

Nov 81

L.C.C.B.A.

NEWS

HON. SEC.,
D.A. CARLISLE,
38 FARM ROAD,
HOUNSLOW,
MIDDLESEX

EDITORIAL

The past six months has been a busy and productive time for the Association; I would like to take this opportunity of summarising some of the more significant achievements.

- 1) A special sub committee consisting of Peter Burrows, David Gostyn, David Graham, Barry Rigal and myself has drafted a comprehensive set of rules to be applied in all LCCBA competitions. This work is almost complete and will surely obviate any repetition of the unseemly incident at last year's London Foursomes, when a dispute over the correct procedure vis a vis the holding of an appeal hearing resulted in considerable dissatisfaction being engendered. Any member who would like a copy should forward a large (12" x 8½") envelope stamped to the value of 20p to Allan Christie, address below. Of particular interest to members will be the regulations regarding the splitting of ties which do not follow the standard formula.
- 2) The first GLC Festival of Bridge was organised by the LCCBA and proved to be a considerable success. I must pay tribute to the substantial degree of co-operation and assistance provided by the GLC and their staff; John Probst who, stepping in as substitute scorer, modified his computer program at deplorably short notice; fellow members of the Tournament and Executive Committees who lent their time willingly; our Chief Tournament Director Raymond Brock who provided much invaluable advice; and Raymond's team who responded admirably to the increased workload contingent upon a deficiency in their number.
- 3) Much time has been devoted to the affairs of our parent body, the English Bridge Union, and much correspondence (and not inconsiderable heat) thereby generated. A good working relationship has been established with the EBU Executive Secretary, Peter Briggs, who is a member of LCCBA and who, unlike all his predecessors, is always willing to listen to suggestions and respond constructively.

Our general secretary, Andrew Thompson, has felt compelled to resign the post and his duties have been assumed jointly by:

David Carlisle, address as above

(to whom general correspondence should be addressed), and

Allan Christie, 83 Addison Gardens, London W14 0DT

(who will answer all telephone enquiries on 01-602 1759)

Richard Fleet

The GLC Festival of Bridge was held over the August Bank Holiday weekend at County Hall. Playing conditions were excellent with tables more than adequately spaced and (more important to many players) a convenient bar available. The organisation was superb and the team of tournament directors (understaffed by one) got through a tremendous amount of work in the customary effortless and efficient manner. Hands were pre-dealt by the EBU computer and appeared to me to be perfectly normal with a reasonable mix of balanced and distributional hands and no preponderance of singleton kings. The fact that all the field played the same hands and the availability of copies of the hands after the event added to the enjoyment and I would like to see this feature much more generally available than at present. The main pairs event was of three sessions with a qualifying round, semi-final and three tiered final - the Premier Championship, the Consolation Final and the Plate. All those who qualified for the semi-final played in one of these events. An unusual and, in my view, commendable feature of the competition was that all those who did not qualify for the semi-final had a chance to redeem themselves in the next session which acted as a repechage. Two pairs went through to the Premier, 12 to the Consolation and 28 to the Plate to join those who had qualified via the semi-final, the remaining pairs playing the final session in an open event. As will be seen, I am not entirely unbiased but the idea of a repechage does seem to me to be an excellent one, giving pairs who have had a poor or unlucky first session a second chance and more to play for in the last two sessions.

In the event, John Armstrong and I took full advantage of these novel arrangements managing to win the repechage after a poor opening session. Naturally, this was not without the aid of a fair amount of good fortune but here was a hand where partner produced virtuoso defence to take full advantage of errors by declarer.

	♠ 7										
	♥ AJ62										
	♦ AKQ6										
	♣ A752										
♠ 642	<table border="0" style="width: 100%; height: 100%;"> <tr> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td></td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>S</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AJ109
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 984		♥ KQ3									
♦ 98		♦ J72									
♣ J9643		♣ Q108									
	♠ KQ853										
	♥ 1075										
	♦ 10543										
	♣ K										

Against North's contract of 3NT Armstrong (East) led the two of diamonds. This gave declarer a chance to make his first mistake, he played the ten from dummy, removing an entry before he was ready to use it. A heart to the jack and queen followed and Armstrong returned a club, removing dummy's other entry. Declarer now played ace and another heart and East returned a second diamond. At last declarer played on spades but Armstrong rose with the ace and exited with his last diamond. The

play was not over yet and double dummy North can succeed (*no, he can't - Ed*) but when he cashed his two red winners East made sure of defeating the contract by discarding his two remaining clubs. I now had to take two of the last three tricks.

At the beginning of the final we were placed 13th out of 14, the true value of the scores in earlier rounds having been carried forward - not a promising position. Fortunately the following wind which had sprung up behind us in the second pairs session reached gale force and we eventually edged out several pairs for the title. The enjoyment and excitement of the final was much increased by Barometer scoring (whereby in each round all tables play the same boards, the results of each round being known shortly afterwards) - another excellent feature. In the following hand from the final the defenders fell into the trap cunningly set by my partner.

East/West Game. Dealer West.

♠ J32
 ♥ J43
 ♦ A9
 ♣ J10985
 ♠ Q10654
 ♥ —
 ♦ 8742
 ♣ KQ74
 W N E
 S
 ♠ AK7
 ♥ 107
 ♦ KQ10653
 ♣ 32
 ♠ 98
 ♥ AKQ98652
 ♦ J
 ♣ A6

South	West	North	East
Armstrong		Niblett	
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
4♥	4♠	5♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

West did well to bid four spades and five spades succeeds unless we find our diamond ruff - not necessarily automatic. North started with the king of clubs. Clearly, if South wins, draws trumps and and returns a club West will have little option but to switch to a spade, defeating the contract by one. However South ducked! West switched to a diamond won in dummy. Declarer played a trump to to hand, cashed the club ace, drew the last trump ending in dummy and led the club jack throwing a spade. West now had to decide which suit to cash a trick in. No doubt he should have got this right (with A-K-x-x in spades, East would very likely have raised) but he didn't - 650 to the goodies.

The main teams competition had a similar format to that of the pairs. Playing with Phil Bailey and Brian Callaghan we managed to avoid the repechage although not before the team missed an instructive safety play. Although the boards in the qualifying round looked flattish, we were rather surprised to learn that we'd won our section with a score of 42 victory points (maximum 72). We didn't bother to collect our section winners prize immediately and, when Phil tried to collect his some three hours later, it transpired that a scoring error had been discovered, promoting the 3rd placed team in front of us. Clearly, the winning line was to claim the prize immediately and later claim that we'd drunk it or spent it as appropriate.

My game is not usually noted for flair or imagination in the bidding but my partner had been impressing the virtues of these on me during the weekend (not least by example!) and on the following hand from the teams final I decided to put his theories to the test. You may like to consider your bid with the following hand (opponents only vulnerable):

♠ 62	South	West	North	East
♥ 7	—	—	2♠*	3♦
♦ Q8754	3♠	?		
♣ QJ842	*Acol			

I selected seven diamonds, a bid of which I was sure partner would approve, which turned out well when the full hand was:

♠ A1074
 ♥ 8652
 ♦ 63
 ♣ A106
 ♠ J
 ♥ K104
 ♦ AKJ1092
 ♣ 953
 W N E
 S
 ♠ 62
 ♥ 7
 ♦ Q8754
 ♣ QJ842
 ♠ KO9853
 ♥ AQJ93
 ♦ —
 ♣ K7

South passed, inviting North to bid seven spades with a suitable hand and North naturally bid seven spades. Perhaps South was expecting too much from a passed hand. I wonder what North would have bid with:

♠ A10xx ♥ Kxxx ♦ xx ♣ QJx

However, they were certainly unlucky in that a grand slam on a finesse is quite acceptable if the alternative penalty is fairly small, as in this case.

David Price was unsporting enough to produce a fine defence to beat my partner's 3NT contract on the following hand, also from the teams final.

♠ 109	♠ K62	♠ Q8743
♥ AK3	♥ 107	♥ Q652
♦ AK54	♦ J9876	♦ Q2
♣ Q754	♣ A109	♣ KJ

	W	N	E	
		S		

♠ AJ5	♠ 8632
♥ J984	
♦ 103	
♣ 8632	

We reached 3NT after a 1NT opening by West and a Stayman auction. North (Chris Duckworth) led a diamond, Armstrong won this in hand and ran the spade ten, losing to the jack. South returned a diamond, won in dummy. The club king was led from dummy and won by North who led a third diamond. At this point, Price discarded the ace of spades and declarer was left without resource as the cards lay.

We had a reasonable, although unspectacular card, and team mates, unsung in this article, had also done well. However, we consider ourselves a little fortunate to win with 99 VPs (maximum 160) just ahead of the London President's team on 97. Overall it was a most enjoyable event, not only for the results! The entry was not quite at capacity this year and I can warmly recommend next year's competition to any waverers.

DATE CHANGES

The attention of members is drawn to the following revised dates of LCCBA events (the correct dates are shown in the Competition Brochure but not in the Calendar):

Committee Cup Final	31st January 1982
London Foursomes	20-21st March 1982
London Pairs Heat 1	13th April 1982

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TROPHIES

Many trophies have disappeared over the years; in particular we would like to recover the Teams Trophy for the London Congress and the bases for the Berners Bowl and the Fox-Shammon Trophy. Would members please keep their eyes open and report to Allan Christie (602 1759) any trophies discovered in unlikely circumstances.

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LONDON TROPHY

Entries for the 1981/82 season have established another record: no fewer than 76 teams have entered, as compared with 29 in the initial season (1978/79).

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CONGRATULATIONS

The performance of LCCBA members in the EEC and European Championships has exceeded all expectations (see previous issue for details of selection). Of particular note is the qualification of the GB Open Team for the Bermuda Bowl: Irving Rose and Robert Sheehan (players), Terence Reese (npc) and Gus Calderwood (coach) all played a major part in achieving this success.

Chris Dixon and Victor Silverstone were members of the team that won the Four Stars at Brighton.

Tony and Jane Priday, Martin Hoffman and Colin Simpson won Crockfords Cup.

LONDON v MIDDLESEX

Phil Bailey

As reported in a previous issue of the newsletter, London challenged Middlesex to a friendly match on August 2nd. This challenge was duly accepted on the basis of twelve a side split into three teams of four, with each team from London playing a 12 board match against each of the Middlesex teams. The editorial note which invited spectators to the match turned out to be a wise precaution so far as the Middlesex team were concerned, as only nine of their players managed to appear. Thus two kibitzers and the London npc completed the Middlesex team, so the resulting Middlesex victory by 60-48 VPs could still be acclaimed as a minor London success.

Since your correspondent was more concerned with listening to England winning the 4th Test than collecting hands during the breaks in play, I cannot report in any great detail on hands apart from in our own matches. However, the following hand was played in five different contracts at the six tables.

<p>♠ QJ654 ♥ QJ87 ♦ J ♣ 872</p>	<p>♠ A1092 ♥ A94 ♦ A1075 ♣ A5</p>	<p>1) South West North East Pass Pass Pass 1♦ Pass 3♣ Pass 3♠ Pass 4♣ Pass 6♦ All Pass</p>										
<p>♠ KJ ♥ 5 ♦ K9643 ♣ K10943</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>2) South West North East Pass Pass Pass 1♦ Pass 3♦ Pass 3NT All Pass</p>	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	<p>♠ 83 ♥ K10632 ♦ Q82 ♣ QJ6</p>	<p>3) South West North East Pass Pass 1♠ 1NT Pass 3NT All Pass</p>										
		<p>4) South West North East Pass 1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass 2♣ Pass 2♥ Dble 2♠ Pass 4♦ All Pass</p>										

At the first table Pete Steckelmacher and Dave Carlisle were the only pair to play in the best contract. Having passed initially Pete was able to respond three clubs to show a maximum with both minors and cue-bid his spade king on the next round. In fact, bidding the slam gained only an extra 3 IMPs since at Table 2 East/West reached 3NT. After a heart lead declarer cashed the diamond king first, and had to go two off when the spade finesse lost.

At Table 3 North opened one spade third in hand and was justly penalised when South led one against 3NT with the result that declarer made three overtricks. At the other table in this match East/West reached five diamonds, so London gained 2 IMPs.

In the final match the Middlesex West opened the bidding yet they were the only pair to stop in a part-score. East bid four diamonds on the third round, despite the fact that three diamonds should clearly be played as forcing, just to make sure, and was rather surprised to hear West pass. (This was one of the enforced scratch partnerships.) However four diamonds plus two was still sufficient to gain points as the London pair at the other table reached four spades due to a combination of lack of memory, judgement and sense.

The next hand features an unusual occurrence with a slam available in the fourth suit.

♠ AJ962	N	♠ K
♥ K74	W	♥ AQ1093
♦ —	E	♦ AKQ753
♣ KQ972	S	♣ 5

Middlesex gained 11 IMPs in two of the matches when Posner/Sadler and Amsbury/Thompson bid the slam. Posner and Sadler had the first auction, playing Acol; note that East forced despite his two-suiter which worked well on this occasion. The second auction is one of the London attempts, which duplicated the first auction until West's sign-off. In the third auction Amsbury/Thompson had a good hand for Roman two-bids - the two spades promises at least five spades and four clubs and three hearts showed the fragment.

- | | | |
|----|------|------|
| 1) | West | East |
| | 1♣ | 2♦ |
| | 2♠ | 3♥ |
| | 3♠ | 4♥ |
| | 5♥ | 6♥ |
| 2) | West | East |
| | 1♣ | 2♦ |
| | 2♠ | 3♥ |
| | 3♠ | 4♥ |
| | 4NT | |
| 3) | West | East |
| | 2♠ | 3♦ |
| | 3♥ | 5♥ |
| | 6♥ | |

Thanks are due to Warwick Pitch for staging the match - the next encounter between London and Middlesex will occur in the Tollemache heat, as for the first time for many years we are drawn together.

Teams:

Middlesex:- J. Dhondy & Mrs. E. Pencharz; M. Vail & J. Hunt; D.M. Smerdon & D.A.L. Burn; J. Amsbury & A.M.G. Thompson; D.M. Graham & Miss V.M.M. Daly; J. Sadler & B. Posner.

London:- R.J. Fleet & P.J. Bailey; P.J. Steckelmacher & D.A. Carlisle; I.M. Gardiner & U.M. Dourmough; A. MacAlister & E.F. Warren; D.M. Gostyn & R.J.A. Butland; V.A. Silverstone & M.C. Landau.

LEDERER PREVIEW

This year's event will be held at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, courtesy of Warwick Pitch, on December 5th & 6th, starting at 2 pm and 8 pm on the Saturday and 1.30 pm on the Sunday. Admission fees will be the same as last year, that is £1 per session or a season ticket for £2.50; school pupils will be admitted at a charge of only 50p to cover all three sessions.

The following teams have accepted invitations:

HOLDERS: Chris Dixon - Vic Silverstone, Patrick Jourdain - Ted Martin, Phillip Alder - John Reardon

SCOTLAND: Barnet Shenkin - Victor Goldberg, Gerald Haase - George Cuthbertson, Willie Coyle

GOLD CUP: Ian Morrison - David Liggat, Jim Patrick - Martin White

CROCKFORDS CUP: Tony Priday - Jane Priday, Martin Hoffman - Colin Simpson

LONDON MASTERS: Louis Tarlo - Marius Wlodarczyk, Alan Hiron - Terence Reese, Joe Amsbury - Alan Woo

YOUNG ENGLAND: Tony Forrester - John Armstrong - Roman Smolski, Gus Calderwood - Brian Mervis

Please make an effort to attend if you are able - the Lederer is the best teams event in the country and full of interest to spectators.

HOW MANY POINTS NEEDED FOR GAME? THE LONDON TEAMS-OF-FOUR FINAL

Chris Dixon

When BRESKAL met FLEET in the 1981 final of the LONDON TEAM-OF-FOUR knockout championships either team which carefully obeyed the 26 points for game rule would have been soundly thrashed. No-one could accuse the Londoners of pussy-footing. Look at some of these hands which were played in the 48 board final on F.A. Cup Final day.

♠ AQ4 ♥ 8 ♦ KQJ63 ♣ 9743	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W</td><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td><td style="padding: 5px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td></tr> </table>	W	N	E					S		♠ K103 ♥ 10732 ♦ A9874 ♣ 6	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> </tr> <tr> <td>—</td> <td>Silverstone</td> <td></td> <td>Dixon</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>1♦</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>3♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♥</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>5♦!!</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dble</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	South	West	North	East	—	Silverstone		Dixon		1♦	2♥	3♦	3♥	Pass	Pass	5♦!!	Dble	All Pass		
W	N	E																														
	S																															
South	West	North	East																													
—	Silverstone		Dixon																													
	1♦	2♥	3♦																													
3♥	Pass	Pass	5♦!!																													
Dble	All Pass																															

Silverstone (West) opened one diamond and there was an overcall of two hearts (intermediate). The bidding continued as above. You see, 19 points are enough even for a minor suit game.

The next two games were bid in both rooms. We Londoners do not really expect to gain points on such routine contracts.

♠ J97542 ♥ 6 ♦ AK642 ♣ 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;">W</td><td style="padding: 5px;">N</td><td style="padding: 5px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td><td style="padding: 5px;"> </td></tr> </table>	W	N	E					S		♠ K106 ♥ J105 ♦ 73 ♣ AQ752	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">South</td> <td style="width: 25%;">West</td> <td style="width: 25%;">North</td> <td style="width: 25%;">East</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Silverstone</td> <td></td> <td>Dixon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2♦*</td> <td>2♥**</td> <td>3♣</td> <td>3♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>4♠</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	South	West	North	East	Pass	Silverstone		Dixon	Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦*	2♥**	3♣	3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass	
W	N	E																														
	S																															
South	West	North	East																													
Pass	Silverstone		Dixon																													
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass																													
2♦*	2♥**	3♣	3♠																													
Pass	4♠	All Pass																														

* Transfer

** 2 suiter

South led a club and with the trumps 2-2 and the diamonds 3-3 declarer wrapped up 12 tricks in a matter of seconds. "Perhaps I should have made a try," mused Silverstone. But he needn't have worried. He only lost 3 IMPs as the same contract was doubled in the other room.....Next case:

♠ AQJ1052	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 60px; height: 60px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 84	South	West	North	East
		N													
W			E												
		S													
♥ -	♥ J632	♥ J632		Mervis		Calderwood									
♦ J3	♦ A10964	♦ A10964	1NT	2♣	2NT	Pass									
♣ 109852	♣ A3	♣ A3	3♦	3♣	Pass	4♣									
			All Pass												

This was a hand from the Closed Room where Mervis was North and Calderwood South. This time it was a 17 point game which was bid confidently. What was the contract in the other room? Yes, you've guessed it. The contract was the same in the Open Room. Fortunately for BRESKAL, Brian Mervis played the hand more carefully than his counterpart and gained 13 IMPs.

Back to the Open Room, this was a hand from the last set:

♠ K632	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 60px; height: 60px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AJ1098	South	West	North	East
		N													
W			E												
		S													
♥ K10742	♥ AJ9	♥ AJ9	-	-	-	1♠									
♦ 5	♦ 1064	♦ 1064	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣									
♣ 642	♣ K3	♣ K3	Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣									
			All Pass												

Silverstone's 2NT response showed a spade raise with any shortage, three clubs was a relay to find the short suit and three diamonds showed a minimum with short diamonds. There was little problem in the play and declarer emerged with 11 tricks and a flat board.

Here's one that got away:

♠ 9	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 60px; height: 60px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ AQJ63	North	West	North	East
		N													
W			E												
		S													
♥ 52	♥ 743	♥ 743	1NT	2♠	2♠	2♠									
♦ 1086532	♦ AK94	♦ AK94	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass									
♣ AJ103	♣ 4	♣ 4	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass									

North opened 1NT and East bid two diamonds which showed spades and another suit. "Diamonds can't be the suit," thought West and passed. "Oh yes they can," thought East and made 12 tricks. In the Closed Room the contract was three diamonds and all 13 tricks made.

The result was a win for RONNIE BRESKAL's team which included Chris and Maria-Luce Dixon, Victor Silverstone, Gus Calderwood and Brian Mervis, most of whom were previous holders of the cup. The losing finalists were Richard Fleet, David Gostyn, Phil Bailey and Mike Graham.

I am indebted to Peter Steckelmacher for details of a recent hand from the London Duplicate Bridge Club.

♠ AK53			
♥ K82			
♦ J3			
♣ J752			
♠ 1074			♠ Q8
♥ 10965			♥ AQ3
♦ K8			♦ Q1097
♣ 10843			♣ AKQ9
	♠ N		
	♥ W	♥ E	
	♦ S	♦	
	♣	♣	
♠ J962			
♥ J74			
♦ A6542			
♣ 6			

South	West	North	East
—	—	1NT	Dble
2♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Pete (South) was playing with Bob Rowlands against Dave (West) and Gill Scott-Jones. A heart was led, East winning, cashing a club and switching to a trump ducked to West. A club came back, ruffed, followed by a heart and a switch to the spade queen. South ruffed another club, and cashed two major kings to leave the following position:

♠ 53			
♥ —			
♦ J			
♣ 7			
♠ 10			♠ —
♥ 9			♥ —
♦ 8			♦ Q109
♣ 8			♣ A
	♠ N		
	♥ W	♥ E	
	♦ S	♦	
	♣	♣	
♠ J9			
♥ —			
♦ A6			
♣ —			

South now planned to ruff the last club and make the diamond ace resulting in one down, but, when he played the club something odd happened - East ruffed! Oblivious to the possibilities, over-ruffed and could make no more tricks - the trick transferred as a result of the revoke redressed the balance to an equitable one down. However, had South discarded, he would still have won a trick subsequently but, in addition would have gained **two** tricks from the revoke, the opponents now having won the revoke trick, thus making the contract!

A similar position occurred to Dave Carlisle: playing in a grand slam with two inescapable losers he made the error of over-ruffing during the play instead of discarding one of his losers - yes, it was a revoke and Dave missed the opportunity of going down in history as the first person to make a grand slam via a loser on loser play.

Unal Dourmouh showed more awareness during his first round Gold Cup match: he made one club doubled as a result of a somewhat unexpected penalty card (flat board - team-mates let through three hearts!) ... His team won the match by 1 IMP.

Readers may have views to contribute regarding the degree of sportsmanship involved in enforcing the appropriate penalties or revokes etc. which fail to gain. All letters received will be considered for publication; address them to:

R.J. Fleet, Flat C, Hollingwood House, 219-221 Romford Road,
Forest Gate, London E7 9HL

METROPOLITAN CUP

Ian Gardiner

There's always interest in a double-game swing hand but one played in no-trumps at both tables must be extremely unusual. The following deal from the London v Berks and Bucks match moreover had one table teetering on the edge of four off redoubled!

Love All. Dealer North.

♠ 76 ♥ 754 ♦ A8 ♣ KJ9874	♠ J542 ♥ A6 ♦ J9754 ♣ A6 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div> ♠ AK108 ♥ KJ83 ♦ K62 ♣ 32	♠ Q93 ♥ Q1092 ♦ Q103 ♣ Q105	
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	South Gardiner	West	North To	East
	—	—	1NT	Dble
	Pass	Pass	Rdble	All Pass
	South	West Thame	North	East Pitch
	—	—	Pass	1NT
	Pass	3NT	All Pass	

In the first room Frank To kicked off with a mini and East gave it the appropriate action. My pass was automatic but then so was the redouble. Oh well, in for a penny in for a 1400 the hard way! The

play was relatively simple. East led a top spade, West petered to show a doubleton and North petered for a continuation. After three rounds of spades declarer set about the diamonds. West won and switched to a club and that was plus one and 710 to the good guys (try the hand on a club lead).

In the second room, Blue Club potted the routine 22 point 3NT, correctly valuing the club suit and making up one, taking a poor view in clubs but a good view in the double squeeze. (*Looks like a double pseudo to me - Ed.*)

Sometimes it's not wise to describe all your assets as Frank To proved. You hold at love all:

♠ AQJ65 ♥ KQ4 ♦ AKJ7 ♣ A

and a multi two diamonds is opened on your right. If you can trust partner, and playing with me that's not sure, you can show 24 points but there are more ways than one of catching opponents. A swift pass, two hearts on your left, pass, pass to you and double (16-18 points, stops in both majors) is obvious! I held:

♠ 4 ♥ A1087 ♦ Q83 ♣ Q9754

and tried a tentative pass. As this wasn't the Young Chelsea, dummy was a one-count with a void heart and 900 was the healthy result. We went to see whether opponents had bid the thin slam, six diamonds? six hearts? six no-trumps? to gain three points. They did try six no-trumps but lost 14 IMPs as sound discarding by Warwick Pitch and Colin Thame (ie losers rather than winners) took them one off.

LONDON SCHOOLS' LEAGUE FINAL

This was contested by teams representing St. Paul's and Dulwich Schools, the former being the B team, having eliminated their supposedly more effective colleagues in the semi-final.

The final consisted of twenty-six boards divided into two sets of thirteen, both played extremely slowly. St. Pauls took a moderate lead in the first half and retained sufficient of it to add the League Trophy to the Daily Mail Schools' Cup.

John Pottage of Dulwich had an interesting problem in the second half:

♠ Q1052 ♥ 74 ♦ QJ8654 ♣ 6

At unfavourable vulnerability his partner opened 2NT and the next hand intervened with three clubs. The partnership had the unusual arrangement that, after a two club overcall of 1NT, double replaced Stayman. An additional factor was that the character of a three diamond bid at this point (ie whether it would be forcing) was regarded as uncertain.

So the decision was made to double three clubs, certainly not an unreasonable action in the context of the overall partnership agreement. Unfortunately his partner, George Ingels, held:

♠ K8 ♥ AK6 ♦ AK73 ♣ A853

a perfect hand which meant that six diamonds was cold. However the choice of actions available over three clubs doubled was unappetising and he elected to pass, taking a sure plus score which only amounted to 100 and a consequent loss of 11 IMPS since the contract in the other room was five diamonds plus one.

Although it is difficult to reach six diamonds with certainty the following auctions are possible:

2NT	3♣	Dble	Pass		2NT	3♣	3♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass	or	4♣	Pass	5♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♣	Pass		6♦	All Pass		
6♦	All Pass							

In both cases the five club bid is the key.

Obviously it is easier if there is no intervention over 2NT; playing Baron:

2NT	3♣
3♦	3♠
3NT	4♦
4♥	5♣
6♦	

In this auction opener **knows** that his K-x of spades is an excellent holding and only gives up on grand slam possibilities when responder cannot bid four spades over four hearts.

The winners, who were invited to play in the GLC Festival were: Julian Hodgson, Mark Scott, Stuart Webber and Mark Woodward.

WINNERS 1980/81 LCCBA COMPETITIONS

GLC Festival of Bridge

Pairs: J. Niblett & J. Armstrong

Teams: J. Niblett, J. Armstrong, P. Bailey & B. Callaghan

Fox Shammon

Mrs B. Pinto, Mrs M. Baker, W. Harvey & B. Russell

London Teams of 4 Championship

R. Breskal, G. Calderwood, V. Silverstone, C. Dixon, Mrs M. Dixon & B. Mervis

Melville Smith

R. Fleet, P. Bailey, J. Niblett & B. Rigal

Cadet Teams of 4

P. Gagne, P. Stephenson, D. Gill & L. Moore

London League

Premier Division: U. Dourmough, R. O'Reilly, C. Duckworth, F. To, I. Gardiner & D. Price

Division 1: Young Chelsea. W. Pitch, C. Thame, J. Hirst, D. Burn & R. Cliffe

Division 2: Ex Imperial College. Dr J. Gibson, R. Mallya, A. Kisiel, S. Strachan & Mrs A. Kisiel

Division 3: Macnair. A. Macnair, A. Gallop, G. Horsley & S. Husband

Division 4: Imperial College 'B'. C. Bala, W. Hodgkins, D. Hassan, G. Lee, M. Neville & M. Blan

Knock-out: ETESSA. Mrs P. Watson, I. Watson, Miss A. McNamara & L. Dudfield

London Pairs Final

E. Neiman & A. Winner

London Mens Pairs Final

E. Marriett & J. Chapman

Anne Reese Final

Mrs D. Carr & Mrs A. Milne

London Mixed Pairs Final

P. Evans & Mrs S. Carpenter

Cadet Pairs Final

I. Besser & L. Weinstock

London Trophy

Roehampton 'D'. V. Berger, Mrs P. Moss, E. Cohen & Mrs E. Cohen

London Trophy Plate

Southwark Sports. J. Lovett, R. Stoneham, J. Gibbons, D. Davide & J. Hunt

Home Counties League

London 1. U. Dourmough (npc), A. MacAlister, P. Lowry, D. Muller, G. Hiller, B. Rigal, S. Gillam, P. Simon, C. Essex, F. Warren, F. To, D. Carlisle, Mrs J. Northover & H. Rothschild

Champions Cup:

Great West Road League, Richmond Central Club.

Mrs R. Melville, P. Linton, A. Pigen & A. Richards

Daily Telegraph Final

London 'A'. R. Breskal, B. Posner, M. Walsh & D. Smerdon

Committee Cup Final

Middlesex. D. Utting, A. Harper, M. Slobado & J. Gardner

Junior Camrose 1982

This will be hosted by LCCBA on behalf of the EBU at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club, 32 Barkston Gardens, London, SW5, on 23rd and 24th January 1982. Spectators will be most welcome - no admission charge will be made. The NPC of the England team will be LCCBA member Richard Fleet.

Junior Inter-County Event

LCCBA has decided to revive this event, formerly hosted by Essex. Two teams of four, consisting entirely of players born on or after 1st January 1957, have been invited from each of Bedfordshire, Berks. & Bucks., Cumbs. and Hants., Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Suffolk, Surrey and Sussex. As part of LCCBA's policy to encourage younger players, the London team will consist entirely of school boys and girls; the trials to select the team will be held on 22nd November and the event itself on 10th January, both at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club.

Champions Cup

For champions of various Leagues in the London Area, played on 24th October 1981. Won by Young Chelsea 1 representing London League; runners up BP A representing London Business Houses; third Theydon Bois representing West Essex.

London Foursomes 1982

Members are reminded of the new date for this event of 20th to 21st March. Assuming that sufficient teams enter, a double eliminating format will be employed. Entry forms will be available in the new year.

Hackney Congress

For several years, LCCBA has been associated with the one-day Camden Congress. We are pleased that the London Borough of Hackney now intends to be involved in a similar venture in association with the Woodberry Down Bridge Club. The event will be held at the Britannia Leisure Centre, Hyde Road, Islington, London, N1 (near Old Street Station) on 6th June 1982. Further details will be available in due course.

Camden Congress Results

Main Event : 1. R. Dhondy and Mrs. F. Abrahams
2. W. Harvey and B. Russell
3. Ms. A. McNamara and J. Pettit