# THE 1991 LEDERER

by DAVID BURN

The 1991 Lederer Memorial Trophy, sponsored by the TGR and Young Chelsea Bridge Clubs, was held at the latter club over the weekend of September 7-8. The non-availability of any of the British open team was a disappointment, but there was still a wealth of experience in the eight teams who were able to accept their invitation.

The teams played a complete Round Robin of 12-board matches with 60 VPs at stake in each match — 24 at point-a-board, 36 on the IMP score. As you can see from the results table, it proved to be a very tight competition. As luck would have it, the top two met in the final round with London 9 VPs ahead of Ireland. The IMP score was only 19-7 to the Irish, but that was just sufficient to see them take the trophy. Perhaps London's best chance to save the day came on this board, the account of which comes from their South player, David Burn.

*Love All. Dealer South.*

North: ♠ QJ10984 ♡ AJ853 ♢ 4 ♣ A

West: ♠ 653 ♡ 1062 ♢ AKQ10 ♣ 874

East: ♠ A7 ♡ K7 ♢ J862 ♣ Q10953

South: ♠ K2 ♡ Q94 ♢ 9753 ♣ KJ62

Closed Room:

| West | North | East | South |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Rigal* | *Mesbur* | *Czern'ski* | *Fitz'n* |
| — | — | — | Pass |
| Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 1NT |
| Pass | 3♡ | Pass | 4♡ |
| All Pass | | | |

Open Room:

| West | North | East | South |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Boland* | *Price* | *Walshe* | *Burn* |
| — | — | — | Pass |
| Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 1NT |
| Pass | 2♢(i) | Pass | 2♡ |
| Pass | 3♡ | Pass | 4♡ |
| All Pass | | | |

(i) hearts

In the Closed Room, Peter Czerniewski did well to lead a diamond, and the defence played two rounds. Declarer, Adam Mesbur, ruffed in hand, led a spade, ducked to dummy's king, and took a losing heart finesse. Another diamond was returned, reducing declarer to two trumps. He went for his only chance by knocking out the ♠A, ruffing the diamond return, cashing the ♡A and playing spades, hoping that East would have three hearts. In this case, East would have to ruff one of the spades, whereupon dummy would overruff and Mesbur could return to his hand with the ♣A for the rest of the spades. This plan failed when West had the third trump, and Ireland were one down ater a good defence by Czerniewski.

In the other room, London declared the hand from the South side after a conventional auction. It was easier for West to lead a diamond, and Rory Boland did so, continuing the suit at Trick 2. Declarer ruffed in dummy and led the ♠Q. It was very hard for Pat Walshe, sitting East, to duck this, which would be fatal if declarer had a small singleton. So Walshe won and forced dummy again with a diamond — but declarer was now in a winning position:

North: ♠ J10984 ♡ AJ8 ♢ — ♣ A

West: ♠ 65 ♡ 1062 ♢ 10 ♣ 874

East: ♠ 7 ♡ K7 ♢ J ♣ Q10953

South: ♠ K ♡ Q94 ♢ 9 ♣ KJ62

The lead was in North, declarer having lost two tricks. All that was needed was to play the ♡J from dummy. Obviously East must win, but the fourth diamond can now be ruffed in dummy, the ♡A cashed, a spade played to the king, the last trump drawn, and dummy re-entered with the ♣A. Alas for London, South cashed the ♡A before playing the jack — a fatal error, as Walshe demonstrated by winning and returning a club. Now declarer could not handle the communications, and a trick had to be lost to West's ♡10.

In passing, it should be said that both Souths could have won the board for their side during the auction — by bidding four of a minor, inviting North to convert to 4♡ with 5-5 in the majors but to 4♠ with his actual shape. This was not so easy in the Irish auction, where four of a minor could be read as a slam try in hearts, but the London South should certainly have made the right call.

**RESULTS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | IRELAND<br>Nick FitzGibbon, Adam Mesbur, Pat Walshe, Rory Boland | 244 |
| 2 | LONDON<br>David Price, David Burn, Barry Rigal, Peter Czerniewski, Brian Callaghan, Rob Cliffe | 237 |
| 3 | SWEDEN<br>Per-Olov Sundelin, Tommy Gullberg, Sven-Ake Bjerregard, Anders Morath | 227 |
| 4 | NORTH OF ENGLAND<br>Jeff Morris, John Hassett, Alan Mould, Howard Melbourne | 333 |
| 5 | PROFESSIONALS<br>Unal Durmus, Norman Selway, Richard Sampson, Bob Rowlands | 197 |
| 6 | WALES<br>Patrick Jourdain, Adrian Thomas, Peter Goodman, Filip Kurbalija, Gary Martin, Dean Hardie | 196 |
| 7 | TGR CLUB<br>Bernard Teltscher, Howard Cohen, Irving Rose, Willie Coyle, Boris Schapiro, Irving Gordon | 189 |
| 8 | BRITISH LADIES<br>Liz McGowan, Sandra Penfold, Jane Preddy, Vi Mitchell, Kay Preddy, Jill Casey, Mark Horton (NPC) | 168 |