

*Phil King tells how his team finally halted Zia's unbeaten run of five wins:*

**M**y team was Brian Senior, David Bakhshi and Andrew McIntosh. We were missing Andrew Robson, who, having played four weekends of trials, was on nappy changing duty for the weekend (or perhaps he could not decide whether to play for the All Stars, or us).

I had played with Senior only twice before. Once in an early round of last year's Gold Cup, and in the National Swiss Teams Congress a few years ago. It would be an interesting weekend.

We started against the President's Team on vugraph and I elected to expose Brian and me to the public. This was board one:

**Love All. Dealer North.**

♠	983		
♥	K108654		
♦	4		
♣	AQ5		
♠	KQJ107	♠	A6542
♥	2	♥	9
♦	AKJ8	♦	10
♣	K72	♣	J109643
	♠ -		
	♥ AQJ73		
	♦ Q976532		
	♣ 9		

Haase	King	Coyle	Senior
West	North	East	South
	1♥	2♥ <sup>1</sup>	3♠ <sup>2</sup>
4♥	5♥	Pass	6♥
Dble	All Pass		

- 1 5-5 spades and a minor
- 2 Splinter

Not an everyday auction. One Heart would not be a universal choice, but a Weak Two in hearts would risk missing game in spades. Passing is out of the question, of course!

An increasingly popular modern solution is to play both a multi 2♣ and weak twos in the majors, then 2♦ covers hands in the 4-8 range and 2♥/♠ shows about 9 to 12. This agreement has various technical advantages which, I think, will see it becoming the dominant method in years to come.

Back to the auction. After the 4♥ cue bid, it seemed to me that Haase had the best hand at the table, so I upped the ante with 5♥. Brian figured that I must have some sort of suitable minimum, so having a couple of useful features himself promptly raised to six.

Poor Gerald Haase. Double seemed fairly obvious, but, looking at the hand now, I am not sure. Everyone else at the table was clearly light in