

World Bridge Productions
Presents the
C♠**avendish**_{wbp}
Invitational

Bulletin Number 3

Friday, May 6, 2005

Editor: Rich Colker
Contributing Editor: Barry Rigal

Welland Victorious in 2005 John Roberts Teams

At the end of Day One, Roy Welland's team (Bjorn Fallenius, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein) had 112 VPs and was tied for third place, 17 VPs behind the leaders. On Day Two they collected 77 of the 90 available VPs to soar into first place playing teams who finished second and fourth in two of their three final matches. Tied for second-third place were the teams captained by Seymon Deutsch (Billy Cohen, Walid Elahmady, Tarek Sadek, Ron Smith, Paul Soloway) and Gilad Altschuler (David Birman, Piotr Bizon, Michal Kwecien) and finishing fourth was the team captained by Juan Ventin (Andrea Buratti, Chris Compton, Gaylor Kastle, Pablo Lambardi, Massimo Lanzarotti), the Day One event leaders. The best third session score for a team not in the overalls was compiled by the Mike Moss team (Drew Casen, Jim Krekorian, Antonio Sementa), who scored 69 VPs in their three final matches. The complete final standings, match results and prize awards are on p 3.



Winners of the 2005 John Roberts Teams: Bobby Levin, Bjorn Fallenius, Roy Welland and Steve Weinstein

Pairs Auction Nets Just Under \$1M

Last evening's Cavendish Pairs auction, while seeing its top-selling pair (Bocchi-Duboin) go for a Las Vegas record \$58,000 (but not an all-time Cavendish record; Bocchi-Duboin also took top dollar last year at \$53,000), fell just short of the \$1M mark, coming in at \$963,500. George Jacobs (left) and friends Bob Hamman and Roy Welland conducted a spirited and entertaining auction. For complete auction results, see p 4.



Conditions of Contest: Expansions and Clarifications

In general, it is our intent to allow methods with which other contestants are expected to be familiar. It is also our intent to allow reasonable artificiality in auctions where the bidding side has guaranteed sufficient (high-card) values to invite game. Along with the current "prize-pool only" team format there will be no minimum play requirement for individuals; however, teams should make certain that all team members are listed on the entry before play commences. If you have any questions about your own or your opponents' methods, the person to see is Barry Rigal.

Schedule

Day/Date	Time	Activity	Location
Friday, May 6	12:30 PM	1 st Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5
Saturday, May 7	10:30 AM	WBP Brunch	Pavilion 10 & 11
	11:00 AM	WBP Auction	Pavilion 10 & 11
	12:30 PM	3 rd Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5
	12:30 PM	1 st Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 8
	7:30 PM	4 th Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5
	7:30 PM	2 nd Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 8
Sunday, May 8	10:30 AM	5 th Session, Pairs	Pavilion 1 & 5
	10:30* AM	3 rd Session, WBP Pairs	Pavilion 8
	2:30 PM	Closing Party	Pavilion 3 & 4 (or outside)

* provisionally

Rosters: 2005 John Roberts Teams

- 1 **Perry Johnson**, Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell
- 2 **LouAnn O'Rourke**, Norberto Bocchi, Giorgio Duboin, Peter Fredin, Marc Jacobus, Magnus Lindkvist
- 3 **Jim Mahaffey**, Gary Cohler, Garey Hayden, Mark Lair, Barnet Shenkin, Chris Willenken
- 4 **Gene Freed**, Ross Grabel, Chris Larsen, Jon Wittes
- 5 **Pierre Zimmermann**, Fulvio Fantoni, Franck Multon, Claudio Nunes, Jean-Christophe Quantin, Pierre Saporta
- 6 **George Jacobs**, Steve Garner, Ralph Katz, Mike Passell, Howard Weinstein, Eddie Wold
- 7 **Juan Ventin**, Andrea Buratti, Chris Compton, Gaylor Kasle, Pablo Lambardi, Massimo Lanzarotti
- 8 **Charles Wigoder**, Michael Cornell, Gunnar Hallberg, Michael Rosenberg
- 9 **Andrei Gromov**, Alex Dubinin, Cezary Balicki, Adam Zmudzinski
- 10 **Roy Welland**, Bjorn Fallenius, Bobby Levin, Steve Weinstein
- 11 **Seymour Deutsch**, Billy Cohen, Walid Elahmady, Tarek Sadek, Ron Smith, Paul Soloway
- 12 **Russ Ekeblad**, Sheila Ekeblad, Fred Gitelman, Brad Moss, Ron Rubin, Michael Seamon
- 13 **Billy Pollack**, David Berkowitz, Sam Lev, Jacek Pszczola
- 14 **Gilad Altschuler**, David Birman, Piotr Bizon, Michal Kwiecien
- 15 **Paul Lewis**, Roger Bates, Linda Lewis, Jim Robison
- 16 **Rose Meltzer**, Bob Hamman, Kyle Larsen, Zia Mahmood, Chip Martel, Lew Stansby
- 17 **Mike Moss**, Drew Casen, Jim Krekorian, Antonio Sementa
- 18 **Hansa Narasimhan**, Curtis Cheek, Vincent Demuy, Joe Grue, Joanna Stansby, Gavin Wolpert

Gamblers Non-Anonymous

Those players intending to gamble at the Rio during their stay are implored to register at the Total Awards desk, located in the casino area. It will be in your own best interest and that of the WBP if you do so.

John Roberts Teams: Final Standings

(Team Rosters on p. 2)

Team #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total	Rank
1								9		9		29*	3			25*	22*		97	
2				26	26	8		11	5	8			25	20	22				151	
3							20		49*	4	13*			29	9			25	149	
4		4			9	20		20	4			26		12			21	14	130	
5		4		21		19*	11				1	24				26	18		113	
6		22		10	41*						21	8		5			6	7	120	
7			10		19			29	26	25*	7				25			24	165	4
8	21	19		10			1		6						0	27	29	12	125	
9		25	11*	26			4	24		9		28	19						146	
10	21	22	26				35*		21		22			16	16				179	1
11			47*		29	9	23			8		25		9				21	171	2/3
12	31*			4	6	22			2		5					5	3		78	
13	27	5							11					0	27*	26	24	17	137	
14		10	1	18		25				14	21		30		30	22			171	2/3
15		8	21				5	30		14			33*	0				1	112	
16	35*				5			3				25	4	8			30	0	110	
17	38*			9	12	24		1				27	6			0			127	
18			5	16		23	6	18			9		13		29	30			149	

* Total VPs based on 2 matches

John Roberts Teams Prize Awards



Place	Players
1 st	\$56,000
2 nd	\$39,500
3 rd	\$27,500
4 th	\$20,000
Best 3rd Session (not in top 4)	\$10,000

] - \$33,500



Special Notice: World Bridge Productions Pairs Pre-Auction

In order to generate interest and facilitate the live WBP Pairs auction, to be held on Saturday morning, May 7, provisions have been made to accept bids prior to the start of the live auction. Here's how it will work:

Arrayed around the Registration Desk will be preliminary owners' cards for all expected participants. (Not all of these pairs may attend, but the vast majority are expected.) If you wish to bid on a pair you may do so by entering the amount of your bid on the pair's card and signing your name opposite the bid amount (minimum bid

= \$1000). These bids will be considered binding, just as if they were made in the live auction. If your bid is not topped in either the pre- or live auctions you will become the owner of the pair and have all of the attendant rights and responsibilities. Remember, each pair must buy back 10% of their purchase price and may buy back up to 40% of themselves if they are so inclined.

Please confirm your bids with the appropriate parties at the Registration Desk.

Entrants for the WBP Pairs 2005

(Unofficial, based on information available at press time. Updates will be published as they become available.)

Pair #	Pair #
1	Jerry Weinstein – Sue Weinstein
2	Kerry Sanborn – Steve Sanborn
3	Marc Jacobus – Lou Ann O'Rourke
4	Lynn Baker – Kay Schulle
5	Allan Falk – Peter Friedland
6	Jim Mahafey – Barnett Shenkin
7	Barry Schaffer – Colby Vernay
8	Dan Jacob – Bryan Maksymetz
9	Chris Compton – Gaylor Kasle
10	Sheila Ekeblad – Michael Seamon
11	Kent Mignocchi – Beverly Perry
12	Espen Erichsen – David Stern
13	Bob Morris – Eddie Wold
14	Leanord Ernst – Mike Shuman
15	Danielle Birman –
16	Mike Cappelletti, Jr. – Doug Levene
17	Jim Murphy –
20	Wafik Abdou – Connie Goldberg
21	Fared Assemi – Ed Wojewoda
22	Terri Casen – Larry Cohen
23	Mark Bartusek – Marshall Miles
24	Roger Lord – Jacqueline Sincoff
25	Simon Kantor – Murry Melton
26	Bill Doroshow – Nate Ward
27	Hemant Lall – Justin Lall
28	Leo Bell – John Jones
29	Rob Crawford – Joe Kivel
30	Marinesa Letizia – Carlyn Steiner
31	Fred Hamilton – John Jeffrey
32	Wojcieh Kurkowski – Greg Novak
33	Blair Seidler – Kevin Wilson

2005 Cavendish Pairs: Auction Results

Rank	Pair	Auction Price	Rank	Pair	Auction Price
1	Norberto Bocchi – Giorgio Duboin	\$58K	22/23	Gilad Altschuler – David Birman	\$17K
2/3	Andrea Buratti – Massimo Lanzarotti	\$45K	24/25	Gary Cohler – Chris Willenken	\$16K
2/3	Fulvio Fantoni – Claudio Nunes	\$45K	24/25	Michael Moss – Antonio Sementa	\$16K
4	Bobby Levin – Steve Weinstein	\$43K	26/28	Neil Chambers – John Schermer	\$15K
5	Cezary Balicki – Adam Zmudzinski	\$42K	26/28	Bart Bramley – Sidney Lazard	\$15K
6	Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood	\$39K	26/28	Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey	\$15K
7	Sam Lev – Jacek Pszczola	\$37.5K	29	David Berkowitz – Billy Pollack	\$14K
8	Eric Greco – Geoff Hampson	\$34K	30/32	Michael Cornell – Michael Rosenberg	\$13K
9	Walid Elahmady – Tarek Sadek	\$31K	30/32	Russ Ekeblad – Ron Rubin	\$13K
10/11	Peter Fredin – Magnus Lindkvist	\$29K	30/32	Seymon Deutsch – Paul Soloway	\$13K
10/11	Bjorn Fallenius – Roy Welland	\$29K	33/44	Barry Goren – Gavin Wolpert	\$12.5K
12	Fred Gittleman – Brad Moss	\$28K	33/44	Pablo Lambardi – Juan Ventin	\$12.5K
13	Franck Multon – J C Quantin	\$24K	33/44	Pierre Saporta – Pierre Zimmermann	\$12.5K
14/15	Steve Garner – Howard Weinstein	\$23K	33/44	Christal Henner-Welland – Mike Kamil	\$12.5K
14/15	Piotr Bizon – Michael Kwiecien	\$23K	33/44	George Jacobs – Ralph Katz	\$12.5K
16/17	Drew Casen – Jim Krekorian	\$21K	33/44	Dennis Dawson – Eric Rodwell	\$12.5K
16/17	Billy Cohen – Ron Smith	\$21K	33/44	Krystoff Lasocki – Eric Wieleman	\$12.5K
18/19	Ross Gabel – Jon Wittes	\$20K	33/44	Amos Kaminski – Shaya Levit	\$12.5K
18/19	Alex Dubinin – Andrei Gromov	\$20K	33/44	Alejandro Bianchedi – Hector Camberos	\$12.5K
20	Curtis Cheek – Joe Grue	\$19K	33/44	Linda Lewis – Paul Lewis	\$12.5K
21	Garey Hayden – Mark Lair	\$18K	33/44	Gene Freed – Chris Larsen	\$12.5K
22/23	Perry Johnson – Jeff Meckstroth	\$17K	33/44	Gunnar Hallberg – Charles Wigoder	\$12.5K

Auction Total: \$963,500

The John Roberts Teams: Day One (Redux)

Match Six:

Bd: 20 ♠ J
 Dlr: West ♥ J82
 Vul: Both ♦ A86
 ♣ A97653

♠ Q10742 ♠ AK53
 ♥ Q109 ♥ K765
 ♦ KJ9 ♦ 1074
 ♣ K2 ♣ 104

 ♠ 986
 ♥ A43
 ♦ Q532
 ♣ QJ8

Adam Zmudzinski declared 3♠ as West on the passive ♠J lead. He won the ♠Q, crossed to the ♠K and led a diamond to the jack and ace. Fallenius again carefully exited passively, this time with a diamond to the nine. Declarer cashed the ♦K, drew the last trump, and led a club to the king and ace. Fallenius now could either breach hearts or lead a club to his partner, who would then have to open up the hearts and concede the contract.

Bd: 23 ♠ J8
 Dlr: South ♥ 83
 Vul: Both ♦ KQJ964
 ♣ K96

♠ 107652 ♠ AKQ
 ♥ 62 ♥ K10975
 ♦ 752 ♦ ---
 ♣ 1043 ♣ AQJ52

 ♠ 943
 ♥ AQJ4
 ♦ A1083
 ♣ 87

David Birman declared 4♦ here after the auction:

West	North	East	South
			Pass
Pass	1♦	Dbl	1♥
Pass	2♦	Dbl	Rdbl
2♠	3♦	Pass	4♦
All Pass			

East did his best by cashing two spades and then shifting to a heart to break up a squeeze if declarer was 2=1=6=4. But Birman simply finessed in hearts and ran the trumps to reach this ending:

♠ ---
 ♥ 8
 ♦ 4
 ♣ K96

immaterial ♠ ---
 ♥ K109
 ♦ ---
 ♣ AQ

♠ ---
 ♥ AQ4
 ♦ ---
 ♣ 87

On the last trump East bared his ♣A and Birman pitched a heart from dummy, then ducked a club to East and took the rest on the heart finesse.

Bd: 25 ♠ 10865
 Dlr: North ♥ 3
 Vul: E/W ♦ KQ8762
 ♣ Q10

♠ Q743 ♠ 92
 ♥ Q107 ♥ AKJ654
 ♦ 1093 ♦ 5
 ♣ J63 ♣ AK74

 ♠ AKJ
 ♥ 982
 ♦ AJ4
 ♣ 9852

Be prepared...it's the Boy Scouts' marching song. Maybe it is too much to expect the average bridge player to be clean in word and deed, but we can expect them to be prepared. But on this day a majority of the players in the East seat failed to live up to their responsibilities.

After the auction 1♥-P-2♥ or the like, East drove to 4♥, generally making ten tricks because of the favorable lie of the clubs. (Not in one case though: A declarer who should have known better saw South, Pszczola, cash the ♠A and shift to the ♣9—and put up the jack.) However, at two tables that we know of the bidding went 1♥-Dbl-2♥-3♦. East now jumped to 4♥, but when North reopened with 4♠ he did not know what to do. He passed, hoping to have partner make the last mistake, and was paid off in unsatisfying 50-point-apiece undertricks. Had East bid 4♣ instead of 4♥ (just as preemptive to keep spades out) he would have been far better placed to double 4♠, or to pass and consult partner.

The John Roberts Teams: Day Two

Match Seven:

Bd: 7	♠ 83	
Dlr: South	♥ 865	
Vul: Both	♦ QJ2	
	♣ AJ1043	
♠ QJ1096		♠ 754
♥ KJ7		♥ Q93
♦ 109		♦ K853
♣ K52		♣ Q97
	♠ AK2	
	♥ A1042	
	♦ A764	
	♣ 86	

If declarer's false cards can be effective, the defense has the opportunity to retaliate by breaking the rules at their turn. Against 3NT here Billy Pollack led the Rusinow ♠J, ducked by declarer. Billy now found the devastating shift to the ♦10. Maybe declarer should duck, but he covered and David Berkowitz ducked of course. Declarer came to hand with the ♠A and advanced a low club. Pollack went up with the king (Walid Elahmady found the same play in his match). Now declarer had two spades, one heart, and three diamonds (thanks to the fall of the ♦109 he can establish the ♦76) but only one club winner for seven tricks. By contrast, Jacek Pszczola bid 3NT over Sam Lev's 1NT opening. Lev won the spade lead and led a low club...and West did not play the king—hush money is currently being accepted; details for submission to follow—so Sam had ten tricks available by establishing both minors.

Gavin Wolpert played 3NT on a spade lead ducked and a second spade. He won, led a club to the king and ace, and drove out the ♣Q. Now East has to shift to a heart to set the game. When he played a third spade declarer won and drove out the ♦K and had nine tricks.

Bobby Levin led the ♠Q against 3NT and continued the suit when declarer ducked. A club went to the king and ace and declarer ran the ♠J, then played a third club. Weinstein won as Levin followed with the deuce then five, suggesting suit preference for hearts. So Weinstein shifted to a heart rather than continuing spades to set the game.



Bd: 9	♠ KQ	
Dlr: North	♥ 762	
Vul: E/W	♦ AKJ43	
	♣ K82	
♠ 108643		♠ AJ9
♥ K54		♥ Q983
♦ 865		♦ 972
♣ 109		♣ A65
	♠ 752	
	♥ AJ10	
	♦ Q10	
	♣ QJ743	

Declarer's false cards are often effective, even when the position is well known to the defenders. On this deal Chris Compton led the ♥3 against North's 3NT contract, forcing declarer to finesse. (At many tables on the lead of a medium heart spot declarer went up with the ace, hoping for a blockage after driving out the ♣A.) When Kastle took the ♥K North followed with the ♥6, leaving the ♥2 concealed. From Kastle's perspective, if partner had a top club and either a top diamond or spade, a heart return now could be essential: it would take declarer's fast entry out of dummy and potentially cut his communications. Of course as the cards lie this allowed South to make eleven tricks whereas a spade shift would have set the game two tricks. Most tables found that false card; Bobby Levin was one of the few defenders to shift to spades to beat the game in spite of it.

Match Eight:

Bd: 13	♠ 4	
Dlr: North	♥ AK2	
Vul: Both	♦ J1075	
	♣ AQ852	
♠ 103		♠ AQJ75
♥ J873		♥ Q109654
♦ AQ862		♦ 4
♣ 109		♣ 3
	♠ K9862	
	♥ ---	
	♦ K93	
	♣ KJ764	

The match between the two leading teams saw a lot of imp's swing on Ventin's bid here. After the auction:

West	North	East	South
	1♣	2♣	2♥(1)
3♥	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	?	
(1) Clubs, invitational or better			

Ventin, as East, elected to sacrifice and found that even 4♣

was going down on a diamond ruff. On a spade lead against 5♥ doubled Lambardi took the ace and settled for two down (the diamond finesse would have held his losses to 200 but would have cost 800 had it lost). He played a trump at trick two and Welland pitched an encouraging ♣7, allowing Fallenius to underlead his ♣A—although that turned out to be irrelevant since there was no trump promotion available.

This looked like a good result for Welland but as often is the case looks can be deceiving: At the other table the opening lead (after a tangled and confused auction) against 5♣ was a *heart*, allowing declarer to pitch two diamonds losers and make eleven tricks. So the Ventin team gained 3 imps but still lost the match 25-5 in VPs when Buratti-Lanzarotti bid a slam on a finesse for the trump king, down a trick.

Match Nine:

Bd: 24	♠ AQ65		
Dir: West	♥ A6		
Vul: None	♦ 8654		
	♣ J75		
♠ J10		♠ 872	
♥ K		♥ J9	
♦ AQJ7		♦ K10932	
♣ A109843		♣ Q62	
	♠ K943		
	♥ Q10875432		
	♦ ---		
	♣ K		

West	North	East	South
<i>Bizon</i>	<i>Fallenius</i>	<i>Kwiecien</i>	<i>Welland</i>
1♣(1)	Pass	1♦(2)	4♥
All Pass			
(1) Polish (natural or 11-14 balanced)			
(2) 0-7 HCP			

Kwiecien’s 1♦ negative stopped E/W from finding their diamond fit. 4♥ had twelve top tricks when the majors behaved, but would this be good or bad? It turned out to be very good when at the other table the auction was:

West	North	East	South
<i>Levin</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Altschuler</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦	3♥
4♦	Pass	Pass	?

South thought for a very long time but eventually passed, and conceded –130. That was 12 imps to Welland, who won the match by 1 imp. Had South acted, he would surely have collected at least +420 (and maybe an eventual heart contract would have been doubled). What the Altschuler team needed to do was to hold their losses on the deal to 8 imps. Had they done so they would have won the match by 3 imps—and taken the event on a tie breaker.

A Simple History Lesson

by Sam Leckie

Okay, okay, so I didn’t pick the winners last year, but Lev-Pszczola, come on! To tell you the truth I didn’t know they even knew one another far less win the trophy.

It was only when I returned home and spoke to Scotland’s Bridge Guru Albert Benjamin (now 96 years young, by the way) that I realized the enormity of my failure. After I told him the result he said “Did a pair Levinsky-Pszczola not win the Polish national Pairs two years running in the thirties, a feat never repeated? Then he added “It must have been their grandfathers.” I was shocked. How could my vast research have missed that simple fact?

I can only assume that someone (probably Barry) has reported this to WBP because when I arrived at Bally’s this

year an unsigned letter was waiting for me from them informing me that if this year’s five selections did not perform better than last year’s there was a big chance my annual invitation would be withdrawn. My brilliant past record (three out of three) apparently counts for nothing!

As in previous years I am bound not to disclose my selections until after the auction because prices could be affected. Amusingly enough they will be published about the same time as our election results (Friday morning). Just in case you don’t know the Blair-Brown partnership will win that one with quite a few imps to spare.

How can I be so sure? Well, their success was more or less guaranteed a few years ago when they made a decision to switch to Standard American!