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Issue No. 7

Friday, 16 December 2011

AMERICAN DOUBLE

USA took both Individual gold medals at the 2011 Sport Accord World Mind Games in Beijing. In the Men, Chris Willenken had a final session-long battle with China's Jie Li before eventually coming out on top by 8 MPs on a top of 10. Li just held on to the silver medal as the fast finishing Brad Moss (USA) closed to just 1 MP behind him to claim the bronze.





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In the Women's event, Janice Seamon-Molson led for much of the final session and held on to win by 6 MPs from Nicola Smith (GB), with Molson's regular partner, Tobi Sokolow taking the bronze.

And so the first Sport Accord Mind Games come to a close. With many media outlets showing coverage, the Games will have helped to boost the profile of bridge (and the other four sports involved) around the world.

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	MEN SERIES					
	SESSION 3				FINAL STANDIN	NGS
I	MOSS Brad	64.76		I	WILLENKEN Chris	56.52
2	BERKOWITZ David	60.48		2	LI Jie	55.36
3	VERHEES JR Louk	58.57		3	MOSS Brad	55.22
4	WILLENKEN Chris	58.10		4	SONTAG Alan	53.91
5	GITELMAN Fred	56.67		-	RASMUSSEN Arild	53.91
6	DRIJVER Bas	54.76		6	ROSENBERG Michael	52.61
7	SONTAG Alan	52.38		7	GITELMAN Fred	52.46
8	GROETHEIM Glenn	51.90		-	BERKOWITZ David	52.46
-	MULLER Bauke	51.90		9	BRINK Sjoert	51.30
-	RASMUSSEN Arild	51.90		10	MULLER Bauke	51.16
11	WIJS Simon de	51.43		11	SHI Miao	50.72
12	LI Jie	50.95		12	WIJS Simon de	50.00
13	MALINOWSKI Artur	50.48		13	MALINOWSKI Artur	49.71
14	HOFTANISKA Thor Erik	48.57		14	VERHEES JR Louk	49.57
15	HOU Xu	47.14		15	TUNDAL Ulf Haakon	49.42
-	BRINK Sjoert	47.14		16	SHI Haojun	49.13
17	LIAN Ruoyang	46.19		17	HOFTANISKA Thor Erik	47.68
18	LIU Jing	44.76		18	GROETHEIM Glenn	46.96
-	PROOIJEN Ricco van	44.76		19	LIAN Ruoyang	46.81
-	ROSENBERG Michael	44.76		20	LIU Jing	46.23
21	CHARLSEN Thomas	41.43		21	DRIJVER Bas	45.51
22	SHI Miao	40.48		22	CHARLSEN Thomas	45.22
-	TUNDAL Ulf Haakon	40.48		23	HOU Xu	45.07
24	SHI Haojun	40.00		24	PROOIJEN Ricco van	43.04

WOMEN SERIES

SESSION 3

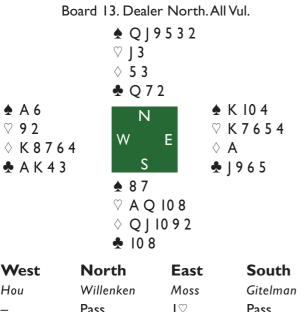
- I	SOKOLOW Tobi	59.52
2	SUN Ming	59.05
3	DHONDY Heather	58.10
4	SEAMON-MOLSON Janice	55.71
5	WANG Hongli	54.29
6	STOCKDALE Susan	53.81
-	GAVIARD Daniele	53.81
8	SMITH Nicola	52.86
9	BESSIS Veronique	52.38
10	LEVITINA Irina	51.43
Ш	D'OVIDIO Catherine	50.00
-	WILLARD Sylvie	50.00
13	SUN Yanhui	49.52
-	DEAS Lynn	49.52
15	SANBORN Kerri	49.05
16	FENG Xuefeng	48.10
17	BROCK Sally	46.67
18	LU Yan	44.76
-	PALMER Beth	44.76
20	NEVE Joanna	44.29
21	GU Ling	43.33
-	BROWN Fiona	43.33
-	CRONIER Benedicte	43.33
24	SENIOR Nevena	42.38

FINAL STANDINGS

I	SEAMON-MOLSON Janice	56.38
2	SMITH Nicola	55.51
3	SOKOLOW Tobi	54.93
4	WANG Hongli	54.06
5	DHONDY Heather	53.33
6	CRONIER Benedicte	53.04
7	FENG Xuefeng	52.61
8	SUN Ming	51.74
-	BESSIS Veronique	51.74
10	SENIOR Nevena	50.58
П	WILLARD Sylvie	50.43
12	SUN Yanhui	50.29
-	LEVITINA Irina	50.29
14	BROCK Sally	49.86
15	STOCKDALE Susan	49.13
16	D'OVIDIO Catherine	48.99
-	SANBORN Kerri	48.99
18	PALMER Beth	47.10
19	DEAS Lynn	46.52
20	BROWN Fiona	46.38
21	LU Yan	46.09
22		45.94
23	NEVE Joanna	44.78
24	GU Ling	41.30

Men's Individual – Session Two

Midway through the second session of the Men's Individual, USA's Chris Willenken still led the way and he came to our featured table for the next round, to partner fellow-American, Fred Gitelman, who was also well up in the overall rankings.

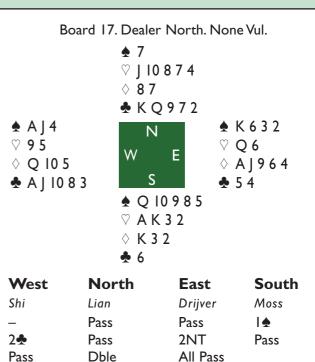


Hou	Willenken	Moss	Gitelman
_	Pass	$ \heartsuit$	Pass
2 🛧	Pass	20	Pass
2♠	Pass	3 📥	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	Pass	5 🙅	All Pass

Brad Moss opened the borderline East hand and Xu Hou followed a deliberately misleading auction with the expectation that he would eventually declare 3NT and that this would make the defence more difficult. It might well have done so, but Fred Gitelman doubled for a heart lead and Moss ran. Now Hou's bidding came home to roost because Moss could have run to just 4th, giving his partner the option of staying out of game and earning a plus score for his side. But Moss expected his partner to hold five clubs for this combination of bids and so jumped to the club game.

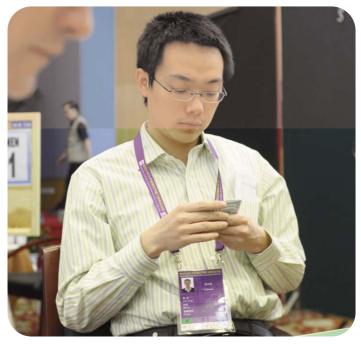
Five Clubs is doomed, of course, the issue being whether declarer can get out for just one down. Chris Willenken led the three rather than the jack of hearts and Gitelman won the queen, cashed the ace and led a third round. While Willenken could ruff that, the play was now effectively over with the trumps now coming in without further loss; down one for -100.





Brad Moss made a normal opening bid on the South cards and Miao Shi made a dubious overcall – I'm sure he would have liked a bit more playing strength but it often pays to get into the auction at matchpoints and the vulnerability was the best one for partscore competition. Ruoyi Lian quietly passed, hoping for a reopening double, which he would pass again for penalties. Bas Drijver had sufficient strength to try for game, responding 2NT and, when that came back to Lian, he doubled, ending the auction.

Moss led his singleton club and Drijver, knowing what the position had to be in that suit, called for the ace and ran the queen of diamonds then, when that held, the ten, losing



Jing Liu, China

to the king. Moss cashed the king of hearts, collecting the jack from Lian, then continued with ace and another. The defence had five heart tricks and two clubs to take for down three; -500 and huge score for N/S.

Bo	oard 18. Dealer	East. N/S Vu	l.
	▲ 8 5 ♡ J 9 2 ◊ A Q 6 ♣ 9 8 6 3		
 ▲ Q 10 9 6 ♡ K 8 3 ◊ 8 7 ▲ A K J 7 	N ₩ \$ \$ J 7 4 2 ♡ A Q 6 ◊ 4 2 \$ Q 10 2	♣ 5 ² 4	75 J1093
West	North	East	South
Shi	Lian	Drijver	Moss
_	_	$ \diamond$	Pass
♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3 📥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

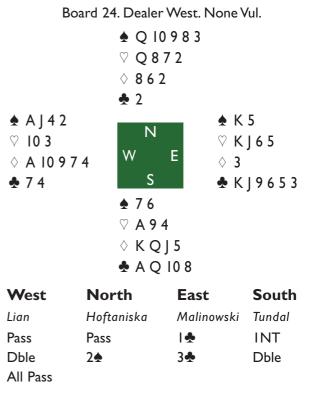
You might imagine that everyone would get to 3NT on the E/W cards once East opens the bidding. And, indeed, at most tables that was the case, the contract making nine tricks where the defence attacked hearts from the start. Drijver and Shi produced a little variety by playing $4 \pm$ on the four-three fit.

Lian led the two of hearts to the ace and back came the heart four to Shi's king. He led a diamond up and Lian grabbed the ace and continued with a third heart to his partner's queen. Seeing no future in the side-suits, Moss led



Ulf Tundal, Norway

the thirteenth heart, Shi pitching a club from hand and over-ruffing Lian's five with the ace. He could no longer pick up South's jack-to-four trumps by straightforward means but soon showed that it didn't matter. Shi played three rounds of clubs, ruffing low, king of diamonds a ruff with the nine, and a spade to the king. Now another diamond lead allowed him to trump coup the jack and make the last two tricks and his contract for +420. As the popular result was +400 in 3NT, making 4 was a very good result for E/W.



It looked obvious to Ulf Tundal that he double his compatriot's 3th contract. After all, he had three or probably four trump tricks, an ace and a useful diamond holding. How could he go wrong? Tundal had forgotten just how talented a player is Artur Malinowski.

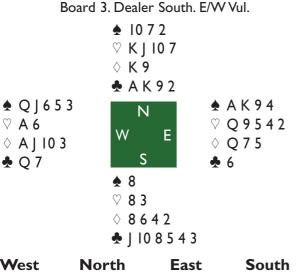
Tundal made the obvious lead of the king of diamonds. Malinowski won the ace and led the ten of hearts, covered all around. Now Tundal switched to a spade. Malinowski won dummy's ace and ruffed a diamond, played jack of hearts and ruffed one, ruffed another diamond, cashed the king of spades and led his last heart. Tundal could ruff in front of dummy with the eight but was endplayed and could not prevent Malinowski from making two of the remaining tricks for +670 and a complete top on the board.

It looks as though the winning defence is to play ace and another trump after winning the ace of hearts. That gives up two trump tricks, but Tundal lost one trick anyway due to the endplay so the difference is only one. The real difference is that now declarer has a total of three heart losers as well as a second club loser so is down a trick. Now that is a tough play to find!

Men's Individual – The Final Session

lie Li of China had a narrow lead going into the final 21board session of the men's Individual. The chasing pack was led by two Americans, regular partners Michael Rosenberg and Chris Willenken.

However, the championship soon turned into a straight fight between Li and Willenken for the gold medal.



North	East	South
de Wijs	Hou	Malinowski
_	_	Pass
Dble	4♠	5 🛧
All Pass		
	de Wijs – Dble	de Wijs Hou − − Dble 4♠

We watched this auction unfold on vugraph, seeing Artur Malinowski find the excellent save - he bought very well with those trumps in dummy, of course, but remember that even three down doubled would have been a paying save. On the actual deal, the contract was just one down, the heart position becoming marked once East turned up with the top spades; -100.

Willenken was South at another table and also found to winning 5th bid, while Li was West and allowed to play the spade game as North did not double. That gave Willenken 7 MPs out of 10, but Li 9 MPs.

West	North	East	South
Hoftaniska	Li	M. Shi	Hou
2 ◇	Pass	3♡	4♠
Pass All Pass	Pass	5◇	5♠
West	North	East	South
Brink	Berkowitz	Willenken	Sontag
2 ♦	Pass	4 ♡	4♠
5♡	Pass	Pass	5♠
Pass	Pass	6♡	Dble
All Pass			

Both our leaders did well again on this deal. As you can see, South can never be prevented from making twelve tricks as, if the defence leads trumps, he can establish the clubs, dummy's precious nine being the entry to cash the established winners, while if they do not lead trumps he can ruff two hearts in the dummy.

Li was dummy and watched as Thor Erik Hoftaniska led a heart to Miao Shi's jack. Shi switched to a diamond but now Xu Hou followed the two ruffs in dummy route to +680 and 7 MPs to Li.

At our other table, Willenken made the more aggressive jump to 4° as East and that persuaded Sjoert brink to save in 5% over 4 \clubsuit . When Alan Sontag took the push to 5 \clubsuit , Willenken judged to save at the six level, where he was doubled.

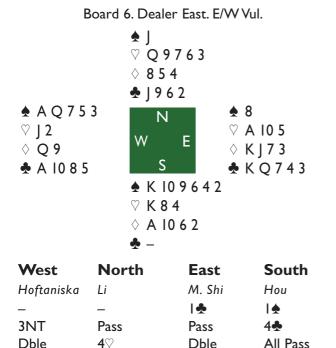
Perfect defence to 6% doubled nets three aces, a second club trick and a diamond ruff for South, four down for -800. (OK, there could be a second ruff for five down but that requires a fantasy underlead to the nine of spades.)

Reality proved to be rather different. Sontag cashed the king of spades followed by the ace of diamonds. A club switch was required now but he tried a second spade and that was that; one down for only -100 and 8 MPs to Willenken.

Board	4. Dealer West. Al	Vul.	Board	5. Dealer Nortl	h. N/S Vul.
 ♣ 5 2 ♡ 10 8 7 ◊ K J 8 7 4 3 ♣ K 5 	 ♦ 9 4 ♡ 9 ◊ 10 9 2 ♦ A Q 9 7 4 3 2 N W E 	6 A K Q J 6 3 Q 6 5 I 0 8 6	 ▲ 10 8 2 ♡ Q J 8 6 4 ◇ K 10 9 ◆ 9 3 	 ▲ J 9 7 4 ♡ 10 9 5 ◇ Q 3 ▲ J 10 5 4 W E S ▲ Q 5 3 ◇ A 2 ◇ 8 7 5 2 ♣ 8 7 6 2 	 ▲ A K 6 ♡ K 7 3 ◇ A J 6 4 ▲ A K Q

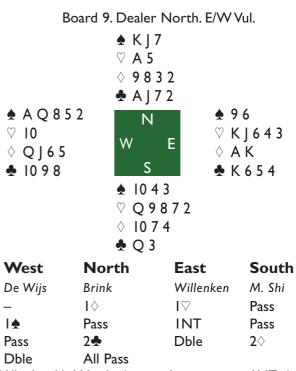
West	North	East	South
Hoftaniska	Li	M. Shi	Hou
_	Pass	2 🜲	Pass
2♡	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	4NT	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

There are always going to be issues of different styles when players who came up through different bridge cultures have to play together. So it proved here, where Norway's Hoftaniska made what looks to me to be an aggressive positive response to the strong artificial opening, yet was willing to accept Shi's slam invitation. Once hearts came in, the slam was only on the diamond guess. Actually, it was better than that in the sense that Hou actually led a club from four small - he might just as easily have led a diamond from virtually the same holding. However, Shi had little to go on. He did not wish to risk two down by cashing all his black winners before guessing in diamonds, so all he had to go on was that South had two hearts to North's three and had chosen to lead a safe club rather than a potentially safe diamond. He duly played South for the gueen and was one down for -50. That meant all 10 MPs for Li instead of a zero had Shi guessed better.



If the above had greatly boosted Li's hopes of the title, this one took away most of his gains. Hou overcalled $1 \triangleq$ and, when his vulnerable opponents bid to 3NT, bid $4 \clubsuit$ as a three-suited take-out, trading on the favourable vulnerability.

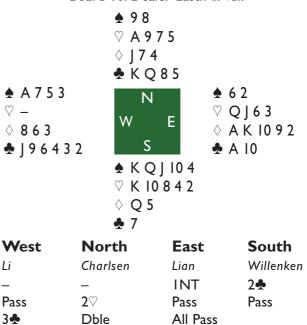
Li ruffed the club lead and ran the jack of spades to Hoftaniska's ace. Hoftaniska returned the jack of hearts and, when Li played low, Shi defended correctly by winning the ace and playing a second round to dummy's king. Li led the king of spades off the dummy and Hoftaniska played low. Li could pitch a club loser but Shi got his second trump trick back with a ruff. There was nothing more to the play, Li just coming to the ace of diamonds and three more trumps for down four; -800 and 2 MPs to N/S.



Willenken/de Wijs had a simple auction to INT, the popular spot. Now Brink overdid the 'disturb your opponents' INT contract' idea. His 2 was very dangerous in a nonfit auction and suffered the fate it deserved.

Willenken led a top diamond and would have done best to cash the second diamond before switching. Instead, he switched to a spade. Simon de Wijs won the ace and switched to his heart, Brink winning the ace and playing a trump. Willenken won, perforce, and led a second spade round to declarer. Brink tried a low club now, which Willenken was obliged to win. Brink could scramble six tricks now but -300 was the same zero that -500 would have been, greatly strengthening Willenken's challenge.

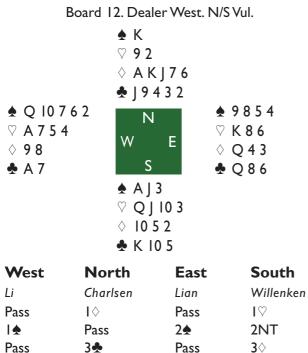
Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



Ruoyi Lian opened a slightly off-centre but reasonable INT and Willenken showed the majors. Li passed for now to see what would happen but competed with $3\clubsuit$ when

Thomas Charlsen's 2^{\heartsuit} came around. Now Charlsen had a tough decision – he had four good trumps but also four decent hearts when he had only expressed preference up to now. Charlsen chose to double, looking for the magic +200 on a partscore deal, and Willenken shrugged his shoulders and passed.

Charlsen led the nine of spades, overtaken by Willenken and ducked by Li. Willenken led a second spade to declarer's ace and Li led a diamond to the ace then the queen of hearts off the table. Willenken covered, a decision which was to haunt him later as the play developed, and Li ruffed. Next he led a diamond to the king and ruffed a low diamond then ruffed a spade with the ten, Charlsen pitching his remaining low heart. But now Li ruffed his last spade with the ace of trumps and had a heart winner on which to discard his last diamond. Charlsen could ruff but, down to nothing but trumps, had to concede a trick to Li's ♣J-9-6. The contract was just made for +670 and 10 MPs to Li, zero to Willenken.



All Pass

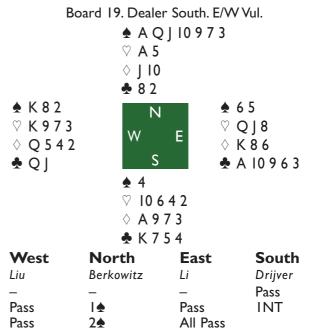
Charlsen opened the North hand on the strength of his five-five distribution. When Willenken bid a natural 2NT at his next turn, Charlsen thought for some time before running to $3\clubsuit$, safe in the knowledge that he was known to be weak as he had passed at his previous turn over the $l\bigstar$ overcall. Willenken got the message and gave preference to $3\diamondsuit$, ending the auction.

Lian led the nine of spades round to Charlsen's king. Charlsen wished for a quick entry to dummy to take a heart pitch on the ace of spades but didn't have one. He cashed the top diamonds in hope of dropping the queen but it was not to be. When he next led a club to the ten, Li took the ace and wasted no time in leading ace and another rheart to cash the defensive winners. With most pairs playing in no trump, +110 proved to be an inadequate score for N/S and Li had once again gained on Willenken.

В	oard 18. Deale	6532	ul.
	📥 —		
🛧 Q 7		🔶 A	A J 4
♡ A 8 6 5		♡ K	(Q732
A 6 3		0 ¢	28
🕭 J 8 4 3		♣ (Q 10 9
-	▲ 10 8		
	♡ 10		
	♦ K 5 4	4 2	
	📥 A K	7652	
West	North	East	South
Groetheim	Berkowitz	de Wijs	Moss
_	_	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

While we were concentrating on the fight for gold, Brad Moss was quietly moving through the field and challenging for the bronze medal. His over 64% session duly achieved that goal with this nice defence doing him no harm at all.

De Wijs opened with a 15-17 no trump and, unlike half the field, who simply raised to game, Groetheim used Stayman then raised to 4° . Moss led the ace of clubs then continued with the club two for Berkowitz to ruff. The suit preference connotations of the two were clear to Berkowitz, who switched to the jack of diamonds to the queen, king and ace. There was no escape for declarer, as Moss had a winner in each minor. The contract was down one for -50 and all 10 MPs to N/S.



Every other N/S pair got too high and went down in game. Berkowitz didn't like to leap around with 2-2-2 in the side suits and his quiet approach paid off big time as he was allowed to play peacefully in $2^{\text{(b)}}$, losing a trick in each suit; +140 and all 10 MPs. That was a killer for Li, who finished second to Willenken, with Brad Moss of USA third.

TV Broadcast Distribution

CAN		4-040		COOL			
CNN	CNN	CNN	More than 180 countries	CNN			
	China	CCTV-5 Sport News, Award Ceremony & Feature stories Chinese athletes	220m potential households		Global Nev	vs on televi-	
Sutv SNTV		SNTV Daily highlights	More than 90 countries	<u>Sntv</u>	sion, radio, v	veb, mobile	
REUTERS. 🕽	Reuters	Reuters Final matches & Daily highlights	More than 110 countries	REUTERS Ø	and all digi	tal devices	
NOR	Eurovision	Eurovision News distribution to all members	More than 56 countries	Nor			
*	TVB - Hong Kong	News	2.8 million homes	臺翠台			
		Chir	na	Beijing TV live coverage for Xiang Qi and GO + daily highlights	8m potential households		
		Kaz	akhstan	Sport 1 all matches live and highlights	Cable & Satellite and internet - 3.2m households		
LIV	/ Broadcasters: E coverage	Azerbaijan		AZTV all matches live and highlights	Cable and Satellite - 400,000 households.	Arte	
81	k highlights	• India		Ten Sports India Daily highlights	Cable and satellite 20 million households		
		Kuv	vait	Kuwait TV Daily highlights	Terrestrial Cable and Satellite - 700,00 households	<u>*</u>	
		Mongolia		Channel 1 Daily highlights	Terrestrial Cable and Satellite - 1.4m homes	İ	
++	Georgia	GMG All matches live & daily highlights	Cable and Satellite - 10,000 households.	GศG			
-	Bulgaria	BTV Bulgaria All matches live & highlights	Cable & Satellite and internet - 1m households	Þtv	European + TV Broad		
C+	Turkey	Sports TV Turkey – 52 minutes Event Summary	Cable and Satellite – 500,000 households.	🔊 sportstv	LIVE co & high		
SETANTA AFRICA	Pan Africa	Setanta Africa Daily highlights	Multiple Platforms, TV - 22m households	SETANTA APRICA			
New Media		You Tube	Global excl China	SportAccord You Tube Channel All matches liv daily highlight:		Sportaccord	
		Mark Market	Global excl China	IMSA federatic channel All matches liv highlights		in San King	
web	streaming	=	Europe but popular with Austria/Germany	www.laola1.tv All matches liv daily highlight:	re &	₽₽₽ ₽1.tv	
		Dolymatian	Global excl China	Daily Motion/Orange IP Portal	2	Dalymetten	
		*	Comite Olimpico Chileno	Chilean Olymp Committee website	ic	W	