

# Contract Bridge

By L. R. Griffin

THE Lederer Memorial Trophy is a prestigious, invitation teams event and, this year, it was again sponsored by the Young Chelsea Bridge Club.

Eight teams competed, including the Polish and Irish national teams. Mrs. S. Horton, J. Flint, S. Lodge, R. Sheehan (England) won easily, with a Scottish team the runners-up.

Dealer West  
Love all.

S J			S Q1072
H KQ974	N		H 52
D Q752	W	E	D 83
C AJ10	S		C 98632
			S AK863
			H 10
			D AK964
			C Q5

After West had opened, the general contract was 4S by South. S. Fishpool was the only declarer to bid and make 4S, and was awarded the Best Played Hand Prize.

He won the opening HK with the HA, played a spade to the ace, led a small club to the king (West ducking), cashed the ace-king of diamonds, and ruffed a diamond with the S9, East overruffing. East returned a small trump, his best chance, but South read the position well and finessed the S8. The rest was routine: he drew the last

trump and led a diamond to establish his tenth trick. Perhaps not a scintillating play, but one with good timing and technique.

Flint-Sheehan won the prize for Best Defended Hand on this deal.

Dealer North  
Game all.

S KJ4			S A965
H J			H K84
D J1032			D AK64
C AKQJ8			C 52
S 2	N		S Q10873
H 10976	W	E	H AQ532
D 975	S		D Q8
C 109643			C 7

North opened 1C, East made a takeout double, and N/S then had an unopposed auction to 4S. West (Sheehan) led the D7 (the middle card from three small). East (Flint) won with the DK and cashed the DA, on which West played a deceptive D5, showing a doubleton diamond rather than a trebleton. West continued with a small diamond and South, convinced that the diamonds were 5-2, ruffed high with the S10. A trump then followed to the king and ace, and East led his last diamond. The declarer had to decide whether the trumps were 4-1 or 3-2. He must duck in the first case and ruff in the second: he ruffed, making the wrong guess, and had to go down.

Using your usual methods, can you bid convincingly to a grand slam on these hands?

Dealer West  
N/S Game

S A65			S 74
H AK9642	N		H QJ7
D AQ	W	E	D KJ9742
C Q3	S		C A7

Greenwood and Fishpool won the bidding prize with this sequence: W-1H; E-2D; W-2S (forcing); E-3H (forcing); W-4D (cuebid); E-5C (cuebid); W-5S (grand slam try); E-6D (encouraging and showing DK); W-7H.