

8th Shree Cement Bridge Championships

The 8th All India Shree Cement Bridge Championship under the aegis of West Bengal Bridge Association was held at Bengal Rowing Club, Kolkata from 15th to 17th January 2010. The Shree Cement sponsored event was inaugurated by Mr. H.M. Bangur.

The tournament had "Team of Four" and "Open Pair" events.

Team of Four event:

39 teams participated in the Team of Four event, which constituted of 9 rounds of Swiss league of 10 boards each. The TOP 8 qualifying teams for the Quarter-finals were:

1. Dhampur Sugar Mills -	178 VPs
2. Texan Aces -	165
3. MMRMC -	162
4. R L Kejriwal M.C -	156
5. B N Saraf's IV -	156
6. C V Rao -	147
7. Maya Mira Sneha -	146
8. A R Das's IV -	146

Shree Radhey and Formidables also finished with 146 VPs but lost out on tie break.

The top 3 teams had the choice of selecting their opponents based on their ranking for the 3*10 boards quarter finals. The quarter-final results were:

Dhampur Sugar Mills beat A.R. Das's IV (A R Das, Dipak Das, S N Ghosh, Sabir Bose, Arup Dey, Prof Subrata Sengupta) by 54-51 (18-24, 19-2, 17-25); **Texan Aces** beat B.N. Saraf (B N Saraf, S Roy, Ashok Das, Tapan Roy, Paban Agarwal, Rabin Choudhury) by 85-53 (CO: 8-0, 23-21, 25-18, 29-14); **MMRMC** beat Maya Meera Sneha (Asim Mukherjee, Sukamal Das, Samir Basak, Sankar Acharya, Kaustabh Nandi, Sandeep Datta) by 54-43 (19-16, 17-17, 18-10); **CV Rao** beat R L. Kejriwal (Satyanarayan Kejriwal, Gouranga Das, Hasibul Hasan, Sourendra Coomer Dutt, Jagadish Biswas, Ramkrishna Majumder) by 58-54 (CO: 0-8, 12-20, 23-12, 23-14)

In the first of the 3*10 boards semi-finals, **C.V. Rao's** team beat Dhampur Sugar Mills (Ashok Goel, Kamal Mukherjee, Pritish Kushari, Sumit Mukherjee, Bhabesh Saha, Debabrata Majumder) by 89-85 (32-28, 25-24, 32-33). The match was a real cliff hanger. In the 2nd semi-final MMRMC beat Texan Aces (P Sridhar, Uttam Gupta, R Krishnan, K R Venkatraman) by 98-62 (30-17, 39-23, 29-22).

The 3*10 boards final turned out to be totally one sided with **C.V. Rao's Team** (C V Rao, Badal Das, Pranab Bardhan, Partha Sarathi Mukherjee, Shib Nath De Sarkar, Alok Sadhu) beating Dr. P.K. Bera's Team (Dr P K Bera, N P Kabiraj, Swapan Ghosh, Satyabrata Mukherjee, Shambhu Nath Ghosh, Biswajit Poddar) by 63-12 (16-6, 47-6, third set conceded). winning the prize money of Rs. 1.25 lacs.

OPEN PAIRS EVENT:

Total 94 pairs participated in the open pairs event. The finals was played after 2 elimination rounds. There were 10 prizes and the winners were:

1. Ravi Goenka – Aribanda Roy	258.00
2. Manas Mukherjee – Subroto Saha	251.50
3. R. Krishnan – K.R. Venkatraman	244.00
4. Subal Bhattacharjee – P.R. Singh Roy	239.50
5. Pritish Kushari – Debabrata Majumder	237.00
6. Asim Mukherjee – Sukamal Das	234.50
7. Tapan Roy – Swapan Dey	233.50
8. P. Sridhar – Uttam Gupta	229.00
9. Ashok Goel – Kamal Mukherjee	227.50
10. Alope Nawn – Gouranga Das	227.00

Shri Ranju Bhattacharya directed the event efficiently.

It is a general observation that there was very limited publicity for this tourney even in Indian bridge web sites and amongst bridge community. It is a request for the organizers to publish the official results and take cognizance of the above feedback for future editions of this excellent tourney.

- Reported by T.C. Pant

- Results: Courtesy - Ranju Bhattacharjee - CTD