

WALES BEAT SCOTLAND



Pictured above are the victorious Welsh team who defeated Scotland 48 - 41 VP's in the season's first international encounter. The event was sponsored by Macallan the scotch whisky distillery. From L. to R. standing: Dean Hardie, Adrian Thomas, Patrick Jourdain, Mike Hirst N.P.C., Gary Martin. Kneeling from L. to R. Filip Kurbalija, Peter Goodman.

I'll tell you what's interesting

S: A J 5 4 2

H: 3 2

D: A 10 2

C: K 3 2



S: K Q 7 3

H: 5 4

D: K 9 8

C: A 10 8 7

This hand came up recently in a knockout teams event. After East opened a weak two in Hearts, N/S arrived in four spades.

There are four potential losers, 2 hearts a diamond and a club. Obviously a 3 - 3 club break will allow you to discard a diamond from dummy on the fourth club.

In one room, declarer after the Ace and King of hearts had been cashed, won the trump switch, drew trumps in three rounds and then played Ace of Clubs, King of Clubs and a low club towards the 10 8. Unfortunately, both the Q and 9 of clubs were offside and declarer had to lose a diamond as well.

The other declarer on the same defence, played King of clubs and a club towards A 10 8. When the Jack showed up - declarer ducked. East was now forced to open up diamonds or to return a club (when declarer after the weak 2H opener, would play for a 3 - 3 break).

In fact, West overtook the CJ with the Queen and switched to a diamond, but E/W's fate was sealed.

By Filip Kurbalija



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Editorial:

Welcome to this latest edition of the Welsh Bridge Union's quarterly newsletter. For one reason or another, quite a time has elapsed since the last issue. I have agreed to take on the job of editor and I hope to make the newsletter as informative, relevant and interesting as possible.

In order to achieve this, I would like contributions from you the members. No, not just the international players, but **you** the ordinary club members. The WBU boasts a membership of some 1800+, but only a very small number of these are internationals.

What contributions am I looking for? Well some ideas I have are perhaps a humorous bridge story, an interesting hand, a difficult bid or problem. What about a letters section with your views on the WBU, congresses, the rules, etc.? In other words, anything that interests you as a bridge player.

One worrying aspect of the Welsh bridge scene at the moment is the lack of young players (under 25 and under 19). As you may know, in addition to the home international matches played each year, a similar competition is run for players at U-25 level. Last year, this was extended to cater for under U-19 players and Wales entered teams at both age groups. This year however, the WBU finds itself unable to enter a team at U-19 level.

Can you do something about this? Are there young people in your family or area who may be interested in learning to play? If there are, all you have to do is let us know and we will do the rest.

Gary Martin

National Tournament Organiser's Report

From 1993, the Welsh heat of the Portland pairs has been moved to a larger venue at the Parkway Hotel in Cwmbran. The BBL have announced that they may introduce a new heat in Bath from 1994. If they go ahead with this plan, the Welsh heat will either move back to a smaller venue or be discontinued. I will make the details available when more is known about the plans of the BBL.

The eligibility rules for the Perry Shield and Spickett Bowl have changed. Please check the WBU annual journal for details.

The Executive Council has requested that the finals of the Welsh Cup and Cambria Cup be played at a public venue to allow spectators to watch the matches.

The format for the Mens Teams and Ladies Welsh Cup will now be different if the entry exceeds 28 teams. See the journal for details.

Prizes for all national events have been increased by 50%.

The organisation of the Gold Cup has now been taken over by the BBL. There is no longer a central venue for the early rounds, and all matches will be knockout with the early rounds regionalised. All teams knocked out in the first two rounds can enter the Silver Plate, entry forms for which will be included with the first round Gold Cup draw.

The Executive Council has confirmed that the limit of 6 players in teams of 4 competitions and twelve players in teams of 8 competitions, apply for the full duration of the event.

The minimum number of pairs required for clubs to hold heats of the National Pairs events has been increased to six, with the exception of the Mens and Ladies Pairs for which the minimum remains at four.

Convention cards must be provided by all players at all stages of National and Area events, or the partnership will be assumed to be

playing "Simple Systems". Clubs are encouraged to follow the same principle, but this will be left to the discretion of the clubs.

Paul Chimes.

NATIONAL RESULTS

Mens Teams

1. J. O' Sullivan, M. Hampton, N. Forrest, S. Jarvis.
2. M. Hirst, D. Hamilton, A. Pierce, A. Casey.

Ladies Welsh Cup

1. J. Newton, J. Newton, J. Spence, D. Evans.
2. D. Williams, M. Dennison, S. Webster, M. Warburton.

International Masters Pairs

1. G. Martin & J. Mason
2. M. Hirst & J. Luck

The leading pair will now represent Wales in the Phillip Morris European Pairs Championship to be held in Bielefeld, Germany in March, 1993.

Veteran Pairs

1. M. Powell & C. Heard
2. G. Lloyd-Lewis & J. Evans

Forthcoming Events

- Jan 25-29 Fitch Simultaneous Pairs (Clubs)
- Feb 6-7 Portland Pairs (Parkway, Cwmbran) (1.30 pm start on Sat. 12.30 Sun.)
- Feb 13-14 Graded Masters (Diplomat, Llanelli) (Entry £5 per pair by 7.2.92.)
- Feb 19-21 East Wales Congress (Cwmbran) (Green points for Teams event)
- Feb 27-28 Wales v N. Ireland (St Mellons) (Spectators welcome)
- Mar 14 Executive Meeting (Hereford)

WESTERN AREA RESULTS

Vince Bevan Trophy

- (Area Open Pairs Championship)
1. A. Ratcliff & A. Zaman (Bridgend)
 2. D. Hardie & G. Martin (Swansea)

Willfrid Jones Cup

- (Area Mens Pairs Championship)
1. A. Ratcliff & P. D. Jourdain (Bridgend)
 2. A. Disley & R. Charlesworth (Porthcawl)

Blodwen Williams Cup

- (Area Ladies Pairs Championship)
1. Mrs. P. Shimmell & Mrs. J. Ingram (Haverfordwest)
 2. Mrs. J. Hirst & Mrs. D. Edwards (Tenby)

Laldlaw Murray Cup

- (Area Open Teams Championship)
1. Mrs. D. Panniers, Mrs. S. Leyshon, J. Cox, Mrs. K. Cox (Llanelli)
 2. A. Haworth, K. Pratt, A. Disley, R. Charlesworth (Porthcawl)

EASTERN AREA RESULTS

Stan Berger Pairs

1. Mr. & Mrs. A. Pierce (Cardiff)
2. A. Ratcliff & P. D. Jourdain (Cardiff)

Julius Ernest Shield

- (Area Restricted Teams of 8 Championship)
1. Gwent Bridge Academy
 2. Barrivale

MID WALES AREA RESULTS

J. V. Davies Cup

- (Area Individual Competition)
1. Mair Jones (Aberystwyth)

Hilton Harrop-Griffiths Trophy

- (Area Mixed Pairs Championship)
1. Margaret & Charles Watson (Aberaeron)

BBL SWISS TEAMS, LLANGOLLEN

Patrick Jourdain and Gary Martin teamed up with Sally Horton and David Price of England, to convincingly win the 94 team tournament held at Llangollen in November.

They set an unbeatable record by winning all 13 of their nine-board matches. The highest placed "All-Welsh" teams were Adrian Thomas & David Carlisle playing with Gilly Clench & Jane Preddy who finished 4th, while Tony Haworth & Keith Pratt playing with Rob Charlesworth & Tony Disley finished 5th.

One hand from the event was beautifully handled by my partner Patrick Jourdain.

NORTH

S: K
H: A K Q 8 3
D: 6 5
C: K 8 7 6 5

SOUTH

S: A Q 9 8 7 6 2
H: 7 2
D: A 2
C: A 2

After the bidding:

N	E	S	W
1H	P	2S	5D
5S	P	6S	P
P	P		

Patrick received the lead of the DK. He won with the Ace and played a spade to dummy's King. When his left hand opponent showed out, Patrick's thought processes went into overdrive. He correctly reasoned, that to make this contract, his last four cards needed to be the AQ98 of spades and East's had to be J1054. This he duly accomplished by ruffing twice in hand after discarding his losing diamond on the Queen of Hearts.

At trick 10, with South and East down to the holdings described above, Patrick led the 8 of spades from hand and East was powerless to stop him from making 3 of the last 4 tricks. This resulted in an 11 IMP swing when in the other room the N/S pair made 41 tricks in a Spade game.

A triumph for good bidding and superb dummy play technique.

