

1974 WINNERS have 10 MEMBERS (nothing about 1975 - your list suggests the 1975 winners with no club name - actually they are all 1974 (see 1974 results))

(I put Bernard Teltscher's Tel no so you could find out 1975 team - ignore it)

BRIDGE MAGAZINE

THE 1974 'LEDERER'

By DAVID M. GOSTYN

TEN of the strongest clubs in the country contested the 1974 Richard Lederer Memorial trophy. Hot favourites, with a team which included five of the current British team, were the holders, the Eccentric. However, several other clubs had strong teams entered, and most of the teams started with realistic hopes of success.

The following clubs competed:

Eccentric; Curzon; Stefans; Acol; International; London Duplicate; Bristol; Beckenham; Blue Club Bridge Circle; Mayfair. (The order has no significance.)

The event takes place over a weekend with each team playing, in turn, a ten board match against every other team. Scoring is by i.m.p. converted to victory points. A feature of the event which greatly adds to the interest is that matches being played simultaneously use the same boards.

After the completion of the first four rounds no team had established any clear lead; however, one could not help but notice that the Eccentric had only 28 v.p. (average was 10 v.p. per match). Their pairings in these early rounds had been very much in keeping with the club's name, and they had also (they claimed) been

unlucky.

After dinner, the Eccentric appeared to be taking things more seriously. My club, the London Duplicate, was one of their opponents in this session, and against us they lined up Priday-Rodrigue and Rose-Sheehan. By defeating us narrowly, and their other after-dinner opponents by the maximum, the holders pulled themselves up to just over average at the end of the first day. This put them among a large ruck of teams within a few v.p. of each other, all trailing the Curzon House club who led the field by nearly a complete match.

The London Duplicate was one of the group of clubs just over average overnight.

Any lingering hopes we might have entertained were destroyed when we lost heavily to the Curzon in the first round of the second day. We lost a lot of points on the following deal, on which both North-South pairs reached the same terrible contract.

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Franses led the two of spades. Wolach won, false-carding with the king, and returned the six, giving Rowlands a guess he could hardly get right. Thus the defence took the first five tricks for 100 to East-West.

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East - West vulnerable; dealer North.

♠ 5	♠ AKQ64
♥ 84	♥ Q73
♦ K O J 10 6 5	♦ 842
♣ K J 10 7	♣ Q 5
♠ 10 8 2	♠ J 9 6 3
♥ J 10 9 6 2	♥ A K 5
♦ 9 3	♦ A 7
♣ 8 4 2	♣ A 9 6 3

N	E
W	S

With the London Club North-South, the bidding was:

Rimington	Wolach	Rowlands	Franses
North	East	South	West
1 ♦	1 ♠	2 ♣	No
3 ♣	No	3 NT	No
No	No		

When the Curzon sat North-South, the bidding was:

Mrs. Markus	Pencharz	Tarlo	DMG
North	East	South	West
1 ♦	1 ♠	Dble.(1)	No
2 ♦	No	3 NT	No
No	No		

(1) Penalty double.

With two major differences the play to the first two tricks was the same as at the other table. The

differences, however, were crucial; they were that

1. Pencharz won the opening spade lead with the queen and not the king.

2. Tarlo won the spade continuation with the knave, after which he easily made the rest for plus 690 to North-South, thirteen i.m.p. to the Curzon.

It is a sad reflection on the bidding of the experts present, that nearly every North-South bid to three no-trumps despite the one spade overcall. (An honourable exception was the Acol playing against the Eccentric; they bid to six clubs and mis-guessed the queen of clubs for a flat board with the normal three no-trumps minus one at the other table.)

Almost every East false-carded against three no-trumps when winning the opening spade lead, and in consequence almost every declarer went down. Pencharz was really the victim of our leading system, whereby it is 'system' to lead lowest both from three small and also from three to an honour. Three small spades plus a minor suit ace seemed a much more likely hand for him to play me for, than the one I actually held, and a false-card to the first trick might then have put me off the winning defence.

The Curzon club were beaten in their next (penultimate) match. Meanwhile the Eccentric club scored 35 v.p. out of 40 in their first two

matches of the day, and the two clubs went into the last round level on 96.

North-Souths had a rough time on the following deal from the crucial last round.

Game all; dealer South.

♠ K J 10 3	N	♠ 9 8 4
♥ A J 10 9	W E	♥ 6 3
♦ None	S	♦ Q 7 6 3
♣ 9 6 4 3 2		♣ A K J 5

♠ 6 2
♥ 8 5 4
♦ A K J 9 8 5 2
♣ 10

♠ A Q 7 5
♥ K Q 7 2
♦ 10 4
♣ Q 8 7

Pencharz and I had no difficulty at all in losing the maximum. Our auction:

South	West	North	East
Pencharz	Esterson	DMG	Edwin
1 NT	2 ♣ (1)	3 NT	Dble.
No	No	No	
(1) Landy.			

I did not follow the play too carefully. My attention was taken by the look of pleasure on Edwin's face; he wanted to know whether I "bid like this for money". Anyway three no-trumps was four light for 1100 to the baddies. A rescue to four diamonds would have been relatively cheap, only 500.

Several other North-Souths lost

large penalties on this board. For the Eccentric, Greenwood and Sheehan were one of the many in three no-trumps, but no one doubled, so they only went off in hundreds. At the other table Flint and Rose found a double, their auction being:

South	West	North	East
	Rose		Flint
1 ♠	No	2 ♦	No
2 ♥	No	3 ♦	No
No	Dble.(!)	No	No
No			

The small loss on this board did not prevent the Eccentric from winning their final match 20-0. As the Curzon were held to a mere 15-5, this meant that once again the Eccentric had triumphed.

It is pleasant, though unnecessary, to add that Geoff Connell and his men did their usual immaculate job in running the event. We are all grateful to them.

RESULT

1. Eccentric Club 116 v.p.

I. N. Rose, R. M. Sheehan, R. A. Priday, C. Rodrigue, M. J. Flint, R. Brinig, D. J. Greenwood, M. Landau, B. L. Teltscher, G. A. Cooklin.

2. Curzon House Club 111 v.p.

Mrs. R. Markus, L. Tarlo, Mrs. G. A. Durran, M. Weissberger, R. Franses, M. Wolach.