



Spring Nationals on Real Bridge

14-24 October 2021

3 Saturday 16 October

Editor: Nick Hughes



Semis & DC Pairs today

48-board semis for the top four teams, while the rest of us make the welcome switch to matchpoints.

The **Bridgegear Intermediate Teams** was won in a canter by Hui LI - Patrick JIANG, Wei ZHANG - Sherlock SHAO

who went through undefeated, averaging nearly 16 VPs.

In the Open, the top two were comfortable, while there was a mad scramble for the last two spots.

Wet sail time

The field really messed this one up:

Match 8, Bd 39

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
	Neill		Morrison
	Havas		Smart
			1NT
no	3♠ splinter		5♣

These were the only two out of 52 to get to 5♣. 47 (!) were in 3NT, some were allowed to make.

One pair bid and made 4♥, Attilio de Luca and Peter Chan. In the same match, their teammates Tony Burke and Phil Gue bid that cold 7♣. That and a few other pickups allowed them to score 19.24 in the final round to make the semis.



Ian Thomson sent in this nice play by his partner, albeit with some assistance from the defence:

Match 5, Bd 8

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Hunt	Dawson	Thomson	Gill
4♥	dbl	end	

4♥x was due to go for -500 on the ♦9 lead to the K-A but Peter Gill switched to spades, picking partner not to have a stiff diamond for her takeout double.

Reprieved, John Hunt cashed two trumps then led a club up. When North continued spades, it was all over.

♣K and a club ruff reduced West to ♥Q-9, sitting over South's T-8. Two diamonds ending in dummy couped South's trumps for +590.

Betting against the bookies

Match 6, Bd 13

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

5♦ is a decent spot, reached by a few. Seven declarers chose the normal line and made it.

Teams final standings

TBIB Open (52 teams)

1	6	NUNN	125.22
2	36	ASHTON	112.08
3	42	JOHANSSON	103.63
4	12	GUE	101.50

These four to the 48-board semis starting Saturday at 10.30.

You can kibitz these on 30 minute delay. Go to

<https://kibitz.realbridge.online>

5	30	MOSKOVSKY	100.40
6	45	VADAS	97.81
7	27	FISHER	97.55
8	13	BEAUCHAMP	96.05
9	9	HOFFMAN	95.67
10	50	ZHU	94.00



Intermediate (16 teams)

1	12	LI	127.50
2	2	FEYDER	99.24

\$200 / \$100

All eight players also receive \$30 Bridgegear Gift Vouchers.

3	1	COLLING	93.36
4	11	RIPLEY	88.97
5	6	ROGERS	88.54
6	5	RAYMOND	88.04

After spade-spade, they drew trumps and hoped hearts would come in, roughly 55%. (If no joy there, need the ♠A onside)

Three declarers tried to pick up ♥J-x-x-x in either hand. They played ♦K, ♥K, ♥A, feeling a bit sick when the ♥J appeared. Now they needed trumps to be 2-2. That's about 44%. (given they weren't 4-0)

Mind you, they did better than the dozen who thought 3NT was the place to be.

A good defence against 5♦ is ♠Q, then ♣3, giving declarer a guess. Strangely, nobody seems to have tried that.

Avoid those long suits ...

Match 5, Bd 6

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		3♠	no
4♠	end		

A club lead is best. As per usual, the shorter the better. A heart turns out terribly, while a brave declarer will run a diamond lead to the jack.

Having said that, 4♠ can make on a club lead. South gets squeezed in the reds.

Do you or don't you?

Match 6, Bd 19

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			no
1♥	3♣	no	4♣
dbl	no	4♠	no

A common auction.

"Do you feel lucky?" as Clint would say. Seven Wests punted slam and were rewarded.

Some South's bid 5♣ over three. When East removes double to 5♠, it's more appealing for West to bid six. Maybe South should just pass?

Paul Lavings would have hated this next hand:

Match 6, Bd 14

E/Nil	♠ J 10 9		
	♥ K 8 6 3 2		
	♦ 10 6 5		
	♣ A 6		

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

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Lavings	v d Vlugt	K'malik	Kanetkar
		1♦	no

1NT end

Winning the heart lead in hand, Lavings played a club up. Maurits did well to fly ace, blocking the suit.

Dummy's ♠K was unblocked but the spade switch soon knocked out the ♠K. Later on, when in with the ♦K, Avi cashed a spade then led the ♠4.

Why didn't declarer finesse? South had played the ♣8 on the first club – natural count – so it looked like their clubs were bare ace and J-8-6-4.

If so, playing the 10 could not bring the suit in. So ♠Q and a heart finesse, hoping to catch North in a strip squeeze. Not today.

Convener

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Open semis & final

Sat	10.30	Semis (48 bds)
16		
Sun	10.30	Final
17		

Dick Cummings Pairs & Ted Chadwick Nov/Rstr

Matchpoints converted to VPs

Sat	10.30	2 x 10 bds
16	1.30	3 x 10 bds
Sun	10.30	2 x 10 bds
17	1.30	3 x 10 bds

Open & Novice Swiss Prs

Wed	10.30	3 x 8 bds
20	2pm	3 x 8 bds

Mixed Teams

Fri	10.30	2 x 12 bds
22	2.15	2 x 12 bds
Sat	10.30	2 x 12 bds
23	2.15	2 x 12 bds

Penline Swiss Pairs & Two Men & a Truck Pairs

Sat	10.30	3 x 8 bds
23	2pm	3 x 8 bds

NSWBA Jacaranda Tms

Sun	10.30	3 x 8 bds
24	2.15	3 x 8 bds

Top 10 on datums

		played	
1	Paul GOSNEY - Tony LEIBOWITZ	8	139.3
2	Liam MILNE - James COUTTS	8	128.8
3	Jon HUNT - Ian THOMSON	4	105.5
4	Tony NUNN - Paul DALLEY	6	88.1
5	Peter CHAN - Attilio DE LUCA	8	84.2
6	Sartaj HANS - Andy HUNG	4	83.2
7	Anne-Marie RUSSELL - Paul CARSON	4	81.4
8	Liz FISHER - Blair FISHER	5	79.6
9	Richard BRIGHTLING - David HOFFMAN	6	76.6
10	Philip MARKEY - Joachim HAFFER	8	73.3