

Newsletter

July~ September 2017



HKCBA LTD

<http://www.hkcba.org>

Member of World Bridge Federation

Member of Pacific Asia Bridge Federation

Member of Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China

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3rd Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 25, 2017 (Tuesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: Unit 1103, 11/F, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, TST, KLN

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Council members:

Crystal Tang (CT)

Charlie Lee (XL)

John Tsang (JT)

KF Mak (KF)

Louis Tam (LT)

Ronald Hui (RH)

Tony Lau (TL)

Apologies:

Officers:

Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)

Council members:

WK Lai (WK)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): i) Online Registration: There is no one who can help with the online registration function. Council will explore using Bridgeweb as an alternate approach. ii) Director training course: RH will follow up with Mr. Maurizio Di Sacco on the package and schedule for the director course to be held before intercity and will copy council in the email. iii) Venue issue: LC has applied for Olympic House locker/storage but HKCBA can only start using it from October 2017.		RH

	<p>iv) Training Program to fulfill LCSD requirement on NSA: LC & KF to update.</p> <p>v) Bridgeweb: RH visited Singapore Bridge Club recently and asked them about the experience using Bridgeweb. Basically the idea is good but the interface may need to be modified. We also need to consider in terms of result storage (we will need to send them all the results for upload and we might lose track of the past results). Operations Committee will discuss first and report next time.</p> <p>3 Financial Affairs:</p> <p>i) Latest Bank Balance: HKD893K</p> <p>4 Internal Affairs:</p> <p>i) Endorse 2017 Interport representatives: Council endorsed the following winners in the Interport trial to represent Hong Kong in the coming Interport competition: Team 1: Charlie Lee, Francis Chan, Crystal Tang and Zia Wai. Team 2: Patrick Choy, Alan Sze, Abby Chiu, Barney Lui and Rocky Tam.</p> <p>ii) Implementation of 2017 laws: Will be implemented in September 2017 as law books are not available yet.</p> <p>iii) Discussion of Amazing Thailand case and the usage of stop card in APBF to be in line with WBF practice: Council reviewed and realized that stop card is not required to be used as per WBF practice, and will consult Mr. Maurizio Di Sacco's opinion when he comes to Hong Kong for the director course.</p> <p>iv) Subsidy for the 3rd APBF TD Seminar: Since Lo Wing Ho has failed in the examination, he will not receive part of the subsidy which is required for passing the exam.</p> <p>5 External Affairs: Nil</p> <p>6 AOB: Nil</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on June 14, 2017 (Wednesday)</p>		<p>LC & KF</p> <p>RH</p>
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4th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: June 14, 2017 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: Unit 1103, 11/F, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, TST, KLN

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)

Council members:

Crystal Tang (CT)

Charlie Lee (XL)

John Tsang (JT)

KF Mak (KF)

Louis Tam (LT)

Ronald Hui (RH)

Tony Lau (TL)

WK Lai (WK)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): vi) Online Registration: There is no one who can help with the online registration function. Council will explore using Bridgeweb as an alternate approach. vii) Training Program to fulfill LCSD requirement on NSA: LC & KF to update. viii) Bridgeweb: RH advised that we can try to use this for pair events first. Council approved to trial for one year. RH will arrange.		LC & KF RH
3	Financial Affairs: ii) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1.1million		

4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v) Venue-issue progress update: DZ and LC identified 20/F of Kelly Commercial Centre in Yau Ma Tei as a possible venue for HKCBA events. The plan is to hire a full time staff to manage the venue and a cleaning lady to handle the cleaning and food counter. The venue can be used for other purposes (such as renting as office/training place) during office hours. LC suggested launching a campaign for raising fund for the renovation cost. vi) Captain's report for 51st APBF Championships: Council endorsed the captain's report for Open Team, Ladies Team and Senior Team 1. Others are yet to received. vii) Tournament format of Open League, Invitation Team and Asian Game: It is agreed that Open League will accept 36-40 teams depending on the venue size. Invitational Team entries will be cap at 18 teams. While Asian Game trial will use a double knock out format for the preliminary trial. viii) Update on WBF TD course: Venue is TBC as the rental charge by Regal Hong Kong Hotel is very high. The tentative dates are set on July 19-25. Mr. Maurizio Di Sacco is pending for visa approval. 		LC
5	<p>External Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) 51st APBF Championships issue: It was observed that due to some NBOs allowed to send more than one team to participate in the Senior Team Championship, it created a negative impact to the other teams in terms of result and fairness of the game. Therefore DZ suggested writing a letter to APBF committee to report the issue and to request them review the arrangement to allow only one team from each NBO to participate in the same series. ii) Selection for officials in APBF committee: Next year will be APBF committee election year, Hong Kong as NBO should have the right to nominate representative for the election. DZ will write a letter to APBF committee about this. 		DZ/PC DZ/PC
6	<p>AOB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Asian Game Selection Criteria: SF&OC recently informed us that representatives for the Asian Game should have certain 		RH

	<p>achievements in order to be considered as eligible for representation. This include: 1) Ranked 8 or above (the ranking should be a least top 1/3 among the total no. of teams) in WBF events in the last 4 years, 2) Ranked 8 or above (the ranking should be a least top 1/3 among the total no. of teams) in APBF/Asia Cup, 3) Ranked 1/3 or above in other regional competitions which involve more than 4 countries (e.g. Intercity, ASEAN etc). RH will inform the relevant players who are participating in the Asian Game trial so that they are aware of the requirement.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on July 17, 2017 (Monday)</p>		
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5th Council Meeting Minutes

Date: July 17, 2017 (Monday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Venue: Unit 1103, 11/F, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, TST, KLN

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)

Council members:

Crystal Tang (CT)

Charlie Lee (XL)

John Tsang (JT)

KF Mak (KF)

Louis Tam (LT)

Ronald Hui (RH)

Tony Lau (TL)

WK Lai (WK)

Sit in: Abby Chiu

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	Matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order): ix) Training Program to fulfill LCSD requirement on NSA: LC has drafted a “Training Development Plan” to be submitted to LCSD. In order to fulfill LCSD requirement, we need to establish a structure approach and concrete plans for Training. A “Training sub-committee” and “Board of instructors” will be set up to manage the training course and instructors. The Chief Instructor will be appointed during AGM/EGM to lead the Board of instructors and will serve a 2-years term. KF has also prepared the statistics which outline the training course that HKCBA has organized in the past 5 years. It will be submitted together with the proposal to LCSD for approval.		LC

	<p>x) Bridgeweb: RH advised that we can try to use this for pair events first. Council approved to trial for one year. RH will arrange and report progress in the next meeting.</p>		RH
3	<p>Financial Affairs:</p> <p>iii) Latest Bank Balance: HKD952K</p>		
4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <p>ix) Venue-issue progress update: DZ's company Prepared Club Limited has purchased 20/F of Kelly Commercial Centre in Yau Ma Tei and will rent to HKCBA for running Bridge events on every Tuesday and Friday from 7-11pm, and Saturday and Sunday whole day. HKCBA will be responsible for the renovation cost. LC has obtained a quotation on renovation and the estimated cost is HKD2million. LC will start to find sponsors to cover the expenses. The above arrangement will be explained and discussed in the coming EGM.</p> <p>x) Captain's report for 51st APBF Championships: Council endorsed the captain's report for Junior and Youngster Team. The captain's report for Girls team and Senior Team 2 are still outstanding.</p> <p>xi) Asian Game Preparation Fund: Government has approved approximately HKD880K as preparation fund for Asian Game. However our initial proposal cost around HKD1 million. WK will re-work the cost proposal base on the actual fund received and share with Council for review.</p> <p>xii) World Senior Team Championship: Since 2 of the players (Peter Chun and Karic Chiu) who won the berth in the 51st APBF Championship are unable to play in the World Senior Team Championship to be held in Lyon in August, the team has requested to add another 2 players (David Chan and Edmund Tse) to the team. Council approved.</p> <p>xiii) Change in Open League format: RH proposed to change the format of Open League due to the venue change and to cater for more teams. In Stage 1, we will accept 40 teams (an addition of 8 new teams). In Stage 2, the 40 teams will be separated into 3 groups (Group A – 16 teams, Group B – 16 teams and Group C – 8 teams). After that 20 teams will be qualified to the knock out stage (12A, 6B, 2C). Details will be</p>		LC
			WK

	shared with participating teams later.		
5	External Affairs: Nil		
6	AOB: ii) Call for EGM: Due to an urgency to confirm the venue and the renovation arrangement, there is a need to call for an EGM. The proposed date is August 28, 2017 subject to venue availability. Once details are confirmed PC will inform members. The next meeting will be held on August 28, 2017 (Monday)		PC

Captain's Report – Hong Kong Open Team
51st APBF Championships (Seoul, 28/5 – 7/6 2017)

Baron Ng

Introduction

The 51st Asia Pacific Bridge Federation Championships was held from 28/5 – 7/6 at Seoul, Korea. There are totally 15 participating teams in the open series, including Zone 4 teams (India, Kuwait) which are the new comers to participating in the APBF Championships.

The Hong Kong Open Team comprised of three young pairs:

CF Wai (Zia) – Gavin Tang

Jackson Tsang – Vinci Wan

Gordon Ho – Joyce Tung

They are aged below 30, which I suppose this team should be the youngest open team ever in APBF. They won the APBF Open Team Trial with a heartbreaking margin(1.33 imps) in the final which was held in January. It is my pleasure to be invited as their NPC for the team. It is also a big challenge for me to lead a young team participating in the APBF Open Team Championships.

Objective

I analyzed the participating teams which can be sorted into two groups:

Strong teams

Australia

China

Chinese Taipei

Indonesia

Japan

New Zealand

Singapore

Besides of the mysterious India team, the rest of the teams (China Macau, Malaysia, Korea 1, Korea 2, Thailand, Kuwait) are relatively weaker than the above teams. As most of our team players are new to National Open series, my objective is to secure a middle rank in the championships, hopefully showing great characters and high spirits against all tough opponents.

1st Round Robin Team Performance

The team started fairly with a losing draw against Australia. They did well with convincing wins against Chinese Taipei, Indonesia and China. Disappointingly, they performed badly

against China Macau and Thailand. Finally they ranked 9th at the end of the first round robin with 150.35VP, which was just above average.

The 1st RR scoreboard:

Round	Opponent	IMPs	VPs	Total VPs
1	Australia	45:47	9.34	9.34
2	Sitout	-	12	21.34
3	New Zealand	20:38	5.15	26.49
4	Korea 1	31:17	13.96	40.45
5	Singapore	29:43	6.04	46.49
6	India	54:41	13.72	60.21
7	Japan	26:35	7.29	67.5
8	Korea 2	30:17	13.72	81.22
9	Indonesia	28:26	10.66	91.88
10	Chinese Taipei	39:25	13.96	105.84
11	China Macau	17:39	4.34	110.18
12	Kuwait	29:8	15.46	125.64
13	Thailand	16:49	2.51	128.15
14	Malaysia	40:34	11.87	140.02
15	China	16:15	10.33	150.35

2nd Round Robin Team Performance

The team started badly in the 2nd RR, losing the first 6 matches against higher ranking teams. They recovered with good win against Japan, followed by a good draw against New Zealand(1st RR leading team). They lost the second last match against Malaysia, as a result trailed by Singapore 24.45VP before the last match start. Finally the team ranked 9th at the end of the tournament with 305.51VP, which was also above average.

The 2nd RR scoreboard:

Round	Opponent	IMPs	VPs	Total VPs
1	Australia	22:30	7.56	157.91
2	Korea 1	32:34	9.34	167.25
3	India	14:37	4.15	171.4
4	Indonesia	21:42	4.54	175.94
5	China	16:23	7.84	183.78
6	Chinese Taipei	24:35	6.77	190.55
7	Japan	19:10	12.71	203.26
8	New Zealand	25:25	10	213.26
9	Sitout	-	12	225.26

10	Kuwait	51:3	19.28	244.54
11	Korea 2	43:14	16.88	261.42
12	China Macau	30:18	13.48	274.9
13	Thailand	39:16	15.85	290.75
14	Malaysia	38:42	8.72	299.47
15	Singapore	12:26	6.04	305.51

The final ranking of the open team championship:

Rank	Team	VPs
1	China	376.69
2	Indonesia	368.13
3	Chinese Taipei	367.78
4	New Zealand	364.24
5	India	358.6
6	Japan	357.82
7	Australia	345.3
8	Singapore	337.88
9	China Hong Kong	305.51
10	Malaysia	289.34
11	Korea 1	280.93
12	Thailand	265.7
13	China Macau	241.63
14	Korea 2	166.12
15	Kuwait	128.33

China, Indonesia and Chinese Taipei won the berth to the Bermuda Bowl in Lyon.

Pair Performance

Surprisingly, Zia-Gavin played very well and steadily throughout the tournament.

Gordon-Joyce did well against weak teams, but they were not tough against stronger opponents.

Jackson-Vinci played very badly in the 1st RR with many fatal mistakes in defences and slam bidding. Luckily they performed much better in the 2nd RR.

The Corrected Butler of each pairs is as follows:

	1st RR	2nd RR	Total Boards
Zia - Gavin	0.393	0.444	294
Gordon - Joyce	0.276	-0.135	238
Jackson - Vinci	-0.986	-0.025	252

Conclusion

Compare with the past open teams, the young open team did well in some aggressive slam bidding which proved to be successful. On the other hand, their defence were not solid in general. Hopefully they got a valuable experience in tough matches throughout the tournament. I wish they have a bright future in the coming bridge career.

2017 APBF Bridge Championship – Ladies Team 1

Captain's Report

By Leo Cheung

2017/6/8

Background

The ladies team committee had form a ladies team to participate APBF Bridge Championship 2017 – Ladies series. This team formed by Zoe Li(ZL), Cathy Lee(CL), Charmian Koo(CK), Flora Wong(FW), Pearlie Chan(PC) and Pauline Ling(PL). And I was appointed by Ladies team committee as NPC.

There are 12 teams in total joining this event. There are two round robins with 11 matches each. After that, the 1st best score team of zone 6 will get a berth to Venice Cup in France, while the 2nd to 5th best score teams of zone 6 will fight for rest two berths by double knock playoff.

Result

The team finished at 5th out of 12 teams (4th best score of zone 6) after two round robins. We enter into playoff playing against Japan 1 but eventually losing by 6 IMPs after 64 boards.

Performance

Participating in APBF is one of training programs to ladies team. My lineup is simply evenly to all three pairs. ZL/CL, CK/FW and PL/PC pair played 16, 13 and 15 matches respectively. The datum are ZL/CL: +76imps, CK/FW: +16imps and PC/PL -38imps.

In general, the finished ranking is good and beyond expectation.

Datum report of Ladies team

1RR	ZL + CL	CK + FW	PC + PL
1		-22	-16
2	-14	-33	
3	-2		-1
4	-12		-22
5		19	53
6	9	-14	
7	-28	-2	
8	9		12
9	32		16
10	17		-29
11	15		-2
Total	26	-52	11

2RR	ZL + CL	CK + FW	PC + PL
1	-41		-22
2		1	-39
3	2	5	
4		-1	29
5	27		1
6	-7	19	
7	27		-13
8	24	-2	
9		2	5
10	18	-8	
11		52	-10
Total	50	68	-49
Grand Total	76	16	-38

The team had successfully keep team spirit high. Not only there was no argument throughout the match, they could give each other support and understanding when bad score occurred. All but except one player did not complain her partner in front of others.

I could see the ladies had tried very hard to be concentrated in the event, especially during the second round robin. It is key reason behind that they can achieve a record of a nine wins in a row. But most of them are not easy wins, and in fact HK ladies usually won by good hands in

last few boards. It proves that the players can be concentrated throughout the match and had strong winning desire. I also appreciate that all ladies have good discipline and maintain high level of concentration, especially in 2nd RR.

Room for improvement

In general HK Ladies' bridge skills including bidding, playing and defense are weak and below average. There are numbers of bidding misunderstanding occurs, especially in high level biddings. They are not familiar with card combination and also cannot read cards clearly. One particular pair had problem in defense due to different understanding of declarer's line of play.

At least one member had problem to forget those bad boards she just experienced, and then obviously, she cannot concentrate on the following boards and cause bad scores.

Conclusion

Although there is room for ladies skill to improve, they tried the best to play in this tournament. I believe it is a good experience to all six ladies, and also let them to know their weakness. I have 100% confidence that HK Ladies will have better result in next tournament and onward.

Lastly, it is my honor to be NPC of Hong Kong Ladies team and I have great moment with them during last 10 days event.

2017 APBF Bridge Championship – Senior Team 1

Captain's Report

By Leo Cheung

2017/6/8

Background

There are totally 16 teams participating in 2017 APBF Bridge Championship – Senior Session in Seoul, Korea. Hong Kong sent two teams. We are HK Team 1, members are: Derek Zen(DZ), Samuel Wan(SW), Peter Chun(PC), Karic Chiu(KC), Roger Ling(RL) and Peter Yeung(PY). There are two round robins with 15 matches each. After that, the 1st best score team of zone 6 will get a berth to World Senior Team in France, while the 2nd to 5th best score teams of zone 6 will fight for rest two berths by double knock playoff.

Result

Our team finished at 2nd runner-up after two round robins and also 3rd best score team of zone 6. We enter the playoff for berth and playing against to DJARUM ICBA and eventually win and get the ticket to France.

Performance

Our team maintains high level of team spirit throughout the game. They achieve this by good discipline, such as sitting at the table at least 15 minutes before matches started, and also, not arguing against NPC's decision even though sometimes it was wrong. The team also had almost every meal together to build harmony. I believe the good team spirit is the main reason behind we can achieve good result.

DZ/SW achieved highest datum, which is +227 in round robin, KC/PC achieved +173 and +14 to RL/PY. My line-up strategy depends on pair's performance and datum. As a result, DZ/SW, KC/PC and RL/PY played 25, 22 and 13 respectively. Well done teammate!

Datum of Round Robin 1

1RR	DZ + SW	KC + PC	RL + PY
1		55	-58
2	-28	-13	
3	12		35
4	32	-20	

5	33		-2
6		50	22
7	22	43	
8	4	-6	
9	21	-43	
10	-31		17
11		22	18
12	-1		-21
13	12	-26	
14	24		-5
15	-8	-1	
Total	92	61	6

Datum of Round Robin 2

2RR	DZ + SW	KC + PC	RL + PY
1	40		-1
2	10	-13	
3	5	16	
4		-5	-5
5		-26	11
6	41	-3	
7	3		14
8	9	30	
9	2		-23
10	0	12	
11	37	43	
12	-9	34	
13	10	29	
14	-2	-27	
15	-2	22	
Total	144	112	-4
Adjustment	-9		12
Grand Total	227	173	14

Room for improvement

Lack of concentration is one of our team's biggest problems. Players are difficult to keep concentration throughout this long tournament, especially in the morning section. There are quite a number of careless mistakes. Otherwise, I believe the team can achieve higher rank.

Bridge concepts are normally well developed in our senior players' mind. It is a coin with two faces. Good thing is that players are familiar in card playing and bidding, however once they have different concepts, it easily causes arguments. But during the tournament, debating of bridge concept or blaming teammates' mistake are all meaningless. Furthermore, I believe members of team should try the best to cheer up other members and let team to have higher emotion to perform well. As a result, my instruction to team is not to argue with partner at the table and not to emphasis on teammates' mistake after the match. I appreciate that my team can follow this instruction most of the time, except sometimes they accidentally forgot.

Conclusion

All six team members are experienced and nice bridge players. Each of them had tried the best APBF tournament. Although there are still some mistakes and bad results, it is part of the game. Most importantly, they can overcome the difficulties and can adjust right after that! I believe the team can achieve better result in World Senior Bridge Championship in France. Good luck to them, good luck to Hong Kong!

At last, I thank the team invite me as NPC. It is a honor to me and I was really enjoyed throughout the event.

21st APBF Youth Championships
Seoul, Korea
28th May to 7th June 2017
China Hong Kong Youngster Team
Captain's Report

Prepared by: Rocky Tam

Introduction

The representatives were confirmed in late February and it is my honor to be endorsed as the NPC of the team. There were about 3 months from the tournament at that time and we decided to arrange as many training sessions as we can.

The systems were reviewed at the first place. Necessary amendments were made and confirmed within the 1st month. We have arranged 5 full-day trainings in a combination of lecture and practice. The topics of lectures covered the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, notes to know for playing bridge with a screen (including one practical session to play bridge with a screen), bidding logics and making a defense plan. The team members demonstrated a proactive, willing to learn attitude by asking a lot of questions during training or by texting me outside training.

Besides the formal trainings, they also joined some local club events in pairs or team to keep their exposure to bridge competition environment. Last but not least, they are also requested to complete exercises including declarer play, partnership biddings of both constructive and competitive biddings to test their understandings.

Background of the Championship

The championship was held in the Riviera Hotel in Seoul, Korea. We arrived Korea on the 27th May to familiarize ourselves with the 1 hour time difference. The things went smoothly as we booked a van to take us from the airport to the apartment. We rent an apartment during the stay in Seoul, it was nice and a large living room provided the venue for our team briefing every night.

This championship was also a qualifying tournament for the next World Youth Bridge Championships which is going to be held in China in August 2018. There were 8 teams in our category and there will be 4 berths for the world championships. As China is a strong team within our zone, it probably makes the top 5 teams to qualify for the world championship which was later proven to be correct.

Team Members

There were 3 partnerships in our team and they are Alfred Lam – Michael Wu,

Derek Wong – Harry Hung and Lam Ka Wing – William Cheung. 5 of the team members are studying in university while the remaining one is a candidate of HKDSE this year. Alfred and Michael were former representatives of the China Hong Kong Youngster Team in the last World Youth Team Championships which finished at the 2nd runner-up. Derek had gained his experience in the last APBF Congress. The remaining members are new to regional championships.

Performance

The format of the championship was double round robin in 8 teams and the team with the highest VP will be the champion. In each round robin, we will play against each opponent team for 2 sessions of 14 boards. Long session breaks and lunch hours were arranged so the tournament started from 9 AM and ended at 7:30 PM every day except the day with 1 round.

Before starting the first board of the event, our objective was to bring home a trophy. Our first opponent was Japan and the 1st session we were behind by 23:71. The team managed their attitude well and performed their best to recover the lost territory by winning the 2nd session by 47:3. Although we still lost the match by 4 IMPs, the morale was indeed more important to the team. In the afternoon we played against Chinese Taipei and lost the 1st session, again, by 22:26. The same revenge happened to defeat them by 47:13 in 2nd session brought us the first victory by 30 IMPs.

We defeated Indonesia and Korea by a significant margin of 92:40 and 103:35 respectively on the 2nd day.

On the 3rd day, we played against Thailand in the morning with 119:57. After that, we met one of our main opponents – the Singapore team with the 1st session on vugraph. Our team performed quite well and with some swings from Precision being favor to us, we had a comfortable lead of 58:14. We extended our margin by winning the 2nd session with 26:17 and at the position to challenge China for the lead.

The last day of the 1st round robin began with 10:35 against the leader China. Our team managed to win the 2nd session by 26:17 which means we lost by 16 IMPs.

Chance was still fair enough to us until we lost both matches on the 1st day of 2nd round robin. It was a bad day for us when we saw China is unstoppable. However, the things went almost the same way but to China this time. So we caught up a little bit to keep us in game.

There were 3 matches to go and Japan, Singapore, China and our team will play against each other.

Our team and China defeated Japan and Singapore respectively. However, we suffered from a great lost to Singapore which means we were put into a position

with danger to the 1st runner-up, while China had been declarer the champion 1 day earlier at that time.

Finally, we had a 3 IMPs lost to China to earn this 1st runner-up, to bring home the trophy to Hong Kong.

Alfred – Michael (21 rounds, 294 boards) demonstrated their ability in providing reliable results. The scores created by their Precision system were impressive. The declarer plays and defense skills were above average among the field while the opportunities for improvement are mainly lying in the bidding aspect.

Derek – Harry (20 rounds, 280 boards) provided eye-catching performance to the team, especially the total number of slams arrived was 16 and 75% of them were made. The opportunities for improvement will be to extend their general knowledge to bridge, widen their exposure to different kinds of concepts.

Lam Ka Wing – William (15 rounds, 210 boards) was the pair with the least experience to international tournament. However, their performance was up to their standard and showed an extremely positive attitude in developing their bridge skills. They asked every question in their minds and picking up every single response from the team.

Overall, the team harmony was excellent and we all enjoyed the event. I believe that with proper guidance and efforts by each individual, the team members will be able to reach another milestone in their bridge career, or even in the history of bridge in Hong Kong.

Evaluation

The card play and defense were up to the standard, the main opportunity lies in bidding area. The bidding logics requires more time to spend, more thinking and more learning. Indeed, I believe we need to work harder on the bidding when we are doing youth development. It is a very profitable investment for our youth players, and you will see the effect in a lightening time.

由於陳耀先生家中的電腦有問題，他說未能再為 **newsletter** 提供稿件。謝謝陳耀先生多年來的貢獻。

如有會員有興趣投稿，歡迎電郵到 wklai2@yahoo.com，或與 Dicky Lai 聯絡(電話 94152075)