



1st

MINDSPORTS
ASSOCIATION OF PAKISTAN

National Championship

The Southend Club, Karachi, Pakistan

14th - 17th August 2008

Daily Bulletin

Editor: T.C. Pant, S. Ameer Hasan, Abeda Ali

Pre-Bulletin: 14th Aug 2008

WELCOME TO KARACHI

The Mind Sports Association of Pakistan (MSA) is organising "The MSA 1st National Championship" at Southend Club, Karachi from 14th August to 17th August 2008.

The National ranking tournament will include competitions in the YOUTH and OPEN categories in Bridge, Chess & Scrabble. Participants with outstanding performance will earn automatic right to represent Pakistan in the 1st World Mind Sports Games to be held at Beijing, China from Oct 3-18, 2008.

Mind Sports are a means of developing one's own mental and intellectual capabilities. The development prepares the individual to meet the competitive challenges of life. The Mind Sports activities have been reintroduced among the youth in higher education institutions of Pakistan through collaboration between concerned promoters, sponsors and the regulatory bodies of Chess (Chess Federation of Pakistan), Bridge (Pakistan Bridge Federation) & Scrabble (Scrabble Association of Pakistan).

MSA welcomes all the participants and wishes them good luck, a pleasant stay and an enjoyable game.



Message from the Chairman Organizing Committee



In my capacity as the Chairman of the organizing committee as well as Mind Sports Association of Pakistan, besides being the President of one of the three Mind Sports - The Bridge Federation of Pakistan, it gives me immense pleasure to extend my warm greetings to all the players and officials who are participating in this 1st Mind Sports Games being held here in Southend Club, Karachi from 14th to 17th August 2008.

I would like to welcome all the foreign participants and hope their stay will be comfortable and enjoyable. I would also like to personally thank them for making an appearance here as it will go a long way in promoting the Mind Sports in the region.

Elaborate arrangements have been made for holding Chess and Scrabble games with a highly technical back up support. Facilities at the venue include an auditorium, wherein efforts are being made to project most of the games or their results LIVE.

Our task in organizing this event was made easy with the blessings and support of the Sponsors, Habib Bank Ltd along with Pizza Hut, International Industries Ltd, AKD Securities Ltd, Bank ALHabib and the venue itself Southend Club having excellent arrangements and an enjoyable ambience.

I wish to pay tributes to the Tournament Directors and other members of the organizing committees for their untiring efforts in making this event possible. The role of BBCL as event manager needs special mention as they have taken the overall responsibility.

I would also like to welcome Mr. T. C. Pant as the Chief Bulletin Editor, who will make reading of the Daily Bulletin possible for all.

The print and electronic media also deserve a pat for giving adequate coverage despite the on going Olympics and other news of more importance.

Lastly, I wish all the players, BEST of LUCK.

Khurshid Hadi

Chairman Organizing Committee
Chairman Mind Sports Association of Pakistan
President Bridge Federation of Pakistan

MSA Board of Directors

- Mr. Khurshid Hadi (Chairman)
- Mr. Tariq Rasheed Khan
- Mr. Parvez Iqbal
- Mr. Kemal Shoaib
- Mr. Ahmed Humayun Shaikh
- Syed Nayyar Hasnain Haider
- Mr. Ahsan Zahir Rizvi

MSA Consultant

- BBCL

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BRIDGE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Tahir Masood : Chairman

Members

Mr. M. Azwerul Haque Mr. Tariq Rasheed
Mr. Shakeel Chandna Mr. Gulzar Bilal
Mr. Mushtaque M. Khan Mr. Tariq Zafar
Mr. Jamal Nizami Ms. Shahina Leghari
Ms. Fizza Adamjee

BRIDGE APPEALS COMMITTEE

Mr. Mazhar Jafri : Chairman

Members

Mr. M. Azwerul Haque
Mr. Shakeel Chandna
Mr. A.K. Bhurgri
Mr. Shahin Iqbal

No Smoking



Smoking in the playing area, Press & Bulletin Rooms and the Scoring & Results Room is strictly prohibited. Any player or team official smoking in the areas designated may attract penalties.

No Mobile Phones

Use of Mobile telephones is prohibited in the playing area.



Chief Tournament Director

Mr. Ihsan Qadir

Tournament Directors

Mr. Mushtaque M. Khan
Mr. Shakeel Chandna

Bulletin Editors

Mr. T.C. Pant
Mr. S. Ameer Hasan
Ms. Abeda Ali

IT Section (Bridge Mates)

Mr. Umair Kausar
Mr. Haider Rizvi

IMPORTANT - PLEASE NOTE

The Tournament Directors would award penalties as prescribed by the Laws and Conditions of the contest for Use of Mobiles, Slow play or Late Arrival.

If you fill your heart with regrets of yesterday and the worries of tomorrow, you have no today to be thankful for.

From Directors Desk

- ❖ Zero Tolerance Policy of WBF is enforced
- ❖ Adhere strictly to the timings as published or announced.
- ❖ Smoking and Use of Mobile or any Electronic aid is strictly Forbidden. Penalty 1 VP in team Event and $\frac{1}{4}$ of Board in Pairs Event
- ❖ Each Partner must have duly filled Convention card at the table (Failure will render the pair liable for adverse inference by the TD if so deemed fit by him)
- ❖ Count the Cards before and after play
- ❖ Don't touch other players cards even after having played a board
- ❖ Always lead faced down and avoid out of turn lead penalty
- ❖ Before making a call ensure that it is your turn to bid
- ❖ It's your moral duty to report if you see anyone using his phone or Smoking
- ❖ Please leave the board in the centre of table in the correct direction during the play this will ensure that the boards are not switched.
- ❖ Be polite to everyone.

Sharing of Boards in the Team Event

We will be playing computer Pre-dealt hands through out the Championship. A set of 12 Boards would be shared by four tables. The Boards Movement would be higher table to lower table and from the lowest table amongst the group to higher Table. For example if table 13-16 are sharing a set, then the movement of boards would be T16 > T15 > T14 > T13 > back to 16. The boards at each table are to be played in sequence. To start with in this group the boards would be placed as below:

Table 13: 1-3 will play in a sequence from 1-12
Table 14: 4-6 will play 4-12 and then 1-3
Table 15: 7-9 will play from 7-12 and then 1-6
Table 16: 10-12 they will play 10-12 and then 1-9

The caddies helping the Tournament Directors are to strictly adhere to this system. Play the boards in sequence and there will never be a problem when two tables are requiring the same board.

Judgment and Ruling

- by Ihsan Qadir, Chief Tournament Director

It is fairly right to draw your attention to the careful way in which the directors ruling / Judgments are made in this Championship.

Following Best practice the director does not give such rulings instantaneously; he collects the facts and discusses them with other directors. But it goes far beyond this. The WBF code of practice requires him to consult a number of quality players on the bridge judgment that has to be made and he is careful to do this in a way that allows them to give their opinion unbiased by extraneous information. This is not all. Having gathered the opinion of players he takes this feed back to his colleagues, one of whom will be the chief tournament director.

Players new to all this would understand that when the table director returns to them and gives them a ruling involving bridge judgment, the ruling he gives them has been the subject of three stages of consultation and is fully considered decision. If taken to appeal it is no surprise that at the start of the hearing the Appeals Committee will believe the ruling to be well justified. Only if the evidence they hear convinces the committee that after the process described above, the directors have still got it wrong, will the committee make any change in the director's adjudication. We will be extremely surprised if that happens often, for which reason we do urge captains to think carefully before entering an appeal.

The Regulation empowers the chief director to authorize the award of a weighted score where in the director's opinion this achieves a better equity in the adjustment. The appeals committee will retain the RS 500 deposit when it considers it necessary.

Duplication and Security

- Ihsan Qadir, Chief Tournament Director

You might be interested in the duplication of the boards during this tournament and some aspects related to it. There is more involved than just filling boards with cards. The latest dealing program, which is going to be used at the 1st WMSG at Beijing is being used for making the deals. The main advantage it has is that the randomizer function it uses, makes it practically impossible to create identical files, something that happens once in a while with some other program.

The latest Duplicating Machine DUPLIMATE MK IV is used for duplicating bridge hands. It makes no mistakes and ensures that all boards are identical except when the operator puts in a wrong board 3 instead of four. Now two boards will be fouled boards. Efforts have been made that the boards are correctly duplicated. All players are to ensure that they put back the complete 13 cards after the hand is over.

I am the only person involved in making the boards and keeping them in custody. I assure you that the security of these boards has been absolutely maintained and you have to believe it that the hands are not even known to me.

The pattern of the hands is exactly the same as played in any world championship or Olympiad. The deals are purely random. The deals that I have generated do not exist on any of the computers, they are generated just before duplication and no trace of the files is left on any computer, I save them on my pen drive and no one has any access to it.

We could prepare sets of boards for each table but we do not have enough boards to do that. In such case we mostly share a set between the two tables of a match, which implies that the boards have to be moved from the open to the closed room and vice versa. A hard job.

Here I decided to share boards within the open and closed room, which brought its own difficulties. Four tables in each room will share one set of boards i.e. Table 1-4, 5-8, 9-12, 13-16, 17-20 and 21-24, and if any change is made to this, that will be communicated to you all.

Up till the moment the round starts there is no printout of any hand to be played in that round. Still we need a careful check of the boards, since disasters where a team, plays different boards at both tables are known too well. Such disaster won't happen, if these two tables share the boards, but as I told you, we have chosen not to do so.

This meant that I have to check that they are identical so I wrote down the spade holding of the first, last and some in between boards of a set and checked whether those were identical for all sets of the round. Being careful in making the boards in correct order, I very sincerely hope that there wouldn't be any problem. I want to assure you all on the secrecy of the contents of the boards.

Bridge Mates

- Ihsan Qadir, Chief Tournament Director

The bridge mates would be used for scoring during the championship. Below is a brief description on its operation:



Quick and easy input

The Bridgemate has a keyboard with large keys which makes it easy to use for people of all ages. All buttons have a clear indication of its function, and make it therefore easy to understand. The display uses large characters to show the texts.

Verification reduces error to a minimum

At every session, the Bridgemate uses session-specific information about the movement used, sit-outs, pair numbers, etc. This information is created by the scoring program. Using this information, it is able to register the scores for the correct pairs to which the scores belong. Classic errors like wrongly written scores on the score sheet now belong in the past.

Functionality for the tournament director

The TD has a special key which provides him with additional features. Using this key, the TD can request at any time an overview of results entered, erase any result, etc. It ensures that the TD keeps control over the scores at any time.

A few Words on the New WBF Laws of Duplicate Bridge

- By Ihsan Qadir

The Bridge at the mind sports is being played following the new Laws of **Duplicate Contract Bridge 2007**. I am highlighting some of the salient features of these laws affecting both the players and the directors.

Law 12 C1(c) The Directors are empowered by this law to make a weighted adjustment to the scores following an infraction. Example: due to an infraction TD disallows a score of 4 S by EW and puts it back to 4 H by N/S there is a 50/50 chance that NS will make 10 or 11 Tricks so director assigns the weighted score accordingly.

Law 25 Change of Call You can make a mechanical error and be allowed to change (L25A) but you cannot change your mind by and large a bid made cannot be changed.

Law 27 There is a significant change to the insufficient bid (IB) law. The scope for allowing an insufficient bid to be replaced without silencing partner has been extended. The old rule of replacing it at the lowest legal level remains, provided that both bids are natural. But there is now an added possibility which comes if a replacement call can be found which has the same meaning or a more precise, meaning as the insufficient bid itself.

The Director should ask a useful question, which might help to make it easier to decide. Would all hands making the replacement call also have made the original call in correct circumstances? If the answer is yes then the change is allowed.

The example below would explain:

West	North	East	South
1 C	1 S	1 D	

East west play precision club, so 1 C is 16HCP+ and without interference 1 D shows 0-7 HC points. East can replace 1D bid by a double if he has 5-7 HCP (They play over interference & pass shows 0-4 HCP and double shows 5-7 HCP). Would all hands playing precision Club that now double would also have bid 1D without interference? Yes, so the change can be made and partner can continue bidding. Note that in this case pass will also be OK if east has 0-4 HCP.

Law 40 You cannot have any aide memories or aid to calculations. So you cannot for example take out the bidding card to see that 4HXX+2 will score for you.

Law 64 The Criteria for transferring tricks after an established revoke is changed. The TD no longer has to look at whether an additional trick was won by the offending player with a card that could legally have been played to the revoke trick'. Instead he adjudicates either two or one trick as now, and then looks to see whether equity has been served. Deciding whether equity has been served becomes the norm. It always was but it is now even more important that the TD considers it.

Law 70 The Claim law acknowledges that even though play ceases after a claim, it often does not and the TD is give help how to proceed.

Law 70, 71 The Claim and concession law still refers to action that would be careless or inferior for the class of player involved but the bit about being "irrational" has been removed

Law 80 The law recognizes a body called tournament Organizers, which could be the club, the association and sets out their responsibilities. It replaces the sponsoring organizations in the current law.

Please follow the following during the tournament:

Law 7C You should shuffle the cards after the hand, before it is returned to the Board.

Law 16 B3 You are still required to agree a hesitation, for example when it happens the TD should be summoned if there is any disagreement. The new law states that best time to claim actual damage is at the end of the hand

Law 20 F3 You are now allowed to ask about the meaning of an individual call in the opponents' auction but it shouldn't be done in such a way as to suggest a call or play to partner.

Law 0 G1 Sometimes players ask question because they do not think that their partner has understood, it is illegal to do so.

Law 40 B2 (b) There is short period between the final pass and the first card being faced, when questions are asked. This is now called the clarification period. Members of the declaring side may consult their own system card during this time to make sure nothing has been miss explained.

Law 41 D when you put the cards down you must display it with the lowest ranking card towards the declarer.

Law 61 B(2) Dummy cannot ask a defender whether he has revoked (in 1977 it was in 42 B1 and still is but is repeated here . However he can still ask declarer.

Law 65 B3 Players are not allowed to point out that a quitted trick is pointing out in wrong way. Declarer can do it at any time; Dummy and defenders can do it only until the lead is made to the next trick.

Was it Sheer Luck or Good Play

- by T.C. Pant

Claudio Nunes & Fulvio Fantoni of Italy are currently one of the top pairs in World Bridge and like the famous Macwell partnership, their partnership is also going from strength to strength.

The following hand played by Fantoni in the 3rd session of Quarter finals between the WEED team against SADEK in the recently held Summer NABC at Las Vegas is ample proof of his calibre on the bridge table.

Board 10, Dir: East, Vul: Both

♠865
♥K862
♦AK73
♣63

♠JT72	N	♠AQ3
♥JT73	W	♥AQ4
♦Q82	E	♦J96
♣72	S	♣AKQ9

♠K94
♥95
♦T54
♣JT854

OPEN ROOM:

West	North	East	South
<i>Elahmady</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Sadek</i>	<i>Versace</i>
3NT	All Pass	2NT	Pass

Versace (South) of Weed team led the ♣4, the only lead to give the contract on a platter. But the declarer (Tarek Sadek) did not utilize the greek gift. After taking the first trick with the ♣9, he played the ♥Q ducked by North. Now he tried the ♠Q, which was ducked by South and now it would have been easy to score the 9 tricks, if declarer cashes club tricks and then plays Spade Ace and spade back. South can get 2 tricks in black suits, but then will be forced to open the red suits giving the 9th trick to declarer.

However, Sadek played it differently. After winning the ♠Q, he cashed the Ace & King of clubs and played a low diamond to dummy's Queen and North's Ace. The ever cunning master (Lauria) played back the ♦3 and now declarer was in trouble. He has to put the Jack for the 9th trick, but he took a wrong decision by playing the ♦9 and the contract went one down.

CLOSED ROOM:

West	North	East	South
<i>Nunes</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Fantoni</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
3C	Pass	3NT	All Pass

There was a little variation in the bidding but the final contract was the same 3NT.

Unlike Sadek, Fantoni was not lucky enough to get a low club lead. Weinstein preferred the ♣10 and Fantoni won the trick with the King (trying to give a false impression that North might have the Queen). Sadek after winning the first trick had played the ♥Q, whereas Fantoni preferred the ♠Q.

Was it a sheer luck that he played the spades before heart? No one except perhaps Fantoni will be able to answer this. But this play turned out to be the most crucial play in making the contract.

Weinstein ducked the trick and now like in the open room, Fantoni played the ♥Q, which was ducked by Levin.

Please note, that if South wins the trick with ♠K, the contract will be cold as declarer has the entry to dummy and can take heart finesse and will make 3 spades, 3 hearts, 3 clubs and may be even a possible diamond. Similarly, if North wins the heart trick with King and returns a club, declarer now has a heart entry in dummy and can safely play Spade Ace and back to again get 3 tricks in major suits and 3 in Clubs to score the contract. The best defense North has is to play a low diamond after winning the heart King. But again declarer is home, as he now gets 2 spades, 3 hearts, 1 diamond and 3 club tricks.

So with defense keeping Fantoni on his toes, he again went back to Spades, cashing the Ace and playing the 3rd spade. South was in problem. He correctly judged not playing the clubs (else the 9 would have won the trick) and could not play hearts after declarer's earlier heart play, so his tried the best shot, he played the ♦10. Now hoping to get an entry with either Queen or the all important 8 in dummy, declarer played the ♦Q, carefully playing the ♦9 from hand, when North won the trick with the King. Now it was North's turn to be in soup. He can't play the heart nor could play the diamond, knowing well that 8 will become an entry to dummy, which will allow the declarer to cash the 4th spade as well as take the all important heart finesse, giving him 10 tricks instead of nine.

So North returned the passive ♣3. Declarer won the trick with Ace and returned the ♦J, North ducking the trick. But Fantoni was ready for the task. He correctly read the position and after cashing the ♠Q, returned the last diamond to dummy's eight and to North's Ace. North could cash the last diamond, but was then end-played in hearts. He returned a low heart and fantoni played low, winning in dummy and getting the all important 4th spade plus the Heart Ace for total 9 tricks.

The kibitzers as well as all the commentators watching on BBO praised the excellent effort of Fantoni.

However, the editor is still not able to find out the reason of Fantoni playing the spade queen before heart queen.

Going back to the 2nd trick, if Fantoni like Sadek would have played the ♥Q, North could have just taken the trick and fired a low diamond back. The declarer can not do anything now. He can win a diamond trick but along with 3 tricks in Hearts as well as 3 tricks in clubs, he still requires the spade finesse. Once the spade finesse is lost, declarer is one down, as he can fire back a diamond and North will cash his 3 diamond tricks along with the two tricks in major suit.

So was it really a sheer luck.... God knows.

The First Mind Sports National Championship 2008

14th to 17th August 2008

Tournament Schedule

DAILY PROGRAM

Registration: 0800 – 1000 Hrs.
Play Timings: 1000 – 1900 Hrs.
Complementary Lunch: 1330 – 1430 Hrs.

FINAL DAY PROGRAM

Prize Distribution: 2000 Hrs.
Specially Choreographed Program: 2030 Hrs.
Dinner: 2100 Hrs.

BRIDGE EVENTS

Swiss Teams & Individual Pairs
Along with Simultaneous Youth competition



<i>Thursday 14th August 2008</i>	0930 Hrs:	Final Registration
	1000 Hrs:	OPEN TEAMS (Rounds 1-5 of 10 boards)
<i>Friday 15th August 2008</i>	1000 Hrs:	OPEN TEAMS (Rounds 6-10 of 10 boards)
<i>Saturday 16th August 2008</i>	1000 Hrs:	OPEN TEAMS (Rounds 11-15 of 10 boards)
<i>Sunday 17th August 2008</i>	1000 Hrs:	INDIVIDUAL PAIRS (2 Sessions) (About 30 boards per session)



CHESS EVENTS

System: Swiss League of 8 Rounds (2 Rounds per day)
For Youth (U-25): Swiss league of 6 rounds (Aug 14-15: 2 Rounds per day & Aug 16-17: 1 Round per day)

Categories: *A: Open (Masters and rated 2100 & above)*
B: Youth (under 25 Years)

Time Control: 90 Minutes for each player per game

Special: *Master Vs. Players on August 17, 2008. Winners will get special prizes. Both categories of players can compete.*



SCRABBLE EVENTS

Categories:

Masters: 7 games on August 14 & 16 (Final on Aug 17)
Doubles: 8 games on August 15
Intermediates: 6 games on August 17
Recreational: 5 games on August 17
Students: 3 games on August 17 (Classes 6 to 10)

Note: All Programs are subject to adjustment / change to suit the sports organizers and participants of the event.