

LEDERER MEMORIAL TROPHY 2003 by Leslie Kennedy

My friend Maia Knoll and I agreed to meet for an afternoon's duplicate at the Club. We did not realise until the announcement was made that the boards were also to be played simultaneously at the Young Chelsea as part of the Lederer Memorial Trophy session. The Lederer Memorial, organised by Simon Cochemé on behalf of the London Metropolitan Bridge Association, is an all-star event in which the teams who have won England's major trophies over the season match their wits against international opposition. We heard of the prizes, the photographs, the meeting with our international team mates for the winners - what distant dreams! What unattainable heights!

with boards 19 and 21 in which we felt we did pretty well.

♠ K Q J 8 6 3
♥ A 2
♦ Q 6 4 3
♣ 5

♠ A 9 7 5 4
♥ K Q 4
♦ J 5
♣ 9 8 3

♠ 10 2
♥ J 10 9 7 6 5
♦ A 10 7
♣ J 2

None
♥ 8 3
♦ K 9 8 2
♠ A K Q 10 7 6 4

N
W E
S

♠ A K Q 8 5 3
♥ A J 7
♦ Q 3
♣ 10 8

♠ 10 7 6 2
♥ 2
♦ 10 6 5 2
♣ Q J 5 2

♠ 9
♥ Q 9 8 3
♦ J 9 8 7
♣ A 6 4 3

♠ J 4
♥ K 10 6 5 4
♦ A K 4
♣ K 9 7

N
W E
S

♠ 9 8 3
♥ K 10 8 6 5 4
♦ 4
♣ A Q 5

♠ K Q J 10 7
♥ 2
♦ A K J B
♣ K 7 2

♠ A 6 5 4 2
♥ 9
♦ 10
♣ J 10 9 6 4 3

None
♥ A Q J 7 3
♦ Q 9 7 6 5 3 2
♣ 8

N
W E
S

We settled in on Board 1 with a 5♥ doubled contract (we were sitting N/S). Not bad - but not the top. The afternoon wore on much in the usual fashion - you win some, you lose some! But always there is the underlying awareness that in pre-dealt computer generated boards there may be pitfalls ahead. One such pitfall was on Board 8 where we ended up in a part contract making 12 tricks - obviously a bidding misunderstanding - we missed out on a slam.

However, we were particularly pleased

On board 19, my partner sitting South opened 1♣ I heard 1♠ on my right. This was what I was about to bid - I passed. 2♥ on my left followed by 3♣ from partner. RHO passed. I took a deep breath and decided to go for it. 3NT I cried! All passed. Left-hand opponent led 10♠, this brought out the A♠ followed by K♥, I put in the A♥ and played of the K, Q and J of ♠ - but LHO 9♠ remained. I pitched the losing diamonds under the spades, leading the 5♣. I crossed to South playing seven club tricks and bringing in the contract a score of 460.

Board 21 is a tribute to my partner who made the slam enquiry and put me into 6♣. East led A♣, we took the remaining 12 tricks and scored 1430.

A congratulatory phone call the next morning told us we were the N/S winners and that the E/W winners were Elisabeth Phillips & Ian Fogg playing with Zia Mahmoud and Robert Sheehan. We were invited to the Young Chelsea to meet our teammates, Heather Dhondy and Nicola Smith, and collect our prizes.

We were stunned but duly arrived at the YC to a friendly welcome and complimentary drink at the bar. We watched play in the Vugraph room with expert explanations of the bidding and play by the international teams. After the interval we had our photos taken with Heather and Nicola and they presented us with a bottle of champagne each. All in all a very pleasant afternoon. Two smiling Cheshire cats purred their way home. Their fifteen minutes of fame was over - but same time next year?



Lederer: Heather Dhondy, left, and Nicola Smith, right, present Maia Knoll, centre left, and Leslie Kennedy with their prizes

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<p>♠ A 9 7 5 4 ♥ K Q 4 ♦ J 5 ♣ 9 8 3</p>	<p>♠ K Q J 8 6 3 ♥ A 2 ♦ Q 6 4 3 ♣ 5</p>
<p>♠ 10 2 ♥ J 10 9 7 6 5 ♦ A 10 7 ♣ J 2</p>	<p>♠ 10 7 6 2 ♥ 2 ♦ 10 6 5 2 ♣ Q J 5 2</p>
<p>None ♥ 8 3 ♦ K 9 8 2 ♠ A K Q 10 7 6 4</p>	<p>♠ 9 ♥ Q 9 8 3 ♦ J 9 8 7 ♠ A 6 4 3</p>

<p>♠ 10 7 6 2 ♥ 2 ♦ 10 6 5 2 ♣ Q J 5 2</p>	<p>♠ 9 ♥ Q 9 8 3 ♦ J 9 8 7 ♠ A 6 4 3</p>
<p>♠ J 4 ♥ K 10 6 5 4 ♦ A K 4 ♣ K 9 7</p>	<p>None ♥ A Q J 7 3 ♦ Q 9 7 6 5 3 2 ♣ K</p>

<p>♠ 9 8 3 ♥ E 10 8 6 5 4 ♦ 4 ♠ A Q 5</p>	<p>♠ A 6 5 4 2 ♥ 9 ♦ 10 ♠ J 10 9 6 4 3</p>
<p>♠ K Q J 10 7 ♥ 2 ♦ A K J 8 ♣ K 7 2</p>	<p>None ♥ A Q J 7 3 ♦ Q 9 7 6 5 3 2 ♣ K</p>

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