



Winter National Bridge Championship

16th to 22nd December 2012 at Geetanjali Stadium

DAILY BULLETIN

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India Blues Bombay Tops in Ruia Gold Odisha Secretariat Recreation Club Tops Ruia Silver

54th Winter National Bridge Championship got underway at the newly built Geetanjali Stadium. Bridge regulars in the Nationals, very much acquainted with the location and other advantages at Netaji Indoor where Bridge Nationals were held thrice were initially apprehensive of the suitability of the new venue. However they have adjusted to the new ambience.

Kolkata has always had good record to be a special attraction for all the Bridge Players. It has been historically proved that whenever the venue for National at Kolkata, entries becomes higher.

No wonder, compared to the last Winter National at Chennai, entries for Ruia Gold is 59 Teams and for Ruia Silver 99 Teams.

At the end of 5th round **India Blues Bombay** are leading the fields with 104 VPs followed by Poddar Developers with 99 VPs.

Last year Ruia Gold winner Railways A's performance have not been very impressive so far with 79 VPs in 5 rounds. However they have the passed record of springing surprise at the finishing stage.

In Ruia Silver **Odisha Secretariat Recreation Club** with 105 VPs are topping the table and **OCI Copper** with 99 VPs are in second position.

The first five rankings in Ruia Gold after 5th rounds are

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|---------|
| 1. | Indian Blues Bombay | 104 VPs |
| 2. | Poddar Developers | 99 VPs |
| 3. | Formidables | 97 VPs |
| 3. | Texan Aces | 97 VPs |
| 4. | Ajoy Bagaria | 95 VPs |
| 5. | A Sarkars IV | 92 VPs |

IN RUIA SILVER THE TOPPERS ARE

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Odisha Secretariat Recreation Club | 105 VPs |
| 2. | OCI Copper | 99 VPs |
| 2. | DRDO Sports Board | 99 VPs |
| 3. | RKD Infrastructure Pvt Ltd | 96 VPs |
| 4. | Captain's IV | 95 VPs |
| 4. | D Ganguly's IV | 95 VPs |
| 4. | Pearl Mehta | 95 VPs |

It is however too early to make any prediction. The silver lining of this National is the debut of a team of rise young engineers of Jadavpur University (Shri Rajarshi Roy, Shri Ratul Das, Shri Ranajoy Basu, Shri Sumya Sankar Chakrabarti, Shri Subham Talukdar) who are playing under the sponsorship of Navyuga Engineering Co. It will definitely encourage other youngsters to learn bridge.

SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

DAY 2 MONDAY 10.00 HRS
RUIA GOLD & SILVER

10.00 HRS - ROUND 06

12.00 HRS - ROUND 07

LUNCH

14.30 - ROUND 08

16.30 - ROUND 09

18.30 - ROUND 10

PLEASE OBEY OR FACE PENALTY

It is regrettable that inspite of repeated announcement and request some of the participants are smoking inside the stadium and talking very loud voice, causing inconvenience to other players. If any player is found smoking inside the stadium or talking loudly. Penalty shall be imposed on the team to which the player belongs.

ENTRY GUIDELINES

IMP Pairs	1000 per pair	upto 11 a.m. 18-12-2012
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Holkar Trophy	700 per pair	upto 6 p.m. 19-12-2012
Elimination 1		
Elimination II & III	300 each	

Junior Pairs	Free
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Mixed Pairs	600 each pair	upto 6 p.m. 21-12-2012
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Swiss Pairs	600 each pair	upto 11 a.m. 21-12-2012
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NB: Programme of Side event will depend on number of entries

Problem : Declarer's Play

Contract 4♥ by west. After North opens 1NT. Opening lead ♥6.

Please try to solve by covering North-South hand.

♠ A Q 10

♥ 6 3

♦ A K J 6

♣ Q 7 5 2

♠ K 8

♥ A K Q 8 7 4 W

♦ 4 3

♣ A K J

N

♠ 9 7 4 3

♥ J 10 9 2 E

♦ 9 8 7 5 2

♣ C --

S

♠ W 6 5 2

♥ 5

♦ Q 10

♣ 10 9 8 7 4 3

Order of play :

1. take the trick in your hand.
2. Play the jack of clubs, may be he saying that 'your hand is faster than the head' applies to North and he will forget to cover the queen on the jack and you will manage to discard a spade. That is the way Billy Eisenberg played and succeeded.

A Bridge Story - Et tu, Partner?

Weak Response - When your partner passes your Forcing Bid ... followed by ...

Double - When the opponents double up with laughter ... followed by ...

Dummy - What you call your Partner ... followed by ...

Call - What your partner thinks of you ... followed by ...

Overcall - What you think of your partner ... followed by ...

Point Count - When he Points out and Counts all your past mistakes ... followed by ...

Small Slam - When you slam your cards on the table ... followed by ...

Grand Slam - When he slams his fist into your face ... followed by ...

Splinter - When you poke him with the pencil tip ... followed by ...

Short Club - When he hits you with a cane ... followed by ...

Vulnerable - When you start to cry ... followed by End Play - Bye-bye partnership

RUIA GOLD RANKINGS AFTER 5 ROUNDS

TEAM NAME	VPS	TEAM NAME	VPS
INDIA BLUES BOMBAY	104	ARISTOS	76
PODDAR DEVELOPER	99	BHARAT PETROLEUM	76
TEXAN ACES	97	R L KEJRIWAL M C	75
FORMIDABLE	97	ARMAAN	75
AJAY BAGARIA	95	MOHIT MEHTA	73
A SARKAR'S IV	92	RAJKUMAR	73
N. CHAKRABARTY'S IV	90	BANGUR CEMENT	73
ENTERPRISE	90	RAJKUMAR	73
SHREE CEMENT	88	BOLD PLAY	71
NALCO	86	MANGO	71
ASHOK CHATTERJEE	85	ADVIKA	70
DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS	85	INDIAN MAVERICKS	70
BANEET	84	MMRMC (DR. BSA)	70
TRICKS BOMBAY	84	DILIP ATHA'S IV	70
SPARTAN	83	D P BANERJEE	70
SUDRIPTA BOSE	83	PROMITA SARAF	68
SAMADHAN BRIDGE ACADEMY	81	MOHOTA	67
MAYA MEERA SNEHA	80	SWAPAN GHOSH'S IV	65
NAGBAGAN CARD CLUB	80	RANDOM COMBO (CHENNAI)	63
C V RAO	80	CHUNDER'S IV	59
RAILWAYS A	79	VIERS	58
HEMAN JALAN	79	C R	57
ZUGZWANG	79	BAJAJ	56
S SQUARE	79	B BALAN'S IV	54
SILIGURI TENNIS CLUB (A)	78	RAILWAYS B	48
SILIGURI TENNIS CLUB (A)	78	P BANERJEE'S IV	48
A R DAS' IV	77	ARUN ELECTRICAL (P) LTD	47
TRAMBAK RUBBER	76	C SENGUPTA'S IV	44

RUIA SILVER RANKINGS AFTER 5 ROUNDS

TEAM NAME	VPS	TEAM NAME	VPS
ODISHA SECRETARIAT RECREATION CLUB	105	PATAKI C/O INDIA CLUB	75
DRDO SPORTS BOARD	99	ERRC	74
OCI COPPER	99	BABU'S VI	74
RKD INFRASTRUCTURE PVT LTD	96	BALAI PAUL	73
CAPTAIN'S IV	95	A R DAS' IV	73
PEARL MEHTA	95	ANNONYMOUS NAGPUR	73
D GANGULY'S IV	95	ARUNDA	73
KONNAGAR IV	93	ELITE, SHILCHAR	73
CHANDANNAGAR BRIDGE CLUB	92	CHANDRAS	72
DEEPAK MOITRA IV	92	ELEGANCE	72
INDIAN OIL CORPORATION	92	BDBA (B)	72
SAMIR GHOSH	89	SOUMIK MITRA	71
PANDEY SEVYAN	88	PATNI	71
THE COMBINATION	87	APAN	71
BDBA (A) DURGAPUR	87	S GUHA'S IV	70
ASSAM UP	87	NADIA CRD CLUB	70
KAMALA CLUB	86	SILIGURI ENNIS CLUB (B)	70
PRALOY SARKAR'S IV	86	MUMBAI PORT TRUST	70
T BOSE'S IV	86	N C GHOSH'S IV	69
VIZAG STEEL	86	ONGC B	69
PLAYWELL	85	PARC	68
AAVANT	85	MAHANADI COALFIELD	68
TEAM VIBRANT	85	N CHITLANGIAS IV	67
OFSPB B	84	TATA STEEL, SUKHINDA	67
ONGC C	84	GURU PRASAD, DOMBIVILI	67
B MONDAL'S IV	83	PARIMAL DAS' IV	66
TASHER DESH	82	ASANSOL BRIDGE UNIT BLUE	66
N B SARKAR	81	BARUIPUR BRIDGE CLUB	65
TAPAN SARKARS' IV	81	SDBA	64
PMDBA	81	ASSAM BLUES	64
RAMAMURTHY	81	ASHIM BASU'S IV	64
PRAGNYA (BHUBANESWAR)	81	BBSS, HOWRAH	63
SUJIB MITRA	80	SHREE JAGANNATH (OSRC)	63
SILCHAR BRIDGE CLUB	80	ONGC A	63
BARSSS	80	BBF, KOLKATA	62
S RAJA'S IV	80	HOPE	60
BANERJEE'S VI	79	OFSPB A	60
TATA STEEL, WEST BOKARO	79	S MONDALS IV	60
BDBUC	79	GUPTAS	59
DR SUBRATA SENGUPTA IV	79	HBA (SIMLA)	59
SAIL ISP BURNPUR	78	ASANSOL BRIDGE UNIT RED	58
NAVAMITA	78	KONNAGAR BRIDGE CLUB	58
BHALOTHAKO	78	MSF SPORT COUCIL	58
S K DUTT IV	77	THE PEDATORS	55
ASHOK DASGUPTA'S IV	77	CRSV-IT-CHENNAI	53
DILJITS	76	HAPPY KAKA	48
MALLIK'S ASSOCIATES	76	TOLLYGUNGE BRIDGE CLUB (S)	45
A K DUTTA'S IV	75	AVSS, PUNE	44
		NAVAYUGA ENGG CO (JUNIOR)	29

A GOOD CONVENTION - by Justin Lall

What makes a good convention? There are 4 factors:

- Frequency – The more it comes up, the better.
- Simplicity – The easier it is to remember, the better.
- Effectiveness – The more you gain when it comes up, the better.
- Cost – The less you have to give up in order to play it, the better.

Before your partnership adds a new convention to its system, you should analyze whether it will be beneficial or not under those four criteria.

I was thinking about it recently, and there is one convention that I play that hits a home run from that perspective, and surprisingly few people play it.

Say the auction starts:

1 p 1N p
2 p 2N p
?

You would like to be able to do all of the following:

1. Show 5-5 in the majors and force.
2. Show 5-5 in the majors and sign off.
3. Show 6-4 in the majors and force.
4. Show 6-4 in the majors and sign off ** (more on this later).
5. Pattern out with 54(31) or 54(40) for choice of games purposes (or possibly for slam).

The problem here with natural methods is that you must choose whether 3 and 3 cater to hand types 1 and 3, or hand types 2 and 4. Most people give up on hands 2 and 4, letting partner play 2N in order to improve their game and slam bidding accuracy. However, there is a simple way to have your cake and eat it too.

Play 3 as a relay to 3. This will operate like lebensohl. Over 3 if you bid 3 or 3, it is to play. If you bid 3N it means you had a natural 3 bid, so 5404 or 5413, enabling partner to pull with weak diamonds. This leaves a direct 3 and 3 as forcing. A 3 bid would be standard, showing a diamond fragment.

The **cost** of playing this is very small, you lose some room when you have a club fragment, but it is room that you usually won't need anyways.

The **simplicity** of the convention could hardly be lower. You have to remember that 3 is a relay, that's it.

The **effectiveness** of the convention is where it really shines. You no longer have to choose between leaving your partner in 2N when you hold KQxxx AJxxx Q xx, or forcing to a ridiculous game. Same with a hand like Kjxxxx Ajxx Qx x.

I can already hear some of you saying, "But Justin,

wanting to sign off with a 6-4 hand is impossible, because with a weak 6-4 I would have bid 2 not 2. Then when I bid 3 next, my partner knows I have a weak 6-4."

It is very classical that weak 6-4's bid spades, spades, hearts, and strong 6-4's bid spades, hearts, spades. However, it is a very poor way to play. It is too important to introduce hearts over 1N whenever you have 6-4, there are some hands where partner will pass you in 2 but would invite or bid game over 2. And partner might just be 1-4 or 1-5 where 2 is a much superior partscore (remember when partner is 2-3 he will correct to 2 unless his hand is very weak.) This does not even take into account suit quality issues, do you really want to bid 1 then 2 on Qxxxxx AKQx xx x?

But please, stop interrupting me. You know how I like to go off on tangents.

Back to the convention. The frequency of it is reasonably high, because it does not only apply to 1 -1N-2 -2N. It applies to these auctions as well:

- 1 -1N-2 -2N
- 1 -1N-2 -2N
- 1 -1 -2 -2N

Basically, it applies when opener has bid 2 suits, and neither of them was clubs. This is obviously because if you have bid clubs, bidding 3 is now a rebid of your second suit.

There will be some auctions where you have an extra step. If you think this might be confusing, I would recommend just leaving it idle, it is not worth it as it takes away from the **simplicity** of the convention and adds little to the **effectiveness**.

However, for completeness, the auction:

1 1N
2 2N
3 3
3

would have no meaning. I like to define it as 5404, whereas 3 then 3N is 5413. Interestingly, you can do the same thing over 1 -1 -2 -2N-3 -3, even though partner has bid spades naturally. A direct 3 would show a spade fragment, and having two ways to force in spades is not useful (and non forcing would not make sense... you are forcing too high if you don't have a fit, and with a minimum 3541 you should be raising 1 to 2 to begin with).

Whatever your level, I recommend that you add this excellent convention to your arsenal, and start thinking about the right things before you add another objectively bad convention to your system just because it seems cool.

To be continued

'ETHICS' - by Richard Hills

1. Are ethics an outmoded concept in a game environment?

The first papers distributed for this discussion are quotations of the standards of earlier years. With them there are copies of some recent EBL statements on ethics.

Do we see a difference?

Should we hope to maintain the standards of earlier years? Could we hope to develop standards to fresh levels? Bridge in the highly social atmosphere of the home. Many a child learns that father and mother happily and innocently communicate as much by the tempo and mannerisms that accompany their game as they do by the calls in the auction and the play of the cards.

2. The young player's first experience of a bridge club.

Even if they do not bring with them what they have learnt about the game at their mother's knee, young players entering a bridge club for the first time will frequently encounter a socially relaxed game. There is often (but not always) a tolerance of ethical standards that will not stand scrutiny if they move upwards to the regional, national and international levels of bridge.

3. What should be the role of the NBO before, during, and immediately after, the transition from social player to competition level?

Does the NBO have a duty to do anything at all? Does the NBO have an interest to help the players to understand the ethical requirements of the game? What does your NBO do about it? Do you issue free pamphlets and/or posters to clubs on ethics in bridge? Do you include the subject in teaching programmes? - As a mainstream subject? Do you include it in seminars for club tournament directors?

4. What are the cad' in partner's actions.

The unthinking remark with a friendly approach to the game and a little good humour at the table, people sometimes get 'caught out' by saying something that can be misread and immediately regretting it.

Disclosure

Law and Regulation normally requires that our methods be 'fully disclosed'.

The pressure for full disclosure should increase at each higher level of the game. It is suggested that a high standard of ethics calls for a high level of consideration for opponents. In turn this means care in giving a full and fair explanation of any understanding that opponents may not readily anticipate and understand.

Consider this proposition: "" On the first occasion that something happens you may draw an inference; maybe the second time it is still a matter of evidence and reasoning. The third time it happens you are on solid ground and it is a matter of partnership agreement. Further, if you say to partner 'so in this situation I cannot have four Spades' a conversation that began with an inference has transmuted it into an agreement.""

Think about advanced partnerships in your NBO - those with well-developed system files. Do they measure up to these standards of disclosure when asked to explain a call? Do they mention relevant 'agreed' inferences?

Misinformation

As with disclosure, there is an issue under this heading if it is considered a matter of bridge ethics to be considerate of opponents. The higher we go in bridge, is there not a corresponding increase in our responsibility for preparing ourselves for tournaments?

How ethical can we consider ourselves once we rise to the levels of national tournaments, or of regional tournaments in larger countries, if we are unable to give our opponents an accurate account of our system agreements and our special understandings? Is it acceptable if we go to such major tournaments inadequately prepared? - using methods that we have not fully grasped?

Richard Hills,

There is currently no obligation to have *comprehensive* agreed methods. Correctly informing the opponents that you have no explicit or implicit agreement about a particular call is not an infraction under the current Laws.

To be continued next bulletin

A FEW FACTS OF BRIDGE LIFE

Good Advice To Give Your Partner

By Eddie Kantar

Surely a player of your bridge skills is familiar with most or all of the following tips you are about to read. But is your partner?

Tips 1-20 are bidding tips.

When partner bids two suits and you have an equal number of cards in each suit, take partner back to the first suit even if it means increasing the level. Just do it!

You hold: Axxx K10x ?Jxx xxx

Partner You

1 ?1

2 ?

Bid 3 ?. Raising hearts (see next tip) or passing partner's reverse, a one-round force, puts you back in kindergarten.

A direct raise of a second suit promises four card support (in blood).

You hold: xx A10x ?A10x K10xxx

Partner You

1 2

2 ?

Rebid 2NT showing 11-12 high-card points. Don't even thinking of raising hearts with only three.

With two five-card suits: open with the higher ranking suit, respond in the higher ranking suit, and overcall in the higher ranking suit. Do not worry about which is the stronger suit.

You hold: x J10xxx ?AKQxx Kx

Open 1 , not 1 ?. Respond 1 to an opening 1 bid and overcall 1 if the opening bid to your right is 1 .

When the bid to your right is strong, a jump by you is weak; when the bid to your right is weak, a jump by you is strong.

If partner opens 1 and RHO doubles, a jump to 2 by you is weak. If RHO opens 2 (weak), a jump to 3 by you is strong.

After you open 1 or 1 and partner responds 1NT denying support for your major, don't rebid your major unless you have a six-card suit.

When holding three four card suits and a singleton, open the bidding 1 ? unless your singleton is in diamonds! If it is, open 1 . You should have at least 12 HCP to open the bidding with this distribution.

You hold: AKxx KJxx ?J10xx x Open 1 ? .

A takeout double by a passed hand shows 9-11 HCP with shortness in the opener's suit. If the opponents have bid two suits, the double promises at least four-card support for both unbid suits.

You hold: AJxx xx ?KJ10xx xx

South (you) West North East

Pass 1 Pass 1

Dbl.

You show both unbid suits with your double. A 2 ?overcall might lose a spade fit.

A good idea when playing Blackwood is to count the king of the agreed suit as an ace! This is called 'Key Card Blackwood' or 'Five Ace Blackwood'. When using this convention do not contract for slam unless you have at least four of the five 'aces'.

When responding to a takeout double, jump the bidding in your long suit with 9-11 'revalued' points. An unbid five-card suit is worth 1 extra point and an unbid six-card suit is worth three extra points. Do not count points for jacks and queens in suits they have bid. a

You hold: AQ10x Kxx ?xx 10xxx

West North East South (you)

1 ?Dbl. Pass ?

Jump to 2 . Do not bid 1 which shows 0-8 points. Also, your jump is not forcing.

Just Sit Right Back and You'll Hear a Tale

Written By : Terry Young

*Bridge ... the Contract for friendship
Where it's okay to be "Dummy
When the kids are in bed
And the family's fed.*

*Without a doubt
The news is out
By word of mouth...*

*East, West, North, or South
Opponents meet
Their goal, "Defeat!"*

*Partners united in kinship,
Where unlike in "Rummy,"
It takes two
To undo
The bid of the other pair.*

*Their challenge in the air,
The cards are down
From New York to Chinatown
Hands are played and chats begun,
'Cause Bridge is FUN for everyone!*