

Bridge



BY DEREK RIMINGTON

THE Lederer Memorial Trophy 1996 was won convincingly by the hosts of the event — London. The winning team consisted of Joe Fawcett, Glyn Liggins, David Burn, Brian Callaghan, David Price and Peter Czerniewski. Runners-up were last year's winners representing the TGR Club.

I thought little of the bidding, especially by the younger players.

Both Liggins and Justin Hackett deemed hand (1) an opening bid of 1C and 1S respectively at game all. Liggins decided that hand (2) was an opening bid of 1S at love all. Fawcett elected to open 1H on hand (3), vulnerable against not vulnerable. On hand (4), after a vulnerable opening bid of 1S, Jason Hackett raised to 3S. Although alerted as weak, it is hardly the right tactic against non-vulnerable opponents.

The outcome of three risky actions was mixed. Liggins was twice lucky: Justin was defeated in 4S, while Zia made 3S in the replay. Fawcett's partner, for once the unlucky Liggins, went 1100 down in 2D doubled. Jason Hackett talked the opponents out of 3NT, which very lucky contract was made by his father at the other table. Is it, however, the type of bridge which will bring Great Britain back as a major force in international play? I very much doubt it.

When they wish to, the Hackett twins can bid very well. Here is their deserved success and an award for the best bid hand:

1 ♠ Q 9 5 2
♥ K J 8
♦ J 8 2
♣ A 10 3

2 ♠ K Q 10 5 3
♥ J 10 8 3
♦ Q J 9
♣ J

3 ♠ 7 2
♥ K Q 8 6 2
♦ J 6
♣ K J 8 2

4 ♠ 9 8 5 4
♥ J
♦ K 7 5
♣ J 9 7 3 2

Dealer
West;
love all

♠ O 10
♥ A 9 3
♦ A 9 8 7 5
♣ K Q 7

♠ K 6 2
♥ 10 8 6
♦ 3
♣ 10 9 6 5 3 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 9 7 5 4 3
♥ J 7 4
♦ K 6
♣ J 8

♠ J 8
♥ K Q 5 2
♦ Q J 10 4 2
♣ A 4

West	North	East	South
—	1NT	Pass	2C
Pass	2D	Pass	2S
Pass	2NT	Pass	3D
Pass	3H	Pass	4H (end)

Jason's 1NT indicated 14–16 points. Justin's 2C was five-card major Stayman. 2S showed a four-card heart suit. 2NT denied a four-card major. 3D was natural. 3H suggested a 4–3 major suit game — an offer which was accepted. Note that this is the best game contract. It makes with a 3–3 heart break, the jack-ten of hearts doubleton, or the king of diamonds onside.

Question: What is the name of the Stayman convention used by the Hacketts?

Answer: Puppet Stayman. By bidding the other major, the no-trump hand is concealed and little information about it is given to the opponents.