

67th ASHOK RUIA MEMORIAL WINTER NATIONAL BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS



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



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Vidhya Patel- Kalpana Gurjar win the AMLA RUIA WOMEN CUP



Kalpana Gurjar

Vidhya Patel

The **Amla Ruia Women Cup** concluded with a gripping final that produced a well-deserved victory for **Vidhya Patel – Kalpana Gurjar**, who impressed throughout and sealed the title with a confident **57.42 IMPs** aggregate.

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Close behind were **Rekha Mody – Vandana Toolsidas**, their solid temperament earning them the runner-up spot on **53.00**. It is a creditable performance for the two ladies who do not have a well-rounded exposure to the modern bidding methods. It was mainly based on their innate card sense and a good feel for the game.

Sangeeta Mohta – Barsha Khattri battled gamely to claim third place, followed by the enterprising duo **Sadhana Gupta – Savleen Thadani**. **Kamna Sharma – Richa Shriram**, after topping the elimination phase with a commanding margin and setting the early pace, endured a challenging final session and ultimately finished sixth. Their performance in the qualifiers, however, was a reminder of their rising stature in the women's game.

[For full results, click on this link.](#)

ASHOK RUIA SENIOR TEAMS

With six rounds of the Ashok Ruia Senior Teams completed, **S D Associates** have tightened their grip at the top of the table, extending their lead with an imposing **90.89 VPs**. **USBC** remain firmly in second place on **72.65 VPs**, while **Dr. S.S.S.M.** and **Mahabir** are locked neck-and-neck for third and fourth, separated by less than a single VP.

A cluster of teams—**Hemant Jalan**, **Easy Bridge**, **Shree Cement**, and **Cogito**—currently occupy the remaining qualifying spots, but the margins are slim and the pressure immense. **Dassbridge**, **Sarbeswar Vi**, and **Juthika** sit just outside the top eight and will need a strong final push in the last Swiss round to break into the knockout stage. The seventh round of Swiss League is set for a tense and dramatic finish.

[Link to Ashok Ruia Senior Teams results.](#)

Women Strata Pairs Final Results

Aditi Jhaveri and Marianne Karmarkar won the Strata Pairs final with a score of 81.67 IMPs. Mini Agarwal and Reena Pal finished runners-up with a score of 53.5 IMPs.

[Link to Strata Pairs Final Results](#)

Wednesday's Events

The seventh and the final round of the Swiss league of the **ASHOK RUIA SENIOR TEAMS** event played today, that is, **Wednesday, 3rd December, 2025 starting at 10 AM**. Eight teams will qualify for the Knock-Out rounds. Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals will be played in three sets of 10 boards each.

For the non-qualifying Senior Teams, there will also be a Swiss Teams event from 12 Noon to 6:00 P.M. The format of the event will be decided at the end of Swiss League.

The PHOENIX MIXED PAIRS CUP elimination event will also be played today, Wednesday, 3rd December, 2025. It will comprise of five rounds of 10 boards. [The detailed schedule of the entire championships.](#)

Vidhya Patel-Kalpana Gurjar vs Kamna Sharma-Richa Shriram

Kamna Sharma-Richa Shriram, the top ranked pair of the elimination round and Vidhya Patel-Kalpana Gurjar, the hot favourites who hadn't finished in the first four Pairs were pitted against each other in the third round of the 11-round all-play-all final of the **AMLA RUIA WOMEN CUP**.

The round began with a touch-and-go Heart suit game.

		West	North	East	South
11	♠A1032 ♥1092 ♦AK10 ♣J92	Vidhya	Richa	Kalpana	Kamna
None / S		Patel	Shriram	Gurjar	Sharma
♠KJ76 ♥J74 ♦Q72 ♣K105	♠5 ♥AK863 ♦J83 ♣AQ86	Pass	1♣	1♥	Pass
♠Q984 ♥Q5 ♦9654 ♣743	2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass	

Hand Summary:

- North (Richa):** ♠A1032, ♥1092, ♦AK10, ♣J92
- South (Kamna):** ♠KJ76, ♥J74, ♦Q72, ♣K105
- East (Gurjar):** ♠5, ♥AK863, ♦J83, ♣AQ86
- West (Vidhya):** ♠Q984, ♥Q5, ♦9654, ♣743

Diagram: A circular diagram showing the four players: North (N) at the top, South (S) at the bottom, East (E) on the right, and West (W) on the left. The cards held by each player are arranged around the circle.

Richa opened 1♣ in the third seat. Kalpana overcalled 1♥ and Vidhya raised to 2♥ and everyone passed. Kamna led the ♠4. Kalpana inserted the ♠J. Richa won with ♠A and played ♠2. Kalpana discarded a Diamond, played a small Heart to the ♥Ace and played another small Heart to guard against a 4-1 Heart break. That pessimistic view of the lie of cards was in line with her stance of not making a game try. Kamna said 'thank you' and tabled the ♥Q. Kalpana made nine tricks. Three out of six tables reached a the 4♥ game and two landed it successfully to net five IMPs. Kalpana-Vidhya scores lost two IMPs on the board.



Kamna Sharma, Richa Shriram, and Kalpana Gurjar

The next deal proved to be a humdinger.

	West	North	East	South
12 ♠	Vidhya	Richa	Kalpana	Kamna
NS / W	Patel	Shriram	Gurjar	Sharma
♦J1087				
♠965	Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
♥J8	2♣*	2♥	2♠	Pass
♦AK853	Pass	X	Pass	Pass
♦Q65	Pass			
♠K10732				
♥A3				
♦J107				
♦A94				

• Drury showing 3 Spades.

Kalpana opened 1♠ in the third seat and Vidhya responded 2♣ employing the Drury convention to show a Spade fit. After her initial pass in the second position, Not only did Richa intervene with 2♥ once East-West had found the Spade fit, but she also doubled 2♠ in the balancing position. With two rounded suit Aces (♥A and ♣A) and a big stack in Spades, Kamna passed for penalty, however, the prospect of defending such a low-level contract seemed to have flustered her. She led the ♥A and continued Hearts. Richa won ♥K and played the ♣Jack.

Kamna won with ♣A and backed another Club. The best play for Kalpana, at this juncture, was to cash Club winners, cash ♦AK discarding a Heart from the Closed hand, ruff a Diamond, and play another Heart. Kamna would be left with KT732 at this stage and would get only two more tricks.

Kalpana, however, won with the ♣K and played a Heart right away allowing Kamna to discard a Club. This was the position.

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The Tragic Death of Santanu Choudhury



Santanu Choudhury, just under 60 years, was a popular figure in the Kolkata Bridge circles. He had a demanding government job that gave him little time for Bridge in recent times. He had come to watch the Seniors Team event when he suffered a stroke.

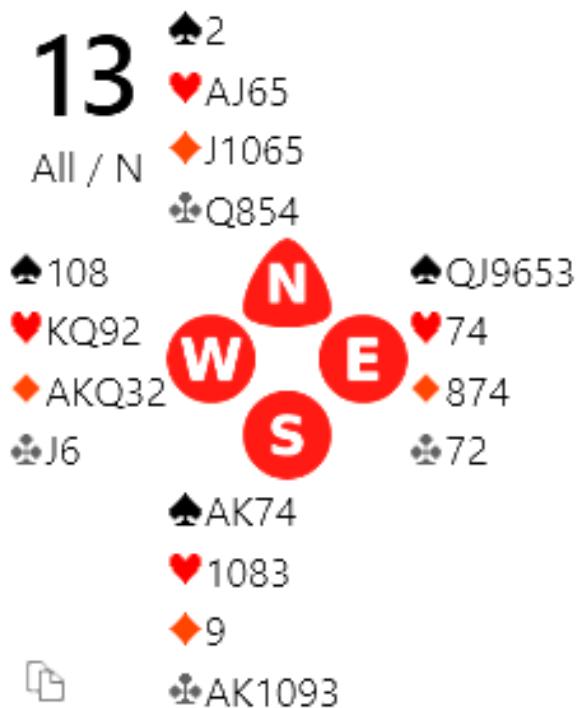
Everyone rushed to the spot. Dr B K Khetawat, who was playing on a nearby table, was quickly called in for help. He used his experience to revive Santanu's heart that seemed to have stopped beating. Santanu was then quickly rushed to the hospital, however, despite efforts, Doctors were unable to save him.

May his soul attain sadgati.

D 12	N Richa ♠ ♥ KQ1062 ♦ Q962 ♣ J1087	W N E S P P 1♠ P 2♣ 2♥ 2♦ P P X P P P
W Vidhya	♥ 6 ♠ 5 ♥ 7 ♣ 9	E Kalpana ♠ AQJ84 ♥ 9754 ♦ 4 ♣ K32
S Kamna	♠ K10732 ♥ A3 ♦ J107 ♣ A94	

The situation was now delicately poised. To make the contract, Kalpana had to endplay South twice. She was aware of the risks of a 5-0 trump break but didn't seem to have thought through the play thoroughly. She next cashed ♦AK and played the ♠9 running it to South when Richa discarded. All that Kamna had to do at this point was to win the ♠T and fire a Diamond. Kalpana would have been forced to ruff. South would have got two trump tricks after that. Kamna however ducked, and ducked again when Kalpana played another Spade to ♠Queen. Kalpana made eight tricks rather easily in the end and chalked up +570, a score that was worth a +9 IMPs gain.

On Board 13, four out of six tables saw a 3♣ contract by West making 10 or 11 tricks.



14

♠K1042
 ♥A72
 ♦K109
 ♣J43
 None / E
 ♠QJ83
 ♥108
 ♦AJ86
 ♣KQ5

 ♠76
 ♥K954
 ♦753
 ♣A1098

On Board 14, most East-West Pairs played in 1Nt making one or more overtricks. Vidhya made 10. West

North

East South

	Vidhya	Richa	Kalpana	Kamna
Patel		Shriram	Gurjar	Sharma
			Pass	Pass
1♦		Pass	1♥	Pass
1Nt		Pass	Pass	Pass

Richa led a small Spade. Vidhya won with ♠8 and played a small Diamond to Dummy's Queen. Richa ducked and ducked again when Vidhya played a small Heart from Dummy to ♥Ten. Vidhya next played the ♥8 and Richa allowed this to run to Kamna's ♥King.

Kamna, holding ♣AT98, played the ♣T hoping to find one of the top honours – the King or the Queen - with partner. Alas, North came up only with the ♣Jack. Vidhya won, cashed the ♦Ace, and backed another Diamond. Richa won ♦K and backed a Club. Kamna won the ♣A and now, finally, she decided to back a Spade, partner's originally led suit. On the fourth Diamond, North discarded a Spade. That meant Vidhya's fourth Spade won a trick. That was +180 to East-West. It was worth +2 IMPs.

On the last deal of the round, Kalpana had a difficult bidding problem.

Board 15, South Dealer, North-South Vulnerable. Kamna passed in the dealer position, Vidhya opened 1♠, and Richa jumped to 3♦. This was the hand Kalpana held. What would you bid in her position?

♠
 E ♥AK9
 ♦1098
 ♣KJ108752

Kalpana considered her options for some time and decided to bid 5♣ by herself. Everyone passed. When Kamna tabled ♦K as the opening lead, Kalpana knew she had taken the right decision. This was the full hand.

15

♠Q6
 ♥108
 ♦AJ7654
 ♣Q96
 NS / S
 ♠K109832
 ♥QJ72
 ♦3
 ♣A4
 ♠AJ754
 ♥6543
 ♦KQ2
 ♣3

At trick two, Kamna switched to a trump but instead of cutting down ruffs, it ended up solving the problem of trump queen guess. Kalpana easily made 12 tricks. She was the only player to find that winning bid and was rewarded with a seven IMP gain.

Kalpana-Vidhya won the match with +15 IMPs in five boards.