

Eastbourne Bulletin 9

By Michael Byrne

The final bulletin sees the finalists of the teams known. I had better mention them here for those of you that have clicked the wrong button and want to see the results:

A final

- 1) A Black, W Whittaker, G Hallberg, P King
- 2) B Travis, F Brown, H Melbourne, G Hyett
- 3) B Myers, S Brock, J Holland, B Green
- 4) A Smalley, M Newman, A Roberts, T Nonnenmacher
- 5) T Hanlon, H McGann, M Moran, R Boland
- 6) D Malakova, A Lishkov, S Natt, P Ivanov
- 7) G Woodruff, G Thompson, A Bowles, S Mohandes
- 8) D McIntosh, R Hauge, G Groetheim, P Tondell

B Final

Pollack, Payn, Mossop, Sime, Dickson, Robertson, Mckenzie and Cliffe (Teltscher, who were tied with Mckenzie and Cliffe, opted to remain in the Swiss Pairs event).

The hand of the day for me was this one from the very first match, which (assuming all other result being equal - a ridiculous assumption) got one team into the A final, by not panicking:

	♠ Q	Board 2 Dlr E
	♥ AQJ5	Vul NS
	♦ 1094	
	♣ Q9875	
♠ 1098		♠ J6543
♥ K1064		♥ 9832
♦ KQ2		♦ 765
♣ J43		♣ K
	♠ AK72	
	♥ 7	
	♦ AJ83	
	♣ A1062	

NS bid 1♣ – 1♥
1♠ – 4♣....

North was playing fairly old fashioned rubber bridge style where this was natural showing clubs (although bypassing 3NT seems like a bad idea) and South assumed this to be a splinter. The auction continued:

4♦*	- 4♥**	4♦* = Cue bid for spades / clubs
4NT***	- 5♣****	4♥* = cue bid for spades / clubs
6♣		4NT*=RKCB for spades / clubs
		5♣* = One key card for spades / clubs

Meanwhile in North's world clubs were trumps and when South leapt to 6♠ North had no option but to go back to 7♣.

West led the King of diamonds and declarer won, crossed to the queen of spades, came back to the ace of clubs (noting the king with relief) and took two discards on the AK of spades. Then the 8 diamonds pitching heart, ruff a heart, trump finesse, ruff a heart and dummy was good. 2140 for this table.

This result was compounded by the auction at the other table:

1♦ – 1♥
1♠ – 1NT
P

On less than accurate defence this made twelve tricks for 240, and the normal 18 imps swing to NS. I shan't name the guilty parties, only to say that NS were very apologetic and declarer felt like a new man afterwards. (*Editors note: unfortunately the Pianola file for the session has a small glitch which means the identity of the players remains hidden – but if you want to see the full traveller for the deal then go [here](#)*).

I hope to see everyone next year at the Summer meeting, wherever it is.