

Newsletter

July ~ September 2016



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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2nd Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 12, 2016 (Tuesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

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

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)

Council members:

Charlie Lee (XL)

Crystal Tang (CT)

John Tsang (JT)

KF Mak (KF)

Louis Tam (LT)

Tony Lau (TL)

WK Lai (WK)

Apologies:

Council members:

Ronald Hui (RH)

Item	Content	When	Action
1	Adopted minutes of last meeting.		
2	<p>Matters raised in last meeting (by minutes order):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="368 338 1209 562">i) Registration fee for secondary school students: Someone proposed to waive the registration fee for secondary school students. Tournament Operations will revert whether this arrangement will add extra workload in terms of administration and will report back to Council. <li data-bbox="368 573 1209 853">i) HKCBA affiliated members: During last AGM, one of the member suggested HKCBA to consider having affiliated member associations/clubs as it might be helpful for getting sponsorships from government. LC will form a committee to check if other clubs have interest to be our affiliated members and what benefits HKCBA can provide them. <li data-bbox="368 864 1209 943">ii) PC to follow up on the commitment letter for the World Bridge Game <li data-bbox="368 954 1209 1279">iii) World Youth Championships: JT proposed HKD6500 subsidy for each youth representative plus incentive (if they can qualify, each will get an extra HKD1000, if they can enter final each will get an extra HKD500), the proposal is agreeable by Council. JT will be NPC and Council agreed to subsidize him HKD15000. It is also suggested that the youth team representatives should look for fund raising. <li data-bbox="368 1290 1209 1368">iv) Equipment pre-order list: CT to provide the pre-order list to TL to upload on HKCBA website 		<p>RH, XL</p> <p>LC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>CT, TL</p>
3	<p>Financial Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="368 1480 1209 1525">i) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1.056 million. 		
4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="368 1626 1209 2049">i) HKCBA website revamp progress: The master point function has been completed and tested with satisfactory result. Will use May tournament data to test the tool again. The member function is still in progress, should have some function ready by end of April. Previously HKCBA agreed to pay AppGoGo company HKD101,800 for the website revamp project and had already paid them HKD61,080, however they failed to complete the website revamp, therefore they have agreed to waive the remaining HKD40,720, and will repay HKD30,000 		

	<p>to HKCBA by Dec 2016. HKCBA has signed another agreement with Global Stone Consultant Co. Ltd to continue with the project and agreed to pay them HKD70,000 to get the job done.</p> <p>ii) Board of Tournament Director: current members are DZ, RH and Jack Lai. Proposed to add XL to the board with Council's endorsement.</p> <p>iii) Director Course: will start in May. Details will be announced shortly. Council approved to collect HKD500 from each participant and refund HKD300 to them if they have completed the lecture, practical sessions and passed the exam.</p> <p>iv) Schedule for new bridge year: will be release at the end of April.</p> <p>v) PC to issue invitation letter to Guangzhou and Macau for the coming Triangular Interport.</p> <p>vi) Director Fee: Director fee has not been increased for over 10 years. Council agreed to raise the fee from HKD500 to HKD600 per session (additional HKD60 per table if it is more than 10 tables) starting from the new bridge year.</p> <p>5 External Affairs:</p> <p>i) Intercity: no title sponsor yet</p> <p>ii) APBF Congress delegates meeting: Patrick Choy and Samuel Wan will attend on behalf of Hong Kong</p> <p>6 AOB: Nil</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on May 11, 2016 (Wednesday)</p>		<p>RH</p> <p>PC</p>
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3rd Council Meeting Minutes

Date: May 11, 2016 (Wednesday)

Time: 7:30 p.m.

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

Present: Officers:

Derek Zen – President (DZ)

Leo Cheung – Vice President (LC)

Pearlie Chan – Secretary (PC)

Christopher Leung - Treasurer (CL)

Council members:

Charlie Lee (XL)

Crystal Tang (CT)

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): v) Registration fee for secondary school students: Someone proposed to waive the registration fee for secondary school students. Tournament Operations proposed to collect HKD100 member fee from student and they can enjoy free pairs game at HKCBA for the bridge year (except for Ladies Pairs and Mixed Pairs which we organized with LRC. This new approach will be implemented from June 1, 2016. ii) HKCBA affiliated members: During last AGM, one of the member suggested HKCBA to consider having affiliated member associations/clubs as it might be helpful for getting sponsorships from government. LC will form a committee to check if other clubs have interest to be our affiliated members and what benefits HKCBA can provide them. LC also proposed to apply for being an official member on the NSA		LC

	<p>list. The benefit is that we can get sponsor for external events from the government. The whole application and review process will takes around 1-2 years.</p> <p>vi) Equipment pre-order list: CT will prepare the price for each items and submit to CL for review before upload on intercity website</p>		
3	<p>Financial Affairs:</p> <p>ii) Latest Bank Balance: HKD1.1 million (including sponsorship for intercity)</p>		
4	<p>Internal Affairs:</p> <p>vii) HKCBA website revamp progress: testing will be performed on May 16 and target to launch all functions on June 1, 2016</p> <p>viii) Intercity update: Currently 12 Open Teams, 1 Ladies and 1 Youth Teams registered. Still looking for title sponsor for the event.</p>		
5	<p>External Affairs:</p> <p>iii) World Bridge Game Ladies Team issue: Due to family reason PC need to withdraw from the tournament. Ladies Team committee will discuss and find 2 players to replace PC and Charmian Koo.</p>		
6	<p>AOB:</p> <p>i) Bridge Course leaflet: LC has arranged the leaflets to be printed and will place at HKCBA and Intercity event venue for promotion.</p> <p>ii) Eating, drinking and smoking at Mariners' Club: Tournament Directors to remind players not to bring in food/drinks (except water) to Mariners' club and that smoking in the toilet is strictly prohibited. Directors are given the authority to prohibit players from joining the event if they failed to comply. TL will also put up a reminder on HKCBA website.</p> <p>iii) Psychic: Players are reminded not to psychic of conventional opening and failed to comply will be subjected to penalties. Offender may be ban from playing at HKCBA events.</p> <p>iv) World Bridge Game: If there is no NPC for the representing teams, DZ will be the person in charge for all teams.</p>		TL
The next meeting will be held on June 8, 2016 (Wednesday)			

亞洲橋牌公開賽的牌例

Some Examples in Open Series of Asia Bridge Open Congress 2016

今年 4 月。在北京舉行亞洲橋牌公開賽，公開組有 38 隊參加，打 18 輪積分編排賽，我們隊成績不好，錯誤很多，但在我看來，很多錯是可以避免，我這裡舉一些典型牌例，我認為不應該誤解，犯錯的牌。

In April 2016, The Asia Bridge Open Congress was held in Beijing and there were 38 teams in the Open Series. There were 18 rounds for accumulating VPs. The result of our team was not good as we made many mistakes. I consider that some mistakes could have been avoided. I list below some typical examples which I consider that there should not have been misunderstanding or mistakes.

(1) 第 7 輪 7th Round, Board 13

N/All	
	♠ Q J T 8
	♥ K 9 6
	♦ T 6
	♣ K Q T 5

北開叫 1♦，假定你是東，持上面的牌，叫牌嗎？我想，如果♦10換成♥10，牌型 4414，雖然 11 點，叫加倍就很理想。實際他還是叫 X，第 2 家的叫牌，算很積極的叫牌，也許他認為西叫任何花色，他都 PASS，但橋牌千變萬化，這次西不叫，他不知怎麼辦，實際叫牌：

North opened 1♦. If you are East holding the above hand, would you bid? I think, if

♦10 was substituted by ♥10, with a shape of 4414, even with 11 HCPs, double is reasonable. In reality, he doubled. In the 2nd seat, his bid was very aggressive. Perhaps, he considered that he would pass any bid made by West. However, there were many unexpected things in bridge. This time West did not bid. East did not know how to handle the situation. The actual bids were as follows:

W	N	E	S
	1♦	Dbl	Pass
Pass	Rdl	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

東最後的不叫，犯了不該犯的錯，試想西持什麼牌，可以罰放 1♦？北的再加倍是求救，現在敌方 1♥到你，是西不能判斷對 1♥能不能懲罰，讓東決定，東是一定要叫牌，叫加倍，牌力不夠，只能叫 1♠，或 1NT，但是他認為自己是低限牌，他第 1 次叫加倍已叫足，所以不叫。或者他可能第一次遇到，不知道西的不叫是逼叫，請看 4 家牌：

East's final pass was a big mistake. East should think about West's hand. Why would West have penalty passed North's 1♦? North's redouble was SOS. South bid 1♥ and it was your turn. Was West unable to judge whether to double 1♥ and so East to decide? East must bid. If he doubled, his strength was not sufficient. East could not bid 1♠ or 1NT. However, East considered that he had a minimum hand and his double in the 1st round was already enough and so he passed. Perhaps, it was the 1st time that he had encountered such a situation. He did not know West's pass was a forcing bid. Please see the 4 hands:

N/All	♠ 9 7 5	
	♥ A T 4 3	
	♦ K 9 8 7	
	♣ A J	
♠ A K 4		♠ Q J T 8
♥ 8 5		♥ K 9 6
♦ A Q J 4 2		♦ T 6
♣ 9 8 3		♣ K Q T 5
	♠ 6 3 2	
	♥ Q J 7 2	
	♦ 5 3	
	♣ 7 6 4 2	

東的不叫（東絕對不能不叫），輸 12IMP，另一桌東西方打 4♠ 做成。

East's pass (East should not pass) caused a loss of 12 IMPs. The East and West at the other table made 4♠.

(2) 第 14 輪 14th Round, Board 2

E/NS	
	♠ K T 5 2
	♥ A T 6 4
	♦ A Q 7
	♣ 8 6

你是東，持上面牌，開叫 1♣，下家 1♥，同伴 2♥，上家不叫到你。你先分析，同伴沒有叫 1♠，沒有叫加倍，是不是可以考慮同伴沒有 4 張♠，他的 2♥ 應該有♣支持，扣叫一般都對你的套有支持。那麼，你們的前途是不是在 NT，實際東叫 2♠，沒有意思的叫牌，同伴認為你沒有♥大牌，叫 5♣。如果你叫 2NT，那麼 3NT 較容易完成，請看 4 家牌

You are East, holding the above hand, opened 1♣, South overcalled 1♥, partner bid 2♥, North passed and it was your turn. You have to analyse 1st. Partner has not bid 1♠ nor doubled. You may consider that Partner did not have 4 times ♠, his 2♥ should be showing support in ♣. Usually, cuebid means support for partner's suit. If so, your prospect should be in NT. In reality, East bid 2♠, a meaningless bid. Partner considered that you did not have ♥ stopper and bid 5♣. If you have bid 2NT, 3NT should be easily made. Please see the 4 hands:

E/NS	♠ J 4	
	♥ J 5 3	
	♦ K 8 5	
	♣ J T 5 4 3	
♠ A 6 3		♠ K T 5 2
♥ --		♥ A T 6 4
♦ T 9 4 2		♦ A Q 7
♣ A K Q 9 7 2		♣ 8 6
	♠ Q 9 8 7	
	♥ K Q 9 8 7 2	
	♦ J 6 3	
	♣ --	

首引♥K, 當你第2墩出♣後(第2墩將1墩♥, 第3墩出♣更佳), 知道北有5張♣, 因為一般情形你要輸一墩♦, 所以你就要猜對北的牌型, 把除♣以外的牌打完, 用投入北的方法, 才能完成5♣, 只有假定北的牌型是5332, 如果是其他牌型, 恐怕你也很難打出消去投入。所以你先要猜北哪一套花色有3張, 其實南叫過1♥, 不大會有7張, 你要猜錯, 當然打不成, 所以先將2輪♥, 成功後再用♦Q飛, 雙飛♦多數會失敗, 因為你沒有♦8, 如果♦Q得到, 再♦A, 見♦K沒有掉下, 只有假定北的牌是

2335 牌型，才能打成。如果♦K 在南家，根本打不成。實戰中他打雙飛♦而失敗（不會成功的雙飛）。輸 11IMP。

First lead ♥K. When you played a ♣ at trick 2 (it is better to ruff a ♥ at trick 2 1st and play a ♣ at trick 3), you knew that North had 5 times ♣. As it is normal for you to lose a ♦, so you must guess North's shape correctly. You have to eliminate the other suits except ♣, and throw in North in order to make 5♣. You can assume that North's shape to be 5332. For other shape, you cannot use elimination and thrown in to make the contract. So, you need to guess which other suit North would have 3 cards. South has bid 1♥, and unlikely that he has 7 times Hs. If your guess is wrong, the contract can of course go down. So, you should ruff 2 rounds of ♥ 1st. If it is successful, you can use ♦Q to finesse. Double finesse of ♦ will likely fail. The reason is that you do not have ♦8. If ♦Q wins, play ♦A. If ♦K does not drop, you have to assume that North's hand to be 2335 before you can make the contact. If ♦K is with South, the contract cannot be made. In practice, he double finessed ♦ but failed (the double finesse will not succeed) and lost 11 IMPs.

(3) 沒有全面考慮的主打 A declarer play based on incomplete consideration

16 輪 16th round, Board 12

W/NS	♠ K
	♥ K Q 5 4 3
	♦ 9 8 3
	♣ A Q T 3
	♠ A 7 6 4
	♥ T 8
	♦ A Q J
	♣ 8 7 4 2

二桌都是南主打 3NT，首引♦2，東♦K，你♦A，第 2 墩♣2，依次
 ♣9, ♣Q, ♣K.東第 3 墩回♠2，第 4 墩♦到手上♦Q，

The South's of both 2 tables declared 3NT.

Trick 1: ♦2, East ♦K, you ♦A.

Trick 2: ♣2, followed by ♣9, ♣Q and ♣K.

Trick 3: East returned ♠2.

Trick 4: a ♦ to ♦Q in hand,

W/NS	♠ -
	♥ K Q 5 4 3
	♦ 9
	♣ A T 3
	♠ A 7 6
	♥ T 8
	♦ J
	♣ 8 7 4

第 5 墩出 ♣就很完美，是的，飛到♣，就有 3 墩♣，3 墩♦，2
 墩♠，還要送出♥，才有 1 墩♥，但總要考慮飛不到時的情形，除非
 你認為，飛不到♣就一定打不成。事實又不是這樣。第 5 墩一定要出
 ♥，這不影響飛到♣的情形，因為你一定要送出一墩♥，才有第 9 墩，
 反而飛不到♣時，只要♥A 對位，多一條成功的機會。請看 4 家牌：

To play is a ♣ at trick 5 is not perfect. Yes, if you can finesse ♣, successfully,
 you can win 3 tricks in ♣, 3 tricks in ♦, and 2 tricks in ♠. You still need to
 give a ♥ in order to have 1 ♥ trick. You still need to consider what will
 happen if the finesse is unsuccessful. You may consider that you cannot make

the contact unless you can finesse ♣ successfully first. However, it is not true. If you give a ♥ at trick 5, this will not affect your later finesse of ♣, because you must give a ♥, in order to have the 9th trick. Conversely, if the finesse of ♣ is not successful, you have an additional chance to make 3NT if ♥A is on side and you have an additional chance. Please see the 4 hands:

W/NS	♠ K	
	♥ K Q 5 4 3	
	♦ 9 8 3	
	♣ A Q T 3	
♠ J T 6 3		♠ Q 9 8 2
♥ A 9 2		♥ J 7 6
♦ T 7 4 2		♦ K 6 5
♣ 9 5		♣ K J 6
	♠ A 7 6 4	
	♥ T 8	
	♦ A Q J	
	♣ 8 7 4 2	

實戰中第 5 墩再出 ♣，飛失後，再被頂出 ♠A，已經不能完成合約。

In practice, South played a ♣ at trick 5 and the finesse was unsuccessful. The defender forced out ♠A and 3NT could no longer be made.

(4) 猜牌也要講運氣 Guessing also needs luck

第 9 輪 9th round, Board 13

面對排名最後的隊，也只能小勝，因為這副牌，輸 17IMP。

Facing the team with the lowest ranking, our team could only have a small win because we lost 17 IMPs for this board.

N/All	♠ Q T 5	
	♥ K 6 4	
	♦ T 9 3 2	
	♣ 9 6 3	
♠ K 9 4		♠ A J 8
♥ A 8		♥ Q T 9 7 5 2
♦ A J 7 4		♦ K Q 5
♣ A 8 5 2		♣ K
	♠ 7 6 3 2	
	♥ J 3	
	♦ 8 6	
	♣ Q J T 7 4	

二桌都由東打 6♥ 或 6NT。

The East's at both 2 tables declared 6♥ or 6NT.

隊友在處理♥時，先♥A，再♥，北♥6，莊家放錯而下一。在我這桌，莊家先出♥Q，輸給北♥K，下一輪♥A，打下我的雙張♥J而打成。仔細想想，他的出牌也有道理。如果只考慮南北♥是 2-3 分佈，那麼南的♥：持 Kx, Jx, KJ, xxx, Kxx, KJx 都能打成。只有南持 xx, Jxx 才打不成。打成的機會很大。

When our East dealt with ♥, he 1st played ♥A, then another ♥, North ♥6, Declarer let go and down one. At my table, declarer played ♥Q 1st, lost to North's ♥K; and then he played ♥A to knock out my ♥J out of my doubleton and he made the contract. His play was reasonable. If the ♥ in North are 2-3 分佈, the contract will be made if South's ♥s are: Kx, Jx, KJ, xxx, Kxx, KJx. Only when South holds

xx or Jxx that the contract will not be made. So, the chance of making is quite big.

(5) 第 17 輪 17th round, Board 13

不可能的牌 Impossible card

N/All	♠ A Q 2	
	♥ T 9 8 7 4	
	♦ 8	
	♣ A J T 4	
♠ --		♠ K J 8 5
♥ A K J 2		♥ 6 5
♦ 9 7 6 3 2		♦ Q J 5 4
♣ K Q 6 3		♣ 8 7 5
	♠ T 9 7 6 4 3	
	♥ Q 3	
	♦ A K T	
	♣ 9 2	

二桌都由南主打 4♠，我坐南，首攻♦，讓你看 4 家牌，恐怕也難打成。隊友讓敵方打成 4♠，可能嗎？相信只有睡着了才行，輸 15IMP.

The North's at both two tables declared 4♠, I sat South. First lead a ♦. Even if I let you see the 4 hands, it is difficult for you to make the contract. Teammates let opponents make 4♠, Was it possible? I believe it would only be possible if someone had fallen asleep. We lost 15 IMPs.

Zia at USBC

今年 5 月。看到 Zia 在 USBC 2016 上打牌,由於他同伴及隊友表現不理想,最終停在前 8 名,你看下面牌例就知道:

In May 2016, I watched the play of Zia at USBC 2016. As his partner and teammates did not perform well, his team only stayed among the top 8 in the final. You will understand when you read the examples below:

(1) Quarter Final Board 10

E/ALL	
♠ 5 2	♠ A 6 4
♥ --	♥ K Q 9 8
♦ Q J 7 6 5	♦ A 2
♣ A Q T 8 7 2	♣ 6 5 4 3

Zia 坐西, 叫牌

Zia sat West. The bidding:

W	N	E	S
		1♣	Dbf
2♣	2♥	Pass	4♥
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dbf
Pass	Pass	Pass	

首引♠K, 你♠A 停住, 出♥Q, 南上♥A, 對你是好消息, 明手將, 用♦A 回手, ♥K 墊去♠,

Trick 1	First lead ♠K, you stop by ♠A
Trick 2	You place ♥Q, South cover by ♥A, a good news to you, ruff in dummy
Trick 3	Return to hand by ♦A
Trick 4	Use ♥K to discard the last ♠ in dummy

E/ALL	
♠ --	♠ 6 4
♥ --	♥ 9 8
♦ Q J 7 6	♦ 2
♣ A Q T 8 7	♣ 6 5 4 3

第 5 墩出 ♣，南 ♣J，實戰中明手出 ♣Q，為什麼要飛牌？就算南有全部 3 張 ♣，只要南北的 ♦ 是 4-2，或 3-3 分配，都能打成。如果 ♣ 是 2-1 分配，更是鐵牌一副。

Trick 5	Play a ♣, South ♣J, Dummy ♣Q
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Who did you finesse? Even if South has all the 3 remaining ♣, if North and South's ♦s are 4-2 or 3-3, you can still make 5♣. If ♣s are 2-1, your 5♣ is cold.

飛牌結果，北回 ♦，再 ♦，下一。請看 4 家牌

The finesse failed. North returned a ♦ and played another ♦. 5♣ down 1. Please see the 4 hands:

E/ALL	♠ T 8 7 3	
	♥ J T 6 4 3	
	♦ 9 8	
	♣ K 9	
♠ 5 2		♠ A 6 4
♥ --		♥ K Q 9 8
♦ Q J 7 6 5		♦ A 2
♣ A Q T 8 7 2		♣ 6 5 4 3
	♠ K Q J 9	
	♥ A 7 5 2	
	♦ K T 4 3	
	♣ J	

Zia 叫得好，但他同伴打不好。一副牌打成或打不成，來回相差 20IMP.

因為另一桌是西打 3♣ 超 2.

Zia bid well but his partner did not play well. The net result of making and non-making is - 20 IMPs because the West at the other table made 3♣ + 2.

一共有 8 隊打相同的牌，4 隊叫到 5♣，除 Zia 同伴外，其他 3 人均打成這不難打成的 5♣。

A total of 8 teams played the same board. 4 teams arrived at 5♣, . Except Zia's partner, the other West's all made the not too difficult 5♣.

(2) Board 30

E/NIL		
♠ A Q 9		♠ K 6
♥ K Q 9 3 2		♥ 6
♦ 8		♦ A K Q J 2
♣ A 7 3 2		♣ Q J T 9 6

Zia 坐西，先聽叫牌

Zia sat West. Please listen to the bidding first.

W	N	E	S
		1♦	Pass
1♥	1♠	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4NT	Pass
6♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

首引♠10，對你很友好的首攻。但你不能馬上出3輪♠，墊去失張♥，因為北叫過1♠，你的第3張♠可能被南將吃。所以一定要先處理將牌。你出♣Q，南♣4，明手出♣A嗎？我們先分析

First lead ♠10, a friendly attack to you. However, you should not play 3 rounds of ♠s immediately to discard the ♥ loser because North has previously bid 1♠ and your 3rd ♠可 may be ruffed by South. So, you must handle the trump suit 1st. You play the ♣Q and South ♣4. Should you play ♣A from Dummy? Let us analyse first.

如果北有♣K，在北持♣K單張，♣Kxx三張，♣Kxxx四張時，你出♣A，然後出3輪♠，都能成功(當然，單張♣K跌下時，再清2輪將)。只有北持♣Kx二張時失敗。(因為南還有一張♣，在你第3輪♠墊♥時將吃，最後再輸一墩♣K) 如果南持♣K，飛牌當然成功，但南持♣K單張，♣Kx二張，你上♣A也都能成功，再一點是，南北一共9點牌，誰持♣K的可能性較大，我想你不會認為南持♣K的可能性大吧。實戰中第2墩出♣Q，明手

放小而失敗。不知道為什麼 Zia 的同伴打牌時只知道飛牌，請看 4 家牌

If North has ♣K, if North has singleton ♣K, ♣ Kxx or ♣Kxxx and you play ♣A, and then play 3 rounds of ♠, you can succeed (of course, if you can drop the singleton ♣K, you need to clear 2 more rounds of trump first). Your plan will only fail if North holds ♣Kx. (The reason is that South has another ♣, which he can use to ruff your 3rd ♠ when you attempt to discard the ♥ loser, and you have to lose to ♣K at the end). If South has ♣K, your finesse will of course succeed. However, if South holds singleton ♣K or ♣Kx, your placing of ♣A can succeed. In addition, North and South have 9 HCPs in total. Who is more likely having the ♣K? I don't think you would regard South having ♣K more. In practice, East played ♣Q from hand and played small in dummy and failed to make the contract. Why did Zia's partner only know to finesse? Please see the 4 hands:

E/NIL	♠ J 8 7 5 4 3	
	♥ A 8 7	
	♦ 7 6 4	
	♣ K	
♠ A Q 9		♠ K 6
♥ K Q 9 3 2		♥ 6
♦ 8		♦ A K Q J 2
♣ A 7 3 2		♣ Q J T 9 6
	♠ T 2	
	♥ J T 5 4	
	♦ T 9 5 3	
	♣ 8 5 4	

另一桌只叫到 5♣ 超 2，輸 10 IMP。

Only 5♣ was bid at the other table, up 2. Zia' team lost 10 IMPs.

8 隊中有 2 隊叫到 6♣，6 隊叫 5♣，除這桌外，其他 7 桌都完成合約。

Among the 8 teams, only 2 teams bid 6♣ while the remaining 6 teams bid 5♣. Except this table, all other 7 tables made the contract.

(3) 防守難 Difficult to defend

N/All	♠ K Q
	♥ A 4
	♦ 9 6 3
	♣ Q J T 7 3 2
♠ A J T 6 4 2	
♥ 8 2	
♦ 5 2	
♣ 8 6 4	

8 桌中有 7 桌由東主打 4♥，1 桌由東主打 3♥。

The East's of 7 out of 8 tables declared 4♥. The remaining East declared 3♥.

叫牌，假定北開叫 1♣或 2♣，東叫 4♥。

For bidding, please assume that all North's opened 1♣ or 2♣, and East bid 4♥.

首引♣K，東♣A，第 2 墩♠7 到明手♠A，第 3 墩♥8，你出哪一張？有 5 位專家牌手放♥4，也許理由是，莊家的♥，除♥A 外，還應缺少一張大牌才會由明手出將牌，放♥4 讓莊家猜，誰知沒有一人猜錯。莊家順利取得 10 墩牌，請看 4 家牌：

Trick 1	First lead ♣K, East ♣A
Trick 2	♠7 to Dummy's ♠A

At trick 3, ♥8 from Dummy. What will you place? 5 experts placed ♥4, perhaps because they thought that Declarer, in addition to ♥A, should lack at least one other honor when he played small from Dummy. So, they placed ♥4 to let Declarer guess. However, no one guessed wrongly and all Declarers won 10 tricks without difficulty.

Let's see the 4 hands:

N/All	♠ K Q	
	♥ A 4	
	♦ 9 6 3	
	♣ Q J T 7 3 2	
♠ A J T 6 4 2		♠ 8 7
♥ 8 2		♥ K J T 9 7 6 5
♦ 5 2		♦ A K
♣ 8 6 4		♣ A 9
	♠ 9 5 3	
	♥ Q 3	
	♦ Q J T 8 7 4	
	♣ K 5	

只有 2 位專家出♥A，擊敗合約。一共取得 1 墩♠，1 墩♣，1 墩♥A，還有 1 墩提升將牌贏墩。

Only 2 experts played ♥A and defeated the contract. The defenders won 4 tricks: 1 ♠, 1 ♣, 1 ♥A, and 1 trick from trump promotion.

Are You Up to The Task?

Samuel Wan

The Interport Trial has always been a popular event and this year is no exception – a staggering number of fifteen teams have registered, perhaps due to the fact that it is Hong Kong's turn to host the tournament, a few days before the Inter-city carnival.

The competing teams are to play a complete round robin with eight boards per round. Your team suffers a mediocre start and this is the fifth session. Earlier in the set, your side gained two substantial swings – firstly, you stole a razor-thin 3NT vulnerable when opponents could cash five tricks off the top and, on the subsequent board, right-sided a vulnerable 3NT, although you cannot be absolutely sure of the gains at this point. You need to do well in this crucial board to protect the sizeable lead.

Board 3, S/EW - you hold as West this ensemble:

♠ A
♥ J105
♦ AQ97
♣ QJ753

South (RHO) opens 1NT first in hand, promising 12-14 hcp and you choose to double, showing 14+ hcp. North (LHO) passes, which forces opener to redouble. Partner passes nonchalantly and South goes into the think tank. Eventually he emerges with a bid of 2♥, ostensibly 5 cards, taking your side off the hook for the time being. LHO then comes to life and leaps to 4♥, ending the auction. *What would you lead?*

Don't tell me you select the ♠A. Partner rates to be entry-less so it will be futile to look for a ruff.

An argument can be made for a club lead but, not knowing dummy's shape, this is potentially dangerous. You opt for a relatively safe ♥5.

Dummy puts down:

♠ J10954
♥ AQ2
♦ 865
♣ A4

That is a bit thin, *n'est pas*? The contract should be touch and go. In other words, you need to be alert and on your toes.

Declarer lets this run to his ♥9, then plays another trump to dummy, and passes the jack of spades. You take the ♠A perforce. The moment of truth has arrived... ***How do you exit?***

Let's try to construct declarer's hand. The fact that he does not attempt to ruff a club in dummy means he also has two clubs. In all likelihood, he is 3=5=3=2.

In terms of high card points, he should have something like:

♠ KXX
♥ KXXXX
♦ KXX
♣ KX

It looks automatic to exit with a third round of trumps. ***Are there any perils?***

The danger is that declarer may also hold the jack or ten of diamonds. If you play the third trump, declarer can finesse spades, then a spade to the king and cash two rounds of trumps.

In the five card ending, if you keep two clubs and three diamonds, declarer can eliminate clubs and play a diamond to his 'presumed' ten or jack for an end-play (since you are marked with the ace queen of diamonds).

If, however, you keep three clubs and two diamonds, declarer can play small diamonds from hand twice to establish the game-going trick in diamonds.

So, what is the remedy?

The answer is simple – at trick four, instead of a trump, you exit with a club. That way, you are one step ahead of declarer and in the end game, you can keep the ace, queen of diamonds and one club more than declarer.

The full hand is:

♠ J10954

♥ AQ2

♦ 865

♣ A4

♠ A

♥ J105

♦ AQ97

♣ QJ753

♠ Q832

♥ 43

♦ J42

♣ 10962

♠ K76

♥ K9876

♦ K103

♣ K8

At the other table, South opens 1♥, West overcalls 2♣, North doubles, South rebids 2NT and North, instead of bidding 3NT (which turns out to be cold as the cards lie), uncharacteristically bids 3♥, ending the auction. The play is uneventful - declarer takes 9 tricks safely and secretly congratulates the partnership for a well-judged stop.

Thus, if you defeat the ambitious 4♥, you gain 5 imps, but if you let the contract slip through, you lose 7 imps instead.

Honestly, how well did you fare?

*** End ***