

Bulletin Number 4

Saturday, May 10, 2003

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Fantoni-Nunes Lead 2003 Cavendish Pairs

After one day, two sessions, and 56 boards Fulvio Fantoni and Claudio Nunes, the reigning World Pairs Champions, lead the 2003 Cavendish Pairs with a score of 1839 cross-imps. After a big first session in which they led second place by over 300 cross-imps (sounds good, but the equivalent of only about 13 "real" imps), they backed it up with a modest sixth-place finish in the second session to hold on to a narrow 27 cross-imp (about 1+ "real" imp) lead. In second place with 1812 cross-imps is Mike Passell and Eddie Wold, while third place is held by Gary Cohler and two-time winner Harry Tudor with 1680 cross-imps.

Fred Gitelman and Brad Moss can boast the largest single-session score of the day when they topped the evening session with 1162 cross-imps, followed closely by Passell-Wold (with 1132 in the evening). In case you're into looking over your shoulder (and well you should based on last year's event), Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein are currently in 21st place with 157 cross-imps. Other notable pairs include Michal Kwiecien and Jacek Pszczola, winners two years ago and currently in 37th place with –521, Walid El Ahmady and Tarek Sadak, last year's runners up and currently in fourth place with 1580, Jeff Meckstroth and Perry Johnson, winners of this year's team event and currently in sixth place with 1143, and Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson, third in last year's event and currently in 30th place with –98. Other high-price pairs are Buratti-Lanzarotti, currently in 11th place with 528, Balicki-Zmudzinski, currently in 15th place with 357, Berkowitz-Cohen, currently in 19th place with 278, and Hamman-Zia, currently in 23rd place with 109. Complete standing can be found on page 3.

Special Notice: World Bridge Productions Pairs Pre-Auction

In order to generate interest and facilitate the live WBP Pairs auction, to be held on Saturday morning, May 10, provisions have been made to accept bids prior to the start of the live auction. Here's how it will work:

Arrayed around the Registration Desk will be preliminary owners' cards for all expected participants. (Not all of these pairs may attend, but the vast majority is expected.) If you wish to bid on a pair you may do so by entering the amount of your bid on the pair's card and signing your name opposite the bid amount (minimum bid = \$1000). These bids will be considered binding, just as if they were made in the live auction. If your bid is not topped in either the pre- or live auctions you will become the owner of the pair and have all of the attendant rights and responsibilities. Remember, each pair must buy back 10% of their purchase price and may buy back up to 40% of themselves if they are so inclined.

Please confirm your bids with the appropriate parties at the Registration Desk.

Gamblers Non-Anonymous

Those players intending to gamble at the Mirage during their stay are advised to register at the Players Club desk located in the casino area; or check with Billy Rosenbaum, who has cards for most players. It will be in your own best interest and that of the WBP for you to do so.

Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2003: Dedicated to the Memory of Joe Jabon

(Based on information available at press time. This is unofficial. Updates will be published as they become available.) Pair # Pair #

1 0	II II	i ai	ι π
1	Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay	13	Kent Mignocchi – Beverly Perry
2	Allan Graves – Brian Maksymetz	14	Vincent Demuy – Gavin Wolpert
3	Lenny Holtz – Renee Mancuso	15	Lynn Baker – Debbie Rosenberg
4	Terri Casen – Larry Cohen	16	Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamon
5	Roger Lord – Jaqueline Sincoff	17	Alan Cokin – Harold Lilie
6	Leonard Ernst – Richard Halperin	18	Lars Froeland – Aksel Hornslien
7	Mike Cappelletti Jr. – Lou Ann O'Rourke	19	Steve Cox – Marshal Lewis
8	Russ Samuel – Shawn Samuel	20	Les Amoils – Darren Wolpert
9	Mark Lair – Jim Mahaffey	21	Simon Kantor – Jim Robison
10	Kyle Larsen – Jo Morse	22	Garey Hayden – Barbara Kasle
11	Rob Crawford – Dan Jacob	23	Marjorie Michelin – Bob Morris
12	Dan Klein – George Mittelman	24	Harold Feldheim – Jim Murphy

Two Coups with Different Results

by Sam Leckie, Scotland

In the first session of the pairs Mouiel-Levy produced a coup by bidding to a slam from the right side. Their unlucky opponents were Jacobus-Lev.

Bd: 16	♠ J654	1	
Dir: West	♥ J107		
Vul: E/W	♦ K10	0.2	
	∳ Q		
AK9	14		▲
♥ Q853			♥ AK9
♦ AJ96			♦ 87543
◆ A330 ♣ J6			◆ 67/343 ◆ AK1053
▼ 10	▲ ○10	0722	AR1055
	♠ Q10	0132	
	♡		
	♦ Q2		
	♣ 9874	42	
West	North	East	South
Levy	Lev	Mouiel	
1NT	2♡	2NT	Pass
3	Pass	30	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♡	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	- v 6 ∲	Pass
4 ≨ 6♦	All Pass	VI	1 400

This was worth a bundle of points as many pairs either missed it or played from the wrong side, losing a heart ruff.

And now a question: Does Zia ever play a flat board? Look at the hand at the top of the next column.

Bd: 9	♠ AQJ	5			
Dir: North	♥ 942	•			
Vul: E/W	♦ 1063	3			
	♣ Q73				
♠ 62		♦	94		
♡ AK86		\heartsuit	J10753		
♦ J852		\$	Q		
🕭 KJ8		¥	A9542		
	♠ K10	873			
	ŸQ				
	♦ AK974				
	& 106				
West	North	East	South		
Rodwell	Hamman	Dawson	Zia		
			1♠		
Dbl	2NT	3♡	4♠		
All Pass					

The bidding seemed normal and when Rodwell led the ♥K and it seemed the contract was destined for down one, losing two clubs, a heart and a diamond. No more, no less. At trick two Rodwell switched to the ♦2 and when Dawson played the queen Zia ducked without hesitation. Now if diamonds are three-two only a club return beats the contract. But Dawson now played ace and another club and Rodwell was able to give him a diamond ruff for two down.

"I must be the only man on the planet who could go two down on this hand" Zia commented. Hamman was not about to contradict him.

2003 Cavendish Pairs: Standings After Day One

Rank	Score	Pair Auction Price	ce (in \$K)	Rank	Score	Pair Auction Price	(in \$K)
1	1839	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	\$30	26	-13	Grant Baze – Michael Whitman	\$12.5
2	1812	Mike Passell – Eddie Wold	\$26	27	-35	Curtis Cheek – Billy Miller	\$20
3	1680	Gary Cohler – Harry Tudor	\$12.5	28	-75	George Jacobs – Ralph Katz	\$12.5
4	1580	Walid El Ahmady – Tarek Sadek	\$18	29	-77	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	\$12.5
5	1451	Glenn Milgrim – Chris Willenken	\$12.5	30	-98	Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson	\$37
6	1143	Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	\$21	31	-110	Alan Sontag – Lew Stansby	\$28
7	884	Bjorn Fallenius – Roy Welland	\$17	32	-261	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	\$19
8	827	Fred Gitelman – Brad Moss	\$25	33	-314	Paul Chemla – Christian Mari	\$22
9	800	Ross Grabel – Jon Wittes	\$14	34	-328	Marc Jacobus – Sam Lev	\$19
10	712	Valerio Giubilo – Alfredo Versace	\$16	35	-346	Bill Passell – Aubrey Strul	\$12.5
11	528	Andrea Buratti – Massimo Lanzarott	i \$34	36	-475	Pierre Saporta – Pierre Zimmerman	n\$12.5
12	511	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	\$14	37	-521	Michael Kwiecien – Jacek Pszczola	\$36
13	376	Dennis Dawson – Eric Rodwell	\$12.5	38	-527	Alain Levy – Herve Mouiel	\$20
14	358	Piotr Gawrys – Krzysztof Jassem	\$25	39	-616	Russ Ekeblad – Ron Rubin	\$12.5
15	357	Cezary Balicki – Adam Zmudzinski	\$34	40	-643	Drew Casen – Richard Schwartz	\$12.5
16	337	Peter Bertheau – Fredrik Nystrom	\$20	41	-661	Nicola Del Buono – Benito Garozzo	\$12.5
17	334	Boye Brogeland – Espen Erichsen	\$18	42	-858	Nels Erickson – Gene Freed	\$12.5
18	311	Peter Fredin – Magnus Lindkvist	\$21	43	-936	Jan Jansma – Louk Verhees	\$17
19	278	David Berkowitz – Larry Cohen	\$31	44	-1022	Chris Compton – Gaylor Kasle	\$12.5
20	203	Doug Doub – Adam Wildavsky	\$12.5	45	-1080	Andrei Gromov – Alexsander Petrur	in \$22
21	157	Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein	\$40	46	-1321	Sabine Auken – Daniela Von Arnim	\$12.5
22	128	Jimmy Cayne – Geir Helgemo	\$15	47	-1404	Luis Lantaron – Juan Ventin	\$12.5
23	109	Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood	\$33	48	-1494	Billy Cohen – Ron Smith	\$21
24	95	Joe Grue – Mike Moss	\$13	49	-1783	Rose Meltzer – Peter Weichsel	\$12.5
25	0	Giorgio Duboin – Guido Ferraro	\$22	50	-1975	Andy Robson – Rita Shugart	\$12.5

Auction Total: \$973K



Overall and Session Awards Cavendish Pairs



		Session			(From Players'	Overalls		
Place	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	Pool)	Auction	Players
1 st			\$5,000	\$5,000	\$15,000	(\$5,000)	\$231,350	\$26,810
2 nd			\$2,500	\$2,500	\$10,000	(\$3,000)	\$148,724	\$17,236
3 rd			\$1,000	\$1,000	\$ 5,000	(\$2,500)	\$ 99,150	\$11,490
4 th					\$ 3,000		\$ 74,362	\$ 8,618
5 th							\$ 66,100	\$ 7,660
6 th							\$ 57,838	\$ 6,702
7 th							\$ 49,576	\$ 5,744
8 th							\$ 41,312	\$ 4,788
9 th							\$ 33,050	\$ 3,830
10 th							\$ 24,788	\$ 2,872

The 2003 Cavendish Pairs: Day One

Session One:

Geoff Hampson and Eric Greco picked up yesterday in the pairs where they left off the day before in the teams.

Bd: 2	♠ Q74		
Dlr: East	♡ K543		
Vul: N/S	♦ 10		
	뢒 KQ984		
& 86		🛧 AKJ9	
♡ J98		ŸQ	
♦ AKJ6		♦ Q8732	
4 10753		♣ A62	
	♠ 10532		
	♡ A10762		
	♦ 954		
	秦 J		

The field was playing in diamond partscores, with ten tricks being the norm. Hampson elected to open the East hand 14-16 notrump and was raised to game. When the heart lead rode around to his bare queen, Hampson had nine tricks and a swing against the rest of the field.

Bd: 4	🛦 AK9	
Dlr: West	♡ J108	
Vul: Both	♦ 105	
	🕭 AJ984	
♠ Q1084		♠ 752
♡ Q752		♡ A4
♦ Q743		♦ J6
♣ 5		📥 KQ10732
	🛧 J63	
	♡ K963	
	♦ AK982	
	\$ 6	

El Ahmady and Sadek met Ventin-Lantaron in Round Two and had the partnership methods to catch their opponents speeding. After the auction...

West	North	East	South
Levin	El Ahmadi	Weinstein	Sadek
Pass	1 ♣	Pass	1�
Pass	1NT	2♣	

Sadek doubled for takeout and El Ahmady was delighted to pass. Perfect defense might net 1100 (a diamond lead and a spade shift, followed by a heart) but Sadek cashed both top diamonds and led a heart. Ventin looked this gift horse in the mouth by not putting up the \Im Q, and now found himself losing five plain-suit tricks and three trumps for –800. While a fair percentage of the field reached the thin 3NT contract

and brought home nine tricks, +800 was still worth 166 cross-imps.

Bd: 7	♠ J10642	
DIr: South	♡ 865	
Vul: Both	\$ К	
	🕭 K875	
🛧 AK83		♠ Q75
♡ KJ92		♡ A107
♦ 10		♦ AQJ72
♣ QJ93		♣ A6
	♠ 9	
	♡ Q43	
	♦ 986543	
	& 1042	

Just how good a slam is 6NT here? George Jacobs and Ralph Katz reached it on the aution 1 \pm -2NT; 3NT-4NT (17-19); 5NT(pick a slam)-6 \diamond ; 6 \heartsuit -6NT. Von Arnim and Auken reached 6 \heartsuit on a highly complex auction. The four-three fit offered a few extra chances but essentially, with the \heartsuit Q conveniently placed and both minor-suit kings in the slot, twelve tricks were very straightforward.

Bd: 9	🛧 AQJ5	
DIr: North	♡ 942	
Vul: E/W	♦ 1063	
	♣ Q73	
♠ 62		♠ 94
♡ AK86		♡ J10753
♦ J852		♦Q
🕭 KJ8		♣ A9542
	♠ K10873	
	ŸQ	
	♦ AK974	
	\$ 106	

Almost everyone reached 4 here, and found a disappointing dummy in terms of the minor-suit honors. And almost every declarer tried the same finagle: The typical defense tried to cash two hearts. Declarer ruffed and drew trumps in two rounds ending in dummy, led a low diamond to the queen and king, then innocently advanced a low diamond from hand hoping West would be asleep at the switch. (Variations on this theme came when West shifted to a diamond at trick two: Zia *ducked* this but only succeeded in running into a diamond ruff for two down.) As far as we could determine, in the entire field only Helgemo and Sadek were successful in sneaking a diamond through to the ten.

Helgemo is well known as an escape artist. He needed more than a little help to come home with seven tricks here...

Bd: 10	♠ 10543		
DIr: East	♡ Q75		
Vul: Both	♦ 109		
	🕭 J876		
🛦 KJ6		♦ 987	
♡ A4		♡ J1086	
♦ Q85		♦ K643	
109542		\Lambda AK	
	🛧 AQ2		
	♡ K932		
	♦ AJ72		
	♣ Q3		

The auction was: (1 \diamond)-1NT-(DbI)-AP. Helgemo, as South, received a fourth highest club lead. Normal defense appears to be to unblock the clubs and play a spade through, which seems to hold declarer to no more than five tricks. But at trick two East played the \heartsuit J, which ran to dummy's queen. Helgemo now played the \heartsuit 5 from dummy—and ran it to the ace!

Back came the $\clubsuit2$ to the ace, which East read as suit preference and shifted to a diamond to West's queen. If West returns a club now, declarer has seven tricks by leading the $\diamond10$ from dummy. So West exited with a low diamond to the ten, queen and ace. Helgemo now exited with a low spade, West took his jack, but could do no better than get off play with the $\diamond8$. Helgemo cashed his red-suit winners, then exited with the \diamondAQ to force West to concede trick thirteen to dummy's \bigstarJ .

Depending on your weak two-bid style, the West hand on Board 12 either looks like a classic weak two or nothing like one at all.

Bd: 12	♠ K7	
DIr: West	♡ A6	
Vul: N/S	♦ A976543	
	4 2	
		♠ A52
♡ 97		♡ QJ853
♦ 102		♦
♣ AJ10		♣ KQ985
	♠ Q10	
	♡ K1042	
	♦ KQJ8	
	• 763	

If you believe in getting your blows in first, you'll open 2•, push your opponents to $5\diamond$, and then East should surely choose to defend, though at many tables (for example, against Verhees-Jansma and Berkowitz-Cohen) East took the unilateral save in 5•. That netted the Dutchmen 300 and the Americans 500 (and no, we won't spell out the line that led to 500 other than to say that the world-class declarer lost *three* trump tricks to achieve that result).

Passell-Wold did even better when West chose to pass:

West	North	East	South	
	Passell		Wold	
Pass	1�	1♡	2♡	
Pass	3\$	Pass	3NT	
All Pass				

There was no way on this auction that it was going to be that easy to cash out; on a heart lead Wold took his nine top tricks for +600 and a great result.

Bd: 15	♠ QJ1097653	
DIr: South	♡ K74	
Vul: N/S	♦ QJ	
	♣	
♦K		♠ A84
♡ 932		♡ AJ86
♦ K7632		♦ 98
🕭 AKJ9		♣ 8632
	♠ 2	
	♡ Q105	
	♦ A1054	
	♣ Q10754	

Peter Fredin needs to keep up his reputation for finding one call no one else would consider in every set. He achieved his goal here when, after the auction went $1 \oint (3 \oint)$ -Dbl-(P), he tried 3NT by virtue of his "partial" spade stop. The $\oint Q$ lead went to his king and he advanced the $\oint A$ to find the good and bad news. Next he played a heart to the eight and ten and when his RHO got out with a small diamond he hopped up with the king, led a heart to the ace, a club to the nine, and exited with a third heart. The defense now fell from grace: The winning line is to cash the $\Diamond A10$ and lead a low diamond, locking declarer in hand to concede a club at the end. But what happened was that when North led the $\Diamond Q$ South ducked and now North had to give dummy an entry for the spade and heart tricks *and* the second club finesse. Contract made!

Geir Helgemo reached the same 3NT contract on the identical auction (what is it about Scandinavians not needing stoppers for notrump?) and also received a spade lead to his king. He ducked a diamond at once and North did well to win and shift to a low heart to South's ten. A heart return would now have guaranteed defeating the contract but instead South played a club. Had Helgemo been up to finessing he would have immediately guaranteed his contract. But he rose with the ace and ducked a second heart. South, in for the second time, could once again have guaranteed the set by exiting with a heart. But he chose to exit with a low diamond and Helgemo now rose with the king, played a heart to the ace, cashed his heart and spade winners and caught South in a strip-squeeze in the minors to come home with nine tricks.

Bd: 16	♠ J65	4		
DIr: West	♡ J10	7642		
Vul: E/W	♦ K10)		
	♣ Q			
🛦 AK9		ļ	★	
♡ Q853		(⊅ AK9	
♦ AJ96		•	◊ 87543	
♣ J6		e	AK1053	
	♠ Q10	08732		
	♡			
	♦ Q2			
	& 987	'42		
West	North	East	South	
Meltzer		Weichse	1	
1NT	2�(1)	3♣	Pass	
3NT	Pass	4�	Pass	
4♠ (2)	Pass	5NT(3)	Pass	
6\$	All Pass			
(1) Unspec	ified major;	(2) Cue-bio	d; (3) Pick a slan	า

Weichsel and Meltzer bid this hand very competently. Weichsel received the \$2 lead, six, queen, ace. He now led a diamond up and took 5 minutes to decide which was more likely, four-zero diamonds or that Wildavsky (South) was long in hearts (with only three spades out was that even possible?). He misguessed, playing low from dummy, and went two down instead of making.

Wold and Passell were perhaps the luckiest pair in the room here; they reached 6 \diamond from the wrong side against Greco-Hampson (on the auction: 1NT-(2 \heartsuit)-3 \clubsuit (\diamond , invit+)-P; 3NT-P-6 \clubsuit -P; 6 \diamond -AP) and got the \clubsuit Q lead...after which there was no danger of misguessing trumps.

Bd: 19	A 10	200	
	♠ AJ5	032	
DIr: South	♡5		
Vul: E/W	♦ 107	'43	
	& 106	65	
1098			▲ 4
♡ Q83			♡ A10764
♦ Q65			♦ KJ8
🛧 AQJ4			• 9732
	🔶 KQ	76	
	⊗ KJ8	92	
	♦ A92	2	
	🕭 K8		
West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Cohen	Auken	Berkowitz
			1♣
Pass	1�	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♡	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dbl	3♠
All Pass			

Both pairs did well here. On a trump lead Berkowitz took the ▲J and led a heart. Auken ducked smoothly (nicely done: if she takes her ace declarer sets up discards for a diamond loser)—and Berkowitz went up with the king. He then ruffed a heart, led a club to the king and ace, and won the trump return in hand. Now he ducked a diamond and Auken won to shift to a club to Von Arnim's jack. She now has a choice of defenses. If she plays a third trump Berkowitz can set up the diamond, so she led the ♥Q but now Berkowitz simply ruffed both heart losers in dummy and emerged with one heart, one diamond, three heart ruffs and four spades for nine tricks.

A couple of deals later Von Arnim took a curious view and must have been surprised to walk into a buzz-saw...

Bd: 21	🔶 AQ.	1953	
Dir: North	♡		
Vul: N/S	♦ 109	73	
	♣ 106	3	
♠ K106			♠ 842
♡ A82			♡ Q10943
♦ AJ6			◊ 842
♣ AQ98			♣ 52
	♠ 7		
	♡ KJ7	65	
	♦ KQ	5	
	🕭 KJ7	4	
West	North	East	South
Von Arnim	Cohen	Auken	Berkowitz
	2♠	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3\$	Pass
3♡	Pass	Pass	Dbl
All Pass			

Cohen led the $\diamond 9$ (well done) to the queen, ducked, and Berkowitz shifted to the $\bigstar 7$, ten, jack. Cohen cashed the $\bigstar A$ and gave his partner a ruff. When a second diamond came back Von Arnim guessed correctly to play the jack. Now she carefully passed the $\Im 8$ to Berkowitz for down two; not a tragedy—almost everyone got into trouble on the E/W cards.

Bd: 25	♠ K92	
Dlr: North	♡ K864	
Vul: E/W	♦ A109	
	🕭 A84	
🛧 AJ543		▲ 106
♡ A10		♡ J9753
♦ KJ52		♦ 6
🕭 KJ		♣ Q10953
	♠ Q87	
	♡ Q2	
	♦ Q8743	
	* 762	

West	North	East	South	
B. Passell	Lazard	Strul	Bramley	
	1♣	Pass	1�	
1♠	1NT	All Pass		

Against 1NT Strul led the \bigstar 10 to the queen, ace and nine (nice play). Passell shifted to the \clubsuit J and Lazard ducked. Strul overtook with the queen and played a heart to the ten and king. Lazard played the \diamond A and rode the \diamond 10 to the jack. Passell cashed the \heartsuit A and \diamond K (better to play a low spade here, giving declarer his entry while he can't use it), then played the \clubsuit K. But when Lazard ducked, Passell was left with only spades and diamonds and had to concede the rest of the tricks to dummy.

Session Two:

Bd: 5	♠ 85	
DIr: North	♡ A62	
Vul: N/S	♦ Q4	
	AKQ932	
♠ KJ106		♠ Q943
♡ 98		♡ KQJ10543
♦ A753		♦ 10
& 854		♣ 6
	🛧 A72	
	♡7	
	♦ KJ9862	
	♣ J107	

The first-session leaders, Fantoni-Nunes, took on Berkowitz-Cohen and judged this board very well. Fantoni opened 1 (good hand, clubs or balanced) and when Cohen overcalled 4 \heartsuit Nunes could double to show cards, letting Fantoni retreat to 5. Everybody passed, though Berkowitz gave a little thought to bidding 5 \heartsuit . That would have been very right this time since only an unlikely ruff holds 5 \heartsuit to nine tricks.

However, that was not the best N/S result. When Harry Tudor held the South cards after 1 \oint -(4 \heartsuit), he tried 4NT for the minors and gary Cohler jumped to 6 \oint . There were two leads to beat the slam (a spade or the \diamond 10) and two to let it through. When the opening lead was the \heartsuit K, declarer could draw two rounds of trumps before playing diamonds and make twelve tricks easily.

In a sense Whitman and Baze did better. Baze opened 1NT, Stewart overcalled 3♥, and Whitman jumped to 5♦, raised by Baze to six. This time there is only one lead to set the slam and it was very tough for Woolsey to find a spade. Of course it was possible to do far worse on the N/S cards. Mike Moss as West heard the auction proceed: (1♣)-4♥-(Dbl)-P; (6♣)-P-(P) to him. He dooubled and was charmed to hear his opponents retreat to 6NT. 6NT doubled should have gone down 1100 but even +800 was quite satisfactory.

As if to rub it in the auction came up perfectly for Fantoni and

Nunes to bid 5♡ themselves on the next deal

Bd: 6	♠ 7			
Dlr: East	♡ 106	432		
Vul: E/W	♦ Q42	2		
	🕭 AJ4	3		
🛧 A108654			🛧 KQ93	
Ϋ́κ			Ϋ́Α	
♦ KJ763			♦ A10	
♣ 9			KQ8752	
	♠ J2			
	୯ QJସ	9875		
	♦ 985			
	& 106			
West	North	East	South	
Berkowitz	Fantoni	Cohen	Nunes	
		1♣(1)	2♡	
2♠	5♡	Pass	Pass	
6�	Pass	7♠	All Pass	

Cohen's pass of 5% would normally request Berkowitz to double. When Berkowitz bid 6 \diamond Cohen had to guess whether to bid 6ф or 7ф. Perhaps 6% would have given his partner the option of bidding 6ф or 7ф. Whatever the case, Cohen got it wrong and Fantoni promptly cashed the \clubsuit A against the Grand Slam.

r				
Bd: 16	🕭 KQ4	12		
DIr: West	♡ Q72	2		
Vul: E/W	♦ A			
	🕭 Q96	54		
🛧 AJ63			♠ 85	
♡3			♡ AK95	
♦ Q962			♦ K10873	
K872			뢒 A10	
	▲ 109	7		
	♡ J108	864		
	♦ J54			
	♣ J3			
West	North	East	South	
Kwiecien		Pszczo	ola	
Pass	1♣	1�	Pass	
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass	
3◊	Pass	3♡	Pass	
3NT	All Pass			

Jacek Pszczola did well in the auction to reach 3NT but he did less well in the play. On the ♥J lead he won and led a diamond to the queen and ace; from that point on he had no real chance. Arguably this precise diamond distribution is the least likely if the suit splits three-one. (You have no problems against two-two splits of course.) North's decision not to lead a club suggests that South has five-plus clubs, which again points to South's having short diamonds. So cross to dummy with the top club or spade and lead a low diamond toward your hand; the ace falls on empty air. (In 5♦ you need to make the same play early on in the trump suit in order to hold your trump losers to one, and to get your heart ruffs in dummy without promoting a second trump trick for your opponents.)

Bd: 18	♦ J9	
Dlr: East	♡ 10932	
Vul: N/S	♦ 942	
	KQ105	
♠ AKQ4		♠ 863
♡ AQ87		♡ KJ65
♦ KJ6		♦ A107
♣ A8		♣ J43
	♠ 10752	
	♡4	
	♦ Q853	
	• 9762	

Two boards later Pszczola had a chance to redeem himself. He reached 6 \heartsuit as North and received a low spade lead from east. He won in dummy to cash the \heartsuit AQ. When the four-one split came to light he played ace and another club, and could win the next heart in hand to ruff his third club low. Now he could cross to the \diamondsuit A to play the last trump to catch South in a show-up squeeze. A payment of a relatively small number of dollars will persuade me to reveal which superstar started trumps by leading a high honor from each hand. Now when the bad split came to light he could play ace and another club but the third trump left him in the dummy, and now he needed to play a diamond to the ten to try to obtain enough hand entries for the club ruff. Unlucky, one down!

Bd: 19	♠ Q6		٦
DIr: South	♡ Q105		
Vul: E/W	♦ A72		
	🕭 KQ965		
• 10972		🛧 AJ83	
♡ KJ64		♡ A32	
♦ QJ9		♦ 843	
& 107		4 32	
	🛧 K54		
	♡ 987		
	♦ K1065		
	🕭 AJ8		

It is not so easy to bid 3NT from the correct (North) side. Ralph Katz managed it on the uncontested auction $1 \oplus (in third seat) - 1 \diamond$; 1NT-2NT; 3NT. He got a spade lead which ride around to his queen and now could have simply led up to the $\bigstar K$ for his ninth trick. But he was worried that even if the $\bigstar A$ was onside he would lose that trick and four heart tricks if the $\heartsuit J$ was wrong. So he tried an alternative maneuver: he crossed to a club in dummy and led a heart to the queen—which held! So Ralph claimed his nine tricks and moved on, leaving his opponents muttering.

Conditions of Contest: Expansions and Clarifications

In general, it is our intent to allow methods with which other contestants are expected to be familiar. It is also our intent to allow reasonable artificiality in auctions where the bidding side has guaranteed sufficient (high-card) values to invite game. If you have any questions about your own or your opponents' methods, the person to see is Barry Rigal.

Schedule			
Day/Date	Time	Activity	Location
Saturday, May 10	10:30 AM	WBP Brunch	St. Croix
	11:00 AM	WBP Auction	St. Croix
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, Pairs	Montego ABC
	12:30 PM	1 st Session, WBP Pairs	Montego DEF
	7:30 PM	4 th Session, Pairs	Montego ABC
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, WBP Pairs	Montego DEF
Sunday, May 11	11:30 PM*	5 th Session, Pairs	Montego ABC
	12:00 PM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Montego DEF
	4:15 PM	Closing Party	St. Croix

* expected