



NOT NEWS

2005

Ghost Editor: Mark Horton
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THE COMBATANTS

Just four teams remain in the National Open Teams for 2005. They are:

Marston: Paul Marston, Tadashi Teramoto, Betty Bloom, Steve Bloom, Avi Kanetkar, Nigel Rosendorff
 Gruia: Callin Gruia, Jacek Pszczola, Trond Hantveit, Simon Stancu, Ryszard Jedrychowski
 Wiltshire: David Wiltshire, Andrew Peake, Peter Fordham, Joe Haffer
 Rothfield: Jessel Rothfield, Carol Rothfield, Seamus Browne, Ishmael Del'Monte, Robert Fruewirth, Kieran Dyke

NOT SEMI FINAL 2005

	1-16	17-32	33-48	49-64	Total
Marston	32	70	57	-	159
Gruia	27	32	13	-	72
Wiltshire	33	29	18	51	131
Rothfield	29	32	84	15	160

NOT FINAL 2005

	1-16	17-32	33-48	49-64	Total
Marston	39	15	14	24	92
Rothfield	52	49	53	49	203



Winners of the NOT:

Ishmael Del'Monte, Kieran Dyke, Carol Rothfield, Seamus Browne, Jessel Rothfield, Robert Fruewirth



Being Editor of the NOT News is a tough job



Winners of the Grand Slam Trophy & second in the NOT :

Avi Kanetkar, Nigel Rosendorff, Paul Marston, Betty Bloom, Steve Bloom, Tadashi Teramoto

A MATTER OF ODDS

by Tim Bourke

Dealer West. NS Vul.

♠ A J 3 ♥ 2 ♦ K Q 8 5 4 ♣ Q 10 7 2 ♠ K Q 9 8 7 6 5 4 ♥ 6 ♦ 3 2 ♣ A 9	♠ 10 2 ♥ K 5 3 ♦ A J 10 9 7 ♣ J 5 4 ♠ - ♥ A Q J 10 9 8 7 4 ♦ 6 ♣ K 8 6 3
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West	North	East	South
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	5 ♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

This hand occurred in the fourth set of the quarterfinals and the table I watched had the above auction.

Luckily for South, West led the ♠K. Declarer took this with the ace and threw his diamond loser from hand. Now all he had to do was manage the trumps and clubs for a total of two losers.

After taking the trump finesse and cashing the ♥A, his problem was reduced to managing the clubs for one loser as East had a trump trick. After South played a third round of trumps, East took his ♥K and exited with a spade.

Next South led a club and finessed the ♣10, thereby losing two clubs and finishing one trick short. Without the pre-emptive opening this would undoubtedly be the best line for three tricks in clubs.

However, here I was not satisfied with this line, believing that playing a low club to the queen was better. This succeeds when West has a doubleton ♣A or ♣J (assuming East would not duck the ♣Q with ♣Axx). It also succeeds when East has a singleton or doubleton ♣J.

So what are the odds? Well, the long answer is that they depend on the assumptions you make about the West hand. For example, if West could have seven or eight spades then finessing the ten of clubs wins about 33.6% of the time compared to 41.7% for my suggested line. If West is known to have

eight spades then these odds change to 28.5% and 40.1% respectively.

On the other hand, if you suppose West started with eight spades and would have led a singleton diamond or club and tried the ♠Q lead with a diamond void, then West's possible shapes are

♠KQxxxxxx	♥x	♦xx	♣xx	33.3
♠KQxxxxxx	♥x	♦xx	♣Jx	33.3
♠KQxxxxxx	♥x	♦xx	♣Ax	33.3

and my suggested line wins in both cases 2 and 3, or twice as often as the finessing the ♣10.

Still, no matter what assumptions you make, the odds are always in favour of leading a club to the queen, provided of course East never ducks with ♣Axx - and at board 356 in the tournament that is impossible.



MISTAKES I HAVE MADE

by Neville Moses

Denis Howard has often written of the danger of the *idee fixe* - when you become convinced from the bidding or the play that a certain situation exists and play accordingly without giving sufficient thought to the alternatives. Even when the "idea" actually accords with the facts you can't afford to overlook other relevant factors.

For instance, practising for the Summer Festival, Darling Wife and I sat passively while our opponents bid to 3NT as follows:-

S	N
INT	2♦ (trans)
2♥	2NT (invit)
3NT (17-18)	All Pass

DW (West) led the ♠3 and I was looking at:-

♠KJ5 ♥J9643 ♦9 ♣Q762	♠8 ♥AK5 ♦Q6532 ♣J1053
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Declarer took my ♠8 with the 9 and after some thought advanced the ♣8. DW hopped with the King (I therefore placed her with Kx clubs) and continued with the ♠2 to dummy's J. I discarded the 5♥ and declarer followed with the ♠4.

Now came the ♣6 and I split my J10 as otherwise declarer might have finessed

the 9. She took the Ace and DW's ♣4 confirmed my suspicions about the club suit.

Next declarer finessed the ♥9 to my King and naturally I switched to a small diamond to declarer's A and DW's 4. Declarer played the ♥8 from hand to the 10, J and my Ace and my diamond return went to declarer's King and DW's 10.

Now declarer surprised me by cashing the A♠, Q♠ gobbling up dummy's King in the process. Naturally I discarded my two small diamonds. I could see the end play coming in clubs but as declarer had no more entries to dummy I could also see that so long as I exited with my small club she could not overtake her now singleton 9 without conceding a trick to my J.

So declarer played the ♦7 putting me on lead with the Q, I played my small club and declarer claimed!!

You see this was the position when she played the ♠Q:

	♠—	
	♥64	
♠107	♦—	♠—
♥Q	♣Q7	♥—
♦J	♠Q	♦Q6
♣—	♥—	♣J5
	♦87	
	♣9	

Since I had failed to unblock the ♦Q declarer won the last trick with the 8!

DW was not impressed but after the match she was more philosophical. Looking up from her knitting she remarked: "I suppose Board 11 could have been worse - Declarer could have saved the ♦7 for the last trick and we'd each have had to buy her a beer!"



THE TSUNAMI APPEAL

As reported in the NOT News #12, Neville's Novelty Night raised a total of \$1032 for the appeal. Additional donations made via the Red Cross boxes will be tallied during the coming week. The total amount raised at the 2005 Summer Festival of Bridge will be announced on the ABF Web site, www.abf.com.au

