

The Cavendish Invitational

Editor: Donna Compton

Articles Editor: Barry Rigal

Welland Team Leads 2008 John Roberts Teams

After 6 of 9 Matches

Team #	TEAM	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Welland	23	44	54	77	107	136
8	Altschuler	9	39	69	94	124	125
18	Berkowitz	21	46	66	94	94	121
5	Hauge	8	38	57	71	80	106
19	Teodorescu	29	30	60	76	76	106
13	Wold	25	54	63	65	82	104
9	O'Rourke	11	30	30	53	75	101
11	Cayne	20	26	48	67	92	100
10	Farholt	20	49	70	75	96	99
17	Vainikonis	20	20	40	45	67	91
12	Deutsch	10	21	31	41	68	88
2	Casen	10	18	41	66	79	83
3	Ventin	21	26	34	54	62	82
7	Rogoff	1	31	49	56	67	77
15	Zimmerman	22	31	43	68	73	77
4	Mahaffey	10	32	43	54	73	73
6	Zaleski	19	43	43	48	56	63
16	Henner	5	5	28	33	36	59
14	Goldberg	7	7	16	41	44	54
20	Kaminski	9	9	16	21	48	54

Cavendish Invitational Pairs Auction Pre-Auction

This year, we will again be experimenting with an important modification to the Cavendish Invitational auction process. All pairs will be pre-auctioned by silent bid from 10:30 am on Wednesday, May 7th through 4:00 pm Thursday May 8th. An auction desk will be located near the playing area. All bids will be posted, along with the identity of each bidder. Once the bid price on any pair reaches \$15,000, this pair will then be further auctioned live on Thursday evening, though silent bids will continue to be accepted until the 4:00 pm Thursday deadline. The minimum raise to any bid is \$500. Any pair whose pre-bid price by the deadline is less than \$15,000 will be deemed sold to the highest bidder at that time and will not be auctioned live on Thursday evening.

2008 John Roberts Teams

1. Roy Welland – Jeff Meckstroth – Sjoert Brink- Bas Drijver
2. Drew Casen – Jim Krekorian – Gaylor Kasle – John Diamond – Neil Chambers - John Schermer
3. Juan Carlos Ventin – Pablo Lambardi – Chris Compton – Bob Hamman
4. Jim Mahaffey – Peter Weichsel – Fredrik Nystrom – Peter Bertheau – Zhong Fu – Jie Zhao
5. Jan-Peter Svendsen – Geir Helgemo – Tor Helness – Erik Saelensminde - Erik Austberg - John Egil-Furness
6. Romain Zaleski – Albert Faigenbaum – Marc Bompis – Jean-Christophe Quantin
7. Bruce Rogoff – Louke Verhees – Zia Mahmood – Charles Wigoder
8. Gilad Altshuler – David Birman – Sam Lev – Jacek Pszczola
9. Lou Ann O'Rourke – Marc Jacobus – Geoff Hampson – Eric Rodwell – Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein
10. Stig Farholt - Bjorn Fallenius – Peter Fredin – Jacob Ron – Knut Blakset – Mathias Bruun
11. James Cayne - Alfredo Versace - George Mittelman - Melih Ozdil
12. Seymon Deutsch – Jaggy Shivdasani – Billy Cohen – Ron Smith – Gary Cohler – Grant Baze
13. Eddie Wold – Mike Passell – Bart Bramley - Kevin Bathurst
14. Connie Goldberg – Wafik Abdou – Billy Eisenberg – Chris Larson
15. Pierre Zimmermann – Frank Multon – Alain Levy – Herve Mouiel - Michel Bessis - Thomas Bessis
16. Christal Henner-Welland – Michael Rosenberg - Gavin Wolpert - Joe Grue - Steve Garner
17. Vitas Vainikonis – Richard Jedrychowski – Wojtek Olanski – Apolinary Kowalski
18. Berkowitz-Pollack – Jan Jansma – Russ Ekeblad - Sheila Ekeblad - Michael Seamon
19. Cornell Teodorescu - Paul Chemla - Ionut Coldea - Michel Lebel
20. Amos Kaminski - Veronel Lungu - Shaya Levit - Daniel Savin

Ten Glorious Years By Sam Leckie, Scotland

I can hardly believe a year has passed since we gathered here for the Cavendish. Again, I can hardly believe it has been ten years since the WBP moved this tournament to Las Vegas on a permanent basis, and for my third hardly believe I have attended every one of them as a spectator. So what attracts us here? Is it the great tournament or the great city. A bit of both I suppose.

Let me tell you that my first visit to Vegas was way back in the early seventies and strangely enough it was because of a bridge tournament that never took place. A splinter of players (similar to the WBP) arranged to hold the first ever big money tournament here. I decided to enter with a fellow scot and forwarded our entry fee. At the last moment, the ACBL advised its members not to take part. Apparently they were worried about proper security arrangements being in place and the event was cancelled. Not to disappoint my late wife, we decided to come anyway for our annual holiday. This story leads me to that unmentionable topic – Cheating at bridge. Every lover of the game knows that if players used illegal signals, then that would surely be the beginning of the end of our wonderful game. One of the attractions for me of this

tournament is that in all the years I have attended, despite all of the money involved, there has never been a suggestion of improper collusion.

A few years ago, I took this matter up with Barry who assured me that in the latter stages of the tournament, the results are scrutinized most carefully, and there has never been a need for an investigation. This is a tribute to both the players and the WBP who invited them.

I remember some years ago attending a big annual event in London when a foreign pair won the event by a colossal margin. The organizers were sure they were using illegal signals, simply because their standard or bidding and card play were below advanced, and yet their results were quite phenomenal. Because of the shortness of the tournament (one Week-end) it was not possible to spot how they were doing it. At the end of the tournament the organizers did the only possible thinking – they presented them with the trophy and told them the cup was not to leave the building, and then told them privately never to come back again.

A few months later their national association caught up with them and they disappeared from the bridge scene altogether. A case of all's well that ends well.

2008 Cavendish Invitational Pairs

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Drew Casen – Mike Passell | 29. Jacob Morgan – Michael Polowan |
| 2. Peter Bertheau – Fredrik Nystrom | 30. Chris Compton – Bob Hamman |
| 3. Billy Cohen – Ron Smith | 31. Alfredo Versace – James Cayne |
| 4. Zhong Fu – Jie Zhao | 32. Bob Blanchard – Shane Blanchard |
| 5. Eric Rodwell – Geoff Hampson | 33. Juan Carlos Ventin – Pablo Lombardi |
| 6. Gary Cohler – Sam Lev | 34. Apolinary Kowalski – Vitas Vainikonis |
| 7. Marty Fleisher – Chip Martel | 35. Fred Gitelman - Brad Moss |
| 8. Michel Bessis - Thomas Bessis | 36. Alain Levy – Herve Mouiel |
| 9. John Kranyak – Bart Bramley | 37. Rita Shugart – Boye Brogeland |
| 10. Bjorn Fallenius – Peter Fredin | 38. Ralph Buchalter – Migry Zur Campanile |
| 11. Kevin Bathurst - Justin Lall | 39. Albert Faigenbaum – Romain Zaleski |
| 12. Pierre Zimmermann – Frank Multon | 40. Sjoert Brink- Bas Drijver |
| 13. Christal Welland-Henner - Michael Rosenberg | 41. George Mittelman – Melih Ozdil |
| 14. Jon Egil-Furness – Erik Austberg | 42. Seymon Deutsch – Jaggy Shivdasani |
| 15. Roy Welland – Jeff Meckstroth | 43. Jacek Pszczola – Jerzy Zaremba |
| 16. Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey | 44. Russ Ekeblad – Jan Jansma |
| 17. Zia Mahmood – Charles Wigoder | 45. Marc Bompis – Jean-Christophe Quantin |
| 18. Linda Lewis – Paul Lewis | 46. |
| 19. Ionut Coldea - Cornell Teodorescu | 47. Amos Kaminski – Shaya Levit |
| 20. Paul Chemla – Michel Lebel | 48. Richard Jedrychowski – Wojtek Olanski |
| 21. Bill Pollack - David Berkowitz | 49. John Diamond – Jim Krekorian |
| 22. Bruce Rogoff - Louk Verhees | 50. Geir Helgemo – Tor Helness |
| 23. Ralph Katz – George Jacobs | 51. Veronel Lungu – Daniel Savin |
| 24. Mathias Bruun – Knut Blakset | 52. |
| 25. Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein | 53. Gilad Altshuler – David Birman |
| 26. Doug Doub – Adam Wildavsky | 54. Neil Chambers – John Schermer |
| 27. Erik Saelensminde – Jan-Peter Svendsen | 55. Joe Grue – Gavin Wolpert |
| 28. Michael Elinescu – Entscho Wladow | 56. Waleed ElAhmady – Tarek Sadek |

2008 WorldBridge Productions Pairs

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Lynn Baker – Karen McCallum | 13. Bob Morris |
| 2. Jim Mahaffey – Peter Weichsel | 14. Jeff Fang – David Yang |
| 3. Fred Hamilton | 15. Leo Bell – John Jones |
| 4. Gene Freed – Bill Wickham | 16. Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamon |
| 5. Marc Jacobus – Lou Ann O'Rourke | 17. Connie Goldberg - Billy Eisenberg |
| 6. Stig Farholt – Jacob Ron | 18. Patty Cayne - Charles Weed |
| 7. Kerry Sanborn-Steve Sanborn | 19. Lisa Berkowitz - Marvin Demeroff |
| 8. Bob Hollman – Bruce Ferguson | 20. Sadik Arf - Koray Selcuk |
| 9. Wafik Abdou | 21. Joel Wooldridge - Tom Carmichael |
| 10. Wojtek Kurkowski-Roger Lord | 22. Marshall Miles - Steve Goldstein |
| 11. Michael McNamara – Slwia McNamara | 23. Jeff Hand - Gail Greenberg |
| 12. Mike Cappelletti Jr – John Morris | 24. Phil Gordon - Jason Feldman |

Entries subject to change. New entries accepted until Saturday morning at 9:30am

**2008 John Roberts Teams
Session I, Round 2**

Bd: 16 Dlr: W Vul. E-W

Bd: 11 Dlr: S Vul. None

North		East	
S. 9 8 5 4 3		S. A K J 7	
H. 5 4		H. 3 2	
D. 8 4		D. A 9 7 6	
C. Q 10 7 2		C. J 8 3	
West		South	
S. Q 10 6 2		S. —	
H. Q 10 6		H. A K J 9 8 7	
D. Q 10 5 3		D. K J 2	
C. A K		C. 9 6 5 4	

North		East	
S. A 8 6 4 3		S. 10 5	
H. K Q 8		H. 9	
D. 5 2		D. A Q J 9 7 6 4	
C. A K 4		C. 8 7 3	
West		South	
S. K J 7 2		S. Q 9	
H. A 10 6 2		H. J 7 5 4 3	
D. K 8		D. 10 3	
C. J 9 5		C. Q 10 6 2	

Cohen	Rodwell	Smith	Hampson
West	North	East	South
1C	1NT	2D	2H
Pass	Pass	3D	Pass
Pass	3H	All Pass	

The room had to choose between a 3NT contract which had little play on three rounds of hearts, and a 4S contract that was apparently doomed by the bad trump break.

Eric Rodwell (ever the purist) pointed out that even against 4-1 trumps, 4S could be set on best defense. After Geoff Hampson led the JA, HK, and HJ, Rodwell pitched a diamond, and now declarer would have been unable to draw trumps and set up diamonds since the hearts were ready to run, even against a 4-1 split. But a surprising number of defenders missed the point and ruffed in on the third hearts. Declarer overruffed, cashed one top trump to find the bad news, then led a low diamond from hand, and the defense were helpless.

Geoff Hampson declared 3H here, on two rounds of diamonds and the seven of clubs shift. He won in dummy and cashed the HK dropping the H9. Now he led a spade to the S9 and SJ, won the club return in hand, and paused to count the hand.

Since Cohen appeared to have only two diamonds, the restricted choice element of the H9 argued strongly for 4-1 trumps. So he led a heart to the eight, then carefully cashed both black aces and exited with the HQ. Cohen could win his HA but declarer could win the next lead in hand and draw trumps.

Appeals Announcement

Appeals of tournament directors' rulings (in all events) will not be handled in the same fashion as in previous years. Any director's ruling will be reconsidered (at the request of either side) by filing a timely request for reconsideration with the Director in Charge. Said request for reconsideration shall be in writing and must set forth in sufficient detail the reason(s) why the filing party believes that the ruling was incorrect.

Upon receipt of a request for reconsideration the tournament directing staff, along with whomever else the staff wishes to consult, will reconsider the ruling and render a decision. The directors may request a hearing when there are facts in dispute, but are not required to do so.

Bd: 17 Dlr: N Vul: Neither**North**

S. 9 7 4 3

H. 9 6 2

D. 7 5 3

C. 10 9 6

West

S. K 10 6 5

H. A J 7 4

D. 8

C. J 7 5 4

East

S. A Q

H. 8 5

D. A Q 10 9 2

C. A K Q 8

South

S. J 8 2

H. K Q 10 3

D. K J 6 4

C. 3 2

Passell	Bramley	Drijver	Brink
East	West	East	West
1C (Strong)	1H (8-11)	1D	1H
2D	2N	3C	4C
3C	3H	4N	5D
3S	3N	5S	5N
4N	6C	7C	All Pass
All Pass			

Hands up anyone who believes that a 2NT opening is the most self-preempting opening in the book? My hand is up and on this deal, anyone who opened the East cards 2NT probably agrees with me. They recorded +460 or +490 rather disconsolately.

Where Mike Passell and Bart Bramley were East-West, they had a natural auction after the initial two conventional calls. Over Passell's quantitative 4NT, Bramley knew where he wanted to play.

By contract, Bas Drijver resisted the temptation to open 2NT and then was perhaps a little optimistic to accept his own grand slam try – but there again, he could point to the +1440 on the scorecard.

After a trump lead, declarer can ruff two diamonds low and one diamond high. Now you ruff a spade back to hand, draw trumps and claim. This needs a decent split in trumps and nothing too terrible in diamonds. (And of course, when team-mates come back with -460, one can ask “was your journey really necessary?”)

Zia also reached grand slam on a similar auction. (He had an identical sequence as far as 6NT. But he then bid 6C and Wigoder raised to 7C.) On a top heart lead, he won, ruffed

a diamond, cashed the top spades, ruffed a diamond, took the spade king, ruffed a hearts, ruffed a diamond high, drew trumps and claimed.

**2008 John Roberts Teams
Session I, Round 3**

Bd: 21 Dlr: N Vul: N-S**North**

S. J 6 5 4 3 2

H. 7 6 4

D. A 10 5

C. Q

West

S. Q 10 8

H. A J 10 8

D. 2

C. K 7 5 4 2

East

S. 9

H. 5 2

D. Q J 8 7 3

C. J 10 9 8 3

South

S. A K 7

H. K Q 9 3

D. K 9 6 4

C. A 6

More tables made 4S here than went down; but if declared by North the contract is far from easy on the H5 lead. Let's look at what happens if West takes the first heart. The best he can do is return the suit – but declarer tosses him in with three rounds of spades. If he cashes the HJ, the diamond loser goes away. If he exits with the CK or D2, declarer leads a diamond to his 10 and never loses a heart.

Better for West is to duck trick one. Declarer cashes the SA, CA, and club ruff, and lead a heart to the 9, and 10. This cuts the defensive communication. West's only exit is a diamond to the king. Declarer cashes the SK and leads a diamond towards his ace. West must discard so declarer plays the DA, D10, and the heart loser goes away on East's enforced minor suit return.

**BUFFETT CUP
CHALLENGE MATCH**

September 15-18, 2008

Louisville, Kentucky

www.buffettcup.com

2008 John Roberts Teams Session I, Round 3

Bd: 25 Dlr: N Vul. E-W

North

S. A J 8 3
H. 8 2
D. 10 7 6 5
C. J 8 7

West

S. Q 9 6
H. Q 7
D. K J 8 3
C. 9 6 4 2

East

S. 7
H. A K J 10 5
D. A 4 2
C. A 10 5 3

South

S. K 10 5 4 2
H. 9 6 4 3
D. Q 9
C. K Q

Consider the contract of 4H here by East, after South had overcalled in spades. Rodwell and Hampson defended it accurately enough on a spade lead to the SJ. Spade back and ruffed. Declarer, Ionut Coldea, finessed in diamonds and led a club to the 10. When Rodwell led a third spade, declarer pitched a club. He now had the timing for a minor suit squeeze.

Could Hampson have done better by playing the club king before the third spade? No; declarer must win and now the count has not been rectified. No matter – declarer simply runs the trumps and this is the four-card ending:

	North	
	A	
	—	
	10 7	
	J	
West		East
—		—
—		—
K 8 3		A 2
9		5 3
	South	
	K 10 5	
	—	
	Q	
	—	

North still has to find a discard and both defenders' shapes are known. When he lets go of a spade, declarer sets up a club. Thomas Bessis found what looks to be a slightly better line ... though the improvement is fractional. He pitched a club on the spade at trick two. Now he ruffed the third spade, finessed in diamonds, then ducked a club. He also had the minor suit squeeze, but had given the defenders fewer options.

2008 John Roberts Teams Session II, Round 1

Bd: 5 Dlr: N Vul: N-S

North

S. 10 2
H. K 8 6 5 4 3
D. 9 8
C. Q 10 7

West

S. Q 8 7 5
H. A Q 10 9
D. 5 3
C. K 5 2

East

S. A J 9 4 3
H. 2
D. K Q 7 6 4
C. J 8

South

S. K 6
H. J 7
D. A J 10 2
C. A 9 6 4 3

Jimmy Cayne found himself in the hot seat here. He was on lead to 4S (1S-2H-3H-4S) where 2H was a spade raise and 3H showed shortage. Reasonably enough he led the HJ and Fredrik Nystrom won HA and finessed in spades. Cayne won the SK and found his best shot of a low club. But declarer flew with the CK and set up the heart to emerge with +450.

Jimmy was left to wonder if any mortal might have found the low club lead at trick one... It was easily possible for N/S to do worse here though.

Ron Smith as West heard the auction start (2H) 2S (4H) to him. He "settled" for 4S. But when his RHO doubled he redoubled. That was +880 when Billy Cohen did not misguess clubs.

Thursday Hospitality

Open Bar - 6:00pm * Dinner - 6:15pm
Auction - 7:00pm

Bd: 6 Dlr: E Vul: E-W

2008 John Roberts Teams
Session II, Round 2

North

S. K Q 7 5
H. 8
D. K Q 7 2
C. K 10 6 2

West

S. 3
H. A J 4 3 2
D. J 10 8 6 4
C. 9 8

East

S. J 4
H. K 9 7 5
D. A
C. A Q J 7 4 3

South

S. A 10 9 8 6 2
H. Q 10 6
D. 9 5 3
C. 5

On the next deal, Cayne preempted to 2S over a loose precision style 1D opening and Versace bounded to 4S, Down 1 on a diamond lead. This was only worth 2 imps against 4SX down one in the other room.

But Furuness-Austberg demonstrated that it was possible to be more aggressive with the E/W cards.

Furuness	Lebel	Austberg	Chemla
West	North	East	South
		1C	1S
2D (h)	4S	5H	Pass
Pass	5S	Pass	Pass
6H!	All Pass		

Can you blame N/S for upping the ante – and for failing to sacrifice – they did have approximately half the deck after all! Furuness ruffed the second spade to take the club finesse, then finesse in trumps and that was a cool +1430.

When the two leading teams met in Round 5, Altschuler came off significantly better thanks to the following deals:

Bd: 14 Dlr: S Vul: Neither

North

S. Q 9 7 6
H. 5
D. A 10 4
C. 10 8 6 4 3

West

S. 8 5 4
H. J 8 4
D. K 6 5 2
C. J 9 7

East

S. A 2
H. Q 10 7 6 2
D. Q J 9 8 7
C. A

South

S. K J 10 3
H. A K 9 3
D. 3
C. K Q 5 2

When Berkowitz opened 1H, Altschuler guessed to overcall 1S – my strong preference rather than bidding 1NT. Birman raised to 2S. Berkowitz came in with 3D and Altschuler now bid 3H as a game-try for spades. Pollack raised to 4D, and eventually sacrificed over 4S when Berkowitz produced an action double. That cost 500, but since 4S was likely to make no harm had been done.

Alas, his teammates had an accident after overcalling 1NT instead of bidding 1S. They found themselves defending 2HX (1H-1N-P-P-2D-P-2H-X-All Pass) and only collected three trumps and two plain winners, for -470.

On the final deal of the set, both pairs played 4H. (Yes, 3NT by South is a lucky make.) So long as the defenders simply take their ruff there is no squeeze since South must discard before West.

Lev led the D10 against 4H and when declarer played low from dummy, Pepsi ducked, leaving declarer with no chance.

By contrast in the other room, Birman declared 4H on a spade lead and won to cash four hearts at once. East pitched a diamond, robbing declarer of his chance for brilliancy by leading the DQ to pin the D10 then to take two finesses in diamonds.

Bridgmate.us

Joe Steele



John Roberts Teams & WBP Teams - Conditions of Contest, 2008

1. **Schedule:** The John Roberts Teams will be played in three sessions, starting at 10:30am Wednesday morning and continuing Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. Starting times for the second and third sessions will be announced from the floor.
2. **Scoring:** Each session will consist of three nine-board matches, scored at IMPs and converted to Victory Points according to the following scale.

IMPs	VPs	IMPs	VPs
0	15-15	12-13	23-7
1	16-14	14-15	24-6
2	17-13	16-18	25-5
3	18-12	19-21	26-4
4-5	19-11	22-24	27-3
6-7	20-10	25-27	28-2
8-9	21-9	28-31	29-1
10-11	22-8	32 up	30-0
3. **Entries:** Each team may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players, all of whom must be listed on the official entry form. There is no minimum play requirement.
4. **Format:** Screens and bidding boxes will be used. For each match, duplicated boards will be played across the field to equalize the swings that might be available otherwise.
5. **Penalties:** Pairs are not allowed to discuss a hand during the course of a match, or compare results with their teammates in the playing area. Failure to observe these conditions will result in an automatic, non-appealable penalty of three Victory Points for each violation.
6. **Tardiness:** A team is required to seat a complete foursome within 10 minutes of the announced starting time. Failure to do so will result in a penalty of three IMPs being given to the non-offending team for each five-minute segment of lateness. The Tournament Committee may appoint a substitute, or substitutes, until the tardy member(s) arrives, and the match may be curtailed by one or more boards unless the Chief Director determines that there is sufficient time to complete the full match. These penalties may be increased for repeated offenses.
7. **Slow Play:** For each nine-board match, 75 minutes are allotted, plus a 10-minute grace period. Failure to complete a match within that limit shall subject both teams to a penalty of three Victory Points, unless a pair has notified a Director of slow play by their opponents. If a match is not completed within five minutes after the expiration of the grace period, unplayed boards will be curtailed. The second and third matches for each session may not begin until play for the previous match has been completed at all tables.
8. **Pairings:** For the first match, pairings will be made at random. In subsequent matches, pairings will be based on Victory Point totals, with the proviso that teams may not play against each other more than once in any given session.
9. **Systems and Conventions:** All methods approved for the Cavendish Invitational Pairs are allowed, but no others. In general, any convention that would require a pre-alert and suggested written defenses, including Multi, preemptive opening bids that do not specify the suit or suits held, and other artificial bids that cannot be explained to an average player within 10 seconds, are barred. If there is any question about the acceptability of your system, it must be approved by a member of the Tournament Committee prior to the start of play.
10. **Appeals:** Other than penalties specified in 5,6 and 7 above, a Director's ruling may be appealed to an Appeals Committee designated by the Tournament Committee upon posting a bond of \$50. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final except as in 13 below and the bond will be forfeited if the appeal is deemed to be substantially without merit.
11. **Standings:** The final standings shall be determined by the total Victory Points won by the teams entered. In the event of a tie for first place, a six-board playoff will be held to determine the winner of the John Roberts Teams for the Jack Dreyfus Cup. Ties for other overall placings will share the available prize money.
12. **Smoking and Dress Code:** Players and kibitzers may not smoke in the playing area and are expected to dress properly. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to redress an infraction of these provisions in any manner it deems appropriate, and to rule on any other matter not specified in these Conditions.
13. Any of the above notwithstanding, the Tournament Committee may take any action it deems necessary for the health and well-being of this event and its participants.



SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is not allowed in the hotel.
Smoking is allowed in the casino area and outside.



WRITE FOR THE BULLETIN

We're looking for outstanding bridge hands on bidding and play. Please include player names, event name and session, hand record and details of the auction and play. You may submit the hands to Barry Rigal in person or email to barryrigal@mindspring.com. We also ask that any articles in foreign languages written after the event be copied to us.

NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THE PLAYING AREA

Absolutely no electronic devices capable of sending or receiving signals (other than hearing aids) may be brought into the playing rooms under any circumstances. This applies to kibitzers as well as players. You may leave your electronic devices at the check-in table; however, WBP will not be held responsible for lost items.

Cavendish Invitational Pairs &WBP Pairs - Conditions of Contest, 2008

1A — Cavendish Pairs

There will be no more than 60 pairs entered. Play will consist of three-board rounds and there will be no more than 45 rounds.

1B — WBP Pairs

Format will be based upon the number of entries. Play will be conducted over three sessions.

For both events, the boards will be played simultaneously, barometer style, but scores will not be posted until the end of each session. Screens will be used in the Cavendish but not in the WBP.

2. The events will be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of the Laws of Duplicate Bridge (The Laws). Whenever the use of screens precludes unauthorized information the Tournament Director may waive certain provisions of The Laws.
3. Absolutely no electronic devices capable of sending or receiving signals (other than hearing aids) may be brought into the playing rooms under any circumstances. This applies to kibitzers as well as players.
4. Players are required to be in their places at the announced starting times. A penalty of 50 IMPs will be assessed for each five-minute lateness segment, beginning 10 minutes after the starting time for first offenders, and for each five minutes of tardiness after the announced starting time for repeat offenders.
5. Discussion of boards during a round is prohibited. In each session a player making any remark that, in the judgment of a director might be overheard at another table, will be penalized 50 IMPs for the first offense, 100 IMPs for the second infraction, and 150 IMPs for each offense thereafter. These are automatic and not appealable.
6. Players are free to leave the playing area when they conclude each round, but are prohibited from comparing results in the playing area. Any pair detected doing so will be assessed automatic, non-appealable penalties as in 5 above.
7. For each three-board round, 25 minutes (17 minutes for two-board rounds) are allotted, plus a two-minute grace period. A new round may not be started until the previous round's play has been completed at all tables. Pairs failing to complete play within the allocated time will be given a written warning for a first offense. A second infraction will result in a 50 IMP penalty; subsequent offenses, up to 200 IMPs. The cumulative penalties for slow play will not exceed 300 IMPs in any single session. Penalties for slow play do not carry over to another session and are administered by the Chief Director, in consultation with the Tournament Committee. In the absence of a player's report to a Director regarding an opponent's slow play or the player himself, it shall be deemed that both pairs are equally at fault. Slow play penalties are not appealable.
8. It is strongly recommended that at trick one declarer take about 15 seconds before playing to the opening lead and that the player in third seat take about 10 seconds before playing. Thereafter, significant breaks in tempo before selecting small cards will be strongly discouraged.
9. The Alert Procedure is mandatory. Players shall alert their calls as they are made, and their partner's calls when the bidding tray is moved to their side of the table. It is the Alerter's responsibility to ensure that his screenmate realizes that an alert has been made. A player may ask for an explanation of a bid, **IN WRITING** at the appropriate turn to bid and play, and the answer must also be given **IN WRITING**. All bids or calls which have a conventional meaning (other than Stayman, Blackwood, strong and artificial 2-club openings) are subject to an alert. Each player shall have a convention card completely filled out and, if possible, a hard copy of all system notes available for inspection.
10. No pre-alerts are required for carding agreements, except that leading low from a doubleton must be pre-alerted. Any method of leads against suit or notrump contracts is permitted, but the partnership may play only one structure of honor and low card leads against suit contracts. A different structure of leads may be played in defense of a notrump contract, but only one method is allowed. Normal or upside-down signals and discards for attitude, count or suit preference are permitted, but variable, or encrypted, signals are not.
11. Any irregularity in the Alert procedure may result in score adjustments for Misinformation or Unauthorized Information. Both players are required to know their bidding agreements and to alert and explain their agreements properly and identically. The appropriate laws will be applied if damage to the opponents result therefrom, and even if no damage ensues from an alert infraction, a procedural penalty may be assigned. In general, players should assume that if no alert is made, no alertable call has been made. Therefore, if there is any doubt in a player's mind as to whether or not a call is alertable, the player should alert.
12. The North and South players control the bidding tray. The screenmate is permitted to make a screen huddle to normalize the tempo by removing the bid card from the bidding box, showing it to North or South, but withholding it from being placed in the tray.
13. Players (behind screens) should endeavor to place their bidding cards in the tray without creating sounds which would be heard on the opposite side of the screen.
14. In general, any convention or treatment that is familiar to the average tournament player, or can be explained to the average player within 10 seconds, is allowed. Methods of a destructive nature are not authorized, nor are the following:
 - a. Forcing or strong pass systems;
 - b. Multi 2♦ and similar conventional opening bids;
 - c. Two-suited weak two/three-bid openings which specify only one (or neither) of the suits held; anchor suit must contain at least five cards, except that two of a major showing that suit and a minor is permitted – even if the major is only a four card suit.
 - d. Preemptive bids that do not specify which suit is held;
 - e. Artificial bids or sequences that require a lengthy explanations;
 - f. Canapé style overcalls or opening bids if the first-bid suit may be shorter than four cards;
 - g. Any system, convention or treatment that would require a pre-alert (in ACBL parlance) and written suggested defenses.
 - h. Transfer openings and transfer responses, subject to the following exceptions:
 1. Any transfer response structure to a notrump opening, overcall or rebid is permitted, as are transfer responses showing at least high-card game invitational values.
 2. Transfer responses over a 1♣ opening bid, as long as a 1♠ response promises at least invitational values.
15. Each board will be scored by International Match Points as follows: each pair's score will be compared with every other score achieved by pairs in the same direction. The maximum swing on any single comparison will be 17 IMPs times the number of comparisons. Average-plus and average-minus scores will be calculated according to a pre-determined formula, as will the adjustment for a fouled board.
16. Any Director's ruling (other than penalties under sections 4, 5, 6 and 7) may be appealed to the Appeals Committee designated by the Tournament Committee. If a pair or team wishes to lodge an appeal, it must post US \$50 which will be forfeited if the Appeals Committee deems the appeal to be substantially without merit. Decisions of the Appeals Committee are not subject to further appeal; however see 20 below.
17. The Tournament Committee will decide on the acceptability of substitutes should the need arise.
18. Disciplinary penalties may be imposed by the Tournament Committee for violations of conduct by players or their guests.
19. Kibitzers will be permitted to enter the room only at the beginning of a round or match.
20. Any of the above notwithstanding, the Tournament Committee may take any action it deems necessary in the best interests of the event and its participants.

Schedule of Events

Thursday, May 8, 2008

10:30am	JR Teams 3 rd session	Estancia Ballroom	(3 9-board matches)
4:00pm	End of pre-bid period for CIP Auction		
6:00pm	Open Bar	Grand Ballroom 2-3 & 4	
6:15pm	Dinner		
7:00pm	Auction		

Friday, May 9, 2008

10:30am	CIP 1 st Session	Estancia Ballroom	(27 boards)
4:00pm	CIP 2 nd Session	Estancia Ballroom	(27 boards)

Saturday, May 10, 2008

9:00am	Breakfast	LaCascada	
9:30am	Auction, WBP Pairs		
10:30am	CIP 3 rd Session	Estancia Ballroom	(27 Boards)
	WBP Pairs 1 st Session	Grand Ballroom 3-4	
4:00pm	CIP 3 rd Session	Estancia Ballroom	(27 boards)
	WBP Pairs 2 nd Session	Grand Ballroom 3-4	

Sunday, May 11, 2008

10:30am	Final Session CIP	Estancia Ballroom	
	Final Session WBP Pairs	Grand Ballroom 3-4	
3:00pm	Closing Party	Lobby Bar Terraces	

2007 John Roberts Teams Session I, Round 1

Bd: 2 Dlr: E Vul. N-S

North

S. J 10 9 2
H. J 5 2
D. A J 9 4 3
C. K

West

S. A 6 5
H. Q 8 6 3
D. 10 7 6 5
C. 7 4

East

S. 7 3
H. 9 7 4
D. K 2
C. A Q 10 9 6 2

South

S. K Q 8 4
H. A K 10
D. Q 8
C. J 8 5 3

Playing 4S from the South seat was the norm, after East had doubled a Stayman response (the occasional East opened 3C and made his opponent's life very hard).

At the table I was watching, Helgemo won the heart shift at trick two and played the DQ. His logic was that if the diamond finesse held, he would be safe even against bad trump breaks. When the finesse lost and a heart came back, he was doomed as the cards lay.

At several tables declarer played a low trump at trick three. Assume West ducks and wins the next trump, declarer unblocking the SK from hand, West has a choice of attack. A second club lead (best) lets declarer ruff and lead a low diamond. East cannot gain by ducking – assuming declarer does not do anything ridiculous. If he takes the king, declarer must unblock the Q. The entry position is such that if East plays the C10, covered by the J, ruffed and overruffed.

North

J
J 5
A J 9 4
—

West

5
Q 8 6
10 7 6
—

East

—
7 4
2
Q 10 9 6

South

Q 4
K 10
8
J 3

Declarer must now come back to the HK and finesse in diamonds to make.