



2017 IMSA Elite Mind Games

国际智力运动联盟智力运动精英赛

HUAI'AN, JIANGSU PROVINCE, CHINA • 9TH TO 15TH DECEMBER



"Bridge for Peace"

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THE GOLDEN TICKETS



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This great celebration of bridge has come to an end with the crowning of the Individual Champions.

In the Open Individual **Jianwei Li** had no problems in holding on to his lead - indeed he increased it, finishing with 58.41%, giving China another gold medal. Second place went to his compatriot, **Lixin Yang**, who scored 55.94%. **Herve Vinciguerra** joins them on the podium with 54.49% giving France another medal.

In the Women's Individual there was more joy for our hosts, as China's **Qi Shen** secured the gold medal with 56.38%. The runner-up - the second time this week - was England's **Sally Brock**, her total of 55.80% moving her into the medals. Third place went to the overnight leader **Yan Huang**, with 54.93%.

As thoughts turn towards the journey home and the celebration of Christmas and the New Year, it's time to thank and congratulate our marvellous hosts, who have created an event to remember. Bon Voyage and see you all again soon!

MESSAGE FROM CHEN ZELAN, IMSA PRESIDENT

Distinguished Mayor Ms. Cai, ladies and gentlemen,
media friends,

Good evening!

Six days ago, the 2017 IMSA Elite Mind Games was started by a fantastic opening ceremony. Mind sports family members from all over the world gathered here and presented an excellent events to Huai'an, China, and even the world. Here, on behalf of IMSA, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to all prize-winners!



Both the games you played and the moments we shared are unforgettable. Huai'an hosted all players, referees and staffs very well by the delicious local foods, the wonderful performances in restaurant, and etc. Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank all people who provide your support and service to this event. Without you, participants could not feel the warmth just like at home.

The development of IMSA in these years is attributed to the unity and joint effort of all mind sportsman. Initiating the world mind games and elite mind games, we promoted and shared the concept of mind sports which created lots of values. This is the best chance and road to review the opportunities for development. In the future, IMSA will continuously exploit more platforms on which you can display yourselves and exchange ideas. I am Look forward to making the common progress with the entire mind sports community.

The year of 2017 is going to bid the goodbye to us. But on the February of next year, IMSA will reach an agreement with Huai'an about the 2018 IEMG. We are going to increase the values of this brand so that both the world mind games and Huai'an can get rewarded.

In advance, I would like to wish you a happy new year!

See you next year, my friends!



ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S PROBLEM

IMPs. All Vul.

You are sitting West. Your cards:

♠ A 6 3

♥ A K Q J 6 2

♦ 8

♣ 7 5 3

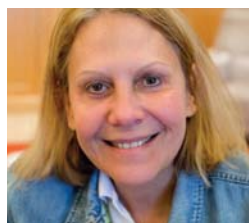
West	North	East	South
1♥	2♦	2♥	1♦
?			Pass

The answers of the players in Huai'an:



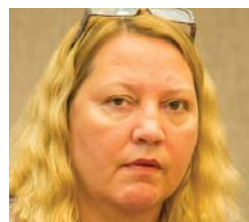
Wang Wenfei, China

I bid 4♥.



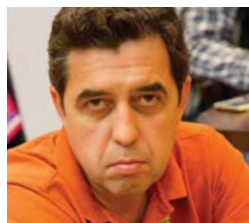
Janice Seamon-Molson, USA

3♥.



Hjordis Eythorsdottir, USA

3♣, game try.



Ivan Nanev, Bulgaria

3♦, short.



Marc Bompis, France

2♠, game try.



Nevena Senior, England

4♥.



A HARD DAY'S NIGHT

by **Mark Horton**

A Hard Day's Night is a 1964 British musical comedy film starring the Beatles, John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr, during the height of Beatlemania.

The film was a financial and critical success. Time magazine rated it as one of the all-time great 100 films. The film is credited as being one of the most influential of all musical films, inspiring numerous spy films, the Monkees' television show and pop music videos.

It is also the title of the Beatles third album with side one containing songs from the soundtrack to their film *A Hard Day's Night*. All 13 tracks on *A Hard Day's Night* were written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, showcasing the development of their songwriting talents. The title of the album was the accidental creation of drummer Ringo Starr. According to Lennon in a 1980 interview with Playboy magazine: "I was going home in the car and Dick Lester director of the movie" suggested the title, 'Hard Day's Night' from something Ringo had said. I had used it in 'In His Own Write', but it was an off-the-cuff remark by Ringo. You know, one of those malapropisms. A Ringo-ism, where he said it not to be funny ... just said it. So Dick Lester said, 'We are going to use that title.'

Having spent the last few days getting up at an ungodly hour I am looking forward to a few days rest – the same might be true for the players who have been working so hard (night and day as far as I am concerned) to keep us entertained.

How would session two of the Women's individual turnout?

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sokolow	Sanborn	Wang	Gronkvist
—	—	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

West led the king of spades and the defenders had nine tricks on top. Declarer was in trouble on the run of the spades, obliged to retain three hearts she had to let go of all her diamonds. A diamond to the ace and diamond back saw declarer pitch the jack of clubs, but East exited with a club and after taking three tricks in the suit declarer eventually had to play hearts and lost three tricks there to finish four down, -400.

It might have been a good result if everyone else bid and made 4♠, but only one pair managed that, so 3/7.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sokolow	Sanborn	Wang	Gronkvist
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♦	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the five of diamonds and East won with the king. Looking at those clubs and the dubiously placed king of spades I fear I would have followed it with the ace. When East switched to the three of hearts declarer was soon in possession of the remainder, +490, only 5/5 as there were two scores of +520.



Board 6. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sokolow	Clementsson	Eythorsdottir	Shen
—	—	2♥	Dble
2♠	Dble	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	7NT	All Pass	

That was well done for +1520, worth 7/3 – one pair played in 7♠ and another missed the grand.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Sokolow	Brock	Smith	Cappalletti
1♥	2♥ (i)	Pass	3♣*
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

(i) Michaels

North led her diamond and declarer won, cashed the top hearts and played a third round.

South won and switched to spades, declarer ruffing the third round and playing diamonds. She was two down, -300 and a shared bottom, 9/1.

I wonder why West didn't bid 3♦?

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Cappalletti	Hu	Gronkvist	S.-Molson
1♣	1♦	2♠	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥

South gave some thought to passing 3NT – it would have been +460.

However, West led the three of spades and that gave declarer the chance of twelve tricks. To collect them she must put in the queen, pitching a diamond, cash the ace throwing a second diamond, then cross to the ace of diamonds. A heart to the queen is followed by a diamond ruff and now declarer plays on trumps, West eventually being squeezed in the minors.

When declarer put up dummy's ace she had to be content with +450 which turned out to be a zero. +480 would have been 4/6.

West	North	East	South
Sokolow	Rimstedt	Draper	Huang
1♣	1♦	2♠	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	5♥
5♠	Dble	All Pass	

A paying vulnerable sacrifice is a very rare bird, especially playing Pairs.

South led the ace of diamonds and switched to the two of hearts, declarer winning with dummy's ace, pitching a club from dummy. She ruffed a heart and played a spade, South discarding the three of hearts. North cashed the ace of spades and when South pitched the five of hearts she mysteriously played the ten of diamonds, allowing declarer to win, cross to dummy with a spade and pitch a second club on the king of diamonds – still two down, -500 but 6/4 as two pairs collected +650.

Minus 100 was 7/3. No one took ten tricks in hearts – but the top went to the pair who recorded +650.



OPEN INDIVIDUAL - SESSION 2

by **Brian Senior**


Two Chinese players, Yunlong Chen and Jianmei Li led the way at the end of the first session ahead of USA's Justin Lall, but we could be certain that there would be plenty of movement up and down the rankings as the second session unfolded.

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Aronov</i>	<i>Y. Chen</i>	<i>Nanev</i>
–	1♣	Pass	1♥
2♦	Dble	3♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A 9
♥ A Q 6 5 4
♦ Q
♣ Q J 10 9 2

♠ J 8 2
♥ 7 2
♦ J 10 9 7 4 3
♣ 5 4

W  E
S

♠ K 10 5
♥ 10 8 3
♦ A K 8 6
♣ 8 7 6

♠ Q 7 6 4 3
♥ K J 9
♦ 5 2
♣ A K 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Aronov</i>	<i>Y. Chen</i>	<i>Nanev</i>
Pass	1♥	1♠	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Nanev made only a simple raise to 2♥ at his first turn so it was automatic for him to bid game when Aronov made a try, even with a bad club holding. Yunlong Chen, however, fancied his chances against 4♥ and doubled. He led ace, king and a third club and was no doubt charmed to find his partner ruffing for an extra undertrick. Chen had two trump tricks to come so the contract was two down for -500 and all 10 MPs to E/W.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ A 4 3 2
♥ K 9 7
♦ 7
♣ A K J 10 6

♠ 8
♥ A 10
♦ A K J 10 6 4
♣ 8 7 5 2

♠ K J 10 6
♥ Q J 8 2
♦ Q 8 2
♣ 9 3

♠ Q 9 7 5
♥ 6 5 4 3
♦ 9 5 3
♣ Q 4

It isn't often that you would double opponents at the three level when their six-three trump fit is solid and they have the slight majority of the high cards, yet that is what happened at this table. Aronov cashed the ace and king of clubs then continued with the jack, and Bompis ruffed with dummy's eight and was over-ruffed. Nanav returned a heart so Bompis played the ten, losing to the king, and Aronov cashed the ace of spades before playing a fourth club, ruffed high. Bompis had the rest but was down one for -100 and 9 MPs to N/S.

Bompis could have succeeded double dummy. He has to ruff the third club high then run all the diamonds. North is squeezed down to two black cards then thrown in with a spade and has to lead away from the ♠K at trick 12 to give the contract.

West	North	East	South
<i>Karakolev</i>	<i>G. Chen</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Li</i>
—	1♣	Pass	Pass
1♦	Dble	1♥	1♠
3♦	3♠	Dble	All Pass

Here there was no shaded response from South who, however, bid 1♠ freely at his next turn in response to Chen's double. With a known spade fit, Chen competed to 3♠ over 3♦ and now Rombaut doubled, ending the auction. Karakolev cashed the ace of diamonds then switched to ace and ten of hearts. Li won dummy's ♥K and played ace and another spade. Rombaut won the king, cashed the queen of hearts and played a diamond. Li ruffed in dummy, crossed to hand with the queen of clubs and ruffed his last diamond. Then he simply played winning clubs and Rombaut could only come to one trump trick; down one for -200 and 8 MPs to E/W.





Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Karakolev	G. Chen	Rombaut	Li
–	–	2♥	Dble
3♥	7NT	All Pass	

Some Souths doubled the weak two opening, some overcalled 3♦. When West raised the level of the pre-empt nobody had any methods to permit them to explore properly with the North hand – I wonder how many would have even in their regular partnerships – so all the North players took their best guess. As we can see, Chen's guess was 7NT and that was the winning choice. Plus 1520 was worth 7 MPs as there was one pair in 7♠ and one in 6♠.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Dwyer	Y.Chen	G.Chen
–	–	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Six No Trump is a bit of an overbid but Dwyer couldn't see an auction in which he could invite slam in no trump without risk of a misunderstanding so took his best bet. The four N/S pairs who played only game in no trump were all held to 11 tricks

(the remaining pair bid and made 6♦), but Dwyer managed the 12 he required. He won the spade lead in hand with the nine, cashed a top club then overtook the ♠K to take the club finesse. When that was successful, he cashed a third spade, throwing a diamond, then the two remaining clubs followed by the fourth spade. Neither defender was willing to give up on the heart suit, each pitching one and keeping three, as did Dwyer. That, however, meant that both came down to a doubleton diamond. Dwyer therefore ducked a diamond, won the heart return and cashed the second heart then played a diamond to the ace and had a diamond winner for the last trick; +1440 and all 10 MPs.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Moss	Nanev	Lorenzini
–	–	–	2♦
Dble	Rdbl	5♣	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Another N/S slam but not so successful this time. Lorenzini opened 2♦, eight/nine playing tricks in any suit or strong balanced, and Zhang doubled to show diamonds. Moss redoubled to show some values and that was enough for Lorenzini to bid his big spade suit at the five level over Nanev's jump to 5♣. Perhaps Moss forgot that the 2♦ opening denied a game-forcing hand as, having already shown some values, it looks a touch optimistic to go on facing an eight/nine playing trick hand – particularly with no control in the suit bid on his left and only second-round control of the suit shown on his right. Zhang's club lead meant that Lorenzini was down before he started, Nanev winning two club tricks then playing a third round. Lorenzini ruffed high and soon had the rest of the tricks but was down one for –50 and only 3 MPs.



Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Moss	Nanev	Lorenzini
1♥	2♥	Pass	2NT
Dble	3♣	Dble	All Pass

Moss made a Michaels Cuebid, at least five-five in spades and an unspecified minor. Lorenzini asked which minor his partner held and Zhang doubled to show extras. When Moss now showed clubs, Nanev doubled for penalties. Nanev led a diamond, Zhang winning the king and continuing with the ace. Moss ruffed and led a spade to the ace then back to the queen. Moss thought for a while but then continued with the king of spades, so Zhang could ruff with the singleton two and cash the top hearts. A third heart was ruffed with the queen, on which Nanev discarded the jack of spades. That made it very simple for Moss, who simply played the nine of spades and, when that was allowed to hold the trick, continued with the ♠10. Nanev could only come to one club trick so the contract was down one for -200 and just 1 MP to N/S.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Y. Chen	Pszczola	Yang	Mihov
–	–	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

What is your preference – an attacking spade lead or a passive club? The popular choice was a spade, which gave declarer a second spade trick but was still good enough on this layout to beat the no trump game. Yang led a spade to the jack and queen and Pszczola led a club to the king followed by the seven of diamonds to the eight, jack and queen. Yang persisted with the spade attack, leading the ten, but Pszczola got that right by going up with the king. He led the nine of diamonds now and, when that was covered with the ten, ducked it. Chen had a third spade to lead to his partner so Yang took two of those then exited with a club. With both defenders covering hearts there was no pressure and Pszczola had to accept eight tricks for down one and -50. That gave 5 MPs to each pair.





Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Y. Chen	Pszczola	Yang	Mihov
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
1♠	Pass	2♠	3♦
Pass	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Having passed at his first turn, Yunlong Chen made one of the weakest overcalls we have seen this week at his next turn. Yang knew that game values were unlikely so just raised to 2♠, but when Mihov competed to 3♦ he took the push to 3♠, ending the auction. Pszczola cashed the king of diamonds then switched to ace and another club to the eight, queen and ruff. Chen took the spade finesse, drew the remaining trumps, then led a diamond towards his queen. Mihov went up with the ace and Pszczola threw a club. Mihov led his heart and Chen played low from hand so Pszczola's nine forced the ace. Chen could cash the jack of clubs for a heart discard but had two heart losers for down one; -50 but 6 MPs to E/W.

Chen might have played the ♥J on Mihov's switch then ducked when Pszczola covered. Pszczola would have had the choice of giving a trick by leading into the ♣J-9 tenace or away from his remaining heart honour, again giving a trick.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Yang	Reess	Dai	Dwyer
1♣	1♦	4♠	5♥
All Pass			

Dai's leap to 4♠ bullied Dwyer into bidding at the five level but he could hardly not bid 5♥ and he was rewarded with what proved to be a very useful dummy. Yang led a spade, as who would not, and Dwyer could call for the queen. Probably that was without too much hope, but when the queen held he had two discards for his small diamonds. He played on hearts, losing one of those and eventually had to concede a trick to the queen of clubs at the end so had 11 tricks for +450 but only 3 MPs – there were two 790s and a 480 for N/S at other tables.





Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Yang	Reess	Dai	Dwyer
–	–	Pass	1♣
1♠	Dble	2♠	3NT
All Pass			

Yang's four-card overcall attracted a raise from Dai but Dwyer then jumped to 3NT and that was that. Knowing where the ♠K must be, Yang looked to put his partner in to lead a spade through declarer's holding. Had he chosen a heart, the contract would have been defeated very quickly, but he chose a diamond rather than the suit promised by dummy. That might still have been good enough but, when Dai won the ♦A and duly led a spade through, Yang was not sure how many winners declarer might have – the heart might, for example, be running if Dwyer held the king – so he cashed all three spade winners, establishing dummy's ♠10 as a trick, before switching

to a heart. Dwyer, who had thrown a heart on the third spade, had to decide which red finesse to rely on for his contract and got it right. He rose with the ace of hearts, pitched a diamond on the ♠10, and took the diamond finesse. That gave him nine tricks for +600 and 8 MPs (someone was allowed to make 10 tricks in 3NT at another table).

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Dai Y.	Chen	Bompis	Lorenzini
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Dai first passed then judged to show his strong seven-card diamond suit rather than bid the four-card spades. Bompis forced to game by showing his second suit then bid 3NT to complete the auction. Lorenzini led a low spade to the ten and king. Bompis led the eight of diamonds to dummy's jack and Chen won the queen. He returned the jack of spades and Lorenzini had to take the ace as ducking would have allowed an extra dummy entry, when declarer would have set up the diamonds and had a second entry with the ♥J to cash them. Lorenzini duly won the ♠A and returned the jack of clubs. Bompis won the queen, crossed to the jack of hearts and cashed the queen of spades. The fall of the eight meant that dummy had a second spade winner in the seven, so Bompis had three spades, five hearts and two clubs, 10 tricks in all, for +630 and 9 MPs.

Had Lorenzini ducked his partner's spade return at trick three, Bompis would have won dummy's queen and played on diamonds. The defensive spades would have been blocked so they could have cashed only one trick in the suit and declarer would once again have come to an overtrick.

China's Jianwei Li led the way after two sessions, from Herve Vinciguerra of France and Lixin Yang of China. There was one 21-board session to play.



MARC BOMPIS, FRANCE



LAST ACTION HERO

by **Mark Horton**

Last Action Hero is a 1993 American fantasy action-comedy film. It is a satire of the action genre and associated clichés, containing several parodies of action films in the form of films within the film. It stars Arnold Schwarzenegger as Jack Slater, a Los Angeles police detective within the Jack Slater action film franchise and Charles Dance as an assassin who escapes from the Slater world into the real world. Schwarzenegger also served as the film's executive producer. Though the film was a box-office disappointment, it became a cult film among fans and critics.

A key element of the film is a golden ticket once owned by Harry Houdini - which one of our starts would be holding on to it at the end of the last session of the Open Individual?

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	Vinciguera	Zhao	Dwyer
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West started with the three top clubs and declarer won, crossed to dummy with a diamond and ran the jack of hearts. When it held he played a heart to the ace West pitching a club and a diamond to the king, East throwing a spade. A spade to the ace was followed by a heart to the king and now declarer went for the elegant line of exiting with a spade. East had to play low and West could win and cash a club but then had to lead into the ♦A10, +400 and 6/4.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Li	Nanev	Dwyer	Stefanov
—	—	1♥	Pass
2NT (i)	3♠	4♣	Pass
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♥	Pass
Pass	5♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

(i) Game forcing with heart support

East led the ace of diamonds and switched to the king of hearts, declarer ruffing and playing the five of diamonds. West won and returned a heart, ruffed by declarer who ruffed a diamond and played a spade. When West went up with the ace the contract was only two down, -300 and 8/2.



Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ A 5
 ♥ A K Q 10 8 5
 ♦ K Q 3
 ♣ A 3


♠ K 9 8 6 4
 ♥ J 4 3
 ♦ 9 5
 ♣ 9 5 2

♠ Q
 ♥ 9 6 2
 ♦ A 10 4 2
 ♣ Q 8 7 6 4

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

N
 W E
 S

West	North	East	South
<i>Mihov</i>	<i>Lorenzini</i>	<i>Stefanov</i>	<i>Reess</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2♣ (i)	Pass	2♦ (ii)
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠ (iii)	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣ (iv)	Pass	4♦ (v)
Pass	4NT (vi)	Pass	5♦ (vii)
Pass	5NT (viii)	Pass	6♥ (ix)
Pass	6♠ (x)	Pass	7♣ (xi)
Pass	7♦ (xii)	Pass	7♥
All Pass			

- (i) Game Forcing
- (ii) Neutral
- (iii) Cue bid
- (iv) Cue bid
- (v) Cue bid
- (vi) RKCB
- (vii) 1 key card
- (viii) Kings?
- (ix) No
- (x) Grand Slam try
- (xi) Q
- (xii) You choose

I wonder if North decided South's 3NT must, having already agreed hearts, suggest that he had a hand interested in slam - a serious 3NT.

Declarer won the trump lead, cashed the ace of spades, ruffed a spade, drew trumps and was soon able to claim as East was inexorably squeezed in the minors, +2210 and a shared top, 9/1.



Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ A K 8 4
 ♥ K 9 6 2
 ♦ A
 ♣ K 8 7 6

♠ J 10 3 2
 ♥ 7 5
 ♦ K Q 10 9 5 3 2
 ♣ —

♠ 9 7 6 5
 ♥ J 8
 ♦ 8 6
 ♣ J 5 4 3 2

♠ Q
 ♥ A Q 10 4 3
 ♦ J 7 4
 ♣ A Q 10 9

N
 W E
 S

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhao</i>	<i>Mihov</i>	<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Karakolev</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
1NT	Dble	2♣	Pass
2♦	2♠	3♦	3♠
5♦	Dble	All Pass	

West wisely put his faith in his seven card suit, no doubt planning to bid it on the next round.

North cashed his aces and switched to a club, but declarer put in the queen, pitched a spade on the ace of clubs and was soon claiming, +550 a maximum 0/10.

Should one sympathise with North? Perhaps, but nobody forced West to bid $5\Diamond$.

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ 5 3
 ♥ K 6 4 3 2
 ♦ 9 7 5
 ♣ J 5 2

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

N
 W ♠ E
 S

♠ A 7 2
 ♥ 9
 ♦ A K Q J 3
 ♣ A Q 8 6

♠ K Q 10 9 8 4
 ♥ A Q J
 ♦ 8 4
 ♣ 9 3

West	North	East	South
<i>Dwyer</i>	<i>Chen</i>	<i>Karakolev</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>
—	—	1♦	1♠
Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

What a great bid by East.

No doubt he had in mind one of the Hog's remarks, 'If they don't lead them, you don't need a stopper'. Well, South did lead the ace of hearts, but the defenders could only cash three tricks in the suit, +430 and a complete top, 0/10.



THE VICTORS

by **Mark Horton**

The Victors is a 1963 Anglo-American war film written, produced and directed by Carl Foreman, whose name on the film's posters was accompanied by nearby text, "from the man who fired The Guns of Navarone". Shot on location in Western Europe and Britain, it features an all-star cast, including six actresses (Melina Mercouri from Greece, Jeanne Moreau from France, Rosanna Schiaffino from Italy, Romy Schneider and Senta Berger from Austria and Elke Sommer from Germany) whose photographs appear on the posters. One of the posters carries the tagline, "The six most exciting women in the world... in the most explosive entertainment ever made!"

Here we have 24 of the most exciting women bridge players in the world - would the race for the medals prove to be explosive?

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Cappelletti</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the king of clubs and declarer ducked twice, won the third round and played a heart to the jack and queen. She took the return of the four of spades with the ace and cashed her hearts, West discarding both her remaining clubs as declarer decided to pitch a diamond. She continued with three rounds of diamonds ending in dummy and played a spade. East fell from grace, first by discarding the master heart on the third round of diamonds and then compounded the error by going up with the king of spades when declarer exited with dummy's nine - she had to

surrender the game going trick to dummy's jack of spades, +400 and a somewhat fortuitous 8/2.

Board 6. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>S.-Molson</i>	<i>Weingold</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Senior</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
2NT (i)	3♠	Pass	Pass
4♣ (ii)	Dble	Pass (iii)	Pass
Rdbl (iv)	Pass	4♦ (v)	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

- (i) Game forcing with trump support
- (ii) Cue bid
- (iii) Denies first round club control
- (iv) First round control
- (v) Cue bid

Declarer won the spade lead in dummy, crossed to the king of hearts, North pitching the eight of spades, played a club to the ace and diamond to the ten, soon claiming +680 and 5/5, only one pair bidding the slam.

Should East have bid 4♠?

Would West have bid the same way with the ♦Q instead (or as well as) the jack?





Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
<i>Rimstedt C</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Weingold</i>	<i>Brock</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2♣ (i)	Pass	2♦ (ii)
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠ (iii)	Pass	4♦ (iv)
Pass	4NT (v)	Pass	5♦ (vi)
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

- (i) Game forcing
(ii) Neutral
(iii) Cue bid
(iv) Cue bid
(v) RKCB
(vi) 1 key card

Getting a big hand opposite one of your regular partners in an individual is lucky, but I'm not sure North did enough.

Declarer won the spade lead, cashed two top trumps, ruffed a spade, came to hand with a club, drew the outstanding trump and ran her hearts, catching East in a show-up squeeze, +1460. That was worth 7/3 as four pairs bid the slam.

Board 12. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
<i>Wang</i>	<i>Rimstedt S</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Larsson</i>
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3♥	All Pass

South led the three of spades and declarer was not hard pressed to collect eleven tricks, +200 and a poor 8/2 - four pairs bidding the game.

I have included this deal because it illustrates a point I have made before. When partner supports your five-card suit your fifth trump assumes the status of an extra king and you should bid accordingly. Once East shows a maximum and support by breaking the transfer West should raise to game.

By the way, if South happens to lead a club you take twelve tricks.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Draper</i>	<i>Rimstedt S</i>	<i>Brown</i>
—	—	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Responding 1♠ meant the diamond fit never came to light - put me down for 1NT, intending to bid diamonds on the next round.

South led the eight of diamonds and North won and Switched to a heart. South winning with the jack and returning the eight. Declarer won, cashed the ace and exited with a heart, one down, -50. At least that is what the BBO operator suggested. However, there is no -50 in the frequencies, so I imagine East passed 2♥, made nine tricks for +140 and scored a very modest 9/1.





Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
Smith	Berheau	Huang	Gronkvist
—	1♠	Pass	2♣
2♥	3♥*	Dble	Pass
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

West led the ace of hearts and continued with the five, declarer winning with the king, crossing to dummy with a club and running the queen of diamonds. That lost to the king but declarer easily took the rest, +600 and a share of the spoils at 7/3.

Although the opening lead simplified matters for declarer, 5♣ can always be made. For example if West leads a spade declarer wins in dummy, draws trumps, plays a spade to dummy, ruffs a spade and plays a low diamond when West is helpless.



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**RESULTS OPEN INDIVIDUAL****AFTER SESSION 2**

1	LI Jianwei	CHN	58.41
2	YANG Lixin	CHN	55.94
3	VINCIGUERRA Herve	FRA	54.49
4	HUANG Shan	USA	53.62
5	KARAKOLEV Georgi	BUL	53.62
6	NANEV Ivan	BUL	52.61
7	ROMBAUT Jerome	FRA	51.74
8	MIHOV Vladimir	BUL	51.30
9	STEFANOV Julian	BUL	51.16
10	REESS Vanessa	FRA	51.01
11	PSZCZOLA Jacek	USA	50.87
12	BOMPIS Marc	FRA	50.29
13	ARONOV Victor	BUL	49.42
14	LALL Justin	USA	49.28
15	ZHANG Bangxiang	CHN	48.99
16	DAI Jianming	CHN	47.97
17	DWYER Kevin	USA	47.97
18	LORENZINI Cedric	FRA	47.97
19	SAKR May	USA	47.83
20	CHEN Yunlong	CHN	47.25
21	CHEN Gang	CHN	46.96
22	ZHAO Jie	CHN	44.93
23	MOSS Brad	USA	44.06
24	DAMIANOVA Diana	BUL	42.32

RESULTS WOMEN INDIVIDUAL**AFTER SESSION 2**

1	SHEN (1) Qi	CHN	56.38
2	BROCK Sally	ENG	55.80
3	HUANG Yan	CHN	54.93
4	SOKOLOW Tobi	USA	52.90
5	WANG Wen Fei	CHN	52.75
6	LIU Yan	CHN	52.46
7	CLEMENTSSON Sanna	SWE	52.32
8	WEINGOLD Joanne	USA	52.17
9	CAPPELLETTI Shannon	USA	51.59
10	RIMSTEDT Cecilia	SWE	50.87
11	SANBORN Kerri	USA	50.43
12	RIMSTEDT Sandra	SWE	49.86
13	EYTHORSDDOTTIR H.	USA	49.71
14	LARSSON Jessica	SWE	49.57
15	BROWN Fiona	ENG	48.26
16	WANG Nan	CHN	47.25
17	BERTHEAU Kathrine	SWE	47.25
18	GRONKVIST Ida	SWE	47.10
19	HU Wen	CHN	47.10
20	LU Yan	CHN	46.96
21	DRAPER Catherine	ENG	46.81
22	S.-MOLSON Janice	USA	46.23
23	SMITH Nicola	ENG	46.09
24	SENIOR Nevena	ENG	45.22