

# USA TAKES NARROW LEAD



**The CBAI Headquarters Building**

USA gained a narrow lead yesterday, two-thirds of the way through the Teams stage of the competition. Stars for the American team were Fred Gitelman and Geoff Hampson, Steve Weinstein and Bobby Levin, who won three of their four matches and tied the fourth to score +9 on the day.

Hamman/Soloway and Mahmood/Welland were level for the day, while Berkowitz/Cohen and Meyers/Levin were -6, to make a team total of +3 on the day.

There can be no argument about who were the stars for the European team, with the Italian/Irish combination of

Bocchi/Duboin and Hanlon/McGann winning all four matches to score a perfect +12.

The rest of the European squad struggled yesterday. Helgemo/Helness and the Hacketts scored -6, while Auken/von Arnim with Jansma/Verhees were -9.

Today we complete the Teams part of the contest and begin the Individual. +3 is better than -3, but the match is still a virtual tie with two days to go.

## Results

Auken/von Arnim & Jansma/Verhees	0-6	Hamman/Soloway & Mahmood/Welland
Hackett/Hackett & Helgemo/Helness	0-6	Hampson/Gitelman & Levin/Weinstein
Hanlon/McGann & Bocchi/Duboin	6-0	Berkowitz/Cohen & Meyers/Levin
Auken/von Arnim & Jansma/Verhees	0-3	Hampson/Gitelman & Levin/Weinstein
Hackett/Hackett & Helgemo/Helness	0-0	Berkowitz/Cohen & Meyers/Levin
Hanlon/McGann & Bocchi/Duboin	6-0	Hamman/Soloway & Mahmood/Welland

**Europe -3**

**USA +3**

**Overall Score:**

**Europe -3**

**USA +3**

# Teams Session One

The first set of the Teams featured a lively set of deals, including three slam decisions in quick succession.

## Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ AK985	♠ 107643	♠ –
♥ J952	♥ A73	♥ KQ84
♦ J85	♦ 1062	♦ A74
♣ J	♣ 105	♣ AK8642

	♠ QJ2	
	♥ 106	
	♦ KQ93	
	♣ Q973	

<b>West</b> Meyers	<b>North</b> Hanlon	<b>East</b> Levin	<b>South</b> McGann
–	–	1♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass
<b>West</b> Duboin	<b>North</b> Berkowitz	<b>East</b> Bocchi	<b>South</b> Cohen
–	–	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

The Italians had a slow controlled auction to the safe game contract. Duboin's 1♥ response was a transfer, so 2♥ showed reversing values. Having found a heart fit, Bocchi could make a couple of cuebids before settling for game. Duboin had no problem in coming to ten tricks for +420.

Jill Meyers had a gadget for the West hand, 2♥ showing this shape and less than game values. Jill Levin decided that an immediate leap to slam would leave the defence in the dark and might improve the chances of a successful outcome. Elsewhere, we report how Fred Gitelman found the winning line after a diamond lead through the ace, but here....

Tom Hanlon led a diamond to dummy's ace and Meyers played ace and ruffed a club to get to hand to cash the top spades for diamond pitches. Now she ruffed a diamond and tried to cash the king of clubs, throwing a diamond from hand. Hanlon ruffed and, of course, could see that there was no hurry to cash the setting trick, which could not run away, so returned a spade, forcing dummy to ruff. Meyers ruffed a club with the nine, a spade with the queen, and another club with the jack. Hanlon over-ruffed and returned a trump and Hugh McGann had the last trick with the ♥10; down two for –100 and a win for Europe.

## Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 754	♠ AK9863
♥ 742	♥ K9
♦ K863	♦ AJ2
♣ K82	♣ A6

	♠ QJ10
	♥ J863
	♦ Q10975
	♣ 4

<b>West</b> Meyers	<b>North</b> Hanlon	<b>East</b> Levin	<b>South</b> McGann
–	–	–	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	
<b>West</b> Duboin	<b>North</b> Berkowitz	<b>East</b> Bocchi	<b>South</b> Cohen
–	–	–	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Both Souths started with a natural but limited 2♣ opening and both pairs bid confidently to the top spot; +920 and a flat board.

## Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ AK7	♠ 1085
♥ AK7	♥ 109
♦ KQ632	♦ 85
♣ J10	♣ A97653

	♠ J964
	♥ Q82
	♦ A4
	♣ KQ42

<b>West</b> Meyers	<b>North</b> Hanlon	<b>East</b> Levin	<b>South</b> McGann
–	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Duboin	Berkowitz	Bocchi	Cohen
–	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♣	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

Levin showed a weak no trump type with her 1NT rebid and Meyers used a game-forcing checkback, gave Levin an opportunity to show an extra feature, then invited slam. Levin could see nothing to justify acceptance, but the hands fit well and, though the diamonds did not break, there was a diamond/spade squeeze against South to give a twelfth trick; +490.

Bocchi started with a weak no trump, showed his spades, signed off over 3♦, but then cuebid when Duboin showed long diamonds. That was sufficient for Duboin to bid the slam. After a club lead to the ace and a second club, the squeeze pretty much played itself; +990 and a win for Europe.

**Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.**

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Meyers	Hanlon	Levin	McGann
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Duboin	Berkowitz	Bocchi	Cohen
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

Hugh McGann’s aggressive 1♠ opening got his side too high on this deal. You can understand the desire to get in first, and those spades do look worth bidding, but the vulnerability and two jack-to-three suits would suggest that this was not the best time for such aggression. (Of course, it is always easy to be critical of an action that works out badly.)

Tom Hanlon’s 2♦ response was a transfer and, when he continued with 3♣, that was natural and game-

forcing, as 2♥ had not promised genuine heart support. Four Hearts was fast arrival and Hanlon had no reason to consider going on.

Meyers led a trump to Levin’s queen. Levin cashed the ace of hearts then underled the ace of spades, but McGann had no decision to make so his king scored. He led a diamond to the king and Levin returned a diamond to get her ruff. That was two down for –200.

Larry Cohen did not see an opening bid in the South cards. When he later gave only simple preference to 2♥, the Americans had done well to stop as low as is reasonably possible on the combined hands.

Bocchi cashed the ace of spades to take a look at dummy. He switched smartly to king and another diamond so got his ruff immediately. There were still the ace and queen of hearts to come, so that was one down for –100, but the Italian defence could do nothing to save the board; a win to USA.

**Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.**

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Meyers	Hanlon	Levin	McGann
1♥	Pass	1NT	2♠
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Duboin	Berkowitz	Bocchi	Cohen
1♥	Pass	1♠	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Bocchi’s 1♠ response was the equivalent of a forcing no trump and he continued at his next turn by competing with 3♥. David Berkowitz in turn competed to 3♠ and there the matter rested. The perfect fit meant that there was nothing to the play and Cohen soon chalked up +140.

There was a misunderstanding at the other table, where Jill Levin intended her 2NT rebid to be natural, while Jill Meyers took it to be a relay to 3♣, a way of showing a weaker competitive bid in a suit. Not that Levin would have minded having to go back

to 3♥ with her actual hand. However, Hanlon now found a good double, ending the auction.

The double may have been a good one, but that was only half the job done if Hanlon was to win the board for Europe. Had he led his partner's suit, he would have given away a trick and the contract would have been only one down, as declarer gets rid of a diamond loser on the spades, but Hanlon found the killing lead of jack of diamonds, and the defence was in control.

Meyers won the diamond immediately, cashed the king of hearts and no doubt groaned inwardly when she saw the four-zero split. She continued with a spade, which Hanlon ducked (he had seen the ♠5 from McGann on the heart play, so knew this was safe). Now Meyers played a club to the queen and king and Hanlon thought it was time to cash his ♠A. He continued with a club to the ace and McGann cashed the diamonds for down two; -300 and a win for Europe.

**Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.**

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Meyers	Hanlon	Levin	McGann
-	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Duboin	Berkowitz	Bocchi	Cohen
-	Pass	Pass	4♠
Dble	Pass	5♣	Dble
Pass	5♠	Dble	All Pass

Cohen opened 4♠ and Duboin, who was light in high cards but had perfect distribution, doubled for take-out. Bocchi responded 5♣ and Cohen doubled to show a good hand for his 4♠ opening with reasonable defence. Looking at four-card spade support, Berkowitz would no doubt have bid 5♠ anyway, and he duly did so now. Bocchi thought he had enough to double but there was no defence; +650.

McGann also opened 4♠ but Meyers was unwilling to get involved with such minimal values. That looked to have won the board for USA, but Levin found a double from somewhere and Meyers passed it out

and the overtrick meant +690, which beat +650 to give Europe another point.

Europe won this match, but USA had a good morning in the other two matches. While our featured match finished 6-3 in favour of Europe, Hamman/Soloway & Mahmood/Welland won their set by 5-3, and Hampson/Gitelman & Levin/Weinstein won theirs by 7-3, leaving USA at +3 for the session, and overall.

## Today's Defence Problem

By John Carruthers

**Dealer North. E/W Vul. Matchpoints.**

♠ J 9 ♥ K 9 2 ♦ A Q 10 5 ♣ A J 9 7	♠ K Q 3 2 ♥ A Q ♦ 9 6 4 3 ♣ Q 6 3	<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		<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>West</b></td> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>North</b></td> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>East</b></td> <td style="width: 25%;"><b>South</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>-</td> <td>1♦</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♠</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>4♣</td> <td>4♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dble</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>	-	1♦	1♥	1♠	2♠	3♠	4♣	4♠	Dble	All Pass		
	N																											
W		E																										
	S																											
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>																									
-	1♦	1♥	1♠																									
2♠	3♠	4♣	4♠																									
Dble	All Pass																											

You, West, lead the two of hearts to dummy's queen, partner's jack, and declarer's three (you are playing old-fashioned countand attitude).

Declarer plays the ace of hearts – four, eight and nine, then the king of spades to partner's ace, four and nine. Partner returns the ♦7 to the jack, queen and three. Plan your defence.

## Trivia Quiz 2 Sporting Nicknames

At some point in their careers, which well-known sportsmen and women had these nicknames?

1. Sweetness
2. The Brown Bomber
3. Ohio Fats
4. The Louisville Lip
5. White Lightning
6. The Rockhampton Rocket
7. The Duchess of Doom
8. The Don
9. The Babe
10. Flo-Jo

# Teams Session Two

For the second session of the Teams, we feature the match between Sabibe Auken/Daniela von Arnim & Louk Verhees/Jan Jansma for Europe, and Roy Welland/Zia Mahmood & Paul Soloway/Bob Hamman representing USA.

Perhaps, this article should have been entitled 'Double Trouble'?

## Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ QJ ♥ 76 ♦ AQJ83 ♣ A654	<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		♠ 1098752 ♥ KQ3 ♦ 42 ♣ J2	♠ A3 ♥ 109842 ♦ 5 ♣ Q10987
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ K64 ♥ AJ5 ♦ K10976 ♣ K3											

West	North	East	South
<i>v Arnim</i>	<i>Welland</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Mahmood</i>
–	–	–	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Dble	All Pass	

In the other room, Louk Verhees/Jan Jansma competed to 3♠ on the North/South cards, making exactly for +140 to Europe. Here, Welland/Zia had stopped in 2♠ when Sabine Auken competed with 2NT as East, two places to play. Daniela von Arnim was very happy to compete to respond 3♣, and Roy Welland doubled on the strength of his high cards. Should Zia, looking at three-card spade support, have converted to 3♠? Obviously, that would have proved more successful on this layout, and perhaps he might have judged that 3♠ would be easier to make than getting 300 out of 3♣ doubled.



Daniela von Arnim

Welland led a spade against 3♣ doubled. Von Arnim took the ace and finessed the ♦Q to provide a discard for the spade loser. When that passed off peacefully, the favourable club break meant that she had an overtrick for +570 and a win to Europe. A nice way to start the match.

## Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ J2 ♥ 3 ♦ AQ964 ♣ KQJ82	<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		♠ Q1053 ♥ J10 ♦ K10753 ♣ 74	♠ AK9874 ♥ K9752 ♦ – ♣ 106
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ 6 ♥ AQ864 ♦ J82 ♣ A953											

West	North	East	South
<i>v Arnim</i>	<i>Welland</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Mahmood</i>
–	–	1♠	Dble
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Dble	All Pass	
West	North	East	South
<i>Soloway</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Hamman</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
–	–	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	All Pass

Welland doubled again on this deal but he was on firmer ground this time, as von Arnim's 2♣ bid had shown diamonds, a suit which he held very well.

Welland led a diamond to the jack and queen. Von Arnim led the jack of spades to the queen and ace then a club to her king and a second spade to the nine, Zia pitching a heart. The ♣10 held the next trick and von Arnim played king and another spade to Welland's ten. Welland switched to the jack of hearts to the king and ace and Zia led the eight of diamonds to the nine and ten. Welland switched back to hearts, Zia overtaking the ten with the queen and cashing the ace of clubs. Declarer had the last two tricks now but that was two down for –300.

Meanwhile, Hamman/Soloway reached the spade game. Jan Jansma cashed the ace of clubs then switched to a diamond, which Bob Hamman won with dummy's ace, pitching a heart from hand. He led dummy's heart to the king and ace and Jansma returned a diamond, ruffed. Hamman ruffed a heart low, a diamond back to hand, and a heart with the jack. Louk Verhees over-ruffed and led another diamond. Hamman threw his heart on this as Jansma

ruffed. The club return was won with declarer's ten and he cashed the top spades, losing a trick at the end to the ten; down two for -100, but a winning board for USA.

**Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.**

♠ A 10 6 ♥ QJ986 ♦ A 6 ♣ J 8 6	<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		♠ QJ52 ♥ 75432 ♦ K 5 ♣ 3 2	♠ K 9 ♥ A 10 ♦ Q 9 8 4 3 ♣ A 10 5 4
	N											
W		E										
	S											

<b>West</b> <i>v Arnim</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Welland</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Auken</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Mahmood</i>
–	–	–	1♦
1♥	Dble	3♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	
<b>West</b> <i>Soloway</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Verhees</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Hamman</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Jansma</i>
–	–	–	1♦
1♥	Dble	3♥	Pass
Pass	4♦	All Pass	

After identical starts to the two auctions, Verhees, who knew that he was facing a five-card diamond suit, competed with 4♦, while Welland doubled for a second time. Zia passed the double, reasonably enough, but that proved to be the second expensive decision of the set of this kind.

After a heart lead, 4♦ drifted the inevitable one off for -50.



**Roy Welland**

As the cards lie, 3♥ doubled is quite cold, of course. When South rose with the ace on the first round of trumps, that was the overtrick; +930 and a win for Europe.

**Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.**

♠ 10 6 5 4 ♥ A 10 6 ♦ KJ107 ♣ 9 8	<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		♠ QJ93 ♥ 9874 ♦ A 6 3 ♣ K 10	♠ A 8 ♥ KQJ2 ♦ Q98542 ♣ 4
	N											
W		E										
	S											

<b>West</b> <i>v Arnim</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Welland</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Auken</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Mahmood</i>
–	Pass	1♥	4♣
Pass	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♦	All Pass
<b>West</b> <i>Soloway</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Verhees</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Hamman</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Jansma</i>
–	Pass	1♥	4♣
All Pass			

Both Souths overcalled 4♣ and both Wests passed. When that got back to East, Hamman was unwilling to come again with a minimum opening in high-card terms and shortage in spades. Soloway led a spade and Hamman put in the eight, forcing the king. Jansma could cross to dummy and pitch a heart loser on the ace of diamonds, so came to an overtrick; +150.

The overtrick proved to be of no consequence, as at the other table Auken, who had not yet shown her longest suit, decided that now was the time to do so. When von Arnim gave preference back to hearts, Auken judged that she would not have sufficient support for 4♥ to be a sensible contract and went back to 5♦. The spade lead meant that 5♦ was defeated, but one down for -50 was still a win for Europe.

**Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.**

♠ 8 6 4 3 2 ♥ 10 ♦ A 9 8 5 ♣ A 7 6	♠ 9 7 ♥ AKQJ652 ♦ 10 7 ♣ 9 2	♠ KQJ10 ♥ 8 7 ♦ KQ3 2 ♣ 5 4 3	♠ A 5 ♥ 9 4 3 ♦ J 6 4 ♣ KQJ 10 8
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<b>West</b> <i>v Arnim</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Welland</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Auken</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Mahmood</i>
–	–	1♠	2♣
4♠	5♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		
<b>West</b> <i>Soloway</i>	<b>North</b> <i>Verhees</i>	<b>East</b> <i>Hamman</i>	<b>South</b> <i>Jansma</i>
–	–	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
4♠	5♥	Dble	All Pass

There were two quite different auctions, but the end results were identical. The East hand is a routine opening for Auken/von Arnim and that made it easy for von Arnim to pre-empt to 4♠ over the intervention. However, nothing was going to prevent Roy Welland showing his solid heart suit. Von Arnim doubled on the strength of her two aces and that ended the auction.

Auken led the ♦Q and a second diamond to the ace, and von Arnim switched to a spade to ensure two down; –300.

The East hand is not an opening bid for Bob Hamman, but he stuck in a four-card overcall at his second turn, and once again West could jump to 4♠. This time it was East who doubled 5♥.

Hamman led the king of spades and, when Soloway won the second club, there were three more tricks ready to be cashed; the same down two for –300 and a push board.

The Americans won this match by 5-4 and Levin/Weinstein & Hampson/Gitelman defeated Helgemo/Helness & the Hacketts 7-4. However, the third European team, Bocchi/Duboin & Hanlon/McGann had a big win by 8-2 over Berkowitz/Cohen & Meyers/Levin.

The two wins to one gave USA a 6 points to 3 score-line for this match, increasing their overall score to +6.

## Trivia Quiz 2

### Solutions

1. Chicago Bears running back, Walter Payton (American Football)
2. Joe Louis (Heavyweight Boxing)
3. Jack Nicklaus (Golf)
4. Cassius Clay (Heavyweight Boxing)
5. Alberto Juantarena (Cuban Olympic gold medalist in Track and Field)
6. Rod Laver (Tennis)
7. Alison Fisher (Ladies Pool)
8. Don Bradman (Cricket)
9. Babe Ruth (Baseball)
10. Florence Griffiths Joyner (Track and Field)

# 75 YEARS OF THE CBAI

By SEAMUS DOWLING

The contest for the Warren Buffet cup initiates a series of celebratory events during the CBAI's 75th anniversary season. The Contract Bridge Association of Ireland, one of the earliest national governing bodies, was founded in Dublin, February 25th 1932. Only Austria, 1929 and the Netherlands, 1930, pre-date it.

In a representative match in November 1932, an English team led by Colonel Walter Buller, whose clashes with Culbertson in 1930 helped to popularise the game on both sides of the Atlantic, defeated a CBAI selection. The teams championship for the cup named after the association's founder, Mrs. Holmes Wilson, was first contested in 1934.

In the 1930s the CBAI joined the Duplicate Bridge Control Board, the body under whose auspices the home international championship was first organised. The CBAI defeated Scotland in the inaugural Camrose match, February 1937.

Despite the war years the association expanded, resulting in the division of the state into administrative regions in 1948, the year the CBAI affiliated to the European Bridge League. In 1955, North and South came together to form the Irish Bridge Union. Irish representation in Europe passed into the remit of the new body. Strained relationships between North and South led to the CBAI's withdrawal from the Camrose in 1951, remaining out until 1998.

In 1958 the CBAI introduced master points. Intermediate grades were introduced in 1967 after which growth accelerated. Between 1979 and 1989 affiliations rose from 17,700 to 26,500, an increase of 50%. Expansion slowed during the nineties but continued.

The decade of change, the 1990s, was heralded by the introduction of an annual match with Northern Ireland in 1989 and by preparations for the 1991 European championships. The Killarney Championships imbued the association with a sense of achievement and marked the beginning of a new professional approach to administering the game.

In 1992 the CBAI appointed full-time general secretary, Paul Porteous. Office space became available over the new bridge centre in Templeogue. Headquarters was officially opened on July 1st 1999. In the mid-nineties a teacher training programme was initiated with certification and manuals to ensure a uniform approach to teaching.

Friendly matches with neighbouring unions prepared the way for the CBAI's rejoining the Camrose in 1998. The CBAI's first victory came in the 1999-2000 season.

The new millennium has begun with optimism. Bridge has been accepted on the transition year curriculum of more than 80 schools. Ireland won the silver medals at the European teams championship in Warsaw and now the inaugural match between Europe and North America takes place in Templeogue.

But when Berkowitz led a heart to dummy's king, it held the trick! When declarer led a second trump, Duboin contributed the ten. Now declarer had a genuine dilemma. He could guarantee his partscore by putting on the queen, but only at the expense of an overtrick if East had doubleton ace. At point-a-board scoring the outcome was clear. Berkowitz ducked the second round of trumps. When East showed out declarer knew he had been conned, but there was no recovery. He had to lose two more trumps to West and Europe had the plus score.

**Board 51. Dealer South. E/W Vul.**

# Pairs Session 5

By Patrick Jourdain

The set had plenty of interesting partscore deals, the sort that would mean little in imp scoring, but plenty of scope at point-a-board.

This deal produced what may well be the defence of the week from Giorgio Duboin:

**Board 48. Dealer West. E/W Vul.**

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

<table style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><td style="border: none;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ J 6
N				
W   E				
S				
	♥ A J 4 3			
	♦ A 8 6 4 3			
	♣ A 2			

♠ A 10 3
♥ K 9 2
♦ Q J 10 9 5
♣ 10 4

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

<table style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><td style="border: none;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">W   E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: none;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W   E	S	♠ A K 3
N				
W   E				
S				
	♥ K 9			
	♦ J 6 3			
	♣ 10 8 7 6 2			

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Berkowitz</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Cohen</i>
–	1♥	1♠	2NT
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

David Berkowitz was declarer as North in Three Hearts. Bocchi as East led the king of clubs for count and switched to a diamond ducked round to declarer's queen. Berkowitz cleared the suit by playing ace and another diamond to West's king. Duboin switched to a spade, which went to the jack, queen and king.

Declarer now ruffed a club in order to lead a trump to dummy's king.

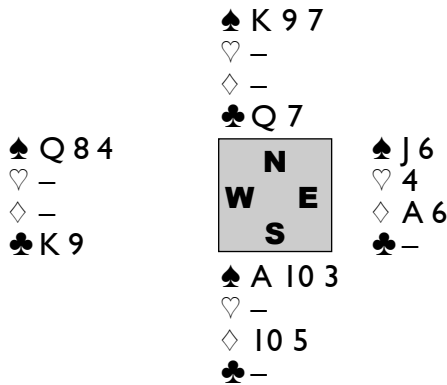
Suppose West wins this and leads another spade. Dummy wins and leads the nine of hearts. When West plays low declarer has a simple safety play of running the nine to guarantee his partscore at no cost; nine tricks.

Tor Helness became declarer as East in One No Trump. Steve Weinstein led the jack of diamonds (Roman leads) and Levin overtook with the king. When this held the trick he returned the seven, to the eight, nine and a spade discard from dummy. On the queen of diamonds dummy released a small club, North a discouraging heart, and East ducked again.



**Steve Weinstein**

Now Weinstein knew declarer held the A-6 tenace over his 10-5 so he was forced to switch. He actually chose a low heart, thinking to remove dummy's entry to the clubs. Helness won in hand and cleared the suit to set up the sixth trick. Weinstein was on lead again. A spade switch would have set up declarer's seventh trick so he played the ten of clubs, jack, small, small. Helness returned to hand with the ace of clubs and cashed his winning heart in this ending:



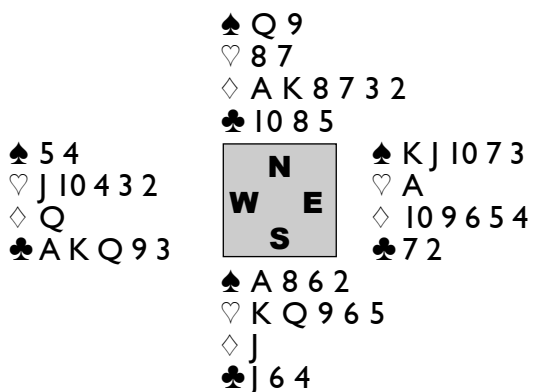
What could South discard? Not a diamond certainly. So he had to dispose of his small spade. West and North threw clubs

Helness, apparently leaving his diamond ace stranded, next led a low spade from hand. Now the defence was stymied. They could cash only their two top spades and would then have to concede the last two tricks either to dummy, or declarer's diamonds. And so INT came home.

As the play went the defence had a chance to beat the contract. When South won the third diamond, a switch to ace and ten of spades, ducked to declarer's jack, would have worked. South gets in with the heart king to play another spade through dummy.

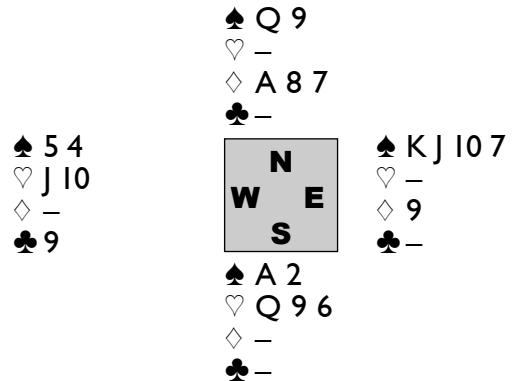
Another deal from the same table warrants a mention:

**Board 52. Dealer West. All Vul.**



West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Levin	Helness	Weinstein
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Helness became declarer in Two Spades. The singleton diamond was led to North's king and a heart returned to the ace. A diamond was ruffed by South with the six and a high heart was ruffed by declarer. A further diamond was ruffed by South's eight of trumps and now South exited with a club. Declarer cashed three rounds of clubs ditching a diamond from hand to leave the lead in dummy in this ending:



At this point declarer led a heart from the West hand. Levin ruffed high in the vain hope of promoting a trump for his partner. Helness over-ruffed and led a diamond. The defence could take only the ace of spades.

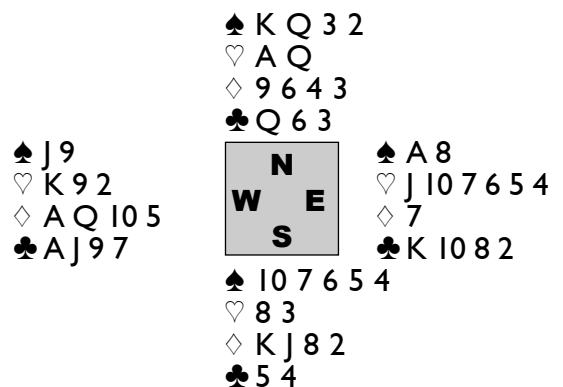
Later the defenders realised that they can get an extra trick in the ending diagrammed if North discards a diamond on the heart lead. Declarer ruffs and leads his last diamond. South smartly ruffs with the ACE of trumps and exits with a heart. Declarer is forced to ruff in his own hand and concede a trick to North's trump queen.

## Solution to Defence Problem

This deal is from the second semi-final session of the LM Pairs at the recent Chicago Nationals.

If you can, it is important to achieve +800 (down four) to beat the +620 you would have scored in 4♥. Can you do it?

**Dealer North. E/W Vul. Matchpoints.**



Your partner's 4♣ bid has been very helpful. He has six hearts that you know about (♥J at trick one), so is either 1-6-1-5, 1-6-2-4, or 2-6-1-4. How do you determine which?

A switch to the jack of clubs covers all three possibilities.

(i) When partner is 1-6-1-5 you have only one club trick coming and no diamond ruff. Either the ♣J will hold, or declarer will cover and partner will win the king. Of course, 800 will not be possible on this layout.

(ii) Partner is 1-6-2-4 and will encourage clubs if your jack holds. If declarer covers, partner will win and return his remaining diamond and you will again no that no ruff is available as he does not have room for a second trump. Again, 800 will not be possible.

(iii) The critical case, and the one where 800 is possible, is when partner is 2-6-1-4. If declarer covers the ♣J, partner wins and returns a club to you. You now know that he does not have a second diamond to lead, so you play the ♦5 for him to ruff, still retaining the ace-ten over declarer's king-nine. If declarer does not cover the club, partner discourages and you again give him his ruff.

You defend so beautifully, don't you think?

# Teams Slams

By Patrick Jourdain

USA won this board from the first session of the teams when Gitelman and Hampson reached a thin slam and brought it home:

**Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Jason</i>
–	–	1♣(i)	Pass
1♥(ii)	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦(iii)	Pass
4NT(iv)	Pass	6♥	All Pass

- (i) Precision
- (ii) Artificial showing 8-11 HCP
- (iii) Agreeing hearts as trumps
- (iv) Spade cuebid

Thanks to the artificial response of One Heart to the strong club West found himself as declarer in Six Hearts.

Justin Hackett led a diamond. Gitelman popped up with the ace, cashed the ace of clubs, crucially ruffed a low club next to reach hand (at another table declarer cashed a second high club and could not reach hand in time), and used the top spades to dispose of dummy's diamonds.

With the urgent job done Gitelman now led a trump to the king that held. Next came a second club ruff, this time with the nine. North was out of clubs, but he had no answer. Justin decided to over-ruff and force declarer with a spade. But a high trump took care of the remainder and the East hand was good.

Board 5 was the slam hand reported elsewhere where Six Notrumps is makeable on a squeeze. The most testing lead for declarer is a diamond. Sadly for the journalists nobody found this lead for to make the slam now requires some clear thinking on declarer's part together with an exotic Geza Ottlik ('Adventures in Card Play') type ending. Treat it as a double-dummy problem.

Here was the full layout:

**Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.**

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

Can you see declarer's best line on a diamond lead?

When the defence win the club they can play a second diamond to sever communications in that suit. Hence you should concentrate on other communication problems.

You need to win with the king or queen of diamonds to preserve the ace as entry to the other hand. Then if North ducks clubs twice, as he should, you can enter hand with a diamond to play a third club, discarding a diamond from the West hand. North wins in this ending:

♠ AK7	N W E S	♠ J964
♥ AK7		♥ Q82
♦ Q6		♦ –
♣ –		♣ Q
		♠ Q32
	♥ J65	
	♦ 109	
	♣ –	

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Jansma	Levin	Verhees	Weinstein
–	Pass	Pass	3♠
Dble	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Pre-empts cause trouble for the opposition – that is why people pre-empt. It becomes very difficult when you pick up a 19-count and RHO bids 3♠ over your partner's opening bid. There is little room to both explore a sensible trump suit and the right level.

Suppose first that North exits with a heart. Declarer can win in the West hand, cash the diamond throwing a spade, and play off two more hearts and finally the club to squeeze South in spades and diamonds.

Fred Gitelman started with a negative double, knowing that he was only delaying the problem. When Sabine Auken raised to 4♠, Gitelman could have doubled again, but felt that there was too much potential for a slam his way, so tried 4NT instead, still seeking a trump suit. When Geoff Hampson bid 5♣, Gitelman committed to slam and Hampson signed off in 6♣.

But look again and imagine that North exits instead with a club, forcing East to play the squeeze card earlier than he wishes. Dummy is squeezed before South has to make a fatal discard in spades or diamonds. If dummy throws a small diamond or spade, a menace has gone. And dummy needs the small heart for communication.

Daniela von Arnim led ace and another spade, so the defence had the first two tricks.

So the slam goes down? No! South has been squeezed, because he has to release another heart. And now comes the coup de grace. On the master club dummy ditches the ACE of hearts, retaining the three small cards it needs. Declarer crosses to the king of hearts, cashes the top diamond throwing a spade, and returns to the queen of hearts. The master ♥8 squeezes South in spades and diamonds. Now that line of play might have made Hand of the Year.

The five-zero trump split meant a second under-trick; –100 and a nice start for the German ladies.

At the other table, Louk Verhees did not open the East hand, and slam was never an issue. Jan Jansma doubled the 3♠ opening for take-out and passed the 4♥ response. After a diamond lead, Verhees made twelve tricks as a spade loser went away on the ace of clubs; +480 and a win for Europe.

## Teams Session Three

**Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.**

♠ 74	N W E S	♠ J10
♥ KQ1073		♥ AJ54
♦ AKJ		♦ 108
♣ KQJ		♣ A9874
		♠ AQ9852
	♥ 62	
	♦ 97653	
	♣ –	

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Gitelman	Auken	Hampson	v Arnim
–	Pass	1♦	3♠
Dble	4♠	Pass	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♣	All Pass

♠ 953	N W E S	♠ –
♥ 973		♥ 1054
♦ J109		♦ Q8765432
♣ 10874		♣ K3
		♠ AJ87
	♥ AK862	
	♦ –	
	♣ AQ65	

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Gitelman	Auken	Hampson	v Arnim
Pass	1♣	3♦	3♥
4♦	Pass	5♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	5NT
Pass	6NT	Pass	7♣
Pass	7♥	Dble	7NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Jansma	Levin	Verhees	Weinstein
Pass	1♠	4♦	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	6♠
Pass	6NT	Pass	7♠
Pass	7NT	All Pass	

More pre-empts and some tough judgement decisions for North/South. However, both pairs proved equal to the task, with Auken/von Arnim picking up a juicy bonus along the way as Geoff Hampson doubled 7♥, which he was confident that he could beat, then doubled 7NT also, a contract against which he did not have a sure defence.

There were sixteen tricks available to North/South – more to the point, the thirteen required without the need for any finesses. Levin/Weinstein would have been happy with their +2220, having some hopes that playing in no trump might win the board, but Auken/von Arnim had +2490 and another point to Europe.

**Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.**

♠ J 8 6 3 ♥ J 4 3 2 ♦ 6 3 ♣ 4 3 2	<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		♠ AK ♥ KQ 10 ♦ AQ 9 5 4 ♣ K 10 6	♠ Q 9 5 4 2 ♥ 9 ♦ 10 8 ♣ A 9 8 7 5
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ 10 7 ♥ A 8 7 6 5 ♦ KJ 7 2 ♣ QJ												

West	North	East	South
<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>v Arnim</i>
–	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
West	North	East	South
<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
–	Pass	1♣	1♥
Dble	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
6♣	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Two strong club auctions developed along very different lines. Where von Arnim passed as South, Gitelman showed a negative, heard that he was facing a strong balanced hand, and transferred to spades then suggested 3NT, which Hampson was happy to agree to.

Von Arnim led a heart to the jack and king and Hampson unblocked the top spades then led ♣K followed by the ♣10 to the ace. He tried the ♠Q next and, upon discovering the uneven break, led the ♦10 to the queen and king. He had eleven tricks now for +460.

Steve Weinstein overcalled 1♥ and Jansma doubled. I prefer not to speculate on what went wrong in the Dutch auction, but the final contract was a very bad one, of course.

Weinstein led the jack of clubs but Verhees did not have sufficient dummy entries to be fooled. He won the club in hand and unblocked the spades, then played the ♣10 to dummy and cashed the ♠Q. Next he played a heart to the king, which Weinstein ducked.

Verhees took the remaining club winners then led a diamond to the queen. that lost to the king and Weinstein could play ace and another heart. As declarer had been forced to discard a heart earlier to keep sufficient potential winners, Bobby Levin won the ♥J and had a spade to cash at the end for down three; –150 and a win for USA.

Incidentally, for those who love to pre-empt at all possible opportunities, note that Levin did not take space away from his opponents, despite holding five-card support for partner – and those opponents misjudged the hand anyway.

**Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.**

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Gitelman</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>v Arnim</i>
–	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Dble	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♣	All Pass
West	North	East	South
<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
–	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♣	4♠	5♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

And to complete today's coverage of the Teams, a deal on which both East/West pairs bid well to a making slam.

OK, 6NT by East would win the board, but it would be awfully tough to reach that contract with any confidence.

Gitelman/Hampson had it easier, in that they were left to explore at their own pace, whereas Weinstein's overcall and Levin's jump to game forced Jansma/Verhees to guess, which they did successfully.

It was a flat board at +1370.