

Bridging SCBA



a monthly publication by the singapore contract bridge association

Oct 09 • 13 pages

Double 8 Senior Pairs

The pair's combined age must be at least 80 years, with one of the partners being at least 50 years.

Saturday 17 October, 2.30pm

\$15 per member, \$20 per guest

Venue: SCBA clubhouse

Kampong Kembangan Open Pairs

Open, silver, Men, Ladies, Youth, Mixed and KKBC categories

1 November, 9.00am

\$35 per pair

Venue: 3rd floor Multi Purpose Function Hall of Kampong Kembangan Community Club

You can always tell when the end of the year is fast approaching, by the culmination of the National Bridge League. In his monthly message, our President highlights the League winners. Turn to pages 8 and 9 to see the final score tables for the National Bridge League 2009.

Choo Wai shares his appreciation to the organising committee for all their hard work that went on behind the scenes. Read his message to see who did what in making this 8-month event such a success.

Success is also in the air for Father Matthews, who shows us how doing the wrong thing can still end up being right! And LL Wong shows us how his Pesta Sukan team mate used expert defence in order to maximise his number of tricks, to defeat a small slam.

As always, comments and articles for next months' newsletter can be sent to me at editor@scba.org.sg

Happy reading!

Yiu Lin

Editor Bridging SCBA♣

I would like to thank all the organizers and players who made this year's National Bridge League a huge success. I will also be sharing with you 2 key initiatives that SCBA will be launching this month.

1) 23rd National Bridge League 2009

I sincerely thank all participants from the 28 teams who have supported the League and contributed to its immense popularity and success. In addition, congratulations to the following winners:

First Division

- 1st - Friends of Sheep
175 VPs
- 2nd - The Bridge Bears
157 VPs
- 3rd - Mokymouse
152 VPs

Second Division

- 1st - X-Men
173 VPs
- 2nd - NUS (B)
145 VPs
- 3rd - SICC (Red)
125 VPs

Third Division

- 1st - NTU (A)
161.1 VPs
- 2nd - NUSS (Blue)
138 VPs
- 3rd - GWCC D Rakes
137.4 VPs

League Cup

- 1st - The Bridge Bears
- 2nd - Bozzetto (Argento)
- 3rd - Bozzetto (Azzurro)

Swiss Consolations Winner - GG

2) Appreciation to the sponsor and League Organising Committee (LOC)

On behalf of all the players, I hereby thank our generous sponsor, Ken-Pal (S) Pte Ltd, whose contribution ensured that the League remains a huge success.

I also wish to acknowledge and thank the members of the LOC who worked tirelessly but quietly since last December to ensure that the League remains the biggest local tournament with the longest run.

These are:

1. Fabian Tan - League Manager, Tournament website Manager
2. Liw Meng Hong - League Manager
3. Lam Ze Ying - Creative Designer, Manager, Prizes & Souvenirs
4. Chia May Cay - Creative Designer
5. Kenneth Lim - Assistant League Manager
6. Gerald Tan - Chief Tournament Director
7. Mrs Jane Choo - Assistant Chief Tournament Director
8. Ng Chun Tat - Manager, Marketing & Sponsorship
9. Wong Choo Wai - League Chairman

Since the setup of the LOC in 2004, stalwarts like Fabian, Meng Hong, Ze Ying, May Cay and I have revamped the League for the last 6 years and made it relevant and as exciting and fun as possible. We roped in Gerald and Kenneth this year as new blood to ensure continuity of the League and for fresh new ideas.

I welcome as many of you to join us in next year's League Organising Committee if you are passionate about Bridge and would like to volunteer to make a difference.

As Meng Hong has to step down due to work commitments as a teacher, we welcome Marvin Lai to join us. To ensure continuity and renewal, I will also be handing over my portfolio eventually to Fabian, who is a responsible and diligent leader. Please kindly continue to support the League as it is a League for all of you.

3) SCBA weekly Friday games

As mentioned before, SCBA will invite an advanced player every Friday evening to analyse and discuss boards of the preceding Friday. This is to add value to our weekly games and increase the standard of Bridge here. Commencing this month, please contact Yukun at yukun@scba.org.sg for details.

4) People's Association's (PA) Bridge Beginners' Courses
SCBA will contribute a course

Exhibition booth to introduce bridge at 'The PA Marketplace of Courses' on Saturday 10 Oct from 10am to 5pm at Downtown East. This year's theme is "Wellness for Everyone". PA want to feature new and popular evergreen courses that promote physical wellness, mental wellness and a healthy diet. Please come support us at Downtown East, and contact Lilio or Sugi at sugi@scba.org.sg for details

5) Facebook account for SCBA

SCBA will also launch our Facebook account in October to connect better with our players and supporters. Simply named as SCBA, this will be easy to remember for everyone.

If you have suggestions or would like to help us manage the account, please contact Fabian at fabian@scba.org.sg for details.

6) SCBA welcomes Singapore Management University (SMU)

SMU started a new Bridge Club this year under my guidance. After months of preparations and accumulation of

courage, 14 players finally ventured to SCBA to play in the Hari Raya Special morning game on 21st September. Though most of them scored below 50%, all of them enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

I am sure we all remember our 1st visits to the Club and the harrowing experience. But all 7 pairs were very encouraged by the hospitality and advice from the other players also, and felt very much at ease.

Thank you for your kind encouragement, and SCBA hopes that SMU will continue to play more and improve themselves.

Thank you for your support once again. You may contact me for feedback at president@scba.org.sg

Fr. Matthew finds a pillar to sleep on

In their first match, Fr. Matthew's team faced a visiting team from Jakarta. Cartina Hishammudin had agreed to play with Fr. Matthew somewhat reluctantly, he thought, though he could not fathom why. The Pesta Sukan was after all a prestigious annual event held in Singapore. While Cartina had not played much recently, she had previously been on the Malaysian ladies team, so knew which way the cards were facing. With one round to go his team, 'Secular', had a chance to win. Then this hand cropped up:

Dealer East, NS Vuln.

♠ K1065	♠ A4
♥ Q10	♥ K2
♦ 105	♦ AKQ84
♣ A10875	♣ KQ63
	♠ J932
	♥ AJ765
	♦ J763
	♣ - (Cartina)
	♠ Q87 (Fr Matthew)
	♥ 9843
	♦ 92
	♣ J942

There opponents bid quickly to 6 ♣ via a puppet Stayman sequence that Fr Matthew dared not ask about, as he had a poor hand.

Fr Matthew	E	Cartina	W
	2NT	P	3♣
P	3NT	P	4♣
P	4♦	P	4♠
P	6♣	All Pass	

Fr Matthew led 9♥ to dummy's K♥ and Cartina's A♥. She continued the suit to declarer's Q♥. Everything depended on the ♣ position. Declarer played the 10♣ as technically he could handle J9xx in either hand but had to decide immediately. The play of the 10 had the slight psychological advantage that a weak North might cover the 10 with J9xx.

Fr Matthew had read the Bols book of bridge tips and remembered that he must cover an honour with an honour and second hand low. Believing the 10 not to be an honour, he played low

and with no reason to do otherwise, declarer played the Q and went one down. Their team mates stopped in 5♣ and a large swing resulted.

A few hands later with the match going well, Fr Matthew relaxed.

Board 7 – Game all, Dealer South (hands rotated)

♠ 1087632	♠ 5
♥ A (Cartina)	♥ 10764
♦ A876	♦ Q954
♣ A9	♣ 8543
♠ AJ9	♠ KQ4
♥ J32	♥ KQ985
♦ K32	♦ J10
♣ Q762	♣ KJ10 (Fr Matthew)

Fr Matthew	W	Cartina	E
1NT	P	2♥	P
2♠	P	3♦	P
4♠	All Pass		

Fr. Matthew finds a pillar to sleep on

Cartina had given plenty of thought, before passing 4♠. West led the 2♣ and when Fr Matthew saw the dummy he asked Cartina if she might have bid some more.

After the favourable lead it just looked like finding the A and J of ♠ were the key to 12 tricks. Giving the matter little thought, Fr Matthew won the opening lead with his 10 and played a ♥ to dummy's A. Then played a ♠ to his K. Everyone followed low in perfect tempo. Still seeing no trouble, he crossed back to the A♣ and played a ♠ towards his Q but East showed out and now he had a problem.

West won and cashed his 2nd spade winner before accurately switching to the 2♦. There were several layouts where he still had a chance but it was not to be and he lost two ♦ to go with the two trumps.

Cartina, as if reading his mind, said, "You know, sometimes, God gives us

a 'wake up!' call when we do not know we are spiritually sleeping."

"Ouch" how true this was – he had gone down at teams in a certain contract on any layout of the cards, with the exception of an unlikely 7-0 distributions in ♥ s and ♣ s.

"Well, she added, you can consider that an act of Zakah to the opponents and turned to the young West player who smoothly ducked the K♠ and congratulated him on his fine defence. Fr Matthew knew enough about Islam to understand that this was one of the five pillars. One that he had managed to stumble upon in his sleep.

Thanks to this board the opponents won the match and the Seculars had an agonising wait to see if they had been overtaken by another team. It was not to be and amazingly victory was theirs for the first time.

SOLUTION TO SEPT QUIZ

LL Wong

Sitting West, declarer ends up in 6NT, and partner leads a small diamond. When declarer finesses the diamond, your singleton Q♦ wins a trick, and declarer drops the 10♦. What do you do next to score most tricks?

(South)

♠ 4
♥ AK3
♦ AKJ9753
♣ 83

(You)

♠ Q1076
♥ Q9752
♦ Q
♣ A96

Remain calm, in order to count properly before playing the next trick. Do not get too excited and simply cash out the A♣. However, you must be careful and respect opponents' decision. They reached the 6NT contract, despite the missing honors, and the fact that you have 10HCPs. Start by counting declarer's tricks – 6 diamonds, 2 hearts and at most 3 spades. Since there are

SOLUTION TO SEPT QUIZ (cont'd)

LL Wong

only 11 tricks, there is no immediate urgency in cashing the A♣. However, there may be a possibility for a squeeze. And so, your top task is to break the squeeze. What should be done at trick 2?

Some of you suggested switching to a club, hoping that partner may have Q♣. However this could be playing with fire, in case declarer goes up with the K♣, giving him/ her the 12th trick.

Another suggestion was to play Q♥, hoping to drop declarer's J♥. While this is creative, if it doesn't work you could be squeezed in clubs and spades later.

And this reveals what the best play is. At trick 2, you should return a spade, in order to break this squeeze. As there is a singleton in dummy, declarer cannot collect more than 3 spade tricks.

Declarer can go down from 1 trick to 3 tricks, depending on his/ her ambition. It was down 3 at our table! Here's the full deal.

	(South)	
	♠ 4	
	♥ AK3	
	♦ AKJ9753	
	♣ 83	
(East)		(West)
♠ 982		♠ Q1076
♥ 864		♥ Q9752
♦ 8642		♦ Q
♣ 742		♣ A96
	♠ AKJ53	
	♥ J10	
	♦ 10	
	♣ KQJ105	

At our table, declarer finessed the spade with the J successfully, and suddenly saw a glimmer of hope. If the heart finesse could work, he could have his 12th trick. So he cashed out his A and K of spades, discarding dummy's losing clubs, and then finessed the heart.

Unfortunately for declarer the heart finesse failed. And, West was able to win his QD, QH, QS and AC for down 3! ♣

OCT QUIZ

LL Wong

This hand is taken from the 2009 Spingold championship, in the quarter finals match. It is a complicated hand with losers in every suit, depending on your play:

	♠ KJ5	
	♥ QJ6	
	♦ K98432	
	♣ K	
♥ 2		♥ 10
♦ 65		♦ QJ
	♠ A8432	
	♥ A3	
	♦ A10	
	♣ 7542	

The contract is 4S, with the fortunate 2♥ lead, which solves your heart problem. Here is the play for the first 3 tricks:

Trick 1:	2♥	Q♥	5♥	3♥
Trick 2:	5♦	2♦	Q♦	A♦
Trick 3:	6♦	K♦!	J♦	10♦

A good guess in the diamonds solves your diamond problem. What next? ♣

Singapore IMP Pairs

5 September (19 pairs)

- 1st Loo Choon Chou & PooH Hua
- 2nd Seet Choon Cheng & Chan Yiu Lin
- 3rd Lam Ze Ying & Foo Yoke Lan



Competition Secretary, Foo Yoke Lan, with Singapore IMP Pairs winners, CC Loo and Poon Hua

Hari Raya Special Game

21 September (30 pairs)

North/ South

- 1st Greta Chai & Sindhu Kuruvilla
- 2nd Yeo Li Cai & Yong Kien Fong
- 3rd Shi Jicheng & Yan Pengyu

East/ West

- Foo Yoke Lan & Wong Chee Wai
- Nancy Goh & Thomas Goh
- Tan Wei Seng & Lim Zhi Bang

Matchpoint Teams

19 September (15 teams)

- 1st 3+5 – Kelvin Ng, Chang Sui Sim, Poon Hua, Loo Choon Chou, Tan Wei Seng
- 2nd Kiasu – Jane Choo, Foo Yoke Lan, Derrick Heng, SK Phang
- 3rd Bozzetto Azzurro – Edwin Lau, Fong Kien Hoong, Tan Siew Chuan, LL Wong



Competition Secretary, Foo Yoke Lan, with the Matchpoint Teams' winners (left to right) Kelvin Ng, Chang Sui Sim, Poon Hua, Tan Wei Seng and CC Loo

Snowball Jackpot Pairs Series #20

27 July – 28 September

Winner: Romulus Tham whose best 5 games average 57.69%
The next series of the Snowball Jackpot Pair will run from 5 October to 30 November. Do join us, you may be the next winner!

National Bridge League

	Division 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Adj	Total	Rank			
1	Friends of Sheep	25		18	25	11	16	20	15	25	21	-1	175	1			
		124	37	97	79	105	49	55	76	69	60				98	72	66
2	The Bridge Bears	1	17		23	13	23	23	25	7	25		157	2			
		37	124	69	56	89	43	74	89	84	35				95	51	106
3	Bozzetto (Argento)	12	13	17		18	5	16	11	20	13		125	6			
		79	97	56	69	83	71	77	58	48	105				68	64	42
4	SCBA (B)	5	7	13	16		15	19	5	8	15		103	10			
		49	105	43	89	71	83	56	51	70	72				73	51	50
5	Bozzetto (Azzurro)	19	17	12	14	10		9	18	7	14	-1	119	8			
		76	55	89	74	58	77	51	56	54	82				56	93	82
6	NUSS (Red)	14	7	25	15	20	10		10	16	19	-1	135	4			
		60	69	35	84	105	48	72	70	82	54				57	87	53
7	Bukit Timah CC (A)	10	7	14	11	21	20	14		16	18		131	5			
		72	98	51	95	64	68	51	73	93	56				87	57	68
8	GG	15	1	19	25	12	20	16	8		9	-1	124	7			
		69	66	19	106	64	42	110	50	65	82				83	53	75
9	Mokymouse	5	23	10	22	23	14	14	22	19			152	3			
		31	90	73	29	57	84	98	58	68	21				49	58	52
10	NTU Staff	9	0	17	15	16	11	12	21	11				112	9		
		41	73	7	117	73	58	67	66	65	58	46				69	29

	Division 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Adj	Total	Rank		
1	X-Men	23		25	25	22	24	21	15	18		173	1		
		86	41	87	33	88	36	73	37	79				28	74
2	Blue Moon	7	13		23	20	19	12	7	22		123	4		
		41	86	57	71	75	32	75	46	52				31	55
3	SICC (Red)	5	17	24		7	24	25	14	14	-5	125	3		
		33	87	71	57	82	31	38	82	102				52	80
4	Bozzetto (Rosso)	5	7	6	12		25	13	18	13		99	8		
		36	88	32	75	31	82	51	69	70				17	70
5	Congenital Optimists	8	10	23	18	15		9	13	6		102	7		
		37	73	46	75	82	38	69	51	49				47	36
6	Bukit Timah CC (C)	6	11	6	5	15	11		19	6	-1	78	9		
		28	79	31	52	52	102	17	70	47				49	25
7	NUS (A)	9	18	5	17	21	19	11		8		108	6		
		44	74	72	55	27	80	82	70	67				36	47
8	SRC Dreamers	15	23	16	12	17	11	19	8		-2	119	5		
		59	61	78	33	74	70	45	62	60				47	61
9	NUS (B)	12	8	16	17	24	24	22	22				145	2	
		34	51	24	63	62	53	60	48	82	36				73

	Division 3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Adj	Total	Rank	
1	GWCC D Rakes		13	13	16	25	15	20.4	18	17		137.4	3	
			46 58	44 57	56 51	117 34	44 42	W O	47 31	51 40				
2	NTU (A)	17		15	23	25	19	25	17	20.1		161.1	1	
		58 46		57 58	72 30	103 27	67 45	131 17	64 50	W O				
3	NUSS (Blue)	17	15		16	25	5	19	16	25		138	2	
		57 44	58 57		58 54	88 25	32 85	66 45	65 58	130 6				
4	Bukit Timah CC (B)	14	7	14		20	14	24	9	14		116	6	
		51 56	30 72	54 58		60 31	44 51	73 24	57 87	53 60				
5	NUS (C)	1	2	4	10		17	25	16	2		77	8	
		34 117	27 103	25 88	31 60		64 51	72 17	67 62	10 86				
6	Japan Club	15	11	25	16	13		24	7	25		136	4	
		42 44	45 67	85 32	51 44	51 64		72 23	37 81	92 30				
7	RI(JC)	0	0	11	6	5	6		18	16		62	9	
		W O	17 131	45 66	24 73	17 72	23 72		66 47	67 59				
8	NTU (B)	12	13	14	21	14	23	12		21		-3	127	5
		31 47	50 64	58 65	87 57	62 67	81 37	47 66		71 41				
9	VJC	13	0	0	16	25	4	14	9			-1	80	7
		40 51	W O	6 130	60 53	86 10	30 92	59 67	41 71					

The National Bridge League is proudly sponsored by:



October 2009 Events Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
<p>All events are held at SCBA Clubhouse unless stated otherwise.</p>			1	2	3	4	
	5	6	7	8	9	<p><i>The PA Market place of Courses</i> 10am – 5.00pm Visit SCBA's booth at Downtown East</p>	11
	12	13	14	15	16	<p><i>Double 8 Senior Pairs</i> \$15 - member, \$20 - guest, • 2.30 – 7.00pm</p>	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2009 Events Calendar

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
<p>30</p> <p>All events are held at SCBA Clubhouse unless stated otherwise.</p>						<p>1</p> <p><i>Kampong Kembangan Open Pairs</i></p> <p>\$35 per pair, Venue: KKCC •9.00am</p>
2	3	4	5	<p>6</p> <p><i>PABF Simultaneous Pairs</i></p> <p>\$12 - member, \$15-guest, \$8 - student</p> <p>• 7.30pm</p>	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	<p>14</p> <p><i>HS Ho Challenge Championships</i></p> <p>\$240 per team, \$50 per student team</p> <p>• 2.30pm</p>	<p><i>HS Ho Challenge Championships (cont'd)</i></p>
16	17	18	19	<p>20</p> <p><i>Gabrial-UI Cup 3</i></p> <p>20-22 Nov</p> <p>Venue: Depok West Java Indonesia</p>	21	22
23	24	25	26	<p><i>Hari Raya Haji Special Game</i></p> <p>\$5 – member, \$7 – guest, \$3 – student</p> <p>• 9.30pm</p>	28	29

Corporate Members + SCBA Officials

Weekly Games @ Bridge Clubs

- SCBA weekly games** Monday/ Friday 7.30 pm
 Thursday 9.30 am
 Sunday 2.00 pm
- KAMPONG KEMBANGAN CC, 5 Lengkong Tiga. Mon/ Thurs
 7.00pm (SCBA Liaison Officer – Derek Maggs)
- NTU CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB, 20 Nanyang Green Hall 7.
 Tues 7.30pm (SCBA Liaison Officer – Lan Foo)
- NUS SPORTS & RECREATION CENTRE**, Kent Ridge
 Crescent, MPSH 4. Tues 7.00pm (SCBA Liaison Officer –
 Fabian)
- NUSS The Graduate Club, 9 Kent Ridge Drive**
 Every Wed 7.30 pm at Bkt Timah Guild House, except the last
 Wed of the month, which will be at Kent Ridge Guild House.
 (SCBA Liaison Officer – Thiagarajan)
- SIGLAP COMMUNITY CENTRE**, 300 Bedok South Avenue 3
 Sun 2.30 pm (SCBA Liaison Officer – AK Heng)
- SINGAPORE ISLAND COUNTRY CLUB**, 240 Sime Road
 Bridge @ The Niblick. Mon/ Thurs 7.30 pm (SCBA Liaison
 Officer – Poon Hua)
- SINGAPORE JAPAN CLUB BRIDGE LEAGUE**, 120 Adam
 Road. Tues 9.00 am (SCBA Liaison Officer – Lan Foo)
- SINGAPORE RECREATION CLUB**, B Connaught Drive
 Tues 7.30 pm (SCBA Liaison Officer – CT Ng)
- TANGLIN CLUB**, 5 Stevens Road, Mon, Wed & Fri at 1pm,
 Wed at 7.30pm (SCBA Liaison Officer – Derek Maggs)

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