Daily Event Bulletin

The 6th South East Asia Bridge Federation Championships The 39th ASEAN Bridge Club Championships

Singapore | 11-15 December 2023



Issue 4 | Thursday, 14 December 2023

🗑 Today's Schedule

09.30 - 11.00: Teams Round 6 11.15 - 12.45: Teams Round 7

14.00 - 15.30: Teams Round 8 15.45 - 17.15: Teams Round 9 17.30 - 19.00: Teams Round 10





Scan to view the live score, schedule, and online bulletin.





More photos can be found at https://bit.ly/seabf2023pics

Denny Sacul Passes Away Aged 75

The Championship received the sad news this morning that Indonesian bridge legend, Denny Sacul, passed away at 04.44 Indonesian time this morning. He was 75 years old.

SEABF Vice-president Khunying Esther Chodchoy Sophonpanich announced the news and led the observation of a minute's silence before the start of the play today.

A full obituary for Denny can be found on Page 2.

In the Combined Teams Swiss Qualifying, team Amanda from Singapore is leading the pack with 80.16 VPs, with a huge margin of almost 10 VPs from second-placed Ambassador with 70.28 VPs.

In each of the other categories, the leading teams are as follows: Senior: Djarum Senior (56.46 VPs, 7th) Ladies: Djarum LA (53.14 VPs, 10th) Youth: Bobo Dird (59.38 VPs, 6th)

The race is on as we head into the second day of qualifying. Which teams will prevail?

This event is proudly brought to you by:







Obituary: Denny Sacul (1948-2023)



This morning, Bert Toar Polii informed us: the World Bridge community received a piece of sad news this morning that Indonesian bridge legend Denny Sacul passed on before 5am local time today, 13 Dec. Denny had been hospitalised at the MRCC Hospital Semangi Jakarta. Denny was 75 years old. As recently as the start of this month, he was still playing in the Tugu Muda Cup in Semarang, partnering Santje Panelewen.

Denny represented Indonesia starting from the 1973 World Championships. Over the years, Denny has been consistently at the top in the world, including a 4th place finish at the 1975 Bermuda Bowl, a 2nd place finish at the 1996 World Team Olympiad, a 2nd place finish at the 2002 World Bridge Championships and consecutive 2nd place finishes in the Senior Bowl in 2005 and 2007.

Bert Toar Polii further adds: He (Denny) had been sick for a few months. But he still played in Tugu Muda Cup Semarang on 1-3 December and his team was the winner. It was his last bridge tournament. Still a bridge champion until the end. On 9 December before I came to Singapore (for the SEABF Championships), I had a video call with him and that time he was laughing all the time, he was well.

David Law, Honorary Secretary of Malaysia Contract Bridge Association (MCBA) adds: "Denny Sacul was one of the best AND nicest players in the region. He was a player one really looked forward to playing with or against. The Malaysian bridge community pays tribute to his excellent bridge skills and warm personality. A true Champion both in bridge and in life!"

SEABF Vice-President Khunying Esther Chodchoy Sophonpanich announced the sad news and led the entire championship in observing a minute's silence before the start of play at the tournament today (13 Dec). The SEABF Championships organising committee and the Singapore Contract Bridge Association expresses our deepest condolences to Denny's family and also to our fellow Indonesian bridge community for their loss.

(Photo Credits and contribution: Bert Toar Polii)

Combined Teams Swiss Standings

and Start List for Round 6

Rank	Team	VPs	Starting Table for Round 6
1	Amanda (O)	80.16	1 (Home)
2	Ambassador (O)	70.28	l (Visiting)
3	НКВ (О)	65.65	2 (Visiting)
4	Djarum Super (O)	63.6	2 (Home)
5	Ganesha Open (O)	61.17	3 (Home)
6	Bobo Dird (Y)	59.38	4 (Visiting)
7	Djarum Senior (S)	56.46	3 (Visiting)
8	Xia Shun (O)	54.16	4 (Home)
9	ACR JM (O)	54	5 (Visiting)
10	Djarum LA (L)	53.14	5 (Home)
11	Tiger (O)	50.12	6 (Visiting)
12	Magic Eyes (S)	50.05	7 (Home)
13	Bridge Hunters (O)	49.87	6 (Home)
14	Eagles (O)	48.51	7 (Visiting)
15	Ganesha Senior (S)	47.23	8 (Home)
16	PHELCYLDRM (O)	47.03	9 (Home)
17	Ganesha Ladies (L)	46.63	8 (Visiting)
18	SGP (L)	44.32	9 (Visiting)
19	PH Open (O)	42.34	10 (Visiting)
20	Nautilus (O)	42.17	10 (Home)
21	Payoon Bridge (Y)	37.9	11 (Visiting)
22	RI (Y)	34.48	11 (Home)
23	ACEH (O)	32.72	12 (Visiting)
24	NUS (Y)	2.63	12 (Home)

Note:

Home team sits NS in the Open Room and EW in the Closed Room; Visiting team sits EW in the Open Room and NS in the Closed Room. Neither team has seating rights.



Combined Teams Swiss Day 1 Vugraph Highlights

Round 1: Ambassador vs Bobo Dird

The first round of the Swiss sees a match-up between teams Ambassador and Bobo Dird at Table 1. The first round pairings are randomly drawn, and the generator seems to have given us a potentially interesting match.



L-R: Chuan Cheng Ju, Timothy Wu, Russell Siew (VGO), Patrick Choy, Jun Yang Ang

In the Open Room, sitting NS for team Ambassador are Open Pairs runners-up Chuan Cheng (CC) Ju (North) and Patrick Choy (South) versus Timothy Wu (East) and Jun Yang Ang (West) for Bobo Dird.



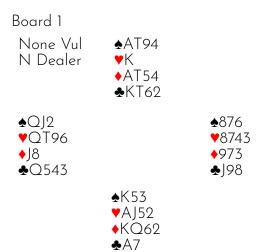
L-R: Xin Guan, Jim Lee, Estee Row (VGO), Han Wei Koh, Peter Haw

In the Closed Room, sitting NS for team Bobo Dird are Xin Guan (North) and Han Wei Koh (South) against Jim Lee (East) and Peter Haw (West).

Former WBF Vice-President Patrick Choy requires little introduction to most in this region. While their opponents Bobo Dird are a youth team, they are no strangers to the game, having Xin Guan and Timothy Wu from this year's APBF U26 Champion team. Both Peter Haw and Timothy Wu also finished second in the WBF Youth Championships in 2018 and 2023 respectively as part of the Singapore U26 team.



L: Patrick Choy; R: Timothy Wu



Open Room:

W: Ang	N: Ju	E: Wu	S: Choy
	1NT	Р	4 ♣
Р	4 ♠	Р	6NT
AP			

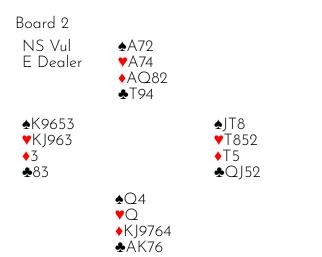
Closed Room:

W: Haw	N: Guan	E: Lee	S: Koh
Р	1♦	Р	1
Р]♠	Р	3NT
AP			

Patrick and CC bid to 6NT but could not find the 12th trick for their contract - one down. At the other table, Han Wei made 12 tricks in 3NT. 11 IMPs to Bobo Dird who first take the lead on the scoreboard.

This would not last long though, as Ambassador struck back on the very next deal, and this match is starting to look promising indeed:

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Open Room:

W: Ang	N: Ju	E: Wu	S: Choy
		Р	1•
2♦	Х	3♥	4 ♣
Р	6♦	AP	

Closed Room:

W: Haw	N: Guan	E: Lee	S: Koh
		Р	1♦
2♦	3NT	AP	

The first three bids were the same at both tables. CC Ju in the Open Room decided to double first, eventually reaching 6. In the Closed Room, Xin Guan bid 3NT which ended the auction.

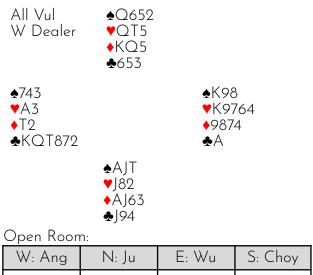
In 6♦, Patrick played small from dummy on the ♥3 lead and won with the Q in hand. He then led a small trump to the A in dummy, and ran the ♣T successfully. A claim for thirteen tricks soon followed after another round of trumps.

At the other table, a small ♥ was led and Xin Guan let the K hold, only winning the third round of ♥s discarding two small ♣ from dummy. He then played off ♦s and claimed his ten tricks. 13 IMPs to Ambassador and the running score is now 13-11 after the first two boards!



Chuan Cheng Ju

Board 3 was a push, and Bobo Dird picked up IMPs again on board 4:



w: Ang	IN: JU	⊏: wu	D: Choy
Р	Р	Р	1♦
2 ♣	Х	Р	2♦
Р	3♦	AP	

After the lead of \clubsuit K, East-West found their defensive ruffs to take the contract 2 off.

Closed Room:

W: Haw	N: Guan	E: Lee	S: Koh
Р	Ρ	1♥	Р
INT	Р	2♦	Р
3 ♣	AP		

After the ♠5 lead, the defence picked up three spade tricks and two diamond tricks to set the contract by one. 7 IMPs and 18-13 to Bobo Dird.

Picking up 2 IMPs each on the next three boards, Bobo Dird raced to a 24-13 lead after 7 out of 12 boards.

More slams awaited both teams:

∳JT5 ♥J7

♦QT873 &J83

Board 8

None Vul ♦ Dealer ♦ KQ876 ♦ KQ876





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Open Room:

W: Ang	N: Ju	E: Wu	S: Choy
1♠	Р	2♥	Р
2♠	Р	3 ♠	Р
4 ♣	Р	5♦	Р
5♥	Р	5NT	Р
6 ♣	Р	7♠	AP

Closed Room:

W: Haw	N: Guan	E: Lee	S: Koh
1♠	Р	2NT	Р
4♠	Р	4NT	Р
5 ♠	Р	7 ≜	AP

Well done to both teams and the score remains unchanged at 24-13

Board 9 saw a part score swing in favour of Ambassador when both Norths found themselves in 2-level partscores, but 2♠ made in the Open Room while 2♥ drifted one off in the Closed Room for 4 IMPs to Ambassador to bring the score to 24-17

Board 11

None Vul S Dealer	✿Q864 ♥K ♦K985 ♣A983	
▲A52 ♥97643 ♦64 ♣542		 ▲JT93 ♥QT2 ◆J72 ◆J76
	▲ K7 ♥AJ85	

♦AQT3
 ♣KQT

Open Room:

W: Ang	N: Ju	E: Wu	S: Choy
			1D
Р	1♠	Р	2NT
Р	3 ♦ ^A	Р	3♥
Р	4 ♣	Р	4•
Р	4♥	Р	4 ♠
Р	5♦	Р	6♦
AP			

Closed Room:

W: Haw	N: Guan	E: Lee	S: Koh
			1D
Р]♠	Р	2NT
Р	4♦	Р	4♥
Р	4NT	Р	5 ≜
Р	6♦	AP	

With Boards 10 to 12 all being push boards, the match finished 24-17 in Bobo Dird's favour for a VP score of 12.31 to 7.69.

Round 3: HKB vs Djarum Senior

Djarum Senior defeated both PH Open and team SGP (Ladies) to move into second place with 32.95 VPs behind HKB with 33.58VPs over the lunch break.

At the Open Table, HKB's partnership of Gordon Ho (North) and Flora Wong (South) sat down against Bert Toar Polii (East) and Triwono Sugeng (West).



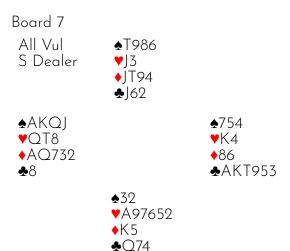
L-R: Gordon Ho, Bert Toar Polii, Russell Siew (VGO), Flora Wong, Triwono Sugeng



L-R: Zia Wai, Michael Bambang Hartono, Baron Ng, Apin Nurhalim, Estee Row (VGO)

SEABF President Michael Bambang Hartono (N) and M Apin Nurhalim (S) faced off against Barong Ng (E) and Zia Wai (W) in the other room.

The match started off relatively quiet, with Djarum Senior scoring 6 IMPs on the first two boards and HKB scoring 8 IMPs on boards 4 and 5. Boards 3 and 6 were push boards.



Open Room:

W: Sugen	N: Ho	E: Polii	S: Wong
			2 ♦ ^A
Х	ХХ	3 ♣	Р
3NT	AP		

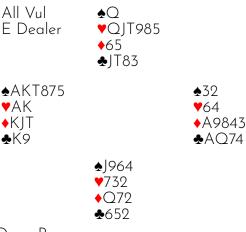
Closed Room:

W: Wai	N: MBH	E: Ng	S: MAN
			2♥
Х	Р	3NT	Р
4♥	Р	5 ♣	Р
6NT	AP		

In the Open Room, the ♥J was led by Gordon, covered by the K and A. Flora returned another, won by the Q. Now Triworo cashed 4 rounds of spades. He then led a small diamond, won by the 9. After the club return, declarer won two rounds with dummy's AK, and played a small diamond picking up the K in South's hand. Declarer still had a diamond trick to lose - 3NT+1.

In the Closed Room, Apin Nurhalim led the ♠3. Declarer won three rounds in ♠s, then led a small club to the A, cashed the K and conceded the third round of clubs. Bambang cashed the ♥A and returned another. One down and 12 IMPs to Djarum Senior who now lead 18-8. After picking up 6 IMPs on the next two boards, Djarum Senior led 24-8 with three boards remaining.

Board 10



Open Room:

W: Sugen	N: Ho	E: Polii	S: Wong
		Р	Р
1 ♣ ^	2♥	3♦	Р
3♠	Р	4 ♠	Р
4NT	Р	5♥	Р
6♠	AP		

Declarer won the \clubsuit J lead in hand, and cashed the \bigstar A. Seeing the fall of the \bigstar Q, he then crossed over in \clubsuit and finessed trumps, claiming when the \bigstar 10 won after covering the \bigstar 9.

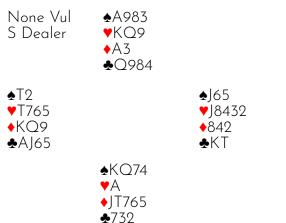
Closed	Room
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W: Wai	N: MBH	E: Ng	S: MAN
		Ρ	Р
2 ♣ ^A	Р	2♦	Р
2♠	Р	2NT	Р
3♠	Р	4 ♣	Р
4♠	Р	4NT	Р
5♦	Р	5♥	Р
5♠	Ρ	6 ♠	Р

After a detailed asking sequence, the EW pair in the other room also landed in the same slam and play proceeded along the same lines after the \mathbf{VQ} lead.

Ρ

Board 11



Open Room:

W: Sugen	N: Ho	E: Polii	S: Wong
			Р
Р	INT	Р	2 ♠
Р	2♠	Р	4 ♠
AP			

Bert found the lead of the ♣K and the defence scored two ♣ tricks, a ♣ ruff. Declarer still had a ♦ trick to lose so the contract went one down.

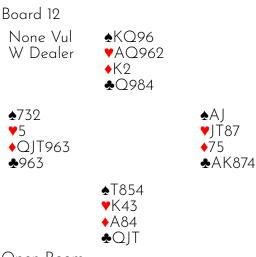
Closed Room:

W: Wai	N: MBH	E: Ng	S: MAN
			Р
Р	1•	Р]♠
Р	2♠	Р	2NT
Р	4 ♠	AP	

At the other table, the difference in systems meant that South was the one playing the contract instead. Declarer had no real issues on the ♥ lead and made 11 tricks. 11 IMPs and 35-8 to Djarum Senior.



L: Michael Bambang Hartono, R: M Apin Nurhalim



Open Room:W: SugenN: HoE: PoliiS: WongP $1 \checkmark$ P $2 \checkmark$ P $2 \bigstar^A$ $3 \bigstar$ $3 \bigstar$

Play started with three rounds of ♣s, declarer discarding a small ♠ from hand. Next came three rounds of trumps and a small ♠ from dummy to the K and A. Bert now played another ♣ and Gordon ruffed. After cashing the ♦K and ♦A, this was the three card end position with the lead in dummy: Board 12

AΡ

None Vul	≜ Q9
W Dealer	♥9
≜ 7 ♦QJ	

37



Declarer chose to run the \bigstar 10 and Bert took the last three tricks for two off.

Closed Room:

W: Wai	N: MBH	E: Ng	S: MAN
3♦	Х	AP	

Zia had 5 inescapable losers after the ♠K lead. Plus 7 IMPs for Djarum Senior.

Djarum Senior thus clinched the match 42-8 for an 18-2 victory in VPs.

In the other vugraph match, team Amanda beat Ganesha Ladies 20-0 to overtake Djarum Senior in the standings. The teams start round 4 at 52.33 and 50.95 VPs respectively. Trailing behind them are Djarum Super with 43.6 VPs. Round 4: Amanda vs Djarum Senior

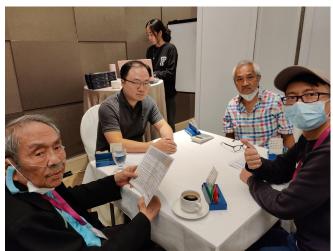
Three consecutive rounds for Djarum Senior at table 1! Can they go all the way?

Djarum Senior retained their lineup for this round, with Bert Polii (E) and Triworo Sugeng (W) facing Gideon Tan (N) and Choon Chou (CC) Loo (S).



L-R: Gideon Tan, Bert Toar Polii, Choon Chou Loo, Triworo Sugeng

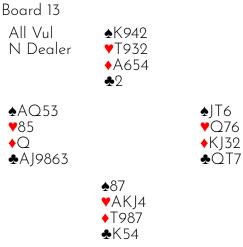
In the closed room, Yukun Zhang (E) and Cheng Luo (W) were up against Michael Bambang Hartono (N) and M Apin Nurhalim (S).



L-R: Michael Bambang Hartono, Yukun Zhang, M Apin Nurhalim, Cheng Luo

With a strong Djarum Senior team matched up against a team of Singapore national team players, who will prevail?

The first board of the set saw a partscore battle on both tables:



Open Room:

W: Sugen	N: Tan	E: Polli	S: Loo
	Р	Р	1♦
2♣	Х	3♣	Р
Р	Х	Р	3♥
AP			

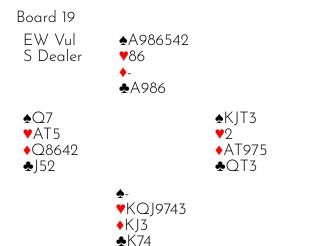
In the Open Room, Loo opened with the South hand and the competitive auction ended in 3♥. Triworo led the ♣A and continued with another, declarer discarding a small diamond from dummy and winning with the K. Declarer next cashed the ♥A and led ♠8 towards the table, West winning with the A. The spade return was won on table with the K, ♠A cashed and two rounds of diamonds conceded to the defence. The ♠J return was ruffed in hand, and a small diamond ruffed in dummy. Now Loo finessed against the ♥Q and claimed contract making.

Closed Room:

W: Luo	N: MBH	E: Zhang	S: MAN
	Ρ	Р	Р
2♣	AP		

In the Closed Room, Cheng took the spade lead with the J in dummy, picked up trumps and conceded a diamond and two heart tricks, making ten tricks in total. 7 IMPs to Amanda.

Both Norths ended up in 4♠ going one off on the next board, and Amanda picked up another 9 IMPs on the next 4 boards to lead 16-0 at the halfway mark of the match.



Open Room:

W: Sugen	N: Tan	E: Polli	S: Loo
			1♥
Р]♠	Р	3♥
Р	3 ♠	Р	4♥
Р	6♥	AP	

On the 6 lead, CC Loo ruffed in dummy, and cashed the A discarding the J. Next a ruff and a ruff back to dummy. The next round of saw Triworo over-ruffing 7 the with the 10. Declarer still had the A and a ruft trick to lose for two off.

Closed Room:

W: Luo	N: MBH	E: Zhang	S: MAN
			1♥
Р]♠	Р	2♥
Р	3♥	Р	4 ♣
Р	4♥	Х	AP

Declarer had no issues at the other table on the lead of ♠Q and quickly wrapped up 10 tricks. 12 IMPs to Djarum Senior and the match score is now 16-12

Now an intermission with a bidding question. You hold as the South hand, All Vul:

∳J8 ♥97 ♦2

♣J9876543

W	Ν	E	S
			Р
1♥	Х	2 ♣ ^A	?

Your opponents play Precision, and 2♣ was alerted and explained as a transfer to ♦s.

What would you bid? Hold that thought as we move to board 20 first.

Board 20			
All Vul W Dealer	♠KT874		
w Dealer	♥KT85 ♦8		
	♣976		
▲ A62		♦ 953	1
♥Q73 ♦KJ9		♥A2 ♦T65	43
♣ KJ42		♣ Q5	3
	♦ QJ		
	♥J964 ♦AQ72		
	♣AT8		
Open Roon	n:		
W. Sugen	N: Tan	F. Polli	S. 1

W: Sugen	N: Tan	E: Polli	S: Loo
INT	AP		

Triworo held up once on the \blacklozenge lead, and then tried \blacklozenge K from hand. CC Loo won and attacked with \blacklozenge 9. When the dust had settled, the defence scored 4 \blacklozenge tricks, 3 \blacklozenge tricks, 2 \blacklozenge tricks and the \blacklozenge A for 4 off, +400 to NS.

W: Luo	N: MBH	E: Zhang	S: MAN
1•	Р	Р	1NT
Р	2♥	Р	2♠
AP			

2♠ made 9 tricks for +140 to NS, but this was still 6 IMPs to Amanda. Board 21 saw another partscore swing (2♠ making vs down 1) giving another 4 IMPs to Amanda. Board 22 was flat, so going into the penultimate board, Amanda leads 26-12. In the midst of this, Djarum Senior received an automatic 2VP penalty when Bert's phone rang. Remember to silence your phones!

Board 23 (All Vul, S dealer)

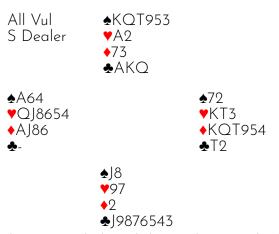
We will switch things around and present the Closed Room bidding first.

Closed Room:

W: Luo	N: MBH	E: Zhang	S: MAN
			Р
1♥	Х	INT	Р
4♥	4 ♠	Р	Р
Х	AP		

And now for the full hand:

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The ♦K was led, and then Yukun switched to the ♣10. Cheng returned the ♥Q, won by declarer who now ruffed his second ♦ in dummy. A trump now went to Cheng's ♠A and he returned a ♥ to score yet another ♣ ruff for two down. -500 to NS.

Open Room:

W: Sugen	N: Tan	E: Polli	S: Loo
			Р
1♥	Х	2♣	Р
2♦	2♠	3♥	Р
4♥	AP		

During the bidding, CC Loo enquired as to the meaning of 2♠ on his turn to bid and was told it was natural and non-forcing. He then decided to pass and EW found their way to 4♥ after Gideon rebid 2♠. Declarer took 12 tricks for -680 to NS and 5 IMPs to Djarum Senior.

At the end of the hand, TD (yours truly) was summoned to the table and the situation explained. All players including the vugraph operator agreed with the facts. The convention card of the EW pair stated that their partnership agreement for 2€ was indeed a transfer to ♦s and West had given the wrong explanation.

The TDs conferred and agreed that South was misinformed by West and Law 21B3 might apply here if the offending side might gain an advantage.

The question here is: would South bid over 2**\$** if he had been given the correct explanation? Hence the bidding question given on the previous page was polled to five other players of standard similar to South. Three of the players chose to bid, and the other two who passed expressed interest in bidding on the following round if their partner still had interest in the auction.

Given the results of the poll, the TDs tried to construct possible auctions if South chose to bid on, eventually arriving at a weighted probability of:

50% of NS playing 5♠X-1 30% of NS playing 6♠X-2/4♠X-2 20% of the table result

How would this be scored? Each of the above possibilities would first be converted to IMPs with the Closed Room result, and then the probability weights applied. This leads to:

50% of NS +7 IMPs 30% of flat board 20% of NS -5 IMPs

Which leads to a final adjusted score of +2.5 IMPs to NS on this board.

With the last board being a push, Amanda thus wins the match 28.5-12 which translates to 14.93-5.07 in VPs.

Thus going into the last round, Amanda led the field by 10.76 VPs over second placed Djarum Super (67.26 and 56.5 VPs respectively).

A pretty exciting day, and a rare occasion where the bulletin editor gets to explain a weighted score TD ruling in detail!

Also, many thanks to our hard-working vugraph operators for the day!



Vugraph Operators for the day (L-R): Olivia Clare Low, Estee Row, Zachary Paik, Russell Siew (Lead)

Message from the Tournament Directors



Please remember to count your cards at the start of each hand!

Again, several teams were penalized for not counting. It is a requirement in the bridge laws (Law 7B2) to count <u>before</u> looking at the cards.

<u>Please silence your phones!</u>

Any ringing phones will incur an automatic 2VP penalty.

Please beware of COVID-19!

There has been a resurgence of cases in Singapore and various parts of Southeast Asia. If you are feeling unwell or experiencing flu-like symptoms, please request for an ART kit from the Secretariat on Level 21. For your safety, elderly players, pregnant women, and people with weak immune systems, are advised to mask up in the competition venue.

Trivia Corner

By now, you would likely know about the famous waterfall at Jewel Changi Airport. It's called the HSBC Rain Vortex, and is currently the tallest indoor waterfall in the world (40 metres). Be sure to give yourself an hour to stop by before you board the plane home! (There's also a Pokemon Center; a perfect spot for gifts if you have kids or young adult friends.)

Previously, the record was held by the waterfall in the Cloud Forest at Gardens by the Bay (35 metres). If you loved the 2009 sci-fi movie "Avatar", now is the time to visit, as there's an immersive walkthrough experience in the Cloud Forest, happening for a limited time. While you're there, make sure you go to the very top to see the "Ethereal White Persians" by Dale Chihuly too!

Tourist Map



Scan for a curated Google Map.



Want to Contribute?

Do you have a trivia submission of your own? Or do you have an interesting hand that you wish to highlight to your fellow players? Please send submissions to <u>competition@scba.org.sg</u> with details of the hands (Event, Session number, board number, name of players, bidding and play) marking "For the Editor" in the subject title.