



Daily Bulletin



47TH EUROPEAN BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND 10TH SWEDISH BRIDGE FESTIVAL JUNE 19TH TO JULY 3RD 2004

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Bulletin 9

Tuesday, 29 June 2004

ITALY IN CONTROL



Andreas Flodqvist, four and a half months young, made his debut on the bridge stage last week by quickly emptying the bidding box and then placing a red Double all over it.

By scoring two maximums, Italy have put a 20 VP gap between themselves and second-placed Sweden. Then, at a respectful distance, come Turkey, Poland, Netherlands and Russia.

Sweden Lead Women

Sweden moved into the lead in the Women's series, ahead of France, Netherlands and Austria. Then there is a gap to England, Israel (the hot team in this series in recent rounds) and Germany.

Germany Race Clear

Germany have moved 21 VP ahead of second-placed France in the Seniors, having defeated their nearest challengers 20-10 yesterday on vugraph. Close behind come England, Poland, Denmark and Italy, all hoping to secure at least a medal.

Today's VuGraph Matches

OPEN TEAMS - Round 22

France v Sweden 10.30

OPEN TEAMS - Round 23

Belgium v Poland 14.15

WOMEN'S TEAMS - Round 17

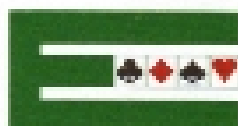
England v Sweden 17.40

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Information from Malmö Tourism

A sightseeing tour of north-western Skåne will be arranged on Thursday 1 July between 9.00-16.00. Tickets for the tour can be bought at the Malmö City stand outside vugraph until 10.00, Tuesday 29 June. The price for the tour is 300 Skr.



OPEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 20**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	SWEDEN	RUSSIA	40 - 19	19 - 11
2	SWITZERLAND	BYE		18 - 0
3	SCOTLAND	ITALY	5 - 105	0 - 25
4	SPAIN	FAROE ISL.	104 - 16	25 - 0
5	TURKEY	CZECH REP.	63 - 47	18 - 12
6	NORWAY	SAN MARINO	65 - 52	18 - 12
7	ISRAEL	PORTUGAL	76 - 38	23 - 7
8	SERBIA/MONT.	IRELAND	49 - 48	15 - 15
9	DENMARK	CROATIA	99 - 31	25 - 2
10	FRANCE	FINLAND	61 - 42	19 - 11
11	ICELAND	LITHUANIA	55 - 62	14 - 16
12	ENGLAND	NETHERLANDS	13 - 26	12 - 18
13	GERMANY	BELGIUM	89 - 32	25 - 4
14	HUNGARY	WALES	60 - 32	21 - 9
15	GREECE	ROMANIA	19 - 52	8 - 22
16	POLAND	LATVIA	60 - 46	18 - 12
17	AUSTRIA	BULGARIA	44 - 62	11 - 19

ROUND 21

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	RUSSIA	SWITZERLAND	66 - 38	21 - 9
2	BYE	SCOTLAND		0 - 18
3	ITALY	SPAIN	89 - 3	25 - 0
4	FAROE ISL.	TURKEY	30 - 65	8 - 22
5	CZECH REP.	NORWAY	47 - 31	18 - 12
6	SAN MARINO	ISRAEL	46 - 52	14 - 16
7	PORTUGAL	IRELAND	44 - 36	16 - 14
8	SWEDEN	DENMARK	34 - 37	14 - 16
9	CROATIA	FRANCE	12 - 49	7 - 23
10	FINLAND	ICELAND	31 - 52	11 - 19
11	LITHUANIA	ENGLAND	31 - 52	11 - 19
12	NETHERLANDS	GERMANY	20 - 36	12 - 18
13	BELGIUM	HUNGARY	44 - 57	12 - 18
14	WALES	GREECE	19 - 71	5 - 25
15	ROMANIA	POLAND	48 - 18	21 - 9
16	LATVIA	AUSTRIA	39 - 39	15 - 15
17	BULGARIA	SERBIA/MONT.	65 - 16	25 - 5

Victory Banquet

The Victory Banquet Desk will be located at the Hospitality Desk and will be open from 0930 to 1100 and from 1630 to 1730 on Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th.

Team captains are kindly requested to collect the invitations for the team.

Only captains, npcs, coaches and players are entitled to receive invitations. Wives, companions, etc, can participate; the cost of the ticket is 300 SK.

All department heads should collect invitations for their staff.

The Victory Banquet will be held at Malmö-Mässan at 2030 on Saturday July 3rd.

There will be a show during the banquet.

IMPORTANT: Invitations must be collected no later than 1000 on **Wednesday 30th.**

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 22**

10.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	SCOTLAND	RUSSIA
2	SPAIN	BYE
3	TURKEY	ITALY
4	NORWAY	FAROE ISL.
5	ISRAEL	CZECH REP.
6	IRELAND	SAN MARINO
7	SERBIA/MONTENEGRO	PORTUGAL
8	DENMARK	SWITZERLAND
9	FRANCE	SWEDEN
10	ICELAND	CROATIA
11	ENGLAND	FINLAND
12	GERMANY	LITHUANIA
13	HUNGARY	NETHERLANDS
14	GREECE	BELGIUM
15	POLAND	WALES
16	AUSTRIA	ROMANIA
17	BULGARIA	LATVIA

ROUND 23

14.15

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	RUSSIA	SPAIN
2	BYE	TURKEY
3	ITALY	NORWAY
4	FAROE ISL.	ISRAEL
5	CZECH REP.	IRELAND
6	SAN MARINO	PORTUGAL
7	SCOTLAND	DENMARK
8	SWITZERLAND	FRANCE
9	SWEDEN	ICELAND
10	CROATIA	ENGLAND
11	FINLAND	GERMANY
12	LITHUANIA	HUNGARY
13	NETHERLANDS	GREECE
14	BELGIUM	POLAND
15	WALES	AUSTRIA
16	ROMANIA	BULGARIA
17	LATVIA	SERBIA/MONTENEGRO

ROUND 24

17.40

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	TURKEY	RUSSIA
2	NORWAY	BYE
3	ISRAEL	ITALY
4	IRELAND	FAROE ISL.
5	PORTUGAL	CZECH REP.
6	SERBIA/MONTENEGRO	SAN MARINO
7	DENMARK	SPAIN
8	FRANCE	SCOTLAND
9	ICELAND	SWITZERLAND
10	ENGLAND	SWEDEN
11	GERMANY	CROATIA
12	HUNGARY	FINLAND
13	GREECE	LITHUANIA
14	POLAND	NETHERLANDS
15	AUSTRIA	BELGIUM
16	BULGARIA	WALES
17	LATVIA	ROMANIA

WOMEN'S TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 14**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21 IRELAND	GERMANY	69 - 49	19 - 11
22 SCOTLAND	ENGLAND	32 - 25	16 - 14
23 LEBANON	DENMARK	32 - 88	4 - 25
24 FRANCE	TURKEY	39 - 17	20 - 10
25 FAROE ISL.	SWEDEN	20 - 90	2 - 25
26 NETHERLANDS	ISRAEL	25 - 48	10 - 20
27 CZECH REP.	NORWAY	55 - 76	11 - 19
28 ITALY	ICELAND	58 - 38	19 - 11
29 FINLAND	HUNGARY	59 - 42	19 - 11
30 SPAIN	AUSTRIA	30 - 55	10 - 20
31 CROATIA	POLAND	33 - 68	8 - 22

ROUND 15

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21 GERMANY	SCOTLAND	49 - 58	13 - 17
22 ENGLAND	LEBANON	39 - 45	14 - 16
23 DENMARK	FRANCE	12 - 82	2 - 25
24 TURKEY	SWEDEN	15 - 51	8 - 22
25 IRELAND	NETHERLANDS	13 - 59	6 - 24
26 ISRAEL	CZECH REP.	93 - 26	25 - 2
27 NORWAY	ITALY	35 - 55	11 - 19
28 ICELAND	FINLAND	15 - 87	2 - 25
29 HUNGARY	SPAIN	30 - 47	11 - 19
30 AUSTRIA	CROATIA	75 - 22	25 - 5
31 POLAND	FAROE ISL.	62 - 10	25 - 5

WOMEN'S TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 16 14.15**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	LEBANON	GERMANY
22	FRANCE	ENGLAND
23	SWEDEN	DENMARK
24	FAROE ISL.	TURKEY
25	NETHERLANDS	SCOTLAND
26	CZECH REP.	IRELAND
27	ITALY	ISRAEL
28	FINLAND	NORWAY
29	SPAIN	ICELAND
30	CROATIA	HUNGARY
31	POLAND	AUSTRIA

ROUND 17 17.40

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	GERMANY	FRANCE
22	ENGLAND	SWEDEN
23	DENMARK	TURKEY
24	LEBANON	NETHERLANDS
25	SCOTLAND	CZECH REP.
26	IRELAND	ITALY
27	ISRAEL	FINLAND
28	NORWAY	SPAIN
29	ICELAND	CROATIA
30	HUNGARY	POLAND
31	AUSTRIA	FAROE ISL.

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 10**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41 SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS	29 - 23	16 - 14
42 ENGLAND	SWITZERLAND	48 - 43	16 - 14
43 IRELAND	SCOTLAND	38 - 36	15 - 15
44 FINLAND	ITALY	3 - 70	1 - 25
45 WALES	ISRAEL	16 - 57	6 - 24
46 POLAND	DENMARK	38 - 27	15 - 13
47 NORWAY	CZECH REP.	17 - 38	10 - 20
48 FRANCE	GERMANY	34 - 55	10 - 20

ROUND 11

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41 NETHERLANDS	ENGLAND	15 - 42	9 - 21
42 SWITZERLAND	IRELAND	43 - 13	22 - 8
43 SCOTLAND	ITALY	6 - 22	11 - 19
44 SWEDEN	WALES	57 - 32	21 - 9
45 ISRAEL	POLAND	52 - 22	22 - 8
46 DENMARK	NORWAY	33 - 28	16 - 14
47 CZECH REP.	FRANCE	31 - 48	11 - 19
48 GERMANY	FINLAND	40 - 16	21 - 9

SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 12 14.15**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
41	IRELAND	NETHERLANDS
42	ITALY	SWITZERLAND
43	FINLAND	SCOTLAND
44	WALES	ENGLAND
45	POLAND	SWEDEN
46	NORWAY	ISRAEL
47	FRANCE	DENMARK
48	GERMANY	CZECH REP.

ROUND 13 17.40

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
41	NETHERLANDS	ITALY
42	SWITZERLAND	SCOTLAND
43	IRELAND	WALES
44	ENGLAND	POLAND
45	SWEDEN	NORWAY
46	ISRAEL	FRANCE
47	DENMARK	GERMANY
48	CZECH REP.	FINLAND

**EBL Seniors
Committee Meeting**

This meeting will be held in the EBL meeting room on the 2nd floor on Saturday 3 July at 13.30 hours.

Agenda

- 1 The 2004 Senior Teams Championship - Malmö
- 2 The 2004 World Senior Bowl - Istanbul
- 3 Future Senior events
- 4 Change of age Regulations
- 5 Any other business

Göran Mattsson - Chairman

OPEN TEAMS RANKING after 21 rounds

1	ITALY	432.00
2	SWEDEN	412.50
3	TURKEY	374.00
4	POLAND	372.00
5	NETHERLANDS	364.00
6	RUSSIA	356.50
7	GERMANY	354.00
8	ISRAEL	347.00
9	ENGLAND	343.00
10	BELGIUM	338.00
11	FINLAND	336.50
12	GREECE	331.50
13	NORWAY	330.00
14	FRANCE	330.00
15	ICELAND	324.50
16	AUSTRIA	318.00
17	DENMARK	312.00
18	HUNGARY	309.00
19	BULGARIA	306.50
20	SCOTLAND	305.00
21	PORTUGAL	298.50
22	SPAIN	293.50
23	CROATIA	291.00
24	LATVIA	288.00
25	WALES	287.50
26	SWITZERLAND	276.00
27	SERBIA/MONTENEGRO	272.00
28	ROMANIA	270.00
29	IRELAND	269.50
30	LITUANIA	239.50
31	FAROE ISLANDS	223.00
32	CZECH REP.	221.00
33	SAN MARINO	189.50

NOTICE!!!

There has been a change in the timetable for the Senior Teams today 29 June:

Round 12	14.15
Round 13	17.40

WOMEN'S TEAMS RANKING after 15 rounds

1	SWEDEN	289.00
2	FRANCE	284.00
3	NETHERLANDS	278.00
4	AUSTRIA	274.00
5	ENGLAND	253.00
6	ISRAEL	251.00
7	GERMANY	250.00
8	SPAIN	241.00
9	POLAND	240.00
10	FINLAND	238.00
11	ITALY	235.00
12	TURKEY	224.00
13	NORWAY	219.00
14	DENMARK	215.00
15	IRELAND	213.00
16	SCOTLAND	207.00
17	CZECH REP.	204.50
18	HUNGARY	183.00
19	CROATIA	174.00
20	LEBANON	154.00
21	ICELAND	145.00
22	FAROE ISLANDS	134.00

SENIOR TEAMS RANKING after 11 rounds

1	GERMANY	218.00
2	FRANCE	197.00
3	ENGLAND	196.00
4	POLAND	194.60
5	DENMARK	194.00
6	ITALY	191.00
7	SWEDEN	184.00
8	ISRAEL	181.00
9	CZECH REP.	169.50
10	NORWAY	160.00
11	NETHERLANDS	152.50
12	SWITZERLAND	146.00
13	FINLAND	131.00
14	SCOTLAND	119.40
15	WALES	109.00
16	IRELAND	43.00

WOMEN'S TEAMS

Round 12

Austria v Italy - Women's Slams

The Round 12 match between Austria and Italy in the Women's series featured six deals on which one or more of the teams bid a slam. No, there were no good slams missed on the other 14 deals.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kriftner</i>	<i>Saccavini</i>	<i>Smederevac</i>	<i>Paoluzi</i>
2♣	Pass	1♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
		6♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Forti</i>	<i>Grumm</i>	<i>Buratti</i>	<i>Weigkricht</i>
2♣	Pass	1♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♥	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♦	Pass	5♠	Pass
		6♠	All Pass

Both East/West pairs were playing Blue Club based methods where 1♣ was strong and the 2♣ response showed five controls. Both pairs now bid naturally up to 3♠, after which cuebidding began and both sailed into the small slam. Jovanka Smederevac made twelve tricks after a heart lead; +980. Monica Buratti slipped a diamond past the king after drawing trumps, also after a heart lead; +1010 and 1 IMP to Italy.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Kriftner</i>	<i>Saccavini</i>	<i>Smederevac</i>	<i>Paoluzi</i>
1♠	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♦	3♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Forti</i>	<i>Grumm</i>	<i>Buratti</i>	<i>Weigkricht</i>
1♠	Dble	All Pass	Pass

Both Souths judged to pass their partner's take-out double of 1♠. For Italy, Darinka Forti stood the double and played 1♠ doubled, where she managed four tricks after a club lead for -800.

For Austria, Susanne Kriftner removed herself to 2♦, a much better spot. Ilaria Saccavina showed her strong hand with clubs and Simonetta Paoluzi bid spades naturally—remember that the



Monica Buratti, Italy

1♠ opening could have been a weak four-card suit in the Austrians' canapé style — then showed the club support. After a couple of cuebids, Saccavina took control then bid the slam. There was only a diamond to be lost, the heart finesse being marked after the opening bid, and that was +920 and 3 IMPs to Italy.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ K J 10 6 ♥ 9 6 3 ♦ 8 7 6 ♣ 7 6 2	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ Q 5 3 2 ♥ A K J 7 2 ♦ K 9 5 ♣ 4
N						
W						
E						
S						
♠ 7 ♥ Q 5 ♦ A 2 ♣ AKQJ10953	♠ A 9 8 4 ♥ 10 8 4 ♦ Q J 10 4 3 ♣ 8					

West	North	East	South
Kriftner	Saccavini	Smederevac	Paoluzi
1♣	Pass	INT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Forti	Grumm	Buratti	Weigkricht
1♣	Pass	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

Both Wests opened a strong club and got a four-control response. After a couple of natural bids, West set trumps and the slam was soon reached; flat at +940 after red-suit leads.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ A 7 5 4 ♥ K 7 ♦ K 6 5 ♣ J 10 6 2	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">W</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">E</td></tr> <tr><td style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W	E	S	♠ K Q 8 2 ♥ J 10 8 6 4 ♦ A 8 4 2 ♣ —
N						
W						
E						
S						
♠ J 9 6 3 ♥ Q 9 ♦ Q J 9 3 ♣ 7 5 4	♠ 10 ♥ A 5 3 2 ♦ 10 7 ♣ AKQ983					



Terry Weigkricht, Austria

West	North	East	South
Kriftner	Saccavini	Smederevac	Paoluzi
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♠	2NT	3♣	3NT
Pass	Pass	4♥	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Forti	Grumm	Buratti	Weigkricht
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Iris Grumm and Terry Weigkricht had a free run to the small slam which needed little more than a favourable diamond position. The opening lead of the queen of diamonds settled that one rather quickly — one down for -50.

In the other room it was East rather than North who opened the bidding with 1♠. Having found her partner with spade support, Smederevac really did too much from there. She also appears to have confused her young partner as Kriftner passed out 4♥ rather than going back to the known spade fit — not that 4♣ would have been any bargain either.

Smederevac ruffed the club lead and played a spade to the jack and ace. A forcing game looks best now but Saccavini gave her partner a spade ruff instead. Paoluzi returned a club for declarer to ruff and now the ♥8 went to the queen and king. Saccavini gave her partner a second spade ruff and Paoluzi, rather than cash the ♥A then play on clubs, which would have enabled declarer to take the rest by crossing to dummy's ♠9 and picking up the diamonds, instead played a club and, when declarer threw

a diamond away, played another club. That was ruffed in dummy as declarer ditched a diamond. Now the $\diamond Q$ was covered and the ace won. The $\heartsuit 10$ went to the ace and declarer had the rest for down three; -800 and 13 IMPs to Italy.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>\spadesuit 6 2 \heartsuit — \diamond A K 10 6 5 3 2 \clubsuit A 9 6 3</p>	<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		<p>\spadesuit A K J 10 \heartsuit A Q 10 7 6 5 4 \diamond — \clubsuit Q 4</p>	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>\spadesuit Q 9 8 \heartsuit J 9 3 2 \diamond Q 9 4 \clubsuit K 10 2</p>		<p>\spadesuit 7 5 4 3 \heartsuit K 8 \diamond J 8 7 \clubsuit J 8 7 5</p>										

West	North	East	South
Kriftner	Saccavini	Smederevac	Paoluzi
	1 \diamond	Dble	Pass
1 \heartsuit	3 \diamond	4 \diamond	Pass
5 \clubsuit	Pass	6 \heartsuit	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Forti	Grumm	Buratti	Weigkricht
	1 \diamond	4 \heartsuit	Pass
Pass	5 \diamond	Dble	Pass
5 \heartsuit	All Pass		

Smederevac started the East hand with a double then cuebid 4 \diamond at her next turn, having found a monster heart fit. Kriftner was willing to show her club control and now Smederevac jumped to the small slam. This is perfectly playable, requiring merely an even heart split. However, it was not to be and Kriftner was down one for -50.

Buratti simply overcalled 4 \heartsuit , a long way from being my style but it worked out nicely this time. Grumm went on to 5 \diamond and Buratti doubled to show her extra strength. Forti had sufficient heart support to convert to 5 \heartsuit and that was that; an easy +450 and 11 more IMPs to Italy.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

<p>\spadesuit 5 \heartsuit J 10 7 6 3 \diamond Q 10 \clubsuit J 7 6 5 4</p>	<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		<p>\spadesuit A K Q J 7 2 \heartsuit 8 2 \diamond 9 8 2 \clubsuit 10 2</p>	
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>\spadesuit 10 9 8 4 \heartsuit 4 \diamond A J 7 5 4 \clubsuit 9 8 3</p>		<p>\spadesuit 6 3 \heartsuit A K Q 9 5 \diamond K 6 3 \clubsuit A K Q</p>										

West	North	East	South
Kriftner	Saccavini	Smederevac	Paoluzi
		2 \diamond	Dble
Pass	4 \heartsuit	Pass	4NT
5 \spadesuit	Pass	Pass	6 \heartsuit
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Forti	Grumm	Buratti	Weigkricht
		2 \spadesuit	Dble
4 \spadesuit	5 \heartsuit	5 \spadesuit	6 \heartsuit
6 \spadesuit	Dble	All Pass	

Smederevac opened with a heavy multi and Paoluzi started with a double then, when Saccavini took the aggressive route of jumping to 4 \heartsuit , used key card. Kriftner's 5 \spadesuit intervention seems to have caused some confusion as Paoluzi went on to slam in response to Saccavini's pass and there were two aces to lose; down one for -100.

In the other room, Buratti opened with a solid weak two bid and Weigkricht doubled. Grumm bid 5 \heartsuit over Forti's raise to 4 \spadesuit and Buratti went on to 5 \spadesuit . When Weigkricht guessed to bid 6 \heartsuit over that, and who can blame her, Forti in turn guessed to take one more spade bid. Grumm doubled that rather quickly. Weigkricht cashed two top clubs then the ace of hearts before trying a third club, ruffed. Buratti drew trumps, ruffing her heart loser along the way, and had to decide how to play the diamonds. The winning play would have been ace and another, right when there is a doubleton honour in the North hand, as here, but Buratti thought that Weigkricht might have both king and queen of diamonds for her bidding and so led low to the jack. When that lost to the queen and the ten came back, there was one more loser; down four for -800 and 14 IMPs to Austria.

On the so-called slam deals, Italy had outscored Austria by 28-14 IMPs. However, Austria had the edge on the remaining deals and ran out winners by 54-45 IMPs, just enough for a 17-13 VP win.



Darinka Forti, Italy

diamond trick also. But you need to set up a club trick only if you have one heart trick only. The danger with encouraging diamonds is that partner may play a low diamond next, leaving you on lead instead of her. To prevent this, best is to overtake the $\diamond K$ with the ace and return a low diamond. Yes, partner may try to give you a diamond ruff, I suppose, but this still looks the best defence to me.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ A J 4 2 ♥ Q 10 8 ♦ 10 5 4 2 ♣ J 2</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>♠ 9 6 5 3 ♥ 6 4 2 ♦ K 3 ♣ Q 9 5 3</p>
N					
W E					
S					
<p>♠ Q 7 ♥ A 9 7 5 ♦ A J 8 7 ♣ K 10 7</p>	<p>♠ K 10 8 ♥ K J 3 ♦ Q 9 6 ♣ A 8 6 4</p>				

Heather Dhondy declared INT as West here on a diamond lead. She ran it to her hand, of course, and found the neat play of the ten of clubs. It was not clear to North to cover this and Terry Weigkricht won the ace to continue diamonds, letting declarer unscramble her seven tricks in some comfort.

Note that if Weigkricht ducks two rounds of clubs she will have sufficient information, after North's diamond discard on the third round, to take the third club and switch to a low spade. After three rounds of spades and a heart switch, declarer has seven winners but cannot unscramble them.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

<p>♠ A J 9 8 6 ♥ A ♦ A J 10 7 ♣ 7 5 3</p>	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	<p>♠ K Q 4 2 ♥ K 10 5 ♦ K 9 4 ♣ A 6 2</p>
N					
W E					
S					
<p>♠ 7 3 ♥ Q 8 7 4 ♦ Q 6 5 2 ♣ Q J 10</p>	<p>♠ 10 5 ♥ J 9 6 3 2 ♦ 8 3 ♣ K 9 8 4</p>				

Iris Grumm neatly found a way to bring home an unlikely 2♠ contract by North. In the Closed Room, declarer had won the heart lead and led a club to the king to take a diamond finesse, letting Smederevac win and underlead in clubs for a spade switch, for down one. In the Open Room, Grumm won the heart lead and led the $\diamond 10$ from hand! If Smith had taken this to play a trump, declarer might have guessed diamonds to land her contract. Instead, Smith found the better defence of letting this run to Dhondy's queen. Back came a second heart (yes, a trump shift works), and declarer ruffed, played ace of diamonds and ruffed a diamond, ruffed a heart, and led the fourth diamond, ruffed and over-ruffed. That gave her six tricks and the $\spadesuit A$ and $\clubsuit K$ were eight winners. In fact, the defence had to be quite precise to hold declarer to her contract.



EBL FUTURE EVENTS' SCHEDULE

- 2004 Prague, Czech Republic, 1st - 11th August
—19th European Youth Teams Championship
- Barcelona, Spain, 7th - 10th October —3rd European Champions' Cup
- 2005 Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain, 18th June - 2nd July —2nd European Open Bridge Championship
- Wroclaw, Poland, 14th - 24th July —20th European Youth Championship (Provisional)
- Brussels, Belgium, 13th - 16th October —4th European Champions' Cup
- 2006 Warsaw, Poland, 12th - 26th August —48th European Bridge Teams Championship
- 2007 Stavanger, Norway, 16th - 30th June —3rd European Open Championship

1st Baltic Sea Bridge Championship



The 1st Baltic Sea Bridge Championship will be held in Latvia, in a lovely city by the sea—Ventspils, from August 13 until August 22, 2004. The idea has finally become a reality and all the Baltic Sea's region countries are welcome to participate in the 1st Baltic Sea Bridge Championship's Open, Women, Senior and Junior teams contests and also in the Pairs Championship, which is open for players of all nationalities. We sincerely hope that our event will contribute to the development of the game and to better friendship and co-operation in the region. This championship is organized by the Bridge Support Foundation. We are supported by the Ventspils Government, Ventspils Olympic Center and various sponsors.

The Championship will be held in Ventspils Olympic Center which is located at the center of the city. The guaranteed price fund of the tournament is 50,000.00 EURO. It will be divided proportionally between the teams and pairs tournaments.

We hope that you will love the tournament. Ventspils is waiting for you!

For more information, contact Maija Romanovska of the Latvian Open Team here in Malmö, or go to www.balticbridge.lv



Jason Hackett, England

With far less pre-emption against them, the Belgian North/South once again had a relatively quiet road to a very sound contract. When the hearts broke, there were 12 tricks for another +680 or 13 IMPs to them.

And the next board:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
A. Labaere	Jason H.	V. Labaere	Justin Hackett
1♠	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

In spite of holding a fair hand, Alain Labaere kept quiet when his opponents bid 3NT against him. This proved a sensible thing to do as partner would not have provided too many useful values for a profitable save, red v green. Though 3NT will go down on a heart lead (of course found by an Italian playing against Switzerland), the actual spade lead from East made nine tricks quite straightforward; England +400.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Coenraets	Simpson	Neve
1♠	INT	Pass	3NT
4♣	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

At the other table, David Price did bid on over 3NT, a move he was to regret shortly afterwards. With no real fit between the East/West hands he got doubled in 4♠. On a club lead, his trumps were shortened fatally right from the first trick, so he could not avoid down three. Belgium scored +800 for 9 more IMPs to lead 28-0.

It wasn't over yet:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
A. Labaere	Jason H.	V. Labaere	Justin Hackett
2♣	2♠	3♦	All Pass

The Belgians' Multi-like 2♣ placed the declaration in the East hand. This turned out to make a lot of difference, as we shall see. South led the ♠7 to North's ace. North continued a club away from his ace, dummy's king winning as declarer did not have the option Jason was hoping for. A club came back to Jason's ♣10 and now, finally, a heart was led to the ten and queen. This proved far too late as declarer could ruff his last club, shed a losing heart on the ♠K and draw trumps. This way, Alan Labaere lost a trick in each suit to just make his contract; Belgium +110.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Coenraets	Simpson	Neve
2♦	2♠	3♦	Dble
All Pass			

When the English could not use the same gadget as their Belgian counterparts, West had to open 2♦. North and East both duplicated the bids made at the other table, but Neve made an aggressive take-out double of 3♦ which Philippe Coenraets elected to pass.

He then found the excellent lead of the ♥6 on which declarer played the king from dummy, hoping to disrupt defensive communications if the suit broke 5-2. Neve won the ace and returned

the ♠J to declarer's queen. Next came a low spade, but Coenraets rose with the ace, cashed his ♣A as well and only then played his last heart. South won and led the 13th heart on which declarer discarded a club, so North's ♦10 scored the first undertrick with the ace of trumps still to come. Belgium collected a fine +500 and 12 IMPs more to lead by 41-3 at this stage. In fact, the trump promotion is always there. If declarer ruffs high, North will discard, win the ♦A later on and play a spade, ruffed by South with the ♦9.

On Board 10, the English got IMPs back on a double partscore swing to trail by 11-41, and then came:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
A. Labaere	Jason H.	V. Labaere	Justin Hackett
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
Dble	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Of course, Alain Labaere knew, after his support double, that he might be putting his partner in a 4-3 fit but, with a singleton club, this might well be a good spot to be in. Not this time — with the trumps stacked behind East she went down five for the unusual score of +250 to England.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Coenraets	Simpson	Neve
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
3♦	All Pass		

At the other table, with no support double at hand, David Price jumped to 3♦ at his second turn and there it rested; England +110 for a gain of 8 IMPs.

England lost seven of these IMPs on the next board when the Hacketts overbid to a hopeless game but, one board later, this loss was compensated for like this:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
A. Labaere	Jason H.	V. Labaere	Justin Hackett
5♦	Pass	3♦	Pass
All Pass		Pass	5♥

This hand was particularly suitable for the style of the twins, and 5♥ proved an excellent contract with only the AK of trumps away; England +450.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Coenraets	Simpson	Neve
5♦	All Pass	3♦	Pass

At the other table, the pre-empting did its job in keeping both North and South silent. The contract went one down, but England had scored 9 IMPs more to trail by 30-48 now.

And the English rally continued:



Olivier Neve, Belgium

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
A. Labaere	Jason H.	V. Labaere	Justin Hackett
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

That was simple and straightforward and Belgium chalked up +430.

In the Open Room, the stakes got higher when Coenraets ventured a double:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Coenraets	Simpson	Neve
2♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	Rdbl	All Pass

This was absolutely not the right moment to double. To make things worse Simpson, who held about ten solid tricks in his hand and could be sure about a spade stopper in dummy, was in a position to clearly express his opinion on the chances of the contract. This meant +1000 for England who now had come back all the way from 3-41 down to 41-48 down. What was going on?

We got to see that one board later.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
A. Labaere	Jason H.	V. Labaere	Justin Hackett
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

Valérie Labaere was far from sure that 3NT would be the right spot, so she went on over partner's response over 3♣. This proved wrong when the hearts were wide open, but nicely distributed in equal portions between the opposition. The contract went down two when declarer discarded a club on the fourth round of hearts; England +200.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Price	Coenraets	Simpson	Neve
1♣	Pass	1♦	1♠
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Coenraets too led the ♥A, but upon seeing his partner's seven he shifted to the ♠8. This went to king and ace. Declarer now cashed the top diamonds, but when the queen did not appear just played a spade to his nine to land his contract. The overtrick was there when the clubs provided five tricks. England gained +630 and 13 IMPs to take the lead; 54-48.

On the next board, they increased their lead to 65-48 when the Belgian North/South overbid to a hopeless slam and lost 11 more IMPs.

There were a few overtricks in the final boards and the result of the match thus became 68-48 to England, which is 19-11 VPs. We had been watching a remarkable recovery by the English and a most unwanted setback of the Belgian hopes.

Championship Diary

Many thanks to our Iberian correspondent, Spain's Joao Passarinho, for handing us a copy of Zinedine Zidane's new book, Penalty Taking for Dummies, which features a photograph of David Beckham on the cover.

It was suggested that in Round 19 Switzerland received a penalty for late arrival at the table. That strikes us as a little unlucky, as according to Bridgebase they were playing Italy, Bulgaria and Belgium at the same time, which might explain why they took some time to find the right tables!

A Danish senior was overheard complaining that, having secured 25 VP against England, Ireland and Scotland, his team had run out of teams to play from the United Kingdom. There was also talk of suing Wales for not sending a team!

Jill Arthur is representing Scotland in the Women's Teams. We are awaiting her first written contribution to the Bulletin, but meanwhile she is keeping us supplied as always with her excellent homemade shortbread and tablet.

OPEN TEAMS

Round 18

Sweden v Italy

Casting aside all protests that the match would inevitably be dull, your Editor settled down to watch the key encounter between the two teams who have so far dominated the Open Championship, Sweden & Italy. A big win for either side might go some way to determining who would collect the gold medals. Meanwhile, Jos Jacobs reports on France v Netherlands. As the match got under way I noticed that more than 4000 people were on line.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Bertheau	Bocchi	Nystrom
	Pass	Pass	2♦*
2♥	3♦	Dble*	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

2♦ 11-15, 5♦4♣ or 6+♦

With such good shape West was happy to show his second suit and Four Hearts proved to be a simple affair. North led the ace of diamonds, South dropping the king, and continued the suit. Declarer ruffed, played a spade to the ace and a club for the jack, queen and ace. He ruffed the diamond return, drew trumps and gave up a club; +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Lauria	Lindkvist	Versace
	Pass	Pass	1♦
3♥	Dble*	Pass	4♦
All Pass			

West's pre-emptive action did not turn out well, as he did not attract a raise from East. Still it looked easy enough to defeat the contract. West led his spade and East won and returned the suit for West to ruff. He played the king of hearts, but East overtook and tried to give West a second spade ruff. Declarer won and ran the trumps to squeeze West in hearts and clubs; +130 and a fast start for Italy, ahead by 11 IMPs.

On Board 2 both East/West pairs bid the cold Six Spades on these cards:

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

Wales reached Seven Hearts, excellent if West had held the ten of spades, but here needing hearts 3-3 (they were) on a non-club lead; +1510 against the game recorded at the other table.

The next board also had slam potential, but both pairs made it look easy, albeit in rather different ways:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Bertheau	Bocchi	Nystrom
Pass	2♣*	Pass	1♠*
Pass	2♠*	Pass	2♥*
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	4♣*	Pass	3NT*
Pass	6♣	All Pass	4♥*

- 1♠ 10-15 5+♠, usually not 5-3-3-2 and 10 HCP
- 2♣ FG Relay
- 2♥ 5♠, minimum, no singleton
- 2♠ Relay
- 3♦ Any 5-4-2-2
- 3♥ Relay
- 3NT 5-2-2-4
- 4♣ Asks for top cards, using zz responses, where A=3, K=2, Q=1
- 4♥ One ace and two queens

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Lauria	Lindkvist	Versace
			Pass
1♠	Dble	Pass	INT
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♠*
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

You might imagine it would be harder to bid the slam once South had passed and West had opened, but the Italians also made it look easy, the keys to the auction being the jump to Three Clubs and the reply of Four Spades. No swing.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Bertheau	Bocchi	Nystrom
3♠*	Pass	INT*	Pass
	Dble	4♥	All Pass

INT 12-14

South led his spade and declarer took the jack with the king and cashed the ace of hearts. North's eight was a worry, but there was not much to do if hearts were 4-1, so declarer played a second heart and finessed the jack. He had to go down now, South collecting a spade ruff, the ace of clubs and eventually a diamond; -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Lauria	Lindkvist	Versace
1♥	Pass	1♣*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT	Pass	2♠*	Pass
4♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

- 1♣ 11-13NT, or 11-16 short diamonds, or any 17+
- 2♦ 11-13
- 2♥ Artificial Invitation
- 2♠ Minimum

This time North was on lead. He tried the two of diamonds and South won with the king, cashed the ace of clubs and switched to the two of spades. Declarer won with dummy's king and cashed the ace of hearts. His next move was a heart to the king. When the queen fell he could claim ten tricks; +420.

Why play the king?

Fredin did so because he trusted his instincts, but in the given situation declarer needed hearts 3-2, and there was a chance the queen might fall. Suppose it had not? Declarer could eliminate

clubs and diamonds and then exit with a trump, hoping that whoever won might be endplayed.

A deserved 10 IMPs for Sweden.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Bertheau	Bocchi	Nystrom
1♣*	Pass	1♦*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♠*	Dble	Pass*	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

- 1♦ 4+♥, 4+
- 2NT 4+♣ 4♥ 18+ or 6+♣ 18+

North led the six of diamonds, so declarer claimed; +940.



Louk Verhees, Netherlands

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Lauria	Lindkvist	Versace
1♣*	Pass	1♠*	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3NT*	Pass	4♥	Pass
7NT	All Pass		

- 1♣ 11-13NT, or 11-16 short diamonds, or any 17+
- 1♠ 8+, 4+♥ not balanced
- 1NT FG Relay 17+
- 2NT 4♠
- 3♣ Relay
- 3♦ 4-5-3-1
- 3NT Natural

The Swedish convention card is beautifully presented, but once it comes to the relays it is, at least to your reporter, difficult to follow. Over Three diamonds, Three hearts would have been a relay. 3NT was natural, waiting to see if East would make a move. When he did there was obviously some misunderstanding.

However, North was on lead, and when he selected the six of diamonds, declarer could claim a very fortunate +1520 and 11 IMPs.

Relay systems are not going to go away, so this type of accident is always a possibility. Defenders need some rules about the meaning of doubles, and we assume an Italian one here would not have suggested a spade lead — remember that was an artificial bid.

The theoretical argument is that if South had the ace of hearts it would be unlikely to run away, as declarer would presumably be expecting to make some tricks from dummy's main suit.

This board also caused a big swing in the other featured match, France v Netherlands. In the Closed Room, the French did not bid the E/W hands up to their full value:



Lorenzo Lauria, Italy

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sebbane	De Wijs	Thuillez	Muller
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

Thirteen tricks were made on a diamond lead; France +440.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Multon	Verhees	Palau
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♥	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

In the Open Room, the Orange Club got out of control. As North really did not have a natural spade lead at all, Jansma too made all the tricks for +1020 to the Netherlands, a swing of 11 IMPs.

One board later, a defensive error led to another big swing in favour of the Dutch:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sebbane	De Wijs	Thuillez	Muller
	Pass	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

De Wijs led the ♠Q to declarer's ace. Sebbane now played ♣A and another, South winning the queen. The ♠10 was returned and declarer won the third round of spades. Another club went to De Wijs' king. As Bauke Muller had played the ♥2 to this trick, De Wijs now made the good play of first cashing his ♦K before taking his two remaining spades and continuing diamonds. Down three, Netherlands +300.

LOST

The Swiss player Fernando Piedra lost his championship bag. Nothing valuable inside...except for him, with addresses and notes he had written. If found, thanks for bringing it back to the hospitality desk

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Multon	Verhees	Palau
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	1♥
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Not for the first time, overcalling on a bad suit can be costly. North led the ♥8 to declarer's ace and Jansma continued ♣A and another. Here as well, South won the ♣Q, but he continued hearts to declarer's king. Another club went to North's king, South discarding the ♥6.

Not being able to read this, North passively returned a club to present declarer with his contract: two spades, two hearts and five clubs made up for another +600 or 14 IMPs to the Netherlands.

On Board 11, the French gained a game swing when their style of opening bids paid off in the Open Room.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sebbane	De Wijs	Thuillez	Muller
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1♦	1♠
2♦	Pass	3♦	All Pass

The light diamond overcall from East and the aggressive raise by West made it difficult for South to compete any further. When he did not even produce a double to reactivate partner, the French had escaped for -150 when the contract went down three.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Multon	Verhees	Palau
			1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

After Palau's light opening bid, the French always remained a tempo ahead in the auction. In fact, their opponents kept silent throughout the bidding and gave them a free road to a good game contract that made when the club finesse was right; France +400 and 6 IMPs back.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Bertheau	Bocchi	Nystrom
	2♦*	Dble	3♦
3♥	5♦	5♥	Pass
Pass	6♦	Dble	All Pass

If North had known South held four clubs he would probably have been even more convinced that bidding Six Diamonds was a good idea, but this time he was horribly wrong. The defenders collected two spades, two clubs and a diamond for four down; -800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Lauria	Lindkvist	Versace
	1♦	Dble	Pass
1♥	3♦	4♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♥	All Pass

A slam on a finesse through the opening bidder is generally a sound proposition, but not this time — maybe the gods were taking revenge for Board 8? 13 IMPs for Italy, just getting their noses in front.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sebbane	De Wijs	Thuillez	Muller
	1♦	Dble	Pass
INT	3♦	3♥	4♦
4♥	5♦	6♥	All Pass

Slam is a good proposition once North has opening the bidding, but this time it did not come off; Netherlands +50. It probably never occurred to East to double 5♦, though this already will go down enough.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Multon	Verhees	Palau
1♥	1♦	Dble	Pass
4♥	3♦	4♦	Pass
	All Pass		

With hearts bid first by West and East suggesting a powerhouse later on, the French probably did not consider a save in 5♦, as their opponents might well have been missing a slam. In a way, they were right as even 5♦ is too expensive already, but the Netherlands scored +450 more here for yet another swing of 11 IMPs. They led 42-19 now.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Bertheau	Bocchi	Nystrom
4♠	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	4NT	Pass	Dble
Pass	6♣	All Pass	5NT



Peter Bertheau, Sweden

West put the pressure on and it paid dividends in a big way as the Swedish pair overreached to a no play slam; -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Lauria	Lindkvist	Versace
4♠	Pass	2♠	Dble
Pass	4NT	Pass	Dble
5♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
All Pass		Pass	Dble

South cashed two clubs and the ace of hearts and played a third club. Declarer ruffed, drew one round of trumps, ruffed a heart, came to hand with a trump and played a diamond. He must have been reasonably sure of the distribution in view of the 4NT bid, but he still had a decision to make. When he elected to finesse the seven North won with the ten and played back the queen, so declarer was three down; -500 and another 12 IMPs for Italy.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Duboin	Bertheau	Bocchi	Nystrom
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dble
Rdbl	2♣	2♦	Pass
2♥	Dble	All Pass	

I hope Giorgio will forgive me, but this deal reminds me of the story of the lady who once asked Terence Reese, 'How would you have bid that hand Mr. Reese?' 'Differently' was his reply. Two Spades is makeable, but West never bid the suit!

Two Hearts doubled was not pretty.

South cashed the ace of spades and switched to a heart for the three, nine and ace. Declarer played three rounds of diamonds, ruffing with dummy's queen and North discarded a club. Declarer ruffed a spade and exited with a diamond. He eventually made a club trick, but was two down; -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fredin	Lauria	Lindkvist	Versace
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dble
Rdbl	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♠	3♣	All Pass	

The same ugly redouble, but this time West ran. East led the queen of spades and declarer won and played a heart for the jack

and ace. East switched to a low diamond and West won the king and played the queen of hearts. Declarer won, pitching a spade, and could now have made the contract by playing the ace of clubs and a club. However, he played a diamond and East won and played the eight of hearts, ruffed by the nine and over-ruffed by the king. West returned the jack of spades for East to ruff. Back came the four of hearts and declarer discarded a diamond from dummy, West ruffing. The contract was two down for -200. A very useful 12 IMPs for Sweden, restricting Italy to a 16-14VP victory. The race for first place would continue!

On the last board, great things happened in the Sweden-Italy match you have read, but in the other featured match there also was a swing:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sebbane	De Wijs	Thuillez	Muller
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dble
1♠	2♣	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

Lead: ♠Q. Declarer, Simon de Wijs, won and played a heart to the jack and ace. East continued the ♣J, covered by the queen. That won the trick when West withheld his king. A low club went to dummy's eight and East's ten, and East now played a diamond to partner's ace and got a diamond back to his king. When the next heart return produced the ♥Q from West, the hand was over. Declarer simply drew the last trump and played on hearts to get rid of his remaining losers. Just made, Netherlands +110.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Multon	Verhees	Palau
2♠	All Pass		

Once again, the timing of the opening pre-empt proved decisive. Left alone in 2♠, Jansma had no trouble in coming to his required eight tricks for another +110 to the Netherlands.

The 6 IMPs from these last few deals added on to the 42 already in the kitty to make the final score a convincing win, 48-19 in IMPs or 21-9 in VP.

PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY

The Prize-Giving Ceremony will be held in the vugraph room at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd July.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

As the space between the stage and the first row of the stalls is very narrow, we are obliged to ask photographers to please note the following:

- The right and left hand sides of the first two rows are reserved for them.
- Photographers may approach the stage to take photographs ONLY after the winners' anthem has been played.
- Photographers must return to their seats immediately after players leave the podium.
- This procedure will be repeated for all series.

Please follow this procedure to help our organisation of the Ceremony.

Nobody Rings a Bell

Just imagine how easy bridge would be for all concerned if a bell were to sound every time a critical moment was reached. West would certainly have been grateful on this deal from the Round 6 match between Germany & Russia.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Petrinin	Wladow	Gromov	Elinescu
		Pass	2♥*
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West was more than happy to pass his partner's reopening double, but it requires a very careful defence to defeat Two Hearts. The first move was easy, as West led the ace of clubs. The appearance of the dummy made it clear that West must prevent diamond ruffs, even at the cost of some potential trump tricks, so West switched to the ace followed by the nine of hearts. Declarer won in hand and played three rounds of spades, first discarding his losing club and then ruffing the third round.

When declarer advanced the ace of diamonds another critical point had been reached. It is essential for West to retain the three of diamonds in order to retain communications with East. When he failed to do so declarer was home. After cashing his other diamond winner he exited with a diamond and in due course West was forced to ruff one of his partner's winners and lead into the trump tenace.

Don't miss Deauville 2004

Open Pairs	15-18 July	4 Sessions
Teams	19-21 July	3 Sessions
Mixed Pairs	23-25 July	3 Sessions

Contact: 0033 | 45209806



Better to Know the Right-Hand Opponent's Shape

by Tommy Gullberg

On the below hand Belgium had an uncontested auction that ended in 5♦.

"A great triumph for relay bidding methods" noted Daniel Auby, who takes great pleasure from relay auctions. "South will learn that North's distribution is 2-4-2-5 with neither the queen of spades nor the ace of clubs but will anyway be able to bid the small slam with full confidence."

(Hands rotated)

Board 2. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ J 4
♥ 8 7 5 3
♦ 4 3
♣ 10 8 7 6 2

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ A K 6
♥ A
♦ A K Q J 10 8 7 2
♣ K

"But how do you propose to make the contract?" I asked him.

"A spade ruff in dummy will provide the twelfth trick" claimed Auby.

Not entirely correct as the spades broke six-two. Sture Ekberg, on the Swedish Senior team, was aware of this after the following auction:

West	North	East	South
	B Å Jansson		S Ekberg
		2♦*	DbI
2♠*	Pass	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

2♦ was Multi and 2♠ pass or correct.



Sture Ekberg, Sweden

Declarer received a trump lead and realised that he could not ruff a spade in dummy. Sture found an alternative line and cashed all his red-suit winners, hoping that East would have six to the queen of spades and ace, queen, jack of clubs. The end position became, East's discards including the queen and jack of clubs:

♠ J 4
♥ —
♦ —
♥ 10 8

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 9 8
♥ —
♦ —
♣ A

♠ A K 6
♥ —
♦ —
♣ K

East is thrown in on the ace of clubs and must give declarer a spade trick. Best defence is to block the spade suit by returning the queen of spades but this does not help as the ten of clubs is a master.

Sture Ekberg's line of play should, however, have failed on the actual lay of the cards

♠ J 4
♥ 8 7 5 3
♦ 4 3
♣ 10 8 7 6 2

♠ 10 2
♥ K J 9 6 4
♦ 9 5
♣ A 5 4 3

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 9 8 7 5 3
♥ Q 10 2
♦ 6
♣ Q J 9

♠ A K 6
♥ A
♦ A K Q J 10 8 7 2
♣ K

East did, luckily for declarer, run into problems over what to discard. He failed to realise that South had three spades and had not attempted to ruff a spade in dummy. Consequently, he discarded all his spades and kept his clubs and hearts.

Menu 29 June 2004

Lunch, served between 11.30 and 15.00	
Chicken leg with cream sauce and cucumber	70 Skr
Vegetarian: Nudelwok with veggiebit	70 Skr
Dinner, served between 16.30 and 20.00	
A selection of herring	60 Skr
Pearl fish with shell fish filling in white wine sauce and potato wedges	125 Skr
Minute steak with feta cheese stuffing, olive sauce and potato wedges	125 Skr
Pasta Frutti di Mari	85 Skr
Swedish meatballs with cream sauce and lingon berries	80 Skr
Cold dishes	60 Skr



The Swedish Pairs Championship

by Tjolpe Flodqvist

The Swedish Pairs Championship final got under way on Monday morning. The winners of the qualification, Thomas Magnusson and Frederic Wrang, had a good start and led the field after sixteen boards — well ahead of another favourite pair — Håkan Nilsson and Ulf Nilsson.

1 542 67,8	Fred. Wrang - Th. Magnusson	Näby BS
2 496 62,0	Gunnar Elmroth - Leif Trapp	Östersunds BS
3 483 60,4	Håkan Nilsson - Ulf Nilsson	Anderstorps BK
4 480 60,0	Fredrik Björnlund - T. Karlsson	Anderstorps BK-BK Centrum
5 449 56,1	Leif Näslund - Leif Sundqvist	Sallyhills BK
6 447 55,9	Kjell Ericsson - Daniel Sivelind	Granärde BS
447 55,9	B-O Johansson - A. Blomqvist	Anderstorps BK
447 55,9	Kjell Jansson - Mattias Jonsson	Bro-Bålsta Bridgeklubb
9 446 55,8	Anna Zack - Henrik Einarsson	Malungs BK
446 55,8	Bo Roos - Magnus Göransson	Skara BS

Board 4 was a nasty one for anyone that got to declare a trump contract.

The deal has been rotated for convenience

Board 4. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Bengt-Erik Efraimsson in the North seat bid a tad too ambitiously.

West	North	East	South
	Anders Morath		Bengt-Erik Efraimsson
Pass*	1♥	Pass	1♦
Dble	2♠	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	All pass	3♣

West waited for a long time over 1♦ for the, in these modern days, almost compulsory alert, but 1♦ happened to be an entirely natural opening bid. When West subsequently doubled 1♠ for take-out and North was satisfied with 2♠, South really should pass, since there are two strong indications of bad breaks.

West led the ace of hearts against four spades, then continued with the ace of diamonds and another diamond for East to ruff. The heart return made South lose two more tricks for -200 and 6/50 MPs, whilst 110 would have been worth 29.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Mårten Gustawsson	Bengt-Erik Efraimsson	Tommy Strindfors	Anders Morath
Pass	2♦	1♥*	2♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	5♣

East's 1♥ was a systematic and natural but weak opening. West led the queen of hearts to the ace and two rounds of trumps were followed by a low heart towards the jack. West did not want to weaken his spade holding, so he discarded a diamond. East won the king but was endplayed. Either a heart or a spade return would help declarer to avoid a spade loser, so East had to return a diamond.

But after West's diamond pitch it was an easy matter for declarer to establish dummy's fifth diamond and his eleventh trick. There were a couple of 430s as well as some other 400s, most likely in three no trumps, worth 34/50 MPs.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Anders Morath	Thomas Magnusson	Bengt-Erik Efraimsson	Frederic Wrang
1♦	4♦*	Pass	Pass
Pass	5♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass		Pass	6♠

North's hand is by no means easy to bid, but Thomas and Frederic cooperated nicely. 4♦ was a transfer to spades and 5♠ invitational with no worries about first-round controls. Frederic would probably have found the raise even without the ace of diamonds, which gave some sort of moral support though.

Twelve pairs bid this slam for 39/50 MPs and the rest, but one 170, scored 680 and 14MPs.

After 32 boards last year's champions, Fredrik Björnlund and Tomas Karlsson, had moved up on the leader board.

1	990	61,9	Frederic Wrang - T. Magnusson	Näsby BS
2	980	61,3	Fredrik Björnlund - T.Karlsson	Anderstorps BK
3	963	60,2	Anna Zack - Henrik Einarsson	Malungs BK
4	949	59,3	Håkan Nilsson - Ulf Nilsson	Anderstorps BK
5	928	58,0	Bo Roos - Magnus G?ansson	Skara BS
6	915	57,2	Gunnar Elmroth - Leif Trapp	Östersunds BS
7	905	56,6	Leif Näslund - Leif Sundqvist	Sallyhills BK
8	903	56,4	Dick Martinsson - P. Nuoristo	Salamandern/Wasa
9	891	55,7	B-E Efraimsson - A. Morath	BK S:t Erik
10	885	55,3	Mart Altmäe - Mikael Lindblom	BK S:t Erik

The deal has been rotated for convenience

Board 37. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	Ulf Nilsson		Håkan Nilsson
		Pass	1♣*
1♠	Pass	4♠	5♥
Pass	Pass	Pass	

E/W quickly bid to Four Spades after the strong 1♣ opening. Håkan decided to bid his hearts and since E/W can make five spades that was certainly a correct view. After a spade to the ace and a muddy diamond return to the queen and king, West didn't consider a club switch, so he returned a spade when a diamond would have been equally disastrous. East should have cashed the ace of clubs at trick two.

450 was worth 48/50 MPs compared with 23 for one down. Only one pair bid on to five spades for 750 and all the match-points.

On the next board it was Ulf who got some help to make his game contract.

The deal has been rotated for convenience

Board 38. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	Håkan		Ulf
Pass	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led a heart to the two and a slow jack and East tried the ace as well. Ulf ruffed and unblocked the ace of clubs before he sensibly enough played the ace of spades and another spade to East. For some unknown reason, East now returned a diamond and declarer could show his cards.

He could of course have led a diamond to the king and taken the spade finesse, but that looks very much to put all the eggs in the same basket, including a lucky foot work in diamonds and finding the spade king guarded on side.

Making was worth 42/50 MPs whilst one down would have given 17.

Ulf had another tough decision to make in the next round.

The deal has been rotated for convenience

Board 40. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Per	Ulf	Gunnar	Håkan
Bretz	Nilsson	Sjökvist	Nilsson
		Pass	1♠
4♣	4♠	5♣	Pass
Pass	5♠	All pass	

"Maybe I should have bid one more time with a 6-4 distribu-

tion", Håkan said afterwards, but not to worry. Ulf thought that with hopefully no club values in partner's hand they could attempt five spades with nine trumps.

With the ace of hearts and the queen of diamonds inside Håkan soon enough wrapped up eleven tricks after the lead of the king of clubs, for 26 MPs when 300 in five clubs would have given them a mere 2.

The art of drawing inferences from a psychological line of reasoning may be very rewarding — or very costly if you fail to read the situation correctly.

The deal has been rotated for convenience

Board 41. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Håkan Nilsson	Mats Pettersson	Ulf Nilsson	Jan Becklén
Pass	2♦*	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			



Ulf Nilsson, Sweden

2♦ was game forcing and South tried to express a minimum opening with some sort of club stopper with his jump to 3NT. He probably expected North to correct to 4♠ with three-card support, but that did not happen.

Håkan led the seven of clubs and when Ulf played the king then ace and another club, one might think it was a better chance to find him with the ace of hearts than the queen of diamonds. A diamond finesse would have given him the rest of the tricks for 48 MPs whilst a heart to the ace and two down meant a complete zero.

Aggressiveness may cost a fortune, but must still be the guideline in a pairs competition.

The deal has been rotated for convenience

Board 42. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Mats Nilsson	Ulf Nilsson	Jan Nilsson	Håkan Nilsson
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♥	Pass
Pass	3♠	Dble	All pass

The ten of clubs went to the jack and a heart to the ace. A club ruff was followed by a diamond to the ace and a diamond back, rather than the king and a diamond to the ace, for a heart return through declarer. Anyway, West should have played another diamond rather than the ten of hearts.

South should really have run the heart to his queen, but he ruffed and played the king of clubs, pitching a heart. West ruffed and could now have played his last spade for 800 and 49 MPs, but he returned the king of hearts for 500 and a mere 41.

The negative doubles and the art of reopening nowadays don't seem to have any limits.

Board 44. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ulf		Håkan	
1♠	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	3♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	

One would think that if you make overcalls on such suits as North's, you should be able to retreat to diamonds with the South hand, either with a natural 3♦ or even more clever with a transfer to diamonds by bidding 3♣.

As it happens it's correct that two hearts would not have made, but three diamonds made in comfort with an overtrick, when the defence missed the spade ruff. One down in Two Hearts would have netted E/W 44 MPs, but Three Diamonds with an overtrick still gave them 21 !

Ulf found a rewarding line of play here.

Board 47. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
	Håkan		Ulf
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

West led a diamond to the ten and when East threw a small club it induced Ulf to play the ace of clubs and a club to the eight and king. East's club might have asked for a heart return, since West tried the queen of hearts. This was ducked and after the ace of hearts and another, Ulf simply gave up a diamond to the king and claimed nine tricks.

Obviously it would have been better for the defence to attack spades after the king of clubs. Making three no trumps gave N/S 46/50 MPs instead of 14 for one down.

After three times 16 boards the leader board looked like this:

1	1480	61,7	Frederic Wrang - T. Magnusson	Näsby BS
2	1446	60,3	Håkan Nilsson - Ulf Nilsson	Anderstorps BK
3	1412	58,8	Anna Zack - Henrik Einarsson	Malungs BK
4	1405	58,5	Dick Martinsson - P. Nuoristo	Salamandern/Wasa
5	1394	58,1	Gunnar Elmroth - Leif Trapp	Östersunds BS
6	1392	58,0	F. Björnlund - T. Karlsson	Anderstorps BK-BK Centrum
7	1333	55,5	Håkan Sträaf - J-E Thomasson	Filbyter Bridge
8	1329	55,4	Petter Fryklund - Mats Sjöberg	Filbyter Bridge
9	1326	55,3	Bo Roos - Magnus Göransson	Skara BS
10	1280	53,3	Kjell Ericsson - Daniel Sivelind	Grangärde BS

Anna Järup, NPC Swedish women



Is it windy on the top?

It is, but it is great fun to be there. The team is playing well; they are skilled and support each other. Those things are necessary if you want to stay on the top.

Did you believe that the team would do this well in the first half of the tournament?

Already two years ago I said that we were going to collect a medal in Malmö. The difficult thing about this tournament is the schedule, with only two matches per day two out of three pairs will not play more than twenty boards. It makes it more difficult to get into the rhythm and focus on playing winning bridge. But it is the same for all teams and our girls do really know how to prepare themselves.

How is the mood in the team?

Excellent, we do make sure that we have a fun time together. Everyone is very supportive to each other and no one does give up until the last card has been played. This team does really know the importance of being fully focused on all twenty boards and not relax when eighteen or nineteen boards have been played. I believe that one should prepare oneself for playing twenty-two boards and be a bit surprised when the match was only twenty boards.

Is there something that you are especially pleased with?

The comeback in the match against France, losing 9-21 and coming back to 15-15 on the last boards shows the spirit of this team. They never give up. We had one bad day when we collected 9 and 10 VPs, but we just said "That was our bad day, let us not have another."

Will you stay top until the end?

We do intend to. What we will definitely do is our utmost to remain there. It might be that we by the end of the day are unlucky, but we are definitely not going to leave Malmö with a feeling that we did not do all that we could do.



Bridge Festival Schedule

29 June 2004

Swedish Pair Championships A-final	
10.00 - 12.30	20 boards
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch
13.30 - 15.45	18 boards
16.15 - 16.30	Prize-giving ceremony
Swedish Pair Championships B-final	
10.30 - 13.00	20 boards
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 - 15.30	12 boards
16.00 - 16.15	Prize-giving ceremony
Gold Barometer	
10.00	Gold 5
Silver Barometer	
11.00	Silver eighteen
18.00	Silver nineteen
Bronze Barometer	
19.00	Bronze nine, mixed