

67<sup>th</sup>

# ASHOK RUIA MEMORIAL WINTER NATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



KOLKATA, WEST BENGAL ● 1<sup>ST</sup> - 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025



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

Issue No. 10

Date : 10 DEC 2025, 24<sup>th</sup> Ogrohayon, 1432

Editor : Dr. Prakash Paranjape

## Mohota lift the ASHOK RUIA GOLD trophy

The 4-member **Mohota**(Anurag Mohota, Basant K Mohota, Biswajit Poddar, Sambhu Nath Ghosh) lifted the RUIA GOLD trophy yesterday by beating **Hemant Jalan** (Hemant Jalan, Ashish Malhotra, Sandeep Thakral, Subhash Gupta, Vikrant Mehta) 144.9-123 IMPs in a final that started as a one-sided affair but suddenly lightened up to an exciting tussle in the latter half of the fourth set. The Mohota team had amassed VPs in the Swiss league at more than 15 per round; in the quarterfinals, they beat Third Eye 153-111; in the semifinals, they trounced **Indian Railway A** 173-121; and in yesterday's final they set out to give the same treatment to **Hemant Jalan**.



Anurag Mohota, Basant K Mohota, Debashis Ray (BFI Secretary), Biswajit Poddar, and Shambhu Nath Ghosh

The match started with a few big swings for Mohota. with a few big swings in the first three deals. They maintained a healthy lead till the start of the fourth set when Hemant Jalan suddenly came to life with a 43-0 burst in the first half. That made the second half quite exciting. The Mohota father and son duo, having finished their deals quite early, could be seen pacing the hall anxiously, wondering what the next board is going to bring. All that anxiety melted away when Bishwajit Poddar and Shambhu Nath Ghosh defeated a 4♥ contract with brilliant defence on Board 27.

Congratulations to Mohota for an impressive performance in a tough field. Parts of Set 1 and Set 4 are covered in detail later in the bulletin. In the 3-session playoff, Formidables defeated Indian Railways A 72.5-46 IMPs. [Click here for detailed score.](#)

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## Mall of the Millennium Match-Point Pairs, Elimination 1

In the first elimination stage of the **Mall of the Millennium Match-Point Pairs**, played over five sessions of 10 boards each, **Ramkrishna Majumder – Swapna Ghosh** topped the field with an impressive **3075.60 Match-Points**. They were followed closely by **Goutam Pore – Amitava Ghosh**, who secured second place on **2997.50**.



The third spot went to **Binod Kumar Shaw – Sanjit Dey**, the Indian internationals and members of the Indian team in the 2024 World Championship, who posted **2957.50**, staying well within striking distance of the leaders. In fourth place, **Indranil Chakraborty – Moloy Mondal** finished with **2938.10**, rounding off a tightly contested top bracket where margins were narrow and every board counted.

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## Wednesday's (10 Dec 2025) Events

**MALL OF THE MILLENIUM CUP MATCHPOINT PAIRS ELIM 2** will be played starting at **10:15 A.M.**

**DABRIWALA CUP BOARD-A-MATCH** will also be played starting at **11:00 A.M.**

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



**Hemant Jalan**, Runners up of RUIA GOLD Teams, from Left to Right,  
Debashis Ray (BFI Secretary), Sandeep Thakral, Subhash Gupta, Ashis Malhotra, Vikrant Mehta, Hemant Jalan

# Hemant Jalan vs Mohota RUIA GOLD Final

Mohota team started the finals with a bang. The very first deal had a Grand Slam on cards. Anurag and Basant Mohota reached it in a Vande Bharat style. A natural Club bid, a natural forcing response, a simple raise of partner's suit, and Ace-ask, and bang, the Grand Slam bid. There was nothing to play.

Playing a similar system, closed to Precision Club than strong Club, Sandeep Thakral responded 2♦, an artificial relay bid, to partner's 2♣ opening. He could have continued 3♠ on 3♣ rebid, but he chose to skip 5-3 fit-finding and used an RKC that set up Clubs as the trump suit. Subhash Gupta was missing the Club King, a Key Card, so East-West were destined to stop in six. Hemant Jalan opened their account in the finals with an 11-IMP swing!!

<table border="1"> <tr><td>D</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2"><b>N VIKRANT</b></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">♠72</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">♥J8742</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">♦Q953</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">♣92</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Par Score: -1510</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Par: EW 7♦</td></tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>A. MOHTA</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>AKJ103</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>AKQ3</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>K76</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>J</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2 1 2 0 1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2 1 2 0 1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>11 12 11 13 12</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>11 12 11 13 12</td></tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>N</td><td>E</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>4NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>7♣</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>ASHISH M</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>984</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>1095</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>1082</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>K1075</td></tr> </table>	D	1	<b>N VIKRANT</b>		♠72		♥J8742		♦Q953		♣92		Par Score: -1510		Par: EW 7♦		W	A. MOHTA	♠	AKJ103	♥	AKQ3	♦	K76	♣	J	NT		N	2 1 2 0 1	S	2 1 2 0 1	E	11 12 11 13 12	W	11 12 11 13 12	W	N	E	S	Pass	2♣	Pass		2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass	7♣	Pass	Pass	Pass	S	ASHISH M	♠	984	♥	1095	♦	1082	♣	K1075	<table border="1"> <tr><td>D</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2"><b>N B PODDAR</b></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">♠72</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">♥J8742</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">♦Q953</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">♣92</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Par Score: -1510</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Par: EW 7♦</td></tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>S. THAKRAL</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>AKJ103</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>AKQ3</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>K76</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>J</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">NT</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>2 1 2 0 1</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>2 1 2 0 1</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>11 12 11 13 12</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>11 12 11 13 12</td></tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr><td>W</td><td>N</td><td>E</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>Pass</td><td>2♣</td><td>Pass</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2♦</td><td>Pass</td><td>3♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>4NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>5♣</td><td>Pass</td></tr> <tr><td>6NT</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td><td>Pass</td></tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>SHAMBHU G</td></tr> <tr><td>♠</td><td>984</td></tr> <tr><td>♥</td><td>1095</td></tr> <tr><td>♦</td><td>1082</td></tr> <tr><td>♣</td><td>K1075</td></tr> </table>	D	1	<b>N B PODDAR</b>		♠72		♥J8742		♦Q953		♣92		Par Score: -1510		Par: EW 7♦		W	S. THAKRAL	♠	AKJ103	♥	AKQ3	♦	K76	♣	J	NT		N	2 1 2 0 1	S	2 1 2 0 1	E	11 12 11 13 12	W	11 12 11 13 12	W	N	E	S	Pass	2♣	Pass		2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass	6NT	Pass	Pass	Pass	S	SHAMBHU G	♠	984	♥	1095	♦	1082	♣	K1075
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On Board 2, East held 11 HCP with 5-4 in Majors. Basant Mohota passed. North-South hold 25 combined High Card Points. They duly reached a 3Nt game. Basant led the ♦Q. Vikrant had little idea about enemy distribution so he didn't have too many baskets to put his eggs in. He decided to put them in the 3-3 Spades basket. When Spades broke 4-2, he went down one. Perhaps, it would have been better to play a small Heart to Nine, taking a Cue from Sandeep Thakral's play we had published in an earlier bulletting.

In the Closed Room, Subhash Gupta opened 1♥. Thakral ended up playing in 1Nt. He went down three. That would have been cheap if a game had made in the other room, but -100 score in the Open Room meant Hemant Jalan lost six more IMPs.

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On deal 3, No game is making for East-West. In a Spade contract, they stand to lose a Heart and three Key Cards (two minor suit Aces and the Spade King); and in 3Nt, a Heart lead is enough to beat the contract. In the Closed Room, Subhash Gupta responded 1Nt to Thakral's 1♠ opening and passed when Thakral jumped to 3♠. That was a great decision on the board, however, North-South had to find a good lead and a perfect defence to beat a 4♠ game in the Open Room.

As it happened, Vikrant led the ♣5 and Ashis chose to win the ♣A (?) on trick one. That allowed the Declarer to discard a Heart on Dummy's ♣KJ. The lead seemed to be 3/5<sup>th</sup>, so the Declarer was certain to hold two Clubs. In that case, a duck was definitely the better option. The defenders would have had tempo on their side after a duck and would have been able to develop and cash a Heart trick before Declarer could take a discard. The result meant that Mohota won another game swing, this time, of 10 IMPs.

<b>3</b>	<b>N</b> VIKRANT ♠ K7 ♥ 1042 ♦ A986 ♣ Q654	<b>W</b> N E S 1♠ P 2♠ X 4♣ P P P	<b>3</b>	<b>N</b> B PODDAR ♠ K7 ♥ 1042 ♦ A986 ♣ Q654	<b>W</b> N E S 1♠ P 1NT X 3♣ P P P
<b>W</b> A. MOHTA ♠ AQJ10984 ♥ A3 ♦ Q4 ♣ 103	<b>E</b> B. MOHTA ♣ 5 ♣ 9 ♣ A	<b>W</b> S THAKRAL ♠ AQJ10984 ♥ A3 ♦ Q4 ♣ 103	<b>E</b> S GUPTA ♠ 632 ♥ J98 ♦ KJ7 ♣ KJ97	<b>S</b> SHAMBHU G ♠ 5 ♥ KQ765 ♦ 10532 ♣ A82	<b>3</b> W NS: 0 EW: 0
Other table: 3♦W+1 NS: HEMANT 0 IMPs EW: MOHTA 21 IMPs	4♦ W NS: 0 EW: 0	Other table: 4♦W= NS: MOHTA 21 IMPs EW: HEMANT 0 IMPs			

At the end of first three boards, Mohota led Hemant Jalan by 30.5 to 0 IMPs counting the carry-over. Hemant Jalan won 12 IMPs on Board 4 and 3 and 10, respectively on boards 5 and 7. The score at the end of the first set stood Mohota: 56.5 – Hemant Jalan: 25.

Mohota won the next two sets 54-35 and 22-13 and appeared to have put on an unassailable lead, but Hemant Jalan came back strongly in the first half of the fourth set. Let us have a look at a couple of deals from that set.

Both the North-South Pairs on view play a strong Club system so it is instructive to compare the bidding. In the Open Room, after the strong 1♣ opening and three natural bids, Basant Mohota rebid 3Nt under-evaluating the trick potential on the hand. Subhash Gupta, in contract, bid a natural 3♠. Note that it was the fourth bid suit, and South could easily have thought that North was looking for Spade control. Not having one, Thakral bid 4♣. A few Cue-bids followed that trump-support bid and Thakral came up with a 5Nt bid to ask partner to bid seven if partner held solid trumps. Subhash Gupta did (hold solid trumps) and did bid 7♣.

Basant Mohota led a Club. Subhash could now get only one Spade ruff. He needed two discards on Hearts. A ruffing finesse was a must and he opted for that. Hemant Jalan won 10 IMPs on the board. They have won 11 on board 15, the first board of the fourth set and the momentum was now on their side.

<b>16</b>	<b>N</b> B MOHOTA ♠ AK64 ♥ 10 ♦ 103 ♣ AKQJ52	<b>W</b> N E S P 1♣ P 2♦ P 3♣ P 3♥ P 3NT P 4NT P 6NT P P	<b>16</b>	<b>N</b> B MOHOTA ♠ AK64 ♥ 10 ♦ 103 ♣ AKQJ52	<b>W</b> N E S P 1♣ P 2♦ P 3♣ P 3♥ P 3NT P 4NT P 6NT P P
<b>W</b> H JALAN ♠ 10752 ♥ K862 ♦ K7 ♣ 763	<b>E</b> Vikrant ♣ Q93 ♥ 7543 ♦ QJ65 ♣ 98	<b>W</b> H JALAN ♠ 10752 ♥ K862 ♦ K7 ♣ 763	<b>E</b> Vikrant ♣ Q93 ♥ 7543 ♦ QJ65 ♣ 98	<b>S</b> A MOHOTA ♠ J8 ♥ AQJ9 ♦ A9842 ♣ 104	<b>S</b> A MOHOTA ♠ J8 ♥ AQJ9 ♦ A9842 ♣ 104
Par Score: 1440 Par: NS 7♣	6NT N NS: 0 EW: 0	Par Score: 1440 Par: NS 7♣	6NT N NS: 0 EW: 0		

Boards 17 and 18 were push boards. Hemant Jalan won 22 more IMPs on next three boards and the deficit now looked pretty thin. A match was on. Boards 22 and 23 were push boards and Board 24 saw a bid that was explained differently on two sides of the screen. It led to a funny table result and an adjusted score that was not much different from the table result.

Basant and Anurag finished their set pretty early and were anxiously waiting for the result. When Bishwajit-Shambhu defeated a 4♥ game, Mohotas knew that they had won the final. Congratulations to the four-member winning team for a superlative performance.



Basant Mohota with Shambhu Nath Ghosh

# West Calcutta Bridge one-day Swiss Teams event on 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2025

## One Day Open Bridge Tournament

*In Memory of  
Mohit Mehta*



(12th December, 1945 to 2nd August, 2025)



Tournament Date: 28th December, 2025

Time: 10:00 am

Venue: Indian Life Saving Society  
(Anderson Swimming Club), Inside  
Rabindra Sarobar Lake, Near Nazrul  
Manch, Kolkata -700029

Courtesy: West Calcutta Bridge Unit

Chief Coordinator: Sujit Kumar Bhattacharjee

**Format**

- Format : Swiss League 7 Rounds of 8 Boards each.
- Limited to 30 Teams.
- Entry fees : Rs 3000/- per team of 4 (additional Rs. 500/- each upto 6 players)
- Under the ageis of WBBA
- 70% of the Entry fees will be given to top 8 ranked Teams.
- Boxed Lunch and Tea ( twice ) on the house.
- Entry will be accepted upto 26th December or 30 Teams which ever is Early.
- No Cash payment or spot registration will be entertained.



### Important Notes

- Eligible only BFI registered players
- Dress Codes of ILSS : Formal or casual smart Trousers with Full or Half sleeves Shirt/ Tshirts, Churidars with full sleeveless punjabi with strapped footwear or sneakers.
- Half / Bermuda / Joggers Lower, Sandal, Hawaii Chappals are not allowed.
- Note : Rabindra Sarobar is No SMOKING Zone.
- Smoking is allowed only at specified zone.
- Please avoid Bidi Guthka, etc.

### Payment Terms:

- Online transfer to the Bank account of Sujit Kumar Bhattacharjee (Bank Detail is undermentioned )
- After successful payment the following detail to be sent to the WhatsApp number of Sujit Kumar Bhattacharjee ( 8240046538 )
  - Name of the sender
  - Team name
  - Captain's name with mobile & WhatsApp number
  - Number of Players
  - Food choice Non Veg (NV) or Veg (V)

### Bank Details:

- Sujit kumar Bhattacharjee
- A / C . No.-160601001730
- IFSC code- ICIC0001606

*An opportunity to practice before State  
Championship.*



For Queries : Contact Sujit Kumar Bhattacharjee



Debashis Ray presenting the RUIA GOLD trophy to Basant Mohota