



BONUS[®]

5TH ASIA BRIDGE CUP

GOA INDIA



TAJ CIDADE DE GOA HORIZON | 21ST - 27TH JUNE 2026

Bulletin - 5, 26 June 2026

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THE ROAD TO GLORY

Four days of high-intensity competition have culminated in the completion of the Round Robin stage at the 5th Bonus Asia Cup Bridge Championships, setting the stage for the knockout battles that will determine the continental champions. From the very first day, the race for the semifinals remained fiercely competitive, with every Victory Point proving decisive as teams battled relentlessly for one of the coveted top-four positions in each category.

The Women's Teams championship became the first event to complete its qualification stage, concluding its nine-round schedule on 25 June. China dominated the competition from the outset to finish as the top seed, while Indonesia produced a consistent campaign to secure second place. India A and Japan completed the semifinal lineup after maintaining their positions in the top four.

The Men's Teams event produced one of the most exciting qualification races of the championship. China established itself as the benchmark from the opening rounds and never relinquished the top spot. Hong Kong China A and India A consistently featured among the front-runners, although both teams had to overcome determined challenges before confirming qualification. The battle for the final semifinal berth remained unresolved until the concluding rounds, where Bangladesh B produced an impressive finish to edge out India B and complete the semifinal lineup.

The Mixed Teams competition lived up to expectations as one of the strongest fields assembled at the championship. China A maintained its lead for most of the event, while China B remained in close pursuit, ensuring the race for first place stayed alive until the closing rounds. Hong Kong China A delivered a remarkably consistent performance throughout, while Australia A demonstrated tremendous resilience to secure the final semifinal berth after holding off strong challenges from India B, Japan and other contenders.

MEN	WOMEN	MIXED	SENIORS
China	China	China A	India B
Hong Kong China A	Indonesia	China B	Australia
India A	India A	Hong Kong China A	Bangladesh
Bangladesh B	Japan	Australia A	Japan

DAY-5 SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 26TH JUNE 2026
TEAM OF FOUR EVENT

TIME	EVENTS	TBL	CAT.	BBO MATCHES
0930 - 1145 Hrs.	Semi Finals Segment - 1 (All Categories)	2 12	MEN WOMEN	SF-R1 INDIA A Vs. HONG KONG CHINA A SF-R1 INDONESIA Vs. INDIA A
1245 - 1500 Hrs.	Semi Finals Segment - 2 (All Categories)	1 21	MEN MIXED	SF-R2 CHINA Vs. BANGLADESH B SF-R2 CHINA A Vs. AUSTRALIA A
1520 - 1650 Hrs.	Semi Finals Segment - 3 (All Categories)	7 33	MEN SENIORS	SF-R3 MATCH TO BE DECIDED SF-R3 MATCH TO BE DECIDED

1145 - 1245 — LUNCH BREAK | 1500 - 1520 — TEA BREAK

KNOCK-OUT | EACH SEGMENT 16 BOARDS EACH

HCL Friendship Pairs – 27 June 2026

The HCL Friendship Pairs event will be held on 27 June 2026 in two sessions and is open to all invitees and participants of the 5th Bonus Asia Cup Bridge Championships.

There are no category restrictions for this event. Players who are not participating in the Championship may also enter by paying an entry fee of \$150 per pair.

Registrations are now open.

[Link for HCL Friendship Pairs registration](#)

RESULT LINK FOR PAIRS:



CLICK ON STAGES
to see ur group

<https://bonusasiacup2026.com/results/2026/asiacuppairs/>

LIVE SCORES

NEW LINEUP LINK FOR KO

BULLETINS

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CROSS TABLE

The Seniors Teams championship showcased another display of high-quality bridge and remarkable consistency. India B emerged as the standout performers, leading the standings for most of the tournament through disciplined and consistent play. Australia remained among the leaders throughout, while Bangladesh produced one of the strongest finishes of the championship to secure a semifinal berth. Japan completed the top four after holding off sustained pressure from India A and Chinese Taipei during the closing rounds.

With the completion of the Round Robin stage, the championship now enters the highly anticipated Knockout Phase. The semifinals in all four categories will be contested over three segments of 16 boards each, for a total of 48 boards. Carry-over scores earned during the Round Robin will add another strategic dimension as every board assumes even greater importance in the pursuit of continental glory.





The winners of the semifinals will advance to the Championship Finals, while the losing semifinalists will contest the Bronze Medal playoff.

Beyond the medal race, the spirit of friendship that defines international bridge will continue to be celebrated. On 27 June 2026, players and officials will come together for the **HCL Friendship Pairs Tournament**, an event open to all participants and invitees. Designed to foster camaraderie beyond national boundaries, the tournament promises another day of enjoyable and competitive bridge.

The closing day will feature, trophy presentations and the Closing Ceremony, providing a fitting finale to a memorable week of outstanding bridge, sportsmanship and international friendship.

With only four teams remaining in each category, there is no room for error. Every board, every decision and every IMP will shape the destiny of the 2026 Asia Cup champions. After four days of intense competition, the championship has reached its defining moment as Asia's finest players battle for continental glory.


♠♥ PAIR EVENTS – MEN, WOMEN, MIXED & SENIORS ♦♣

 START DATE 26 June 2026 (Friday Morning)	 VENUE Men & Seniors – "Assembleia 2" Hall Women & Mixed – "Assembleia 3" Hall	 FORMAT All events on Screens with Barometer Movement (Same boards at all tables in a session)	 SCORING Match Points for all events
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CATEGORY	ENTRIES	FORMAT	26 JUNE 2026	27 JUNE 2026	TOTAL BOARDS	FINAL
 MEN	28	Qualifying Stage + Final	48 Boards (Qualifying)	44 Boards (Final – All Play All)	92	Top 12 Pairs qualify for Final
 WOMEN	17	All Play All (3 Sessions)	Min. 48 Boards (2 Sessions)	20 Boards (1 Session – 1st Half)	68 (17 Rounds of 4 Boards)	Leader at the end of 3 sessions
 MIXED	24	Qualifying Stage + Final	46 Boards (Qualifying)	44 Boards (Final – All Play All)	90	Top 12 Pairs qualify for Final
 SENIORS	11	All Play All (3 Sessions)	Min. 48 Boards (2 Sessions)	18 Boards (1 Session – 1st Half)	66 (11 Rounds of 6 Boards)	Leader at the end of 3 sessions

-  All four events will start from 26 June 2026 (Friday morning).
- Men & Seniors in "Assembleia 2" Hall; Women & Mixed in "Assembleia 3" Hall (Ground Floor).
- Scoring: Barometer (Match Points) for all events.
- Minimum 48 boards will be played on 26 June in Women & Seniors events.

SEMI FINALS

MEN		C/O	R1	R2	R3	
	Bangladesh B					
	China	+12				
	India A	+3.67				
	Hong Kong China A					
WOMEN		C/O	R1	R2	R3	
	China					
	Japan	+4.33				
	Indonesia					
	India A	+1.23				
MIXED		C/O	R1	R2	R3	
	Australia A					
	China A	+1.5				
	China B	+10				
	Hong Kong China A					
SENIOR		C/O	R1	R2	R3	
	India B	TBA				
	Japan	TBA				
	Bangladesh	TBA				
	Australia	TBA				

FINAL RESULTS - MEN

Round 13

A1	KOREA	INDIA A	43	11	17.34	2.66
A2	HONG KONG CHINA B	BANGLADESH A	27	31	8.72	11.28
A3	CHINA	KUWAIT	41	15	16.38	3.62
A4	CHINESE TAIPEI	THAILAND	30	6	16.03	3.97
A5	AUSTRALIA	SAUDI ARABIA	10	24	6.04	13.96
A6	JAPAN	SINGAPORE	26	19	12.16	7.84
A7	BANGLADESH B	HONG KONG CHINA A	20	31	6.77	13.23
A8	INDIA B	BYE			12	0

Round 14

A1	KOREA	BANGLADESH A	46	55	7.29	12.71
A2	HONG KONG CHINA B	INDIA A	27	32	8.42	11.58
A3	CHINA	THAILAND	55	1	19.83	0.17
A4	CHINESE TAIPEI	KUWAIT	25	29	8.72	11.28
A5	AUSTRALIA	SINGAPORE	43	36	12.16	7.84
A6	JAPAN	SAUDI ARABIA	41	49	7.56	12.44
A7	INDIA B	HONG KONG CHINA A	35	40	8.42	11.58
A8	BANGLADESH B	BYE			12	0

Round 15

1	KOREA	HONG KONG CHINA B	38	35	10.97	9.03
2	BANGLADESH A	INDIA A	6	43	1.96	18.04
3	CHINA	CHINESE TAIPEI	67	29	18.17	1.83
4	THAILAND	KUWAIT	39	24	14.19	5.81
5	AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	13	35	4.34	15.66
6	SINGAPORE	SAUDI ARABIA	42	44	9.34	10.66
7	INDIA B	BANGLADESH B	37	32	11.58	8.42
8	HONG KONG CHINA A	BYE			12	0

RANKING AFTER 15 ROUNDS

1		CHINA	218.31
2		HONG KONG CHINA A	196.72
3		INDIA A	186.47
4		BANGLADESH B	173.66
5		INDIA B	172.03
6		JAPAN	161.70
7		KOREA	157.48
8		AUSTRALIA	139.64
9		SAUDI ARABIA	133.78
10		BANGLADESH A	132.82
11		CHINESE TAIPEI	132.16
12		KUWAIT	127.07
13		HONG KONG CHINA B	125.65
14		SINGAPORE	125.42
15		THAILAND	95.09



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JUNE 27, 2026

For more details [click here](#)



FINAL RESULTS - MIXED

Round 13

21	SINGAPORE	CHINA B	28	34	8.13	11.87
22	AUSTRALIA A	INDIA A	43	14	16.88	3.12
23	HONG KONG CHINA B	CHINESE TAIPEI	24	34	7.03	12.97
24	THAILAND	CHINA A	13	40	3.45	16.55
25	AUSTRALIA B	INDIA B	19	49	2.96	17.04
26	HONG KONG CHINA A	JAPAN	36	17	15.06	4.94
27	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	BYE		12		0

RANKING AFTER 12 ROUNDS

1		CHINA A	169.23
2		CHINA B	163.92
3		HONG KONG CHINA A	155.43
4		AUSTRALIA A	141.14
5		INDIA B	135.90
6		JAPAN	133.21
7		HONG KONG CHINA B	123.35
8		SINGAPORE	123.27
10		THAILAND	118.97
11		UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	114.82
12		INDIA A	113.77
13		CHINESE TAIPEI	110.06
14		AUSTRALIA B	107.93

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TOTAL PRIZE MONEY


₹ 28.5 MILLION
(USD 300,232)

 02nd – 04th OCT 2026 | Mixed IMP Pairs Event (N K Gupta Memorial)

 05th – 10th OCT 2026 | Team of Four Gold (Naresh Tandan Trophy)

 05th – 10th OCT 2026 | Team of Four Silver (Mohini Tandan Trophy)

 07th – 10th OCT 2026 | Open MP Pairs (Neena Bonarji Trophy)

 09th – 10th OCT 2026 | IMP Pairs

 11th OCT 2026 | Swiss Teams

 11th OCT 2026 | ProAm Pairs

REGISTRATION FOR ALL EVENTS WILL START FROM

1ST JULY 2026



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FINAL RESULTS - SENIORS

Round 12

31	JAPAN	INDIA A	6	7	9.67	10.33
32	THAILAND	AUSTRALIA	12	20	7.56	12.44
33	INDIA B	MALAYSIA	52	8	18.87	1.13
34	CHINESE TAIPEI	BANGLADESH	8	33	3.79	16.21









Round 13

31	INDIA A	AUSTRALIA	24	35	6.77	13.23
32	THAILAND	JAPAN	32	37	8.42	11.58
33	BANGLADESH	INDIA B	27	24	10.97	9.03
34	MALAYSIA	CHINESE TAIPEI	27	32	8.42	11.58

Round 14

31	INDIA A	THAILAND	39	17	15.66	4.34
32	AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	8	12	8.72	11.28
33	CHINESE TAIPEI	INDIA B	3	40	1.96	18.04
34	MALAYSIA	BANGLADESH	15	36	4.54	15.46

RANKING AFTER 14 ROUNDS

1		INDIA B	144.67
2		AUSTRALIA	133.19
3		CHINESE TAIPEI	127.44
4		JAPAN	113.82
5		INDIA A	109.94
6		THAILAND	108.41
7		BANGLADESH	107.12
8		MALAYSIA	30.27



2026 ASIA-PACIFIC FALL TRANSNATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

November 1-7, 2026 | Qingdao Haitian Hotel, Qingdao, China

HIGHLIGHTS

- Held in the beautiful city of Qingdao, China, the finals will take place on the rooftop of Qingdao's tallest landmark building, offering breathtaking views of the clouds and the sea – a stunning combination of breathtaking scenery and a top bridge tournament.
- A truly international tournament, officiated by the World Bridge Federation's Chief Director.
- Featuring elegant English bulletins, professional report, an excellent service team, and delicious food, fine wine, and stunning views.
- The tournament will be broadcast globally through three major platforms: BBO, Bridge-Friends, and CCBA.org.cn

PRIZE

The top 8 of Open Teams, Swiss Cup, Open BAM Final A and Final B, all have prize.

ENTRY FEES, HOTEL RATE & MEAL

Entry fees:

- 1000 US\$ per team for all event
- 500 US\$ per team for single event
- 800 US\$ per team for double event

Hotel Rates:
Haitian Hotel (Host hotel) 900RMB per room include breakfast. The buffet of lunch and dinner is 398RMB/person.

EVENTS & FORMAT

- Asia-Pacific Fall Transnational Championships Open Teams – the main event
- Asia-Pacific Fall Transnational Championships Swiss Cup Teams – the second main event
- Asia-Pacific Fall Transnational Championships Open Board-a-Match Teams – the side event

All events have prize money.
There are three events in total. You can choose to participate in all of them, or participate in one or two of them separately.

OPEN TEAMS

1st	US\$50,000
2nd	US\$20,000
3rd	US\$15,000
4th	US\$10,000

DISCOUNT

- Registration before 30th June. Stay in at the designated hotel.
- Entry fee for free
- The hotel rate is 800RMB per room
- Meal discount: buffet is 200RMB/person



THE OPEN TEAM CHAMPION IS THAT IS TOP 4 OF OPEN TEAMS

US\$50,000

CONTACT & RESERVATION

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The Late Show

Thailand vs China A

Mark Horton

When you are working remotely and there is a considerable time difference, it is a good idea to make sure you are at your desk in good time. On this occasion, I was 20 minutes late, but my luck was in, as the early deals were not especially interesting. I elected to follow the fortunes of Thailand and China A in the Mixed Teams.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dechakulkamjorn	Xie	Ittinitikanful	Liao
—	Pass	1♦*	1♠
INT	Pass	2♣	2♠
Pass	Pass	3♣	Dble
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

1♦ 0+♦, 4+♥, 10-15

I was surprised North did not bid over INT. You might get votes for 2♠ and 2♦ (I'll leave you to consider what a jump to 3♦ might be played as). When South rebid spades North might have raised, but it proved to be a case of third time lucky and +680 gave **China A** 10 IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ QJ	♠ 73
♥ 1098	♥ KJ43
♦ Q6	♦ 975
♣ 987432	♣ AKQJ

♠ 652	♠ AK10984
♥ Q5	♥ A762
♦ AJ1083	♦ K42
♣ 1065	♣ —

W	N	E
	S	

Thailand v China A Open Room

West	North	East	South
Huang	Sasibut	Huang	Uthai
—	Pass	INT	2♦*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

2♦ One major
2♥ Pass or correct

When you know partner has a six-card suit it is unlikely to be wrong to raise spades. West led the ♦Q and declarer had twelve tricks, +230.



Ratprarorn Uthai, Thailand



Yan Huang, China

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ 107532	♠ AKJ4
♥ AQJ	♥ 3
♦ J1053	♦ Q2
♣ 9	♣ Q108764

♠ Q96
♥ K10654
♦ K964
♣ 2

W	N	E
	S	

♠ 8
♥ 9872
♦ A87
♣ AKJ53

Thailand v China A Open Room

West	North	East	South
Huang	Sasibut	Huang	Uthai
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

West led the ♠A and switched to the ♦J for the queen, king and ace. Declarer drew trumps and played a spade to the jack which meant two down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dechakulkamjorn	Xie	Ittinitikanful	Liao
—	—	2♥	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3♠	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

2♥ 5+♥ and 4+ ♣/♦ 8-11

East led the ♣2 and declarer won with dummy's ♣A and played three rounds of spades, ruffing, so +420 and 11 IMPs to **China A**, leading 29-6.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K 10 9 7 5 4	♠ 8 2	♠ A Q J 3
♥ J	♥ 6 4 2	♥ A K 8
♦ J 10 8 5	♦ 9 4 3 2	♦ A K 6
♣ 10 7	♣ A K 8 6	♦ J 5 3
	♠ 6	
	♥ Q 10 9 7 5 3	
	♦ Q 7	
	♣ Q 9 4 2	

Thailand v China A

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Huang	Sasibut	Huang	Uthai
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

North started with three rounds of clubs and declarer finished with 10 tricks, +420.



Yao Huang, China

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dechakulkamjorn	Xie	Ittinitikanful	Liao
2♦*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	6♠	All Pass

- 2♦ Weak major
- 2NT 16+ any or invitational with both majors
- 3♠ Minimum
- 4NT RKCB
- 5♦ One keycard

North led the ♣K, cashed the ♣A and exited with the ♣8. Declarer also lost a diamond so -100 and 11 IMPs to **China A**.

Although East's bidding was optimistic it is worth noting that absent a club lead you at least have a play for 12 tricks.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ J 8 5	♠ 9 4	♠ Q 6 2
♥ 7	♥ 10 6 5 4 2	♥ K 3
♦ A 8 7 5	♦ K Q J	♦ 9 6 4
♣ Q J 8 5 2	♣ 7 4 3	♣ A K 10 9 6
	♠ A K 10 7 3	
	♥ A Q J 9 8	
	♦ 10 3 2	
	♣ —	

Thailand v China A

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Huang	Sasibut	Huang	Uthai
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	Pass	1NT	2♥
Dble*	Pass	3♣	Pass
Pass	3♥	Pass	Pass
4♣	Dble	All Pass	

It is rarely wrong to raise partner with four-card support, so having a fifth card should be considered a bonus. It even occurred to me that North might jump to 4♦ over West's double, but that is stretching the principle of the fit jump to its limits!

South led the ♠A and when North followed with the ♠4 declarer played the ♠6. South continued with the ♠K followed by the ♠10 and North ruffed and returned the ♥6 for the king and ace, South switching to the ♦3 which meant three down, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dechakulkamjorn	Xie	Ittinitikanful	Liao
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	INT	2♣	3♥
5♣	5♥	All Pass	

West led the ♣Q and declarer ruffed, cashed the ♥A and then played three rounds of spades, claiming, +450, but 2 IMPs to **Thailand**.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

	♠ 6	
	♥ Q 10 9 6	
	♦ 7 6 4 3	
	♣ 10 8 4 2	
♠ A J 10 9 4		♠ 7 3
♥ A 7		♥ K J 4 2
♦ A K Q J		♦ 10 9 5
♣ J 5		♣ A K Q 9
	♠ K Q 8 5 2	
	♥ 8 5 3	
	♦ 8 3	
	♣ 7 6 3	



Thailand v China A

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Huang	Sasibut	Huang	Uthai
—	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	6♣	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

1♦ 1+♦ 11-15

2♦ Two-way checkback

After East's well reasoned jump to 6♣ I had time to make a coffee and prepare a slice of toast before West bid 6♦.

South led the ♦8 and declarer cashed four tricks in the suit, discarding the ♥2, while South parted with the ♣6 and ♥8. After cashing four clubs the operator announced a claim of 12 tricks, +1440.

If West had passed 6♣ I would have had a good story, a successful breach of *Burn's Law* at the six level!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dechakulkamjorn	Xie	Ittinitikanful	Liao
—	Pass	1♦*	Pass
1♥*	Pass	1♠*	Pass
INT*	Pass	2♠*	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

1♦ 0+♦, 4+♥ 10-15
1♥ Game forcing 12+

I cannot tell you exactly what West knew from the responses to the relays, but it was enough to bid the slam.

North led the ♦7 and declarer cashed eight minor suit winners discarding the ♥2 from hand and two spades from dummy. A spade saw South play the ♠Q and declarer could win and claim, +1440.

It's worth mentioning that the detailed EW convention card includes suggested defences to the opening bids of 1♦, 1♥, 1♠ & 2♣.

China A had won this entertaining encounter 40-13, 16.55-3.45 and continued to lead.



Nanlapas Ittinitikul, Thailand

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The Sands of Time



India A vs Australia



Mark Horton

With only two matches remaining it was a case of *now or never* for many teams. In the Senior Teams India A was hoping for a good result against second placed Australia.

Board 15. Dealer South. NISVul.

<p>♠ 10963 ♥ J ♦ QJ872 ♣ KJ5</p>	<p>♠ 752 ♥ AK9765 ♦ — ♣ Q862</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>♠ AQ8 ♥ 10843 ♦ 10543 ♣ A9</p>	<p>♠ KJ5 ♥ Q2 ♦ AK96 ♣ 10743</p>	
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India A v Australia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Hedge	Thomson	Samant
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	2♥*	Dble	3♥
Dble*	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	All Pass		

North led the ♥AK and declarer ruffed and played a diamond to the ace. A second diamond cost an extra undertrick, three down, -150.



Anand Samant, India

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Phatarphekar	Gill	Sridhar	Hudson
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
2♣	Drury		
2♦			

On this benign layout declarer inevitably took 12 tricks for +680 and 11 IMPs to **Australia**.

On the next deal NS held ♠Q9 ♥QJ1095 ♦763 ♣J109 opposite ♠AJ642 ♥A ♦AQJ102 ♣K8. Both sides played in the hopeless 3NT going four down. In the Closed Room East had bid clubs and North had given preference to spades. Although 4♠ can be defeated, in practice West would almost certainly have led a club and with East holding ♠K75 ♥874 ♦5 ♣AQ7543 declarer would have been likely to take 10 tricks.

Board 19. Dealer south. E/WVul.

<p>♠ A87 ♥ K94 ♦ 94 ♣ AQJ96</p>	<p>♠ 93 ♥ AQ10752 ♦ J10762 ♣ —</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p>♠ J106 ♥ 63 ♦ KQ853 ♣ 543</p>	<p>♠ KQ542 ♥ J8 ♦ A ♣ K10872</p>	
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India A v Australia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Hedge	Thomson	Samant
—	—	—	Pass
1♣*	2NT*	3♥*	5♦
Pass	Pass	6♣	Pass
Pass	Dble*	All Pass	
2NT	Hearts and diamonds		
3♥	Spades		

North's double was alerted. If it promised one defensive trick South should perhaps have bid 6♦. That's a cheap save and East might have tried 6♠. Declarer won the diamond lead perforce with dummy's ♦A and was soon claiming, +1540

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Phatarphekar	Gill	Sridhar	Hudson
—	—	—	2♦
Dble	5♦	6♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

South led the ♦K, but there was no way to avoid the loss of two hearts, one down, -200. Could East bid 5NT asking partner to pick a slam? It was 17 IMPs to **Australia** taking the score to 28-0.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ K	♠ AQJ82	♠ 109753
♥ AK10764	♥ J942	♥ Q83
♦ K63	♦ J5	♦ Q98
♣ K107	♣ Q2	♣ 83
	♠ 64	
	♥ —	
	♦ A10742	
	♣ AJ9654	



India A v Australia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Hedge	Thomson	Samant
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	1♠	Pass	2♦
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	3♥	All Pass



Terry Brown, Australia

North led the ♦J and when declarer put up dummy's ♦Q South won and returned the ♦4 (double dummy the ♦10 is better, but a spade is also a good choice) declarer winning in dummy. At this point a club towards the king is a good move, but declarer played a heart to the ace, South discarding the ♣4. Declarer exited with the ♠K and North won and continued with the ♠Q. Declarer ruffed, played a heart to the queen, a club to the king and exited with the ♣10. South won with the ♣A and played a diamond, North ruffing and exiting with the ♥J. South's ♣J was the setting trick, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Phatarphekar	Gill	Sridhar	Hudson
—	—	—	1♦
1♥	1♠	Pass	2♣
2♥	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

2♣ Diamonds



Vijay Phatarphekar, India

West led the ♥A and declarer ruffed (would you have found the discard of a spade or a club?) and played a spade for the king and ace. The ♣Q lost to the ♣K and West played a second heart for the nine and queen, declarer ruffing and playing the ace and jack of clubs. East ruffed and returned the ♠5 (a heart is best) declarer winning in dummy as West discarded a heart.

When declarer continued with the ♠J West ruffed and played the ♥K. Declarer ruffed and could now have got home by playing two rounds of diamonds. When he ruffed a club with the ♦J East overruffed and played a spade, ruffed (discarding saves a trick) and overruffed by West who exited with the ♥10, East's ruff ensuring a trick for West's ♦6. That was two down, -200 and 7 IMPs to **India A**.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 2	♠ J 9 8 7 5 4	♠ A
♥ A 3	♥ 8 6 4	♥ Q 10 7 2
♦ K Q 10 9 7 6 2	♦ 5 3	♦ 4
♣ A 8 6	♣ K 7	♣ Q J 10 9 5 4 2

♠ K Q 10 6 3	♠ A
♥ K J 9 5	♥ Q 10 7 2
♦ A J 8	♦ 4
♣ 3	♣ Q J 10 9 5 4 2



Peter Gill, Australia

India A v Australia

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brown	Hedge	Thomson	Samant
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♦	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♦	5♠	All Pass	

West led the ♦K and declarer won and played the ♠2 East winning and switching to the ♥2. Declarer put in the ♥5 and West took the ♥A, cashed the ♦Q and the ♣A for two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Phatarphekar	Gill	Sridhar	Hudson
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
3♦	3♠	Pass	4♠
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

North led the ♠8 and having won with dummy's ♠A declarer played a diamond to the ten. South won the ♦K with the ace and exited with the ♠K, declarer ruffing, cashing the ♦Q and playing the ♣6. When North withheld the ♣K declarer had an overtrick, +650 and 10 IMPs to **India A**.

Not easy for North to find a heart lead, but partner is not doubling with spade tricks.

Australia had won 35-24, 13.23 -6.77VP and remained in second place while India A would need some luck to qualify.



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India B v Bangladesh B



Mark Horton

When I was a young man we would sometimes form a syndicate and play a fruit machine. When our cash was almost exhausted someone would calculate how many spins we had left and make an announcement of some sort – '10 spins to save the world' was one I recall. In the final qualifying round the teams could say they had '14 boards to save the world'.

The luck of the draw meant that India B and Bangladesh B (fourth and fifth respectively) were in opposition.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 97 ♥ 962 ♦ J8543 ♣ K84		♠ K3 ♥ Q74 ♦ AK2 ♣ AQJ72	♠ 8653 ♥ 83 ♦ Q976 ♣ 1063
♠ AQJ104 ♥ AKJ105 ♦ 10 ♣ 95			

India B v Bangladesh B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hossain	Kushari	UI Haque	Bendre
—	—	2NT*	Dble*
3NT	4♠	Dble	All Pass

2NT 20-22
 Dble Both majors

East led the ♦K and then played the ♣A followed by the ♣Q. West overtaking and continuing with a third club. Declarer ruffed with the ♠10, played three rounds of hearts ruffing in dummy and the ♠8. When East followed with the ♠2 declarer let it run and had snatched defeat from the jaws of victory, one down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Datta	Ahasan	Manna	Rahman
—	—	2NT*	3♣*
3NT	All Pass		
2NT	(19)20-21		
3♣	Majors		

South started with the ♥A, ♥K and ♥J and declarer could muster only eight tricks, -50 and 6 IMPs to **Bangladesh B**.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K ♥ Q94 ♦ 753 ♣ AQ9763		♠ 102 ♥ 87653 ♦ AK86 ♣ J5	♠ 8764 ♥ KJ ♦ J94 ♣ K1084
♠ AQJ953 ♥ A102 ♦ Q102 ♣ 2			

India B v Bangladesh B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hossain	Kushari	UI Haque	Bendre
1♣	Pass	1♥	1♠
Dble*	3♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Dble Heart support
 3♣ Spade raise

West led the ♥4 and when dummy's ♥J held declarer played a spade to the queen and was one down.



Sayantana Kushari, India

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Datta	Ahasan	Manna	Rahman
1♣	Pass	1♥	1♠
Dble*	2♠	3♥	3♠
All Pass			

Dble Heart support

South ignored Meckstroth's Law, and given that he won the opening lead with the ♥J and played a spade to the ace, he must have been pleased to discover that +170 added 7 IMPs to **Bangladesh B's** total.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ A 7 5	♠ J 10 8	♠ K Q 9 4 3
♥ Q J 10 8 3 2	♥ A K 5 4	♥ 6
♦ J 2	♦ Q 8 7 4	♦ A K 3
♣ A 7	♣ J 3	♣ Q 8 6 4
	♠ 6 2	
	♥ 9 7	
	♦ 10 9 6 5	
	♣ K 10 9 5 2	



India B v Bangladesh B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hossain	Kushari	UI Haque	Bendre
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South led the ♣2 and declarer won with the ♣Q and played a heart for the queen and ace. He took the club return with dummy's ♣A, came to hand with a diamond and ruffed a club, North overruffing and exiting with the ♥4. Declarer ruffed, played two rounds of diamonds, ruffing and ruffed a heart with the ♠9. When South could not overruff declarer ruffed his last club and was assured of 10 tricks, +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Datta	Ahasan	Manna	Rahman
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Here South led the ♦10 and declarer won and played two rounds of clubs, North winning with the ♣J and returning the ♦4. Declarer won and ruffed a club, but

North overruffed and exited with the ♠J. Declarer won with the ♠K and ruffed a club, but there were only nine tricks, -50 and 11 more IMPs went to **Bangladesh B**.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ J 9 5 3	♠ A 10 7 6	♠ 8 4 2
♥ Q J 5 2	♥ 10 9 8 3	♥ A 7 6
♦ 9 5	♦ J 8	♦ Q 7 6 4
♣ J 6 4	♣ Q 9 7	♣ K 8 5
	♠ K Q	
	♥ K 4	
	♦ A K 10 3 2	
	♣ A 10 3 2	



India B v Bangladesh B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hossain	Kushari	UI Haque	Bendre
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West led the ♥Q and declarer won with the ♥K and played a diamond for the jack and queen, East continuing with two rounds of hearts. Having won with the ♥J West exited with the ♥2 and declarer won in dummy and cashed his diamonds. West was forced to come down to ♠J95 ♣J so in theory declarer could make an overtrick by overtaking the second spade with dummy's ♠A and playing the ♣Q, but that's the sort of thing you might do when playing pairs, +600.



Shah Ziaul Haque, Bangladesh

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Datta	Ahasan	Manna	Rahman
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3♠*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Here West led the ♥2 (you are playing partner for something in the suit, so it should be preferred to the ♥Q) East winning and returning the ♥7 to declarer's ♥K. Declarer unblocked the spades and then played a diamond for the jack and queen, East winning and exiting with a heart. West took two tricks in the suit and got off play with the ♦9 leaving declarer with a losing club for one down and 12 IMPs to **India B**.

If declarer had put in dummy's ♦8 on the first round of the suit East could win with the ♦Q and play a heart, but declarer then has every chance to make with a good guess in clubs when West exits in that suit.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

	♠ J 10 5		
	♥ 5 3 2		
	♦ 10 6 5 2		
	♣ J 6 2		
♠ AK 6		♠ Q 9	
♥ K J		♥ AQ 9	
♦ K J 8 3		♦ AQ 9	
♣ K 7 4 3		♣ AQ 10 8 5	
	♠ 8 7 4 3 2		
	♥ 10 8 7 6 4		
	♦ 7 4		
	♣ 9		



India B v Bangladesh B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hossain	Kushari	UI Haque	Bendre
—	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♣	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♦*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

2NT	20-22, five-card major possible.
3♠	Minor suit Stayman
4NT	RKCB
5♦	3 keycards
5♥	♣Q?
5♠	Yes

South led the ♠8, +1470.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Datta	Ahasan	Manna	Rahman
—	Pass	2NT*	Pass
7NT	All Pass		
2NT	(19)20-21		

There is a certain satisfaction to be gained by being able to remove all the bidding cards at your first turn. South led the ♥8, +2220 and 13 IMPs to **India B**, back on level terms at 25-25.



Md Rashedul Ahasan, Bangladesh

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

	♠ 5 4		
	♥ A J 9 7 3		
	♦ J 2		
	♣ A J 5 4		
♠ 9 2		♠ AQ 8 7 6	
♥ Q 8 5 4		♥ K 6	
♦ Q 9 8 5 3		♦ A 7 4	
♣ Q 3		♣ K 8 2	
	♠ K J 10 3		
	♥ 10 2		
	♦ K 10 6		
	♣ 10 9 7 6		



India B v Bangladesh B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hossain	Kushari	UI Haque	Bendre
—	—	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♥*	All Pass	

2♥ Hearts and a minor

East led the ♠A and then played the ♦A followed by the ♦7, declarer taking dummy's ♦K and fatally playing the ♥10 rather than the ♥2 (that's the second example from this tournament). East won and forced declarer with a diamond, West winning the club continuation with the ♣Q. Another diamond is a killer at this point, but West exited with the ♣3 and declarer won with the ♣A and was now in a position to make by playing a spade to the

ten. He then finesses in hearts and exits with a club and the defenders are helpless.

However, he played a third club and that allowed West to discard his remaining spade. He could ruff West's spade exit and play a diamond, ensuring a trick for the ♠Q, two down, -200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Datta	Ahasan	Manna	Rahman
—	—	INT	All Pass

South led the ♣10 for the queen and ace and declarer won the third round of the suit and played the ♦A followed by a diamond to the queen and the ♠9. South won with the ♠J, cashed the ♣6 and the ♦K but when North pitched the ♠5 it cost the defenders a trick, declarer winning the spade exit and claiming six tricks, -50 and 7 IMPs to **Bangladesh B**.

To be clear, if South switches to the ♥10 after the spade discard declarer withholds the ♥K! IF North wins the next heart with the ♥A dummy takes the rest, while ducking allows declarer to win and endplay South in spades.



Kaustubh Bendre, India

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ KJ874	♠ 109632	♠ AQ
♥ AJ	♥ 4	♥ Q853
♦ AQ94	♦ J76	♦ 10853
♣ K3	♣ AQ95	♣ 1087

♠ 5	♠ 5
♥ K109762	♥ K109762
♦ K2	♦ K2
♣ J764	♣ J764

India B v Bangladesh B

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hossain	Kushari	Ul Haque	Bendre
—	Pass	Pass	2♥
Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the ♣4 and after taking three tricks in the suit South switched to the ♥7, declarer winning with dummy's ♥J and playing two rounds of spades. A diamond to the queen was followed by the ♠K but there were only eight tricks, one down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Datta	Ahasan	Manna	Rahman
—	Pass	Pass	2♦*
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the ♣5 and declarer won with the ♣K, played a spade to the queen, a heart to the jack, a spade to the ace and a diamond to the queen, +600 and 12 IMPs to **India B**.

They now led 37-32 but it was not enough. Although they won 11.58-8.42 VP Bangladesh B still had a 1.63 VP advantage.

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