



August 2022

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# THE BRIDGE

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

As always let me begin by thanking my committee for their continued support and hard work through what has proved to be another difficult and challenging year.

Back in 2020 our challenge was to encourage players to play on-line while our clubs were closed, not thinking that COVID would drag on as long as it has and things would return to normal quite quickly. Two years on our challenge is to remind players that bridge is a social game and to encourage them to return to their clubs. Of course virtual bridge has its place, but it should not be allowed to replace real bridge.

One of the downsides of virtual bridge is it makes it much easier and tempting to cheat. To combat this we created an Ethics committee last year whose sole purpose was to investigate claims of cheating, and if the evidence proved sufficient submit this to the Disciplinary committee. It is a sad reflection on our game that this has proved necessary, but it is of utmost importance both here and abroad that we are seen to be taking this matter seriously.

One of the advantages of virtual bridge is that it has exposed us to different conventions from overseas players and encouraged us to adopt some of these ourselves. It has also made us far more adept at defending against unusual conventions and to reflect this we have updated our rules concerning the control of conventions where we take a more liberal stance than that previously held.

The SABF has always been an untiring advocate of training in all its different forms but we have particularly focused over the last year on teaching beginners and strongly supported the initiatives of the Western Cape with Carol Stanton's lessons, and been equally supportive of similar courses held in the other provinces. We have created a database of over 200 beginners and offer them, along with their very own website, free supervised games online to encourage them to practice what they have learnt. It remains to be seen how many of them finally join our clubs.

## IN THIS ISSUE

From The President

Congress 2022

Ranking Achievements

Breaking the Rules

The Bridge Lounge

Puzzles

The Changing of the Guard

Trials 2023

Solutions



## North

♠ 8763

♥ 86

♦ AK6

♣ K542

## South

♠ AKJ

♥ AK43

♦ J2

♣ AQ87

Plan your play - and I'll make this easy for you, the club suit breaks.

### Initial Analysis

The first thing that crosses your mind is that if West is leading away from the queen you can duck the lead in dummy and you are home and dry, but on enquiring about leads you are informed that the lead of a 10 promises 2 or none higher in the suit – strike 1. Probably the next line of play that offers good prospects is a dummy reversal. If East holds the ♠Q or, failing this, the suit breaks 3-3 or the ♠10 and ♠9 drop doubleton (about a 68% chance of success), you are again home. Glen Holman, an excellent player from the Cape, found an even better line of play – can you find it too?

Glen realized that by only drawing 2 rounds of trumps he could ruff 2 hearts in dummy. This line of play would succeed if the defender with long hearts held the last trump, approximately a 50% chance. If this failed he could still fall back on the spade finesse giving him in all a 75% chance of making the contract.

So he won the lead in dummy, played ♣K followed by ♣A then played 3 round of hearts both defenders following, and ruffing in dummy. So far so good. Now a spade to the ace was followed by a fourth heart but this was ruffed by the defence - strike 2, and when the spade finesse failed – strike 3, he was one down. That was lucky for us because in the other room we ended up in the inferior contract of 6NT, so inferior in fact that on the same lead I didn't even bother to ask if it might be from the queen, I crossed my fingers and ducked it. Shortly after I was also 1 off.

Glen discarded a good line of play for a better line of play but did he miss the best line of play? Sadly for him he did, but in his defence so would the rest of us as nobody else in this tournament made the slam. In his haste to execute an excellent line of play he was guilty of failing to pick up a clue that was right under his nose. To understand what this was we have to return to trick 7 of the play.

Here are the cards left after 6 rounds of play and the lead in dummy.

**North**

♠ 8763

♥ -

♦ K6

♣ 5

**South**

♠ AKJ

♥ 4

♦ J

♣ Q8

At this point Glen returned to hand with a spade and attempted to ruff his remaining heart after which he went down. What clue did he miss? If he had paid attention to the cards played by his opponents on the 3 rounds of hearts he would have noticed that West played the 7,2 and 9 in that order while her partner played the 5,10 and jack. Now his opponents are both lovely girls and as honest as the day is long. They have also disclosed that they are playing UDCA (Upside Down Carding) which means that when following suit they peter with an odd number, so who holds the Q♥? Clearly East holds this card.

If East also holds the outstanding trump Glen's play will work. But if West holds this card she can ruff and exit safely with a diamond which is what happened at the table. By cashing the ♦K and ruffing a diamond Glen can take care of this possibility. Now when he leads his remaining heart towards dummy West can still ruff but finds herself end played, having to concede a ruff and discard should she exit with a diamond, or giving up a spade trick by exiting with a spade.

## Final Analysis

It's easy to miss this play at the table and the irony is that a lesser player than Glen would have played on spades and been rewarded when they broke 3-3.

The full hand:

**Hand Summary:**

- Contract:** 6♣-1 S
- Board:** Bd 6, Dlr E
- North (David Beinart):** ♠ 8763, ♥ 86, ♦ AK6, ♣ K542
- West (Nicola Bateman):** ♠ Q109, ♥ 972, ♦ 10974, ♣ J63
- South (Glen Holman):** ♠ AKJ, ♥ AK43, ♦ J2, ♣ AQ87
- East (tas nestoridis):** ♠ 542, ♥ QJ105, ♦ Q853, ♣ 109

**Bidding Table:**

	W	N	E	S
			P	2♣
P		2NT*	P	3♥
P		3♠	P	4♣
P		5♣	P	5♥
P		6♣	P	P
P				

## Conclusion

As you can see, one of the vicissitudes of bridge is that your opponents are not always punished for arriving in a bad contract nor are you always rewarded for arriving in a good one!

*James Grant*

## RANKING ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to all of you who have moved up in the ranks especially Robert Robot who started with no masterpoints in January and has already arrived at Regional Master level! He would like to thank his many partners for their continued support.

Name	New Rank	Club
Jennifer Adams	Master	The Links Bridge Club
Ann-Marie Allen	National Master	Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club

<b>Mary Andrew</b>	Club Master	Western Cape
<b>Mike Ash</b>	Club Master	International
<b>Arthur Baggott</b>	Club Master	St Francis Bay Bridge Club
<b>Susan Band</b>	Club Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Norman Barron</b>	Local Master	Western Cape
<b>Gayle Bastard</b>	Master	KZN Midlands
<b>David Beinart</b>	Life Master	Western Cape
<b>Pat Betterton</b>	Club Master	BBO club
<b>Joan Biggs</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>John Boonzaier</b>	Local Master	St Francis Bay Bridge Club
<b>Sue Boule</b>	Club Master	BBO club
<b>David Boyes</b>	Master	Western Cape
<b>Merle Bracher</b>	National Life Master	Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club
<b>Di Bresser</b>	Club Master	BBO club
<b>Rosey Bruins</b>	Club Master	St Francis Bay Bridge Club
<b>John Bryant</b>	Life Master	Western Cape
<b>Trevor Callanan</b>	Local Master	Western Cape
<b>Maggie Christmas</b>	Club Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Eve Clayton</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Julie Cotton</b>	Local Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Jonathan Crowther</b>	Local Master	Bloemfontein
<b>Alistair Davidson</b>	Club Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Anita de Jager</b>	Club Master	Western Cape
<b>Judith De Marigny</b>	Regional Master	BBO club
<b>Dee de Villiers</b>	Club Master	Western Cape
<b>Hanneke Denny</b>	Local Master	Hillbrow
<b>Juliana Dockel</b>	Club Master	Western Cape
<b>Geoff Dodge</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Lauren Dove</b>	Club Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Charl du Plessis</b>	Club Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Joline du Toit</b>	Local Master	Western Cape
<b>Jan East</b>	Master	Western Cape
<b>Terry East</b>	Master	Western Cape
<b>Peta Feinstein</b>	National Life Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Robert Ferrari</b>	Club Master	International
<b>Jo Fitzhenry</b>	Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Chris Fortuin</b>	Club Master	Western Cape
<b>Colleen Frost</b>	Regional Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Anneke Furniss</b>	National Master	Two Hearts
<b>May Garvey-Keenan</b>	Club Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Annatjie Gerber</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Jenny Gill</b>	Club Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Karen Gillanders</b>	Local Master	Port Elizabeth
<b>Pearl Gilson</b>	Club Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Robert Glowacki</b>	Club Master	Western Cape
<b>Lucy Graham</b>	Club Master	Hillbrow

<b>Lindi Grant</b>	Club Master	BBO club
<b>Gill Greenwood</b>	National Master	Western Cape
<b>Simon Haigh</b>	Club Master	St Francis Bay Bridge Club
<b>Lise Hatt</b>	Regional Master	Outeniqua
<b>Charine Hattingh</b>	Club Master	Bloemfontein
<b>Christine Hay</b>	Club Master	Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club
<b>Melanie Heinemann</b>	Club Master	St Francis Bay Bridge Club
<b>Joyce Hessen</b>	National Life Master	Western Cape
<b>Trish Hind</b>	Local Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Greg Hingle</b>	Grandmaster	Hillbrow
<b>Allan Hodgson</b>	Club Master	Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club
<b>Anneloes Hoeve</b>	Club Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Stan Horwell</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Joy Howes</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Carol Hudson</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Gail Hurry</b>	Local Master	Hillbrow
<b>Lorraine Inglis</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Rinda Jacobs</b>	National Master	Western Cape
<b>Pierre Jordaan</b>	Club Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Jean Jordaan</b>	Local Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Ilde Joubert</b>	Club Master	Craddock
<b>Annalie Kachelhoffer</b>	Master	Bloemfontein
<b>Patsy Kann</b>	Club Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Tish Kaufmann</b>	Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Michael Keet</b>	Local Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Stefan Kemp</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Stefanie Kemp</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Elsabe Ketteringham</b>	Local Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Dianne Klette</b>	National Master	Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club
<b>Zdenek Kucera</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Hilde Kucera</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Marietjie Lategan</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Jon Lavies</b>	Master	Western Cape
<b>Robin Leisegang</b>	Local Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Riekie Louw</b>	National Master	Western Cape
<b>Neil MacLeod</b>	Regional Master	KZNBC
<b>Michael Maher</b>	Master	Hillbrow
<b>Herman Malan</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Eric Marx</b>	Master	Western Cape
<b>Janine Masojada</b>	National Master	KZNBC
<b>Adrian Mauerberger</b>	Regional Master	Western Cape
<b>Barbara May</b>	Regional Master	Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club
<b>Louise McIntosh</b>	Regional Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Jane McMorran</b>	Local Master	Western Cape
<b>Joanne Middleton</b>	Club Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>Kevin Middleton</b>	Local Master	Hermanus Bridge Club

<b>Harry Millson</b>	Club Master	St Francis Bay Bridge Club
<b>Denis Molineaux</b>	Regional Master	Bloemfontein
<b>Maureen Mortleman</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Darryl Moss</b>	Regional Master	Pretoria
<b>Heather Muller</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Mike Newport</b>	Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Paul Nijs</b>	Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Gillian Norgarb</b>	Local Master	Western Cape
<b>Maeve O'Connor</b>	Club Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Mark Oliff</b>	Grandmaster	Durban
<b>Cynthia Olmesdahl</b>	Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Scholem Pillay</b>	Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Pamela Price</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Alison Puggia</b>	National Master	Port Elizabeth
<b>Jill Rabie</b>	National Life Master	Western Cape
<b>Michael Rapp</b>	Club Master	Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club
<b>Rita Raubenheimer</b>	Master	Western Cape
<b>Glynnis Renecke</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Robert Robot</b>	Regional Master	International
<b>Elzabe Rodriques</b>	Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Karen Rothbart</b>	Regional Master	Hillbrow
<b>Judy Rothschild</b>	Regional Master	Western Cape
<b>Graeme Schonegevel</b>	Club Master	Western Cape
<b>Denise Schonegevel</b>	Club Master	Western Cape
<b>Brent Shapiro</b>	National Master	Western Cape
<b>Machelle Shapiro</b>	Life Master	Western Cape
<b>Betty Slowatek</b>	Regional Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Danie Smit</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Andrew Smythe</b>	Local Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Wilf Sperryn</b>	Gold Life Master	Highway
<b>Hedy Stein</b>	Master	The Links Bridge Club
<b>Linda Stephens</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Toni Stevens</b>	Club Master	Garden Route
<b>Christine Stock</b>	Master	Hillbrow
<b>Ginty Tagg</b>	Local Master	St Francis Bay Bridge Club
<b>Marietta Theron</b>	Master	Bloemfontein
<b>Di Thompson</b>	Local Master	Plettenberg Bay Bridge Club
<b>Hycinth Trichard</b>	Master	Bloemfontein
<b>Laura-Jean van Aardt</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Anne van Dijk</b>	Master	Hillbrow
<b>Valerie Velaers</b>	Local Master	Hermanus Bridge Club
<b>June Vincent</b>	Master	BBO club
<b>Leigh Wade</b>	Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Gift Wallace</b>	Club Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Lorraine Weers</b>	Gold Life Master	Western Cape
<b>Marge Wesselo</b>	Master	Sunshine Coast



<b>Anne Whitehead</b>	Regional Master	Hillbrow
<b>Ave Wingfield</b>	Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Rosemary Wood</b>	Local Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Les Wood</b>	Master	KZN Midlands
<b>Rob Woodward</b>	Master	Western Cape
<b>Joan Wright</b>	Master	Sunshine Coast
<b>Norman Yarrow</b>	Club Master	BBO club

The complete list of promotions may be viewed on the [SABF website](#).

## BREAKING THE RULES

Have you ever wondered what our very top players are doing differently from the rest of us that allows them consistently to win competitions? Well, here are a couple of hands that cropped up in Congress Pairs where you can test yourself against them.

### Bidding

All vulnerable

Dealer East

East	N	E	S	W
♠ 96		pass	1C	1D
♥ A10765	1S	dbl(1)	pass	2D
♦ KQ5	2S	3D	3S	all pass
♣ 1064				

- 1) Promising a 5+ heart suit and secondary diamond support.

### What do you lead?

Now let's be honest – this is a no brainer, we would all lead the ♦K and when this holds and partner encourages would continue with the queen and a third round. Here is the dummy:

♠ K4  
 ♥ K84  
 ♦ 832  
 ♣ AQ985

Craig Gower sitting East led the ♥7.

Here are the full hands:

		<b>South</b>		
		♠ K4		
		♥ K84		
		♦ 832		
		♣ AQ985		
<b>East</b>			<b>West</b>	
♠ 96			♠ J73	
♥ A10765			♥ Q9	
♦ KQ5			♦ AJ1074	
♣ 1064			♣ J72	
		<b>North</b>		
		♠ AQ10852		
		♥ J32		
		♦ 96		
		♣ K3		

Perhaps Chris Bosenberg sitting North and fully expecting a diamond lead was somewhat suspicious, but no normal player would underlead an ace, right? So he played low from dummy and the roof caved in. The defence took the first 5 tricks for 1 down. At every other table where the defence started off with 3 rounds of diamonds, declarer made 11 tricks in spades.

This hand was submitted by Hans Lombard.

**Now try the next one:**

**Bidding**

E-W vulnerable Dealer West

North	N	E	S	W
♠ AQ104				3C
♥ 654	pass	pass	dbl	pass
♦ QJ8	?			
♣ A83				

So now you have a bidding problem. 4S looks safe though you partner may turn up with only 3 and on a bad day you might go down if suits are breaking badly or the defence can engineer a quick ruff. 3NT is an option if you can make the same number of tricks playing here as you would in a spade contract but is that likely? Which leaves you with a Pass, you have a defensive looking hand and a safe lead with the ♦Q. If this contract goes 2 off then you share a top with the other Norths who took this decision. But if this contract fails by only 1 off then you have to hope 4S isn't making.

What do you do? Think about it then look at the full hand below:

### North

♠ AQ104  
♥ 654  
♦ QJ8  
♣ A83

### West

♠ -  
♥ K72  
♦ 6543  
♣ KJ7642

### East

♠ 8763  
♥ AQ  
♦ K107  
♣ Q1095

### South

♠ KJ952  
♥ J10983  
♦ A92  
♣ 3

If you decided to bid 4S then you will make 10 tricks but if you leave the double in they make 10 tricks. But this article wasn't really about what you bid as North, it was really an article about Hennie Fick who was sitting West and in the last round needed a top to finish second. He decided that this hand presented an opportunity to do just that and was rewarded when North passed the double for penalties. A small consolation for North/South was that should North have bid 4S, East might well have pushed on to 5C which again would have earned a top for East /West.

We shall never know.

*James Grant*



“Margaret, Tony’s looking at your cards.”

## THE BRIDGE LOUNGE

One method of competing which has stood the test of time is the ‘unusual NT’ overcall, where a jump to 2NT over an opening bid of one of a major shows at least two 5 card minors and about ten or more points. It’s usually not done on strong hands, but there are times where it’s more descriptive than a takeout double.

(TEAMS)

Dir: East		♠ 2
Vul: Both		♥ K3
	♦ AK976	
	♣ AQJ72	
♠ AJ9765		♠ K94
♥ A987		♥ Q64
♦ -		♦ 10852
♣ K106		♣ 953
	♠ Q103	
	♥ J1052	
	♦ QJ43	
	♣ 84	

West	North	East	South
		P	P
1♠	2NT*	P	3♦
P	4♦	P	5♦
All Pass			

Opening Lead: A♠

5D is not a great spot, but with the clubs lying well, and a correct heart guess (small to the king), eleven tricks are there.

At Table 2 North decided to double instead, and east raised to 2S. West put a spoke in the wheel by bidding 3S, and now north had a headache – should he double again and maybe hear partner

bid hearts, or should he guess which minor to introduce? He chose 4C, and played there, making ten tricks.

2NT is usually a weak distributional hand, but it can also be strong. In the above sequence at Table 1, after south had shown a preference for diamonds, North’s continuation to 4D showed the strong variety of the ‘unusual NT’. South should have let it go, but he pressed on with an aggressive 5D.

The play of the hand was interesting, on the best defence of ace and another spade, shortening dummy’s trumps. Declarer played a diamond to hand, discovering the 4-0 break, finessed the club, and because of the shortage of entries to hand to finesse clubs again AND play a heart up to the K, was forced to play ace of clubs followed by a club ruff, establishing dummy’s clubs. Now a heart was played and west went up with the ace to play another spade, forcing dummy again. But declarer had a counter: Even though dummy had DAK bare and east still had three trumps, declarer cashed the king of hearts and simply played winning clubs. East could ruff whenever he wanted, but declarer would simply overruff and draw trumps, making 11 tricks.

### About the Author

Jeff Sapire, a top-class bridge-player in his own right, has represented South Africa. He teaches all levels – beginner, intermediate and advanced. To find out more about his well-structured and informative lessons, contact him on [jeffshirl@telkomsa.net](mailto:jeffshirl@telkomsa.net), or call him on 082 551 2526.

## PUZZLES

### Bridges:

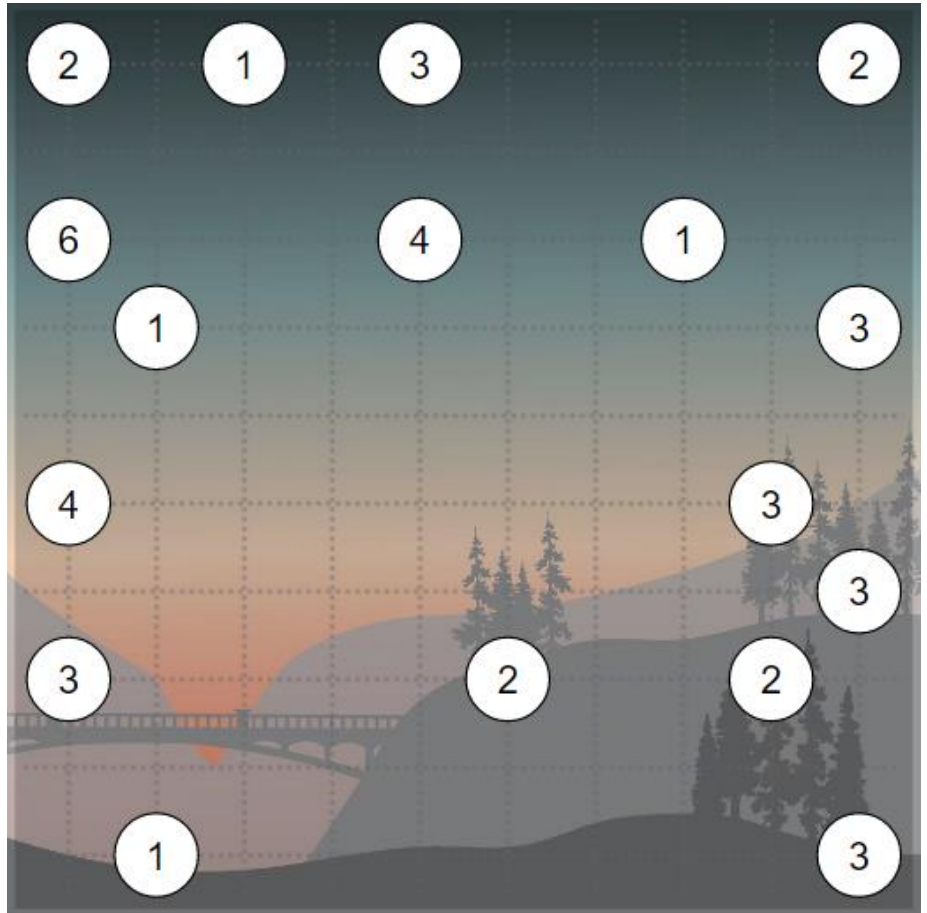
Bridges is also known as Hashiwokakero or Hashi.

Connect every island, such that any island can be reached from any other.

Each island contains a number that shows you how many bridges leave that island. Up to two bridges can connect islands together.

Bridges can only go horizontally or vertically and may not cross each other.

**Fun Fact:** Hashiwokakero was originally translated as *Bridges* or *Chopsticks*, the latter being a mistranslation based on a different Japanese character.



## THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD

A big thank you to the outgoing members of our committee Philip Feinstein, Graham Burrows and Annie Allen for the hard work they carried out while sitting on the committee along with their always cheerful and positive input to our discussions.

I would also like to welcome their replacements Bernard Donde (left), Neil MacLeod (centre) and Peter Ward (right) whom I am sure will help us steer a steady course into the future.





I would also like to congratulate Helen Kruger who has been voted onto the WBF Executive Committee for the second time during the recent WBF Congress held in Wroclaw, Poland.

The incoming president Jan Kamras also nominated Helen to sit on the management council and this was approved by the executive committee. This committee has seven members responsible for all decision-making which is then sent to the executive committee for final approval.

*James Grant*

## TRIALS 2023

Lots of interest has already been shown in the Trials to be held next year so I will share with you what I know at time of writing.

Trials will be held early next year and while we have still to determine a date it will probably be early in February. Trials will be held by team.

Zonals will be held in May in Sharem El Sheikh, a resort town in Egypt; the date still to be announced. The 46<sup>th</sup> World Bridge Championships will be held at the *Palais des Congrès* in Marrakech, Morocco, from 20th August to 2nd September 2023.

*James Grant*

## SOLUTIONS

**Bridges:**

