



EA BRIDGE

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS, 2025

September 15 To 20, 2025

Venue: Express Avenue Mall, Chennai, India.

www.eabridge.in

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THE FINAL DEAL

Today marks the grand finale of the inaugural **EA Bridge International Championship**, as the decider matches for the coveted **Gold** and **Silver** trophies will be played. The **Swiss Teams Final League** has brought together many fancied contenders, each determined to etch their name on the very first edition of this prestigious event.

The **Mixed Teams** event, with nearly **85 entries**, has already seen thrilling contests, while the newly introduced **Swiss Matchpoint Pairs** will debut over two sessions today — giving players yet another challenge after five grueling days of high-caliber bridge.

Semi-Finals – Gold Segment

As expected, the semi-final stage produced fireworks. The clash between the **Polish Pros** and **Team Maskara** was evenly poised until lunch, but Poland pressed the accelerator in the second half to storm ahead, sealing a commanding **75-IMP win**.

In the other semi-final, **Nest Inn** outplayed **Team Tolani**, riding on home advantage and strong teamwork to prevail by **25 IMPs**.

- **Gold Final:** Poland vs. Nest Inn
- **Playoff:** Mavericks vs. Tolani

Semi-Finals – Silver Segment

The **Silver category** provided heart-stopping drama. **KKK Bridge Lovers** ended the dream run of **Nagpur VI**, who had looked invincible in the league phase, winning by a solid **39 IMPs**.

Meanwhile, **DilipAtha IV** pulled off a sensational comeback against **Team Unity**, recovering **24 IMPs in the last four boards** to snatch victory by just **12 IMPs**!

- **Silver Final:** KKK Bridge Lovers vs. DilipAtha IV
- **Playoff:** Nagpur VI vs. Unity

Open Matchpoint Pairs

The **Open Pairs Final** featured 28 pairs in an all-play-all **barometer scoring** format. After a slow start, seasoned pair **Sapan Desai – Debabrata Majumdar** gathered momentum, finishing strongly to lift the pairs championship. They were closely followed by **Maxim Semisochenko – Evgeny Rudakov** from Russia.

Swiss Open Teams

The **Swiss Open Teams** drew 54 entries, battling over seven rounds of eight boards each. Among the top eight qualifiers for the final league were crowd favorites **Formidables**, **Dhampur Sugar Mills**, **Tornatae**, and **Monica Jajoo**. Each team will now face the others in a complete round-robin of 8 boards. The finals will be played on the **3rd Floor of the E-Hotel**.

Ladies Pairs

The **Ladies Pairs** attracted 26 pair from across India, including strong representation from the local circuits. The young duo of **Kalpna Gurjar – Vidya Patel** delivered a superb performance to clinch their **second consecutive title**, following their triumph in the **EA Women's Pairs Nationals (Feb 2025)**. The local pair of **Sushi Natraj – Sumathi Iyer** finished runners-up.

As this historic first edition draws to a close, we extend our warmest wishes to all participants for a safe journey home. We invite you to share your experiences, stories, and feedback — your voice will help us make the next EA Bridge International even more memorable

From the Desk of
Chief Tournament
Director

1. Gold and Silver Teams Final and Play-off will be held on 2nd Floor (E Hotel).
2. Swiss Team Finals (8 Team Round Robin) will be held on 3rd Floor (E Hotel).
3. Swiss Pairs (Match points) and Mixed Pairs (IMP Scoring) will be held on Ground Floor (Atrium).
4. Prize distribution will be held on Ground Floor (Atrium) at 6.00 PM.

STARTING TIME TODAY
We remind you that today's starting time is 9 am Gold & Silver Teams

PRIZE GIVING
Prize Giving Ceremony at approx 18.00
All prizes will be paid online within 15 Days.
Please submit your bank details www.eabridge.in

31ST WBF WOMEN'S ONLINE BRIDGE FESTIVAL
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One week - 12 games daily - Prizes & Points galore!
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Plus: a free pairs game every day!

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UNDER THE AEGIS OF



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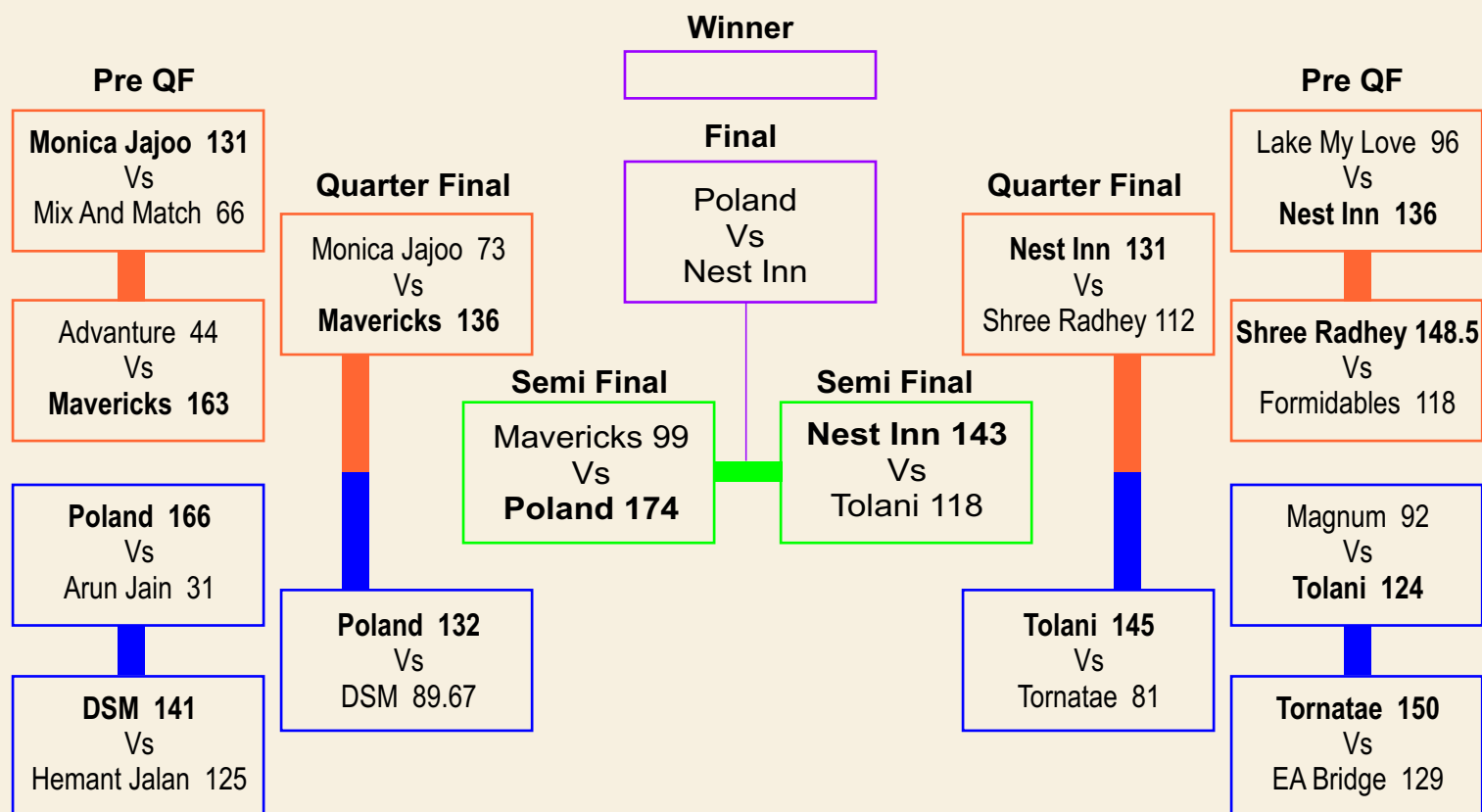
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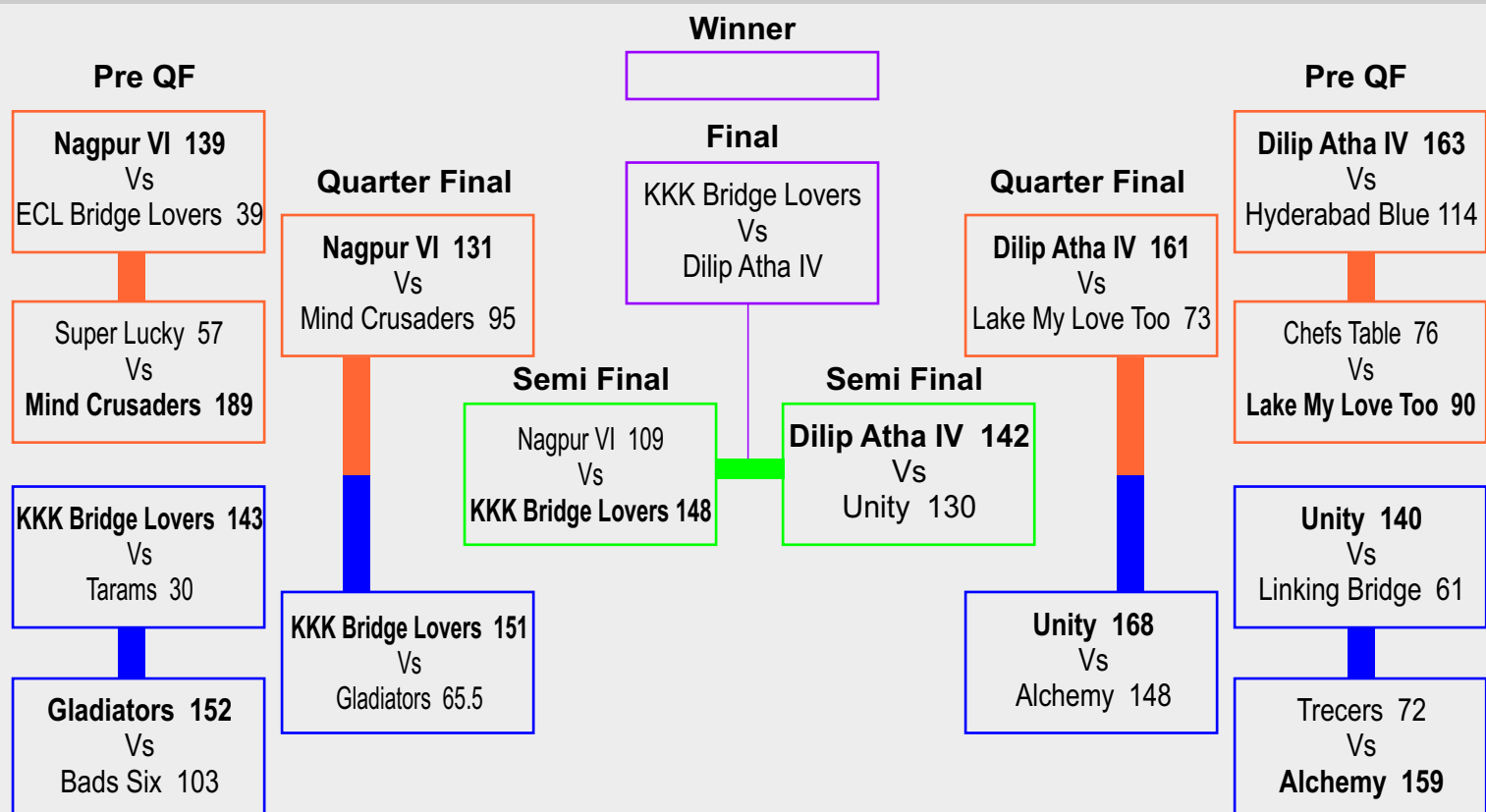
VENUE PARTNERS



GOLD TEAMS - SEMI FINAL KNOCK OUT



SILVER TEAMS - SEMI FINAL KNOCK OUT



RESULTS OF GOLD TEAMS SEMI FINAL KNOCK OUT

Team	C/O	R 1	R 2	R 3	R 4	Total
Mavericks (6)		32	45	12	10	99
Subodh Maskara, Keyzad Anklesaria, Ola Rimstedt, Mikael Rimstedt, Oren Toledano, Ami Zamir						
Poland (46)	14	27	34	55	44	174
Wojciech Gawel, Przemyslaw Janiszewski, Buras Krzysztof, Piotr Marcinowski						

Nest Inn (21)		45	30	20	48	143
R Kannan, N Niranjana, V Ramkumar, Afshar Majeed						
Team Tolani (44)		26	2	24	66	118
Arvind Vaidya, Shubham Acharya, Mukund Jagannathan, Rajesh Somani, Anant Vikram Somani, T V Ramani						

RESULTS OF SILVER TEAMS SEMI FINAL KNOCK OUT

Team	C/O	R 1	R 2	R 3	R 4	Total
Nagpur VI (9)	14	49	15	15	16	109
Arun J Puranik, Sameer Roy, Shailendra Chhajed, Mahesh Mor, M M Lule, Anil Mohota						
K K K Bridge Lovers (39)	0	42	44	23	39	148
Suvankar Basu, Sudip Pandit, Goutam Pore, Ramprosada Das, Animesh Majumder, Saptarshi Chanda						

Dilip Atha IV (35)		32	38	40	32	142
Rana Chakraborty, Dilip Atha, Kajal Chandra Das, Sumit Bhowmik, Swapna Sardar, Sumit Saha						
Unity (48)		49	18	22	41	130
Rinku Singh, Ekta Chadha, Pankaj Chaudhary, Naveen Kumar, Pintu Sao, S M Moin						

Congratulations

Ladies Pairs



Winner : Kalpana Gurjar - Vidhya Patel



Runner Up : Sushi Natraj - Sumathi Iyer

IMP Pairs



**Winner :
Wanna Amornmeswarintara - Panjaroon Jariyanuntanaet**



**Runner Up :
Dasgupta - Pallab Roy**

Swiss Pairs



**Winner :
N Periasamy - B Seenivasagan**



**Runner Up :
Subramanian Karuppannan - Rajendran Ramesh**

EA BRIDGE MATCHPOINT PAIRS FINAL

Place	Players	C-over (MPs)	Stage (MPs)	Score (MPs)
1	Sapan Desai - Debabrata Majumder	35.55	812.77	848.32
2	Maxim Semisochenko - Evgeny Rudakov	12.11	810.52	822.63
3	Sandeep N Karmarkar - Marianne Karmarkar	10.51	807.4	817.91
4	Andrey Gromov - Anna Gulevich	29.98	786.23	816.21
5	R G Bhiwandkar - Subhash A Dhakras	44.25	750.92	795.17
6	Pijus Kanti Baroi - Gopinath Manna	27.37	742.69	770.06
7	Sayantan Kushari - Kaustubh Milind Bendre	8.27	753.54	761.81
8	Peeracha Suriya - Jaturong Sasibut	19.84	741.54	761.38
9	Vijay R Phatarphekar - R Sridharan	10.32	747.54	757.86
10	Koushik Mukherjee - Badal Das	29.51	720.46	749.97
11	Partho Sarathi Mukherjee - Subir Majumdar	4.1	744.23	748.33
12	Abhijit Chakraborty - Rana Roy	42.26	699.46	741.72
13	Joyjit Sensarma - Hemant Lall	10.06	726.08	736.14
14	Somesh Bhattacharya - Arya Chakraborty	32.19	695.31	727.5
15	Jaggy B Shivdasani - Animesh Raj	52	673.92	725.92
16	Biswajit Poddar - Shambhu Nath Ghosh	25.9	698.31	724.21
17	Aloke Kumar Sadhu - Mithun Mukherjee	2.44	706.92	709.36
18	Vikrant Mehta - Sandeep Thakral	6.93	698.08	705.01
19	G Venkatesh - Anil P Padhye	36.57	657.15	693.72
20	Alok Daga - Kamal Krishna Mukherjee	14.12	676.77	690.89
21	Arun Kumar Sinha - Nikita Kamal	5.22	676.38	681.6
22	Sowmik Das - Mrinal Kanti Mukherjee	36.39	639.54	675.93
23	Pranab Bardhan - Shibnath De Sarkar		658.85	658.85
24	Soumya Das - Rajendra Sirohia	19.15	633.23	652.38
25	Sanjib Bhattacharjee - Bhaskar Kumar Ganguly	4.3	638.08	642.38
26	Raghavendra Rajkumar - Prahalad Rajkumar		632.92	632.92
27	Rahul Shetty - Mahesh Rohera	17.89	602.46	620.35
28	Kavita Singhanian - Priya Ranjan Sinha		524.69	524.69

Result : www.bfi.net.in/wp-content/uploads/2025/eampfinal/

SWISS TEAMS RESULT QUALIFYING STAGE

Place	Team	Score VP table	Place	Team	Score VP table
1	Adventure	101.6	28	Trecers	70.58
2	Formidables	101.39	29	Last Train	70.3
3	Dhampur Sugar Mills	100.01	30	Guptas	69.84
4	Tornatae	94	31	Mumbai Pirats	67.83
5	Team Kabra	93.75	32	Inspace	67.72
6	Monica Jajoo	89.04	33	Bidders	66.5
7	Lake My Love	88.87	34	Lake My Dear	64.28
8	Sri Jagannath	87.59	35	Alfa Zero	63.13
9	Shree Cement	86.35	36	Vr5	63.07
10	Jareja	86.01	37	Mix & Match	62.44
11	India Chain	82.37	38	Double	62.35
12	Aquarius	81.86	39	Mahabir	60.55
13	Invincible	81.25	40	Rcbc	59.54
14	Juthika	81	41	Mini'S Four	58.9
15	Racers	80.73	42	Takers	57.32
16	Samadhan	80.32	43	The Squad	56.56
17	Friends	78.57	44	Ekdalia	55.7
18	Mind Crusaders	78.4	45	Mixed Doubles	55.68
19	Mohmaya	76.57	46	Lankan Bridge	53.83
20	Bold Play	75.33	47	Good Four	50.77
21	Shri Radhey	75.06	48	Savvy Acers	49.86
22	Mansarover	73.44	49	Athena	46.54
23	Chefs Table	73.06	50	Bise Bele	44.54
24	Thai-Russ	72.22	51	Sksp	39.77
25	Gladiators	72.07	52	Dass Bridge	37.98
26	Autumn Sonata	72.03	53	Super Lucky	33.61
27	Burzen	71.68	54	Endeavour	16.24

LADIES PAIRS FINAL RESULT

Pos	Player 1	Player 2	Score	Pos	Player 1	Player 2	Score
1	Kalpna Gurjar	Vidhya Patel	71	14	Chandini Bhoopal	Sulochana Reddy	-11
2	Sushi Natraj	Sumathi Iyer	50	15	Varalakshmi	Devi M Bhatnagar	-11
3	Sumitra Vishwanath	Maya Iyer	41	16	Rachel	Satyavati	-11
4	Vasanti Shah	Patricia Prabhu	41	17	Arathi Shankar	Bhavana	-15
5	Leela Iyengar	Lata Hari	30	18	Nalini Balachander	Lakshmi Chari	-18
6	Hari Priya	Anita Koshy	29	19	Jyoti Daswani	Chandu Jain	-19
7	Pooja Jalan	Kavita Sai Prasad	24	20	Srihari Verghese	Sherian Ryan	-20
8	Shantalakshmi	Jennifer Anu	16	21	Sweta Padia	Naina Lal	-20
9	Reena Venkataraman	Hernione Mathias	15	22	Swetha Goenka	Rashmi Bhansali	-23
10	Amulya Rao	Malini Krishna	15	23	Aditi Sahasrabuddhe	Manisha Jamenis	-28
11	Sowra	Sunitha G	-3	24	Sandhya	Divya	-32
12	Urmi Sinha	Usha Joshi	-7	25	Abha Shukla	Janet Roy	-46
13	Jayashree	Manjula	-9	26	Daisy	Sheetal Bansal	-59

The Theory of Matchpoints

Mark Horton and Prahalad Rajkumar

There is an awful lot of bridge taking place at this terrific tournament. Prahalad Rajkumar and his brother Raghavendra (Raghu) are playing in the Open Matchpoint Pairs. They finished second on the opening day, but on Thursday they found the going much tougher. This deal helped them to secure a place in the final:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Rajkumar		R Rajkumar	
Pass	1♣	1♥	Dble*
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥*
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

*Dble Spades

2♥* Forcing

As Terence Reese explained, in a pairs event you must try to get into the bidding wherever possible, and Raghu had no hesitation in overcalling 1♥.

As Prahalad pointed out, South might have bid 3NT over 3♥ and North, having denied a stopper might also have preferred it to 4♠.

I'll let Prahalad describe what happened next:

Recognizing that North could not hold the ♥K, Raghu found the inspired opening lead of the ♥2, under leading his ace at little risk. Dummy's ♥J won. Declarer could now have drawn trumps and taken ten tricks, four spades, five diamonds, and a heart. But that would be a bottom board, since 3NT also produces at least ten tricks. To aim for a top, declarer needed to engineer an eleventh trick by sneaking a club through. Reasoning that Raghu, the overcaller, was most likely

to hold the ♣A, declarer crossed to the ♠K and led a club to the queen. To his surprise, I won the ♣A and returned a heart to Raghu's ace.

At this point Raghu found the killing defence: **the HQ**. A low heart would not have sufficed dummy could have discarded, allowing declarer to score ten tricks (albeit still a bottom score). The ♥Q instead forced dummy to ruff with the ♠J. Declarer drew two rounds of trumps, leaving me with the outstanding trump. When declarer turned to diamonds partner's signal confirmed three cards in the suit. All I had to do was ruff the third diamond (and not earlier), ensuring declarer still had a losing club. The result: one down for +50 and all the matchpoints.

It's a fine defence. Having ruffed the third heart declarer can score 10 tricks by playing a spade to the queen followed by diamonds. He can also cash the ♠A, come to hand with a diamond and play the ♥10 pitching a club. If West refuses to ruff declarer can ruff a club and then play diamonds. He can also ruff the ♥Q with dummy's ♠6 and arrive at 10 tricks. However, +420 rates to be a poor result so he really had to hope spades were 3-3. Editor



R Rajkumar & P Rajkumar

Return to Chennai – The Fab Four

Mark Horton

In the semifinals it would be Nest Inn v Team Tolani and Mavericks v Poland, the latter having a useful carry over of 14 IMPs.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

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

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jagannathan	Kannan	Ramani	Majeed
Pass	1♠	2♣	2♠
3♣	3♠	Pass	Pass
4♣	All Pass		

This is a classic example of Bob Hamman's maxim, 'If you have a choice of reasonable bids and one of them is 3NT, then bid it.' We will never know what would have happened next.

4♣ made on the nose, +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Acharya	Bijoor	Vaidya
Pass	1♠	2♣	2♠
3NT	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

South led the ♠Q and declarer won with dummy's ♠A and played the ♦4, North winning with the ♦K and returning the ♠K. Declarer ruffed, drew trumps and played a diamond, one down, -200 and 8 IMPs for **Team Tolani**.

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
1♣*	1♠	2♠*	3♠
Pass	4♠	Dble	Pass
5♣	All Pass		
2♠	Clubs		

North led the ♠10 and declarer won, played a club to the king, a club to the ace and the ♦9, North winning with the ♦K. His spade return was ruffed in dummy and declarer cashed the ♣Q and played a diamond, finishing one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Anklesaria	Janiszewski	Maskara	Buras
1♦	1♠	2♣	3♠
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass
East led the ♣K and declarer had four losers, one down, -200 and 7 IMPs for Mavericks .			

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	—	1NT	2♦*
Dble	2♥*	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
2♦	One major		
2♥	Pass or correct		

South led the ♠3 and North won with the ♠J and returned the ♠2, South winning with the ♠A and switching to the ♦2. When dummy's ♦J held declarer was already up to nine tricks, +600.

Not easy for North to see that a diamond switch is required.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Anklesaria	Janiszewski	Maskara	Buras
—	—	INT	2♦*
Dble	2♠*	All Pass	
2♦	One major		
2♠	Pass or correct		

East cashed the top diamonds and the ♣K and then played a third diamond for West to ruff. Declarer ruffed the club return, cashed the ♥AK pitching a club and ran the ♠J, +110 and 12 IMPs to Poland.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	Pass	4♥	Dble
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♥	Pass	Pass	Dble

All Pass

South led the ♥2 and declarer won with the ♥A and played the ♦7. South took the ♦A, cashed the ♠A and played two rounds of clubs, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Anklesaria	Janiszewski	Maskara	Buras
—	Pass	3♥	Dble
4♥	4♠	All Pass	

East led the ♦7 and West won with the ♦K and returned the ♦8 (would you have preferred the ♦J)

East ruffing and cashing the ♥A (would you have risked the underlead) which meant only one down, -50, still 11 IMPs to **Mavericks**.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ AKQJ1076	♠ 9	♠ 5
♥ 104	♥ J965	♥ AKQ7
♦ —	♦ AK83	♦ Q109542
♣ AK75	♣ 9843	♣ Q2
	N E W S	
	♠ 8432	
	♥ 832	
	♦ J76	
	♣ J106	

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jagannathan	Kannan	Ramani	Majeed
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

That was a disappointing +710.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Acharya	Bijoor	Vaidya
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

4NT RKCB

5♣ 1 keycard

With no suit agreed, there is a good case for playing 4NT as old-fashioned Blackwood.

Recording +1460 gave **Nest Inn** 13 IMPs.



Arvind Vaidya

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♥*	Pass
7♠	All Pass		

3♣	4♥ or 3♠
5♣	Control
5♥	Control
6♣	Control
6♥	Control

West could not count 13 tricks, but he did know that his partner did not either of the top diamonds which increased his chances of finding him with the right cards.

There was nothing to the play, +2210.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Anklesaria	Janiszewski	Maskara	Buras
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

2♦ Checkback

That meant the loss of 13 IMPs.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 74	♠ 863	♠ AKQ105
♥ K73	♥ Q98	♥ 652
♦ Q87	♦ 942	♦ 106
♣ AQJ107	♣ 8642	♣ K53
	N E W S	
	♠ J92	
	♥ AJ102	
	♦ AKJ53	
	♣ 9	

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jagannathan	Kannan	Ramani	Majeed
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♦*	Dble
Pass	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
2♦	Checkback		
3♦	Stopper ask		

North led the ♦2 and three rounds of the suit were followed by a claim, +460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Acharya	Bijoor	Vaidya
1♣	Pass	1♠	Dble
2♣	Pass	3♣	All Pass

That was +130 and 8 IMPs for **Team Tolani**.

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
1♣	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	INT	Dble	2♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♠4 (low from a doubleton) and the defenders had no trouble collecting six tricks for one down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Anklesaria	Janiszewski	Maskara	Buras
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♦*	Dble
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2♦ Checkback

North led the ♦2 and South played three rounds of the suit, +460 and 6 IMPs for **Mavericks**.

At the end of the session Poland and Nest Inn held narrow leads.

With both matched finely balanced we moved on to the second session of the semifinals.

♠ 832
♥ K2
♦ Q10
♣ AKQ953

♠ Q
♥ AQ76543
♦ K862
♣ 10

♠ K976
♥ —
♦ A9543
♣ J842

♠ AJ1054
♥ J1098
♦ J7
♣ 76

W N E S

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	3♣	3NT	4♣
4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Breaking Burn's Law of Total Trumps at the four level is not generally a recipe for success. This transgression drifted six down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Janiszewski	Toledano	Buras
—	Pass	1♣*	Dble*
1♦	3♠	Pass	4♠
5♦	5♠	Dble	All Pass

1♣ 0+♣, 16+, upgrades common
Dble Majors

East led the ♦A and when West followed with the ♦8 he fatally switched to the ♠8. Declarer won with the ♠9, played a spade to the ace and a club for the king and ace, +650 and a somewhat fortuitous 8 IMPs to **Poland**.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
1♠	2♥*	3♠	5♣
All Pass			
2♥	Club support		

West led the ♦Q, cashed the ♦K and the ♥A was the setting trick, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Janiszewski	Toledano	Buras
—	—	—	1♣
3♣*	Pass	3♥*	4♣
4♠	5♣	5♠	Pass
Pass	6♣	Dble	All Pass

3♣ ♠+♦
3♥ Good raise in spades

The defenders took the first three tricks, -300 and 6 IMPs to **Mavericks**.

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Acharya	Krishnan	Vaidya	Bijoor
—	—	—	1♣
1♠	1NT	2♠	2NT
4♠	5♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

That was a rapid one down, the defenders cashing two diamonds and a heart, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Majeed	A Somani	Ramkumar	R Somani
—	—	—	2♥*
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

I suspect 2♥ promised that suit and any other. It was the regulation one down, -100, no swing.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

South led the ♣2 and North won with the ♣K and returned the ♣9, declarer winning in dummy while discarding the ♦4. The ♠10 saw North take the ♠K and switch to the ♦K, declarer winning and playing the ♠Q. South won and returned the ♦J, North ruffing dummy's ♦Q and exiting with a club. Declarer ruffed and claimed, +110, 10 IMPs to **Poland**.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
1♠	Pass	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

1♣ 2+♣(11)12-14/13-16/15-17 balanced or 11-23 natural
1♦ (3)4+♦not 4♥/♠

West led the ♣5 and East won with the ♣10 and returned the ♣6, declarer taking the third round of the suit discarding the ♠7 from dummy. He cashed the ♦K and continued with the ♦2 for the jack and ace and then played a heart for the jack and queen. When East returned the spade three declarer cashed out for one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Janiszewski	Toledano	Buras
—	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♦4 and when dummy's ♦9 held declarer played a heart to the jack and had established nine tricks, +400 and 10 IMPs to **Poland**, back in front at 72-68.

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Acharya	Krishnan	Vaidya	Bijoor
—	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♥2 and having won with the ♥J cashed the top diamonds and then played the ♥K followed by the ♦10. He was safe for nine tricks, +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Majeed	A Somani	Ramkumar	R Somani
—	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East led the ♠5 and West won with the ♠Q as declarer followed with the ♠J. West's switch to the ♣2 saw East win with the ♣10 and go back to spades, declarer taking dummy's ♠A. He cashed the ♥K played a heart to the ace and cashed the top diamonds. When West discarded a spade there was no hope, one down, -50 and 10 IMPs for **Nest Inn**.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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



Ami Zamir

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
Pass	1♣*	2♥	4♣*
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	5♦
Dble	Pass	Pass	6NT

All Pass

1♣ 2+♣(11)12-14/13-16/15-17 balanced or 11-23 natural

4♣

4NT RKCB

5♣ 1 keycard

West led the ♥3 for the jack and ace and declarer cashed six spades, discarding two diamonds and a heart from dummy as West parted with a heart and three diamonds and East four hearts. A heart to the king saw West part with the ♦J, so declarer knew he was 2-2-5-4. A club to the king was followed by a club to the... (I had time to type up the bidding and play from the other room while declarer cogitated) ten to land a body blow that was worth +1470.

Is there a case for East to double 6NT? Would it ask for a diamond lead?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Janiszewski	Toledano	Buras
Pass	1♣	3♥	Dble
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

East led the ♥Q and declarer took 12 tricks, +680 and 13 IMPs to **Mavericks**.

Nest Inn had a healthy 47 IMP lead while the other match gave every indication of being a classic, **Mavericks** ahead by 2 IMPs at the half.

On we go to the third session of the semifinals, still all to play for.

On the opening deal of the session NS held ♠743 ♥A10743 ♦K3 ♣Q103 facing ♠A8 ♥2 ♦A107642 ♣AK82. After North passed East opened 1♠ and everyone played in diamonds. Poland and Mavericks were in 5♦ down two but Poland was doubled and lost 5 IMPs (West held ♠102 ♥Q9865 ♦Q985 ♣75) while

in the other match both sides stopped safely in 3♦.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 108653			
♥ 9			
♦ Q10974			
♣ 73			
♠ A Q 7 2			♠ K J 9 4
♥ A J 5 4			♥ 6 2
♦ 5			♦ A K J 3 2
♣ A Q 9 4			♣ J 10
♠ —			
♥ K Q 10 8 7 3			
♦ 8 6			
♣ K 8 6 5 2			

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	—	—	4♥
Dble	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led the ♥K and declarer won in dummy, played a diamond to the ace, ruffed a diamond and cashed the ♠A, South discarding a heart. A club to the jack lost to the ♣K and South cashed the ♥Q and then played the ♣8, North (having pitched a club on the ♥Q) ruffed and had only to exit with a spade to leave declarer a trick short. When he continued with the ♦9 declarer could claim, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Janiszewski	Toledano	Buras
—	—	—	4♥
Dble	Pass	5NT*	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♦*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		
5NT	Two places to play		
6♦	Diamonds and spades		

North led the ♥9 and declarer won with the ♥A and played a spade to the jack disclosing the 5-0 split. The ♣J took the next trick, and declarer was still in the game. He played a club to the queen and a diamond. All he had to do was put in the ♦J and he would have been home, but when he went up with the ♦A he was a trick short, -100 and 12 IMPs for **Poland**.

You know that South has opened on six-card suit so it must be odds on at the vulnerability that he has a two suited hand. If that suit is clubs the winning lines in 6♠ are not impossible to find.

If declarer plays a high spade from hand at trick two he

can then play a diamond to the ace and run the ♣J. After that declarer cashes a top diamond and gets home on a crossruff. If trumps had been 4-1, declarer would no longer need the diamond finesse for 12 tricks (but he would if by chance the contract was 7♠!).

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ramani	Krishnan	Jagannathan	Bijoor
—	—	—	Pass
1♦*	Pass	1♠	2♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
Dble	Pass	Pass	5♥
Dble	All Pass		

That little adventure cost -1700 (and it could have been worse).

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Majeed	Acharya	Kannan	Vaidya
—	—	—	2♠*
2NT	Pass	3♣	3♥
Dble	4♣	Dble	All Pass

East led the ♣J, cashed the ♦K and then went back to clubs. When the ♣10 held he took the ♦A then played a spade and declarer was toast, seven down, -1700.

What a way to get a flat board!

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣*	2♣	Pass	Pass
2♦	3♣	3♦	3♥
3NT	Dble	4♦	All Pass

1♣ Polish Club

North led the ♣A and switched to the ♠Q, declarer winning, ruffing a club and playing a diamond to the ten. North won and returned the ♦2, declarer taking dummy's ♦J and playing the ♠J. When South covered declarer had an overtrick, +150.

Withholding the ♠K saves a trick thanks to North's heart void.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Janiszewski	Toledano	Buras
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣*	3♣	Pass	Pass
3NT	Dble	4♠	All Pass

1♣ 0+♣, 16+ upgrades common

South led the ♦4 and North won with the ♦K played his top clubs which cost a couple of undertricks, declarer ruffing, crossing to the ♠A and playing a heart. North ruffed and returned the ♦9 and South ruffed and had to score the ♠K for two down, -200 and 8 IMPs to Poland.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	—	2♦*	Dble
Pass*	3♣	Pass	3NT
Dble	Pass	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

2♦ Multi

Pass Diamonds

East led the ♦K and declarer won in dummy, drew trumps ending in dummy and played the ♠10 for the king and ace. He continued with the ♠Q and came to 10 tricks, +130.

As you can see, 3NT was likely to make.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Janiszewski	Toledano	Buras
—	—	2♥	Dble
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

3♣ Values

West led the ♦J and continued with the ♦8, declarer winning and playing the ♠10 for the king and ace. A club to hand was followed by the ♠8 and that was soon followed by a claim, +600 and 10 IMPs for **Poland**.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	O Rimstedt	Marcinowski	M Rimstedt
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the ♠9 for the three, eight and king and declarer played a club to the king, East winning with the ♣A, cashing the ♠AQ and exiting with the ♦2. Forced to finesse, declarer was two down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zamir	Janiszewski	Toledano	Buras
—	—	—	1♣*
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
1♣	Polish Club		
2♦	Checkback		

West led the ♦6 and when dummy's ♦Q held declarer played on clubs, East taking the second round and

returning the ♦10. Declarer went up with the ♦A, cashed his clubs, played the ♥J to the ace and a low spade towards the king, making an overtrick when East took the ♠A and returned the ♦7, +430 and 11 IMPs to **Poland**.

As in the previous session all the action was in this match, 61 IMPs being recorded as opposed to just 17 in the other semifinal.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ramani	Krishnan	Jagannathan	Bijoor
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	2♥	Dble*	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the ♥Q and declarer took 10 tricks, +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Majeed	Acharya	Kannan	Vaidya
1NT	2♦*	Dble	Pass
Pass	2♥	Dble	2♠
Pass	3♥	Dble	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	Dble
All Pass			

2♦ One major

IN this situation, passing the first double would usually promise diamonds. Bidding 2♠ was risky and 3♥ doubled would have been no picnic. When EW missed their diamond fit they broke Burn's Law and -100 meant the loss of 11 IMPs.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ramani	Krishnan	Jagannathan	Bijoor
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Declarer took 11 tricks, +200.

Do you think East should have raised to 3♠?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Majeed	Acharya	Kannan	Vaidya
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♦	Dble*	4♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Here the score was +650 and 10 IMPs.

Poland took the session 55-12 giving them a commanding lead and **Nest Inn** were also in a strong position.

When you go into the final session with a significant deficit there are two considerations; you must score the required IMPs, but also endeavour to avoid the concession of points. In your favour is the fact that teams with a big lead can tend to play conservatively. It helps if the deals offer the potential for swings! (Spoiler alert – they certainly did on this occasion!)

On the second deal of the session North held ♠KQJ1096 ♥74 ♦K62 ♣106. What do you open? At three tables North started with 1♠ and found partner with ♠2 ♥AJ ♦AQJ97 ♣KJ842. Those pairs were all in game which on the lie of the cards was hopeless. At the remaining table Kannan opened 2♠ and played there. Even that could have been defeated but an inaccurate defence allowed it to make with a couple of overtricks giving **Nest Inn** 6 IMPs.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	Tolendano	Marcinowski	Zamir
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣*	Dble	1♦	2♣*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

East led the ♣2 and declarer won with the ♣K, played a spade to the queen and a diamond to the jack. When that held he cashed four more diamonds, West discarding the ♥2 and the ♣6 while East discarded three hearts.

If declarer could work out that West had blanked the ♥A a low heart would be a winner. After much thought declarer did play West to have come down to a singleton heart but he played for it to be the ♥Q and played the ♥K which meant he was one down, -200, a huge missed opportunity in the context of the match. Why West had ducked the ♠Q is hard to say.



Wojciech Gawel

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Janiszewski	M Rimstedt	Buras
—	—	2♥*	All Pass

2♥ 5+♥,5-10

South led the ♦6 and the contract drifted two down, -100 giving **Poland** 7 IMPs.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R Somani	Kannan	A Somani	Majeed
1♣	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♥*	1♠	2♠*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

1♦ Hearts
1♥ Support
2♠ Asking for a stopper

North led the ♠J, won the second heart and played the ♠3. When the ♦Q refused to appear that was eight tricks, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Vaidya	Bijoor	Acharya
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♣*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

South led the ♥3 and North won and returned the ♦10 but declarer could win and draw trumps, +620 and 12 IMPs to **Nest Inn**.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	Tolendano	Marcinowski	Zamir
—	1♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♦4 and when declarer put in the ♦Q West won and returned the ♦J, followed by the ♦10. Declarer won in dummy and played a spade for the ten and jack, East switching to the ♥6. Declarer took West's ♥Q, cashed the ♠K and played a spade to the nine. West won and that was three down, -300.

To have any chance declarer must duck the diamond lead.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Janiszewski	M Rimstedt	Buras
—	1♣*	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the ♥J and when West overtook it with the ♥Q declarer won and returned the ♥4, East winning with the ♥10 and switching to the ♣6. Declarer won with dummy's ♣A and played a heart, West winning and playing the ♣J. Declarer won with the ♣K, cashed the ♥9, took the top spades and the ♣Q and exited with a spade to endplay West, +630 and 14 IMPs to **Poland**, cruising to victory.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

		♠ QJ10976		
		♥ 987		
		♦ 763		
		♣ 9		
♠ K42			♠ A3	
♥ 64			♥ J2	
♦ AQ1092			♦ 84	
♣ K103			♣ AQJ8762	
		♠ 85		
		♥ AKQ1053		
		♦ KJ5		
		♣ 54		

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	Tolendano	Marcinowski	Zamir
—	—	—	1♥
Dble	3♠	5♣	All Pass

South cashed two hearts, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Janiszewski	M Rimstedt	Buras
—	—	—	1♥
Dble	2♦*	2♥*	3♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

That was two down, -500 and 3 IMPs for **Poland**.

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R Somani	Kannan	A Somani	Majeed
—	—	—	1♥
2♦	2♥	3♣	3♥
4♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass

That was +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Vaidya	Bijoor	Acharya
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	2♣	3♥
3♠*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South cashed his heats for two down, -200 and 13 IMPs for **Team Tolani**.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

		♠ AQ963		
		♥ 7		
		♦ 853		
		♣ J1092		
♠ 52			♠ K1074	
♥ KJ985			♥ 64	
♦ A107			♦ K9642	
♣ A43			♣ KQ	
		♠ J8		
		♥ AQ1032		
		♦ QJ		
		♣ 8765		

Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	Tolendano	Marcinowski	Zamir
—	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♠J and declarer won with the ♠K, played a heart to the jack, a club to the king and a heart, South taking the ♥A and returning the ♠8. North won with the queen and played a diamond and declarer ducked South's ♦Q, unblocking dummy's ♦10. He soon had the rest of the tricks, +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Janiszewski	M Rimstedt	Buras
—	2♠*	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Declarer took 10 tricks for +130, but it was another 11 IMPs for **Poland**.



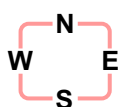
Buras Krzysztof

On Board 26 EW held ♠KJ753 ♥A ♦J ♣AKQ987 opposite ♠AQ ♥KQJ974 ♦8 ♣J432 and **Team Tolani** pocketed 13 IMPs when they bid 6♣. Both teams bid it in the other semifinal.

On Board 27 NS were looking at ♠AKJ974 ♥5 ♦3 ♣KQ832 facing ♠105 ♥AK10 ♦J95 ♣A7654 and this time **Team Tolani** were the only ones to bid 6♣ for another 11 IMPs.

Board 28. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ J		♠ AK32
♥ KQJ6		♥ 74
♦ KQ10942		♦ 65
♣ 32		♣ K10875
♠ Q98		♠ 107654
♥ 108532		♥ A9
♦ —		♦ AJ873
♣ AQJ96		♣ 4



Mavericks v Poland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gawel	Tolendano	Marcinowski	Zamir
2♣*	2♦	Dble*	4♣*
4♥	Dble	5♣	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Not so easy to save in 6♣.

East led the ♠K and switched to a club, +750.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
O Rimstedt	Janiszewski	M Rimstedt	Buras
Pass	1♦	1♠	2♠*
3♣	3♦	4♣	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

East led the ♠K and continued with the ♠A, +950.

Nest Inn v Team Tolani

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R Somani	Kannan	A Somani	Majeed
1♥	2♦	Dble	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

East led the ♠A and switched to the ♥7, +950.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krishnan	Vaidya	Bijoor	Acharya
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♦
Dble	Pass	Pass	Rdbl
All Pass			

East tried to cash two spades, +1400 and 10 IMPs for **Team Tolani**. They had scored 66 IMPs in the session, way more than they required, but they had given up 48 and **Nest Inn** advanced to the final.

Poland took the final session 44-10 to win by 75 IMPs.

Save the Date



World Bridge Federation

Online Women's Teams
March 27-29, 2026

This is a transnational event



The Juan-Carlos Ventin Bidding Award (Honouring Pablo Lambardi)

Source: IBPA

When watching a tournament, it is always delightful to see players achieving the best result with an outstanding bid or play, sometimes both. The following deal is from the recent Chinese National Club Championship.

Round 3. Board 12. Dealer West. NS vulnerable.

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

West	North	East	South
Liu		Hu	
1 ♣ ¹	Pass	1 NT ²	Pass
3 ♦ ³	Pass	3 ♠ ⁴	Pass
3 NT ⁵	Pass	4 ♦ ⁶	Pass
4 NT ⁷	Pass	6 ⁸	All Pass

1. 16+ any shape.
2. 12+ balanced.
3. 16-17 balanced with four-card major.
4. Four hearts.
5. Four spades.
6. Four diamonds.
7. Denies four diamonds.
8. Great four-card suit, offering choice of slams.

It was a deal with East-West holding 32 HCP, but no eight-card fit in any suit. Linlin Hu and Yinghao (Dunga) Liu, representing ORG Club, demonstrated their slam bidding skills.

Liu upgraded his 15-count because of the nice middle-card combinations. Then Hu tried to locate a fit in red

suits. When that effort didn't pay off, he made the most important bid in the whole auction – 6⁸ as a choice of slam. With good three-card support and doubleton diamonds, Liu decided that was the best spot to land.

Among 16 pairs of competitors in this top-flight tournament, Hu - Liu were the only pair to choose hearts as trumps. All other 15 pairs played notrump, with ten pairs gaining overtricks in 3NT or 4NT while five pairs went minus in 6NT.

South led a trump against 6⁸, and it was up to Hu to bring the contract home. Hu won the jack of hearts in dummy, followed by cashing the king-queen of diamonds and the heart eight to hand. After ruffing the third diamond, Hu came back to hand with the ace of spades and drew trumps. If hearts broke 3-3, a simple play of the spade three to dummy's nine would secure the contract, as North would be endplayed after winning the trick. However, when South showed four hearts, Hu had to clear trumps. Because South had nine cards in the red suits, Hu believed it was time to give up the simple finesse in clubs, and went for the stripsqueeze instead. When Hu played the ace of diamonds, North was hopelessly looking at dummy's last four cards: ♠ K 10 and ♣ A Q. He could not afford to leave his spade queen or club king unguarded, which would give declarer two tricks in that suit. However, keeping two cards in both suits was no better. Hu played the spade king and exited to North's queen, allowing the club ace-queen to become the slam-going winners.

An excellent performance in the bidding and the play!



Linlin Hu (2nd from left) and Yinghao Liu (right)

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

Time in Hours	Activity
GOLD & SILVER TEAMS – Finals (4x14 boards) & Play-Off (3x14 Boards)	
0900 – 1100	Session 1
1115 – 1315	Session 2
1315 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1600	Session 3
1615 – 1815	Session 4
SWISS TEAMS FINAL - IMP SCORING (7 rounds of 8 boards each)	
0930 – 1345	Session 1
1345 – 1430	Lunch Break
1430 – 1800	Session 2

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

Time in Hours	Activity
SWISS PAIRS - MATCHPOINT SCORING (2 sessions of 20/22 boards each)	
1000 – 1300	Session 1
1300 – 1400	Lunch Break
1400 – 1700	Session 2
MIXED PAIRS (2 sessions of 20/22 boards each)	
1030 – 1330	Session 1
1330 – 1430	Lunch Break
1430 – 1730	Session 2

Review in IMP Pairs

CTD : Sudhir Aggarwal
Reviewer : M BV Subrahmayam

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

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♠	3♣*	3♦
4♥	Dbl	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

TDs Statement of facts

3C of east explained is D & H. Systematic agreement Club suit. Poll has been taken with club suit and diamond & hearts. Both cases out come is same.

Reviewer's Decision

There was misinformation.

TD polled with peers with both explanation, systematic and given explanation.

What ever they Bid no one would change their choice with a different explanation.

TD had asked correct questions of the polled players and the result of the poll was conclusive. (100%)

It was deemed unlikely that south would have chosen a different call with the correct explanation.

TD's ruling upheld - Table Result

The polling method and decision arrival was apprised to the South player still he seeked review.

Deposit forfeited.

Law 40B4.