

2010 IBPA AWARDS



2010

IBPA Awards

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THE RICHARD FREEMAN JUNIOR DEAL OF THE YEAR

Winner:

Carole Puillet (FRA); Journalist: Brian Senior (ENG) 547.12

Shortlist:

Piotr Wiankowski (POL); Journalist: Christer Andersson (SWE) 538.10
Pavla Hoderova (POL); Journalist: Mark Horton (ENG) 538.10
Jamilla Spangenberg (NED); Journalist: Jos Jacobs (NED) 540.4
Tobias Polak (NED); Journalist: Kees Tammens (NED) 547.12

THE GEORGE RETEK BEST BID HAND OF THE YEAR

Winner:

Debbie Rosenberg-JoAnna Stansby (USA); Journalist: Brent Manley (USA) 548.10

Shortlist:

Marek Pietraszek-Tomasz Ukrainski (POL); Journalist: John Carruthers (CAN) 538.6
Wang Hongli-Sun Ming (CHN); Journalist: Fu Qiang (CHN) 540.6
Marion Cannone-Godefroy de Tessières (FRA); Journalist: Philippe Cronier (FRA) 544.6
Carl King-Francesco Persivale (PER); Journalist: John Carruthers (CAN) 544.12

THE ROSE CLIFF DECLARER PLAY OF THE YEAR

Winner:

Michael Courtney (AUS); Journalist: Ron Klinger (AUS) 539.3

Shortlist:

Yury Khiouppenen (RUS); Journalist: Patrick Jourdain (WAL) 537.5
Patrick Jourdain (WAL); Journalist: Michelle Brunner (ENG) 542.11
Du Bing (CHN); Journalist: Fu Qiang (CHN) 545.7
Steve Garner (USA); Journalist: Barry Rigal (USA) 547.14

THE GIDWANI FAMILY TRUST DEFENCE OF THE YEAR

Winner:

Hasan Askari (PAK); Journalist: Phillip Alder (USA) 537.4

Shortlist:

Gunnar Hallberg (ENG); Journalist: Phillip Alder (USA) 537.3
Peter Boyd (USA); Journalist: Brent Manley (USA) 537.14
Grzegorz Narkiewicz (POL); Journalist: John Carruthers (CAN) 538.5
Nikolai Demirev (USA); Journalist: Mark Horton (ENG) 540.11
Gordon Campbell/Piotr Klimowicz (CAN); Journalist: Ray Lee (CAN) 546.12

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THE ALAN TRUSCOTT MEMORIAL AWARD

Louis Sachar (USA) for “*The Cardturner*”

THE IBPA PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

Thomas Bessis (FRA)

THE MASTER POINT PRESS IBPA BOOK OF THE YEAR

Krzysztof Martens (POL) for “*Owl, Fox and Spider*”

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THE RICHARD FREEMAN JUNIOR DEAL OF THE YEAR

THE 10th EUROPEAN JUNIOR PAIRS, 14-17 July, Opatija, Croatia The Extra Chance by Brian Senior

Carole Puillet of France spotted an extra chance in the Girls second qualifying session. It came on this deal against the Dutch Spangenberg sisters:

Board 10. Dealer East. Both Vul.

	♠ Q 8 6	
	♥ Q 5 2	
	♦ J 8 4	
	♣ A 8 6 5	
♠ A 3 2		♠ K 10 9 4
♥ 8 6		♥ K 4 3
♦ A K 9 7 5 2		♦ 6 3
♣ Q 4		♣ J 10 7 2
	♠ J 7 5	
	♥ A J 10 9 7	
	♦ Q 10	
	♣ K 9 3	

West	North	East	South
<i>Sigrid S.</i>	<i>Chaigny</i>	<i>Jamilla S.</i>	<i>Puillet</i>
—	—	Pass	1 ♥
2 ♦	2 ♥	Pass	Pass
Pass			

West kicked off with three rounds of diamonds, ruffed low by East and overruffed. Puillet crossed to dummy with the ace of clubs and led the heart queen for the king and ace. She drew a second round of trumps, then paused to take stock. She knew that West had eight red cards. If clubs were 3-3, a club could be established by playing king and another. But if the clubs were 4-2, then East would return the fourth club and declarer would have to open up spades herself, with the honours almost certainly split between the two defenders. That would lead to one down.

There was a small extra chance and Puillet found it. She led the nine of clubs away from the king. Caught with the now-bare queen of clubs, West had no choice but to win it and was forced to either open up the spades or give a ruff and discard, either of which would give the contract. Had East been able to win the club from a four-card holding, she would have returned the suit and the contract would have failed, with declarer forced to open up the spades herself - but then there was no winning line.

If clubs had been three-three, the defence would have won and exited with a club to the king. With no entry to dummy's thirteenth club, declarer would now have to open up the spade suit - no problem, as West would now be marked with a doubleton, leading low to the queen would ensure a spade trick. Very well done, and it helped the French pair to finish top of the qualifying stage and win the bronze medal.

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THE GEORGE RETEK BEST BID HAND OF THE YEAR

THE NEW ORLEANS SUMMER NATIONALS Grand Design by Brent Manley

On this deal from the second semifinal session of the von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs, Debbie Rosenberg and JoAnna Stansby had an expert auction to the top spot for most of the matchpoints.

Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ K 9 8 5 2 ♥ A 3 2 ♦ A 5 ♣ 5 4 3	♠ Q ♥ J 10 9 7 6 5 4 ♦ 10 4 ♣ 9 8 7
♠ J 3 ♥ Q 8 ♦ K Q 9 7 6 3 2 ♣ J 6	♠ A 10 7 6 4 ♥ K ♦ J 8 ♣ A K Q 10 2

West	North	East	South
	<i>Rosenberg</i>		<i>Stansby</i>
—	1 ♠	Pass	2 NT ¹
3 ♦	Pass ²	Pass	3 ♥
Pass	3 ♠	Pass	4 ♣
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	4 NT
Pass	5 ♦ ³	Pass	6 ♣ ⁴
Pass	6 ♠ ⁵	Pass	7 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

1. Game-forcing spade raise
2. Neutral
3. Zero or three key cards
4. Third-round control of clubs?
5. No

Rosenberg did very well not to jump to four spades over three diamonds. Stansby finagled a diamond control from her partner, used Key Card, then asked for third round control of clubs. When none was forthcoming, she was confident that seven no trump could be no worse than finding spades 2-1 with the clubs 3-2 or the jack in partner's hand or being pickupable, and so it proved. Six clubs was a truly inventive bid.

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THE ROSE CLIFF DECLARER PLAY OF THE YEAR

OZ BRIDGE by Ron Klinger Anticipation

(From *The Sydney Morning Herald*, October 11, 2009)

Michael Courtney of Sydney found an ingenious deceptive play to divert East from the winning play on this deal from rubber bridge:

Dealer North. Neither Vul.

♠ 10 3	
♥ 6 4	
♦ A Q 10 8 7 5	
♣ 5 3 2	
♠ A 9 8 6 5 2	♠ J 7
♥ J 10 7	♥ A K 8 5 3
♦ 3	♦ K 6 4
♣ Q 7 6	♣ J 10 4
♠ K Q 4	
♥ Q 9 2	
♦ J 9 2	
♣ A K 9 8	

West	North	East	South
—	3 ♦	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led the spade six: ten, jack, king. Courtney now took the losing diamond finesse. East thought it a good idea to cash the heart winners before returning a spade and so he led the king of hearts. West was keen to deny possession of the heart queen and so he followed with the jack. Because the spade six opening lead was fourth-highest and Courtney could see the three and four, he was aware that West had at most six spades and so East had another spade.

Courtney was naturally eager to inhibit a spade switch by East and so when East continued with the heart ace, he followed smoothly with the queen! West continued to unblock by playing the ten. Completely, taken in, East played a third heart. Surprise, surprise, South's nine won the trick. Suddenly a contract which would under normal circumstances be three down was made easily. Well done, Mr. Courtney.

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THE GIDWANI FAMILY TRUST DEFENCE OF THE YEAR

2009 BERMUDA BOWL, BRAZIL BB RR17 Pakistan/Italy by Phillip Alder

Board 16. Dealer South. EW Vul.

♠ K 9 8 7 6	
♥ 10 8 6	
♦ A	
♣ A K 10 2	
♠ 5 4 3 2	♠ —
♥ A K 7 5 4	♥ Q J 9 2
♦ Q 5 2	♦ 10 8 3
♣ 9	♣ Q J 8 6 5 3
♠ A Q J 10	
♥ 3	
♦ K J 9 7 6 4	
♣ 7 4	

West	North	East	South
<i>Askari</i>	<i>Sementa</i>	<i>Mohiuddin</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
—	—	—	1 ♦
1 ♥	Double	4 ♥	4 ♠
Pass	5 ♣	Pass	5 ♦
Pass	5 NT	Pass	6 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

One of the best defensive plays of the tournament occurred on the diagrammed deal in the Bermuda Bowl match between Italy and Pakistan. Before getting to that, if you were South, how would you play in six spades after the defence begins with two rounds of hearts?

It looks normal to play on a crossruff. You plan to take one diamond, two clubs, four ruffs in the South hand and five trumps in the North hand. But as you can see, West ruffs the second club to defeat the contract. The winning line is to play a diamond to the ace, lead a trump to South, cash the diamond king, ruff a diamond, return to South with a trump and lead winning diamonds. Whenever West ruffs, North overruffs, plays a trump to South's ace (which removes West's last spade), and runs the rest of the diamonds.

However, being lucky in diamonds is much less likely than finding clubs 5-2 or 4-3, when the crossruff will work. Both North-South pairs reached six spades. At the other, non-diagrammed table, the auction was as given until four spades, except that Mirza Shauq Hussain (North for Pakistan) did not double over one heart, he bid one spade promising at least a five-card suit. Then Fulvio Fantoni (West) rebid five hearts, and North jumped to six spades.

Claudio Nunes (East) led the club queen. Declarer (North) won in his hand, cashed the diamond ace, played a trump to dummy (seeing the 4-0 break), took the diamond king, ruffed a diamond, drew trumps ending in the South hand and claimed.

In the diagrammed auction, Antonio Sementa (North) doubled one heart to show four or five spades. Then, over four spades, he could not ask for aces. Five clubs showed a first- or second-round control in the suit. Five diamonds did the same. And five no-trump said that North wanted to be in a slam, but that he did not have first-round heart control. Giorgio Duboin (South) signed off in six spades.

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Hasan Askari (West) led the heart ace, then continued with a low heart when his partner, Khalid Mohiuddin, played the queen. South ruffed, led a club to dummy's ace and cashed the diamond ace, under which West dropped the queen!

Declarer, believing that diamonds were 5-1, thought he had to play the crossruff. Duboin called for the club king, but West ruffed it. Plus 1430 and plus 100 gave Pakistan 17 IMPs on the board. When you cannot beat a contract by hook, try crook.

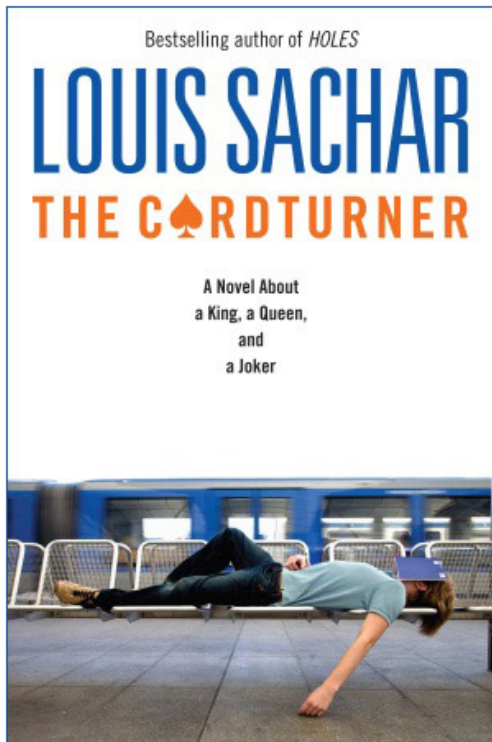
2010 IBPA AWARDS

THE ALAN TRUSCOTT MEMORIAL AWARD Louis Sachar (USA) for “The Cardturner”



Alan Truscott, circa 1964,
The New York Times

The Alan Truscott Memorial Award is given periodically for some special service to the game that would appeal to Alan. As well as a top bridge player and writer, Alan was also a fine chess player and had varied interests away from the table.



When Alton's ageing, blind uncle asks him to attend bridge games with him, he agrees. After all, it's better than a crappy summer job in the local shopping mall, and Alton's mother thinks it might secure their way to a good inheritance sometime in the future. But, like all apparently casual choices in any of Louis Sachar's wonderful books, this choice soon turns out to be a lot more complex than Alton could ever have imagined. As his relationship with his uncle develops, and he meets the very attractive Toni, deeply buried secrets are uncovered and a romance that spans decades is finally brought to a conclusion. Alton's mother is in for a surprise!

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THE IBPA PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR Thomas Bessis (FRA)



The personality of the year award is at the discretion of the executive committee. In the past few years the award has sometimes gone to players, sometimes to organizers, or to people who have contributed to the good of the game.

This year we have selected as our candidate a player who has excelled in the junior game, the open game, as a coach and captain, and who has also proved himself as a journalist.

Thomas Bessis came to fame as a player with his brother Olivier, but he has also played successfully with his mother Veronique, he has had huge success with his father Michel, (including this year's Vanderbilt Trophy) and has coached and captained the French women's team. He won the Junior European championships last year as well as many other junior titles.

Additionally he has won an IBPA award for best played hand by a junior, and has proved himself to be popular, well-mannered and generous. a true renaissance man.

Thomas Bessis' recent wins include:

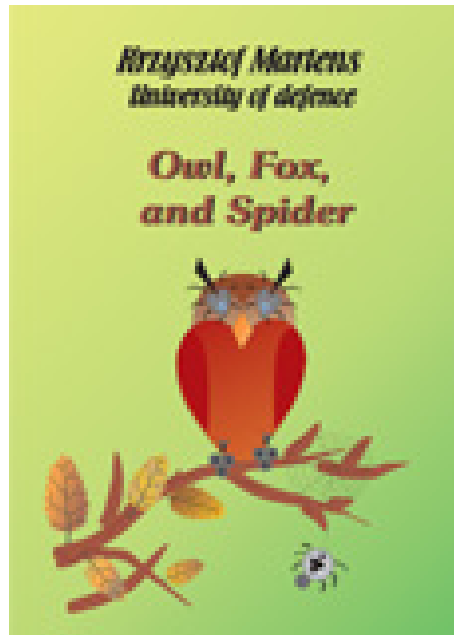
- 3rd EUROPEAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS, Antalya 2007 - Open Teams
- 38th WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, Shanghai 2007 - Transnational Teams
- 22nd EUROPEAN YOUTH TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, Brasov 2009 - Junior Teams
- 9th EUROPEAN YOUTH PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIPS, Wroclaw 2008 - Junior Pairs
- 49th EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, Pau 2008 – Women's Teams (Coach of FRANCE)
- 2010 SPRING NABC, Reno - Vanderbilt Teams
- 2010 CAVENDISH INVITATIONAL, Las Vegas - John Roberts Teams
- 50th EUROPEAN TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, Pau 2010 – Women's Teams (Coach of FRANCE)

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THE MASTER POINT PRESS IBPA BOOK OF THE YEAR

Krzysztof Martens (POL) for "Owl, Fox and Spider"



Owl, Fox and Spider

You are the wise owl already,
If you are alert as a fly
Strong as a tiger
Sly as a spider
Cunning as a fox
You'll have to go and see your vet
'Cause you might have turned calf at this point.

The Fox and Crow

(Thomas Philipot)

The Crow with laden beak the tree retires,
The Fox to gett her prey her forme admires,
While she to show her gratitude not small,
Offering to give her thanks, her prize lets fall.

Spiders and Scorpions

Everyone is afraid of spiders and scorpions! They are terrifying because they have many legs, move fast and are venomous. We must not forget, however, that they can be beneficial too: they eat the worms and insects that destroy crops. Spiders create sticky threads to make webs, which they use to entrap insects. They then kill their prey with venom and consume them.

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Look at the following defensive trump suit shenanigans from Krzysztof Martens...

CAMOUFLAGING 4

“He’s not a fox, he’s a chicken,” commented the kibitzers, when the contract was not doubled.

Pairs. Dealer West. Both Vul.

♠ 10 9	
♥ A K J	
♦ 8 3	
♣ A J 10 9 8 4	
	♠ A J 5 2
	♥ 8 5 3 2
	♦ Q J 6 4
	♣ Q 7

West	North	East	South
1 ♦	2 ♣	Double	3 ♣
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Lead: Club ace and a small club. West ruffs, crosses to dummy in spades and leads a heart to the nine. You, North, win the jack, cash two more trumps and switch back to clubs, forcing declarer to use his last trump. Here are the four hands:

♠ 10 9	
♥ A K J	
♦ 8 3	
♣ A J 10 9 8 4	
♠ K Q 6	♠ A J 5 2
♥ Q 9 7 4	♥ 8 5 3 2
♦ A K 10 5 2	♦ Q J 6
♣ 3	♣ Q 7
	♠ 8 7 4 3
	♥ 10 6
	♦ 9 7 4
	♣ K 6 5 2

Declarer claims nine tricks. One off was worth only 29%. Many North players courageously doubled. Well, if the queen had appeared in dummy you would have been right to pass.

After a similar auction, the fox did not double either. His opening lead was identical, and he also continued clubs at trick two. However, when declarer crossed to the ace of spades and led a trump to the nine, the fox won with the king and continued clubs. Can you blame declarer for looking for a way to make the contract? He imagined North holding ace-king doubleton of trumps. Based on this, he ruffed in dummy and played another heart. The result: four down and 99%.

“Better four down undoubled than one down doubled,” was the friendly beast’s response to the kibitzers’ critique.

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KILLER 3

Underestimating your opponent may cost you dearly. The auction was informative.

Pairs. Dealer East. Neither Vul.

♠ A 3 2
♥ K
♦ K Q J 10
♣ A K Q J 5

♠ Q 10 6
♥ A 9 8 7 6
♦ 9 8 6
♣ 7 2

West	North	East	South
—	—	1 ♣	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	5 NT	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Lead: Heart queen. You, South, take the ace and continue hearts. Declarer ruffs, draws trumps via a finesse against the queen and claims the contract. How lucky! The four hands:

♠ 7 5 4
♥ Q J 5 4
♦ 7 5 2
♣ 8 6 3

♠ K J 9 8
♥ 10 3 2
♦ A 4 3
♣ 10 9 4

♠ A 3 2
♥ K
♦ K Q J 10
♣ A K Q J 5

♠ Q 10 6
♥ A 9 8 7 6
♦ 9 8 6
♣ 7 2

The fox never rests. Having taken the first trick, he switched to the ten of spades! Declarer happily covered with the jack and, when it held, played the spade nine, ducking in dummy. Ultimate naïveté, no doubt about it, but congratulations to the fox nevertheless. If you haven't been fooled this way before, you are very likely to fall for this trick.