

ISSUE No: 4, Saturday, 11th December 2004

**MOHOTA HEAD QUALIFIERS LIST
ALL THREE RAILWAY TEAMS AND BOTH HOST TEAMS IN**

Playing consistently throughout the Swiss League stages, Mohota from Nagpur (B.K. Mohota, M.D., Mohota, K.B. Rodbar, S.Chajed, G. Sundaramurthy and S. Roy) topped the list of qualifiers with a score of 304 VPs. India Blues (Ashok Ruia, Rajendra Gokhale, S.K. Iyengar, J.M. Shah, Sandeep Kamarkar and P. Sridhar - the last named is expected to join any time now) was the second qualifier with 297 VPs. Barely on board on day one, Redey of Mumbai (V.M. Lal, Raju Tolani, R. Bhiwardkar, K. Anklesaria, Vinay Desai and Ajay Khare) were third with 288 VPs. The team from Sri Lanka (Asantha De Mel, S.L. Selvanayagan, K.P. Baskaran, Paul de Neise and Dr. H.H. Kirthisera) was another easy qualifier with 282 VPs.

All the three Railway teams who entered have also gone on to the next stage. Particularly gratifying was the qualification of both the host teams, C.V. Rao and Navayuga Engineering, the last qualifier at 258 VPs. There were sob stories galore as quite a handful teams missed qualification by a solitary victory point. The Blues team from Bangalore were penalized three victory points for late arrival; Arijit Gha from Kolkata was penalized one victory point for a technical lapse - if this had not happened they would have tied with the last qualifier and the tie-breaker was actually in Arijit Gha's favour!

INDIA BLUES LEAD AFTER THREE ROUNDS OF PQF

Although they lost their third round match against Dhanpur Sugar, 13-17, India Blues lead the table of thirty two teams with a score of 69 VPs largely because of a huge carry over of ten VPs. Dhanpur Sugar is now in second position with 67 VPs. Mohota of Nagpur who did very well in the Swiss League started off very badly collecting only 30 VPs in the first two matches but recovered somewhat by winning their third round match 21-9 and now their total is 57 VPs. R.P. Gupta's Team are also doing well with a total of 66 VPs.

SCHEDULE OF PLAY (11-12-2004), RUIA TROPHY (PQF MATCHES) AND HOLKAR PAIRS						
PQF Round	4	-	09.30 - 11.00 a.m.	09.30 a.m.	-	Elimination I - Session I
PQF Round	5	-	11.30 - 01.00 p.m.	02.00 p.m.	-	Elimination I - Session II
PQF Round	6	-	02.30 - 04.00 p.m.	05.30 p.m.	-	Elimination I - Session III
PQF Round	7	-	04.30 - 06.00 p.m.			
PQF Round	8	-	06.30 - 08.00 p.m.			

8 Teams Qualify for QF Knockout of 4 x 12 Boards

LIST OF QUALIFIERS FOR PRE-QUARTER FINALS – RUIA TROPHY

S.No.	Group A		Group B	
1	India Blues (297)	Ashok Ruita Rajendra Gokhale S.K. Iyengar J.M. Shah Sandeep Kamarkar P. Sricharan	Mohota Nagpur (304)	B.K. Mohota M.D. Mohota K.B. Poddar S. Chajed G. Sundemurty S. Roy
2	Sri Lanka (282)	Ashantha De Mel S.A.L. Selvanayagan K.P. Baskaran Paul de Neise Dr. H.H.J. Keerthisena	Radhey (288)	V.M. Lal R. Tolani K. Arklesaria R. Ehiwandkar A. Khare V. Desai
3	Ashutosh Sriti Samilani (280)	Saneer Das Aniruddha Ghosh Sanrat Mukherjee Subir Das Jayanta Das Goutam Pore	Imami (286)	B.P. Oke Pranod Samant Makarand Kulkarni Shrikant Tenbey Anil Tikare
4	NALCO (279)	A. Rout J. Batihari D.N. Lenka B.M. Behera B.B. Mahapatra D.N. Behera	Trambak Rubber (279)	H.S. Bajoria S.P. Ghose A.B. Chakraborty B. Saha Aravinda Roy
5	C.V. Rao (277)	C.V. Rao V.R. Kumar Alok Sachu Babal Das S.N. Sarkar B. Toti	Indian Railways-A(278)	M. Mukherjee British Kishari Rana Roy Amar Nath Banerjee Sunit Mukherjee Hasibul Hasan
6	Agsar Paints (277)	N.R. Kirubakara Moorthy B. Prabhakar Kalpana Misra M.J.R. Vasudevan Narayana Ram Anil Padhye	Formidables (274)	Kiran Nedar B. Satyanarayana K.R. Venkatraman Subash Gupta Sunit Choksi Rajesh Dalal
7	Dhapur Sugar Mills (274)	Ashok Goel Kamal Mukherjee N.K. Gupta S. Thakral Debashis Roy Kamal Roy	Monotona (270) (Mumbai)	Dipak Poddar Sahas Vaidya R. Sricharan Anand KS Samant
8	Pankaj Kapadia (273)	Pankaj Kapadia Vivek Bhand D. Santra D. Bose T. Roy J. Biswas	SNDMC (270) W B	Dr. P.K. Bara N.P. Kibiraj K. Sinker S.K. Ghosh S.N. Ghosh B. Poddar

LIST OF QUALIFIERS FOR PRE-QUARTER FINALS – RUIA TROPHY

S.No.	Group A		Group B	
9	Akshay (270)	Sobshiv K. Sreenivasa Reddy Arun S.P. Sastri Y.V.Rao	Tolani Shipping (267)	R. Agarwal A.R.D. Sequira Gautam Biswas Dr. M. Jagannath Ajit Sarkar Prakash Dalvi
10	Kabras (270)	Kamal Kabra Usha Kabra Ajit Chakraborty Arvind Vaidya Rajiv Khandelwal Himani Khandelwal	Somenath Chatterjees-IV (266)	S.N. Chatterjee G. Sinha R. Ghosh S.N. Chunder S. Acharyya A. Dutta Roy
11	Kakatiya (269)	Dr. J.M. Rao A.V. Subba Rao Y. Nageshwara Rao K. Srinivas Appaji Prasad Diwekar Reddy	R.P. Gupta/S-IV (265)	S. Sarkar S. Majumder J.N. Roy R.P. Gupta K. Das S. Dey
12	Railways-B(269)	Saroj Bhattacharjee Asim Mukherjee Sheshasis Roy Pranod Roy D. Majumder Gopinath Manna	Naimuddin's (262)	A.S. Vishwanathan S. Naimuddin K.N. Shyam Sundar Manoj Kumar Uttam Gupta Priya Rayasakar
13	Mitrawihar 'Nashik' (266)	S.V. Reddi D.H. Ukidave I.L. Raje Ramesh Talajia	Calcutta Bridge Club (262)	S. Sore G. Sinha G. Das M.K. Saha S.R. Bhattacharyya S. Bose
14	Alok Daga's (263)	S. Ganguly A. Daga S.K. Majumder C.S. Majumder S. Saha Krishna Kumar	OSRC-B (259) Orissa	B.S. Pradhan N.C. Das A.K. Baliar Singh B.K. Patraik M.G. Dalai
15	Bharati Bhawan (262)	S.K. Mitra S.P. Sen M. Dey B. Chatterjee P.K. Thakur G. Chatterjee	Railways -C (259)	Sujit Bhattacharjee Bijan De Prosanta Bera R.K. Jaim Ajay Yagnik Paban Agarwal
16	OFSCB-B (259)	D. Sengupta T.K. Baropachyay A.K. Sarkar B.C. Kayal A. Ghosh K. Bose	Navayuga Engg. Co. (258)	Dr. K. Babu Rao P.B.G. Tilak S. Hanumantha Rao N. Viswanath G. Veerachandra Rao M.V. Subba Rao

A GLORIOUS DEFENCE

Kamal Roy very kindly sought me out on the evening of Thursday and gave details of a deal which he was himself playing in four hearts and then went on to explain how his left hand opponent Sukomal Das had hoodwinked him. When I located Sukomal all he had to say was "I should have done better. There is a line of defence which is almost sure shot"

♠ K 9 6 4 ♥ 8 7 5 3 ♦ K 6 2 ♣ K 5	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <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		♠ 7 5 2 ♥ 4 ♦ J 10 9 7 3 ♣ Q 8 4 2	♠ J 10 3 ♥ K J 10 9 6 ♦ A 8 ♣ A J 7
	N											
W		E										
	S											

West	North	East	South
Pass	2 ♣	Pass	1 NT
Pass	3 ♦**	Pass	2 NT*
Pass	4 ♥	All Pass	3 ♥

(*) 5 - card hearts
 (**) - transfer to hearts.

Sukomal Das led the ten of clubs. Since the additional club trick will not do him any good, Kamal won with the king on the table and played a heart to his jack which Sukomal won with the ace! Sukomal then played the eight of spades putting Kamal to test. To avoid a possible third round ruff in spades, if there was one, Kamal asked for the king. It won and when RHO showed out on the second heart, Kamal knew that he has been right royally taken for a ride. Sukomal claimed one down, two spades and two hearts!

What is amazing about the whole deal is that Sukomal had planned the defence at trick two so very quickly and there was no hesitation whatsoever. In spite of all this, Sukomal told me later "I missed out. I should have cashed the ace of spades at trick three and then played the eight. That defence is far superior to what I did at the table." Absolutely gorgeous. "More often than not, a losing option is a fooling option," a quote taken from my second book is, perhaps, appropriately applicable here.

ANDHRA STALWARTS

- by A. Radhakrishna Murthy

(The amazing 87 year old man keeps on surprising us. He wrote the following article in his own handwriting and gave it to me - R. Jayaram)

Dr. C. Sambasiva Rao, Guntur

Dr. C.S. Rao, doyen of medical profession was inducted into the game of Bridge in 1945 by Dr. P. Achari, a reputed pediatrician in the Madras medical service. His love for bridge was so intense that it seriously affected his medical practice. Dr. Rao was runner-up in Holkar Pairs in the third Winter Nationals held at Hyderabad in 1962. His wins include APBA Bridge Championships thrice, South Zone Championships four times, Kakinada Gold cup Championships five times and Fateh Maiden Championships, twice.

The successful holding of IX Winter Nationals at Guntur in 1967 was entirely due to the tireless efforts of Dr. C.S. Rao and Sri. N. Venkata Rao of Tenali. The shining moment in his Bridge career came in 1972 when he and his chosen partner, Sri. Ch. Koteswara Rao, were on the Indian team for the IV Bridge Olympiad held in Miami in 1972. His passing away in 2001 is an irreparable loss to Bridge in the country. Dr. C.S.R. Memorial Bridge Championships were held at Guntur in 2002. Efforts are on to make it a biennial event.

Sri. N. Venkata Rao, Tenali

Sri. N.V. Rao was a great organizer. His contribution to the game of Bridge in Andhra is outstanding. Though pre-occupied with the hectic task of management of V.S.R. College, Tenali, as its Correspondent, he used to steal some time to participate in all the major tournaments held in the country. Under his able guidance and inspiration quite a few members of the teaching faculty of his college shaped themselves into fine Bridge players.

Sri. N.V. Rao was a Bridge theoretician besides a good player. Making some changes in the standard system, he forged a bidding system, which he named "Tenali System". The first edition of Encyclopedia of Bridge makes a mention of the system.

He and Dr. C.S. Rao spared no efforts to make the IX Winter Nationals at Guntur an unqualified success. His passing away in 1980 left a great void, which is difficult to fill. In his memory N.V.R. Memorial Bridge Championships are held biennially since 1981.

Sri. A. Rama Murthy, Guntur.

He was responsible for bringing duplicate Bridge to Andhra. He was the Labour Commissioner of Andhra and the first Secretary of the Andhra Bridge Association when it was formed in 1951. He was a member of the Indian team formed by Ramiwās Ruia to participate in the First Bridge Olympiad in Turin in 1960. Rama Murthy played with P. Tilak as partner in that team.

In spite of failing health and bad family history of heart attacks, he would never miss an important Bridge event. He died of a massive heart attack on the first day of the Kanpur Nationals of 1964, in Kanpur.

ROUND - 14 :

FORMIDABLES Vs R.P. GUPTA

- by S. Vijayaraghavan

Deal 12 :

♠ 8 6 ♥ A J 10 ♦ K 10 ♣ J 8 7 6 5 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q 9 7 3 2 ♥ 9 6 ♦ 7 4 ♣ A K 10 3
N					
W E					
S					
♠ J 5 4 ♥ K Q 8 7 3 2 ♦ A 9 ♣ 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A K 10 ♥ 4 ♦ Q J 8 6 5 3 2 ♣ Q 9
N					
W E					
S					

In closed room Kiran & Satya as EW stopped at 2H. Open room players of R.P. Gupta were in 4H doubled, going 2 down, thereby losing 10 IMPs.

Deal 17 :

♠ A 8 6 4 ♥ A K 10 9 7 ♦ A 3 ♣ K 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ J 9 7 2 ♥ J ♦ K 7 4 2 ♣ 10 9 8 3
N					
W E					
S					
♠ 10 ♥ Q 6 5 3 2 ♦ Q 10 8 5 ♣ A J 6	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K Q 5 3 ♥ 8 4 ♦ J 9 6 ♣ Q 7 5 2
N					
W E					
S					

This time around, Kiran & Satya somehow overshot to four spades in the closed room and went down. The open room E-W played quietly in one heart, and duly made the same. 5 IMPs to R. P. Gupta.

Deal 18 :

♠ Q 9 7 4 ♥ J 7 5 ♦ 9 ♣ J 10 7 4 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A J 5 2 ♥ A 10 9 6 3 2 ♦ 6 5 ♣ 8
N					
W E					
S					
♠ 10 8 3 ♥ 8 4 ♦ K 8 7 3 ♣ K 9 5 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ K 6 ♥ K Q ♦ A Q J 10 4 2 ♣ A Q 6
N					
W E					
S					

While Kiran & Satya stopped at two no trumps making, the open room took a shot at three no trumps. Venky once again demonstrated why he is a 'banker'. He leads a heart and there is no chance for the contract to make now. 5 IMPs to Formidables.

Formidables run out winners, 20-10

THE TABLE 19 SAGA

We are sure you would not have heard anything like this before, in your Bridge career. In the last round yesterday, after the match was over, the score sheet of Table 19 in the Open Room of Section A was personally taken by a player of that table and handed over to a volunteer in the Closed Room with instructions that it should be handed over to 'Table 19'. It was promptly handed over to Table 19 in B Section and scoring was done, with a lot of fighting in between and the results were handed over to the Directors! Not one player realized that these were impossible scores and the players of both teams left the venue.

Now you know why a lot of us would NEVER become Bridge Tournament Directors!

Gitavani:

यद्रेभ्यः ला. खै. ना. खै. ले. से. उ. ओ. ण्. ड
 से. उ. ला. खै. ना. खै. ले. से. उ. ओ. ण्. ड

From anger arises infatuation,
 from infatuation, confusion of memory;
 from confusion of memory, loss of reason;
 and from loss of reason one goes to complete ruin.

ROUND OF 32 - RUIA TROPHY

S.No.	Team Names	C/o.	I		II		III		Total
			Vs.	VP	Vs.	VP	Vs.	VP	
1	Mohota	12	2	06	6	12	23	21	51
2	IndianBlues	10	1	24	14	22	12	13	69
3	Rachey	8	4	12	7	14	8	20	54
4	Inami	7	3	18	12	02	32	03	30
5	Silaka	6	6	18	24	09	29	19	52
6	Ashutosh	6	5	12	1	18	18	10	46
7	Nalco	5	8	15	3	16	10	11	47
8	Tranbak Rubber	5	7	15	16	14	3	10	44
9	Railway - A	5	10	18	21	14	11	16	53
10	Aggar	5	9	12	15	18	7	19	54
11	C.V. Rao	5	12	09	26	24	9	14	52
12	Dhampur	4	11	21	4	25	2	17	67
13	Formiddles	4	14	07	32	15	22	24	50
14	Pankaj Kapadia	4	13	23	2	08	16	18	53
15	Monotona	3	16	14	10	12	25	08	37
16	Akshay	3	15	16	8	16	14	12	47
17	Kabra	3	18	06	23	08	30	23	40
18	S.N.M.D.C.	3	17	24	20	10	6	20	57
19	Kakatiya	3	20	06	22	15	26	03	27
20	Railway - B	3	19	24	18	20	24	10	57
21	Tolani Shipping	2	22	21	9	16	27	12	51
22	Mitra Vihar	2	21	09	19	15	13	06	32
23	S.N. Chatterjee	2	24	07	17	22	1	09	40
24	R.P. Gupta	2	23	23	5	21	20	20	66
25	Alok Daga	1	26	15	31	14	15	22	52
26	Bharati Bhavan	1	25	15	11	06	19	25	47
27	Naimuddin	1	28	22	29	17	31	18	58
28	Railways - C	0	27	08	30	25	21	14	47
29	O.S.R.C.	0	30	21	27	13	5	11	45
30	O.F.S.C.B.	0	29	09	28	05	17	07	21
31	Cal. Bridge Club	0	32	16	25	16	4	16	48
32	Navayuga Engg. Co.	0	31	14	13	15	28	25	54