

15TH HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP



SEPTEMBER 12-17, 2017
JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi
Organized by: HCL Corporation Ltd.
Under the auspices of Bridge Federation of India

DAILY BULLETIN

Editor: **Dr. Subir Roy**Layout Editor: **Bholanath Das**Tuesday, 12th Sep 2017



Welcome to the 15th Edition of HCL International Bridge Championship

Dear friends,

A hearty welcome to all of you. This journey started 15 years ago and keeps picking up the momentum year after year. Like last year, the 15^{th} Edition is again being held at JW Mariott Hotel, New Delhi from September 12-17, 2017. To reduce the congestion that we faced last year, we have tried to increase the playing space considerably especially with the view that we are getting more teams and pairs this year.

With a prize money of Rupees 18 Million (US \$ 270,000), this is currently one of the highest Prize Money Tournaments in the world and we are hoping to make it the most popular one in the near future.

Despite the fact that few of the foreign teams could not come this year for various reasons, we are happy to see a fairly good contingent from various countries (21 teams as opposed to 9 last year). The trend of increasing participation augurs well for the future of this tournament.

We will miss the legendary Zia Mahmood, who, with team "Lavazza", won the Gold event last year. But team Lavazza is coming back to defend their title. However, other teams will definitely try their best to dislodge them as champions this year. Agustin Madala, young and restless, is originally from Argentina and is now a part of Team Lavazza. He will take Zia's place. Giorgio Duboin, Norberto Bocchi and Denis Bilde make the fearsome foursome.

We also have the Russian team who lost the final against Lavazza last year and they were the deserving Runners-up in a well fought final. Many stars from other countries are in attendance and I would urge my Indian friends to watch some of them in action whenever they can on BBO and the Vu graph theatre at the venue, which we have provided this year.

For Indian bridge teams the tournament also has an added attraction; the winner of the "Naresh Tandan Trophy" is eligible for a direct entry into "Indian Team Selection Trials". The participation of all the top Indian teams in this tournament is ample proof that this is one of the most favourite tournaments of the Bridge fraternity in India.

WHO WILL BE THE MIND MASTERS?

The tournament is the brainchild of Mrs. Kiran Nadar, who needs no introduction. As a sponsor-cum playing captain of team "FORMI DABLES", she has accumulated many feathers (in her cap) at the National as well as at the International level.

The event consists of the Team of Four as well as Open Pairs event. To make the tournament more competitive, the Team of Four event is being played in two categories – GOLD & SI LVER.

The "Team of Four GOLD Event" Trophy of the tournament has been instituted in the name of Late Shri Naresh Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's father), and the "Team of Four SILVER Event" Trophy of the tournament has been instituted in the name of Late Mrs. Mohini Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's mother), whereas the "Open Pairs" Trophy of the tournament is instituted in the name of Late Mrs. Neena Bonarji by her daughter Nisha. Mrs. Kiran Nadar had played with Mrs. Bonarji as partner and Team-mate over the years.

All the events of the tournament will be played with computer generated boards and the scoring of the events will be done through Bridge mates. There will also be a Daily Bulletin for the event.

Few important points to note -

There will be strict penalties for any of the following violations:

Late arrival at the table – players should be at the table at least 5 minutes before the start of the session. This practice allows you and your opponents to discuss the system and clarify any doubts. Not everybody is aware of what "YOU PLAY" or what "THEY PLAY"

NOISE level – Unnecessary noise by any pair at the table will be taken note of and suitable warning-cum-penalty will be levied to act as a deterrent. Players must play in a silent atmosphere.

Mobile Phones - You will be allowed to keep your mobile with you in the playing area provided it is in "Switched off " mode (Silent mode is not good enough). There will be random checks at various tables and the violators – please look out – NO MERCY and heavy penalties.

SMOKE break, Tea Break and Toilet breaks – Should be avoided when the session is in play. Only in emergency, director can allow a toilet break with a monitor to walk with the person. No random smoke break and no random tea break.

Convention cards – Everybody to carry a copy of their convention card and supplementary sheets (if any). People should avoid saying – "Not Discussed", "New partnership", etc. At least make sure that you tell your opponents what your agreements are or what your understanding is of a particular bid. Leads and carding should be clearly defined when asked.!!

UNDUE hesitations or gestures should be AVOIDED.

SPECIAL REQUEST TO ALL MY INDIAN BRIDGE FRIENDS:

We all have to make an effort to truly make it a tournament of International standards.

HCL can only provide the platform and excellent facilities but we have to show by example how a world class event is conducted. Many people from India have participated in world championships and they all know how well people behave. There is a PIN-DROP silence in the atmosphere while the session is in progress. They do not allow any breaks except a toilet break in emergency. Those senior players should be the examples for others to follow.

WE have many foreign guests and we want them to go back with good memories so that the tournament becomes even more popular world-wide.

LET US ALL BE COURTEOUS to them in particular and to all in general. We should maintain some decorum and not try to jump to the front of the Queue!!

Best of luck to all and please play the game in the right spirit.



Subhash Gupta Organising Secretary

The HCL Bridge Championship was established in the year 2003 by Mrs. Kiran Nadar, one of the top Indian players of competitive bridge, to promote the sport in India. This year's tournament offers Rs 18 Million (~ US \$270,000) as prize money to winners.

Mrs. Kiran Nadar is Member of the "FORMIDABLES" team, which has not only won many laurels at the National level but has represented India several times in international competitive bridge events. She is married to Mr. Shiv Nadar who is the Founder of HCL, India's leading Global Technology and IT Enterprise - which is the sponsor for this prestigious event.

This annual tournament consists of the "Team of Four Gold and Silver" events as well as "Open Pairs and IMP Pairs" events.

The first edition of this tournament in 2003 attracted 35 teams & 89 Pairs; in 2004, it increased to 46 teams and 127 pairs; 2005 saw 70 teams & 176 Pairs, which even exceeded the expectation of the organizers. In 2006, we had 62 Teams & 144 Pairs and from 2007 onwards till 2012, we always had 70 plus teams & 160 plus Pairs.

The participation of all the top Indian teams in this tournament was an ample proof that this is one of the most favorite tournaments of Bridge fraternity in India and to make it more competitive for average players, the organizers in 2013 decided to divide the main Team of Four event into GOLD & SILVER categories. Not more than two "National Master" ranked players could play in a Silver team and that also with the condition that the Master ranked players will not play as partners. 40 teams in GOLD & 37 teams in Silver categories participated in the 2013 edition.

The year 2016 saw this tournament attaining big heights, when this became an International Bridge Tournament. The organizers invited many top foreign teams and this resulted in 41 teams participating in the GOLD and 79 teams in the SILVER event. A record 288 pairs participated in the open match point pairs. Team "Lavazza", consisting of Zia Mahmood, Giorgio Duboin, Dennis Bilde & Norberto Bochhi won the Gold event. With 21 confirmed foreign teams, we expect the 2017 edition to be word class.

The three main trophies of the championship are detailed below:

Naresh Tandan Trophy for Winner of Team of Four Gold Event – This trophy has been instituted in the name of Late Shri Naresh Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's Father). He was an engineer and worked for Voltas most of his life. He was a very compassionate human being and loved the game of Bridge so much that Kiran and her younger brother were initiated into it, when she was all of 9 years old and her brother three years younger.

Mohini Tandan Trophy for Winner of Team of Four Silver Event – This trophy has been instituted in the name of Late Mrs Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's Mother).

Neena Bonerjee Trophy for Winner of Open MP Pairs Event – This trophy has been instituted in the name of Late Mrs. Neena Bonerjee by her daughter Nisha. Mrs. Neena Bonerjee was a lady par excellence, a true friend, a great player and even a greater ambassador of this game. Kiran was fortunate enough to have played with her as a partner or as a team mate over the years.



Late Shri Naresh Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's Father) in whose memory the HCL Bridge Tournament's "Team of Four GOLD" Trophy has been instituted.



Late Mrs. Mohini Tandan (Mrs. Kiran Nadar's Mother) in whose memory the HCL Bridge Tournament's "Team of Four SILVER" Trophy has been instituted.



Late Mrs. Neena Bonarji in whose memory her daughter Nisha has instituted the HCL Bridge Tournament's "Open MP Pair" Trophy

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EVENT PRIZES

Team of Four (GOLD)

Winner	Rs.	30,00,000
Runner-up	Rs.	15,00,000
Third	Rs.	7,50,000
Fourth	Rs.	6,00,000
5 th to 8 th each	Rs.	3,60,00
9 th to 16 th each	Rs.	1,50,000
17 th to 20 th each	Rs	50 000

Team of Four (SILVER)

	•	-
Winner	Rs.	12,00,000
Runner-up	Rs.	7,50,000
Third	Rs.	4,00,000
Fourth	Rs.	3,00,000
5 th to 8 th each	Rs.	1,80,000
9 th to 16 th each	Rs.	75,000
17 th to 20 th each	Rs.	30,000

Open Pairs

Winner	Rs.	10,00,000
Runner-up	Rs.	7,50,000
Third	Rs.	6,00,000
Fourth	Rs.	4,00,000
Fifth	Rs.	3,00,000
Sixth	Rs.	2,50,000
Seventh	Rs.	2,00,000
Eighth	Rs.	1,50,000
Ninth	Rs.	80,000
Tenth	Rs.	60,000
Eleventh	Rs.	45,000
Twelth	Rs.	30,000
13 th – 16th	Rs.	15,000

IMP Pairs

Winner	Rs.	2,00,000
Runner-up	Rs.	1,50,000
Third	Rs.	1,25,000
Fourth	Rs.	1,00,000
Fifth	Rs.	75,000
Sixth	Rs.	50,000
Seventh	Rs.	30,000
Eighth	Rs.	20,000
Ninth	Rs.	15,000
Tenth	Rs.	10,000

TALK THE TALK - KIRAN NADAR



The HCL Tournament, probably amongst the world's largest prize money tournaments, is the brainchild of Kiran Nadar. In its 15th edition, we thought it might be a good idea to talk to The Lady herself. She plays only in the Open Category on her team, Formidables, arguably India's top dog team, has India's largest contemporary art collection in her own renowned Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, is a grandmother of two kids and the wife of India's Mr. Computer, Shiv Nadar, founder of HCL

- Q: How did you take up to this fascinating game?
- A: I started playing bridge very early at around 11-12 years of age, since both my parents were avid bridge buffs. We had a regular quorum at home as my brother also played bridge.
- Q: Your initial journey in bridge.
- A: Later I started playing rubber bridge. That's where I met Shiv Nadar. We used to often play bridge all night long. You could say it was courtship on the bridge table. We used to play regularly at Delhi Gymkhana, where I met Rita and Dr. Haren Choksi, who saw potential in me. Rita asked me to play the Ladies Trials. I won the National Agarwala Butler Pairs with Rita. Next stop Miami- the World Bridge Championships. I finished 12th with Haren Choksi in the World Mixed Pairs. I also played the Ladies Pairs Finals with Rita Choksi in Miami.
- Q: Who are the people responsible for making you the player that you are; your mentors, partners, etc.?
- A: I partnered Nina Bonerjee for many years. The Open Pairs Trophy is in her name at these HCL Championships. The inimitable Subhash Gupta helped me a lot, virtually a mentor, giving me basic fundas, coaching, notes, etc. I formed my own team, Formidables, where I play regularly with Satyanarayana, who is my current partner since the last 15 odd years.

- Q: You participate in the Open Category only? When did you last play in a women's event?
- A: I haven't played any Ladies event for the past 15-20 years. Once I formed my own Open team I had to play on it, I guess. Frankly I lost interest in Ladies Bridge.
- Q: How often do you play in (a) tournaments, (b) casually and (c) in practice sessions?
- A: I play most of the major National and International tournaments and also a lot on BBO.
- Q: How does your family react to your bridge activities?
- A: Shiv and I have been married for 42 years. He is extremely supportive and encouraging. However, once, two years back when I was not home for Diwali due to bridge it was not taken too kindly. My daughter Roshini does not play bridge.
- Q: What is the future of Indian bridge?
- A: A lot of work needs to be done specially at the grass root level. We should try to emulate China's example where Bridge is part of the school curriculum and 8-9 year olds are taught bridge. The results are quite evident for all to see.
- Q: What do you suggest to popularize the game in India?
- A: Various educational institutes and boards must take an active interest and introduce Bridge into their curriculum. Earlier the IITs used to be the bridge nurseries. Today there is no bridge worth mentioning at the IITs. We have to reeducate the masses that bridge is not just a card game (translate as - gambling).
- Q: How can India improve on their international performances and standing?
- A: Put in more and more work; tournament to tournament. Teams have to be serious and

TALK THE TALK - KIRAN NADAR contd.

dedicated if we are to do well internationally. I had once employed the services of Eric Kokish, probably the Worlds best bridge teacher via Skype. Unfortunately there was not much interest shown. We had lots of sessions on BBO which Kokish sat on. He even gave us a system of 200 pages..... which no one read.

- Q: Can you tell us a bit about Shiv Nadar, HCL and also the interest in education that your family has?
- A: Shiv was working for DCM initially and I was working for an advertising agency. We got married in 1975. In July 1975 a group of 6 including Shiv Nadar left DCM to form Microcom, selling calculators. They eventually formed HCL in 1976. The rest as they say is history.

We have a Shiv Nadar Foundation wherein we support schools and universities and educational institutions. We have started a programme called Vidya Gyan which has boarding schools along the lines of Doon school and Welhams providing totally free education and boarding to children. There are two such schools, one in Bulandshahar and the other near Lucknow. There is a 300 acre Shiv Nadar University in Greater Noida which has over 2000 students. We also started an engineering college 18 years ago in Chennai. We support a lot of regular school programmes.

Q: What does Kiran Nadar do when she is not playing bridge?

- A:. I visit my museum 3-4 times a week and I am normally at home. I have 2 lovely grand children. I travel a lot with Shiv when he is on work. Every year we go and watch the Wimbledon besides other sporting events like the World Cup Football and the Cricket World Cup.
- Q: Speaking of museums, you have probably India's best collection of contemporary art in the famous Kiran Nadar Art Museum. Your comment.
- A: Being extremely interested in art, I have a collection of over 5000 works of Indian artists like MF Husain, Souza, Arakal, Ara, Raza, Milon Mukherjee, Jamini Roy, Gaitonde, etc. I want to bring Indian art and artists to the people. If people in this tournament are interested to see Indian art and artists a visit to the Museum could be organized.

[Kiran recently purchased Souza's Birth in an auction at Christies for an undisclosed sum (she refused to tell me how much) You can see it at her museum - Ed)]

- Q. It was nice talking to you, Kiran, getting an insight into your family and you. Any message for the participants?
- A: Welcome to the 15th edition of our HCL tournament. Have a great time. And do keep coming back. Looking forward to seeing you again.

OVER TRICKS

WHEELER-DEALER

"Lucky in love and unlucky in cards", goes a popular adage. Harry Meacham of Wilkesboro, North Carolina must have had a very satisfactory love life, considering his luck or rather lack of it, in cards. This was a rubber bridge session way back when. Mr. Meacham was having a terrible run of the cards. Hand after hand he was compelled to be just a passenger in the proceedings. So distraught was he about his ill-luck, that at one point in time he proclaimed that he would shoot the next person who dealt him an indifferent hand.

As luck would have it, the very next hand dealt to him consisted of tram tickets - a classic Yarborough! Well, that was it, thought Harry Meacham. He proceeded to carry out his threat, being a man of his word. He shot......himself!!!

He was the dealer!

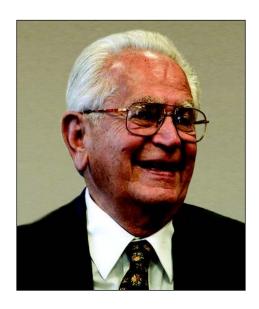
INCLINATION AND TIME

George S Kaufman, the famous Broadway playwright, and also a bridge player in his own right, was partnering an unknown lady in an individual tournament. On a particular deal, the poor thing managed to sink a watertight contract, which paved the way for an acrid Kaufman query. No longer able to contain himself, he politely inquired of the damsel in distress. "Ma'am, when did you take up this game?" Before she could reply, Kaufman resorted to the rhetoric, "Oh! I know it was today, but what time today?"

DOUBLED AND VULNERABLE

Learning she was going to have twins, the bridge playing wife said, "That's just like may husband, doubling me when I'm vulnerable.

DR. NANDLAL P. TOLANI - R.I.P.



Last month the Indian bridge fraternity lost one of its best. Dr. Nandlal Pribhdas Tolani known as **Doc** or **Dada**, called it a day in Mumbai. He was 94. Heaven will be so much richer. India has not seen a more generous and genial sponsor than Dr. Tolani. No one ever went back empty handed from Doc's chambers. The number of teams he has sponsored are too many to recall. And he has been the biggest sponsor of bridge in India. Every bridge player worth his salt is familiar with the Tolani National Masters and the Tolani Grand Prix, both blue riband tournaments of the Indian bridge circuit.

His modesty and generosity are legion. Being a part of his team and his partner for over ten years, I recall a big prize money tournament in New Delhi, where we were in the doghouse, needing 75VPs(old 25VP scale) from 3 rounds to make it to the last eight. And, we got all the marbles - the maximum! But went out on the tiebreak (Heartbreak). Yet Doc gave each of us a sweetner - Rs. 5000! A huge sum in the 90's; It was more than the prize money for the 8th placed team!

Doc always tried to inspire us to keep fit. Till the

age of 80 he would climb up 10 floors daily to his office in Nariman Point. That too after swimming 50 lengths of the C.C.I Pool in the morning! He used to take his yacht and often go sailing to Mandwa; and Goa sometimes. Besides bridge Dada also sponsored Yachting and Sailing in India big time, donating yachts and boats to three Sailing Clubs in Mumbai.

Later on he became an educationist, starting the Tolani College Of Commerce and the prestigious Tolani Maritime Institute. He started Tolani Shipping, built dams, dealt in real estate, diamonds, what have you. The man wore many hats.

Each of us has something special to remember Dada by, both individually and as a fraternity.

They don't make them like him anymore! Wherever you are Dada, do continue to give us your patronage and blessings from up there. Indian bridge has lost a doyen. We will always be grateful. You will be remembered only in the fondest terms.

DR. NANDAL TOLANI – REST IN PEACE

FROM DR. N.P. TOLANI'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY - ODYSSEY

ANAND SAMANT, Secretary BFI

I first met Dr Tolani at the Willingdon Club in Mumbai around 1992. Soon we started playing as partners in national and state level tournaments.

One of Dr. Tolani's efforts to support the game of bridge in India was to improve the standard of the playing environment. He supported our associations with funds to create infrastructure: boards, playing cards, tables, bidding boxes, furniture and space. The first automatic handshuffling and dealing machine in India was donated by Dr Tolani's charitable trust. A software device that can generate a deal in under thirty seconds, and can make any number of copies, it enables the tournament to be played simultaneously across the country. He also donated paperless scoring software and introduced net-casting to our tournaments so that they can be seen all over the world on internet on a site called Bridge Base Online. The Tolani Grand Prix, one of the most popular tournaments in this country, was organized in a five-star hotel, raising the standards of bridge-playing in India and the first time an Indian bridge tournament was played in an international environment. Dr Tolani has also been committed to developing the sport by getting young people interested in the game and supporting them. Between 1975 and 1985, he was giving ten or more people Rs. 3000 to 5000 each so that they could participate in the annual Winter National Tournaments every year. When I played with him as a partner, he insisted on paying me a fee for my time and effort even though I made it clear that I would not like to accept any fee from him.

One of the most important tournaments sponsored by Dr Tolani is the Tolani Masters in which



only national masters can participate. It was one of the most popular and high level tournaments in this country. When I took up nationwide coordination of the junior programme which he launched, we sponsored the Indian team at three international events. He has also supported he cause of Ladies Bridge and a ladies team played under the Tolani banner in various championships. Dr Tolani also wanted to support enhancing referees and directors for the game. As per the WBF master point scheme, Dr Tolani himself is a recongnized life master. His partnership with Bhagwan Shivdasani was recognized as one of the finest partnerships.

Whenever I played with Dr Tolani, I was always surprised to note that he felt he was not a good player. He would complain that he was not concentrating because he was unable to give time to develop his game, and he would apologize. He always felt that he was doing injustice to his partner. In fact, Dr Tolani was an excellent player. He had a business to run, otherwise he would have been one of India's finest bridge players.

THE VULTURE IS A PATIENT BIRD

When Anand Samant first encountered Dr. Tolani on the table, the geniality and pleasantness of Doc completely fooled him. Playing a 3NT contract, Anand needed two tricks in Hearts holding x x x in hand opposite K J 10 in dummy or a minor suit finesse and break. He played a low Heart to the 10 in dummy which held. Home James. He entered hand and played a low heart to the Jack. And...... Doc was holding A Q x x x over dummy! The duck was smooth! He cooly cashed four heart tricks. Doc was waiting in the wings. The minor suit finesse and break were on. There was a new found respect for Dr. Tolani..

Chak De India - A First Hand View - Subhash Dhakras



TEAM INDIA - SEMI FINALISTS AT THE WORLD C'SHIPS, AUG. 2017, LYON, FRANCE



TEAM INDIA SENIORS: L to R: R. A. Agarwal, Jitu Solani, Anal Shah (Coach), Dipak Poddar, Subhash Dhakras, R Sridharan and Anand Samant

India had her best ever Team performance at the world level, when Team INDIA led by Dipak Poddar, reached the semifinals of the Ernesto D'Orsi Senior Teams event, at the World Championships held in Lyon, France last month. In the Quarters they were down 61 Imps against France, after the first set. Slowly but surely they clawed their way back. A veritable Houdini act. When the smoke cleared, India had emerged with their nose in front. Just about.

India were represented by the pairs of Dipak Poddar & Jitu Solani, Anand Samant& R.A Agarwal, R. Sridharan & Subhash Dhakras.

Their coach was younger than all of them. He's not even a Senior. Anal Shah, who can very easily be mistaken for the Brazilian legend, Gabriel Chagas, (in fact it did happen at some world championship- read the box - Mirror Image), put in a lot of hard work, (which is his characteristic). 21 teams, 63 opponent convention cards... Anal had it all sorted out. He had worked out the defenses and management against all 63 pairs.

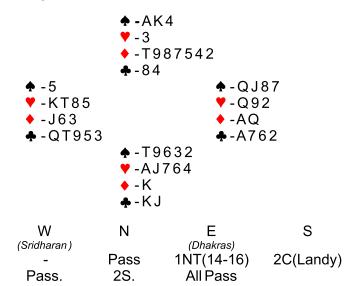
When I spoke to Subhash Dhakras on enlightening us about their stellar performance, he very promptly sent me some hands. They were not the Man-on-the-Parapet dramatic hands, but In typical Dhakras style. he gave me the bread and butter hands. The slowlyslowly-catchee -monkey variety. - Ed

Take it away Dhakras.

FRENCH FRIED

Fries! Tiny crisp yet delicious. To be eaten in a whole bunch. Dhakras gave us these individual fries against the French. -Ed

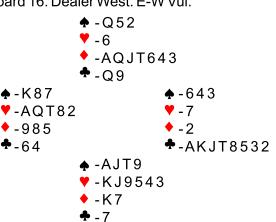
Board 13. Dealer: North. Vul.: Both



This was against France in Round Robin.

I was East and I opened One NT 14-16. South bid 2C Landy and North 2S ended the auction. This was the bidding on most tables. I pondered and led S 7, which is killing. Down 2. Our counterparts were more enterprising, they reached 3S, down 1. That's still 3 Imps to the good.

Board 16. Dealer West. E-W Vul.

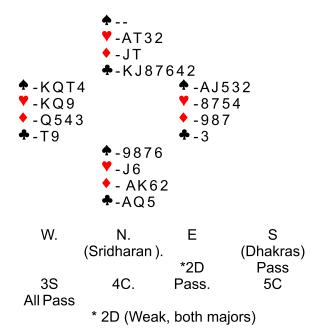


Chak De India - A First Hand View - Subhash Dhakras contd

W	N	Ε	S
	(Sridharan)		(Dhakras)
Pass	1D	4C	Dbl
Pass	4D	Pass	4 H
Pass	5D	All Pass	

This was against France, third set of QF. Sridhar, North opened 1D and East Vul Vs Not bid 4C. I doubled, Sridhar bid 4D, I bid 4H and Sridhar's 5D ended the auction. With SK off Sridhar went down one, which turned out to be an excellent sacrifice against Vul 5C. In the other room on same auction over 4C, South bid 4H, which went three down, gaining precious 3 imps in our pursuit to bring down the first set deficit of 61 imps.

Board 18. Dealer East. Vul.: N-S



This was against France last set of the QF, we were 11 down net and were fighting hard to get into The Semi Finals.

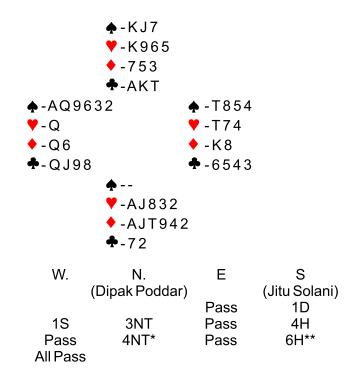
This was second deal of the set on Viewgraph. East opened 2D, Both Majors Weak. I passed, my LHO bid 3S to play, and Sridhar bid 4C, which was music to my ears. I gleefully bid 5C, praying that we do not miss 6C. But God was smiling on India. The other room played in 1N, making 4, on probable auction 1D-1H-1S-1N !!! That was 10 imps.

THE QUEST FOR BRONZE

Missed Out On the Main Course But The 'Swee Dish' Was Good

(Though the Indians could not make it to the podium, they gave a spirited fight. While The Swedes took the Entree, the Indians got some desserts. Here are the sweeteners-Ed)

Board 26. Dealer East. Vul.: Both

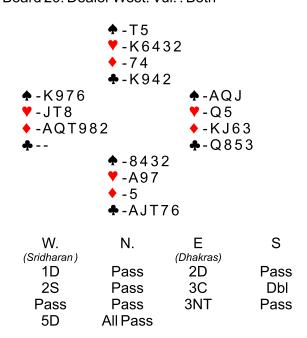


^{*} Key Card

This was against Sweden in play off for Bronze.

Jitu opened 1D, West 1S, Dipak 3N, Jitu 4H, Dipak 4N (Blackwood), Jitu 6H (Even number of key cards and void (Spades here, other wise would bid 6C for C void). Gained 13 imps.

Board 20. Dealer West, Vul.: Both



^{**} Even no of Key Cards & a Void (Spades)

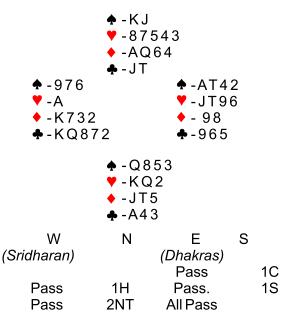
Chak De India - A First Hand View - Subhash Dhakras contd.

This was against Sweden in the play off for

Sridhar West opened 1D, my 2D inverted GF, Sridhar 2S showing stopper, having no clear H stopper I bid 3C which was doubled by South. Sridhar passed waiting for my reaction. I bid 3N, showing partial stopper, having not bid 3N earlier. Sridhar bid 5D in view of Club void, making 6 when Heart was not led. Other room played in 4S in 4-3, down 2.

VERSUS THE WORLD CHAMPS-USA II

Board 2. Dealer East. Vul.: N-S



This was against USA 2 in round robin, which we won 17-3. I East passed, South opened 1C, North 1H, 1S by S and 2N ended the auction. I reasoned that partner having an opening hand is unable to overcall, which means he is likely to have Club suit. I led C6. Sridhar shifted to high D after winning CQ. Declarer knocked out SA and C continuation ensured one down, but in the end game kept a wrong card to go down 2.

[Subhash Dhakras sums up , below, their performance with a recap of Team India's dream journey in the World Senior Championships and why they couldn't breast the tape. So near yet so far. Anyways, Gentlemen, Take A Bow! -Ed]

Our performance in round robin was a little erratic. We beat USA II, the ultimate winners, 17-3, and Israel 19.61 in the crucial last match which was on BBO, shared with Australia, France and Sweden, and lost heavily against USA1 and Italy. With this background we kept believing in ourselves and fought bravely with great team spirit on last day to collect 57 out of 60 and get 7th rank in QF qualification. [Wow! - Ed]

A stupendous performance came in the QF against France. Before euphoria of first Indian Senior Team to qualify in the QF settled down, we were 61 Imps down after first of six sets against France. Our three pairs played four sessions each and with grit and determination cut down the deficit in each session, leaving 11 imps with last session to go. This set was also on Viewgraph and rest is history!

Seven days of Round Robin, with the crucial last day and six sets of the QF resulting in a Semi Final berth had taken a toll on our stamina and apparently we were more than happy to reach this stage, which was once in a lifetime. Probably in the bargain, we overlooked the Lifetime opportunity of getting a Medal and did not play to our capacity.

We always felt that Italy and Sweden are teams of our standard, nothing extra ordinary and we felt that we had a reasonable chance of Final berth if only we could have avoided the mistakes!

MIRROR IMAGE

Anal Shah was kibitzing behind the legendary Pakistani, Zia Mahmood, when Kit Woolsey, a World Champion came to the table and effusively greeted Anal asking him about his health and if he was playing the the Spingold. A flabbergasted Anal replied affirmatively.

Exit Woolsey, pumping Anal's hand.

Anal turning to Zia: Who the hell was that?

A surprised Zia: Thought you knew him, the way he greeted you.

Anal: Never seen him in my life.

Zia (even more surprised): That was Kit Woolsey. the famous American champion. Seemed like an old pal of yours. Strange!

Some 20 minutes later....the penny dropped!!

Zia (exclaiming): Oh my God! Woolsey thought you were the famous Brazilian World champion, Gabriel Chagas!



CLONES: L-R or R-L: Anal & Chagas

IBPA AWARDS, 2017, PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR Benito Garozzo



The International Bridge Press Awards held on 20 August, 2017 in Lyon, France, honored one of the bridge legends, probably the best bridge player Ever!, by presenting him the IBPA Personality Of The Year Award. He is 90 years old, and had qualified to represent his country in the World Championships at Lyon, France; no, not in the Seniors. But in the Open Teams, the Bermuda Bowl! Having debuted in the Bermuda Bowl 56 years ago in 1961, And winning Ten of them, here he is, The Italian Maestro, The Living Legend-Signor BENITO GAROZZO. Salute!

(Below is from the IBPA profile of Garozzo from their release)

Our Personality of the Year award rarely goes to players because of their bridge playing skills, but rather for some other element of their personality or achievements. This year is the exception.

The oldest player present at these championships is not playing in the Seniors, since he was selected to play for the Italian Open team. Benito Garozzo, who will celebrate his 90th birthday next month, split his early years between Cairo and Naples and started to play bridge in the early 1940s. He ran a jewelry business in Naples, but became a member of the Blue Team, starting in 1961, when he was added as a lastminute substitute in Italy's Bermuda Bowl team. On the Blue Team, he played in regular partnerships with Pietro Forquet until 1972 and with Giorgio Belladonna thereafter. He won 13 world championship titles and is considered by many experts to be the world's bestever bridge player.

Forquet and Garozzo, as part of the Blue Team, won nine consecutive world team championships from 1961 to 1969; all seven Bermuda Bowls and both quadrennial World Team Olympiads. Garozzo then retired for two years, but returned to win the 1972 Olympiad. After 1972, Belladonna—Garozzo established a partnership and co-created their advanced version of the Precision Club system called "Super Precision", winning three more consecutive Bermuda Bowls from 1973 to 1975.

In total, in his incredible career, Benito won ten Bermuda Bowls, three Olympiads, five European Championships, two European Open Championships (one Open Teams and one Mixed Teams), one Cap Gemini, one Wernher Trophy at the American NABCs, twelve Italian Team Championships, five Coppe Italia (the last in 2016 at age 89) and countless other major national and international championships.

During the championship years, Garozzo came to be considered the best defender of all time. As such, he was nicknamed il sottomarino (the submarine) as a metaphor for his ability to "see under the water". As of September 5, 2011, when he turned 84, he was proud of being able to play as many as ten different bidding systems.

Garozzo lived in the United States for 25 years, from 1987, and became a U.S. citizen in January of 1994. His other pastimes include golf and horse racing. "I play golf almost every day," he says, "and I go to the races when I have no bridge game."

After the death of Lea DuPont in the spring of 2012, Benito Garozzo returned to live in Italy and started to play again at the top level. In June 2013, he was runner-up in the European Transnational Open Team Championships with Roman Zaleski's team. In Montecatini, this year, he and Franco Masoero finished second in the Senior Teams at Montecatini with Jeff Wolfson and Neil Silverman. And here he is, 56 years after his first Bermuda Bowl appearance, still going strong.



BENITO GAROZZO - SALUTE!



Srinivasan Iyengar, the young workhorse who is one of the incharges of Bridge Mates and Scoring in this tournament came up with the idea of giving the evergreen hands from Pietro Forquet's Bridge With The Blue Team. We tweaked Srini's idea an picked up these individually 'hand' crafted master pieces from there as a tribute to the Living Italian Legend - Signor Benito Garozzo.

SALUTE!

A DOUBLE DUMMY PROBLEM

It is known that situations which lend themselves to double dummy compositions rarely occur in actual play. The following deal, played by Benito Garozzo in the 1964 Olympiad against France, is therefore a rarity;

> ♣ -QJ853 ♥ - K 107 → -K62 🛖 - J 8

♠ -AK ♣ -7642 ♥-AQJ6 -432 -3 -Q974 **-** 1096532 ♣ - K7

↑ - 109 **Y** - 985

-AJ1085

♣ -AQ4

West	North	East	South
	Forquet		Garozzo
1C	1S	Pass	2D
2H	Pass	Pass	2S
3C	3D	All pass	

Niether side vulnerable. The bidding:

West began with the 10 of clubs: jack-king-ace Garozzo planned to establish the spades before the opponents broached the hearts and therefore led the 9 of spades. West rose with the king, East playing the 4, and switched to the ace and queen of hearts. Winning dummy's king, Garozzoi pulled a low spade from dummy to the 10 but West won the ace, East playing the 2, and cashed the jack of hearts.

When West next led the thirteenth heart, this was the position:

↑ -QJ8

-K62

8 - **4**

Ν

S

. ----

◆ -AJ1085

Е

♣ - Q4

How would you have continued as declarer?

After you have decided, take a look at the complete deal:

West has shown four hearts and on the bidding can be placed with six clubs (partly because of the rebid of such a weak suit, partly because of East's pass of Two Hearts with only three-card support, indicating that his support for West's first suit was even weaker). In addition, East's high-low in spades suggests that West began with just a doubleton. Add to this the fact that west has freely given declarer a ruff-and discard with the thirteenth heart and you will appreciate Benito's conviction that trumps were breaking badly.

Garozzo realised that on the fourth round of hearts. East would discard his last club. Consequently he had to ruff this in dummy for if he ruffed in hand to discard a club from dummy, he would be unable to avoid losing a diamond trick to East.

Notwithstanding all of this, my partner managed to make his contract.

What was his line of play in this end position? Garozzo trumped the thirteenth heart with dummy's 6 of diamonds. East did best by discarding the 7 of clubs, but Benito Underruffed Dummy With His 5 Of Diamonds! He then led the 2 of diamonds to his jack, returned to dummy via the king of diamonds and discarded both his clubs on the gueen and jack of spades Down to just two cards with the lead in dummy, Garozzo had no difficulty in picking up East's queen of diamonds.



BENITO GAROZZO - SALUTE!

Contd.



ON THE VERGE OF A GRAND SLAM

Playing with Leon Yallouze in Faro, Portugal, in 1969 Benito Garozzo landed in this small slam in spades:

- **↑**-AQ7654
- ♥-K2
- ◆ A
- **♣**-AKJ2

Ν W Ε S

- **↑**-K82
- ♥-A75
- -J8543
- **♣** 83

North-South vulnerable. The biding:

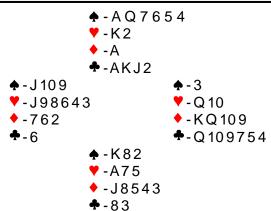
North	South
Yallouze	Garozz
1C*	1S*
2S	3S
4C*	4H*
4NT	5S*
5NT	6C*
6D	6S
Pass	

The bidding, highly scientific, requires some clarification. Garozzo's One Spade response was artificial and promised three controls, any shape. Four Clubs and Four Hearts were cuebids and Five Spades over Four No-Trumps indicated no further slam interest. Six Clubs over Five No-Trumps Showed third round control (queen or doubleton).

Enthused by this development. Yallouze invited the grand slam by bidding Six Diamonds. If he had held the queen of clubs, Benito would no doubt have accepted the invitation but with the doubleton club and only three trumps. he contented himself with the small slam.

West led the 6 of clubs, taken by the ace. Garozzo cashed the ace of spades East playing the 3 and West the 9. How would you have continued?

This was the complete deal:



Garozzo came to hand with a heart to the ace and led his second club. It would have simplified declarer's task if West had ruffed but he did his best by discarding a heart. Upon winning dummy's king Benito continued with a club and Trumped In Hand With The King!

Had declarer ruffed low, West would have been able to overruff and return a trump. Crossing back to dummy with a diamond to the ace, Garozzo ruffed the last club in hand. West was able to overruff this time but it was the only trick for the defense.

DANGER FROM THE EAST

Playing with C. C. Wei, the creator of the Precision Club system, in a tournament New York, Benito Garozzo did not let his partner down in this Four Sade Contract:

- ♠ -AJ5 -AQJ9 • - Q 10 9 ♣ - 1054 Ν Ε ♠ -KQ1098764 - 102 ♣-K76
- East-West vulnerable. The bidding:

West	North C.C.Wei	East	South Garozzo
		1D	4S
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the 3 of diamonds and dummy's 9 was covered by East's king.

How do you plan the play?



BENITO GAROZZO - SALUTE!

Contd.

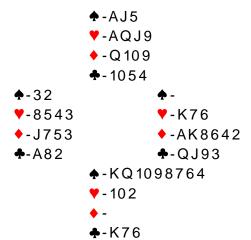


If West could be relied on to hold the king of heats, there would be no problem, but if it is with East, the latter on gaining the lead would broach the clubs putting South in jeopardy. Some declarers, prepared to rely on the protection afforded by the 10 of clubs, played simply and mechanically: ruff the lead, two rounds of trumps, 10 of hearts, running it when West plays low, East takes the king of hearts and returns the queen of clubs.

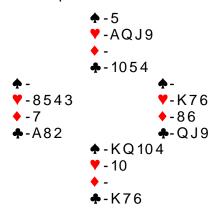
What do you play on this, the king or a low card? If you elected to play low and East then continued with a low club, what would you play now, the king or low again?

In these situations, with the defense needing three club tricks, a good defender is obliged to return the queen or the jack (for if he returns a low card, declarer simply ducks it and the defence cannot come to more than two club tricks) The queen or jack would be led from combinations headed by the Q-J, Q-only, J-only and even A-Q or A-J (with these last two combinations, the defender first leads the lower honour and follows with a low card next, hoping that declarer will duck twice).

Therefore, going up with the king wins whenever East has led the queen from Q-x-x or A-Q-x, while ducking twice will gain only when East has led from Q-J-x. Consequently many declarers covered the queen of clubs with the king (for if East has led from the ace, they would make the rest of the tricks) but the contract thus failed since the complete deal was:



Garozzo managed to avoid this problem entirely by means of a superior line of play. After Ruffing The First Round Of Diamonds With The 6 Of Spades, he continued with the 7 of spades to dummy's jack and the queen of diamonds, covered by the ace and ruffed with the 8 of spades. Next came the 9 of spades to dummy's ace and the 10 of diamonds was led, South discarding a heart when East could not cover the 10. This was the position:



When west won the jack of diamonds, Garozzo had succeeded in preventing east uptaining the lead. West returned to the 3 of hearts but Garozzo had no further problems. Winning dummy's Ace, He continued with the queen of hearts, ruffing east king with 10 of spade. Finally The Carefully Preserved Four Of Spades Allowed Him To Cross To **Dummy's 5 Of Spades** and two clubs was discarded on the two winning hearts. The contract was thus made with an overtrick.

IF WISHES WERE HORSES

A bridge duffer was polishing a lamp and ... Poof! Out popped a genie who said, 'I will grant you one wish.'

The duffer unfolded a map of the world and said, 'Let all of these countries live in peace and harmony.'

'You've got to be kidding! I'm only a genie!' The duffer thought for a while then suggested, 'Okay, then make me a winning bridge player.'

'Hmm,' the genie pondered. 'Let me see that map again.'

(If wishes were horses, pigs would have wings - Ed.)

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

IMPORTANT LOCAL CONTACTS OF ORGANISERS

Mr. Subhash Gupta (Organising Secretary): 9811079843

Mr. T. C. Pant (Head of Operations): 9811094407

Mr. Rakesh Kalra (HCL): 9818182277

Mr. Rajat Chandolia (HCL): 9811546542

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

HELPLINE No.: +91-8800658767

can be used for INCOMING CALLS ONLY during the event. (Since Mobiles have to be in a 'Switched Off' mode during play)

The caller can leave a message which will be passed on to the participant.

12 IMP PENALTY!

NO MOBILE PHONES



MOBILE PHONES HAVE TO BE 'SWITCHED OFF' DURING PLAY, SILENT MODE IS NOT **GOOD ENOUGH.** THEY WILL BE RANDOM CHECKS &

STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF PENALTIES

STRICTLY NO SMOKING IN THE PLAYING AREA

STRICT PENALTIES WILL BE **IMPOSED**



In case emergency: **Designated smoking areas**

- 1. Exit Door (Opposite Gold Open Room)
- 2. Exit Door (Opposite Silver Closed Room)

Statutory Warning: Neither the Bulletin Editor nor the Organisers support or encourage smoking.

HELP THE DAILY BULLETIN EDITOR

In case you come across any interesting hand - be it Bidding, Defense or Play of a Hand, please submit it to the Bulletin Editor in the Bulletin Room on the first floor (Adjacent to Vu-graph theatre). You may also send across any interesting bridge or non bridge related episode, and share the experiences with the rest of the bridge fraternity, adding to the pleasure of those present and others who could not make it here. Thanks a lot in advance.

You can also Call or Whatsapp: +91 98210 74808 (Bulletin Room)

A BRIEF HISTORY OF TIME

	HCL Bridge Tournaments - Past Winners - By T. C. PANT			
Year	Date & Venue	HCL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP - PAST WINNERS		
		TEAM OF FOUR NARESH TANDAN TRO	РНҮ	OPEN PAIRS NEENA BONERJEE TROPHY
2003	Hotel Claridges, New Delhi, 18th to 21st Dec 2003	CALCUTTA BRIDGE CLI (B. Todi, Kamal Roy, S. Lahiri, Alc A.B. Chakravarty, B. Sah	ke Sadhu,	B. Satyanarayana - Kiran Nadar
2004	Hotel Claridges, New Delhi, 12th to 15th Aug 2004	WELLKNIT (R. Krishnan, A.S. Vishwana Krishna Kumar, R. Venkatesh & J		Subhash Gupta - Rajeshwar Tewari
2005	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 12th to 15th Aug 2005	J.P. GOENKA (J.P. Goenka, Pritish Kushari, Alo Badal Das, Shib Nath Dey Sarkar & St		J. Biswas - T.K. Roy
2006	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 12th to 15th Aug 2006	J.P. GOENKA (J.P. Goenka, Pritish Kushari, Alo Badal Das, Shib Nath Dey Sarkar & Su		Prem Chand R Bafna - Ashok Vaidya
2007	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 16th to 19th Aug 2007	SHREE CEMENT (Manas Mukherjee, Rana Roy, Sul Subir Majumdar,Bivas To		S. Sunderram - P. Sridhar
2008	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 4th to 7th Sept 2008	TEXAN ACES (G. Venkatesh, J.M. Shah, P. S S. Sunderram, Rajeshwar Tewari, B		Subrata Saha - Satyabrata Lahiri
2009	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 13th to 16th Aug 2009	TEXAN ACES (G. Venkatesh, J.M. Shah, P. S S. Sunderram, Rajeshwar Te		Rajeev Khandelwal - Himani Khandelwal
2010	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 30th Oct to 2nd Nov 2010	HANS, Australia (Sartaj Hans, Tony Nunn, Arjuna Ian Robinson, Paul Gosney and		Swarnendu Banerjee - Aloke Sadhu
2011	Hotel Radisson, NOIDA, 8th to 11th Sept 2011	(Ashok Goel, Suhas Vaidya, Pritis	DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS (Ashok Goel, Suhas Vaidya, Pritish Kushari, D Majumder, S.Mukherjee, Bhabesh Saha)	
2012	Tivoli Hotel, New Delhi, 30th Aug to 2nd Sept 2012	ARISTOS (Sanjoy Bhattacharya, Kamal Mukherjee, Dr K Srinivas, K Srinivas Reddy, S K Iyenger)		Shib Nath Dey Sarkar - Pranab Bardhan
Year	Date & Venue	HCL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP - PAST WINNERS		
		TEAM OF FOUR GOLD NARESH TANDAN TROPHY	OPEN PAIRS NEENA BONERJEE TROPHY	TEAM OF FOUR SILVER MOHINI TANDON TROPHY
2013	Tivoli Hotel, New Delhi, 8th Aug to 11th Aug 2013	MOHIT MEHTA (Mohit Mehta , Kingshuk Bhattacharya, Pinaki Khan, S B Mukherji, Avijit Chakraborty, C S Majumdar)	Kaustubh	CONSTELLATION Amarjit, Dr Nikita Kamal, Shashi Jain, Anil Bharioke, R Chakravorty, V Ravichandran
2014	Tivoli Hotel, New Delhi, 17th Aug to 20th Aug 2014 Country Inn & Suites,	FORMIDABLES (Kiran Nadar, B Satyanarayana, B Prabhakar, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sunit Chokashi, Keyzad Anklesaria	Sanjib Majumder - J.N. Roy	P K THAKUR'S IV P K Thakur, M Dev, G Bansider, J Sarkar
2015	Sahibabad 20th Aug to 23rd Aug 2015	FORMIDABLES (Kiran Nadar, B Satyanarayana, B Prabhakar, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sunit Chokashi, Keyzad Anklesaria	Alok Sadhu - Subrata Saha	DR. SANGHI Dr R L Sanghi, R A Siddiqui, S C Bhandari, S M Moin, Sunil Kumar, Ratnesh
2016	JW Marriott Hotel, Aerocity, New Delhi 19th Oct to 23rd Oct 2016	LAVAZZA (Zia Mahmood, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Dennis Bilde)	A.K. Sinha - S.K. Hooda	SIX-PACK Nirmal Jain, Sandip Dang, Sanjay Sondhi, Subhranshu Patnaik, AfsharMajeed, Vijay Devadass

The 15th //C/ International Bridge Championship 12th September to 17th September 2017







10			B B	The state of the s
TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE				
Sep 12	0930 – 1	000 Hrs.	Director's Announceme	nts & Draw for Team Events
	SWISS I	LEAGUE FOR TEA	M OF FOUR GOLD & SII	LVER EVENTS
	1000 – 1	130 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 1 (10 Boa	ırds)
	1145 – 1	315 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 2 (10 Boa	
	1315 – 1	430 Hrs.	Lunch Break	·
	1430 – 1	600 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 3 (10 Boa	irds)
	1615 – 1	745 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 4 (10 Boa	ırds)
	1745 – 1	815 Hrs.	Tea Break	
	1815 – 1	945 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 5 (10 Boa	irds)
Sep 13	SWISS I	LEAGUE FOR TEA	M OF FOUR GOLD & SII	LVER EVENTS CONTINUES
	1000 – 1	130 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 6 (10 Boa	,
	1145 – 1	315 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 7 (10 Boa	irds)
	1315 – 1	430 Hrs.	Lunch Break	
	1430 – 1	600 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 8 (10 Boa	rds)
	1615 – 1	745 Hrs.	T-4, Round – 9 (10 Boa	rds)
		815 Hrs.	Tea Break	
	1815 – 1	<u> 1945 Hrs.</u>	T-4, Round – 10 (10 Bo	,
			(TOP 16 Teams to qual	ify for Pre-QF Knock-out)
Sep 14	TEAM O	F FOUR GOLD & S	SILVER EVENT – KO Pre	e-QF (4 * 14 Boards)
		200 Hrs.	Session – 1	
		415 Hrs.	Session – 2	
	1415 – 1515 Hrs.		Lunch Break	
	1515 – 1715 Hrs.		Session – 3	
	1715 – 1745 Hrs.		Tea Break	
	1745 – 1945 Hrs. Session – 4			
	OPEN N	IP PAIRS – ELIMIN	ATION – 1 (3 Sessions of	of 18 Boards each)
	1030 – 1	1300 Hrs.	Pair Elimination – I, Ses	ssion I
	1300 – 1	400 Hrs.	Lunch Break	
		630 Hrs.	Pair Elimination – I, Session II	
		700 Hrs.	Tea Break	
		930 Hrs.	Pair Elimination – I, Session III	
		1700 Hrs.	Tea Break	
	1700 – 1	930 Hrs.	Pair Elimination – I, Ses	ssion III
BBO SCHEDULE FOR TUESDAY SEP 12, 2017				
10.00 Hrs	s:	T-4 GOLD,	Swiss League	R-1 (4 Tables)
11.45 Hrs	s:	T-4 GOLD,	Swiss League	R-2 (4 Tables)
14.30 Hrs	s:	T-4 GOLD,	Swiss League	R-3 (4 Tables)
16.15 Hrs	s:		Swiss League	R-4 (4 Tables)
18.15 Hrs			Swiss League	R-5 (4 Tables)
Daily Bu	Daily Bulletins & Results of 15 th HCL INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIP @ www.hcl-bridge.com			