South won and put North in with the ♥A to lead a low club. But Justin got his second guess right, calling for dummy's jack to bring home his contract. As Patrick Jourdain pointed out in the Daily Bulletin, there was an element of restricted choice in this — holding all three aces, North might have led any one of them at trick one. The odds therefore favoured him not holding the third ace.

Could the defence have done better? If South keeps spades, dummy must keep the ♠K, so declarer cannot afford to cash the last diamond as that would squeeze dummy. Even so, if declarer gets his first guess right, he will always succeed. The key for the defence is to keep the right cards such that if declarer gets his first guess wrong, that is fatal and he does not get a second chance.

In the five-card ending above, North keeps ♥A5 and ♣Q83, while South has ♠Q10, ♥Q9 and ♣A. As declarer would have to unguard a suit if he cashed the last diamond,



he will try a guess now. If he guesses right, whichever suit he tries, he wins; if he leads a heart to the jack and queen, South clears the spades and there is no ninth trick. If declarer leads to the ♣K and ace, a heart to the ace allows North to cash two clubs to defeat the contract.

Jourdain also reported this next deal, featuring Alfredo Versace.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 ♥ AKQ43 ♦ AK2 ♣ Q854	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">N</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">S</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 1083 ♥ 87 ♦ 1097653 ♣ K9	♠ QJ62 ♥ J6 ♦ 8 ♣ A107632
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Albamonte	Carmichael	Versace
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

Vulnerable against not, Versace did not make the borderline opening bid as dealer, but he caught up later and was doubled by USA2's Joel Wooldridge on the strength of his high cards. Wooldridge started by cashing the king and queen of hearts then the ace of diamonds before playing a third heart. The only danger to the contract was the ten of spades and Versace showed good technique in avoiding a guess in trumps. He ruffed high, played ace of clubs and ruffed a club, then played the ♦Q, covered and ruffed low. When Carmichael threw a diamond on the next club, Versace was safe. He ruffed low, cashed the ♦J and one high trump from hand, then ruffed his last heart with the jack and led a club, knowing that West would have to follow suit so that he could ruff with the nine in perfect safety.



Sure Thing by Barry Rigal

There was an interesting play hand back in Round 4, where a few pairs reached the contract of 6♣ on this deal but not all were successful.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 53 ♥ K10875 ♦ 542 ♣ 732	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">N</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">W</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">S</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J8 ♥ Q2 ♦ AJ108 ♣ AQJ105	♠ K10642 ♥ J3 ♦ Q973 ♣ 98
	N											
W		E										
	S											

On a club lead, declarer should win the ten and play the jack of spades, which will be covered by the king and ace. At this point the contract is a sure thing on the assumption that two rounds of diamonds stand up.

Declarer plays three rounds of diamonds, ruffing with the king, draws trumps, then plays the eight of spades to the queen and continues with the ♠9, pitching his diamond loser. It does not matter whether the spade wins or loses, as the heart loser will go away on the ♠7.

Teams and Players' Photos Schedule — Thursday August 3st

- 13.00 China/Schools
- 13.00 China Hg Kg/Schools
- 13.15 Brazil/Juniors
- 13.15 Chile/Juniors
- 13.15 Jordan/Juniors
- 13.45 Chin. Taipei/Schools
- 13.45 Indonesia/Schools
- 17.00 Australia/Schools
- 17.00 Thailand/Schools



All the above teams (including the captain and the coach) are kindly requested to be present at the specific time outside of the building.

Please make sure that you wear your badge and national uniform.

Maria Plubi
WBF Photographer

JUNIORS

Round 8



ITALY

v

CHINA HG KG



Going into their eighth round clash in the Junior Series, both Italy and China Hong Kong were a little off the pace and needed a good win to get closer to the qualifying places. The match began with a couple of unsuccessful contracts on Board 1.

Yee Sum Mo had to jump to 3♠ as 2♠ would not have been forcing and he wished to drive to game. Yu-Cheung Ip's 3NT response was fairly automatic and ended the auction, but the contract, which only requires spades to be four-two or better, played very badly for Ip after Alberto Sangiorgio led a heart, and he drifted four down for -200.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 10 9 8 7 3 2 ♥ Q J 2 ♦ A 7 3 ♣ 10	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ — ♥ 10 7 6 5 ♦ Q J 2 ♣ A Q 8 7 6 4	♠ A K J 6 5 4 ♥ K 9 8 ♦ 10 9 ♣ J 9
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Leung</i>	<i>Lo Presti</i>	<i>Yiu</i>	<i>Di Bello</i>
Pass	1♦	2♣	2♥(i)
Dble	All Pass	Pass	4♠

(i) Spades

West	North	East	South
<i>Ferrari</i>	<i>Ip</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Mo</i>
Pass	1♦	2♣	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	



Stelio DI BELLO, Italy

That didn't look to be a great result for China Hong Kong, but Di Bello/Lo Presti reached the spade game, played by North, Fabio Lo Presti, after a transfer advance from Stelio Di Bello. Looking at six trumps, Chung-Man Leung might have doubled even without his partner's overcall. Lo Presti won the heart lead in the South hand to lead a diamond up and Leung won the ace and continued hearts. Declarer could make three red tricks and five spades via a diamond ruff, but that was all; two down for -300 and 3 IMPs to China Hong Kong.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 8 3 ♥ A K J 10 4 2 ♦ K 9 7 ♣ A K	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 6 2 ♥ 9 3 ♦ J 10 8 5 3 2 ♣ J 6 5	♠ A K Q 7 4 ♥ 8 5 ♦ A Q 6 4 ♣ 8 7
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
<i>Leung</i>	<i>Lo Presti</i>	<i>Yiu</i>	<i>Di Bello</i>
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
All Pass		Pass	4♠

West	North	East	South
<i>Ferrari</i>	<i>Ip</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Mo</i>
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	3♦	Pass	2♠
Dble	All Pass	Pass	4♠

After identical starts to the two auctions, the respective Souths followed very different approaches with their weak but shapely hands and four-card support for partner's overcall.

When Di Bello made a full-blooded leap to 4♠, which certainly looks to be the more normal of the two actions, Leung felt that he could not double as he could not really afford to hear his partner respond with five of a minor.

After a heart lead, Leung took the first four tricks for one down; —100.

The quiet 2♠ raise permitted Francesco Ferrari to make a take-out double at a safe level to show his extra strength and, when the bidding had reached the four level at his next turn, he felt safe in doubling for penalty. The lead was a club this time but the result was the same, with West cashing the first four tricks for down one; —200 and 3 IMPs to Italy, to level the match. They were never to be behind again.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Leung	Lo Presti	Yiu	Di Bello
Pass	INT	Pass	Pass
2♦	Dble	2♥	All Pass
West	North	East	South
Ferrari	Ip	Sangiorgio	Mo
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Leung did not like to open 3♥ at this vulnerability when holding a poor suit and 7-2-2-2 distribution. I agree with him, but I would open 2♥ rather than pass. When Lo



Wai-Sing YIU, China Hong Kong

Presti's INT opening came around to him, he competed with a bid which could have been various hands including one major. Two Hearts was pass or correct and, of course, it ended the auction.

Ferrari went for the aggressive pre-empt and Sangiorgio found a thin raise. The combination of two aggressive actions meant that the Italians were in a poor game but, with everything lying just perfectly for declarer, eleven tricks were made at both tables; +200 for Yiu but +650 for Ferrari and 10 IMPs to Italy.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Leung	Lo Presti	Yiu	Di Bello
Dble	Rdbl	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
Ferrari	Ip	Sangiorgio	Mo
1♦	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass	3♦	Pass

Yiu opened 1♦ then splintered in support of Leung's promised spade suit. Though he signed-off in game at his next turn, Leung drove to slam, which appears to be wildly aggressive and meant that a completely hopeless contract was reached. After a heart lead, Yiu was two down for —100.

The Italians were allowed a free run at the other table, not that it should have mattered. Sangiorgio made twelve tricks after a heart lead. It takes some doing to permit twelve tricks, but of course the damage had been done for China Hong Kong at the other table, so the overtricks were for free; +480 and 11 IMPs to Italy.

In fact, an initial trump lead should defeat 4♠. On a non-trump lead, declarer has to give up the lead only once to set up a crossruff that produces seven trump tricks to go with the three red winners, but a trump lead and second round when declarer gives up a club leaves him a trick short.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K Q 10 6 ♥ 3 ♦ K J 10 9 8 ♣ 6 4 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ J 8 4 ♥ A Q J 8 7 6 ♦ — ♣ A K 10 3	♠ A 7 3 ♥ K 5 4 2 ♦ A Q 5 4 ♣ Q 9
N						
W E						
S						

West	North	East	South
<i>Leung</i>	<i>Lo Presti</i>	<i>Yiu</i>	<i>Di Bello</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	2♥	Dble
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Ferrari</i>	<i>Ip</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Mo</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	INT
Pass	2♣	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Would you overcall INT or pass with the South cards? I am with Di Bello on this one. The hand is completely minimum for INT, with a single heart stopper and neither a source of tricks nor a single useful intermediate. It didn't matter all that much, as the same contract was reached at both tables. The opening leads were also identical, the ten of hearts.

Sangiorgio went up with the ace of hearts and tried a top club. Liking what he saw, he continued with the other top club and the defence had the first five tricks for down one; -50.

Yiu ducked the heart and Di Bello grabbed his ten tricks for +430 and another 10 IMPs to Italy.

This defence really looks wrong. East has 15 HCP and his opponents have bid to 3NT. The only slim hope that partner has enough to prevent nine tricks being run is for him to hold not only the ♦Q but also sufficient length — six cards — to hold declarer to three diamond tricks. Declarer is known to hold the ace of spades so there will be four

winners there plus the ♥K. There is no reason to imagine that declarer will get a diamond guess wrong if he has three or four to the ace — on the auction, he will play diamonds in normal fashion, expecting the length to be with West.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ — ♥ A Q J 8 3 ♦ K 6 ♣ A J 7 5 4 2	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 10 9 7 6 5 3 ♥ K 9 7 ♦ A 9 4 ♣ 10	♠ A K J 4 ♥ 6 5 ♦ 8 5 3 ♣ K Q 8 6
N						
W E						
S						

West	North	East	South
<i>Leung</i>	<i>Lo Presti</i>	<i>Yiu</i>	<i>Di Bello</i>
1♣	1♥	1♠	Pass
2♠	3♠	4♠	All Pass
<i>Ferrari</i>	<i>Ip</i>	<i>Sangiorgio</i>	<i>Mo</i>
INT	2♥	2♠	Pass
3♠	4♣	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♣	Dble	5♥
Dble	All Pass		

Ip did a lot of bidding all on his own to play 5♥ doubled. After the lead of the ace of diamonds, he managed to come to nine tricks for -300, justifying his bidding, as 4♠ would have made had he passed, right?

Well, 4♠ was the contract at the other table and the lead was the queen of diamonds to North's king. All that Yiu had to do was to duck this trick and he could have shut Di Bello out of the lead, eventually establishing a club winner on which to discard his third diamond. But Yiu won the first trick and played a club up. Lo Presti won the club, cashed the ace of hearts, and returned a diamond for down one; -50 and 8 IMPs to Italy instead of 3 IMPs to China Hong Kong.



Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Leung	Lo Presti	Yiu	Di Bello
	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Ferrari	Ip	Sangiorgio	Mo
	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

LoPresti's 2♣ rebid was two-way, either natural, or strong and artificial. He was able to show his strong five-four hand at his next turn and, when Di Bello raised diamonds, suggested 4♠ as a possible alternative to the diamond game. Of course, with only a small singleton spade, Di Bello went



Fabio Lo PRESTI, Italy

back to diamonds. Yiu made the perfectly sensible lead of a trump, hoping to protect his spade holding, but this actually made life easy for declarer. After ace and another diamond, Lo Presti won the nine and played ace then queen of spades, ruffed. The spade cover does not matter, of course, as declarer is always going to take the ruffing finesse. Lo Presti crossed back to hand with a heart to ruff another spade with dummy's jack. He came back to hand again to draw the last trump and had eleven tricks for +600.

China Hong Kong had a very straightforward auction to the same contract but an opening heart lead left declarer with more options and left the position of the ten of diamonds unknown. Ip did not guess the play correctly so was one down for —100 and 12 IMPs to Italy.

Italy led by 69-10 after 16 boards but China Hong Kong had a couple of minor gains on the next two deals, then salvaged a Victory Point on the final board of the match.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Leung	Lo Presti	Yiu	Di Bello
1♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Ferrari	Ip	Sangiorgio	Mo
1♥	Pass	1♠	INT
Dble	2♣	2♠	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

The table at which the opening bid was passed by responder reached game while the table at which there was a response stopped short.

I don't understand the Italian auction. If my partner responded and any ace would make game either cold or give it decent play, I would not stop short of 4♥. No doubt Ferrari thought he had followed a strong sequence, but Sangiorgio's final pass is entirely understandable; +170.

Yiu passed over 1♥ but Di Bello gave Leung a second chance and, when he jumped to 3♥, Yiu judged that his ace would be sufficient. Well done for +620 and 10 IMPs to China Hong Kong.

Italy had played well and deserved their 69-23 IMP, 24-6 VP win, but they had been helped by a below par performance from their opponents.

OUTING DAY



