

SABF Mixed Teams Final Bulletin Number 9

At the halfway point of the S A Trials, with 3 segments of 16 boards each played, the Rosslee team has a total of 154 points and the Kaprey team has 112.43 points. However, all is by no means lost as the Kaprey team, having lost the first two segments, made a really good comeback in the 3rd segment to snatch a win on the last two boards played (with 2 big swings) when it looked like the Rosslee team had that segment all sewn up as well.

Now we all know that bridge is a tricky game and a few big swings can easily alter the outcome of a match. So, we will wait to see what happens in the last 3 matches played tomorrow. Will stamina come into the equation at all? I fancy solid steady play at the right moment will be important for victory.

Submitted by Deirdre Ingersent

Segment 1

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 2 D </div>		N deebee2	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #cccccc;">W</td> <td style="background-color: #ff0000;">N</td> <td style="background-color: #ff0000;">E</td> <td colspan="2" style="background-color: #ff0000;">S</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #cccccc;">2NT</td> <td>P</td> <td style="background-color: #ffff00;">3♥</td> <td colspan="2">P</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #ffff00;">4♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td colspan="2">P</td> </tr> </table>				W	N	E	S		2NT	P	3♥	P		4♠	P	P	P	
		W	N	E	S																
2NT	P	3♥	P																		
4♠	P	P	P																		
♠ QJ54 ♥ K1096 ♦ J108 ♣ A8																					
W chris1756 ♠ AK83 ♥ A2 ♦ AKQ95 ♣ Q7			E banditos ♠ 109762 ♥ 84 ♦ 432 ♣ J43																		
		S Fann4 ♠ ♥ QJ753 ♦ 76 ♣ K109652																			
				4♠ W	NS: 0 EW: 0																

The imps started to flow on the second board of the Mixed final when Jeff Sapire found a lead directing double of East's 3♥ transfer. This got Diana Balkin off to the best lead of a heart and declarer now had to lose 4 tricks, 2 spades and 2 clubs. In the other room there was no lead directing double, North made a standard opening lead of the J♦. 4♠ could still be beaten but a misdefense allowed it through. This sort of lead directing double does not always work. Sometimes it induces partner to lead an unsupported A♥ which would not successful. On this hand it made defeating 4♠ easy and was worth 10 easy imps to the Rosslee team.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 3 <small>D</small> </div>	N imtiaz1 ♠ A975 ♥ KJ6 ♦ J8 ♣ AQ43	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">W</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">N</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">E</th> <th style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>P</td> <td style="background-color: #ffff00;">P 2♦</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>2NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: left;"><small>D</small></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	1NT	P	P 2♦	P	2♥	P	2NT	P	3♥	P	P	<small>D</small>			
	W	N	E	S																		
P	1NT	P	P 2♦																			
P	2♥	P	2NT																			
P	3♥	P	P																			
<small>D</small>																						
W Greg_H ♠ QJ2 ♥ 74 ♦ A1075 ♣ J975	E rottiefan ♠ K86 ♥ Q95 ♦ K432 ♣ 1082																					
S larobe ♠ 1043 ♥ A10832 ♦ Q96 ♣ K6	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> 3♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0 </div>																					

Another swing on board 3 occurred when Kaprey stopped safely in 3♥. Making 10 tricks depends mainly on finding the Q♥. When Diana Balkin mis-guessed, this was 6 imps to Kaprey

Score: Kaprey: 8 Balkin 10

D	4	N imtiaz1	W	N	E	S
		♠ J954 ♥ AQ9642 ♦ Q5 ♣ Q	1♠	2♥	3♣	P
W	Greg_H			E rottiefan		
	♠ AKQ763 ♥ J ♦ AJ942 ♣ 9			♠ 10 ♥ K753 ♦ K ♣ KJ76543		
		S larobe				
		♠ 82 ♥ 108 ♦ 108763 ♣ A1082				
			4♠ W		NS: 0	EW: 0

An aggressive 3♣ bid by Di Rosslee got her side to a thin 4♠ contract. North led the A♥ and switched to the Q♣ covered by the king and won by South who switched to a trump. Declarer drew trumps, got to dummy with a diamond and pitched 2 diamond losers. When the Q♦ came down, all the defenders could take were 2 aces and the J♠.

In the other room, East did not bid over 2♥ and EW subsided in 2♠ for a 10 imp swing to the Rosslee team.

Score: Kaprey 8 Balkin 20

D		N imtiaz1		W		N		E		S	
5		♠ A4		♠ 1♣		P		P		♠ 1♠	
		♥ 10963		P		1NT		P		3NT	
		♦ KQ7		P		P		P			
		♣ K763									
W Greg_H				E rottiefan							
♠ Q95				♠ 10763							
♥ QJ7				♥ K842							
♦ 952				♦ J108							
♣ AJ52				♣ 104							
		S larobe									
		♠ KJ82									
		♥ A5									
		♦ A643									
		♣ Q98									
										3NT N NS: 0 EW: 0	

Board 5 was 10 imps back to Kaprey when Imtiaz made 9 tricks in 3NT after a probable miss click or loss of concentration by West. When East led a heart and declarer went up with the Ace. West curiously played the J♥ on this trick. There was no recovery when North then made 2 spades, 2 hearts, 4 diamonds and 1 club. 10 imps to Kaprey

Score: Kaprey 22 Rosslee 20

Of interest on the hand is how do you play the club suit for 2 tricks?

My book says lead low to queen. If it loses to the Ace, Finesse the 9 and then finesse 8. This works on the this hand.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 6 D </div>		N imtiaz1 ♠ 1095 ♥ AQ742 ♦ Q1094 ♣ J	W N E S P 2♥ 1♠ P P P P 3♥
		W Greg_H ♠ A8 ♥ J103 ♦ 65 ♣ 987642	E rottiefan ♠ Q6432 ♥ K9 ♦ AJ82 ♣ Q3
		S larobe ♠ KJ7 ♥ 865 ♦ K73 ♣ AK105	3♥ N NS: 0 EW: 0

In both rooms the auction started the same way with West electing to pass East's 1♠ opening. I believe it is wrong to pass an opening bid with an ace and it is not difficult to construct a hand where even 6♣ is cold opposite KXXXX, A, AX, AKXX. This left North with a difficult decision on whether to balance. I think the vulnerability favours taking action. Imtiaz bid 2♥ that was raised. 9 tricks were made in hearts for +140. In the other room 1♠ was passed out and made 7 tricks for +80. This meant 6 more imps for Kaprey

Score: Kaprey 28 Rosslee 20

	N imtiaz1 ♠ 63 ♥ KQJ ♦ A ♣ AKQ7543	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1♠</td> <td>3♠</td> <td>P</td> <td>4♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>5♣</td> <td>X</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S				P	1♠	3♠	P	4♣	P	5♣	X	P	P	P		
	W	N	E	S																		
			P																			
1♠	3♠	P	4♣																			
P	5♣	X	P																			
P	P																					
W Greg_H ♠ AQJ82 ♥ 106 ♦ QJ965 ♣ 6		E rottiefan ♠ K7 ♥ A942 ♦ K43 ♣ J1092																				
	S larobe ♠ 10954 ♥ 8753 ♦ 10872 ♣ 8	5♣x S NS: 0 EW: 0																				

A light opening by Greg Hingle paradoxically propelled the auction into the stratosphere. 5♣ doubled went 2 down doubled for -500. The North hand will usually make 10 tricks on its own. However, he also knows there are 2 spade losers. Only if partner has the A♥, will 5♣ be making. Is this too much to expect? A difficult decision but he got punished for being wrong when East doubled 5♣.

In the other room, West passed and North opened 1♣. When South couldn't respond to that, there was no danger of getting too high (partner will always respond with an Ace) and N/S bought the contract in 2♣. This made 9 tricks for +110. That was 12 imps to Rosslee.

Kaprey 28 Rosslee 32

D 8	N deebee2	W N E S
	♠ A7 ♥ KJ87654 ♦ K73 ♣ 6	1♠ 2♥ 2♠ 3♥ 4♠ 5♥ X P P P
W chris1756		E banditos
♠ KJ10654 ♥ Q9 ♦ AJ64 ♣ A		♠ Q82 ♥ A ♦ Q985 ♣ J9753
	S Fann4	
	♠ 93 ♥ 1032 ♦ 102 ♣ KQ10842	5♥x N NS: 0 EW: 0

Diana found a good save against 4♠ when she went 2 down for -300 vs 420 scored in 4♠ in the other room. 3 imps to Rosslee

Score Kaprey 28 Rosslee 35

With 63 imps changing hands in only 7 boards, this looked like it was going to a humdinger of a match!

Not so, as the next 9 boards were all tame with only over and undertrick swings all going in one direction to the Rosslee team.

The final score after the first segment was

Kaprey: 28 Rosslee 42

Segment 2

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 3 D </div>	N imtiaz1 ♠ J4 ♥ 8543 ♦ A10 ♣ AKQJ3	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="color: red;">W</th> <th style="color: red;">N</th> <th style="color: red;">E</th> <th style="color: red;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1♦</td> <td>1NT</td> <td>P</td> <td style="background-color: yellow;">2♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>2♥</td> <td>P</td> <td>2NT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>3NT</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="font-size: 0.8em;">D</td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	1♦	1NT	P	2♣	P	2♥	P	2NT	P	3NT	P	P	D			
	W	N	E	S																		
	1♦	1NT	P	2♣																		
P	2♥	P	2NT																			
P	3NT	P	P																			
D																						
W Greg_H ♠ A9 ♥ AK106 ♦ K876 ♣ 1042	E rottiefan ♠ 86532 ♥ QJ92 ♦ J5 ♣ 98																					
S larobe ♠ KQ107 ♥ 7 ♦ Q9432 ♣ 765	3NT N NS: 0 EW: 0																					

N/S overreached to 3NT which had no play.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 3 D </div>	N deebee2 ♠ J4 ♥ 8543 ♦ A10 ♣ AKQJ3	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="color: red;">W</th> <th style="color: red;">N</th> <th style="color: red;">E</th> <th style="color: red;">S</th> </tr> <tr> <td>1♦</td> <td>2♣</td> <td>P</td> <td>3♣</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	1♦	2♣	P	3♣	P	P	P	
	W	N	E	S										
	1♦	2♣	P	3♣										
P	P	P												
W chris1756 ♠ A9 ♥ AK106 ♦ K876 ♣ 1042	E banditos ♠ 86532 ♥ QJ92 ♦ J5 ♣ 98													
S Fann4 ♠ KQ107 ♥ 7 ♦ Q9432 ♣ 765	3♣ N NS: 0 EW: 0													

In the other room, N/S stopped in 3♣ which made easily.

5 imps to Rosslee

<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px; display: inline-block; color: red; font-weight: bold;">4</div>		N deeb2 ♠ KQ853 ♥ J ♦ K653 ♣ AK3	<table border="1"> <tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>1♠</td><td>P</td><td>2♥</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>3♦</td><td>P</td><td>3♠</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>4♣</td><td>P</td><td>4♦</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>4♥</td><td>P</td><td>4NT</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>5♠</td><td>P</td><td>5NT</td></tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	1♠	P	2♥	P	3♦	P	3♠	P	4♣	P	4♦	P	4♥	P	4NT	P	5♠	P	5NT	N imtiaz1 ♠ KQ853 ♥ J ♦ K653 ♣ AK3	<table border="1"> <tr><th>W</th><th>N</th><th>E</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>1♠</td><td>P</td><td>2♥</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>3♦</td><td>P</td><td>3♠</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>4♣</td><td>P</td><td>4♦</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>4♥</td><td>P</td><td>4♠</td></tr> <tr><td>P</td><td>4♠</td><td>P</td><td>P</td></tr> </table>	W	N	E	S	P	1♠	P	2♥	P	3♦	P	3♠	P	4♣	P	4♦	P	4♥	P	4♠	P	4♠	P	P
W	N	E	S																																																		
P	1♠	P	2♥																																																		
P	3♦	P	3♠																																																		
P	4♣	P	4♦																																																		
P	4♥	P	4NT																																																		
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P	4♣	P	4♦																																																		
P	4♥	P	4♠																																																		
P	4♠	P	P																																																		
W chris1756 ♠ J2 ♥ 1085 ♦ Q874 ♣ J964		E banditos ♠ 10764 ♥ K962 ♦ 92 ♣ Q82		W Greg_H ♠ J2 ♥ 1085 ♦ Q874 ♣ J964		E rottiefan ♠ 10764 ♥ K962 ♦ 92 ♣ Q82																																															
	S Fann4 ♠ A9 ♥ AQ743 ♦ AJ10 ♣ 1075	6♠ N NS: 0 EW: 0		S larobe ♠ A9 ♥ AQ743 ♦ AJ10 ♣ 1075	4♠ N NS: 0 EW: 0																																																

The first big swing of the 2nd segment came on board 4. The hand illustrates the danger of cue bidding a shortage in partner's first suit especially when you are minimum for your actions up till that point. In the one room, this cue bid propelled their side to a poor 6♠ which was one down. In the other room, Imtiaz did well not to cue his heart singleton and so there was no danger and they stopped safely in 4♠. 13 imps to Kaprey

Kaprey 45 Rosslee 48

D	N imtiaz1	W	N	E	S
5	♠ K103 ♥ K8 ♦ K874 ♣ KQJ7	4♥	1NT	2♣	P P P
W	Greg_H			E	rottiefan
♠ 752 ♥ AQJ107 ♦ A10532 ♣			♠ AJ86 ♥ 6532 ♦ Q ♣ 10963		
		S			larobe
		♠ Q94 ♥ 94 ♦ J96 ♣ A8542			
				4♥ W	NS: 0 EW: 0

Taking advantage of the favourable vulnerability, Di Rosslee, East, made a very cheeky Hamilton bid showing both majors that propelled their side to 4♥. This made 10 tricks after Greg was allowed to make 5 trump tricks in his hand, 2 diamond ruffs in dummy, 2 diamonds and the A♠. In the other room, declarer misplayed and ended up with only 8 tricks in 3♥. 10 imps to Rosslee.

Score: Kaprey 45 Rosslee 58

Board 6: 11 imps went to Kaprey in 4♠ when their opponents did not give them a guess as to whether to put in the King or Jack from KJXXX opposite XX. Declarer miss-guessed in the other room and went down.

Board 7

What do you lead from East hand when the bidding has gone

♠	4
♥	AKJ863
♦	J2
♣	9542

W	N	E	S
			P
P	2NT	P	3♣
P	3NT	P	P
P			

3♣ was puppet stayman and 3NT showed no majors

East chose to lead a low heart in one room and a high heart in the other room.

The low heart lead led to -690 and the high heart led to +200 as declarer had H QX

13 imps to Rosslee

Score: Kaprey 56 Rosslee 71

Boards 9 and 11 were double digit swings to the Rosslee team when better declarer play or defence earned them 13 and 10 imps, respectively.

D	12	N imtiaz1	W	N	E	S
		♠ A43 ♥ AQ4 ♦ A108642 ♣ 8	P 1♦ 2♣ X 3♣ 3♦ P 3NT 4♣ P P 4♦ P 5♦ P P D			
W	Greg_H		E	rottiefan		
				♠ 96 ♥ 108753 ♦ J ♣ AK953		
		S	larobe			
		♠ J852 ♥ K62 ♦ KQ3 ♣ QJ4			5♦ N	NS: 0 EW: 1

Di Rosslee sitting East did 2 good things on this board. She overcalled 2♣ reasoning that a lead directing bid may be of more value than showing a 2 suiter or passing. This encouraged her partner Greg to compete to 4♣ taking opponents out of their comfortable 3NT contract. When they went onto 5♦, Di lead the A♠ and then found the excellent switch of spade rather than a heart. She was helped by Greg's play of the 10♣ as a suit preference signal (his count and attitude would be known as soon as North follows to the A♣). This meant 1 down and a well-earned 13 imps to Rosslee when their teammates were allowed to play in 3NT making +660 in the other room.

Score: Kaprey 56 Rosslee 108

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">14_D</div>	N deebee2 ♠ Q1053 ♥ K8 ♦ AQ10985 ♣ A	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>W</th> <th>N</th> <th>E</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1♥</td> <td>1♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♥</td> <td>4♠</td> <td>5♥</td> <td>P</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	W	N	E	S			1♥	1♠	3♥	4♠	5♥	P	P	P		
	W	N	E	S														
		1♥	1♠															
3♥	4♠	5♥	P															
P	P																	
W chris1756 ♠ 92 ♥ J1096 ♦ KJ63 ♣ 542		E banditos ♠ K7 ♥ AQ75432 ♦ ♣ KJ76																
	S Fann4 ♠ AJ864 ♥ ♦ 742 ♣ Q10983	5♥ E NS: 0 EW: 0																

5♥ undoubled went only 1 down on this board. In the other room N/S correctly took the push to 5♠ which made easily.

8 imps to Kaprey

When the smoke cleared by the end of the segment the score was

Rosslee 109 Kaprey 64.4

13

N imtiaz1

♠K7
♥AQ965
♦KQJ
♣AQ8

W Greg_H 4+

♠5
♥J10842
♦A96
♣10974

W	N	E	S
	2NT	Pass	3♠
	Pass	3NT	Pass
	Pass	4♦	Pass
	Pass	4NT	Pass

E rottiefan 6

♠QJ106432
♥K7
♦743
♣6

S larobe 3+

♠A98
♥3
♦10852
♣KJ532

5♣ South
0 0

A very ambitious slam try by the South hand holding only 8 HCP's opposite 20-22 balanced led to a 5♣ contract that went 1 down when the distribution was unfavourable. 3NT was an easy make in the other room. This meant 13 imps to Rosslee.

Board 14

This was a lead problem

♠ AK653	W	N	E	S
♥ Q762			1♠	2♣
♦ J7	P	2NT	P	3NT
♣ A6	P	P	P	

You are sitting East and hear the above auction. What is your choice?

Once you have a sure entry to your hand (A♣) it must be better to lead a top spade rather than the 4th highest. When you see partner's signal, this may give you a clue as to whether to continue spades or switch. Leading a low spade was fatal when the hands turned out as follows

14 ^D	N imtiaz1	W	N	E	S
	♠ QJ84 ♥ A1084 ♦ K1096 ♣ 8	P	2NT	1♠	2♣
W Greg_H		P	P	P	3NT
♠ 109 ♥ KJ93 ♦ Q32 ♣ 9732	E rottiefan				
	♠ AK653 ♥ Q762 ♦ J7 ♣ A6				
	S larobe				
	♠ 72 ♥ 5 ♦ A854 ♣ KQJ1054				
		3NT N		NS: 0 EW: 0	

If you lead the A♠, partner will discourage and a heart switch will be attractive. Declarer can no longer make 3NT.

In the other room, South got to 3♣. This proved to be unmakeable when Anton Der Kinderen in the East seat found the correct defence after partner led a high spade. He continued spades and declarer could not avoid losing 2 spades, 1 diamond and 2 Clubs when continued spade leads promoted the 9♣ to another trick.

This was 10 badly needed imps to Kaprey

D 16	N deebee2	W N E S	1♦ 2♥ 2♠ 4♥
	♠ J106	4♣ 5♥ P P	5♠ P P P
	♥ AKJ6543	♦ 8	♣ 96
	♦ 8	♣ 96	
W chris1756	E banditos		
♠ A73	♠ Q98542		
♥ 10	♥		
♦ KQ7654	♦ 1092		
♣ AJ10	♣ K874		
	S Fann4		
	♠ K		
	♥ Q9872		
	♦ AJ3		
	♣ Q532	5♠ E	NS: 0 EW: 0

D 16	N imtiaz1	W N E S	1♦ 4♥ P P
	♠ J106	X P 4♠ 5♥	
	♥ AKJ6543	P P P	
	♦ 8	♣ 96	
	W Greg_H	E rottiefan	
	♠ A73	♠ Q98542	
	♥ 10	♥	
	♦ KQ7654	♦ 1092	
	♣ AJ10	♣ K874	
	S Iarobe		
	♠ K		
	♥ Q9872		
	♦ AJ3		
	♣ Q532	5♥ N	NS: 0 EW: 0

2 excellent results were obtained by the Kaprey team when in the first room, E/W competed successfully to 5♠ for +650. This was unbeatable. In the 2nd room, the defence lost its way and 5♥ made 11 tricks for +450. This double game swing was 15 big imps to the Kaprey team. Note the differences in evaluation of the North hand in the 2 rooms. I think I much prefer the 4♥ pre-empt rather than 2♥. In the bad old days, the North hand would be considered an average 3♥ bid. Nowadays, you would be called a ninny for bidding only 3♥, at the prevailing vulnerability.

Kaprey made a big comeback on the last 3 boards where they picked 25 imps.

Score at end of 3rd segment: Kaprey: 112.4 Rosslee: 154.

There are still 48 boards to go making this lead easily surmountable.

♠ ♥ ♣ ♦ SABF Mixed Teams Trials Final 2025 ♠ ♥ ♣ ♦

Final (16 board segments) 19-20 March

Team #:	Name	Total IMPs	Carry-over	Pos.	Seg 1 IMPs	Seg 2 IMPs	Seg 3 IMPs	Seg 4 IMPs	Seg 5 IMPs	Seg 6 IMPs
1	Kaprey	112.43	3.43		<u>28</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>48</u>	-	-	-
2	Rosslee	154			<u>43</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>45</u>	-	-	-