

The Cavendish Invitational

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Weinstein and Levin Win 36th Annual Cavendish Invitational Pairs

For an amazing third time in four years, Steve Weinstein and Bobby Levin claimed the prestigious Cavendish Invitational Pairs. This is Weinstein's seventh win and Levin's fourth.

Congratulations to the other top ten finishers: 2. Tor Helness and Geir Helgemo 3. Josef Piekarek and Alexander Smimov 4. Michel Bessis and Thomas Bessis 5. Bjorn Fallenius and Peter Fredin 6. Jie Zhao and Fu Zhong 7. Martin De Knijff and Frederic Wrang 8. Chip Martel and Kit Woolsey 9. Nicolas L'Ecuyer and Jim Krekorian 10. Sjoert Brink and Bas Drijver.



Steve Weinstein & Bobby Levin

Rosenberg and Mohan Win 13th Annual Bridge Production Pairs

Long time Mexican Internationalists, Magy Mohan and Miriam Rosenberg, won the 2010 WBP Pairs with a score of 288 imps. Following close behind in second place was Howard Parker and David Siebert with 285 imps and in third place was Fred Hamilton and John Jeffrey with 282 imps. Winning the 3rd session prize of \$1000 were Mike Cappelletti and Jim Mahaffey.

Along with the money award, the first place winners also won an invitation and free entry to the 2011 Cavendish Invitational Pairs. The winning pair has the option of being auctions or not being auction. Congrats Magy and Miriam!



Miriam Rosenberg & Magy Mohan

Cavendish Invitational Money Winners

Overall Awards

1. Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein	\$201,200
2. Tor Helness and Geir Helgemo	\$129,340
3. Josef Piekarek and Alexander Smirnov	\$86,230
4. Michel Bessis and Thomas Bessis	\$64,670
5. Bjorn Fallenius and Peter Fredin	\$57,485
6. Jie Zhao and Fu Zhong	\$50,300
7. Martin De Knijff and Frederic Wrang	\$43,115
8. Chip Martel and Kit Woolsey	\$35,930
9. Nicolas L'Ecuyer and Jim Krekorian	\$28,740
10. Sjoert Brink and Bas Drijver	\$21,560

Session Awards

Martin De Knijff - Frederic Wrang	\$2,500
Robert Levin - Steve Weinstein	\$2,500
Huub Bertens - John Mohan	\$5,000
Bjorn Fallenius - Peter Fredin	\$2,500
Geir Helgemo - Tor Helness	\$1,000
Chip Martel - Kit Woolsey	\$5,000
Bjorn Fallenius - Peter Fredin	\$2,500
Russ Ekeblad - Jan Jansma	\$1,000
Michael Kamil - Michael Moss	\$12,000
Marc Bompis - Jean-Chris Quantin	\$8,000
Michel Bessis - Thomas Bessis	\$5,000
Jie Zhao - Fu Zhong	\$3,000

Cavendish Invitational Pairs Overall Awards

Position	Auction Pool	Player Pool
1 st	\$201,200	\$25,508
2 nd	\$129,340	\$16,398
3 rd	\$86,230	\$10,932
4 th	\$64,670	\$8,200
5 th	\$57,485	\$7,288
6 th	\$50,300	\$6,376
7 th	\$43,115	\$5,466
8 th	\$35,930	\$4,556
9 th	\$28,740	\$3,644
10 th	\$21,560	\$2,732

Cavendish Invitational Pairs Session Awards

From Auction Pool to Owners

	Sessions				
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
1 st	2,500	2,500	5,000	5,000	12,000
2 nd			2,500	2,500	8,000
3 rd			1,000	1,000	5,000
4 th					3,000

From Player's Pool to Players

1 st	3,000
2 nd	2,000

World Bridge Production Money Winners

1. Magy Mohan and Miriam Rosenberg	\$5,580
2. Howard Parker and David Siebert	\$4,100
3. Fred Hamilton and John Jeffrey	\$2,900
4. Marc Jacobus & Lou Ann O'Rourke	\$1,550

3rd session prize of \$1000 were Mike Cappelletti and Jim Mahaffey.

2010 WBP Pairs Overall Awards

	Auction	Players
1st	\$5,580	\$2,900
2nd	\$4,100	\$2,132
3rd	\$2,900	\$1,508
4th	\$1,550	\$810

3rd Session Winners - \$1000

Bits and Pieces

by Phillip Alder

When one types on a computer, the cursor moves across the screen. And sometimes one will cursorily glance at a deal. Peter Fredin pointed out to me that I should have studied more closely this deal from the third session of the pairs:

Board 11	North	♠ A 9 3 2	East
Dir: South	♥ Q 3	♥ J 10 6 3 2	♠ Q 8 4
Vul: None	♦ J 10 6 3 2	♣ 8 6	♥ K 10 7 6
			♦ Q 7 4
			♣ 7 5 2
	South	♠ K 5	West
	♥ A 5 2	♥ J 10 7 6	♠ J
	♦ A K 8 5	♥ J 9 8 4	♥ J 9 8 4
	♣ A K 9 3	♦ 9	♦ —
		♣ Q J 10 4	♣ —

I had said that six diamonds requires guessing the trump suit correctly, which is not necessarily true.

If you play in six diamonds by North, let's say East leads a club. You can win and cash the two top trumps, getting the bad news. Then, though, you play three rounds of spades, ruffing the last, and three rounds of clubs, ruffing the third. You next lead your last spade. It cannot help East to ruff, so he discards a heart. But after trumping, you ruff dummy's last club and, even if he does not overruff, you exit with a trump to endplay East to lead away from his heart king.

It is also interesting if East began with 3=3=3=4 distribution. You could guess that and ruff South's two low clubs. But even if you do not do that, you reach this position:

North	♠ 9	East
♥ Q 3	♥ K 10 7	♥ K 10 7
♦ J 10	♦ Q	♦ Q
♣ —	♣ Q	♣ Q
West	♠ J	South
♥ J 9 8 4	♠ —	♠ —
♦ —	♥ A 5 2	♥ A 5 2
♣ —	♦ 8	♦ 8
	♣ 9	♣ 9

When you lead the spade nine, what can East do?

Nothing! If he ruffs, you discard dummy's last club. If he throws the club queen, you ruff, then pitch a heart on the established club nine. And if he parts with a heart, you trump, ruff the last club, and exit with a trump.

You need to guess the trump suit only if you play in six diamonds by South and West leads a heart.

Two declarers made six diamonds by endplaying East: Bjorn Fallenius and Simon De Wijs.

See you next year at the Cavendish Invitational!

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If you bid 'em up, play 'em up. That was the mantra for Nick L'Ecuyer and Jim Krekorian on this deal from the fourth session:

Board 16	North			
Dir: West	♠ Q J 9 2			
Vul: E-W	♥ 9 4 3 2			
	West		East	
	♠ A 8 7		♠ K 6 5	
	♥ A J 10 5		♥ K 8 7	
	♦ 3		♦ A K Q 9 7	
	♣ A Q 9 8 6		♣ K 10	
	South			
	♠ 10 4 3			
	♥ Q 6			
	♦ J 10 8 5 4			
	♣ J 4 3			
	West	North	East	South
	L'Ecuyer	Pass	Krekorian	Pass
	1♣	Pass	1♠ (a)	Pass
	3NT	Pass	7NT	All Pass

(a) Diamonds with at least game-invitational strength

One drawback of an irregular partnership is that the players don't have all of the eyes dotted or the teas (tees?) crossed. West was not sure what to do on the second round. He did not like the idea of rebidding two hearts, so he shut his eyes and bid what he thought he could make. East, expecting a much stronger hand, immediately emptied his bidding box — real bridge players don't need Blackwood (or Super Gerber).

North led the spade jack, Rusinow.

Declarer won with dummy's king and immediately started on the clubs, getting the good news. Now L'Ecuyer wanted to make 13 tricks without having to guess the location of the heart queen. He planned a double squeeze.

He finished the clubs, discarding two spades and the diamond seven from the dummy. Both defenders threw a diamond and a spade. Now West played off dummy's top diamonds, pitching hearts from his hand.

Thanks to Debbie Hyatt, Barry Goren, and David Stern for their long hours as our vugraph operators.

After two of them, this was the position:

	North	
	♠ Q 9	
	♥ 9 4 3	
	♦ —	
	♣ —	
West		East
♠ A 8		♠ —
♥ A J 10		♥ K 8 7
♦ —		♦ Q 9
♣ —		♣ —
	South	
	♠ 10	
	♥ Q 6	
	♦ J 10	
	♣ —	

On the diamond queen, declarer discarded his heart ten. North had to retain two spades, so had to throw a heart. Now declarer had three heart tricks.

Plus 2220 was worth 291 imps.

Steve Garner and Zia Mahmood made seven clubs for 267 imps. But the luckiest players were Mike Kamil and Mike Moss. Their opponents reached seven clubs, and declarer's play of the trump suit was low to the ten on the first round. He lost a heart trick later to go down two.

Plus 200 was worth 365 imps, while minus 2140 would have lost 280 imps — a small matter of 645 imps riding on declarer's play.



Here is another fascinating deal from the fourth session:

Board 13	North		East
Dlr: North	♠ J 9 8 5		♠ A K 4
Vul: Both	♥ A J		♥ Q 10 7 4 2
	♦ A Q 10 9		♦ 5 2
	♣ Q J 5		♣ 6 4 3
West		South	
♠ Q 7		♠ 10 6 3 2	
♥ K 9 8 5		♥ 6 3	
♦ K 8 7 6		♦ J 4 3	
♣ 9 8 2		♣ A K 10 7	

What is the fate of four spades after a heart, diamond or club lead?

On a heart lead, four spades has no chance, assuming the defenders take three spade tricks. (You may laugh, but one East, when declarer North twice led spades toward the dummy, rose first with his king and then with his ace.)

On a club lead, suppose declarer wins in the South hand and calls for a trump. To defeat the contract, West must play his queen and shift to a heart. Just the sort of play we would all find!

Suppose West plays low, East wins the trick and shifts to a heart. Declarer wins and plays four rounds of clubs, discarding his heart jack. The defenders can get only three spade tricks. If West ruffs the fourth club, it is with his queen. If East ruffs with the spade four, both the ace and queen crash together on the next round.

It looks like the same story on a diamond lead, but it is not. East wins the second trick with the spade king and shifts to a heart. Declarer wins and plays four rounds of clubs, discarding his heart jack. But West ruffs with his spade queen and *East discards his last diamond*. Then West gives East a diamond ruff. The defenders take four trump tricks.

The Final Session

by Phillip Alder

There were nearly 3,000 watching the two tables of play on BBO from the final session, with Bobby Levin and Steve Weinstein on one screen and Geir Helgemo and Tor Helness on the other.

For six of the nine rounds, they were sitting in the same direction, allowing an exact comparison. The other three would be slightly harder to judge.

The first big gain was for Levin and Weinstein because Wrang and De Knijff bid and made six hearts against the Norwegians on Board 4.

But Helness and Helgemo recovered some imps here:

Board 8	North		East
Dlr: West	♠ J 7 6		♠ A 9 8 4
Vul: None	♥ K 7 3		♥ A J 5
	♦ Q J 8 7 6		♦ K 10
	♣ A 4		♣ K J 6 3
West		South	
♠ 3		♠ K Q 10 5 2	
♥ 10 8 6 4		♥ Q 9 2	
♦ A 4		♦ 9 5 3 2	
♣ 10 9 8 7 5 2		♣ Q	
West	North	East	South
Andersson	Helness	Gustawsson	Helgemo
Pass	1♦	Dble	1♠
2♣	Dble (a)	Redble	3♠
4♥	Pass	5♣	All Pass

(a) Three spades

I would like to give heartfelt thanks to Donna Compton for all of her tireless work on these bulletins, without whom they never would have appeared. She is a pleasure to work with and so professional.

~Phillip Alder

West	North	East	South
Brink	Levin	Drijver	Weinstein
Pass	1♦	Dble	1♠
Dble (a)	Redble (b)	2♣	2♠
4♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass

- (a) Hearts and clubs
- (b) Three spades

Helness led the spade six. Gunnar Andersson won with dummy's ace, ruffed a spade in his hand and led a trump. Helness won with his ace, then shook his head ruefully when he saw Helgemo play the queen. However, winning the trick was the only way to give the defense a chance if declarer was going to guess the trumps correctly.

If North ducks his ace and West calls for dummy's king, it is easy to ruff a spade, play a diamond to dummy's king, ruff the last spade, cash the diamond ace, and exit with a trump to endplay North into opening up the hearts.

After taking his club ace, North shifted to the diamond queen. West won with dummy's king, ruffed a spade, played a trump to the king, ruffed the last spade, and cashed the diamond ace to give this position:

CIP 3rd Place



Josef Piekarek and Alexander Smirnov

North
♠ —
♥ K 7 3
♦ J 8
♣ —

West

♠ —
♥ 10 8 6 4
♦ —
♣ 10

East

♠ —
♥ A J 5
♦ —
♣ J 6

South

♠ 10
♥ Q 9 2
♦ 9
♣ —

It was time to attack hearts.

If North has both the king and queen, which is not impossible given his opening bid, low to dummy's jack works well.

If North has K-9-3 or K-9-2, though, declarer must lead specifically his eight. (If North holds K-9-7, West has no chance.)

However, West chose to lead his ten, which North quickly covered with the king. Now South got two heart tricks for down one.

At the other table, Weinstein (South) led the spade king. Bas Drijver (East) won with his ace, ruffed a spade and called for the club ten, Levin winning with his ace and shifting to the diamond jack.

Now declarer did the same elimination to reach the above diagram. Declarer played a low heart to his jack. South won with his queen and returned the two, but Drijver got it right, calling for dummy's eight.

This must have been a good gain for the Norwegians.

By the way, did you notice the only guaranteed defense?

The defense must start with two rounds of clubs. Then declarer does not have the entries to eliminate spades and produce the endplay.

