

3rd World Youth Open Bridge Championships

Atlanta, Georgia, USA 3rd - 11th August 2013



Daily Bulletin



Coordinator: Brent Manley • Editor: Phillip Alder • Co-Editors: Murat Molva, David Stern

Sunday, August 11, 2013

Youth BAM Teams

Round 11

Rank	Team	VPs
1	TURKIYE	58.00
2	ITALIA	55.00
3	AUSTRALIA	53.00
4	CALIFORNIAN ACES	50.00
5	WAR OF ROSES	48.00
6	ARGENTINA	43.00
7	CHINA GIRLS SX CLUB	41.00
	CHINA SX CLUB	41.00
9	WERNIS	38.00
10	BERK	36.00
11	VENEZUELA	35.00
12	JAPAN	30.00

Prize Giving and Closing Ceremony

August 11, Sunday - 18:30 hrs

Note the New Time.

Hyatt Regency Embassy Hall (Level LL2)
(same venue as the Opening Ceremony)

Buffet to follow at
Best Western Hotel

Sunday's Schedule

Board-a-Match Final	10:00-11:40: 12 boards
	12:00-13:40: 12 boards
	14:20-16:00: 12 boards
	16:20-17:30: 8 boards
Closing Ceremony	18:30

Thank You

It was a team effort to produce these bulletins. Murat Molva and David Stern made excellent contributions. It was particularly meritorious for Molva, who was not writing in his native language. I was pleasantly surprised how little editing his articles required. Thank you.

Kathleen Stemley did all of the page-layout work. She battled for relative ages without one grumble. It must have been particularly taxing on the two nights when we had far too much copy and had to extract chunks of text. But she worked professionally and happily. Thank you.

The two ACBL bulletin editors, Brent Manley and Paul Linxwiler, accepted my "borrowing" Kathleen and lengthening their evenings without one word of complaint. Thank you.

Phillip Alder

B-a-M Final First Session

by Murat Molva

The first match brought several exciting deals with slam potential. The first one was Board 3:

Dlr: South	♠ K Q 9 4
Vul: E-W	♥ A 2
	♦ A Q 4
	♣ A 9 8 3
♠ --	♠ 6 3
♥ K J 10 9 6 5 3	♥ Q 8 7 4
♦ J 9 6	♦ 10 8 5
♣ J 7 4	♣ K Q 6 5
	♠ A J 10 8 7 5 2
	♥ --
	♦ K 7 3 2
	♣ 10 2

The auctions at the four tables I watched ranged from elegant to totally absurd, and from the boringly normal to highly practical.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Berk</i>	<i>Zanasi</i>	<i>Chang</i>	<i>DiFranco</i>
(USA)	(ITA)	(USA)	(ITA)
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
Pass	7♠	All Pass	

This was the elegant auction by the Italian Junior Pairs World Champions. After Zanasi started control-bidding (cue-bidding), promising a good spade fit, di Franco's six-heart bid gave the message that he had higher aspirations than just bidding a small slam. That was all Zanasi needed to hear and he bid the laydown grand slam.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Chavarria</i>	<i>Amer</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>Soukup</i>
(ITA)	(USA)	(ITA)	(USA)
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

Was it a coincidence that the elegant and the totally absurd happened in the same match? There are scientists who believe that coincidence is a scientific anomaly, but that is the subject of an article for another bulletin. Amer, with his six-heart bid was trying to convey exactly the same message as Di Franco did. However, but this was lost on his partner, Soukup, who passed six hearts. And it must be added that a Blackwood bidder is supposedly in charge. This contract went down 7, so Italy won the board.

The good thing about the B-a-M scoring format is that you just need to score 10 points more than your opponents to win the board. So, in the post mortem, Amer and Soukup could inform their teammates that they played in and made seven diamonds from the South seat. The result would still have been the same. At least, this would be easier than explaining to teammates the humiliation of playing in a 2-0 fit.

The other match was a clash of normal versus practical bidders.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Etchepareborda</i>	<i>Lin</i>	<i>Rueda</i>
(USA)	(ARG)	(USA)	(ARG)
Pass	4NT	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Etchepareborda (Argentina) did not look so enterprising with his approach to this board. He looked no further than six spades and recorded plus 1010. So the USA team needed to score just 10 points more to win the board, and they did exactly that.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ferro</i>	<i>Lee</i>	<i>Montes De</i>	<i>Wessels</i>
(ARG)	(USA)	(ARG)	(USA)
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Lee is obviously a practical bidder who seems to have grasped the B-a-M philosophy. So, instead of investigating a grand slam, he bid a direct six notrump. He was lucky to find the diamonds 3-3 to land an overtrick and record plus 1020. The grand slam was missed, but mission accomplished and USA had won the board.

Board 10 was another grand-slam deal:

Dlr:E	♠ 9		
Vul:Both	♥ A K 9 4 3		
	♦ K 6 5 2		
	♣ Q 8 5		
♠ A 9 8			♠ K Q J 5 3 2
♥ --			♥ Q J 10 2
♦ A 9 8			♦ Q 4
♣ A J 10 9 7 3			♣ K
	♠ 10 6		
	♥ 8 7 6 5		
	♦ J 10 7 3		
	♣ 6 4 2		

The Italians again displayed their flair for bidding grand slams.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Chavarria</i>	<i>Suarez</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>De Jesus</i>
(ITA)	(COL)	(ITA)	(COL)
		1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♥	Pass	5♠	Pass
6♣	Pass	7♠	All Pass

continued on next page

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B-a-M final

continued from page 1

When Botta decided to rebid her six-card suit instead of showing her side suit, Chavarria could easily invite slam with three spades. The five-heart jump was Exclusion Key Card Blackwood, the reply showing one key card outside hearts. Six clubs was then a grand-slam try, which East accepted.

To make her contract the declarer needed the clubs to come in, or alternatively to take a ruffing finesse. Both lines were working here, so it was plus 2210 for Italy.

This turned out to be overkill because at the other table, this was the auction:

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Cabrera</i>	<i>Zanasi</i>	<i>Grande</i>	<i>Di Franco</i>
<i>(COL)</i>	<i>(ITA)</i>	<i>(Col)</i>	<i>(ITA)</i>
		1♠	Pass
2♣	Dble	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Plus 680 for Colombia and Italy won the board 1-0.

Exactly the same story took place in the other BBO match:

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Ferro</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Montes De</i>	<i>Yu</i>
<i>(ARG)</i>	<i>(CHN)</i>	<i>(ARG)</i>	<i>(Chn)</i>
		1♠	Pass
2♣	2♥	2♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♠	Pass
7♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Montes and Ferro from Argentine conducted a fine auction, where Lu's two-heart intervention probably helped Ferro to control-bid his heart void. Ferro could not count thirteen tricks exactly, but with first-round controls in every suit, he thought a real B-a-M player on Vu-graph could not bid anything less than a grand slam.

He was right and Montes established the club suit to record plus 2210 in the "we" column. Like in the previous match, this effort was a complete waste of firepower, as the other table had stopped in a peaceful game contract:

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Ruan</i>	<i>Etchepareborda</i>	<i>Chen</i>	<i>Rueda</i>
<i>(CHN)</i>	<i>(ARG)</i>	<i>(CHN)</i>	<i>(ARG)</i>
		1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Plus 680 for China and Argentina won the board 1-0.

It is interesting to note that if this particular board was being played between China and Colombia in one match, and Italy and Argentina in the other, the board could have been flat at both matches. So there seems to be the factor of luck hiding somewhere.

Aussie Youth Bridge Bulletin

Each country has its own policies toward helping junior players, some being much more beneficial than others.

Australia's efforts include an approximately quarterly magazine edited by Andy Hung with assistance from Griff Ware.

The latest edition contained this interesting declarer-play problem:

Dlr: South	♠ Q 10 9
Vul: None	♥ J 9 8 7
	♦ A 7 4 3
	♣ Q 2
	♠ A 7 5
	♥ A K Q 10 3
	♦ 2
	♣ A K 9 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	3♥	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	6♥

No auction is given in the magazine. In this one, North's three-heart limit raise is a tad aggressive. Then South's slam-bid cannot be far wrong.

West leads the diamond king. How would you plan the play?

Answer on page 4.

Test Your Declarer Play
by David Stern

Dlr: South	♠ Q 7 6
Vul: N-S	♥ A 6
	♦ A K Q 8 5 2
	♣ A 3
	♠ A 9 3
	♥ K 10 9 8 7 5 4
	♦ 4
	♣ Q 7

North	South
2♦	1♥
3♥(1)	2♥
3NT	3♠
6♦	4♦
Pass	6♥

(1) Slam interest

Over the years I don't recall a director ever offering me a bridge deal for use in a Daily Bulletin, so thanks go to Paolo Clair for this interesting one. It was Board 5 in the first round of the teams.

The opening lead is the club four. What would be your line of play in six hearts?

Answer on page 4.

Turkey-Japan Bronze Medal Match

by Murat Molva

The losing semifinalists of yesterday met this morning for a 48-board playoff for the bronze medals. Board 6 was a slam hand:

Dlr: East	♠ 10 2	
Vul: E-W	♥ A 8 7 6 3	
	♦ 10 7 6 4	
	♣ Q 10	
♠ A J 9 8 7 5 4		♠ K
♥ J		♥ K Q 9 5 4 2
♦ --		♦ Q 8 5
♣ A K J 8 5		♣ 6 4 2
	♠ Q 6 3	
	♥ 10	
	♦ A K J 9 3 2	
	♣ 9 7 3	

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Gobekli</i>	<i>Hashimoto</i>	<i>Gokce</i>	<i>Kikuchi</i>
		2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Dble
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

When East opened a weak two, West, Gobekli, bid two notrump to learn more about partner's hand. Would he bid the slam if he found out that partner held something in spades or clubs? We will never

know, but anyway, the spade game made with two overtricks when south ruffed a heart honor and was overruffed. Declarer had to play clubs from the top and the club queen was kind enough to fall.

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Seshimo</i>	<i>Koclar</i>	<i>Oyama</i>	<i>Aydogdu</i>
		1♥	2♦
2♠	4♦	Pass	Pass
6♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

When partner opens a normal one heart though, it is so difficult to stop out of slam with a 7-5 distribution. Six-five: come alive, seven-five: bid slam. Well, it doesn't rhyme exactly, but that's all I have today.

The slam actually makes, as you can see. Seshimo ruffed the diamond lead and unblocked the spade king. He came to his hand with a trump and ruffed the spades good. Then he played a club off dummy and started thinking. Was there a clue, any clue, from the bidding?

Meanwhile, during this long pause, the club queen was burning in the hands of Koclar. But the declarer finally saw no reason not to finesse and the slam went down. 13 IMPs to Turkey.

Board 10 was probably the most expensive board in Atlanta:

Dlr: East	♠ A 9	
Vul:Both	♥ Q J 10 8 7 5	
	♦ A K 5	
	♣ 6 5	
♠ J 10 7 4 3		♠ K Q 8 6 2
♥ 3		♥ 9 2
♦ 8 2		♦ 10 9 3
♣ A K 8 4 3		♣ J 10 7
	♠ 5	
	♥ A K 6 4	
	♦ Q J 7 6 4	
	♣ Q 9 2	

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Gobekli</i>	<i>Hashimoto</i>	<i>Gokce</i>	<i>Kikuchi</i>
		Pass	1♦
1♠	2♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

This contract was bound to go down, but look at what happened at the table. North, Hashimoto, led the club six: jack, queen, ace. North took his spade ace at the second trick and led another club, hoping to reach his partner's king and get a ruff. But declarer had the club king and the doubled game rolled home. Plus 790 for Turkey.

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Seshimo</i>	<i>Koclar</i>	<i>Oyama</i>	<i>Aydogdu</i>
		Pass	1♦
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♠
Pass	3NT	4♠	Pass
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

In the Open Room, Koclar's three notrump was "serious" and he was hoping to hear a club control-bid (cue-bid). But when East competed with four spades, it was not possible to find out if South had a club control. So Koclar applied the time honored policy of when it doubt, bid one more for the road, and the poor slam was reached. West, in the meantime, was unhappy with the way things were developing at the table. He thought for a while and finally came up with a double, trying to persuade partner to lead something other than their agreed suit, spades.

Unfortunately, all of this delicate thinking was lost on East, who led the spade king and the doubled slam rolled home too. With an overtrick to boot. Plus 1860 for Turkey. The slam-plus-game swing was worth no less than 21 IMPs.

The first set ended with Turkey up by 25 IMPs (51-26).

From Venezuela

by Phillip Alder

The Venezuelan coach, Hanoi Rondon, dropped by our office with a deal from the Board-a-Match qualifying that was well bid and played by one of his pairs, Karla de Jesus and Adriana Suarez, who had finished second in the Girls Pairs.

Dlr: South	♠ A 3		
Vul: None	♥ 4		
	♦ K 10 9 5 3 2		
	♣ A Q J 2		
♠ J 8 6 5 4		♠ K Q 10 7	
♥ K 9 3 2		♥ Q 10	
♦ Q J 8		♦ A 7 6 4	
♣ 3		♣ 10 8 6	
	♠ 9 2		
	♥ A J 8 7 6 5		
	♦ --		
	♣ K 9 7 5 4		

West	North	East	South
	<i>De Jesus</i>		<i>Suarez</i>
Pass	2♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	4NT (2)	Pass	4♦ (1)
Pass	6♣ (4)	All Pass	5NT (3)

- (1) Control-bid
- (2) Roman Key Card Blackwood
- (3) Two key cards and a void
- (4) Partner's void had to be in diamonds; with eleven spades, the nonvulnerable opponents would surely have been bidding

Note the aggressive bidding by Suarez. Not only did she open at the one-level with only eight high-card points, she happily showed her second suit, made a control-bid, and admitted to her void in answer to RKCB. It is almost surprising that North did not bid eight clubs!

West led a spade. Declarer put up dummy's ace and called for a low diamond. At this point, East paid for failing to inquire about the bidding. She went in with the diamond ace. South ruffed, cashed her heart ace, ruffed a heart in the dummy, and discarded her second spade on the diamond king. Now it was easy to establish diamonds.

The play would have been much more complicated if East had played low at the second trick. South would presumably have ruffed. If she then tried to crossruff home, it would not have worked -- try it yourself. The way to make the contract is to cash the heart ace, ruff a heart in the dummy, ruff a diamond, and return to dummy with a trump. Then you must lead the diamond king to pin West's queen -- a tough play to find.

In the other room, this was the auction:

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

How would you critique that?

Opening weak twos with two-suiters is considered acceptable these days, but the opener must show the second suit whenever feasible. Here, South should have rebid three clubs.

East's double was debatable with a potential working nine-count.

Also, I think West's pass is wrong, even in B-a-M. West should have bid two spades.

Then, I assume South would have balanced with three clubs; but slam surely would not have been reached.

Two hearts doubled made for plus 470, but it lost the board.

One More Grand Slam

by Phillip Alder

You have already seen two grand slams form the first round of the Board-a-Match final. But those were not the only ones. There was also Board 5:

Dlr: North	♠ J 7		
Vul: N-S	♥ Q J 10		
	♦ Q 10 8 4		
	♣ Q 8 4 3		
♠ K Q 2		♠ A 10 6 4 3	
♥ A		♥ K 9 8 4 3	
♦ A J 9 7		♦ 3 2	
♣ K J 10 9 6		♣ A	
	♠ 9 8 5		
	♥ 7 6 5 2		
	♦ K 6 5		
	♣ 7 5 2		

Here are the four BBO auctions:

Argentina:			
West	North	East	South
<i>Etchepareborda</i>	<i>Botta</i>	<i>Rueda</i>	<i>Chavarria</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣ (1)	Pass
4♦ (1)	Pass	4♥ (1)	Pass
4NT (2)	Pass	5♥ (3)	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

- (1) Control-bid
- (2) Roman Key Card Blackwood
- (3) Two key cards but no spade queen

Italy			
West	North	East	South
<i>di Franco</i>	<i>Montes de Oca</i>	<i>Zanasi</i>	<i>Ferro</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT (1)	Pass
4♣ (2)	Pass	4♥ (2)	Pass
4NT (3)	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♥ (4)	Pass
7♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (1) Mild slam interest
- (2) Control-bid
- (3) RKCB
- (4) Heart king, no minor-suit king

Venezuela			
West	North	East	South
<i>de Jesus</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>Suarez</i>	<i>Lin</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♣ (1)	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♥	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (1) Three spades and 16-18 points

California Aces			
West	North	East	South
<i>Wessels</i>	<i>Perez</i>	<i>Lee</i>	<i>Rodriguez</i>
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT (1)	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♥	Pass
7♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (1) Mild slam interest

Against Juan Cruz Etchepareborda, North led a trump. Declarer drew trumps immediately, cashed his club ace, played a diamond to dummy's ace, discarded his remaining diamond on the club king, ran the club ten (throwing a heart), and continued with the club jack, which was covered and ruffed. East played a heart to the ace and pitched another heart on the long club, but had to lose the last trick. He took five spades, two hearts, one diamond and four clubs.

Gabriele Zanasi received a diamond lead. Not surprisingly, he took a long time before commencing

play. Finally, he won with dummy's ace, played a club to his ace, returned to dummy with a trump, and discarded his second diamond on the club king. Then he ran the club jack, throwing a heart from his hand. When that worked, Zanasi ruffed a diamond in his hand, played a heart to the ace, ruffed another diamond, cashed the heart king, discarding a club from the dummy, ruffed a heart, and claimed on a high-trump crossruff.

That won the board for Italy.

Adriana Suarez received the club-five lead, ducked around to her ace. She played a heart to dummy's ace, cashed the spade king-queen, diamond ace and club king (throwing a diamond), ran the club jack (pitching a heart), ruffed a club, ruffed a heart, ruffed a diamond, cashed the spade ace and heart king, and claimed because her heart nine was high.

Antony Lee had it easy. South led the club nine and North unwisely put up the queen.

So California Aces gained the point.

We wrote too much copy for both the Friday and Saturday bulletins. With a little space available today, here are a couple of deals that were evicted. See if you can decide who wrote them originally!

First, from the Japan-USA Junior Teams semifinal.

Board 10 was interesting for the defenders.

Dlr: East	♠ 8 5 3
Vul: Both	♥ K Q 9 7 4
	♦ K 9 2
	♣ 5 3

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

	♠ 10 2
	♥ A 10
	♦ 10 3
	♣ A Q J 10 9 6 4

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Seshimo</i>	<i>Adam</i>	<i>Oyama</i>	<i>Zach</i>
	<i>Grossack</i>	Pass	<i>Grossack</i>
		Pass	1♣
1♠	Dble	2♦	3♣
3♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
<i>Agica</i>	<i>Ito</i>	<i>Kaplan</i>	<i>Harada</i>
		Pass	1♣
1♠	Dble	2♣ (1)	3♣
3♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (1) Diamonds

Three spades was laydown, but both pairs came to rest in three diamonds.

Ito led a club. South won with his ace, cashed his heart ace, and played another heart. North took two tricks in the suit, South discarding the spade ten (normal signals). Now North defended perfectly, playing a fourth heart. West could no avoid losing a trump trick. He actually discarded a club from the dummy, so South ruffed with his diamond ten for down one.

At the other table, Zach started with the heart ace. But then he erred in failing to cash the club ace. He immediately played his second heart. North won two tricks, South pitching the spade two (upside-down signals), and shifted to a club, but after South took that trick, declarer had two entries with a spade and a club ruff to take two diamond finesses.

That resulted in 5 IMPs to Japan.

Then we turn back to the Turkey-Australia Junior Teams semifinal.

continued on next page

more hands

continued from page 3

Dlr: West ♠ K 7 4
 Vul: All ♥ A J 9 3
 ♦ 9 7 4
 ♣ A 9 5

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

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

Both tables arrived in 2♥ on the same auction

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	1♠	Dble
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Both tables started with the diamond king followed by the diamond ace. In the Closed Room, East, Justin Howard, switched to the club six. Declarer won in dummy and played a heart to the nine. North now lost two spades, one heart and two diamonds for plus 110.

In the Open Room, East offered declarer the contract by switching to the ♠A and a low spade. Now declarer could have played the heart ace and another heart to lose one spade, two hearts and two diamonds. North, however, won the dummy's jack and finessed the heart nine, after which West ruffed a spade and gave his partner a diamond ruff to beat the contract. That was another 5 IMPs to Turkiye.

The winning defense is a low-spade switch after cashing the two top diamonds. This prevents declarer from finessing the heart as you will then score the two top diamonds, spade ace, a spade ruff, and a diamond ruff for down one. And if declarer plays the heart ace and another heart, he will have six losers.

Nice defense if you can find it.

Dlr: North ♠ 10 9 4 2
 Vul: All ♥ Q J 7 4
 ♦ 10 8 7
 ♣ 10 9

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Ozgur</i>	<i>Moskovsky</i>	<i>Uslupehliyan</i>	<i>Travis</i>
	Pass	1♣	Dble
Redble	1♥	Dble	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

South, Lauren Travis, elected to lead the club five. After six rounds of clubs and a diamond to the king and her ace, she elected to try the spade king. Declarer won and played a second diamond to establish the ninth trick. A heart switch instead of the spade king would have seen the contract fail as even if declarer ducks two rounds, South simply now plays the spade king to establish the defense's fifth trick before the diamond is established.

Australia were plus 35 IMPs with three notrump failing at the other table.

This was Board 4:

Dlr: West ♠ K Q 6
 Vul: Both ♥ A Q 9 7 6 4 3
 ♦ A
 ♣ K 3

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

♠ A J 9 4 3
 ♥ K 10 2
 ♦ 4
 ♣ A 9 7 4

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hollands</i>	<i>Gobekli</i>	<i>Howard J</i>	<i>Gokce</i>
3♦	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

East, with four-card support for diamonds, was a bit on the conservative side, and this gave South a lot of room to explore all slam possibilities. However, Berk Gokce did not even bother to bid five notrump and went straight to six hearts, after which the laydown grand slam was lost.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Koclar</i>	<i>Howard N</i>	<i>Aydogdu</i>	<i>Henbest</i>
3♦	Dble	5♦	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

At this table, after East raised to five diamonds, the Australians were forced to guess what to do at the five-level and it was practically impossible to bid the grand with certainty. They settled in six spades for a flat board.

Board 11 was another demonstration that the five-level belongs to Turkey:

Dlr: South ♠ 5
 Vul: None ♥ J 8 7 6 3
 ♦ K 6 2
 ♣ A K 4 2

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

♠ Q 8 4
 ♥ K Q 9 5 2
 ♦ 9 3
 ♣ 10 8 6

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hollands</i>	<i>Gobekli</i>	<i>Howard J</i>	<i>Gokce</i>
1♠	2♥	3♠	4♥
4♠	5♥	Dble	All Pass

North, Gobekli, not only bid two hearts, but also decided to take the save in five hearts with three apparent defensive tricks. He went for minus 300 and was anxiously expecting his teammates to bring home four spades at the other table.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Koclar</i>	<i>Howard N</i>	<i>Aydogdu</i>	<i>Henbest</i>
1♠	Dble	3♠	4♥
4♠	All Pass		

As expected, the Turks were left to play in four spades. But after a low-heart lead, the declarer, Akin Koclar, started with the spade ace. Now there was no way to make the contract. 8 IMPs more to Australia.

Aussie Youth Bridge Bulletin Answer

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The problem is set on page 2.

Dlr: South ♠ Q 10 9
 Vul: None ♥ J 9 8 7
 ♦ A 7 4 3
 ♣ Q 2

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

♠ A 7 5
 ♥ A K Q 10 3
 ♦ 2
 ♣ A K 9 3

I have supplied the East-West hands, perhaps unwisely, because you can see other ways to get home in addition to the recommended line.

If trumps are splitting 2-2, there will be no worries. You will take one spade, five hearts, one diamond, three clubs and two ruffs (one spade and one club) in the dummy.

If trumps are the more likely 3-1, though, you could take two spade finesses, one of which will work in theory 76 percent of the time. But that is only in the real world. In newspaper columns and bridge classes, finesses work maybe five percent of the time!

The key is noting the strong trumps in the dummy. The right line is a dummy reversal.

Take the first trick with dummy's diamond ace, ruff a diamond high in your hand, play a trump to dummy's seven, ruff another diamond high, return to dummy by overtaking the heart ten with the jack, ruff the last diamond, play a club to the queen, draw the missing trump(s) if necessary, and claim. You take one spade, four hearts, one diamond, three clubs and those three diamond ruffs.

Test Your Declarer Play

continued from page 2

There seem to be three lines of play.

Win with dummy's club ace, draw two rounds of trumps ending in the dummy, and play on diamonds. You make whenever diamonds are 3-3 and hearts 2-2 or 3-1.

Duck the club, and if your queen wins, you can handle all 3-1 and 4-0 heart breaks.

Win with the club ace, cash the diamond ace, and ruff a diamond. You succeed when trumps are 2-2, and if trumps are 3-1, you will need diamonds 4-2 with the hand holding three hearts also having four diamonds.

My guru on such matters is Boye Brogeland of Norway, and he explained his preferred line as follows, "I play low from dummy at trick one. If the club is right (50%), I can even cater for a 4-0 trump break. If the club king is with East, I need to avoid a trump loser. I can't see that I can do better to play the club ace at trick one as I need diamonds 3-3 (36%) if there is a trump loser."

Our esteemed editor, Phillip Alder, agreed with this line but in discussion, over a glass of wine of course, we agreed that in isolation there is sound reasoning for ducking the club. He raised a subject that is tough to quantify: the standard of the opponent sitting West. An expert would be more likely to underlead the club king than, say, an intermediate player, who would be loathe to lead away from an unsupported king against a slam.

The duck-the-club line was also chosen by Alfredo Versace and Antonio Sementa when they were polled by Paolo.

This was the full deal:

♠ Q 7 6
 ♥ A 6
 ♦ A K Q 8 5 2
 ♣ A 3

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

♠ A 9 3
 ♥ K 10 9 8 7 5 4
 ♦ 4
 ♣ Q 7

So the winning line on the actual layout was number 1: Win with the club ace, draw two rounds of trumps ending in the dummy, and play diamonds from the top.

These were the actual results on the deal:

4♥	S	♠J	12	680	6♥	S	♠J	12	1430			13
4♥	S	♠J	12	680	6♥	S	♠J	12	1430			13
4♥	S	♠J	12	680	4♥	S	♠4	11	650		1	
4♥	S	♠J	12	680	4♥	S	♠4	12	680		--	--
4♥	S	♠J	12	680	7♥	S	♠J	12		100	13	
6♥	S	♠4	11		100	4♥	S	♠4	12	680		13

Francisco Pablo Montes de Oca from Argentina did lead a low club and declarer went down.