

RESULTS

1st Professionals:	David Edwin Norman Selway	Richard Sampson Roman Smolski	318VPs
2nd Ireland:	Brian Senior Adam Mesbur	Pat Walshe Nick Fitzgibbon	300VPs
3rd Gold Cup Winners:	Chris Dixon Irving Rose Jeremy Flint	Victor Siverstone Barnet Shenkin Robert Sheehan	267VPs
4th Journalists:	Tony Friday Mrs Rixi Markus David Bird	Colin Simpson Martin Hoffman Michael Wolach	220VPs
5th England:	Tony Forrester Graham Kirby	Steve Lodge John Armstrong	208VPs
6th London:	David Price Richard Butland	Chris Duckworth John Reardon	187VPs

PRIZES

Best played hand:	Richard Sampson
Best defended hand:	John Reardon and Richard Butland
Best bid hand:	Barnet Shenkin and Irving Rose
Most humorous incident:	reported by Su Tick

BEST-PLAYED HAND

JOURNALISTS v PROFESSIONALS

EW vul, dealer N

♠ A Q J 7 3
♥ 6 5
♦ J 10 9
♣ J 10 8

♠ K 9 4 2
♥ A K Q 8
♦ K 5
♣ A K Q

N
W E
S

♠ 8 6 5
♥ 10 9 4
♦ A Q 7 6
♣ 7 3 2

Declarer in Room 1 played a very pretty one-suit squeeze to make sure of 11 tricks on this deal. He won the ♠ lead in hand and cashed two top trumps, unblocking the 10 and 9 in dummy. Then he took dummy's ♠A-♠Q, discarding a ♠ from hand, finesses ♥8, cashes the last trump, and three clubs. This reduced the hand to:

♠ K 9 4 ♠ 8 6 5
 ♦ 10
 ♦ x
 ♣ x

Now, if N kept ♠ A K Q, as she did, declarer could exit with a small ♠ and subsequently score the king. Alternatively, if she reduced to A Q 7, declarer could exit with ♠ K and subsequently score the ♠9. The pyrotechnics were necessary... The overtrick was important in view of:

- (a) The prosaic 3N+2 on ♠ lead in the other room;
- (b) The element of point-a-board scoring.

In the Ireland v Gold Cup winners match, the Irish opened a weak 2♠. E passed and S raised to 3♠!! This helped E-W to misjudge the ♥ position. W doubled, E bid 4♥, W 4NT (doubled by N), E 5♠, W 6♥. This contract went two down.

One comentator suggested that as well as being entered for the best played hand prize, the deal should also be entered twice for the worst bid!

Table 1	S	W	N	E
			No	No
	No	2♠	2♠	No
	No	x	No	3♠
	No	4♥	end	

R Markus (N), M Wolach (Journalists);
D Edwin (E), *R Sampson (*prize winner)

Table 2			1♠(i)	No
	No	x	No	2♠
	No	3N	end	

(i) 7-10 hcp: 5+ ♠
R Smolski (N), N Selway; D Bird (E), T Friday

BEST-DEFENDED HAND

BEST-BID HAND

GOLD CUP WINNERS TEAM v LONDON TEAM

NS vul, dealer E

♠ Q 7 6 4 3
♥ 10 8 2
♦ 10 8 7
♣ A 9

♠ 8 2
♥ J 5 4 3
♦ A 4 3
♣ K J 7 2

N
W E
S
♠ A 9
♥ A Q 9 7 6
♦ K J
♣ Q 8 5 3

♠ K J 10 5
♥ K
♦ Q 9 6 5 2
♣ 10 6 4

Table 1	S	W	N	E
	1♥	No	1♠	No
	1N	end		

Table 1: C Duckworth (N), D Price; C Dixon (E), V Silverstone

NS + 90

Table 2

	1♥	No	1♠	No
	2♠	No	2♥	end

NS - 100

Table 2: I Rose (N), B Shenkin;

*J Reardon (E), *R Butland - *prize winners

In room 1, S made his contract in some comfort when W led ♠2 to the ♠Q, and he chose to cash ♠A at trick 2 [quite well played in itself!].

At table 2, the contract was 2♥, and W made the **first good move when he led a trump**, denying S the chance to ruff two clubs on table. At trick 2 declarer led a ♦, trying to set up a fast discard. Had he chosen to lead the knave there would have been no story, for E could not safely play ♠5. But in fact he chose ♦K [in principle superior to ♦] as more likely to be ducked] and W won and **switched to ♠8**, covered by ♠Q, ♠K and ♠A. Declarer played a second ♦, won by E, who cashed ♦J and led the ♠5. S ruffed this with ♥6, at which point, if West overruffs, declarer can establish dummy's last ♦, so he discarded his ♠4. Now declarer played ♥9 to West's ♥J. The position was:

♠ 7 6
♥ 10
♦ 10
♣ A 9

♠ -
♥ 5 4
♦ -
♣ K J 7 2

N
W E
S
♠ -
♥ Q 7
♦ -

♠ 10
♥ -
♦ 9 6 5
♣ 10 6

♠ Q 8 5 3

And West's exit with ♠5 left declarer without recourse.

GOLD CUP WINNERS v JOURNALISTS

Game all, dealer S

♠ A K 4 2
♥ A K 10 9 5 4
♦ A
♣ A 8

♠ J 7
♥ J 7 2
♦ Q J 6 2
♣ Q 5 4 2

N
W E
S
♠ Q 9 5 3
♥ Q 8 6 3
♦ K 10 9
♣ 10 3

♠ 10 8 6
♥ -
♦ 8 7 5 4 3
♣ K J 9 7 6

Table 1: B Shenkin (N) & I Rose (S) - prize winners [E/W silent throughout at both tables]

S	N
No	2♠
2♥ (semi-pos)	2♥
3♥	3♠
4♥	4♠
5♠	5N
6♥	7♥ only pair to bid this

Table 2: R Markus (N) & D Bird (S), Journalists

No	2♠
2♥	2♥
3♥	4N
5♠	5N
6♥	6♥

In the match England v Professionals, this hand had its amusing side, for the professionals, D Edwin (N) and R Sampson must have feared they had lost points with the sequence No-2♠-2♥-2♥-3♥-3♠-4♥-4♠-4N-5N-6♥. However, at the other table Tony Forrester (N) and Steve Lodge had to cope with opposition bidding:

S	W	N	E
No	No	x	1♥
1♥	No	3♥	No
4♥	end		

1♥ shows 0-10 hcp, and N/S disagreed as to whether the double was equivalent to a strong 1♥ opening or a weakish take-out double. Consequently they also disagreed on the precise significance of the 1♥ bid and on the interpretation of 3♥ [game-try or forcing?].

The irony is that the E/W pair, Roman Smolski and Norman Selway, were playing methods which were virtually identical to those of Forrester and Lodge! A classic case of being hoist with one's own petard.



GOLD CUP WINNERS v JOURNALISTS

Love all, dealer W

♠ K Q J 10
♥ 10 8 4
♦ A 9 7 4 2
♣ J

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

Table 1: R Markus (N), D Bird;
C Dixon (E), V Silverstone (Gold Cup)

S	W	N	E
	2♣	2♦	No
3♣	4♥	end	

Victor Silverstone (W) as declarer produced a pretty squeeze position on this hand when playing in 4♥. N led ♠, small from dummy, and S decided to duck. The defence switched to a ♦. Declarer won and cashed six hearts, reducing to:

♠ 7	♠ 9 5 4
♥ 2	♥ -
♦ K 10 6	♦ Q 8
♣ -	♣ -

If N came down to three spades and two diamonds, W could play on diamonds. If he reduced to two spades, declarer could play that suit. [The hand would be even more artistic if N had ♠.]

All the E/W pairs made ten tricks in hearts on this hand, and Graham Kirby playing for England reproduced Silverstone's line after a slightly different defence.

LONDON TEAM v GOLD CUP TEAM

Game all, dealer W

♠ 10 7 5 3
♥ 6 3
♦ Q 10 3 2
♣ J 10 6

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

Table 1: (N) B Shenkin, V Silverstone;
(E) C Duckworth, D Price (London)

S	W	N	E
	1♥	No	No
x	xx	1♦	No
1N	fin		N/S +90

Table 2: (N) R Butland, J Reardon
J Flint, R Sheehan

	2♣(i)	No	2♣
x(ii)	No(iii)	3♦	No
No	x	end	N/S -800

(i) Multi

(ii) take out

(iii) Lurk! Shows a weak 2♣

R Sheehan, West for the Gold Cup Winners, picked up a penalty almost out of thin air with his pass of South's double.