

Mayfield Swiss Pairs

Tuesday 30th October saw the inaugural Mayfield Swiss Pairs, organised by Alan Bailey and EBU/Surrey TD Martin Lee. An excellent turnout of 17 tables and a great evening enjoyed by 43 Club members and 25 visitors & guests. Five rounds of 5 boards were played in good time and a friendly and relaxed atmosphere throughout.

The leading positions were:-

1 st	Stephen McNeill & Guy Ableman	81 VPs
2 nd	Roger Morton & David Ould	75 VPs
3 rd	Tim Cook & Bob James	74 VPs

The winners with Mayfield Chairman, Keith Jackson



As with any bridge evening several hands produced tales of success, failure, dismay & surprise.

<p>♠ A 10753 ♥ 964 ♦ 432 ♣ 104</p> <p>♠ K92 ♠ 8 ♥ Q32 ♥ AKJ1085 ♦ 106 ♦ K97 ♣ AJ932 ♣ Q65</p> <p>♠ QJ64 ♥ 7 ♦ AQJ85 ♣ K87</p>	<p>Board 20 : Dealer West : All vulnerable After South has either doubled East's 1♥ opener or bid 2♦, 4♥ is a tricky prospect on a trump lead. Declarer must rely on a favourable ♣ position ☺.</p> <p>At one table where South chose the ♦ overcall (N/S names withheld to protect the guilty!), South chose the deceptive lead of 6♠! North, reading partner for either Hxx or a doubleton, <i>encouraged</i> by playing the 7 and declarer won a baffling 8♠. Eleven tricks and a top score!</p> <p>At another table N/S were allowed to make 3♠, although 4♠ can be made on the lie of the cards. Confounds the Law of Total Tricks – 18 trumps 20 tricks! Funny game!</p>																																
<p>♠ AQ1085 ♥ 97 ♦ J1073 ♣ 105</p> <p>♠ J963 ♠ 742 ♥ 103 ♥ 864 ♦ AKQ64 ♦ 9852 ♣ 63 ♣ Q72</p> <p>♠ K ♥ AKQJ52 ♦ - ♣ AKJ984</p>	<p>Board 24 : Dealer West : Love all The only (making) slam hand of the night. 5 pairs stopped in game, 1 pair bid 7H and went down and 8 of the slam bidders made 13 tricks. Best auction might be:-</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">W</th> <th style="text-align: left;">N</th> <th style="text-align: left;">E</th> <th style="text-align: left;">S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♣(or equiv)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3♦</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>4♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>5♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>5♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>6♦*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>6♥</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Interested in grand if N has an extra key value (Q♣)</p>	W	N	E	S	P	P	P	2♣(or equiv)	P	2♦	P	2♥	P	2♠	P	3♣	P	3♦	P	4♣	P	4♥	P	5♣	P	5♠	P	6♦*	P	6♥	All Pass	
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Success at pairs is frequently a matter of good luck and sound judgement, especially staying out of trouble. Bob James & I would have been closer to the winners had Adrian & Jacky Boulding not taken advantage of the former and exhibited the latter quality on two hands from the final stanza.

<p>♠ KJ86 ♥ K10 ♦ 10854 ♣ K42</p> <p>♠ Q ♥ 54 ♦ A7632 ♣ QJ983</p> <p>♠ 10942 ♥ AJ873 ♦ - ♣ 10765</p>	<p>Board 21 : Dealer North : NS vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>North</td> <td>East</td> <td>South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>1♥</td> <td>Pass</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1NT</td> <td>All Pass</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Many E/W pairs overbid this one with both 3NT & 5♦ common, unsuccessful offerings. While West has the high card values to respond 2♦, partner's opening bid has not improved the hand and 1NT is a sound call. East does not hold a great 16 count and can be certain of no major suit fit. Also, even if West is maximum, East's major suits are weak and 9 tricks are a long way off. A well judged 'pass' wins the matchpoints.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT	All Pass		
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<p>♠ J54 ♥ K974 ♦ A ♣ J10843</p> <p>♠ A9872 ♥ J6532 ♦ 10 ♣ 72</p> <p>♠ K1063 ♥ A ♦ J732 ♣ A965</p>	<p>Board 25 : Dealer North : EW vulnerable</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>North</td> <td>East</td> <td>South</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pass</td> <td>3♦</td> <td>All Pass</td> </tr> </table> <p>Avid HCP counters may balk at East's opening bid but it seems right to devalue the hand and open a vulnerable 3♦. This buys the contract, keeps N/S out of the bidding with 5♣ a lucky make and, in spite of a 1 trick defeat, secures 66% on the board.</p> <p>Certainly, it is easy to construct hands for West on which 3NT is a likely make but the converse is equally true and a 1-level opening with a certain major suit reply may well send the auction too high. Well done to those able to stop in 2♦.</p>	West	North	East	South		Pass	3♦	All Pass				
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Much deserved praise to the Tea Ladies, Catherine & Ann and everyone else who contributed towards a successful and enjoyable evening.



Picture Gallery - <http://www.metrobridge.co.uk/MayfieldPics/Swiss%20Pairs12/index.html>

Tim Cook