

67th ASHOK RUIA MEMORIAL WINTER NATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL ● 1ST - 11TH DECEMBER 2025



Venue Sponsored by Mr. H. M. Bangur, Executive Director and Chairperson, Shree Cement Ltd.

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Editor : Dr. Prakash Paranjape

Amla Ruia Inaugurates the 67th Winter National Bridge Championships

The 67th Winter Nationals of the Bridge Federation of India, the Ashok Ruia Memorial National Bridge Championships, were inaugurated today morning by Amla Ruia, wife of late Ashok Ruia, in the magnificent Biswa Bangla Convention Centre at Newton Kolkata. The championships are being hosted by the West Bengal Bridge Association with support from the Corporate Bridge Association of India (CBAI). Mr. Arnab Guha, Secretary of the West Bengal Bridge Association (WBBA) introduced the guests.



Mr. Debasish Ray, secretary of the Bridge Federation of India spoke on the occasion. He made a special mention of the unstinting support of the Ruias who have supported the Bridge Federation of India in its various activities every year since its inception sixty seven years ago. Monica Jajoo, president of the WBBA welcomed the players and officials. Ms. Amla Ruia marked the start of the play by handing over a dealt board to the Chief Tournament Director M. V. Subrahmanyam.

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The play of at the 67th Winter Nationals Bridge Championships commenced with the **AMLA RUIA WOMEN CUP Elimination Stage**. Twenty two pairs are participating in the event. The elimination stage will consist of an all-play-all two-session 21-round IMP Pairs. 12 Pairs will qualify for the final that will be held tomorrow, Tuesday, 2nd December 2025.

[Here is the detailed schedule of the entire championships.](#)

CBAI Contract Bridge Academy

Corporate Bridge Association of India will start a Bridge academy from 2nd November '25' in Kolkata. Bridge teaching will be in Live as well as in Virtual mode.



The committee members: Mr. Sanjoy Bhattacharyya - Chairman

Mr. Deepak Pramanik - Co Chairman.

Mrs. Monica Jajoo - Secretary

Faculties: Mr. Sourendra Coomer Dutta - *Principal*.

Mr. Kaustabh Nandi, Mr. Sumit Mukherjee, Mr. Suman Sengupta, Mr. Arnab Guha, Mr. Soumadeep Ghosh, Mr. Arya Chakraborty, Mr. Amarnath Bannerjee, Mr. Sanjay Chakraborty and others.

Main Contact person for the academy is Mr. Shouvik Das.

[More information on the academy is available on their website.](#)

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A technical opportunity

The following deal is from the finals of the recently finished Mavericks Premier League 2025. The four-member Polish team playing as Express Avenue was down 10-48 at the end of the first session against Formidables, arguably the strongest Open Team in India. In fact, in the last major event in the Indian Calendar, Formidables were head and shoulders above the rest of the team winning more than 18 VPs per round in the Swiss league.

In the Mavericks Premier League final though, the Polish quartet came from behind and won the match 118-110 after four sets. The results of the 2025 World Championships, the performance of the four-members-from-Poland team in the Indian events, and the performance of Mavericks who often field foreign players, is making us think that we are far behind others on the international stage. Is there at all a possibility that our players will perform well abroad is the question that is on everyone's mind.

The performance of the Indian teams certainly needs to improve. Many experts and veterans of Indian Bridge have their opinions about the ways and means to bring that about. We will try and pin down a few veterans and try to gauge their opinions in the upcoming issues of this bulletin.

I, for one, would like to think of technical opportunities. The deal below might suggest one. East opened 1Nt in the dealer position and the Polish North-South ended up in 2♠. The Formidables North-South also ended up in 2♠ in the Other Room. You can see from the diagram that a Spade game has excellent prospects for North-South. The question we should ask is whether the common defence against 1Nt is not geared to find such games because it is mainly geared to disturbing the 1Nt contract rather than looking for the best of the defending side. Is there a technical opportunity to devise or choose better defensive methods here? Will that provide us with some 'Alpha', to borrow a word from the investors? Are there more such areas?

That is the thought I would like to live you with.

18	N PSZCZOLA	W N E S	
	♠ AJ972	1NT	P
	♥ A52	2♠	P
	♦ AQ1073	P	P
	♣		
W KAUSTABH N		E SAGNIK ROY	
♠ 1065		♠ K3	
♥ Q873		♥ J64	
♦ J6		♦ K982	
♣ QJ95		♣ AK82	
Other table: 2♦N=			
NS: EXPRESS 94 IMPs			
EW: FORMIDABLES 94 IMPs	S BURAS		
	♠ Q84		
	♥ K109		
	♦ 54		
	♣ 107643	2♦ N	NS: 0 EW: 0