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BRIDGE MIXED  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

16th - 22nd  
MARCH 2002  
MEDIACENTER  
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PARASCHEN

## DAILY BULLETIN

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Bulletin 5

Wednesday, 20 March 2002

Editor: Jean-Paul Meyer – Co-editors: Mark Horton, Jos Jacobs – Layout Editor: Stelios Hatzidakis – Photos: Ron Tacchi

# Day Dominated by Difficult Deals



Paul Magerman celebrates after being awarded the EBL Gold Medal at the President's dinner on Monday evening.

The first day of the 7th European Bridge Mixed Team Championships featured many difficult deals, which severely taxed even the great champions competing here. A feature of the draw was that in the first round, teams of approximately equal strength were paired together, which led to some heavyweight clashes right at the start.

After four rounds, the early leaders are from Germany in the guise of team **Gotard** whose score of 82VP leaves them three ahead of the Russian squad **Volina**, who in turn are one point ahead of another German outfit, **Maybach**, the losing finalists in 2000.

### PLAYING SCHEDULE

Today, Wednesday, March 20

MIXED TEAMS

10.00 2nd session (2 matches, 10 boards)  
15.00 3rd session (3 matches, 10 boards)

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### Very Important Time Change

Contrary to the programme, the afternoon session today starts at 15.00 (so not at 16.00).



## How The Pairs Championship Was Won

After the second session, the amateurs Willem Jan Maas and Hedwig van Glabbeek from The Hague (Netherlands) were leading the field. In yesterday's Bulletin, we already published some funny stories about the way they got some of their good scores, but all of a sudden, their leisurely approach to this Championship had turned into a serious affair.



Eva Harasimowicz, Poland

So our more or less distinguished Messrs Editors had no option but to start their investigations about the final session at the table where the leaders were enjoying the stability of a N/S position.

Their first board turned out not to be too decisive in view of what was ahead of us.

### FIRST STRIKE

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ Q J 3 2 ♥ K 6 5 ♦ K 10 7 3 ♣ 9 6	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A K 10 ♥ Q 10 8 3 2 ♦ 8 5 4 ♣ 10 7
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ 9 6 4 ♥ A J 9 7 4 ♦ 9 2 ♣ A 8 2		♠ 8 7 5 ♥ - ♦ A Q J 6 ♣ K Q J 5 4 3									

West	North	East	South
	<i>Maas</i>		<i>Van Glabbeek</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

With the diamond finesse wrong, one down was the inevitable outcome. Yet, 3NT is a good proposition, but with the diamond finesse wrong... (etc.). No harm done, but passing 2♣ or 3♣ would have hit an unenterprising jackpot.

### A MORE SERIOUS AFFAIR

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A J 5 4 ♥ 4 ♦ 10 9 3 ♣ J 9 7 3 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 6 2 ♥ 9 8 6 3 2 ♦ Q 4 ♣ K 8 6 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ Q 10 ♥ K Q J ♦ A K J 8 6 2 ♣ A 5									
		♠ K 9 8 7 3 ♥ A 10 7 5 ♦ 7 5 ♣ Q 10									

West	North	East	South
	<i>Maas</i>		<i>Van Glabbeek</i>
		Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2♣ showed at least 4-4 in the majors but less than an opening hand, and after the 2NT relay 3♥ showed five spades and a maximum.

East led the ♥8. Of course, declarer would have had a nasty problem had East led a club, but he now could win the queen in hand and think about a plan. Eventually, he decided to go for the combination of the ♦Q doubleton and the ♠J onside. So after the ♦A the ♠Q was presented, taken by West who returned a club. Had declarer stuck to his plan, he would have made 12 tricks, but

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he ducked this to the king, and East returned (and cleared) the suit. When the  $\heartsuit K$  brought down the queen, there still were 11 tricks and a quite acceptable matchpoint score.

**SHEER LUCK**

The next board was a perfect example of the part sheer luck plays in pairs events:

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	$\spadesuit$ Q										
	$\heartsuit$ A K J 2										
	$\diamondsuit$ K 7 6 4 3										
	$\clubsuit$ Q 9 6										
$\spadesuit$ 9 8 6	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr></table>		N		W		E		S		$\spadesuit$ J 5 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
$\heartsuit$ 9 8 6 4		$\heartsuit$ 3									
$\diamondsuit$ 2		$\diamondsuit$ A Q J 10 9 8									
$\clubsuit$ K 10 7 4 3		$\clubsuit$ A J 2									
	$\spadesuit$ A K 10 7 3 2										
	$\heartsuit$ Q 10 7 5										
	$\diamondsuit$ 5										
	$\clubsuit$ 8 5										

West	North	East	South
<i>Lesniewski</i>	<i>Maas</i>	<i>Harasimowicz</i>	<i>Van Glabbeek</i>
Pass	2 $\diamond$	Pass	1 $\spadesuit$
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2 $\clubsuit$

When Eva Harasimowicz led the  $\diamondsuit Q$  she must have felt pretty sure about beating the contract. As it turned out, the heart fit had been lost, but with the  $\spadesuit J$  coming down in time declarer had 11 tricks and another very good score. Please note the lucky lie of the clubs as well.

**CONSIDERABLE RESTRAINT**

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

	$\spadesuit$ A 8 6 4										
	$\heartsuit$ A 9 6 3										
	$\diamondsuit$ K J 7 3										
	$\clubsuit$ 2										
$\spadesuit$ K 9 5 2	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr></table>		N		W		E		S		$\spadesuit$ Q
	N										
W		E									
	S										
$\heartsuit$ 8 7 4		$\heartsuit$ J 10 5									
$\diamondsuit$ A 8		$\diamondsuit$ Q 9 5 2									
$\clubsuit$ A J 9 8		$\clubsuit$ 10 7 6 4 3									
	$\spadesuit$ J 10 7 3										
	$\heartsuit$ K Q 2										
	$\diamondsuit$ 10 6 4										
	$\clubsuit$ K Q 5										

West	North	East	South
<i>Lesniewski</i>	<i>Maas</i>	<i>Harasimowicz</i>	<i>Van Glabbeek</i>
1 $\clubsuit$	Dble	Pass	1 $\spadesuit$ (!)
Pass	Pass	INT	Dble
Pass	Pass	2 $\clubsuit$	Pass
Pass	2 $\spadesuit$	All Pass	

On this board, the eventual winners showed their approach in partscore battles. A light take-out double was followed by a slight underbid of 1 $\spadesuit$ . When E/W competed further, South could show the full value of her hand by doubling INT but North knew enough and did not make any further move. 2 $\clubsuit$  just made for another sound plus score to N/S.

**WHEN DUTCH MEET**

In the third round, the leaders were to meet another Dutch pair, who had started the session lying 5th. The first board ended their chances:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

	$\spadesuit$ 7 3										
	$\heartsuit$ A 2										
	$\diamondsuit$ K Q 8 4 2										
	$\clubsuit$ 8 7 4 2										
$\spadesuit$ Q J 10 6	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr></table>		N		W		E		S		$\spadesuit$ K 9 2
	N										
W		E									
	S										
$\heartsuit$ 10 6 5		$\heartsuit$ Q J 9 8									
$\diamondsuit$ 6 3		$\diamondsuit$ A 10 7									
$\clubsuit$ K 10 5 3		$\clubsuit$ Q J 6									
	$\spadesuit$ A 8 5 4										
	$\heartsuit$ K 7 4 3										
	$\diamondsuit$ J 9 5										
	$\clubsuit$ A 9										

West	North	East	South
<i>Ter Laare</i>	<i>Maas</i>	<i>Willemse</i>	<i>Van Glabbeek</i>
Pass	Pass	1 $\clubsuit$	Dble
2 $\spadesuit$	2 $\diamond$	Pass	Pass
3 $\clubsuit$	Dble	Pass	Pass
	Dble	All Pass	

Marco ter Laare's experiments did not come off this time. 2 $\spadesuit$  will go down one on the heart ruff, and 3 $\clubsuit$  fared even worse. Declarer had to lose five top tricks anyway and a heart ruff made it down two for 500 and another clear top score to the leaders.

**AN UNINTENDED CARD**

Things were going very well for the leaders, and if this were not enough they got a little extra help when.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

	$\spadesuit$ K Q										
	$\heartsuit$ A K 10 9 7										
	$\diamondsuit$ 8 6 3										
	$\clubsuit$ Q 6 5										
$\spadesuit$ 9 8 7 5 4 3	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr></table>		N		W		E		S		$\spadesuit$ J 10
	N										
W		E									
	S										
$\heartsuit$ 5		$\heartsuit$ Q J 6 4 3									
$\diamondsuit$ 10 7		$\diamondsuit$ A Q 2									
$\clubsuit$ K 10 3 2		$\clubsuit$ J 9 7									
	$\spadesuit$ A 6 2										
	$\heartsuit$ 8 2										
	$\diamondsuit$ K J 9 5 4										
	$\clubsuit$ A 8 4										

West had led the ♠8 against the normal contract of 3NT, dummy's king winning. A low diamond went to the jack and declarer next ran the ♥8. East had lost her concentration for a moment, as she contributed the ♥3! As all players at the table had seen this card, there was no redress, of course, so declarer had scored an unlikely second overtrick for yet another top score.

### A LITTLE BIT OF HAMMAN

On the other board of this round, N/S bid to a slam that was not so good, but had the one important merit of making...

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ K J 10 9 8		♠ A 5
♥ A Q 3		♥ 6 2
♦ A 9		♦ Q 10 6 5 2
♣ A K 3		♣ 9 8 6 2
♠ Q 6 2		♠ 7 4 3
♥ 10 7 5 4		♥ K J 9 8
♦ J 8 7 4		♦ K 3
♣ 10 4		♣ Q J 7 5

Top spot is 6NT, of course, but 6♣ too brought N/S a fair share of the available matchpoints.

### MISSED CHANCE

N/S missed a chance for yet another top score on this board:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ A K 4 3		♠ 9 8
♥ A 10 5		♥ Q J 7 6
♦ 7 5 3		♦ 8 6 4
♣ 10 7 4		♣ K 6 5 2
♠ Q 10 6 5 2		♠ J 7
♥ 8 3		♥ K 9 4 2
♦ K Q J 10 9		♦ A 2
♣ A		♣ Q J 9 8 3

  

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Power	Maas	Meehan	Van Glabbeek
2♦	1♠	Pass	2♣
	Pass	3♦	All Pass

2♣ showed either clubs or a balanced hand, invitational or better. Holding minimum values, North felt he could not make any further move over 3♦. Right he was, but a double and a

trump lead would have led to two down for 300 and another top. Without a double and with the lead of the ♠A, West went down only one for what turned out to be a quite reasonable score for N/S again.

### THINGS THAT HAPPEN

When luck is running your way, misplays like this are bound to happen:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ Q 9 4		♠ A K 10 8 2
♥ J 9 5 3 2		♥ A 10 4
♦ J		♦ A 9 5 4
♣ K 9 7 6		♣ 8
♠ J 7 5		♠ 6 3
♥ K 8		♥ Q 7 6
♦ K 8 7 6		♦ Q 10 3 2
♣ A 10 5 4		♣ Q J 3 2

East is in 4♣ on a club lead. She wins, draws two rounds of trumps and ruffs a heart. The only problem is the diamond suit. If you play the ace first, you make six, if not, you make five. Needless to say, East at this table played low to the king first...

### ANOTHER BUSHEL OF MATCHPOINTS

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K 10 6		♠ A Q 5
♥ Q 6		♥ 5
♦ K Q 9 7 5 4		♦ 10 8 6
♣ 9 4		♣ K J 10 8 7 3
♠ J 3		♠ 9 8 7 4 2
♥ A K 10 4		♥ J 9 8 7 3 2
♦ A J 3		♦ 2
♣ A 6 5 2		♣ Q

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
	Maas		Van Glabbeek
Dble	Pass	Pass	2♣
3NT	2♦	3♣	3♥
	All Pass		

2♣ showed both majors, at least 4-4, but 3♥ should be taken as a six-card suit at least and strong distributional values. North now led the ♥Q, after which declarer could make only 11 tricks. On a more normal-looking diamond lead, made at many other tables, there are 12 tricks...



John Power, Ireland

**ANOTHER SLAM**

After a series of quiet boards, on which the leaders consolidated their position, we saw this:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 6 4 3 2 ♥ J 3 2 ♦ 8 3 2 ♣ J 10	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 10 ♥ 10 4 ♦ K J 10 7 ♣ K Q 9 8 5 4	♠ A K 9 5 ♥ A K 9 ♦ A Q 9 6 4 ♣ A
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ J 8 7 ♥ Q 8 7 6 5 ♦ 5 ♣ 7 6 3 2												
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>									
	<i>Maas</i>		<i>Van Glabbeek</i>									
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠									
Pass	3♠	Pass	5♥									
Pass	6♥	All Pass										

Two Hearts showed either a weak two in spades or a variety of strong hands. 3♠ confirmed a three-suiter with short clubs and 5♥ was simply quantitative in hearts. When East led the ♠10, covered by the jack which held, problems were soon over. Two top trumps, ♣A, ♦A and diamond ruff, club ruff, diamond ruff, last trump and the marked spade finesse. 12 tricks.

**WHEN LEADERS MEET**

In the penultimate round, the leaders met the eventual winners of the silver medals.

One would expect to see some good bridge from the two leading pairs, but what happened can only be described as a comedy of errors.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A K 8 4 3 ♥ A 9 3 ♦ J 7 4 ♣ 10 9	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 10 6 ♥ 2 ♦ A 10 9 3 2 ♣ K J 8 7 2	♠ Q 9 7 5 2 ♥ Q J 4 ♦ K 8 6 ♣ 6 5
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ J ♥ K 10 8 7 6 5 ♦ Q 5 ♣ A Q 4 3												
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>									
<i>Eginton</i>	<i>Maas</i>	<i>Nelson</i>	<i>Van Glabbeek</i>									
1♠	Pass	Pass	1♥									
2♣	INT	2♣	2♥									
Dble	3♥	Pass	Pass									
	All Pass											

West did well to double and lead the ♠A, but when he shifted to a club rather than the ♥A and another, declarer should have made her contract. Apparently, she lost count of the trumps and conceded one down in the end. Would the N/S efforts be in vain after all?

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ Q J 8 6 5 ♥ 8 5 ♦ - ♣ A K J 6 5 4	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 10 9 ♥ A J 10 2 ♦ Q J 9 6 3 ♣ 7	♠ 3 2 ♥ K 7 6 3 ♦ 8 5 4 ♣ 10 9 8 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ A 7 4 ♥ Q 9 4 ♦ A K 10 7 2 ♣ Q 3												
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>									
<i>Eginton</i>	<i>Maas</i>	<i>Nelson</i>	<i>Van Glabbeek</i>									
2♣	Pass	1♦	Pass									
2♠	Pass	2♦	Pass									
3♠	All Pass	2NT	Pass									





Hedwig van Glabbeek, The Netherlands

We assume West intended his 3♣ as forcing, but East was not on the same wavelength.

As a consequence, both pairs had divided the matchpoint honours equally at this table.

**THE LAST ROUND**

So they went into the last round with everything to play for.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 8 6 ♥ K 10 9 3 ♦ K 10 4 ♣ A K 9 4	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A K J 10 9 ♥ 8 7 5 4 ♦ – ♣ J 8 7 6
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 7 5 4 3 ♥ Q ♦ J 8 7 5 ♣ 10 5 3 2										

West	North <i>Maas</i>	East	South <i>Van Glabbeek</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	2♦	2♥	3♦
3♥	4♦	All Pass	

E/W had effectively talked themselves out of a reasonable game, so no matter how many tricks he would make, N/S were bound to get another good score. East led three rounds of spades, declarer ruffing. With diamonds possibly 3-0 (1♦ followed by INT showed a balanced hand in the E/W Strong Club system) the hand needs careful timing now. If North exits with the ♣Q now, what can the defenders do? Hearts are out of the question

and a club return enables declarer to get the timing right for a cross-ruff of hearts and clubs. So West should return a trump, but this declarer can win somewhere to produce the same cross-ruff for ten tricks. As it was, he went one down for still an excellent matchpoint score.

**FINAL BOARD**

On the final board, N/S were one of the many pairs to go down in a good slam.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 10 5 3 ♥ 5 ♦ J 10 7 5 4 ♣ Q 10 6 3	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ Q 9 ♥ A 10 6 4 3 ♦ A Q ♣ K 9 7 2	♠ 4 2 ♥ J 9 7 2 ♦ K 9 8 ♣ A 8 5 4
	N											
W		E										
	S											
		♠ A K J 8 7 6 ♥ K Q 8 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ J										

West	North <i>Maas</i>	East	South <i>Van Glabbeek</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

A fully natural, well-controlled auction. 4♦ was a cuebid implying spade support and 5♠ confirmed two key cards and the queen of trumps.

On the actual layout the slam had no play once West avoided the club lead. So with a 30% score on the last board the leaders still could not be sure of the eventual outcome, but had every reason to feel confident. As it turned out, their performance had been enough to win the final session and increase their overall lead to more than a full percent over the runners-up.

Well done.

**Hot off the Press**

If Bridge is to achieve its aim to be recognized as a major sport then one prerequisite is to achieve as much publicity as possible. At the request of the NBB one of the Editors has been sending a daily report to the Dutch press agency. As a result a lot of publicity was achieved yesterday.

De Volkskrant (one of the main national newspapers), Dutch teletext, the radio news and even a local newspaper in Tilburg mentioned not only the Dutch champions, but also the numbers two and three.

## Grimbergen Raises

You may have noticed that the cafeteria serves a number of excellent Belgian beers, one of which rejoices in the name of Grimbergen. That may or may not have anything to do with the strange happenings at two tables on this deal from the final session of the Consolation Pairs.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ A J		
	♥ 10 9 5 3		
	♦ K J 10 5 4		
	♣ 9 3		
♠ 10 9 8 7	N	♠ K Q 5 3 2	
♥ A J 8	W	♥ 7	
♦ Q 9 7	E	♦ 8 3	
♣ A 10 2	S	♣ J 8 7 6 4	
		♠ 6 4	
		♥ K Q 6 4 2	
		♦ A 6 2	
		♣ K Q 5	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Pass	3♦	All Pass!	1♥

By a remarkable coincidence two Austrian pairs fell into the same trap on this deal, forgetting that they were playing Bergen Raises, and therefore imagining that the jump shift showed a weak hand with diamonds. With four hearts going down almost all around the room making nine tricks in diamonds proved to be a remarkably good result.

We say almost because at one table the declarer, Denmark's Dorthe Scholtz, took advantage of a defensive error, coupled with a brilliant piece of table presence.

Dorthe was in Four Hearts and won the spade lead in dummy to play a heart to the king. West ducked, but just a fraction of a second too slowly. Backing here instincts, declarer played a diamond to the ten, a diamond to the ace and a diamond. Now the losing spade could go on the fourth diamond.

Brilliant!

## Collective Nouns

As frequently happens when two or three are gathered together over breakfast, each nursing the self-inflicted wounds of the previous evening, the talk turns as to what is the correct collective noun for tournament directors. The current debate rages between a 'Convention' and a 'Disclosure'. Seeking further enlightenment from the Internet your correspondent 'Googled' for collective nouns and whilst he remained uninformed on the subject of Tournament Directors he discovered some useful and interesting examples, including, a 'Bavin of Brushwood', a 'Shuffle of Bureaucrats', a 'Board of Directors' and a 'Huddle of Lawyers'. If you have further ideas for the correct collective noun or other obtuse examples please come to the Bulletin Room and share them with us.

## The Lighter Side

No-one has ever pretended that bridge is an easy game, but it sometimes happens that the players contrive to make it look impossible. Take a look at this deal from Round 2.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ Q J 6		
	♥ K 8 3		
	♦ 7		
	♣ Q J 10 9 4 3		
♠ A 9 8 2	N	♠ 10	
♥ Q 10 9 7 5	W	♥ A 2	
♦ 8	E	♦ A K Q 10 9 6 4 2	
♣ A 7 6	S	♣ 5 2	
		♠ K 7 5 4 3	
		♥ J 6 4	
		♦ J 5 3	
		♣ K 8	
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
1♥	2♣	2♦	Dbl
Pass	2♠	3♦	All Pass

This was not exactly the optimum contract, but declarer did make all the tricks, as North, who could hardly credit East with ace of hearts as well as eight solid diamonds, discarded the king of hearts.

Facing an opening bid – although the West hand scarcely qualifies for that description – you might expect East to be in Six Diamonds rather than three. On the surface a club lead appears to leave declarer with no hope, but there is a solution. Recalling the edict of the late Harrison Gray, East should win at once and play out the long suit. At the end this sort of position will be reached:

	♠ Q		
	♥ K 8		
	♦ -		
	♣ Q J		
♠ A	N	♠ 10	
♥ Q 10	W	♥ A 2	
♦ -	E	♦ 2	
♣ 7 6	S	♣ 5	
		♠ K 7	
		♥ J 6	
		♦ -	
		♣ 8	

When the two of diamonds is played South is the first to feel the pressure. A heart will allow declarer to pin his jack. A club will expose North to an endplay, so it must be a spade. A club goes from dummy and North can throw the queen of spades. Now a spade to the ace will finish North off.

Just for once we calculated this without the aid of Deep Finesse.

## TROUBLE WITH SLAMS

Catherine d'Ovidio and Paul Chemla finished in an honorable fifth place in the Pairs event. They might have been on the podium for the third time - after winning the first edition in Bordeaux in 1990 and finishing second in 1998 - had it not been for two unsuccessful slam hands on the last day

### RIGHT IDEA, WRONG CONTRACT

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ K J 10 9 8 ♥ A Q 3 ♦ A 9 ♣ A K 3	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ A 5 ♥ 6 2 ♦ Q 10 6 5 2 ♣ 9 8 6 2	♠ Q 6 2 ♥ 10 7 5 4 ♦ J 8 7 4 ♣ 10 4
N							
W							
E							
S							
♠ 7 4 3 ♥ K J 9 8 ♦ K 3 ♣ Q J 7 5							

One can see that the slam in spades or no-trumps is a 50% proposition and wins. Very few pairs reached it. Catherine and Paul seemed on the right track - for a while.

North opened Two Clubs - strong any distribution, and Two Diamonds by South was a relay.

Two Spades by North showed five cards and 20 HCP. South bid Two No-Trumps, ambiguous but forcing. North bid Three No-Trumps. Now South came in with an advanced cue-bid, in her sense, of Four Diamonds. Chemla had another view and passed.

This was not a great success, minus 300 instead of plus 1430. North thought that South could hold something like:

♠ - ♥ xxx ♦ Qxxxx ♣ xxxx

You will be the judge.

### GOOD TECHNIQUE DOES NOT EARN DIVIDENDS

Our star pair had another disappointing result on next board, hide the East West hands before deciding how you play Six Clubs from South on the king of spades lead:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 6 2 ♥ 4 3 ♦ 6 5 2 ♣ A J 9 5 3 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ J 7 5 4 ♥ Q J 6 2 ♦ Q 9 4 3 ♣ 7	♠ K Q 10 9 8 3 ♥ 8 7 5 ♦ A 10 8 ♣ 4
N							
W							
E							
S							
♠ A ♥ A K 10 9 ♦ K J 7 ♣ K Q 10 8 6							

Not a good slam, at first glance it is a 25% proposition, depending on finding either queen and jack of heart on side or ace and queen of diamonds well placed.

A pure guess?

Catherine d'Ovidio knew better, unfortunately for her. She took one round of trumps and played ace and king of hearts, with the first chance to find somebody with queen, jack of heart bare or third before taking the right view in diamonds. In fact, the best would have been to play, FIRST, a diamond to the jack and when West takes the ace, declarer can revert to the double finesse in hearts. Of course, a competent defender would have ducked the jack of diamonds smoothly. Anyhow, the contract went down one and the French pair had to say farewell to any medal.

## A Question of Deception

The first round of the Teams Championship featured a number of interesting deals, not least this one:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ Q J 10 ♥ Q 9 7 6 ♦ A 6 2 ♣ 10 6 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ A K 3 ♥ 5 2 ♦ K J 8 3 ♣ K J 8 3	♠ 8 6 ♥ A J 8 ♦ Q 10 9 5 4 ♣ Q 7 2
N							
W							
E							
S							
♠ 9 7 5 4 2 ♥ K 10 4 3 ♦ 7 ♣ A 9 4							

As you might imagine, all roads lead to 3NT, the simplest route being the one adopted at our featured table:

West	North	East	South
<i>Mouiel</i>	<i>Schaltz</i>	<i>Willard</i>	<i>Schaltz</i>
			Pass
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led the five of spades and North played the ten. That is not the best card in this situation, as you do not want declarer to realize that the spade suit is blocked. The jack is certainly preferable, and as North is likely to be getting in with the ace of diamonds the queen may also persuade declarer to do the wrong thing by ducking rather than winning.

In any event, declarer took the first spade and forced out the ace of diamonds. When North continued with the queen of spades declarer was able to win and knock out the ace of clubs. Notice that North could have saved the day by switching to a heart at trick three, admittedly a difficult play to find.



# EUROPEAN TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

## "THE GREAT WINNERS"

### WOMEN'S SERIES

RIXI MARCUS	AUT/G.B.	10	1935,36,37,51,52,59,61,63,66,75
FRITZI GORDON	G.B.	8	1950,51,52,59,61,63,66,75
NICOLA SMITH	G.B.	6	1975,79,81,97,99,01
MARISA BIANCHI	ITA	5	1970,71,73,74,77
SANDRA LANDY	G.B.	5	1975,79,81,97,99
RIGMOR FRAENCKEL	DEN	5	1948,49,55,57,58
ANNA VALENTI	ITA	5	1970,71,73,74,77
VERONIQUE BESSIS	FRA	4	1983,85,87,95
OTTI DAMM	DEN	4	1949,55,57,58
M. DEVRIES	FRA	4	1953,54,56,69
DIMMIE FLEMING	G.B.	4	1951,52,59,63
RINA JABES	ITA	4	1970,71,73,74
CHRISTIANNE MARTIN	FRA	4	1939,54,56,65
M.ANTONIA ROBAUDO	ITA	4	1970,71,73,74
SYLVIE WILLARD	FRA	4	1983,85,87,95
MARIANNE BOSCHAN	AUT	3	1935,36,37
SALLY BROCK	G.B.	3	1979,81,01
GERTRUDE BRUNNER	AUT	3	1935,36,37
LUCIANA CANESSA	ITA	3	1970,71,73
GINETTE CHEVALLEY	FRA	3	1983,85,87
PAT DAVIES	G.B.	3	1981,97,99
MARIE DE MONTAIGU	FRA	3	1939,53,54
SIMONE DE TEMMERMAN	FRA	3	1956,65,69
HEATHER DHONDY	G.B.	3	1997,99,01
ETHEL ERNST	AUT	3	1935,36,37
NORAH EVANS	G.B.	3	1950,51,52
DANIELLE GAVIARD	FRA	3	1983,85,87
GRETL JOSEFFY	AUT	3	1935,36,37
JANE JUAN	G.B.	3	1961,63,66
ESMERIAN POULDJIAN	FRA	3	1939,56,65
DOROTHY SHANAHAN	G.B.	3	1961,63,66
ANDREE SUSSEL	FRA	3	1956,65,69
MAVIVENTURINI	ITA	3	1970,71,73
PHYLLIS WILLIAMS	G.B.	3	1950,51,52
DEMLY WILMING	DEN	3	1938,48,49

### MEN'S SERIES

GIORGIO BELLADONNA	ITA	10	1956,57,58,59,65,67,69,71,73,79
KENNETH W. KONSTAM	G.B.	6	1948,49,50,54,61,63
EUGENIO CHIARADIA	ITA	5	1951,56,57,58,59
PIETRO FORQUET	ITA	5	1951,56,57,58,59
BENITO GAROZZO	ITA	5	1969,71,73,75,79
WALTER AVARELLI	ITA	4	1956,57,58,59
BENITO BIANCHI	ITA	4	1965,67,69,71
DANO DE FALCO	ITA	4	1973,79,99,01
LESLIE W. DODDS	G.B.	4	1948,49,50,54
MAURICE HARRISON-GRAY	G.B.	4	1948,49,50,63
LORENZO LAURIA	ITA	4	1979,95,97,01
GIUSEPPE MESSINA	ITA	4	1965,67,69,71
RENATO MONDOLFO	ITA	4	1965,67,69,71
TERENCE REESE	G.B.	4	1948,49,54,63
BORIS SHAPIRO	G.B.	4	1948,49,54,63
GUGLIELMO SINISCALCO	ITA	4	1951,56,57,58
HENRI SZWARC	FRA	4	1966,70,74,83
RENE' BACHERICH	FRA	3	1953,55,62
NORBERTO BOCCHI	ITA	3	1997,99,01
JEAN-MICHEL BOULENGER	FRA	3	1966,70,74
MASSIMO D'ALELIO	ITA	3	1956,57,58
GIORGIO DUBOIN	ITA	3	1997,99,01
ARTURO FRANCO	ITA	3	1973,75,79
PIERRE GHESTEM	FRA	3	1953,55,62
KRZYZSTOF MARTENS	POL	3	1981,89,93
EDMOND R. H. POLLAK	AUT	3	1932,33,36
ALFREDO VERSACE	ITA	3	1995,97,01

## Belgian Logic

Arriving late back to his hotel our roving correspondent, hearing much laughter and gaiety emanating from the bar, vouchsafed to sally forth and investigate the cause of such merriment. Finding several members of the equipage partaking of refreshing liquids he availed himself of a glass of the local brew and enjoined them in badinage. Time passed and seeking further refreshment he requested the hotel staff to serve more beverage. The member of staff replied, at length, that he could not perform this function as he was preoccupied with preparing the repast that would be our breakfast. It was pointed out to him that he had taken longer with this explanation that it would have if he had simply fulfilled the request, but this merely caused him to relaunch into his tirade.

Night passes and our intrepid reporter arrives at 9.30 a.m. to break his fast and was astonished to find a dearth of nourishment. He approached one of the staff and posed the question as to where all the preordained comestibles were to be found. The conversation then proceeded.

"It's late."

"What time is breakfast served?"

"8.00 a.m. until 10.00 a.m."

"What time is it now?"

"9.30 a.m."

"Where is the bacon and eggs?"

"It's late."

.....!!

## A Brilliancy - and A Brilliancy Missed

Many declarers were heartbroken on this deal from the final session of the Pairs Championships, but at least one took his chance – whilst another missed his.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 10 5 3 ♥ 5 ♦ J 10 7 5 4 ♣ Q 10 6 3	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 4 2 ♥ J 9 7 2 ♦ K 9 8 ♣ A 8 5 4	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ A K J 8 7 6 ♥ K Q 8 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ J											
<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>									
	<i>Gotard</i>		<i>Gotard</i>									
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠									
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥									
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣									
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT									
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥									
Pass	6NT	All Pass										

The German pair had a controlled auction to the excellent 6NT played by North. With a difficult lead, East decided to try the four of clubs, and suddenly declarer had a chance to overcome the bad heart break.

Thomas Gotard won the first trick with the king of clubs and cashed the king and queen of hearts getting the bad news.

He now turned his attention to the spade suit and with everyone down to five cards this was the position:

♠ – ♥ 5 ♦ J 10 7 ♣ 10	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ – ♥ J 9 ♦ K 9 ♣ A	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ 6 ♥ 8 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ –											

When declarer played the last spade, discarding the six of hearts from hand, East had no good discard. Either red suit would allow declarer to score three tricks, and the ace of clubs would allow declarer the luxury of an end play in either red suit.

Surprisingly +1440 proved to be a top for North-South!

At another table one North/South pair did remarkably well to reach Six Spades from the short side - but Nevena Senior found the only lead to give the defence a chance by selecting a trump.

In practice declarer did not find a winning line, but one is available! It relies on the not unreasonable premise that the passive lead suggests that East was faced by an awkward choice at trick one. Suppose you take the simple view of drawing trumps and going after the hearts. When the bad break is revealed you set up a long heart and play some spade winners. Retaining one spade you go to dummy with the ace of diamonds and cash the long heart to get rid of your losing club. There are various variations depending on what East/West discard, but this is one possible ending:

♠ – ♥ – ♦ J 10 ♣ Q	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ – ♥ – ♦ K ♣ A 8	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ – ♥ – ♦ Q ♣ K 9											
	♠ 8 ♥ – ♦ 6 3 ♣ –											

Declarer now plays the king of clubs, ruffs East's ace and exits with a diamond, forcing East to give the last trick to the nine of clubs.

If East keeps an extra diamond, at the point you play the fourth heart from dummy you simply discard your losing club from hand and East is endplayed, having to lead into the diamond tenace or away from the ace of clubs.

### The Millennium Bug

In the final session of the Mixed Pairs a doubled vulnerable contract went off seven for a loss of 2000. However the scoring computer would not recognise this as a valid score. So at last we have found an example of the Millennium Bug.

### BIARRITZ 2002

From July 2nd till July 14th

<b>IMP</b>	2-4 JULY
<b>OPEN PAIRS</b>	5-7 JULY
<b>TEAMS:</b>	8-9 JULY
<b>INDIVIDUAL</b>	11 JULY
<b>MIXED PAIRS</b>	12-14 JULY

DETAILS: Tel.: 331556520046

# A Fortunate Lie and a Stepping Stone

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ 9 6		
	♥ K		
	♦ A 6 5 4 3 2		
	♣ A 5 4 3		
♠ AK		♠ J 8 7 4 3	
♥ Q J 5 3		♥ A 9 4 2	
♦ K Q 7		♦ 8	
♣ K J 10 6		♣ 8 7 2	
	♠ Q 10 5 2		
	♥ 10 8 7 6		
	♦ J 10 9		
	♣ Q 9		

  

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
Sigurdsson	Nielson		
		Pass	Pass
1♣	1♦	Dbl	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led a diamond and West won the first trick with the king. A low heart brought good news in the shape of North's king

and the delightful position in clubs meant that it was easy to arrive at nine tricks.

At the other table, declarer went one down in Four Hearts, probably by going wrong in the trump suit, to give the Icelandic team a useful swing.

There is a delightful variation on this deal if declarer plays the queen of hearts at trick two. Winning North's king with the ace, declarer plays on clubs. Eventually he will arrive in this position

	♠ -		
	♥ -		
	♦ A 6 5 4		
	♣ -		
♠ -		♠ J 8	
♥ 5 3		♥ 9 4	
♦ Q 7		♦ -	
♣ -		♣ -	
	♠ -		
	♥ 10 8		
	♦ J 9		
	♣ -		

By exiting with the queen of diamonds declarer ensures a trick for the nine of hearts.



The IBPA is a club of the world's bridge journalists. It has a monthly Bulletin of world bridge news and a selection of the best hands sent in by members. Members enjoy the use of the Pressroom at major championships giving access to computers, internet etc. There is a competition of Annual Awards for reporting the Best Played Hand, Best Defended and Best Bid Hands as well as various Clippings Competitions. A Handbook is issued with details of all members, a copy to every member.

If you wish to apply for membership, please go to the Press Room and ask the Press Room Manager, Elly Ducheyne, for an Application form. The Annual subscription is £40 or 60 US dollars. New members joining after March pay £10 per quarter for the rest of the year and £40 for the following year. Thus the total payment makes you a member through to the end of the following year.

Those wishing to join and Members who wish to pay their current subscription will find Maureen Dennison, secretary to the I.B.P.A., in the Press Room on Wednesday and Thursday, 15.00-15.45.

Members who update their 2002 subscription will receive any back issues of the Bulletin they have missed.

## Chairman's Cup

The teams tournament for everyone

The Swedish Bridge Federation invites you the Chairman's Cup - the most prestigious team tournament in Sweden! This year the tournament will be played from July 27th to August 1st in the Blue Hall at the First Resort Billingshus, Skovde. The winners will receive SFK 30,000, if at least 80 teams participate (81 last year). On Saturday and Sunday 18 matches over 6 boards will be played. The best 56 teams will continue to a knock-out phase. Eliminated teams will have a second chance to reach the Sunday evening knock-out phase. Make your reservation at [www.bridgefederation.se](http://www.bridgefederation.se) or call the Swedish Bridge Federation +46 8 545 270 50. Welcome!



## Mixed Teams: The First Day

From Tuesday onwards, the Mixed Teams Championship is scheduled. Below we will take a look at some of the interesting things that happened at table 1 on the first day.

In the second round, RUSSO of Italy would play VOLINA of Russia.

After a flat board 1 on which both E/W pairs were overboard in 4♠, the real action started on the next board.



Simonetta Paoluzi, Italy

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ - ♥ A K 8 7 5 2 ♦ A K J 4 ♣ 10 9 7	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A J 10 ♥ J 10 3 ♦ Q 10 8 7 6 ♣ Q 5	♠ K 9 3 ♥ Q ♦ 9 5 3 ♣ K J 6 4 3 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ Q 8 7 6 5 4 2 ♥ 9 6 4 ♦ 2 ♣ A 8											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gromov	Guerra	Gromova	Paoluzi
All Pass		Pass	3♥

N/S play transfer preempts. Gromov made the excellent lead of the ♥Q, but there was no way to prevent declarer from mak-

ing ten tricks. RUSSO +170.

At the other table, they had more orthodox ideas.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Golin	Kholomeev	Moritsch	Volina
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	2♠

With his spade void, Kholomeev could be pretty sure that Volina held spades, so it was safe to bid the way he did. 4♥ looks a bit of a gamble, but he found a very useful dummy and made an overtrick after a diamond lead. VOLINA +650 and 10 IMPs.

A phantom save on the next board brought the score back to almost level.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 9 8 2 ♥ J 8 4 2 ♦ 10 9 8 2 ♣ A K	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q J 10 6 ♥ 10 9 ♦ A K 5 3 ♣ J 6	♠ A 7 3 ♥ K 7 ♦ Q 6 ♣ 9 8 7 5 3 2
	N											
W		E										
	S											
			♠ 5 4 ♥ A Q 6 5 3 ♦ J 7 4 ♣ Q 10 4									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gromov	Guerra	Gromova	Paoluzi
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	All Pass		Pass

Nine easy tricks, VOLINA +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Golin	Kholomeev	Moritsch	Volina
Pass	3♣	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
Dble	All Pass		

Preempts in third position no longer guarantee a reasonable suit, but this time Volina found her partner with too much unwanted defensive strength. RUSSO +500 for down three and 8 IMPs back.

The most beautiful board of the set came next.



Vadim Kholomeev, Russia

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A 9 8 2 ♥ Q 10 9 7 5 ♦ 8 ♣ A 7 6	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 10 ♥ A 2 ♦ A K Q 10 9 6 4 2 ♣ 5 2	♠ Q J 6 ♥ K 8 3 ♦ 7 ♣ Q J 10 9 4 3 ♠ K 7 5 4 3 ♥ J 6 4 ♦ J 5 3 ♣ K 8
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gromov	Guerra	Gromova	Paoluzi
1♥	2♣	Dble	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	5♦	All Pass

On the lead of the ♣K there were 11 easy tricks. Without that lead, declarer can establish his hearts for a club discard for an easy enough 12 tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Golin	Kholomeev	Moritsch	Volina
1♥	2♣	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	6♦	All Pass

After West had shown an even number of aces Cristina Golin bid the slam with some confidence. Right she was, for even with the ♣K lead the contract can be made. Win the ♣A and run seven trumps. Both defenders will have to hold on to two hearts and a club, so they both will have to come down to two spades. Next cash the ♠A and ruff a spade before exiting with a club. South may win her ♣8 if she kept it, or North may win a higher club, but either defender will have to open up the heart suit now.

Declarer missed this play at the table, so a possible gain of 12 IMPs turned into a 12-IMP loss for Russo.

There was little in the next five boards, but the last board caused a swing again.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 8 3 2 ♥ K 10 7 5 ♦ 7 5 ♣ Q 10 9 3	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ K Q 10 9 ♥ A 9 8 6 ♦ J 3 ♣ A 5 2 ♠ A 7 ♥ Q J 4 3 2 ♦ Q 10 9 8 4 2 ♣ - ♠ J 6 5 4 ♥ - ♦ A K 6 ♣ K J 8 7 6 4	
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Gromov	Guerra	Gromova	Paoluzi
3♥	Dble	2♥	3♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	3♠
		All Pass	

A Polish-style 2♥ did not deter the Italians from finding their spade fit at the right level. RUSSO +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Golin	Kholomeev	Moritsch	Volina
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♦	Dble	2♠
Pass	4♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	6♠	Dble	5♥
			All Pass

A nice auction in which the inspired 5♥ cuebid saw the Russians launch themselves into a thin slam. Basically, it's on the clubs and the spades behaving. When Golin doubled, Moritsch had little trouble in finding the club lead into the tenace for his partner to ruff.

The loss of the ace of trumps could not be avoided. RUSSO +13 IMPs to square the match at 25-26.

In Round 3, table 1 was to be occupied by BLOUQUIT v. FIGB 1. So we would see a second team from Italy playing against a French squad.

On the first board, it was slam time again.

Board 11. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 10 9 ♥ Q 10 2 ♦ Q J 10 9 6 ♣ 9 8 7	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ A 7 6 3 ♥ 8 ♦ K 8 7 2 ♣ A Q 10 5  ♠ K 5 ♥ K J 9 7 5 3 ♦ 5 4 ♣ 6 4 2  ♠ Q J 8 4 2 ♥ A 6 4 ♦ A 3 ♣ K J 3
N						
W						
E						
S						

In the Open Room, there were no problems as this was the auction:

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Masucci	Bompis	Capriata	Blouquit
Pass	2♣	2♥	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	4♠
			6♠

Completely natural and straightforward. BLOUQUIT +980.  
In the Closed Room, too much care was taken.

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Masse	Zenari	Lejuste	Fransos
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Dble	2♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	4♥

We leave it to you to decide who was most at fault here...  
11 IMPs to BLOUQUIT.

The Italians equalised on the very next board:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 9 8 3 ♥ A 5 ♦ Q 7 ♣ K Q J 8 4 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ 10 4 2 ♥ K Q J 8 7 2 ♦ 8 4 ♣ 5 3  ♠ Q J 7 ♥ 10 6 3 ♦ A 10 5 ♣ A 9 7 6  ♠ A K 6 5 ♥ 9 4 ♦ K J 9 6 3 2 ♣ 10
N						
W						
E						
S						

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Masucci	Bompis	Capriata	Blouquit
2♣	Pass	2♦	Dble
Pass	2♥	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

On the lead of the ♦8 declarer had no problems, but as North is entryless even a heart lead will not do any harm. FIGB I +400.

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Masse	Zenari	Lejuste	Fransos
1♣	2♥	Dble	Pass
3♣	Pass	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	4♣	All Pass

Here, the French first missed game and then fell overboard at their second attempt. FIGB I +50 and 10 IMPs back.

The most interesting board of this set again was the fourth:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ A ♥ K J 8 7 5 ♦ K Q 8 3 ♣ 6 5 4	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 60px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ 10 9 5 ♥ Q 9 6 4 ♦ A J 7 6 5 4 ♣ -  ♠ K Q J 7 3 2 ♥ A 3 2 ♦ 10 ♣ 10 7 2  ♠ 8 6 4 ♥ 10 ♦ 9 2 ♣ A K Q J 9 8 3
N						
W						
E						
S						

As you can see, E/W are cold for 6♥, but neither pair got anywhere near it.

**Open Room**

West	North	East	South
Masucci	Bompis	Capriata	Blouquit
1♥	1♠	4♥	1♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	Pass

At least the defence was very good here: heart lead to the ace, heart ruff, spade to the ace, club ruff, low diamond and another club ruff. FIGB I +50.

**Closed Room**

West	North	East	South
Masse	Zenari	Lejuste	Fransos
Pass	4♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	5♣	All Pass	4♥



The bidding very much looked like a misunderstanding: 4♥ was clearly intended as showing an outside control but North was not asking for it by bidding 4♦, he had explained. Anyway, East led a spade to West's ace, North contributing the jack, and West had to find a return. Had he played a diamond, he might have got his ruff, but when he returned a heart declarer had the rest. FIGB I another +420 and 10 IMPs.

Beautiful declarer play we saw on the penultimate board:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ Q 9 8 4		
	♥ 10 7		
	♦ K 10 8 4		
	♣ K J 3		
♠ 10 6	N	♠ A 7 2	
♥ Q J 6 5	W	♥ 9 8 3 2	
♦ J 7 6 5	E	♦ 9 3	
♣ 9 7 6	S	♣ A Q 10 2	
	♠ K J 5 3		
	♥ A K 4		
	♦ A Q 2		
	♣ 8 5 4		

A simple auction at both tables: South opened INT and reached 4♠ after a Stayman sequence. Both Wests led a low club. With the actual layout the only legitimate way to come to ten tricks is a finesse of the diamond jack in the end. In the Closed Room, Marina Fransos played that way, having got a good picture of the hand when East doubled North's Stayman 2♣.

In the Open Room, ten tricks were made when East panicked and cashed the ♣A after winning the ♠A.

The scores were level when the last board appeared.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ 7 6 4 3		
	♥ K 5		
	♦ 8 5 3		
	♣ Q 10 8 2		
♠ Q	N	♠ K 10 8	
♥ A Q 10 9 7	W	♥ 6 4 3 2	
♦ A K J 10 4 2	E	♦ Q	
♣ 4	S	♣ K 9 7 5 3	
	♠ A J 9 5 2		
	♥ J 8		
	♦ 9 7 6		
	♣ A J 6		

The E/W hands were a triumph for the Strong Club played by the Italians. West opens 1♣ and East responds 1♥, denying three controls. Slam is out of the question now. FIGB I kept cool and scored 620.

In the Closed Room, West could not resist temptation when East responded 1♥ over his 1♦ opening bid. South overcalled 1♠ and West rebid 4NT, entering the Down Zone because the ♥K failed to cooperate. So another likely draw at table I had turned into a 19-11 win for FIGB I.

## Un Chelem Rocambolesque

Par Colette GROSFILS

Teams - 2ème session -

Donne 8. Ouest Donneur. Personne Vul.

	♠ R 10 6		
	♥ A 10 3		
	♦ 10 3 2		
	♣ D 9 8 6		
Mari		N	Renoux
♠ V 9 8 7 5 4 3	O	E	♠ A D 2
♥ R 6	S		♥ D V 9 7
♦ A V 4			♦ 8 5
♣ A			♣ R 5 4 2
		♠ -	
		♥ 8 5 4 2	
		♦ R D 9 7 6	
		♣ V 10 7 3	

Sur l'ouverture d'1♠, Est répond 2SA (fit et forcing manche). Après la redemande à 3♦, la paire s'envole, à tort ou à raison, vers un 6♣ un peu "poussé".

Malgré l'enchère de 3♦, Christian Mari reçoit l'entame dans cette couleur pour le Dame en Sud et l'As.

Le déclarant présente alors le Valet de ♠ que Nord laisse passer et qui gagne la levée.

Toujours en main, le déclarant présente le 6 de ♥ sous le Roi et Nord plonge de l'As.

Nord, vraiment mal inspiré revient ♣, et le tour est joué.

Quand le talent et la chance s'allient, tout est permis!

## Vexillollogical Penalties

Concerned about the drop in number of appeals at major championships, the EBL Appeals Committee are in constant search of new breaches of proprieties in order to exert their powers. Not content with penalties for smoking and drinking, Chief Vexillolloger (that's flag expert) Herman De Wael suggests the award of penalty points for the use of wrong symbols and colours. First recipients of the penalty were a Swedish pair whose Convention Card was in Yellow and Green in stead of Yellow and Blue.

## Congratulations

Frequently partnerships in the Mixed Pairs event are a husband and wife combination. At this event there is one English pair who have not yet attained the state of marital bliss, but they propose to tie the knot next week after returning from these championships. They are having the ceremony on the Isle of Egg in the Hebrides. We wish Sharleen Robson and Graham Weir every happiness in their future together.

**MIXED TEAMS**  
Results after 4 matches

1 Gotard	82.0	47 Sin Deut	62.0
2 Volina	79.0	48 Renoux	62.0
3 Maybach	78.0	49 Hocheker	61.0
4 Grenthe	76.0	50 Budzik	60.0
5 Huijben	74.0	51 Ulla Koch	60.0
6 Kitabgi	74.0	52 Van Woerden	60.0
7 FIGB 1	73.0	53 Van der Neut	60.0
8 Blouquit	73.0	54 Smykalla	59.0
9 Henri	73.0	55 Meyer	59.0
10 Lavazza	72.0	56 Vives	59.0
11 Auken	72.0	57 Porteous	58.0
12 Vriend	72.0	58 Mavromichalis	58.0
13 Sanglier	71.0	59 Miszewska	58.0
14 Alla	70.0	60 Juhas	57.0
15 Farholt	70.0	61 Meehan	56.0
16 Kaplan	70.0	62 Senior	55.0
17 Popova	69.0	63 Brekiesz	55.0
18 Blondal	69.0	64 Backstrom	55.0
19 Garthwaite	68.0	65 Xtrouble	55.0
20 Fornaciari	68.0	66 Damiani	54.0
21 Dehaye	67.0	67 Eginton	54.0
22 Mali	67.0	68 Tisserand	54.0
23 Burgay	66.0	69 McGloughlin	53.0
24 Beccuti	66.0	70 Harris	51.0
25 Kondoch	66.0	71 Resta	51.0
26 De Botton	65.0	72 Uisk	51.0
27 Kostur	65.0	73 Budd	49.0
28 Russo	65.0	74 FIGB 2	49.0
29 Juuri-Oja	65.0	75 Langston	49.0
30 Riberol	65.0	76 Labaere	49.0
31 Sterkin	65.0	77 Leitner	49.0
32 Willard	65.0	78 Samy	48.0
33 Zimmermann	65.0	79 Al-Shati	48.0
34 Stoppa	65.0	80 Vechiatto	46.0
35 Tobias	65.0	81 Bamberger	46.0
36 McGowan	65.0	82 Thordarson	45.0
37 Chodorowska	64.0	83 Jonsson	44.0
38 Bruchhauser	64.0	84 Sigurjonsd	44.0
39 Sagiv	63.0	85 Ivarsdottir	44.0
40 Falay	63.0	86 De Graeve	44.0
41 Marsal	63.0	87 Hardeman	44.0
42 Churlin	63.0	88 Barr	43.0
43 Toffier	63.0	89 Bonori	41.0
44 Allix	62.0	90 Mayda	41.0
45 Weir	62.0	91 Ditetova	37.0
46 Johnson	62.0	92 Alberti	33.0

**A Matter of Style**



Hanna Shezifi, Israel

Israel's Hanna Shezifi is a former 800 metres champion, who showed on this deal that she is also pretty nifty at the bridge table:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vulnerable.

<p>♠ 5 3 ♥ A 9 6 ♦ A Q 7 6 5 ♣ A 10 5</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ J 9 8 6 ♥ 4 ♦ 9 8 4 ♣ K Q J 9 2</p> <p>♠ A 2 ♥ J 10 8 5 2 ♦ K J 3 2 ♣ 8 3</p> <p>♠ K Q 10 7 4 ♥ K Q 7 3 ♦ 10 ♣ 7 6 4</p>	<p><b>West</b> Rand</p> <p>Dbl All Pass</p>	<p><b>North</b></p> <p>4♠</p>	<p><b>East</b> Shezifi</p> <p>Pass 5♥</p>	<p><b>South</b></p> <p>1♠ Dbl</p>
	N														
W		E													
	S														

Only a club lead will defeat Five Hearts, but South had no reason to do anything other than lead a top spade. Declarer could win with the ace and run the eight of hearts. There was no way South could take more than one heart and one spade.

Should North have mentioned the clubs? There will always be time to raise spades later, and if the opponents go on to Five Hearts partner will have a better idea of what to do next.