



Winter National Bridge Championship

16th to 22nd December 2012 at Geetanjali Stadium

DAILY BULLETIN

Organising Secretary : Arijit Guha

Bulletin # 2 Tuesday 18th December 2012

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Ajay Bagaria's IV Leads in Ruia Gold

Odisha Secretariat Recreation Club maintains lead in Ruia Silver

Ajay Bagaria's iv are leading the field with 194 VPs after completion of 10th round in the 54th Winter National Bridge Championship. India Blues (V.M Lal, J.M Shah, Himani Kandelwal, Subhas Gupta, Rajiv Kandelwal, Swarnendu Banerjee) have lost the lead position but are closely behind the leaders with 187 VPs.

Ajay's team comprising Ajay Bagaria, Gobinda (Khoka) Sinha, Sudhir Ganguly, Prasun Mukherjee, Pinaki Khan and Sadhan Ghosh have consistently performed so far and deserve to be on the top. Veteran war horses like Gobinda Sinha and Sudhir Ganguly have proved once more that a Bridge player; like vintage wine, matures by age.

In Ruia Silver Odisha Secretariat Recreation Club (OSRC) are topping the tables with 194 VPs. They are closely followed by RKD Infrastructure Private Limited (Subir Gupta, Aniruddha Ghosh, Sadhan Basak, Subir Das, Biswanath Saha, Ajoy Ghosh) with 185 VPs. OSRC have so far maintained the top position.

Railway's A, who were languishing at 21st position after the 5th round, have reasonably recovered after the 10th round to finish at 14th position. But for the drubbings in the hands of Ajay Bagaria's IV losing by a margin of 14 VPs they would have occupied the top slot.

With two more rounds left to finish the swiss league the competition is hotting up. In Ruia Gold 16 teams will qualify for the knock out stage whereas in Ruia Silver 12 teams will qualify for Super Swiss League. After the completion of the Swiss League in both Ruia Gold and Silver, qualifiers will continue the play in their respective events. Non qualifiers and the players who have not participated in the Team of Four will participate in the IMP Pairs event which will start after lunch break.

In the hindsight it is regrettable to observe that despite repeated announcement and publication in the news bulletin some of the players, in utter disregard to the rules, were found smoking inside the playing arena. This is strongly condemned. It is mentioned that two players have been imposed with penalties for smoking inside the stadium. Once again all the players are requested to strictly adhere to the rules. They are once again requested to refrain from smoking inside the stadium and spitting on the walls.

SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

DAY 3 TUESDAY 10.00 HRS

RUIA GOLD & SILVER

10.00 HRS - ROUND 11

12.00 HRS - ROUND 12

LUNCH

14.30 - IMP PAIRS

2 X 18 /20 BOARDS

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 |
|-----------|---------------|----------------------------|

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Holkar Trophy | 700 per pair | upto 6 p.m. 19-12-2012 |
| Elimination 1 | | |
| Elimination II & III | 300 each | |

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Junior Pairs | Free |
|--------------|------|

| | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Mixed Pairs | 600 each pair | upto 6 p.m. 21-12-2012 |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------------|

| | | |
|-------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| Swiss Pairs | 600 each pair | upto 11 a.m. 21-12-2012 |
|-------------|---------------|----------------------------|

NB:Programme of Side event will depend on number of entries

Funny Bridge Stories

Too Many Conventions

Playing with a stranger on OKbridge, I agree to Standard American, plus Cappelletti and some other gadgets she insists on. The way I see it, who cares what you play with pickup partners. Better to just humor them so they can concentrate on judgment and reasoning, which are ten times more important.

So lo and behold, I find myself with a good one-suiter after the opponents open 1NT. Dutifully I bid 2C (an artificial relay to 2D). Partner bypasses the relay and we wind up in a horrible spot for some horrible result. Confused, I ask her if we are playing Cappelletti. "Yes," she replied, "but I thought you forgot."

Too Little Judgment

In an instant matchpoint game with a novice friend, I pass on one of the boards as dealer. LHO opens 1H and partner overcalls 1S, and with some sort of goodish hand I eventually push us to 4S. This however, does not satisfy partner, who after several moments' thought brandishes the 4NT bidding card (Blackwood). After finding me with one ace, he signs off in 5S. Now, this winds up making, but only because the opponents duck one of their THREE aces. Dear God, partner made a slam try needing three aces from a passed hand! After the session, I try to explain to him the fallacy of his logic, and he nods understandingly. To this day, I'm pretty sure he still doesn't get it.

The Fifth Suit

Playing with another OKbridge pickup partner (of supposedly advanced caliber), I hear RHO open 1NT (15-17), and with a weak hand I pass. Partner doubles in the balancing seat, and after the contract makes two overtricks my partner asks why I didn't bid. "My double was takeout," he accuses.

If You Can't Beat Them

Neill Currie told me of the time he was playing in a regional and one of his little bidding concoctions, a 2D preempt showing 4-4 in the majors, came up. Of course, one of his opponents asked about the alert, and Neill had to explain. Not three months later Neill runs into the same opponents, except that one of them has the 2D preempt listed on her convention card, with her last name attributed to it! The sincerest form of flattery, I guess.

RUIA GOLD & SILVER RANKINGS AFTER 10 ROUNDS

| RUIA GOLD | | RUIA SILVER | |
|-----------------------|-----|------------------------------------|-----|
| TEAM NAME | VPS | TEAM NAME | VPS |
| AJAY BAGARIA | 194 | ODISHA SECRETARIAT RECREATION CLUB | 194 |
| INDIA BLUES BOMBAY | 187 | RKD INFRASTRUCTURE PVT LTD | 185 |
| FORMIDABLE | 182 | DILJITS | 180 |
| TEXAN ACES | 178 | TAPAN SARKAR'S IV | 179 |
| HEMANT JALAN | 177 | CHANDANNAGAR BRIDGE CLUB | 178 |
| ENTERPRISE | 174 | PANDEY SEVYAN | 177 |
| MANGO | 173 | BDBA (A) DURGAPUR | 177 |
| SHREE CEMENT | 171 | DRDO SPORTS BOARD | 176 |
| TRAMBAK RUBBER | 167 | TEAM VIBRANT | 175 |
| MAYA MEERA SNEHA | 166 | DEEPAK MOITRA IV | 173 |
| PODDAR DEVELOPER | 164 | N B SARKAR | 172 |
| NALCO | 163 | OCI COPPER | 172 |
| A R DAS' IV | 163 | THE COMBINATION | 169 |
| RAILWAYS A | 163 | BDBA (B) | 168 |
| ALPHA | 162 | S GUHA'S IV | 166 |
| DHARAMPUR SUGAR MILLS | 162 | KONNAGAR VI | 166 |
| MOHOTA | 161 | CHANDRAS | 165 |
| ASHOK CHATTERJEE | 160 | D GANGULY'S IV | 165 |
| MMRMC (DR. PKB) | 160 | KAMALA CLUB | 165 |
| BANEET | 160 | T BOSE'S IV | 165 |
| | | MAHANADI COAL FIELD | 165 |

Bridge Legend : Sukhoda

A boy of 12 years, I, accompanied my father to an award giving ceremony of WBBA. From a distance my father was introducing me to the who's who of Bridge fraternity. A gentleman with a smiling face approached my father. "He is Sukha Ranjan Ghosh. One of the best players of India" said my father. "Sukha will you please teach Bridge to my son ? "Look, first you complete graduation. Then come to me ," Sukhoda said.

All these thoughts surged into my memory as to my utter surprise I found Sukhoda roaming around slowly in the playing arena. A beatific smile descended on his face as I narrated the incident. "I even rebuked Debasis (Debasis Roy) who once participated in Guru Dutt Trials thou he was suppose to appear in college examination." During his playing days Sukhoda would predict with mathematical precision the nos. of IMPS his team would get or lose after every deal.

No wonder he is six times winner of Ruia Trophy four times winner fo Holkar Trophy for pairs and four times winner of Singhanian Trophy for Board - A - Match.

It is indeed mind boggling. I don't think there are many who would match his achievements. The first international success in Bridge for India came in the year 1977 in Far Eastern Bridge Championship at Manila in the year 1977. Sukhoda was a part of that team. Other players were Shri Gobinda Sinha, Sri Sudhir Ganguly, Shri Ajoy Bramhachari and Late Gora Ghose. Sukhoda partnered with legendary Late Rabi Roy for a long period. He was introduced to Bridge in the year 1960 by Shri Nripen Roy of Kalighat Club. He bought a copy of Culbertson's Contract Bridge Complete and read it five times! There after he never looked back. He would definitely have continued his Bridge pursuit but for some heart complications in the year 1999. He is eighty years young.

May God give you long life Sukhoda! We look forward to you to get inspiration and encouragement in the years to come.

'ETHICS' - by Richard Hills

Richard Hills,

Indeed, I dearly wish that all of my opponents were inadequately prepared, using methods that thy had not fully grasped. It is very true that if the opponents mangle the Ghestem convention we may lose 10imps by missing our cold spade game (due to the opponents playing in a misbid spade part score). But most of the time a Ghestem mangle will lead to the boot being on the other foot, with ethical manglers going -1400 at the table, and unethical manglers going -1400 in the Appeals Committee room.

Grattan Endicott,

5. How do we see these problems varied when screens are in use?

Tempo

During the auction it is the return of the tray that matters. The screen mate of a player who hesitates has no reason to call the Director if players on the other side of the screen have noticed no untoward delay.

Misinformation

Players in doubt are expected to alert. Do we then support the WBF view that an alert one side of the screen but not the other does not necessarily imply an infraction? Players should not make assumptions about reasons for an alert?

6. Suspicion

Another problem is that some players are more gifted than others. When we see a highly successful partnership are we too ready to suspect them of cheating? Do we think too easily that they must have some way of communicating, some way of 'finding out' that is denied to mortals?

When we see the introduction of screens, bidding boxes, symmetrical playing cards, do we feel ostalgia for the 'innocence' of the past? Or do we share the feeling that "nostalgia isn't what it used to be"? Is it our belief that such measures are essential safeguards for the probity of the game, the honesty of its players? Or do we see in them a response to the perceptions of envious of success?

3rd TOLANI OPEN SUMMER NATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS, 2013, Pune

16th to 20th February 2013 ; Venue :- Shivchhatrapati Sports Complex, Balewadi, Pune.

HOSTEL ROOMS AT THE VENUE

| Room | 2 Beds | 3 Beds |
|--------|--------|--------|
| Non AC | 1000 | 1400 |
| AC | 1600 | 2100 |

Please note that players staying in the hostel will have to carry their own towels & soaps. The Room tariff includes morning tea / coffee, breakfast till 10.00 am and Dinner from 8.00 pm to 10.30 pm (veg with 1 non veg dish & 1 sweet). All this will be available only in the canteen of the Hostel premises and only against coupons. All those staying in the hostel will be given the coupons at the time of check – in.

Tea / coffee , evening snacks and lunch will be provided free of cost at the venue.

The room booking will be confirmed only against full payment.

ADJACENT HOTELS

| No. | Name | Room | Tariff | Distance |
|-----|------------------------------------|--------------------|--|------------|
| 1 | Orchid VITS 020 - 66177400 | AC | 4100 /- Breakfast included | 50 meters |
| 2 | Radha & Triveni 020 - 27390077 | Non AC AC | 1200 /- 2000 /- | 50 meters |
| 3 | Sadanand Regency 020 - 39801511 | AC Executive AC | 2150 /- 2400 /- Breakfast included | 5 minutes |
| 4 | Sanket Inn 020 - 22932202 | AC | 2000 /- Breakfast included | 10 minutes |
| 5 | Amrita 020 - 65008572 | Non AC AC | 1500 /- 1800 /- | 15 minutes |

The Organising Secretary of the Summer Nationals, Mr. Suhas Vaidya will be here till 22nd Dec 2012. Entry forms and accommodation details are available with him.

Those who would like to give their entries or book their accomodation, kindly contact Mr. Suhas Vaidya (mobile no : 09423138157)

EKRENS 2 DIAMOND

Pre-emptive bidding is one of the important aspects of bidding structure. Many pairs use opening 2D as preemptive bid which of course doesn't have great preemptive effect. Therefore, I would suggest a different use for this available bid which in my opinion is one of the best preemptive openings - Ekrens 2 Diamond.

A) What is Ekrens 2 Diamond

The Ekrens 2 Diamond is Opening bid of 2D showing at least 4-4 in major suits and 5-10 HCPs. This convention is named after Mr. Bjørn Olav Ekren who originated this convention. In original version of this convention minimum requirement is 8 cards (4-4) and there is no requirement regarding points in major suits. However we recommend minimum 9 cards in majors (4-5 or 5-4 or 5-5) and also the points should be concentrated in major suits only.

Ekrens 2D's power is to show defined suits quickly. Used with discipline this is a formidable weapon. The biggest strength of this convention is that frequently the final contract will be reached quickly, may be in one round only - even before opponents can communicate their strength or distribution. This makes defending an Ekrens opening difficult.

B) Responses and Rebids after Ekrens 2 Diamond Opening

There are various methods of responding to Ekrens 2D which are presented below. You can choose the method best suitable/liked by your partnership.

| 2D - ? 2H/S = To play 2NT = Relay 3C = To play 3D = Inv. with 3-3 in majors 3H/S = Preemptive raise 3NT/4H/S = to play 4C/D = RKCB in H/S | Simple response 2D - 2NT - ? 3C = Min 5 hearts 4 spades 3D = Max 5 hearts 4 spades 3H = Min 5 spades 4 hearts 3S = Max 5 spades 4 hearts 3N = Max 5-5 | Recommended response 2D - 2NT - ? 3C = Min (3D=relay, 3H/S=to play) 3D = Min but atleast 5-5 in majors 3H = Max 5H and 4S 3S = Max 5S and 4H 3N = Max 5 S - 5 H 4C = 6 H - 5 S 4D = 6 S - 5 H |
|---|--|--|
| Other meanings of 3C and 3D 3C/D = Natural, forcing or 3C = Invitational in Hearts 3D = Invitational in Spades Opener bids next suit as transfer and then passes or bids game | Alternate response 2D - 2NT - ? 3C = Max hand 3D=relay 3H/S= agrees trump, GF 3D = Min 5H-5S or 5H-4S 3H = Min 5S-4H | 2D - 2NT - 3C - 3D - ? 3H = 5 H and 4 S 3S = 5 S and 4 H |

In case you are a die-hard multi 2D fan and would also like to play Ekrens, then we suggest Opening bid of Two Heart for this purpose.

C) Defending Against Ekrens 2 Diamond Opening:

Defending Ekrens 2 Diamond opening is not easy. However we can bear in mind that chances of a major suit game are remote. The defence should look for playable 3NT game or minor suit game or slam. Many times penalizing opponents should also be considered as an option. Ekrens 2H is more difficult to defend than Ekrens 2D. The following is the recommended defence against Ekrens 2 Diamond:

- Double - Shows a balanced hand of at least 15HCP.
- 2H/2S/3C/3D - Natural, good one suited hand.
- 2NT - Strong semi balanced hand, minor suits oriented. Responder can pass or bids
 - 3C/D/3NT - To play.
 - 3H/S - Stopper showing for 3NT although can be advance cue bids looking for minor suit slam.
 - 4C/D - Invitational
- A pass first and then double shows 12 - 14 HCP.

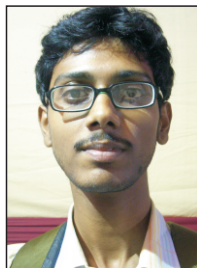
☞ We highly recommend Ekrens 2D or 2H opening bid but with discipline to reap the benefits. We have used this convention for years and would certainly suggest this for regular partnerships.
(Contributed by Sudhir Aggarwal)

CATCH THEM YOUNG



Rajarshi Roy

1990
Chemical Engineer, TCS



Kushal Chakrabarti

1992
BE Electronics, 3rd year



Subham Talukdar

1992
BE Electronics, 3rd year



Ranajoy Basu

1989
Chemical Engineer,
IIT Kharagpur - M.Tech, 1st Year



Ratul Das

1990
Chemical Engineer, RIL
Jamnagar



Saumya Sankar Chakraborty

1990
Chemical Engineer,
Haldia Petro Chemical

It is said by the cynics that Bridge is a dying game. The average age of players in the Indian Bridge field is around 50 years. The President of BFI is doing his best so that youngsters are attracted to play Bridge. The orthodox mindset still prevalent in our society, the stigma attached with playing cards and the crash careerism are proving to be the villain de piece. That Bridge is not a spectator's game does not help either.

Under such a bleak scenario a few bright young faces suddenly attracted my attention. As I approached them and started interaction a feeling of assurance descended on me - Four of the boys are fresh Engineering Graduates from Jadavpur University and two are still students in their third year. Thanks Bridge Base Online. They came into contact with Mr. Manoj Nair and requested him to train them. Manoj gave them a lot of support and placed them under the tutelage of Shibnath Dey Sarkar (Kachhu). Undoubtedly they are in safe hands! Thanks to Mr. C V Rao for sponsoring them through Navyug Engineering Co.

50 Ways To Lose Your Partner

By : Marilyn Hemenway

"The problem is all inside your head," he said to me.

"The answer is easy if you take it logically."

So already I was determined to be free.

There must be 50 ways to lose a partner.

He said, "It's really not my habit to come unglued,

And I hope my meaning will not be misconstrued.

But I'll repeat myself, not caring if I'm crude.

There must be 50 ways to lose a partner.

He said, "It would be nice if you'd use your brain.

Perhaps I should yell at you once again."

I said, "Please don't do that or I'll explain

About the 50 ways to lose a partner.

He said, "Why don't we just skip it for tonight.

Maybe next time you'll see the light."

And then he ordered yet one more beer lite.

There must be 50 ways to lose a partner.

The hand was over; he pulled out the sheet.

And said to me, "Now, that's quite a feat.

There are 25 tables and not a pair did we beat.

There must be 50 ways to lose a partner.

Again we took the cards out of the board,

26 points - I had a hand I adored.

Bid a grand, but they led an ace - it scored !

There must be 50 ways to lose a partner.

T'was the last hand of the night.

He opened 2 Spades; my hand was a sight.

"Pass," I said, perhaps out of spite ?

There must be 50 ways to lose a partner.