

Assoc. Editors : Anil Padhye & R. Venkatesh

Editor : Dr. Subir Roy

Layout Editor : Bholanath Das



युवा कार्यक्रम और खेल मंत्रालय Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports











Bulletin - 1 5th June 2018



Welcome to the 3rd Asia Cup Bridge Championships, Goa, India





Opening Ceremony : Traditional lighting of the lamp by WBF President - Gianarrigo Rona & APBF President Esther Sophonphanich



OPENING CEREMONY - 3rd ASIA CUP

the who's who



THE BIG GUNS: Ms Chen Zelan, President IMSA (International Mind Sports Association), Patrick Choy, Vice Pres., WBF, Gianarrigo Rona, President WBF, Esther Sophonpanich, Pres. APBF, Prasad Keni, President BFI, Ashok Goel, President BFAME, N R Kirubhakaran, Vice-pres. BFAME, Lovino Goes, Representative Sports Authority of India, Gaurav Apte, GM, The Marriot, Goa

crowded house



Participants and Delegates at the Opening Ceremony

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 2 of 12



IN CONVERSATION WITH WBF PRESIDENT

Gianarrigo Rona

He is no stranger to India, the WBF President, Gianarrigo Rona. Having been here for the 2011 BFAME Championships, the 42nd World Bridge Championships in 2015 and now for the 3rd Asia Cup. On his third visit here, we spoke to him at length. This is his 2nd trip to the Marriott, Goa, having been here on a reconnaissance to choose a venue for the World Championships.



Welcome to India again. Quite a concept to have 3 WBF Zones in one Championship. How do you feel about it?

First of all ,I must congratulate India for a very well organized and successful World Championship in Chennai in 2015.

I am extremely pleased that Asia and Pacific countries are having these Championships for the third time. These Championships are extremely important for World bridge as it is the forerunner for the Asian Games to be held in Indonesia later this year. It is THE FIRST TIME that bridge will be officially included in the Asian Games.

How would this effect World bridge? How far are we from being a part of the Holy Grail of world sports; the Olympic Games?

Inclusion in the Asian Games is extremely important for world bridge. It gives us an opportunity to showcase that we as a sport have the infrastructure and competency to be there with the other recognized sports. It is a window for bridge

And if we can continue to be in the subsequent Asian Games, our case gets more teeth. And the window would become a door..... and who knows. We are optimistic.

Bridge as a discipline in the 2018 Asian Games is vital for world bridge. A test case which could lead to our ultimate destination-The Big O....Olympic Games.

Where does bridge figure in the pecking order of world sport? When will bridge become the bride from being the bridesmaid for so many years?

It's a bit complicated, but let me throw some light on our situation vis a vis the Olympics.

The Olympic Games is a very compact family having only 28 disciplines. To add another (bridge in our case), the logistics and infrastructure for the hosting another 90 plus nations with different categories within the sport, would be burdensome and tough for the host nation. They would have to take out one discipline, which is improbable. It's a very closed family, the Olympics.

The Winter Olympics - we even tried that avenue, but the policy of the IOC (International Olympic Committee) is that to be a part of the Winter Olympics, the sport must be linked to snow or ice (being frosty to your partner for murdering a hand does not constitute as ice-Ed)

So where do we go from here? Is there light at the end of the tunnel?

We are like Robert Bruce and the spider. Try, try till you succeed. Yes, there is hope. It comes in the following avatars:

1. Countries hosting the Olympics are allowed to include disciplines of their choice in the Games. But these are specific to that particular Olympics, with no guarantee of them being included subsequently. In fact Japan has included 5 new disciplines for the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo; Baseball / Softball, Karate, Skateboard, Sports Climbing and Surfing. Hopefully in the near future some host nation might consider bridge too.

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 3 of 12



As a matter of fact, for the first time ever, the ARISF (Association of IOC Recognized International Sports Federations) had invited us to apply for the 2020 Olympics in Japan to include bridge. This in itself was a milestone. But, a case of so near yet so far.

- 2. Extended Olympics: The Fun Olympics is a event held normally 2 weeks after the main Olympics. The word Fun is a misnomer though because thousands of participants compete in this event, which you could popularly label as the Third Olympics. It is played in all seriousness. We hope to be included in that.
- 3. We hope to revive the World Championships for Mind Sports, which was first held in Beijing, China in 2008 and last one in Lille in 2012
- 4. The Asian Games- Our silver lining and best bet. Having gained a foothold into the echelons of official worlds sports, via the 2018 Asian Games in Indonesia, we hope that if we continue to be a part of the next Asian Games, our credibility and case will be further strengthened to be included in the big picture of the Olympics.
- 5. We are a part of and have the support of GAISF (Global Association of International Sports Federations) which has a strength of 96 officially recognized sports by the IOC. We were recognized officially as sport by the IOC in 1995. IOC has recognized Electronic Sports, which are non physical. They have already recognized bridge as a sport. Once the Electronic Sports are included in the Olympics, they will have to include Mind Sports too. Bridge is the front runner in Mind Sports. The paradigm shift to include non physical sports is a function of time and the reinventing the wheel of Sports and Gaming in the 21st century. Hope lies eternal.

The WBF slogan is Bridge for Peace. Could you elaborate on it?

Peace starts with the basic partnership. To be at peace with your partner. This extends to Teams and teammates and symbiosis with other contestants. Taking it further, world bridge obliterates all barriers; religious, political and geographic. Teams across the world lock horns in World Championships.

To epitomize the Concept of world peace, in 2004 Zia Mahmood won the Transnational Mixed Teams with Sabine Aukin and Paul Chemla and his partner. Where in the world of sport would you find a team comprising of a German (Sabine), a Jew (Chemla) and a Pakistani (Zia). And for good measure, winning a world titleThis is Bridge. The message is clear - We Are The World.

What does Gianarrigo do when not associated with bridge activities

That's a tough one. I am totally involved with bridge at least 10-12 hours daily. I'm a lawyer by profession but not actively for the past 16 years.

Surely you must have preferences in your spare time.

I do enjoy going to the opera, sports, reading, and of course traveling. WBF activities have made me a veritable globe trotter. My favorite opera is by Puccini. My concept of modern music is the Beatles! But with my daughter listening to other things I am amenable to new sounds, though I'm a bit of a purist.

Your prediction for the World Cup Football?

I would go with Brazil. But watch out for France with Argentina being the dark horse.

Where does Mr. Rona go from here?

Let me see, I leave tonight for Milan ,Italy, the next day to Ostend for the European Championships, onto Atlanta U.S.A for the ACBL championships. From there onto China for the World Youth Championships and then Orlando, U.S.A for the World Series, the Rosenblum Cup...... and it goes on. (Phew!-Ed)

What is the WBF Calendar for 2019? Where is the Bermuda Bowl going to be held? Any changes in the formats?

The Bermuda Bowl for 2019. will be held in China. This edition will include a new Category - Mixed Teams. Also the number of teams across all categories has been increased from 22 to 24 per category.

Thank you Mr. Gianarrigo Rona, President WBF. Have a safe journey. Bon Voyage. Arrivederci!

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 4 of 12



			SCHEDULED M	ATCHES : 0!	5-06-	2018	
Men Tea	Men Teams						Section: M
Round R	obin: 1		Round Number: 1				09:30 - 11:30
Table			Home				Visiting
VG1	1	÷	India A		14	¥	India B
2	2	k)	China Training		8	*):	China A
3	3		Thailand B		9		Thailand A
4	4		Japan		10	ÀC	Australia
5	5	\$	China Hong Kong		11	**	Invitational Men
6	6	(::	Singapore		12	@	Chinese Taipei
7	7		Bangladesh		13		Indonesia
Round R	obin: 1		Round Number: 2				12:00 - 14:00
Table			Home				Visiting
1	1	÷	India A		13		Indonesia
2	2	r.;	China Training		14	¥	India B
3	3		Thailand B		8	*.;	China A
VG1	4	•	Japan		9		Thailand A
5	5	\$	China Hong Kong		10	₹	Australia
6	6	(: -	Singapore		11	**	Invitational Men
7	7		Bangladesh		12		Chinese Taipei
Round R	obin: 1		Round Number: 3				15:00 - 17:00
Table			Home			400	Visiting
1	1	*	India A		12	(Chinese Taipei
2	2	•	China Training		13		Indonesia
3	3		Thailand B		14	¥	India B
4	4	•	Japan		8	* .:	China A
5	5	\$	China Hong Kong		9	25.45	Thailand A
VG1	0	<u>.</u>	Singapore		10		Australia
7	7		Bangladesh		11	**	Invitational Men
Round R Table	obin: 1		Round Number: 4 Home				17:30 - 19:30 Visiting
1	1	÷	India A		11	**	Invitational Men
VG1	2	*)	China Training		12	(Chinese Taipei
3	3		Thailand B		13		Indonesia
4	4	•	Japan		14	*	India B
5	5	\$	China Hong Kong		8	*[:	China A
6	6	(: :	Singapore		9		Thailand A
7	7		Bangladesh		10		Australia

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 5 of 12



			SCHEDULED N	MATCHES : 05	5-0	6-2018	
Women	Teams					0 2010	Section: L
Round R	obin: 1	ļ	Round Number: 1				09:30 - 11:30
Table			Home				Visiting
31	2	*	India B		6	*	India A
32	3		Chinese Taipei		7	***	Korea
33	4	* * *	Australia		8	*	China Hong Kong
VG3	5		Japan		9	*1	China
Вуе	1	C	Pakistan				
Round R	obin: 1	I	Round Number: 2				12:00 - 14:00
Table			Home				Visiting
31	1	C	Pakistan		9	*}:	China
VG3	3		Chinese Taipei		6	*	India A
33	4	* NEW *	Australia		7	***	Korea
34	5		Japan		8	华	China Hong Kong
Вуе	2	*	India B				
Round R	obin: 1		Round Number: 3				15:00 - 17:00
Table			Home				Visiting
VG3	1	C	Pakistan		8	45	China Hong Kong
32	2	*	India B		9	*1	China
33	4	* * *	Australia		6	*	India A
34	5		Japan		7	***	Korea
Вуе	3		Chinese Taipei				

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 6 of 12



SCHEDULED MATCHES: 05-06-2018 Mixed Teams Section: X Round Robin: 1 Round Number: 1 09:30 - 11:30 Visiting Table Home VG4 2 India B India A 6 42 Chinese Taipei A Chinese Taipei B 3 7 China Hong Kong Thailand 43 8 Australia Singapore 44 5 Bye Korea Round Robin: 1 Round Number: 2 12:00 - 14:00 **Table** Home Visiting VG4 Korea 9 Singapore 1 Chinese Taipei A India A 42 43 China Hong Kong 7 Chinese Taipei B Australia Thailand 44 5 8 Bye 2 India B Round Number: 3 15:00 - 17:00 Round Robin: 1 Table Home Visiting Korea Thailand 41 1 8 India B Singapore 42 2 9 India A 43 China Hong Kong Australia VG4 7 Chinese Taipei B 3 Chinese Taipei A Bye

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 7 of 12





Errata - Souvenir

In the Souvenir Deng Xiaoping was mentioned as the Chinese Premier, whereas he is the Chairman and President. The error is regretted.

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 8 of 12



SCHEDULED MATCHES : 05-06-2018 Senior Teams Section: S				
Round R	obin: 1	Round Number: 1		09:30 - 11:30
Table		Home		Visiting
VG2	1 *	India A	12	India B
12	2	Invitational Senior 1	11	Invitational Senior 2
13	3	Chinese Taipei B	10	Chinese Taipei
14	4	Korea	9	China
15	5	Indonesia	8	Japan
16	6	China Hong Kong	7	Australia
Round R	obin: 1	Round Number: 2		12:00 - 14:00
Table		Home		Visiting
11	1 *	India A	11	Invitational Senior 2
12	2	Invitational Senior 1	10	Chinese Taipei
13	3	Chinese Taipei B	9	China
14	4	Korea	8	Japan
15	5	Indonesia	7	Australia
16	6	China Hong Kong	12	India B
Round R	obin: 1	Round Number: 3		15:00 - 17:00
Table		Home		Visiting
11	1 *	India A	10	Chinese Taipei
12	2	Invitational Senior 1	9	China
VG2	3	Chinese Taipei B	8	Japan
14	4	Korea	7 ***	Australia
15	5	Indonesia	12	India B
16	6	China Hong Kong	11	Invitational Senior 2

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 9 of 12

Important Notes for the benefit of Asia Cup Participants

- The tournament has 5 events viz. Men, Senior, Super Mixed, Ladies & Mixed Teams.
- ★ Total 50 teams are participating in the championship. There are 14 teams for Men, 12 for Seniors, 6 for Super Mixed and 9 each in Ladies & Mixed event.
- All the details of Tournament including Supplementary Condition of Contest (SCoC) are also available on the website www.asiabridgecup.com
- The details of participating countries, their players and the Convention Cards (CC) of players are available on the web site.
- The playing area is divided into 2 parts. The First Floor (FF) will have the Men, Senior and Super Mixed events in SALON 1 (BBO rooms), SALON 2 (OPEN room) and SALON 3 (CLOSED room). The Ground Floor (GF) area will have Ladies and Mixed events in NELKINDA (BBO CLOSED), SINDARBUR (BBO OPEN), GOVAPURI (CLOSED Room) and APARANTA (OPEN Room).
- The Tea & Coffee counters will be available on both GF as well as FF in the foyer area.
- There will be a lounge area for players on the FF for taking rest. There will be 2 laptops available with Internet connection for use by players.
- For Smoking, people should go to designated smoking area near the lobby.
- The Registration Area & System Desk area is available in the FF foyer. You may contact the Registration Desk for any help required at the venue. The System Desk can be used to get the CC of your opponents.
- ▶ Please check the Daily Bulletin for the day's Tournament Schedule and BBO matches. Bulletins will be available in the Registration Desk area.
- The line-up desk will be available on the FF as well as at GF. Players should give their line up for a match minimum 20 minutes before start of a round.
- Printers with Scanners will be available in FF as well as GF for getting your personal score sheets printed. You will have to scan your ID No. given in the identity card for getting the score sheets.
- Daily there will be 2 matches each from the FF and GF on BBO.
- The BBO rooms are named as BBO1, BBO2, BBO3 & BBO4. In case you are playing in a BBO room, instructions to move to the designated BBO room will be put on the table in which you are supposed to play.
- There is a Vu-graph Theatre available on the GF. 2 BBO matches per round will be shown in the theatre.
- CTD & Director Operations, can be contacted on the FF in the Business Centre.
- The Bulletin room is also inside the Business Centre. You may submit any interesting deals to the editors there.
- ➡ Please note that players & officials should avoid taking the Mobile phones into playing arena. If they are carrying it, then it should be in OFF mode and put on the table. There will be surprise checks and if any mobile is found ON, penalty of 2VPs will be imposed by the TD.
- Please wear your ID card always in the playing arena.

— DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

The Mark Of A Man



Mark Horton is arguably the world's premier bridge writer, journalist, editor. He has been the Editor of The Bridge Magazine for 23 years, besides authoring several best selling bridge books.

He has been the Editor of the Daily Bulletins at the BFAME, Sri Lanka, 1998, as well as the World Championships in Chennai, India, 2016. An association of 18 years.

(From the recently published Book by The Master Point Press - The Last Board)

THE LAST BOARD

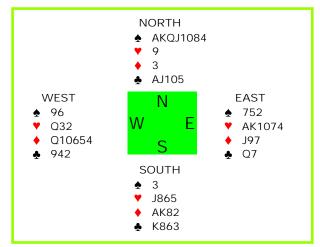
USA Selection Trials 2018 for the Bermuda Bowl

Just before these championships, the 2018 USBF trials to select USA 1 for the 2019 Bermuda Bowl in Sanya, China, came to an end.

The final between Jeff Meckstroth, Nick Nickell, Eric Rodwell, Ralph Katz, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein and Kevin Bathurst, Zia Mahmood, Reese Milner, Jacek "Pepsi" Pszczola, Justin Lall, Hemant Lall was sensational.

With the scores tied at 229-229 this was the final deal of the match:

Board 120. Dealer East. None Vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bathurst	Levin	Lall	Weinstein
_		1♥	Pass
1 ♠ *	4♠	All Pass	

1♠ Equivalent to a forcing 1NT

East led the ♥K and continued with the ace, declarer ruffing, drawing trumps, crossing to dummy with a diamond, pitching a club on a diamond and then ruffing a heart, claiming twelve tricks when the ♥Q appeared, +480.

An identical result at the other table would mean overtime.

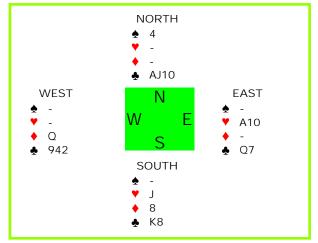
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Meckstroth	Pepsi	Rodwell	Zia
	_	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♦*
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♠
AllPass			

By going via 3♣ North showed a hand that was too strong to simply rebid 4♠ and after an exchange of cue-bids Zia bid the slam.

Rodwell led the ♥K and then switched to the ◆7. Declarer took dummy's ace, played five rounds of trumps and a club to the king. He pitched a club on the ◆K and played a club to the ten, one down, 11 IMPs and tickets to Sanya for Nickell & Co.

Having taken the diamond switch in dummy, suppose declarer immediately throws a club on the remaining top diamond, ruffs a diamond high and then plays trumps to reach this position:



When declarer plays the last spade East pitches the ♥10 and the ♥J is thrown from dummy, forcing West to part with a club, at which point declarer will may be inclined to assume the clubs are now breaking.

(You can replay all the deals from the extraordinary last session at:

http://www.bridgebase.com/tools/handviewer.html?bbo =y&linurl=http://www.bridgebase.com/tools/vugraph_lin fetch.php?id=57221)

Bulletin - 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 11 of 12



Vu-graph Schedule - 5th June 2018

09:30 – 11:30 Hrs.							
₩ INDIA - A	₩ INDIA - B	Men Teams (BBO1/VG)					
₩ INDIA - A	₩ INDIA - B	Senior Teams (BBO2)					
JAPAN	CHINA	Women Teams (BBO3)					
₩ INDIA-B	₩ INDIA - A	Mixed Teams (BBO4/VG)					
12:00 – 14:00 Hrs.							
JAPAN	THAILAND - A	Men Teams (BBO1/VG)					
THAILAND	₩ INDIA - A	Super Mixed Teams (BBO2)					
CHINESE TAIPEI	₩ INDIA - A	Women Teams (BBO3/VG)					
KOREA	SINGAPORE	Mixed Teams (BBO4)					
	15:00 – 17:00	Hrs.					
SINGAPORE	AUSTRALIA	Men Teams (BBO1/VG)					
CHINESE TAIPEI - B	JAPAN	SeniorTeams (BBO2/VG)					
PAKISTAN	## CHINA HONGKONG	Women Teams (BBO3)					
AUSTRALIA	CHINESETAIPEI - B	Mixed Teams (BBO4)					
17:30 – 19:30 Hrs.							
CHINATRAINING	CHINESETAIPEI	Men Teams (BBO1/VG)					
₩ INDIA B	JAPAN	Super Mixed Teams (BBO2/VG)					

Bulletin # 1, 5th June 2018

3rd Asia Cup, Goa, India 2018

Page 12 of 12

