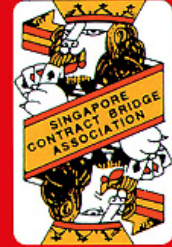


Bridging SCBA



a monthly publication by the singapore contract bridge association

Sept 09 • 13 pages

SCBA IMP Pairs Championships

Saturday 5 September, 2.30pm
\$50 per pair, \$25 per student pair
Venue: SCBA clubhouse

SCBA Matchpoint Teams Championships

Saturday 19 September, 2.30pm
\$100 per team, \$50 per student
team
Venue: SCBA clubhouse

After enjoying a wonderfully organised Pesta Sukan Bridge Championships 2009, we get a brief look at the efforts that went on behind the scenes to make this event a success. Our President shares how SCBA and our wonderful volunteers worked hard, in order to organise this fantastic competition. Do check out the Glory Gallery on pages 7 and 8, for some pictures of the event. A big thank you to James Handfield-Jones, for these excellent shots!

Father Matthews continues last months' universal truths, where his partner continues to put his enigmatic laws into action, when two seemingly part-score hands turn into slam boards, with a bit of luck and a non-simultaneous double

squeeze. For those of you like me, who didn't even know what is a non-simultaneous double squeeze, turn to page 4 and 5 to find out.

Our bridge guru, LL Wong also shows us how to make a contract that many international experts failed to do, at the recent PABF in Macau. Are you interested to know how to beat the regional experts? Turn to page 6.

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♣

A big thank to all the organizers and players who made last month's Pesta Sukan Bridge Championships a huge success!

1) Pesta Sukan Bridge Championships 7-9th Aug

After a long hiatus, the biggest local tournament returned to its traditional venue, the Concorde Hotel. Held in the midst of Orchard Road, many players turned up, to enjoy the great ambience, smooth organization, fantastic games and excellent lunch buffet. We had the highest participation in years, with 33 Open Pairs, 17 Mixed Pairs and 23 Open Teams. These included 2 teams from Jakarta, and 1 each from Batam, Kuala Lumpur and Sarawak.

Let me share with you what happened behind the scenes during the event. Planning for this event started immediately after last year's Championships. The Committee decided to hold this year's event at a hotel, to raise the prestige of the event and provide a nicer ambience. As this resulted in higher expenses, we needed to manage budgets carefully and ensure that we had good participation.

Concorde Hotel (ex-Meridien Hotel) was the natural choice due to accessibility, affordability and availability. As we have held bridge events before, they are also familiar with our needs. Jane Choo helped in the many rounds of negotiation with the hotel. The committee also had to solve hiccups, such as clashing events, loud singing in neighboring rooms (which resulted in our Victory Dinner becoming a lunch instead) and re-scheduling of the game. Even though Monday was a public holiday in Singapore, we knew a number of visitors from Malaysia and Indonesia would be attending. So we wanted to end early, to allow them to return home in time for Monday's work. . Our Technical Sub-committee had the Herculean task of formatting the rounds, and we eventually adopted a 10-round Swiss format without Finals. This avoided grouping the teams and playing too few boards per round or too few qualifying rounds.

Lilio made a number of trips between Bishan and the hotel, to manage all logistics, kindly chauffeured by Marvin Lai and Lan Foo. More trips were made Committee Members. Lan Foo, Chua

Gang and I were in charge of planning the event, while Thiaga and Dr Heng were in charge of the finances. CT Ng kindly solicited sponsorship for the event. Derek and Sugi were the Liaison Officers for our overseas guests, and took care of transportation and accommodation.

Congratulations to Ze Ying and Lan Foo, our national Women players, in clinching the Open Pairs on Friday night with 65.89%. An appeal, which was ruled against their favour, had resulted in the Indonesian runners-up with a 65.88% score.

On Saturday morning, Jenny Lee & Romulus Tan scored a whopping 69.67% in the Mixed Pairs, beating Ze Ying and myself to a distant 61.41%. Considering that Jenny had just returned for vacation from the US, and that this is their first time playing in a tournament, it makes us wonder whether this marks the start of a wonderful new relationship. Oops, I meant partnership.

President's Update

For the Open Teams, we know there were some critics of the game's format, but we chose it as it allows all teams to have a chance to play everyone else, weak or strong. Also, everybody plays the same boards, allowing for common learning points, jokes and stories to share.

Singaporean teams won the top 4 positions with Team International and Friends of Sheep neck and neck throughout till the last round. Though both teams lost in the penultimate round, Team International, which comprises 4 players from 4 different nationalities, eventually won with a difference of 4 VPs. MCBA team was 5th, while Kepri Team from Batam was 7th.

We are pleased to hear that our overseas visitors enjoyed themselves, and have been emailing me to thank everyone (organizers and players) for our hospitality and warmth.

On behalf of SCBA, I thank everyone for your support and encouragement in our flagship tournament. We

welcome your feedback and we promise to make the Pesta Sukan Championships bigger and better next year!

2) SCBA weekly games

To add further value to our weekly games and increase the standard of Bridge here, we will invite an advanced player every Friday from 7pm-7:30pm, to analyse and discuss boards of the preceding Friday. This will commence in October. Depending on the response and feedback in that quarter, we may launch this on Monday and Sunday games also. All players are welcome to sit in for free, and there will be written analysis by email and possibly a Bridge blog as well. We are currently doing preliminary planning, please contact Yukun at yukun@scba.org.sg for suggestions.

3) Nationwide Bridge Beginners' Courses

SCBA intends to hold Beginners' Courses more frequently as well as Courses for students in the December holidays. In addition, we also plan to work with People's Association (PA) to

launch Bridge workshops and Courses in all Community Clubs. We need more trainers, and trainers will be paid, though PA takes 35% of the Course fees.

If you have the passion and time to teach Bridge, please contact Sugi at sugi@scba.org.sg.

For starters, we will participate in 'The PA Marketplace of Courses' on Sat 10 Oct from 10am to 5pm, so do come support us at Downtown East.

4) Masks, list of TD's and Library books

We are currently updating our lists of certified Tournament Directors and books, and will be disseminating them shortly once completed. For greater personal protection and hygiene, SCBA will also be purchasing 3-layered surgical masks for those with mild ailments. But if you are truly unwell, please be considerate and stay at home.

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

Fr. Matthew and the three universal truths (cont'd from last month)

The story continues as Father Matthew partners Leonard, who has 3 governing rules of: *Nothing is lost in the universe, Everything Changes and the Law of Cause and Effect*. Father Matthew's weak but distributional hand turned out to be a fascinating deal, where Leonard displayed more of his mystical magic.

Board 7 - Game, Dealer South

♠ A10843 ♥ 2 ♦ 852 ♣ 10987	♠ KJ52 (Fr Matthew) ♥ 9876543 ♦ 9 ♣ 4	♠ 96 ♥ AKQJ10 ♦ 6 ♣ KQJ53
	♠ Q7 ♥ - ♦ AKQJ10743 ♣ A62 (Leonard)	

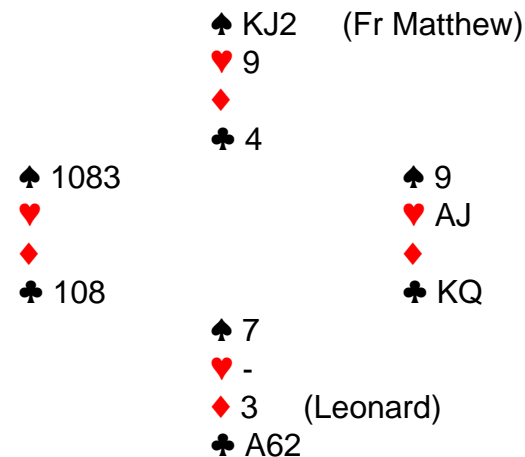
Leonard	W	Fr Matthew	E
1♦	P	P	2NT ¹
5♦	6♣	6♦	All Pass

1 – Unusual 2NT, showing the lowest 2 suits (♥ & ♣)

Fr Matthew asked what the 2NT bid meant and heard that it was the Gardener Extension to the Unusual No Trump. After the bidding rapidly escalated to an extraordinary level he decided, based largely Leonard's previously demonstrated magical declarer play, to bid one for the road and hope his meagre values would suffice.

West led his singleton ♥ and Leonard thanked Fr. Matthew for his collection by saying – truly nothing is lost or wasted in the universe. Fr. Matthew's puzzlement was compounded a few minutes later as the play unfolded in this seemingly 'no play' slam. Leonard ruffed low and immediately led the Q♠. West correctly judged to win the Ace, otherwise the 9♦ provides and entry for ♣ discards, as East discards helplessly.

West now paused for two or three minutes before making perhaps the obvious but fatal play of a trump. Leonard overtook and ran all his trumps to come down to this five card ending:



On the last trump West has to discard a ♣ in order to protect the spade holding. Leonard called for dummy's 2♠. East discarded is ♠. He then played a ♠ to dummy as East discarded a ♥. On dummy's last ♠ however East must pitch either his winning ♥ or a ♣ honour. He chose the latter as Leonard discarded the 3♣. He led the 4♣ to his Ace and claimed the last trick with the humble 2♣. "What just happened there?" asked Fr. Matthew. "It is the law of cause and effect," said Leonard. "It means that the tiniest action can have a significant effect."

Fr. Matthew and the three universal truths(2b)

“What action?” queried Fr Matthew.
 “Ah, it would be rude of me to point out the three causes”.

East chimed in with a “Well played Leonard. It is not often you see a non-simultaneous double squeeze. I see what you mean about the two chances we had in defence to beat the contract though.” West circled the result on his scorecard to analyse what he could have done when reviewing the hand records. “Three causes? Could that be right?” he mused.

For those readers that are keen, please send in your answers to how you could defeat the contract.

The very next deal served to illustrate both the law of ‘everything changes as well as the French saying “plus ça change, la même chose” (meaning ‘everything changes but stays the same’).

Fr. Matthew had a normal 1♣ opening, with the cards lying as follows:

♠ A1083	♠ QJ2 (Fr Matthew)
♥ QJ10	♥ K
♦ 852	♦ K742
♣ 987	♣ KJ642
	♠ K96
	♥ A9876542
	♦ AQ
	♣ -
	♠ 754
	♥ 3
	♦ J1096
	♣ AQ1053 (Leonard)

The bidding went:

Fr. Matthew	E	Leonard	W
1♣	1♥	3♣	P
P	4♥	P	P
5♣	5♥	P	6♥
All Pass			

Fr. Matthew led the A♣ but nothing mattered. Declarer could not go wrong and 12 tricks were his. After dropping the K♥ singleton he could afford to give up a ♠. When they broke 3-3 he did not need the working ♦ finesse. Leonard smiled and congratulated West on his judgment and said simply, “Every thing

changes”. East replied “I see what you mean, two boards in a row that could have been passed out for a part score, and instead have turned into slams.”

Fr. Matthew thanked Leonard for the philosophical enlightenment as well as the bridge lesson. “Would you like to play again some time?” he enquired hopefully. “Unless I get lost in the universe” teased Leonard with a mild sardonic smile. ♣

Kampong Kembangan Open Pairs Bridge Tournament

KK Bridge club is organising a tournament on 1 November, with 7 competitions and prize money!

Open, Silver generation, Men, Ladies, Youth, Mixed and KKBC members.

Entry fee: \$35 per pair

Early bird discount applicable for pairs that pay before 15 Sept

Fore more details visit www.bridgedoorman.com

SOLUTION TO AUGUST QUIZ

by LL Wong

This hand was played at the PABF on 24 June, by our Singapore Open Team. Trying to make 4♠ looks simple, when you solve it as double dummy. However, declarer must be careful and aware of how to play the hand, as you can easily lose a trick by being ruffed, or losing control. Even the experts at the PABF made mistakes, with 7 out of 10 teams going down in 4♠.

♠ 98 ♥ A1042 ♦ K943 ♣ 872	♠ - ♥ KQ86 ♦ A72 ♣ KJ9543	♠ AJ64 ♥ J5 ♦ Q10865 ♣ Q10
	♠ KQ107532 ♥ 973 ♦ J ♣ A6	

Lead is 4♦. You can see 5 x ♠, 2 x ♣, 1 ♦ and 1 ♥. You will need an extra trick – perhaps the J♣ or Q♥? Timing is critical. Although there are only 3 actual losers (A♠, J♠

and the A♥, you need to be careful to just limit losers to these 3, and create an extra trick. Recommended play as follows:

- Trick 1 – lead of 4♦ is won in dummy.
 - Trick 2 – Ruff dummy’s small ♦
 - Trick 3 – Play K♠, won by E. Discard a ♣ in dummy
 - Trick 4 – East returns J♥ to dummy’s K.
 - Trick 5 – Enter hand with A♣
 - Trick 6 - Play Q♠, hoping that the J♠ may drop. When it doesn’t...
 - Trick 7 – Play ♣ to dummy’s K♣ and see the Q♣ drop
 - Trick 8 – Now play dummy’s J♣ and look at what E plays. If he/ she ruffs small, you can over-ruff. If he/she ruffs with J♠, discard a heart. Likewise, discard a heart, if East plays anything else, such as discarding a ♥.
- This will allow you to reduce a loser.

If you got this answer – well done! Majority of the experts at the PABF failed this hand. But the declarer play may be different if East returns a small diamond or club instead at trick 4. What would you do? ♣

SEPT QUIZ by LL Wong

This hand was played at the Pesta Sukan Bridge championships, on National Day, when team Pastel took on the eventual champion, Team International. 22 other teams also played the hand. Take a look at dummy’s hand, and see if you can perform as good as our team mate, Mr Lucky Kosasih from Indonesia:

(South) ♠ 4 ♥ AK3 ♦ AKJ9753 ♣ 83	(You) ♠ Q1076 ♥ Q9752 ♦ Q ♣ A96
--	---

Sitting West, declarer ends up in 6NT, and partner leads a small diamond. South lays this dummy on the table. Declarer decides to choose the higher probability line of play and finesses the diamond to your singleton Q (declarer’s 10♦ falls. What is your next play, to score the most tricks? Hint: Calm, count and creativity are the key elements. ♣



Thanks to SCBA for a well organised event!



A record number of overseas players joined the Pesta Sukan, from Malaysia, Indonesia, and even France

Siglap CC Open Pairs

2 August (29 pairs)

- 1st Foo Yoke Lan & Lam Ze Ying
- 2nd Eric Luk & Alice Luk
- 3rd Polly Goh & Chan King Fook

National Day Special Game

10 August (16 pairs)

- 1st Endo Kimiko & Alan Sia
- 2nd Liu I Nan & Petrina Leo
- 3rd YF Thong & He Xiaoping

Open Pair winners, Foo Yoke Lan and Lam Zeying collecting their medals from President Wong Choo Wai, announced by Honorary Secretary Derek Maggs

Pesta Sukan Asian Bridge Championships

7-9 August

Open Pairs (33 pairs)

- 1st Foo Yoke Lan & Lam Ze Ying
- 2nd Hidayattullah & Frangky B Liogu (from Indonesia)
- 3rd Ricky Palandeng & Peter Tora Wangsaputera (from Indonesia)

Mixed Pairs (17 pairs)

- 1st Romulus Tham & Jenny Lee
- 2nd Wong Choo Wai & Lam Ze Ying
- 3rd CY Yu & Zhang Ping



Pesta Sukan Asian Bridge Championships
Open Team (23 teams)

1st International: Wong Choo Wai, Derek Maggs, Endo Kimiko, Alan Sia
2nd Friends of Sheep: Chua Gang, Kelvin Ng, Pooh Hua, Loo Choon Chou, Ng Yong Hao, Zhang Yukun
3rd Pastel: Sugiharto, Victor Abadi, Lucky Kosasih, LL Wong, Lilio Ho



The level of concentration was palpable



Team International (L to R Alan Sia, Endo Kimiko, Derek Maggs and Wong Choo Wai) receiving their medals from Competition secretary, Foo Yoke Lan



Participants enjoying a wonderful Sunday lunch!

National Bridge League

	Division 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Adj	Total	Rank			
1	Friends of Sheep			18	15	11	16	20	15	25	21	-1	140	2			
				97	79	0	0	55	76	69	60				98	72	66
2	The Bridge Bears			17	15	13	23	23	25	7	25		148	1			
				69	56	0	0	74	89	84	35				95	51	106
3	Bozzetto (Argento)	12	13			18	5	16	11	20	13		108	7			
		79	97	56	69			77	58	48	105				68	64	42
4	SCBA (B)	15	15			16	15	19	5	8	15		108	7			
		0	0	0	0			56	51	70	72				73	51	50
5	Bozzetto (Azzurro)	19	17	12	14			9	18	15	14	-1	117	4			
		76	55	89	74	58	77	51	56						56	93	82
6	NUSS (Red)	14	7	25	15			10	10	16	19	-1	115	5			
		60	69	35	84	105	48	72	70						57	87	53
7	Bukit Timah CC (A)	10	7	14	11	21	20			16	15		114	6			
		72	98	51	95	64	68	51	73	93	56				87	57	
8	GG	15	1	19	25	12	20			8	9	-1	108	7			
		69	66	19	106	64	42	110	50	65	82				83	53	
9	Mokymouse	5	23	10	22	15	14	14	22				125	3			
		31	90	73	29	57	84	98	58	0	0				49	58	52
10	NTU Staff	9	0	17	15	16	11	15	21				104	10			
		41	73	7	117	73	58	67	66	65	58				46	69	0

	Division 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Adj	Total	Rank		
1	X-Men			25	25	22	24	21	15	18	18	168	1		
				87	33	88	36	73	37	79				28	74
2	Blue Moon			13	23	20	19	12	7	22	18	134	3		
				57	71	75	32	75	46	52				31	55
3	SICC (Red)	5	17			7	24	25	14	14	13	119	4		
		33	87	71	57			38	82	102				52	80
4	Bozzetto (Rosso)	5	7			12	25	13	18	13	18	111	7		
		36	88	32	75			51	69	70				17	70
5	Congenital Optimists	8	10	23	18			9	13	6	18	105	8		
		37	73	46	75	82	38	69	51						36
6	Bukit Timah CC (C)	6	11	6	5			11	19	6	17	81	9		
		28	79	31	52	52	102	17	70						25
7	NUS (A)	9	18	5	17	21	19			8	18	115	6		
		44	74	72	55	27	80	82	70	67				36	47
8	SRC Dreamers	15	23	16	12	17	11			8	16	118	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		16		25		15		18		18	140	3				
				44	57	56	51	117	34	44	42	W	O				47	31	51	40
2	NTU (A)			15		15		25		19		25		18	152	1				
				57	58	0	0	103	27	67	45	131	17				64	50	W	O
3	NUSS (Blue)	17		15				25		5		19		16		25		18	140	3
		57	44	58	57			88	25	32	85	66	45	65	58	130	6			
4	Bukit Timah CC (B)	14		15				20		14		24		9		14		18	128	6
		51	56	0	0			60	31	44	51	73	24	57	87	53	60			
5	NUS (C)	1		2		4		10				25		16		2		18	78	8
		34	117	27	103	25	88	31	60			72	17	67	62	10	86			
6	Japan Club	15		11		25		16				24		7		25		18	141	2
		42	44	45	67	85	32	51	44			72	23	37	81	92	30			
7	RI(JC)	0		0		11		6		5		6				16		18	62	9
		W	O	17	131	45	66	24	73	17	72	23	72			67	59			
8	NTU (B)	12		13		14		21		14		23				21		15	133	5
		31	47	50	64	58	65	87	57	62	67	81	37			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:



September 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	<p>Singapore IMP Pairs 5 \$50 per pair, \$25 per student pair • 2.30pm</p>	6		
	7	8	9	10	11	<p>National Bridge League Cup Finals 12 • 2.30pm</p>	13	
	14	15	16	17	18	<p>Matchpoint Team Championships 19 \$100 per team, \$50 per student team • 2.30pm</p>	20	
	<p>Hari Raya Puasa Special Game 21 \$5 per member, \$7 per guest, \$3 per student • 9.30am</p>	22	<p>4th Nanning International Bridge Tournament Nanning, China</p>	24	25	<p>National Bridge League Open House #14 26 • 2.30pm KCBL Annual team competition</p>	<p>Korean Contract Bridge Leagues team tournament Venue: Seoul Korea</p>	27
	28	29	30					

October 2009 Events Calendar

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

Corporate Members + SCBA Officials

SCBA weekly games Monday/ Friday 7.30 pm
 Thursday 9.30 am
 Sunday 2.00 pm

NTU CONTRACT BRIDGE CLUB, 20 Nanyang Green Hall 7. Tuesday 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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