

THE Lederer Memorial Trophy organised by the London County Association and sponsored by Young Chelsea Club is the most prestigious invitation team event in the British calendar. This year's event was won by "England" with 321 V.P. (A. R. Forrester, J. F. Pottage, Mrs S. Horton, S. J. Lodge). Since the event became invitational in 1978, Sally Horton is the first woman to be in the winning team and John Pottage probably the youngest. Runners up with 268 V.P. were the Professionals (D. Edwin, R. Sampson, N. Selway, R. J. Rowlands, H. Bethe).

This was one of the most interesting hands from the week-end.

Dealer—South. Love All.

♠A8		♠Q75
♥J5		♥Q862
♦J972		♦A8543
♣AQ832		♣K

♠KJ10932		♠A3
♥A3		♥Q106
♦Q106		♦95

	N		
	W	E	
	S		

In the match between London and the Journalists the bidding with A. M. Hiron and D. Bird North-South for the Journalists was

South	West	North	East
1♠	—	1NT	—
2♣			

South made nine tricks scoring 140.

At the other table, with I. N. Rose and R. M. Sheehan North-South for London, the bidding was

South	West	North	East
2♦	—	2♠	—
—	3♣		

The opening bid was our dear old friend the "multi", usually showing a weak two bid in a major suit, which might more effectively be shown by opening 2♣. North's 2♠ implied a willingness to play in 3♥ if that were South's suit. West now made an imprudent protection with 3♣ which went down three for 150. If West were to use 3♣ as indicating an interest in the minor suits over a weak two a good diamond contract would be reached. In fact Rowlands and Selway for the Profession-

als bid and made 4♦ against the Woolwich Building Society Spring Foursome winners. At the other table South opened 2♣ and all passed, scoring 110 for a total gain of 240—6IMPs.

In the match between Ireland and "England," with A. R. Forrester and J. Pottage against N. Fitzgibbon and A. Mesbur (Ireland) the bidding was

South	West	North	East
1♠	2♣	—	2NT

South led ♠J, won with ♠Q. East played ♦A and ♦3, unblocking dummy's cards so as to leave a fourth round entry to his hand. He made nine tricks.

At the other table with Mrs S. Horton and S. J. Lodge, North-South, for "England" against P. Walshe and G. McKenzie (Ireland) the bidding was

South	West	North	East
1♠	2♣	—	2♦
2♣	3♦	3♠	3NT

It looked as though Ireland would gain, having reached game, but Lodge found the good lead of ♠K. This has a devastating effect on declarer's communications. Assume declarer wins with ♠A at either trick one or two, unblocks ♣K and plays ace and another diamond. South must duck and North must discard a heart. If East cashes ♠A Q he sets up five tricks for the defenders. If he doesn't South can win the third diamond, clear the spades and there is no way of scoring both dummy's clubs and the long diamonds. At the table Walshe led ♦J, hoping that North would cover with ♦K 10 x or ♦Q 10 x. This hope was not realised and the contract was four down. The eventual winners this scored 150+200=350 (8 IMPs).

Report on the Lederer is an opportune time to mention the Bridge Players' Accl Diary, compiled by Mrs Rhoda Lederer. The cost is £2.25 and £2.35 with pencil. Obtainable from Mrs R. Lederer, 5 Ellis Avenue, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks SL9 9UA.

Family Telegraph

Just the overtrick

THE 1987 Lederer Memorial Trophy will be played next weekend at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club (Sponsors), 32 Barkston Gardens, London SW5 (01-373 1665). Organised by the London County Association, is an invitation event for teams of the highest quality. This year's field will be the strongest ever.

There will be three British teams: the holders: R. F. Fleet, J. F. Pottage, S. J. Lodge, I. N. Rose; The Woolwich Spring Foursomes: R. Sampson, D. Edwin, N. Selway, A. Calderwood, D. Carlisle, R. J. Rowlands; London (St James): R. Smolski, H. Bethe, Dr A. P. Sowter, J. D. R. Collings. Scotland: B. Shenkin, V. Silverstone, V. Goldberg, D. Diamond. Ireland: B. Senior, R. Timlin, A. Mesbur, N. Fitzgibbon. Holland: to be nominated. Sweden: comprising five out of six members of the European Championship in Brighton: P. O. Sundelin, T. Gullberg, H. Goethe, M. Lindqvist, B. Fallenius, Miss J. Mellstron.

On this hand from last year's event, Tony Forrester, representing a team designated "England" showed good technique to make an overtrick in 4♥.

Dealer - North.
Game All.

♠ 10972
♥ 1074
♦ 5
♣ 109754

♠ 8643
♥ AJ932
♦ AK62
♣ -

	N		
W		E	
			S

♠ KJ5
♥ K85
♦ Q103
♣ AQ86

♠ AQ
♥ Q6
♦ J9874
♣ KJ32

With Tony Forrester and John Pottage East-West against David Bird and Alan Hiron for the Professionals the bidding was:

South	West	North	East
-	-	-	1NT
-	2♦	-	2♥
-	3♠	-	4♥

East opened with a strong no trump (15-17) and West's 2♦ was a transfer bid requesting partner to bid 2♥ so that the strong hand would not be exposed. Over 2♥ West bid 3♠ indicating 5-4 in hearts and

spades, and East corrected to 4♥.

South led ♦7 which was favourable for declarer and the trick was taken with ♦10. It might appear natural to play ♥K followed by ♥5 to ♥J, hoping to make all five trumps on a finesse. Instead, Forrester led ♥5 to ♥A and ♥2 to ♥K. This was good play because (1) he could not afford a losing heart finesse, a spade through A Q and a diamond ruff by North. (2) If hearts split 3-2 it would almost certainly be possible to end-play South who would be compelled to lead a spade or club to give a trick. (3) If North held ♥Q 10 x x he would be under pressure to split his honours on the second round.

When ♥Q fell, the last trump was drawn, South discarding a diamond which was a slight error. After cashing the rest of the diamonds a low spade was played towards ♠J. South won with the ♠Q, but had no safe exit card, having thrown a diamond. He had to lead either a spade or club to give an overtrick.

In the match between the Woolwich Spring Foursomes winners and Ireland, the bidding with David Greenwood and Steve Fishpool East-West against Nick Fitzgibbon and Adam Mesbur was:

South	West	North	East
-	-	-	1♣
-	1♥	-	1NT
-	3♦	-	3♥
-	3NT	-	4♥

Played from the West seat the contract is less easy. In fact one declarer went two down. Fishpool received the lead of ♦5 which appeared to be a singleton so he played low from dummy and won in hand with ♦K. The early play was similar to that in the other match, to the time when South, having thrown a diamond was put in with ♠Q. South led a club. After cashing ♠AQ and discarding spades, and ♠6 was ruffed in hand, the diamond position was fairly clear. Fishpool led a spade and ducked, inferring that ♠A was on his right as South had not exited with a spade. This produced 11 tricks and was voted the best played hand.

G. C. H. Fox