



Daily Bulletin



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

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Bulletin 10

Wednesday, 30 June 2004

ITALY NEARER TITLE



Your Industrious Dealers - Responsible for the 35,992 Boards of the European Championships

A solid day for the leaders, combined with a bad one for their only serious rivals, Sweden, has left the Italian team in sight of the gold medals. Behind these two the race for Estoril is getting tighter.

Sweden stay ahead

The host country retained their lead in the Women's series, but France and Netherlands are right behind them.

Germany's lead is cut

The leaders heavy loss to Denmark has opened up the race for the title, although they still enjoy a lead of 13 VP over second placed France, while England are third.

Today's VuGraph Matches

OPEN TEAMS - Round 25

Turkey v Denmark 10.30

OPEN TEAMS - Round 26

Bulgaria v Netherlands 14.15

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.

The EBL is pleased to announce that the Senior event has been renamed '**The Nils Jensen Senior European Team Championship**', in honour of the late former President, and a trophy and replicas will be presented to the winning team. A country that wins three times will keep the trophy permanently.



OPEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 22**

| | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|----|--------------|---------------|---------|----------|
| 1 | SCOTLAND | RUSSIA | 5 - 82 | 1 - 25 |
| 2 | SPAIN | BYE | | 18 - 0 |
| 3 | TURKEY | ITALY | 15 - 63 | 5 - 25 |
| 4 | NORWAY | FAROE ISL. | 44 - 44 | 15 - 15 |
| 5 | ISRAEL | CZECH REP. | 82 - 44 | 23 - 7 |
| 6 | IRELAND | SAN MARINO | 73 - 27 | 24 - 6 |
| 7 | SERBIA/MONT. | PORTUGAL | 48 - 27 | 19 - 11 |
| 8 | DENMARK | SWITZERLAND | 69 - 25 | 24 - 6 |
| 9 | FRANCE | SWEDEN | 46 - 12 | 22 - 8 |
| 10 | ICELAND | CROATIA | 71 - 18 | 25 - 4.5 |
| 11 | ENGLAND | FINLAND | 53 - 59 | 14 - 16 |
| 12 | GERMANY | LITHUANIA | 36 - 31 | 16 - 14 |
| 13 | HUNGARY | NETHERLANDS | 53 - 33 | 19 - 11 |
| 14 | GREECE | BELGIUM | 28 - 15 | 18 - 12 |
| 15 | POLAND | WALES | 50 - 13 | 23 - 7 |
| 16 | AUSTRIA | ROMANIA | 29 - 32 | 14 - 16 |
| 17 | BULGARIA | LATVIA | 32 - 46 | 12 - 18 |

ROUND 23

| | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|----|-------------|---------------|---------|-------------|
| 1 | RUSSIA | SPAIN | 72 - 16 | 25 - 4 |
| 2 | BYE | TURKEY | | 0 - 18 |
| 3 | ITALY | NORWAY | 34 - 30 | 16 - 14 |
| 4 | FAROE ISL. | ISRAEL | 26 - 98 | 2 - 25 |
| 5 | CZECH REP. | IRELAND | 56 - 47 | 17 - 13 |
| 6 | SAN MARINO | PORTUGAL | 41 - 65 | 10 - 20 |
| 7 | SCOTLAND | DENMARK | 61 - 36 | 20 - 10 |
| 8 | SWITZERLAND | FRANCE | 45 - 39 | 16 - 14 |
| 9 | SWEDEN | ICELAND | 68 - 12 | 25 - 4 |
| 10 | CROATIA | ENGLAND | 18 - 56 | 7 - 23 |
| 11 | FINLAND | GERMANY | 49 - 34 | 18 - 12 |
| 12 | LITHUANIA | HUNGARY | 35 - 36 | 15 - 15 |
| 13 | NETHERLANDS | GREECE | 26 - 34 | 14 - 16 |
| 14 | BELGIUM | POLAND | 35 - 40 | 13.5 - 15.5 |
| 15 | WALES | AUSTRIA | 33 - 28 | 16 - 14 |
| 16 | ROMANIA | BULGARIA | 25 - 90 | 3 - 25 |
| 17 | LATVIA | SERBIA/MONT. | 33 - 50 | 11 - 19 |

ROUND 24

| | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|----|--------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| 1 | TURKEY | RUSSIA | 23 - 29 | 14 - 16 |
| 2 | NORWAY | BYE | | 18 - 0 |
| 3 | ISRAEL | ITALY | 14 - 63 | 5 - 25 |
| 4 | IRELAND | FAROE ISL. | 62 - 17 | 24 - 6 |
| 5 | PORTUGAL | CZECH REP. | 9 - 72 | 3 - 25 |
| 6 | SERBIA/MONT. | SAN MARINO | 54 - 44 | 17 - 13 |
| 7 | DENMARK | SPAIN | 41 - 47 | 14 - 16 |
| 8 | FRANCE | SCOTLAND | 33 - 40 | 14 - 16 |
| 9 | ICELAND | SWITZERLAND | 33 - 27 | 16 - 14 |
| 10 | ENGLAND | SWEDEN | 44 - 19 | 20 - 10 |
| 11 | GERMANY | CROATIA | 18 - 41 | 10 - 20 |
| 12 | HUNGARY | FINLAND | 43 - 53 | 13 - 17 |
| 13 | GREECE | LITHUANIA | 63 - 24 | 23 - 7 |
| 14 | POLAND | NETHERLANDS | 33 - 35 | 15 - 15 |
| 15 | AUSTRIA | BELGIUM | 22 - 36 | 12 - 18 |
| 16 | BULGARIA | WALES | 57 - 52 | 16 - 14 |
| 17 | LATVIA | ROMANIA | 63 - 19 | 24 - 6 |

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 25**

10.30

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

ROUND 26

14.15

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

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.**

WOMEN'S TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 16**

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|----------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| 21 LEBANON | GERMANY | 2 - 112 | 0 - 25 |
| 22 FRANCE | ENGLAND | 52 - 12 | 23 - 7 |
| 23 SWEDEN | DENMARK | 34 - 21 | 18 - 12 |
| 24 FAROE ISL. | TURKEY | 25 - 74 | 5 - 25 |
| 25 NETHERLANDS | SCOTLAND | 50 - 28 | 20 - 10 |
| 26 CZECH REP. | IRELAND | 55 - 25 | 21 - 9 |
| 27 ITALY | ISRAEL | 38 - 55 | 11 - 19 |
| 28 FINLAND | NORWAY | 28 - 47 | 11 - 19 |
| 29 SPAIN | ICELAND | 41 - 27 | 18 - 12 |
| 30 CROATIA | HUNGARY | 12 - 61 | 5 - 25 |
| 31 POLAND | AUSTRIA | 56 - 38 | 19 - 11 |

ROUND 17

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|-------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| 21 GERMANY | FRANCE | 16 - 32 | 12 - 16 |
| 22 ENGLAND | SWEDEN | 30 - 45 | 12 - 18 |
| 23 DENMARK | TURKEY | 43 - 33 | 17 - 13 |
| 24 LEBANON | NETHERLANDS | 24 - 71 | 6 - 24 |
| 25 SCOTLAND | CZECH REP. | 33 - 43 | 13 - 17 |
| 26 IRELAND | ITALY | 44 - 38 | 16 - 14 |
| 27 ISRAEL | FINLAND | 31 - 31 | 15 - 15 |
| 28 NORWAY | SPAIN | 74 - 32 | 24 - 6 |
| 29 ICELAND | CROATIA | 28 - 40 | 13 - 17 |
| 30 HUNGARY | POLAND | 37 - 40 | 14 - 16 |
| 31 AUSTRIA | FAROE ISL. | 50 - 43 | 16 - 14 |

10th Red Sea International Bridge Festival

Prizes
\$12,500



Sea and
Sunshine

November 14-21, 2004

<http://www.bridge.co.il/Redsea/index.html>

Here in Malmo, Daniela or David Birman will be delighted to give you information on the Festival.

IMP Pairs, Open Pairs, Teams

Special Tourist Packages from \$49 per day per person

Contact Information

Festival chairman, David Birman
50 Pinkas St., Tel-Aviv 62261, Israel
Tel: 972- 3- 6058355, Fax: 972- 3- 5223566
E mail: birmand@inter.net.il

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 12**

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|------------|---------------|---------|-----------|
| 41 IRELAND | NETHERLANDS | 33 - 86 | 3 - 25 |
| 42 ITALY | SWITZERLAND | 70 - 22 | 25 - 4 |
| 43 FINLAND | SCOTLAND | 32 - 29 | 16 - 14 |
| 44 WALES | ENGLAND | 22 - 36 | 12 - 18 |
| 45 POLAND | SWEDEN | 28 - 19 | 16.5 - 13 |
| 46 NORWAY | ISRAEL | 36 - 21 | 18 - 12 |
| 47 FRANCE | DENMARK | 43 - 20 | 20 - 10 |
| 48 GERMANY | CZECH REP | 47 - 14 | 23 - 7 |

ROUND 13

| Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
|----------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| 41 NETHERLANDS | ITALY | 32 - 17 | 18 - 12 |
| 42 SWITZERLAND | SCOTLAND | 11 - 56 | 5 - 25 |
| 43 IRELAND | WALES | 19 - 34 | 12 - 18 |
| 44 ENGLAND | POLAND | 35 - 13 | 20 - 10 |
| 45 SWEDEN | NORWAY | 61 - 4 | 25 - 3 |
| 46 ISRAEL | FRANCE | 16 - 32 | 11 - 19 |
| 47 DENMARK | GERMANY | 46 - 18 | 22 - 8 |
| 48 CZECH REP. | FINLAND | 30 - 29 | 15 - 15 |

SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 14**

10.30

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

ROUND 15

14.15

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

Journalists

Note: The Meeting for Journalists today at the end of play (around 5.15) will be in the VIP Lounge on the first floor.

The Journalists Pairs had been moved to Friday afternoon should that be sufficient numbers.

OPEN TEAMS RANKING after 24 rounds

| | | |
|----|-------------------|--------|
| 1 | ITALY | 498.00 |
| 2 | SWEDEN | 455.50 |
| 3 | POLAND | 425.50 |
| 4 | RUSSIA | 422.50 |
| 5 | TURKEY | 411.00 |
| 6 | NETHERLANDS | 404.00 |
| 7 | ISRAEL | 400.00 |
| 8 | ENGLAND | 400.00 |
| 9 | GERMANY | 392.00 |
| 10 | GREECE | 388.50 |
| 11 | FINLAND | 387.50 |
| 12 | BELGIUM | 381.50 |
| 13 | FRANCE | 380.00 |
| 14 | NORWAY | 377.00 |
| 15 | ICELAND | 369.50 |
| 16 | DENMARK | 360.00 |
| 17 | BULGARIA | 359.50 |
| 18 | AUSTRIA | 358.00 |
| 19 | HUNGARY | 356.00 |
| 20 | SCOTLAND | 342.00 |
| 21 | LATVIA | 341.00 |
| 22 | PORTUGAL | 332.50 |
| 23 | SPAIN | 331.50 |
| 24 | IRELAND | 330.50 |
| 25 | SERBIA/MONTENEGRO | 327.00 |
| 26 | WALES | 324.50 |
| 27 | CROATIA | 322.50 |
| 28 | SWITZERLAND | 312.00 |
| 29 | ROMANIA | 295.00 |
| 30 | LITUANIA | 275.50 |
| 31 | CZECH REP. | 270.00 |
| 32 | FAROE ISLANDS | 246.00 |
| 33 | SAN MARINO | 218.50 |

WOMEN'S TEAMS RANKING after 17 rounds

| | | |
|----|---------------|--------|
| 1 | SWEDEN | 325.00 |
| 2 | FRANCE | 323.00 |
| 3 | NETHERLANDS | 322.00 |
| 4 | AUSTRIA | 301.00 |
| 5 | GERMANY | 287.00 |
| 6 | ISRAEL | 285.00 |
| 7 | POLAND | 275.00 |
| 8 | ENGLAND | 272.00 |
| 9 | SPAIN | 265.00 |
| 10 | FINLAND | 264.00 |
| 11 | TURKEY | 262.00 |
| 12 | NORWAY | 262.00 |
| 13 | ITALY | 260.00 |
| 14 | DENMARK | 244.00 |
| 15 | CZECH REP. | 242.50 |
| 16 | IRELAND | 238.00 |
| 17 | SCOTLAND | 230.00 |
| 18 | HUNGARY | 222.00 |
| 19 | CROATIA | 196.00 |
| 20 | ICELAND | 170.00 |
| 21 | LEBANON | 160.00 |
| 22 | FAROE ISLANDS | 153.00 |

SENIOR TEAMS RANKING after 13 rounds

| | | |
|----|-------------|--------|
| 1 | GERMANY | 249.00 |
| 2 | FRANCE | 236.00 |
| 3 | ENGLAND | 234.00 |
| 4 | ITALY | 228.00 |
| 5 | DENMARK | 226.00 |
| 6 | SWEDEN | 222.00 |
| 7 | POLAND | 221.10 |
| 8 | ISRAEL | 204.00 |
| 9 | NETHERLANDS | 195.50 |
| 10 | CZECH REP. | 191.50 |
| 11 | NORWAY | 181.00 |
| 12 | FINLAND | 162.00 |
| 13 | SCOTLAND | 158.40 |
| 14 | SWITZERLAND | 155.00 |
| 15 | WALES | 139.00 |
| 16 | IRELAND | 58.00 |

WOMEN'S TEAMS

Round 15

Sweden v Turkey

Earlier on Monday, the Swedish Women had moved into the lead in the Championship and were now looking to consolidate that position against mid-table Turkey. The first major swing went in favour of our hosts.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| ♠ 10 9 5 4 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ A Q 10 9 7 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ J 9 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ 9 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ 2 | | ♠ K 6 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ 3 2 | | ♥ J 8 6 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ A K 7 | | ♦ Q 10 6 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ K Q 8 7 6 4 3 | | ♣ A J 10 | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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 | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ A Q J 8 7 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ K 5 4 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ 8 4 3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ 5 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Forsberg | Zaim | Gronkvist | Baytok |
| | | | Pass |
| 2♣ | Pass | 2NT | Pass |
| 3♣ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Adiguzel | Midskog | Merze | Berthau |
| | | | 1♠ |
| 2♣ | 4♠ | All Pass | |

Catharina Forsberg opened a Precision-style 2♣ and Maria Gronkvist's response showed club support and either an invitational or game-forcing hand. Three Clubs was, presumably, a minimum, but Gronkvist went on to game anyway. Three No Trump is beaten if played by West, as either major is good enough to see the defence take no less than ten tricks. Played by East, the normal lead is the queen of spades and that is what Canan Baytok tried. Gronkvist rattled off twelve tricks for +690.

In the other room, Kathrine Berthau saw an opening bid in the South cards — she must have good eyesight — and that led to a quite different auction. Catarina Midskog's raise to 4♠ shut Sukriye Merze out of the auction despite her partner's overcall. The board was already lost, of course, as East/West can no longer bid a making game, even had Merze scraped up a double. Four Spades went one down as the defence cashed three diamonds and a club; -50 but 12 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ A 10 8 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ K 10 8 7 4 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ A Q | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ J 9 7 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ K 6 2 | | ♠ 5 4 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ Q 2 | | ♥ 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ K J 9 6 2 | | ♦ 10 8 7 5 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ A Q 3 | | ♣ K 8 6 4 | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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 | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♠ Q J 9 7 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ A J 9 6 5 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ 4 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ 10 5 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Forsberg | Zaim | Gronkvist | Baytok |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| INT | Pass | Pass | 2♣ |
| 2♦ | 3♥ | 4♦ | 4♥ |
| All Pass | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Adiguzel | Midskog | Merze | Berthau |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| INT | Dble | 2NT | 3♥ |
| All Pass | | | |



Catarina Midskog, Sweden

Both Wests opened INT. Mey Zaim passed the North hand, which looks normal to me, and her partner competed with 2♣, both majors. Forsberg took the opportunity to get her diamonds into the game and this started a competitive auction which ended with Zaim declaring 4♥. Zaim won the diamond lead and took a club pitch on the second diamond, then played a heart to the ace, heart to the king and a third heart to take the spade finesse; eleven tricks for +450.

Midskog doubled, which is described as take-out of diamonds on their card — not a treatment I have come across before. Merze showed the minors and Berthau competed with 3♥, which ended the auction. Berthau went up with the ace on the diamond lead and played ace then king of hearts then, obscurely, the ♦Q throw-

ing a club from hand. That held her to ten tricks for +170 and cost an IMP; 7 IMPs to Turkey.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|-----------|--------|
| Forsberg | Zaim | Gronkvist | Baytok |
| | 1♠ | 2♥ | 3♦ |
| 4♥ | Pass | Pass | 4♠ |
| Pass | 4NT | Pass | 5♣ |
| Pass | 5♦ | Pass | 5♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|
| Adiguzel | Midskog | Merze | Berthau |
| | 1♠ | Pass | 3♦ |
| All Pass | | | |

The Swedish North/South pair had a very simple auction: 1♠ - 3♦ invitational - Pass. On a club lead declarer rose with the ace and came to ten tricks for +130.

Gronkvist's 2♥ overcall put some serious momentum into the other auction. Baytok bid her diamonds then tried 4♠ over 4♥. That looks mildly eccentric to me and it excited Zaim sufficiently that she asked for key cards then the queen of trumps, which Baytok denied holding to cool her partner down. Gronkvist led the king of hearts to the ace and Zaim ruffed her heart loser, took the club finesse, then played a spade. Gronkvist went up with the ace and played a heart, ruffed by declarer, who cashed the king and jack of spades then tried the diamonds. The top diamonds stood up but then the ace of clubs was ruffed and East had the rest. That looks like nine tricks to me but it was scored as down one for -50 and 5 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|-----------|----------|
| Forsberg | Zaim | Gronkvist | Baytok |
| 2♣ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass |
| 2♥ | Pass | 2NT | Pass |
| 3♦ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|---------|-------|----------|
| Adiguzel | Midskog | Merze | Berthau |
| 1♣ | Pass | 1♥ | Pass |
| 1♠ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass |
| 2♥ | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass |

Both East/Wests bid to game, the Swedes after a Precision 2♣ opening. Two Diamonds enquired and Two Hearts showed a minimum with five clubs and a four-card major. Two No Trump was a shape enquiry and 3♦ showed what Forsberg had got. Baytok led a low diamond to dummy's eight and Gronkvist led the ♥Q, which Baytok won to switch to the king of spades. Gronkvist won that and played two more rounds of hearts and Baytok won the jack and played a second spade to dummy's queen. Gronkvist had nine tricks now for +400.

Four Hearts was not so easy as there was no trick given on the lead. Berthau led the queen of clubs and Merze won and cashed the second club for a spade discard before taking the diamond finesse. That lost to the king and Berthau returned a diamond to dummy's nine. Merze ruffed a club then ruffed the queen of diamonds low, which was over-ruffed. Midskog led a heart to Berthau's ace and received a second diamond ruff. Now she played a club through and Berthau made the jack of hearts for down two; -100 and 11 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|-----------|----------|
| Forsberg | Zaim | Gronkvist | Baytok |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| 2♣ | 2♦ | 2♠ | 3♦ |
| 3♥ | Pass | 5♣ | All Pass |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|---------|-------|----------|
| Adiguzel | Midskog | Merze | Berthau |
| | | Pass | Pass |
| 1♣ | 1♥ | 1♠ | Pass |
| 3♣ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

The club slam looks pretty good on the East/West cards, does it not, but after a spade lead declarer cannot afford the heart over-ruff as there is then a spade ruff. And if declarer draws a round of trumps before setting about the heart ruffs? Now

there is no spade ruff, but South simply over-ruffs the third heart and returns her last trump to leave declarer with a heart loser. Sweden got to clubs but, fortunately, stopped in game and chalked up +400. Turkey played in 3NT and claimed eleven tricks for +460 and 2 IMPs. Nobody got close to the unlucky slam.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| ♠ 7 6 5 4 ♥ K J 7 6 4 ♦ 2 ♣ A 5 3 | ♠ — ♥ Q 10 8 2 ♦ K 8 7 5 3 ♣ K J 8 7 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 10px auto;"> N W E S </div> | ♠ A 8 3 2 ♥ 9 5 3 ♦ 10 6 4 ♣ 10 9 2 |
| | ♠ K Q J 10 9 ♥ A ♦ A Q J 9 ♣ Q 6 4 | |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|-----------|--------|
| Forsberg | Zaim | Gronkvist | Baytok |
| Pass | INT | Pass | 1♠ |
| Pass | 3♣ | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 4♦ | Pass | 3♦ |
| Pass | 5♦ | All Pass | 4♥ |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|
| Adiguzel | Midskog | Merze | Berthau |
| Pass | INT | Pass | 1♠ |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 2♣ |
| All Pass | | Pass | 3NT |



Mey Zaim, Turkey

Six Diamonds is an interesting spot on the North/South cards but neither of our pairs got there. The Turks reached diamonds and made a slam try along the way before settling for the safe game. Forsberg tried a low club lead which ran to the queen. Baytok drew trumps then ran the ♠K, throwing a heart from dummy, then another heart on the next spade. That had the desired effect as Gronkvist returned a heart on winning the ♠A on the second round of the suit, so declarer could get rid of all the clubs from dummy and had twelve tricks for +620.

Midskog's INT response was 6-12, so rarely passed, and the 2♣ rebid showed either clubs or any 16+ hand. Now, my Swedish experts tell me that 2♦ from North would have been a game-forcing relay opposite the strong variety, while 2NT was short spades, club support, and again game-forcing facing the strong variety. Diamonds were never in the picture at this table and Berthau played 3NT on a club lead for +660 and 2 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| ♠ 7 3 2 ♥ J 10 6 4 2 ♦ A J ♣ A 10 8 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 10px auto;"> N W E S </div> | ♠ A J 8 5 4 ♥ 9 8 7 ♦ 10 8 6 ♣ 6 3 |
| ♠ K Q 10 9 ♥ A Q ♦ K 3 ♣ J 7 5 4 2 | | ♠ 6 ♥ K 5 3 ♦ Q 9 7 5 4 2 ♣ K Q 9 |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|----------|-----------|--------|
| Forsberg | Zaim | Gronkvist | Baytok |
| INT | Pass | 2♥ | Pass |
| 2NT | Pass | 3♥ | Pass |
| 3♠ | All Pass | | |

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| Adiguzel | Midskog | Merze | Berthau |
| 1♣ | 1♥ | Pass | 2♣ |
| Pass | 2♥ | All Pass | |

Gronkvist transferred then retransferred when Forsberg broke with her excellent spade support. After a heart lead, Forsberg lost two tricks in each minor for +140.

When Canan Adiguzel preferred to open 1♣ with her five-four shape, Midskog could overcall in her beautiful heart suit and Berthau showed a constructive raise. Why East did not think her hand worth a spade bid I have no idea, but her failure to get involved meant that Sweden bought the contract cheaply. Merze led a club and Midskog won in dummy to lead a spade. Merze overtook her partner's nine with the jack to switch to a trump and Adiguzel won and cashed a second round then played a spade. Midskog ruffed with the ♥K and played a diamond to the jack then cashed all her hearts and the ♦A. The fall of the ♦K meant that she could cross to the ♣K and cash a diamond to discard the last spade from hand; +170 and 7 IMPs to Sweden.

The Swedes had indeed consolidated their position at the top with a useful 51-15 IMP, 22-8 VP win.

SENIORS TEAMS

Round 10

France v Germany

by Jos Jacobs

On Monday afternoon, the organisers had decided to put a match on vugraph from the Seniors Championship. As Germany were leading the field after nine rounds, and France were in a challenging third place, offering the spectators a view of this match looked an excellent proposition, the only disadvantage being that the Seniors are restricted to 16-board matches. Taking into account the speed at which these mature gentlemen usually are playing (remarkably few women have been seen playing in the Seniors over the years), it should not be a logistical problem to raise their number of boards to 20 as well, thus giving the vugraph audience even more value for free.

With the age limit for Seniors again going up, this event may well develop into sort of an Old Boys Network. I certainly got that idea when I looked through the line-up for this match: famous names from the 1970s and 1980s, both within their respective countries and abroad. Let's quickly have a look now at what these masters had in store for us.

the German bidding. Firstly, the 2♣ overall was not everybody's choice, but Humburg's reluctance to simply raise 3♥ to 4♥ was not received well at all. Mattsson understandably expected ♥Kx or so in dummy, so he retreated into 5♣, which should have gone two down on a nice little defence. The opening lead was the ♦7 from South to queen, king and ace. Then came a heart to the queen and a club finesse, losing to the queen. Now, Paul Chemla returned a heart and duly obtained his ruff when Mari won the ♣A but, when Chemla played back a spade, the diamond trick that had been there for the taking disappeared forever. So it was one down after all for France +50 and 11 IMPs, the same swing they would have obtained had they beaten 5♣ by two tricks.

On Board 2, the Germans found a double of 4♠ that afterwards proved to be unjustified and cost them another 5 IMPs but then:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

| | | |
|--|------------|--|
| | ♠ 10 8 7 6 | |
| | ♥ 9 4 | |
| | ♦ 9 8 7 2 | |
| | ♣ Q 5 4 | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | N | |
| W | S | E |

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| <i>Stretz</i> | <i>Marsal</i> | <i>Stoppa</i> | <i>Schroeder</i> |
| | 1♦ | Pass | Pass |
| 1♥ | Pass | 2♦ | Dble |
| 2NT | Pass | 4♥ | All Pass |

This all looked like very sound bridge. I should give an honourable mention to François Stretz's nice 2NT matchpoint bid, placing that declaration in the right hand too. There were eleven easy tricks on a trump lead when North jumped up with the ♣A on the first round of that suit; France +450.

Open Room

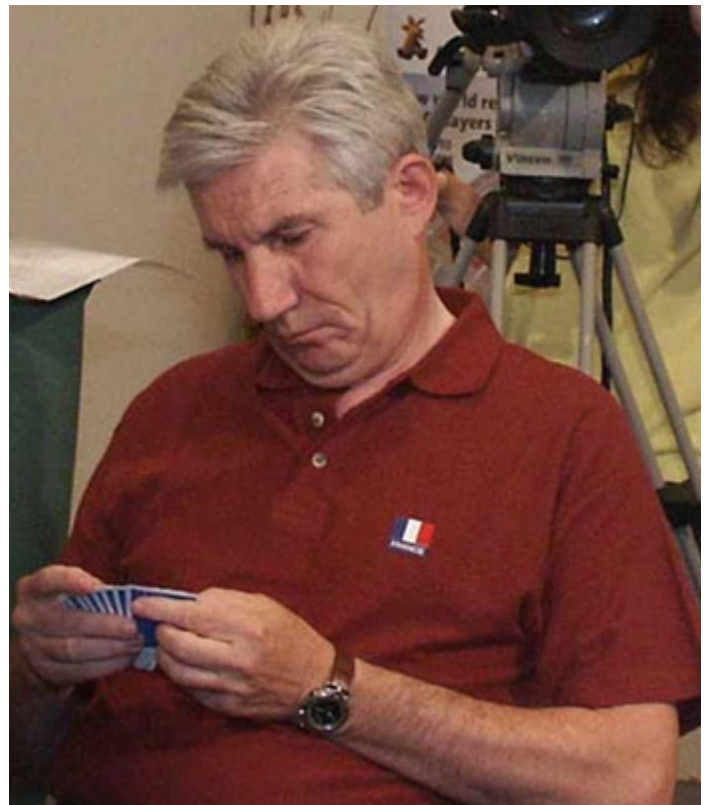
| West | North | East | South |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Mattsson</i> | <i>Mari</i> | <i>Humburg</i> | <i>Chemla</i> |
| | 1♦ | 2♣ | Pass |
| 2♦ | Pass | 3♦ | Pass |
| 3♥ | Pass | 3♠ | Pass |
| 4♣ | Pass | 4♥ | Pass |
| 5♣ | All Pass | | |

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

| | | |
|---------------|------------|-----------|
| ♠ 9 7 | ♠ 8 6 3 2 | ♠ AKQJ10 |
| ♥ K 5 4 | ♥ J 8 3 | ♥ Q 9 2 |
| ♦ J 3 | ♦ Q 10 8 2 | ♦ A 9 7 4 |
| ♣ K Q 7 6 3 2 | ♣ A 9 | ♣ 8 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | N | |
| W | S | E |

| |
|------------|
| ♠ 5 4 |
| ♥ A 10 7 6 |
| ♦ K 6 5 |
| ♣ J 10 5 4 |



Christian Mari, France

Well, on vugraph the commentators were a little harsh on

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|----------|--------|-----------|
| Stretz | Marsal | Stoppa | Schroeder |
| Pass | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| INT | Pass | 2♦ | Pass |
| 2♠ | Pass | 2NT | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |

Against this contract, North, Marsal, found the excellent lead of the ♠8 which ran to declarer's king. Five rounds of spades followed, causing the defenders no problems. Next came a club which Marsal immediately won with his ace, Schroeder already having discarded two clubs on the spades. Next came the ♥J, covered by queen and ace, and South cashed his remaining heart tricks before returning a club. Having still a diamond to lose declarer was down one; Germany +100.

This should have been a flat board but for a rare defensive mistake at the other table:

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|---------|----------|
| Mattsson | Mari | Humburg | Chemla |
| Pass | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| 2♣ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass |
| 2♠ | Pass | 4♠ | All Pass |

Chemla led a club to the queen and ace and Mari returned a trump to declarer's queen. Humburg's next move was to play a low diamond, on which Chemla, understandably, hopped up with his king instead of ducking the trick to his partner, who certainly would have led another trump. So far so good, but when Chemla went on to cash the ♥A and did not return a trump after that the contract had slipped through. Declarer could win the club return throwing a diamond from hand, cash the ♦A and ruff a diamond for ten tricks; Germany an unexpected +620 and 12 IMPs. Their deficit had been reduced to 4 IMPs now.

On the next board, the defensive problem was missed all round the playing area:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| ♠ K 9 ♥ A Q ♦ A 10 9 ♣ 9 8 6 5 4 3 | ♠ A 6 5 ♥ K J 7 5 ♦ K J 8 3 ♣ A 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ Q J 10 7 4 2 ♥ 6 4 2 ♦ 7 2 ♣ J 10 | ♠ 8 3 ♥ 10 9 8 3 ♦ Q 6 5 4 ♣ K Q 7 |
|---|--|---|

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|--------|----------|-----------|
| Stretz | Marsal | Stoppa | Schroeder |
| 1♣ | Dble | Pass | 1♠ |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | 3♠ |
| Pass | 4♠ | All Pass | |

Please note the nice tactical action by the old friendly fox in the South seat. At his second turn, he thus created a position for himself in which he could express the value of his hand with exactitude.

The contract was just made on the lead of the ♣5; Germany +620.

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|----------|--------|
| Mattsson | Mari | Humburg | Chemla |
| 1♣ | Dble | 1♦ | 1♠ |
| Pass | 2♣ | Pass | 3♠ |
| Pass | 4♠ | All Pass | |

In the Open Room, South did not get the opportunity to perform any tactical brilliancies, but the same contract was easily reached here as well. This time, West led the ♣3 and the contract was made too for no swing.

Now look at what could have happened. Dummy wins the ♣A and returns a club to East's queen. Which card should West play and why?

The correct answer is the NINE to suggest a heart return. From the first two tricks, it is very likely that declarer cannot easily come to his hand to take whatever finesse, so why help him? ♥A followed by ♥Q puts him firmly back in dummy again. He will either have to lose two diamonds now or refrain from the spade finesse.

At both tables, however, West played his lowest remaining club. This message was not lost on Stoppa who promptly returned a diamond to partner's ace. As this was just what the declarer needed ten tricks were quickly there.

At the other table, Humburg did not consider the ♣3 worthy of conveying any message at all. So he returned a trump, giving declarer a free finesse. After two rounds of trumps, Chemla could lead a diamond from his hand. When he put up the king, a third-round diamond ruff enabled him to lead a heart through West for his contract.

On the next board, François Stretz was probably the only one in the playing area to find a beautiful save:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| ♠ Q 9 7 5 3 2 ♥ K 8 6 ♦ 5 3 ♣ J 10 | ♠ A K ♥ J 9 2 ♦ 2 ♣ K Q 9 7 6 5 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 8 ♥ Q 7 4 ♦ A J 9 7 6 4 ♣ A 8 4 | ♠ J 10 6 4 ♥ A 10 5 3 ♦ K Q 10 8 ♣ 3 |
|---|--|---|

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|--------|----------|-----------|
| Stretz | Marsal | Stoppa | Schroeder |
| 3♠ | 1♣ | Dble | Redble |
| Pass | 3NT | 4♠ | Pass |
| 5♥ | 5♣ | Pass | Pass |
| 5♠ | Dble | Pass | Pass |
| | Dble | All Pass | |

This went two off for +300 to Germany. The cherry on this delicious pudding of course was the 5♥ bid, made to indicate a lead against a possible slam by the opponents.

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|----------|--------|
| Mattsson | Mari | Humburg | Chemla |
| 1♠ | 1♣ | Dble | 1♦ |
| 4♠ | 2♣ | 2♠ | 3♠ |
| | 5♣ | All Pass | |

A less imaginative auction by the Germans lost the board for them when they let Mari play 5♣; France +600 and 7 IMPs to lead by 23-12.

One small partscore swing had brought Germany to within 6 IMPs of France at the half-way stage, but then came:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| ♠ 4 2 | | ♠ J 10 7 6 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ K J 9 2 | | ♥ Q 8 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ A 10 5 | | ♦ K J 9 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ K J 6 3 | | ♣ A 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♠ A K 9 8 3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♥ A 6 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♦ Q 6 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ 10 9 7 2 | | | | | | | | | | |

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Stretz | Marsal | Stoppa | Schroeder |
| Dble | Pass | Pass | 1♠ |
| | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |



France v Germany in the Rama

Left to his own resources, declarer can hardly ever come to nine tricks unless he guesses both diamonds and clubs correctly. But what should South lead? A low spade looks doubtful, a club may help declarer to find the right way to tackle the suit, but the ♠A, the reasonable alternative chosen by Schroeder on the South hand, led to immediate disaster. In France, the general standard is to unblock under the ace and to give count under the king, but the Germans certainly did not want to adopt this principle here! Anyway that gave France a tremendous +630.

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|---------|----------|
| Mattsson | Mari | Humburg | Chemla |
| Dble | Pass | Pass | 1♠ |
| | Pass | 2NT | All Pass |

Here, a low spade was led by South and declarer made eight tricks when he guessed well in diamonds; Germany +120 but 11 IMPs to France to lead 34-17.

Three boards later, the late rally Germans are world-famous for finally started.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---|-------------|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| ♠ 10 5 | | ♠ K J 8 7 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♥ A 2 | | ♥ K 9 8 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♦ A K Q 10 5 3 | | ♦ 7 | | | | | | | | | |
| ♣ 6 3 2 | | ♣ A K 8 | | | | | | | | | |
| | <table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♠ A Q 9 6 3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♥ 6 4 3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♦ 8 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | ♣ 9 5 4 | | | | | | | | | | |

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Stretz | Marsal | Stoppa | Schroeder |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| 3♦ | Pass | 3♥ | Pass |
| 3♠ | Pass | 4♣ | Pass |
| 4♦ | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 5♥ | Pass | 6NT | All Pass |

If the 3♦ rebid by Stretz is according to Standard Français, then Stoppa might have decided to put on the brakes a little. Even if the diamonds break, the contract is still far from being fulfilled. At the table, Stoppa went down four when he tried to establish the spades, his only chance; Germany +200.

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|---------|----------|
| Mattsson | Mari | Humburg | Chemla |
| 1♦ | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| 3♦ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

This is the board I was anticipating when referring earlier to mature gentlemen playing a friendly bridge game in a remote corner of the playing area...

Well done Humburg and Mattsson. Germany earned +430

because they stayed safely on their feet. The score now stood at 34-30 to France.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| <i>Stretz</i> | <i>Marsal</i> | <i>Stoppa</i> | <i>Schroeder</i> |
| | 3♣ | 3♠ | Pass |
| 4♣ | Dble | Pass | Pass |
| Rdbl | Pass | 4♦ | Pass |
| 4♠ | All Pass | | |

Twelve tricks, France +680. We will never know why Stoppa did not make any further move once he knew about partner's lack of a heart control.

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Mattsson</i> | <i>Mari</i> | <i>Humburg</i> | <i>Chemla</i> |
| | 3♣ | 3♠ | Pass |
| 4♣ | Pass | 4NT | Pass |
| 5♦ | Pass | 5♠ | Pass |
| 6♠ | All Pass | | |



Dirk Schroeder, Germany

On this board, the German pair in the Open Room took an almost entirely reverse approach. Instead of behaving like respectable gentlemen (etc. etc.) they for once started to behave like the talented Juniors we all in Seniorland have been, be it too many years ago most of the time.

Mattsson spotted an undisclosed extra value in his cards, the void in diamonds, which was enough for him to bid one more this time.

That was another good move for a well-deserved 13-IMP swing to Germany who had taken the lead now by 43-34.

On the last board, but still well before injury time in fact, Germany scored again:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| <i>Stretz</i> | <i>Marsal</i> | <i>Stoppa</i> | <i>Schroeder</i> |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | 1♦ |
| Pass | 2♦ | Pass | 2NT |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

As South had become the declarer after an inverted minor sequence, West led a heart. Dummy put up the ♥10, East played the jack and South won the ace. Schroeder now played three rounds of diamonds, Stretz winning and Stoppa discarding the ♠3. This induced Stretz to continue the ♣9, which ran to the jack and king. After conceding a club to East who finally returned a heart, declarer only had to guess right in spades to make his contract. As West had discarded two hearts on the fourth club and diamond to protect his spades, guessing well in that suit was easy and an overtrick was born; Germany +430.

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>Mattsson</i> | <i>Mari</i> | <i>Humburg</i> | <i>Chemla</i> |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | 1♦ |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass | | | |

It's a long time ago we last saw the Acol 2NT response in operation. As it placed the declaration in the other hand it was East to lead a low spade. Dummy put up the ♠10 but when West, for good reasons, did not cover this, the contract could no longer be made. Germany had another +50 and a final swing of 10 IMPs to set the result of the match at 55-34 or a 20-10 VP victory to them. They would stay firmly at the top.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| OPEN TEAMS | Sweden v Russia France v Netherlands |
| Round 20 | |

In Round 20 Sweden met Russia, while England faced the Netherlands. Two important matches, which turned out to be low scoring encounters. For England the Hackett twins found several deals that fitted in well to their buccaneering tactics, but the outcome was not always favourable.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|---------|--------|----------|-------|
| De Wijs | Justin | Muller | Jason |
| Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 2NT* |
| Pass | 3♦ | All Pass | |

2NT Seriously weak raise

The Netherlands lost this board in the bidding—maybe West should have protected with Three Hearts?



Colin Simpson, England

Declarer made the obvious seven tricks; -100.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|-------|----------|---------|--------|
| Price | Verhees | Simpson | Jansma |
| 4♥ | 1♦ | Dble | 3♦ |
| | All Pass | | |

East's double made life very easy. There is no defence to Four Hearts, and when North led the ten of diamonds declarer quickly recorded eleven tricks; +450 and 8 IMPs.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|----------|---|---|
| ♠ 9 7 ♥ K 5 4 ♦ J 3 ♣ K Q 7 6 3 2 | <table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <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 | ♠ 8 6 3 2 ♥ J 8 3 ♦ Q 10 8 2 ♣ A 9 |
| N | | | | | |
| W E | | | | | |
| S | | | | | |
| ♠ 5 4 ♥ A 10 7 6 ♦ K 6 5 ♣ J 10 5 4 | | ♠ AKQJ10 ♥ Q 9 2 ♦ A 9 7 4 ♣ 8 | | | |

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|---------|----------|--------|-------|
| De Wijs | Justin | Muller | Jason |
| Pass | 2♦* | 2♠ | Pass |
| Dble | All Pass | | 3♦ |

2♦ Weak 5+ ♦, 3-10 1&2, 3-13 3rd, 9-14 4th

You can choose your own adjective to describe North's opening salvo.

Best defence, two rounds of spades followed by a club switch, will hold declarer to five tricks. East switched to a trump at trick two and declarer won in hand and played back a spade. East won, cashed the ace of diamonds and forced dummy with a spade. Declarer ruffed, played a club to the queen and ace and a club. East ruffed, cashed a spade and played a heart. West won and played a club, promoting East's nine of diamonds. Down three; -500.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|-------|---------|---------|----------|
| Price | Verhees | Simpson | Jansma |
| Pass | 1♦ | 1♠ | Pass |
| 2♣ | Pass | 2♠ | Dble |
| | | | All Pass |

Declarer made nine tricks in spades, +140 but a loss of 8 IMPs.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ♠ 4 2 ♥ K J 9 2 ♦ A 10 5 ♣ K J 6 3 | ♠ Q ♥ 10 7 5 4 3 ♦ 8 7 4 3 ♣ Q 8 4 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> | ♠ J 10 7 6 5 ♥ Q 8 ♦ K J 9 2 ♣ A 5 |
| ♠ A K 9 8 3 ♥ A 6 ♦ Q 6 ♣ 10 9 7 2 | | | |

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|---|----------------|--------------|
| De Wijs | Justin 2♥* | Muller Pass | Jason 2♠* |
| All Pass | | | |
| 2♥ | Weak 5+ ♦, 3-10 1&2, 3-13 3rd, 9-14 4th | | |
| 2♠ | Nat, constructive, NF | | |

Another outrageous steal by the Hackett's. Declarer made five tricks; -150.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|-------|----------|---------|--------|
| Price | Verhees | Simpson | Jansma |
| | Pass | 1♠ | Pass |
| 2♣ | Pass | 2♦ | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |

West followed the excellent practical rule that if you have an opening bid and partner opens the bidding you should play in game. North led the three of hearts and South won and played a

heart back to dummy's queen. Declarer ducked a spade to North's queen, won the heart return, discarding a club and played a spade to the ten and king, North discarding a diamond. South exited with a club and the fate of the contract now depended on how declarer tackled the diamonds. It was clear North held length in the suit, so declarer crossed to the ace of diamonds, cashed the two winning kings and ran the ten of diamonds. When it lost he was three down; -300 and 10 IMPs to Netherlands that might so easily have gone the other way.

Only five IMPs change hands over the remaining eleven boards and Netherlands won by 27-9, 19-11 VP.

By the time Russia and Sweden had reached Board 13 the score had advanced to 7-2 in favour of the former.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| ♠ 10 ♥ 7 5 3 ♦ A 8 ♣ K Q 10 9 5 4 2 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div> | ♠ A K 8 6 3 ♥ A ♦ K 10 9 7 3 ♣ 7 6 |
| ♠ Q J 5 4 2 ♥ Q J 9 8 6 2 ♦ — ♣ A 3 | ♠ 9 7 ♥ K 10 4 ♦ Q J 6 5 4 2 ♣ J 8 | |

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Petrunin | Lindkvist | Gromov | Fredin |
| | 3♣ | 3♠ | Pass |
| 4♣* | Pass | 4♦* | Dble |
| 5♦* | Dble | 5♥* | Pass |
| 6♠ | All Pass | | |

Declarer did not go flat out, collecting +1430. Would the Swedish pair get to the grand slam?

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|----------|----------|---------|
| Sylvan | Khven | Sundelin | Dubinin |
| | 3♣ | 3♠ | Pass |
| 4♣* | Pass | 4♦ | Pass |
| 4♠ | All Pass | | |



Bauke Muller, Netherlands

Israel - Lebanon

The Executive Committee recognises that in the current international political situation it is impossible for Lebanon to play against Israel. The Executive Committee also recognises that the Israeli team is ready and willing to play against Lebanon.

In the circumstances Lebanon will not be penalised for not playing against Israel and the two teams will be allotted the following scores for their match:

Israel: 18VP or the average of its score against all other teams, rounded to the nearest half VP, whichever is the greater

Lebanon: the average of its score against all other teams, rounded to the nearest half VP.



Alexander Petrunin, Russia

Not quite. +720, and the first significant swing of the match was in favour of Russia, who collected 12 IMPs. They immediately struck again.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Petrunin | Lindkvist | Gromov | Fredin |
| 1♦ | Dble* | Pass | 1♣ |
| Pass | 4♥ | 1♠ | 2♥ |
| | | All Pass | |

West led the three of spades and declarer took the ace and played back the suit. East switched to the five of clubs and declarer put up the ace. He had to lose a trick in every suit, one down; -50.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|-------|----------|----------|
| Sylvan | Khven | Sundelin | Dubinina |
| Pass | 1♣ | Pass | Pass |
| Pass | 2♥ | Pass | 1♥ |
| Pass | 4♥ | All Pass | 2NT |

West led the two of spades and declarer played low from dummy. East won with the king and switched to the king of clubs. Declarer won and played a heart and West went in with the ace, cashed the ace of diamonds and played a club; +420 and another 10 IMPs to make the score 29-2.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Petrunin | Lindkvist | Gromov | Fredin |
| Pass | 1♣* | Pass | 1♦* |
| Pass | INT* | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass | | | |

East led a spade and when West produced the queen declarer won and had a second stopper in the suit. He played three rounds of clubs and was soon claiming nine tricks; +400.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|----------|----------|
| Sylvan | Khven | Sundelin | Dubinina |
| Pass | 1♦ | Pass | 2♦ |
| Pass | 2♠* | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass | | | |

With South as declarer West found the killing heart lead. Declarer won and played three rounds of clubs. East won and played back a heart. There was nothing to be done, down one; -50 and 10 IMPs for Sweden.

That was quickly followed by a another big swing.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Petrinin | Lindkvist | Gromov | Fredin |
| | | 1♦ | 1♥ |
| Pass | 2♣* | Dble | 2♥ |
| 3♣ | 3NT | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | All Pass | | |

2♣ Artificial FI

East led a low diamond and declarer won with the ten and cashed the top spades. Nine tricks were certain, but declarer went in search of more. He cashed his spade winners and exited with a heart to the queen and ace. West played a club, and East, who was down to ♥K ♦K J ♣K 10 won with the ten and exited with the king of clubs. Declarer won and the queen of clubs squeezed East for eleven tricks and +1150.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
|--------|-------|----------|---------|
| Sylvan | Khven | Sundelin | Dubiniv |
| | | 1♣* | Pass |
| 1♦* | 1♠ | Pass | 2♠ |
| Pass | 4♠ | All Pass | |

With an awkward lead, East tried the six of clubs. Declarer won, cashed a top spade, cashed a club, ruffed a club and played for the drop in spades; +620, but a loss of 11 IMPs.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Petrinin | Lindkvist | Gromov | Fredin |
| | | | 1♠ |
| Pass | 2♣* | Pass | 2♥* |
| Pass | 2♠* | Pass | 3♣* |
| Pass | 3♦* | Pass | 3♥* |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass | |

The Swedish relays kept the nature of the North hand undisclosed and East led the five of clubs. North won and returned the suit. When the king was allowed to win he played the jack of hearts for the king and ace. A club saw East win with the nine and he played a heart to the queen. A spade to the ace was followed by a club. East won and played a heart and declarer claimed ten tricks; +430.

At the other table, North/South came to rest in Five Clubs — alas we have been unable to ascertain the bidding or play. The contract can be made, but went one down; - 50 and another 10 IMPs to Sweden, who had turned the match round to win 40-19 IMPs, 19-11 VP.

THANKS TO SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE



The French bank Société Générale has been a faithful supporter of French bridge for many years. Here in Malmö, they are sponsoring all three French teams and are also about to become an official partner of the EBL for youth bridge. Bridge players thank them warmly.

Acknowledgment

The national bridge team from Serbia & Montenegro wishes to thank its sponsors:

- "PARTNER IN ENJERING" - Belgrade, Design & Engineering company;
- NIS "ENERGOGAS" - Belgrade, Petroleum industry of Serbia;
- "GasTeh" - Indija, Gas equipment production company;
- "Termoelektro M.M." - Veternik, Company for Oil & Gas burners;
- Casino "Rusian Tzar" - Belgrade

Without their help, it would be impossible to enjoy Malmö and participate in this wonderful European Bridge Championship. Some useful information about our particular sponsors can be seen on the exposition tables in the entrance hall.

Badges

Yesterday, for the first time, a player refused to wear his badge. Such an attitude is completely unacceptable. As explained at the captains' meeting, the security measures taken are extremely important and we all need to follow the regulations without any exception.

We inform the teams that when a player refuses to wear his badge normally he has to leave the building and his team will be fined 2 VPs. This decision is taken by the Championship Committee in consultation with the Chairman of the Appeals Committee.

Championship Diary

Several players have recommended the restaurant La Roche, wine and Tapas, at Liila Torg, www.laroche.se — cross the main square, and about twenty yards down the street on the right.

Someone asked if Italy could go through a Championship without losing a match — perhaps they should hire Arsene Wenger for 2006?

In the Greek team, Filios partners Papakyriakopoulos. He claims he is almost exhausted by having to write his partner's name down on the official scorecard!



NILS E. JENSEN (1920-2004)

Nils Jensen of Sweden, former President of the European Bridge League, Vice-President of the World Bridge Federation and distinguished bridge administrator, passed away on May 19th.

As a teenager, Nils Jensen was employed by the Stockholm Tramway Company and sold newspapers in restaurants for some additional income. After World War II, he got involved in a new company, ELFA, that specialized in bicycle repairs and radio components. He became a partner in 1947, and sole owner in 1950. Under his leadership, ELFA grew fast and became a leading electronics supplier that it is today, with presence in a dozen countries and an inventory of over 55,000 products.

A keen bridge player, Nils Jensen was originally involved in his local club and was soon elected President — a position he retained for over 25 years! He soon found his way to the national level, and served as President of the Swedish Bridge Federation twice, 1965-70 and 1981-83. Meanwhile, in 1969 he entered the Executive Committee of the European Bridge League, and in 1973 he was elected Vice-President.

In November 1980, EBL President André Lemaitre died, and Nils Jensen assumed his post. Although he could remain President until the end of his predecessor's term, he preferred to seek the approval of the Congress. He was thus elected EBL President in 1981, and was re-elected in 1983. Nils Jensen served until 1987 when he was elected EBL President Emeritus.

Nils Jensen was also involved in the World Bridge Federation. He first became European delegate to the WBF Executive Council in 1970, and left after completing a term as Vice-President in 1987. In 1982, he was elected to the WBF Committee of Honour, the most distinguished position available in the bridge world.

Nils Jensen was very active also as a tournament organizer. His list of achievements includes the 1970 Bermuda Bowl and World Pairs Olympiad in Stockholm, the 1974 World Pairs Olympiad in Las Palmas and the 1983 Bermuda Bowl in Stockholm.

Germany's Rara Avis

It is not unusual to get several stories surrounding a deal, but to get two involving the same country from two different events is a 'Rara Avis' — a rare bird. This deal from Round 13 of the Open series, (Round 8 for the Women) is one such.

First let's take a look at the Women's match between Poland and Germany.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>Sarniak</i> | <i>Auken</i> | <i>Brewiak</i> | <i>Von Arnim</i> |
| Pass | INT | Pass | Pass |
| All Pass | | | 3NT |

In the world of the strong no trump this is a routine auction. East led a low spade and West won with the queen and returned the suit. East won and played back the ten of spades, preserving a link to the West hand. Declarer discarded a heart, won with dummy's king and ran the queen of diamonds. East won with the king and played a spade to West, who switched to a heart as declarer threw a club. Declarer went up with the ace and ran the diamonds, squeezing East in hearts and clubs.

Another routine hand for Sabine Auken.

Provided declarer reads the position, there is no defence to 3NT, but there are always two sides to every story.

Let's move to the Open series, Germany v Greece:

| West | North | East | South |
|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| <i>Gotard</i> | | <i>Piekarek</i> | |
| Pass | INT | Pass | Pass |
| All Pass | | | 3NT |

The early play was exactly the same, but when West was in on the fourth round of spades he switched to his remaining diamond. Now declarer could cash his diamond winners, discarding a club and the queen of hearts, but in the ending he had to guess the location of the king of hearts. When he finessed he was two down.

Perhaps declarer should have asked himself why the defenders had arranged for West to win the fourth round of spades. Then there is the principle that it is always more elegant to make a contract via a squeeze than a finesse. Still, full marks to West for his smart move in not playing a heart.

TANTI AUGURI BENEDICTE!

Bénédicte Cronier was born in Nantes on the 23rd June 1961 and has been married to her husband, Philippe Cronier, for 26 years, she has two sons: Nicolas aged 23 and Marie aged 19. Bénédicte has been playing since 1976 and her usual partners are Silvie Willard and Philippe. Hobbies: Skiing, listening to classical music, especially the opera, chatting on Bridge Base Online. In her career the main victories have been: in the juniors category a silver medal in the World Championship and a first and second placing in the European Championship. In the Women's category. Bénédicte has won the Olympiad in Salt Lake City, she has been awarded European champion twice and has reached, in Venice Cup, the final as many times. In the Individual Generali Masters Bénédicte has won a gold, silver and bronze. Many were the French Championships won both in teams and pairs.



How do you define yourself as a woman?

I believe I am an optimist and serene woman who loves life, people and family.

How do you define yourself as a bridge player?

I prefer not to define myself, because by doing so I only see the negative aspects, as I am always convinced that I have performed badly.

How much and how did bridge change your life?

It has not changed much as bridge is my life. I started playing at 14 and when I was 17 I met Philippe my husband to be, all of my friends and acquaintances are in this environment and ultimately an important detail: bridge is my job.

Until now what did life teach you?

That it can end when you least expect it therefore you must always live enjoying it with great optimism. Thus we must appreciate every moment and this is a rule which I follow.

What do you not stand when you are at the table playing?

All the people who sit near the table to watch the match, the game, my cards. All that movement behind my back, all those eyes on me, distract me from my ability to concentrate.

And in life?

There are many things that leave me speechless, however, above all violence and torture.

What do you love and what leaves you astounded about the bridge world?

I love all the players from all nationalities, on the other hand, I hate the infinite number of rules and prohibitions which are, in my opinion, degenerating our game, transforming it into something which will never be a sport.

Which is your ever favourite team?

Bocchi-Duboin; Meckstroth-Rodwell; Balicki-Zmudzinski

Which are the qualities which have allowed you to become a top player in world bridge?

A great will to win, not because of excess of competitive spirit or for an immeasurable pride, but because what I fear most is to appear ridiculous.

Which is your most significant victory?

It is not in reality an actual victory, as I came in 9th, but I earned it with my partner Silvie at the European Open Teams Championship. Till today I am very proud about it

Are bridge and family compatible?

In my case absolutely yes. Bridge being both for Philippe and myself a job and not only a simple hobby, it is accepted and respected by my sons to whom I have always told since they were

kids: 'Children, mum is off to work'. It would be completely different if during the day I had other matters to attend to and in the evening and weekends I went out to enjoy myself or to play.

Is it easier to get along with your partner or with your husband?

I have no doubt: I have chosen my husband and after 26 years of cohabiting I would choose him again. Between us there is love, harmony, understanding and complicity. With your partners it is a different story. It is more complex: to begin with, you cannot always chose him/her, above all, not always there is the same affection that connects you to your man and they are not often available and understanding especially in critical situations.

Is it more difficult to be a good daughter, wife, mother or bridge player?

Definitely a daughter. Parents, even if in good faith, are often wrong when growing and educating you and when you become an adult you are not able to forgive them. This is a mistake that my mother laments and considers me a terrible daughter.

Which is your worst defect and your best quality as a player and as a bridge player?

I am a positive person, who is, however only able to deeply love a limited number of people: my family and a few friends. As a bridge player I consider myself a good partner when I play both in pairs and teams.

You have the possibility to clone a superbridge player: who would you choose and with which qualities?

Catherine D'Ovidio for her technique; Sabine Auken for her concentration; Maria Erhart for her character.

Bridge Material on Sale

Bridge material that has been used in the European Championships is up for sale. It has only been used during the Championships and is very moderately priced. Orders can be placed at the information desk and purchased material is collected on Saturday 3 July at Malmömassan.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Set of boards in hard plastic, numbered 1-20, yellow or grey with EC decks | 400 SEK |
| Set of boards in soft plastic, numbered 1-32, blue with EC decks | 640 SEK |
| Table with bidding boxes | 800 SEK |
| Duplicating machines for boards in hard plastic, CDS/PPB | 22,400 SEK |
| Duplicating machines for boards in soft plastic, CDS/PP | 20,800 SEK |

Anderstop BK dominates the Swedish Pairs Championship

Håkan Nilsson and Ulf Nilsson won the gold medal

by Tjolpe Flodqvist

After having played 64 boards on Monday, there were 32 boards left for the competitors to play on Tuesday to decide the Championship. Tuesday morning the leader board looked like this:

| | | | | |
|----|------|------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 1820 | 58,7 | Håkan Nilsson - Ulf Nilsson | Anderstorps BK |
| 2 | 1812 | 58,5 | F.Wrang - T. Magnusson | Näsby BS |
| 3 | 1784 | 57,5 | Gunnar Elmroth - Leif Trapp | Östersunds BS |
| 4 | 1752 | 56,5 | Petter Fryklund - M. Sjöberg | Filbyter Bridge |
| 5 | 1748 | 56,4 | F. Björnlund - T. Karlsson | Anderstorps BK - BK Centrum |
| 6 | 1699 | 54,8 | D.Martinsson - P. Nuoristo | Salamandern/Wasa |
| 7 | 1690 | 54,5 | Håkan Sträaf - J-E Thomasson | Filbyter Bridge |
| 8 | 1681 | 54,2 | Kjell Ericsson - D. Sivelind | Grangärde BS |
| 9 | 1679 | 54,2 | H. Strömberg - D. Bylund | Sundsvalls BK |
| 10 | 1660 | 53,5 | Anna Zack - H. Einarsson | Malungs BK |

During the early rounds on Tuesday morning four pairs, Frederic Wrang/Thomas Magnusson, Fredrik Björnlund/Tomas Karlsson, Håkan Nilsson/Ulf Nilsson, Gunnar Elmroth/Leif Trapp started to look like the most probable medallists with Håkan Sträaf - Jan-Erik Thomasson climbing steadily behind them.

In the good old days a board like the one below would not have caused any problems, but in the modern, aggressive style it does.

Board 68. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

A 3♦ opening is out of the question nowadays and playing the Cabbage Club Gunnar Elmroth had to open 2♦, showing a limited opening with at least five diamonds and denying a four-card major. Leif Trapp could not imagine a 3NT call and passed. Why West didn't protect I don't know, but he passed as well.

Menu 30 June 2004

| | |
|--|---------|
| Lunch, served between 11.30 and 15.00 | |
| Bread-crumbed fish with herb sauce | 70 Skr |
| Vegetarian: Stuffed pepper with herb sauce | 70 Skr |
| Dinner, served between 16.30 and 20.00 | |
| A selection of herring | 60 Skr |
| A selection of salmon | 60 Skr |
| Grilled salmon with herb sauce, grilled vegetables and boiled potatoes | 125 Skr |
| Bacon wrapped chicken filet with red wine sauce and potato wedges | 125 Skr |
| Pasta Frutti di Mari | 85 Skr |
| Swedish meatballs with cream sauce and lingon berries | 80 Skr |
| Strawberry pie with whipped cream | 25 Skr |

The defenders cashed their clubs and Gunnar told them they had to fight hard to come to any more tricks. That was worth as much as 19/50 MPs, because four North players chose a bad moment to open 5♦, but 3NT bid and made scored 37.

The deal has been rotated for convenience

Board 69. Dealer E/W Vul.

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

South's hand must be handled with care if the auction starts 1♥ - INT. Pass is a sensible alternative if you are playing five-card majors. A delicate 2♦ rebid is probably the best choice if you have opened a four-card major as you want to communicate the message that you hold five hearts without committing the partnership to playing hearts.

On this occasion a diamond rebid would make North very happy, indeed. The question is how high he will take the bidding, but I think that the void in partner's first suit and the pairs scoring should calm him down to maybe 3♦.

Anyway, in practise South just rebid his hearts and was se-



Håkan Nilsson, Sweden

verely punished with this dummy. Leif Trapp led his singleton diamond to the king and declarer led his club. West won the ace, played the king of spades to the ace and ruffed the diamond that was played by declarer. He cashed his queen of spades and played another spade to declarer who persisted with diamonds, again ruffed by West. He gave his partner a spade ruff, over-ruffed declarer on the diamond return and the defence had one more heart trick to collect for two down and 47 MPs to E/W.

In the next round the men from Östersund met the Nilssons of Anderstorp.

The deal has been rotated for convenience
Board 73. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| ♠ A 8 7 3 2 ♥ K 9 ♦ J 9 7 ♣ K J 5 | ♠ J ♥ A 5 3 ♦ K Q 6 2 ♣ A Q 9 8 3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> | ♠ K 10 4 ♥ J 8 7 4 2 ♦ 5 4 ♣ 10 7 4 | ♠ Q 9 6 5 ♥ Q 10 6 ♦ A 10 8 3 ♣ 6 2 |
| West <i>Håkan Nilsson</i> 1♠ Pass | North <i>Leif Trapp</i> 2♠* Pass | East <i>Ulf Nilsson</i> Dble Pass | South <i>Gunnar Elmroth</i> 3♣ |

North could not double 1♠, since that would have promised four or five hearts, so he had to transfer to clubs instead. The result was an ugly contract when Three Diamonds, or even Three No Trumps, would have been nicer.

West led a diamond to the ten and three rounds of clubs cleared that suit. West played another diamond and declarer played a third round of that suit before the jack of spades, covered by the king, endplayed the defence. Declarer though would not have any problems with the heart suit, as soon as East turns up with the king of spades.

130 scored only 13 MPs, since the most popular result was 150 in diamonds or no-trump partscores. 3NT bid and made was worth 40 MPs.

The deal has been rotated.
Board 74. Dealer South. All Vul.

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| ♠ Q 10 5 3 ♥ 8 4 3 ♦ K Q J 10 7 3 ♣ — | ♠ A J 9 ♥ 10 7 6 ♦ 6 ♣ K J 8 5 3 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> | ♠ 8 7 ♥ K 5 2 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ Q 9 7 6 4 | ♠ K 6 4 2 ♥ A Q J 9 ♦ 9 8 5 ♣ A 10 |
|--|---|--|---|

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| West <i>Ulf Nilsson</i> 2♦ Pass Pass | North <i>Gunnar Elmroth</i> 2NT* Dble* Pass | East <i>Håkan Nilsson</i> 3♦ Pass Pass | South <i>Leif Trapp</i> INT* Pass 3♥ |
|---|--|---|---|

INT showed 13-14 without majors or any 15-16. 2NT was according to Lebensohl a puppet to 3♣ and the double no doubt indicated the hand he had.

The defence started with a high diamond won by West and shifted to a spade to the jack. Declarer played a club to the ace, ruffed by West who played the queen of spades to the ace. East ruffed when declarer tried a spade towards his hand, gave his partner another club ruff, and over-ruffed when South ruffed the fourth spade with the ten. That was one down and 29-21 to E/W in a contract which could have been made whilst E/W can be held to six tricks in Three Diamonds.

The next round was another meeting between two pairs at the top of the barometer.

The deal has been rotated for convenience.
Board 75. Dealer North. None Vul.

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| ♠ 5 3 ♥ K 4 3 ♦ 10 8 6 5 3 ♣ K 8 2 | ♠ 10 8 7 6 ♥ Q 10 ♦ A 2 ♣ A Q J 4 3 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> | ♠ A J 9 4 ♥ A 9 5 2 ♦ 9 ♣ 10 9 7 6 | ♠ K Q 2 ♥ J 8 7 6 ♦ K Q J 7 4 ♣ 5 |
| West <i>Fredrik Björnlund</i> Pass Pass | North <i>Leif Trapp</i> 1♠* 3♣* Pass | East <i>Tomas Karlsson</i> Pass Pass Pass | South <i>Gunnar Elmroth</i> 2♦ 3NT |

The 1♠ opening bid did not promise more than 8 HCP and showed precisely four spades. 3♣ showed a maximum within the strong club context. West led the two of diamonds, third or fifth, which was pretty awkward for declarer. Gunnar won the ace to play the queen of hearts. East won the ace and played the ace of spades and another, no doubt hoping to find partner with the king to three spades.

When South won the king and played another heart. Fredrik took the king and tested declarer with a club shift. South had to decide whether to finesse the king of clubs or hope that the nine of hearts was dropping. Eventually he got it right when he finessed and made his game, which still scored only 23/50 MPs.

Magnusson and Wrang cooperated in messing up the defence on this board, after they had been robbed in a classical way in the bidding.

The deal has been rotated for convenience

Board 78. Dealer North. Vul.

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

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Thomas Magnusson | Henrik Einarsson | Frederic Wrang | Anna Zack |
| Pass | 1♥* | Pass | INT* |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |

1♥ was a systematic weak opening bid and INT showed four spades and about 8-14 hcp. West led the jack of diamonds and East encouraged with the four. South cashed three rounds of spades ending in dummy, and played a heart to the king and ace.

The problems for the defenders started when West elected to cash the queen of hearts before playing a diamond to the king and ace. South won her spade and exited with the seven of diamonds. West considered this, but played the eight and East won the nine. Despite the fact that he now knew South's distribution he played a high club and from this position the defenders must give up a trick.

This rendered E/W one MP, whilst one down still would have been below average, i.e. 20, since you have to play one no trump yourself to score 90 and 31 MPs, or double them and score 40 MPs, i.e. if you manage to beat the contract.

With 18 boards to go the defending champions had taken the lead and Håkan Strääf/Jan-Erik Thomasson had marched on into second place.



The winners of the Pairs Championship

- 1 2451 58,4F Björnlund - T. Karlsson Anderstorps BK - BK Centrum
- 2 2370 56,4 H. Strääf - J-E Thomasson Filbyter Bridge
- 3 2346 55,9 Håkan Nilsson - Ulf Nilsson Anderstorps BK
- 4 2306 54,9 C. Hedborg - Hans Velin Filbyter Bridge
- 5 2305 54,9 F.Wrang - T.Magnusson Näsby BS
- 6 2284 54,4 C. Gräås - M-O Matsson BK Albrekts
- 7 2252 53,6 Rolf Börk - Johnny Ivarsson Borås BA
- 8 2250 53,6 Gunnar Elmroth - Leif Trapp Östersunds BS
- 9 2222 52,9 Bo-Henry Ek - Leif Svenzon Örebrobrigden
- 10 2215 52,7 D. Martinsson - P. Nuoristo Salamandern/Wasa

This board was a disaster for Ulf and Håkan.

The deal has been rotated for convenience.

Board 89. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Håkan opened 2♣, weak with five spades and one minor and when West chose to pass, Ulf tried to shut out the opponents with a jump to 4♠. When this came around to West he simply did not think they could make this, like anybody else with his hand. He doubled and should have collected 1100 but one trick disappeared in the wash and N/S got away with a 800 penalty. That was bad enough since they only scored 5 instead of 2 out of 50 MPs.

I was following Björnlund/Karlsson, and they seemed to have no cards at all, since they passed and defended endlessly. This is normally very costly in a pairs game, although you may get your chances in defence as well. Here they could not do anything to alter the outcome.

The deal has been rotated for convenience.

Board 94. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| West | North | East | South |
| Fredrik Björnlund | Kenneth Österberg | Tomas Karlsson | Carsten Kofoed |
| Pass | 1♠ | Pass | 1♦ |
| Pass | 2♦* | Pass | INT |
| Pass | 3NT | All pass | 2♥ |

2♦ was an artificial game-forcing enquiry. My experience from an auction like this is that the responder was looking for spade support, but changed his mind when partner had hearts. Consequently, dummy is expected to be short in hearts.

Despite this, Fredrik led a club from his queen, which did not cost a trick. Declarer ran the lead to his jack, played a heart to dummy and a spade to the nine and jack. After another club he played the diamond jack and ran it to the queen for ten tricks and 41 MPs as opposed to 22 for the automatic 420 in Four Spades.

On this board the leaders were given a chance that they took.

Board 96. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| Tomas | | Fredrik | |
| Pass | INT | Pass | 2♦* |
| Pass | 2♥ | Pass | 3♠ |
| Pass | 4♠ | All pass | |

Tomas led the six of diamonds to the jack, queen and king. South continued with the ace of diamonds and a diamond ruff. A heart to the king allowed him to ruff another diamond with the jack, and Tomas shed a heart. When declarer played the king of spades Fredrik won the ace and played a stylish jack of hearts, and then hopped up with the king of clubs to give his partner a heart ruff scoring 42 MPs instead of 19 for 450.

The deal has been rotated for convenience.

Board 97. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Here the leaders beat 3NT by one trick by not leading partner's suit, only to find out that they could have got one more

trick by leading partner's suit. North opened 1♦, East overcalled 2♥, South bid 3♣ and tried 3NT over partner's 3♦.

Declarer won the spade lead and finessed in clubs for one down. On a heart lead, declarer must duck, and then a spade switch sets the game by two for 45 MPs, whilst one down gave 31.

The defence slipped on this board.

The deal has been rotated for convenience.

Board 98. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

| | | | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| ♠ Q 2 ♥ A K Q 7 3 ♦ 9 8 6 2 ♣ J 6 | West Tomas | North Fredrik | East Fredrik | South Fredrik |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|

West led the five of spades to the king and East did not dare to return a club, but played another spade to the queen. At trick two, West erred and rose with the ace of diamonds. He played a third spade to the ace and declarer discarded a club. A diamond followed by two round of hearts and the eight of diamonds, successfully finessing the jack, meant eleven tricks and 6 MPs rather than 18 to Björnlund/Karlsson.

If West ducks the first diamond, declarer can't ruff a diamond without being overruffed. If he draws two rounds of trumps before the second diamond, West can play a third one.

In the end it showed that two players representing Anderstorp BK was stronger than just one, since Ulf Nilsson and Håkan Nilsson overtook the Björnlund/Karlsson on the last ten boards.

| | | | |
|----|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | 2909 57 | Håkan Nilsson - Ulf Nilsson | Anderstorps BK |
| 2 | 2854 56 | Fredrik Björnlund - T. Karlsson | Anderstorps BK - BK Centrum |
| 3 | 2822 55,3 | Håkan Sträaf - J-E Thomasson | Filbyter Bridge |
| 4 | 2810 55,1 | Kjell Ericsson - Daniel Sivelind | Grangärde BS |
| 5 | 2807 55 | Frederic Wrang - T. Magnusson | Näsby BS |
| 6 | 2783 54,6 | Dick Martinsson - P. Nuoristo | Salamandern/Wasa |
| 7 | 2749 53,9 | Christer Hedborg - Hans Velin | Filbyter Bridge |
| 8 | 2740 53,7 | C. Grähs - M-O Mattsson | BK Albrekts |
| 9 | 2709 53,1 | Bo-Henry Ek - Leif Svenzon | Örebro Bridge |
| 10 | 2697 52,9 | Björn Alenfalk - Hans Kvick | Upsala BS |
| 11 | 2696 52,9 | Rolf Bäck - Johnny Ivarsson | Borås BA |
| 12 | 2685 52,6 | B-E Efraimsson - A. Morath | BK S:t Erik |
| 13 | 2684 52,6 | Gunnar Elmroth - Leif Trapp | Östersunds BS |
| 14 | 2681 52,6 | Bo Roos - Magnus Göransson | Skara BS |
| 15 | 2642 51,8 | Gunnar Sjökvist - Per Bretz | Växjö BK |
| 16 | 2640 51,8 | Jan Gutenwik - Peter Juhlin | LUCK |
| 17 | 2616 51,3 | Helena Strömberg - D. Bylund | Sundsvalls BK |
| | 2616 51,3 | Staffan Essén - Håkan Litsegård | LUCK |
| 19 | 2606 51,1 | Johan Göransson - L. Wallmark | Majstångens BK |
| 20 | 2593 50,8 | Mart Altmäe - Mikael Lindblom | BK S:t Erik |



The Swedish Mixed Pairs Final

by Sven-Olov Flodqvist

Bridge history was written last year at Blå Hallen in Skövde, when 14-year old Cecilia Rimstedt won the Swedish Mixed Pairs final partnering Bo-Lennart Grähs. Both her mother and grandmother have won Swedish Championships, so she continues a proud family tradition very well. Furthermore, she became the youngest Swedish Bridge Champion ever, including junior championships.

With sixteen boards to go, Cecilia and Bo-Lennart were in fifth place with 57.1%, but they scored an impressive 74% on these last boards to claim the title, 71 MPs ahead of the competition.

"Cecilia was declarer on ten out of the last sixteen boards and she played very, very well" said Bo-Lennart. But that is only to be expected by a person that has been playing bridge for more than half her life.

Ulla and Mikael Westerlund, mother and son, had dominated the field during the early exchanges but they lost 14/64 MPs when they met Cecilia and Bo-Lennart during the last session.

Rotated for convenience.

Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|------|------------|--------|---------|
| Ulla | Bo-Lennart | Mikael | Cecilia |
| Pass | Pass | 1♥ | 1♠ |
| Pass | 3♦* | Pass | 4♠ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |

Cecilia was a little bit vague about her partner's 3♦. Maybe she was not sure if he remembered correctly, but Bo-Lennart confirmed that he knew that Bergen Raises were used also in this situation.

After two rounds of hearts East switched to the king of clubs and West tried to discourage with a high club when their methods prescribed a count signal. East played another club which allowed the contract to make.

If South is 7-2-2-2 with the king of diamonds it is essential to cash the club trick rather than play a small heart. On the other hand South might have bid 3♥ with a five-loser hand instead of jumping to 4♠. Mikael must also, of course, consider the consequences of not trusting his mother.

Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|---------|-------|------------|--------|
| Cecilia | Ulla | Bo-Lennart | Mikael |
| Pass | 3♥ | INT | 2♠ |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | 3♠ |

INT showed 14-16 HCP and, when North bid 3♥, South should probably have passed or raised hearts instead of insisting on playing the moth-eaten spade suit. It takes a diamond lead — rather than the passive club that was led at many tables — to beat Four Hearts, but Bo-Lennart told me that he was prepared to lead the ace of diamonds.

Three Spades was impossible to make, and it appeared that eight pairs were allowed to make Four Hearts, whilst nine pairs



Bridge Festival Schedule 30 June 2004

Swedish Mixed Pair Championships

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 10.00 - 12.00 | 16 boards |
| 12.00 - 12.15 | Coffee break |
| 12.15 - 14.00 | 14 boards |
| 14.00 - 15.00 | Lunch |
| 15.00 - 17.00 | 16 boards |
| 17.00 - 17.15 | Coffee break |
| 17.15 - 19.30 | 18 boards |

Silver Barometer

| | |
|-------|-------------------|
| 11.00 | Silver twenty |
| 18.00 | Silver twenty-one |

Bronze Barometer

| | |
|-------|------------|
| 19.00 | Bronze ten |
|-------|------------|

Sweden v Denmark

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 15.00 - 17.30 | 18 boards |
| 17.30 - 18.00 | Group A 3 boards. Group B coffee break |
| 18.00 - 18.30 | Group B 3 boards. Group A coffee break |
| 18.30 - 20.00 | 12 boards |
| 20.00 - 20.30 | Group A 3 boards. Group B coffee break |
| 20.30 - 21.00 | Group B 3 boards. Group A coffee break |
| 21.00 - 22.00 | 6 boards |
| 22.15 | Prize-giving ceremony |

went down in something. Those who bid to Four Hearts probably didn't have to cope with the aggressive no-trump opening.

You need to be lucky to win pair tournaments, or at least not unlucky.

Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Against the Westerlund family N/S bid 1♠-2♥; 3♥-4♥. The club lead to the ace was followed by a careless ace of hearts and another heart, so that East could draw trumps and the defence could collect two diamond tricks.

Obviously, South should play a diamond at trick two, to ensure a diamond ruff.

The bidding on this board was rather exotic.

Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

| West | North | East | South |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| 1♣ | 1♦ | 1♥ | 1♠ |
| 2♣ | 2♦ | 2♥ | 2♠ |
| All Pass | | | |

Since South was the holder of the highest suit, the other players realized the futility in continuing this contest and passed. At another table the bidding started similarly but South saved some time by jumping to 3♠ at the first opportunity, and everybody passed.

Two rounds of clubs were followed by a heart to the ace and another heart. South did, for some obscure reason, ruff with the nine of spades. He finessed the king of diamonds and continued with dummy's trump. If East only had followed with the eight, West would have won the queen and played a third round of clubs to the king of spades, establishing his own seven for one down.

But East picked the wrong occasion to play the king spades, which allowed South to escape punishment for his silly mistake earlier on.

Talking about cards

by Martin Nygren

At breakfast I was greeted by Mister Tacchi in a manner that made Mrs Tacchi give him a strange look.

"He does get a lot of stick, but it is just because we like him," explained our Very Impressive Photographer. There are some people that all three of the Englishmen in the bulletin room are notoriously polite towards.

Writing a gossip column is evidently not a feasible career move. After more than one week here I have yet not discovered one single piece of gossip to write about. Probably I am far too honest, if there is not anything to write about, make something up. But then again, exactly what kind of gossippable events does one expect to occur at a European Championship and Bridge Festival?

"Did you hear that one of the players on the Lavazza team had a cup of Earl Grey for breakfast?" No, that would hardly do as an interesting news item with a touch of scandal to it. And it would be especially disappointing compared with the normal Italian measure. The Italians want to have the biggest of everything, the biggest football team, the biggest bridge team, if necessary —the biggest ice-hockey team and of course the biggest scandals.

Strangely enough, not all supporters of Italian football find it to be any consolation that the Italian bridge team are cruising towards the gold medals.

"Totti does not play bridge," cried a great fan of the Italian playmaker when things had gone badly for 'Gli Azzuri' and we tried to cheer her up with the fact that the Italians were expected to bring home the European Bridge Championship. Maybe she will come to appreciate our great game in due time. I am not sure about Totti's talent for playing cards, but one of the great things about bridge is that you do not need to be a good player to enjoy it.

"The vugraph commentators did not analyze the play correctly but for one board on which the bidding had been All Pass. At one point the commentator went on for a full six minutes about how nicely the defence had gone to defeat the contract when declarer needed one more trick and the ace of trumps was still in dummy." Before the Championships I was under the impression that the vugraph commentators were expected to analyze the boards correctly. I have since learned that that would break a long tradition. The logic behind it goes something like this; if the commentators were able to analyze the boards correctly, they would play bridge rather than comment bridge.

As usual, if there is to be any gossip to report on I must create it myself. Suggestions and bribes are happily accepted, but I must warn you that I might not do what you expect me to.

Butler Ranking after 22 Rounds Open Teams

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------------|---|-------------|-----|------|-----|-----------------|---|-------------|-----|-------|-----|
| 1 | Bocchi N | - | Duboin G | ITA | 1.30 | 319 | Eidur Magnu | - | Torvaldsson | ICE | 0.00 | 300 |
| 2 | Fantoni F | - | Nunes C | ITA | 1.18 | 280 | 56 Stefanov J | - | | BUL | -0.02 | 300 |
| 3 | Lauria L | - | Versace A | ITA | 0.82 | 280 | 57 Carcassonne | - | Labaere A | BEL | -0.03 | 280 |
| 4 | Bertheau P | - | Nystrom F | SWE | 0.79 | 220 | Palau JJ | - | | FRA | -0.03 | 320 |
| 5 | Khven M | - | Dubin A | RUS | 0.74 | 320 | 59 Rombaut J | - | | FRA | -0.04 | 300 |
| | Fredin P | - | Lindkvist M | SWE | 0.74 | 400 | 60 Backstrom S | - | Salomaa M | FIN | -0.05 | 280 |
| 7 | Chmurski B | - | Puczynski M | POL | 0.62 | 280 | Kemeny G | - | Trenka P | HUN | -0.05 | 280 |
| 8 | Ginossar E | - | Pachtmann R | ISR | 0.56 | 300 | 62 Matheson J | - | Patrick J | SCO | -0.07 | 259 |
| 9 | Baldursson | - | Jonsson P | ICE | 0.54 | 320 | 63 Zack Y | - | Lengy A | ISR | -0.08 | 280 |
| 10 | Atabay Y | - | Kolata S | TUR | 0.53 | 320 | 64 Keaveney G | - | Timlin R | IRE | -0.09 | 360 |
| 11 | Schifko M | - | Wernle S | AUT | 0.50 | 279 | Aronov V | - | | BUL | -0.09 | 280 |
| 12 | Zorlu N | - | Assael S | TUR | 0.49 | 340 | 66 Bentzen B | - | Charlsen T | NOR | -0.10 | 260 |
| | Gal P | - | Vikor D | HUN | 0.49 | 260 | 67 Madeira P | - | Sarmiento P | POR | -0.11 | 320 |
| 14 | Kannavos P | - | Triantafyll | GRE | 0.48 | 280 | Wasik A | - | | SPA | -0.11 | 380 |
| 15 | Briciu M | - | Ghigheci O | ROM | 0.44 | 320 | 69 Dung Duong | - | Yalcin T | SWI | -0.12 | 260 |
| 16 | Gold D | - | Townsend T | ENG | 0.43 | 240 | 70 Tesla M | - | Tomic T | CRO | -0.17 | 300 |
| 17 | Gromov A | - | Petrudin A | RUS | 0.42 | 299 | 71 Coyne C | - | Macaonghusa | IRE | -0.18 | 240 |
| 18 | Jansma J | - | Verhees L | NET | 0.41 | 300 | 72 Romanovska | - | Rubins K | LAT | -0.20 | 260 |
| | Kowalski A | - | Tuszynski P | POL | 0.41 | 240 | 73 Batov V | - | Dyakov V | BUL | -0.26 | 280 |
| 20 | Partearroyo | - | Sabate J | SPA | 0.36 | 360 | 74 Mc Gowan E | - | Baxter K | SCO | -0.27 | 280 |
| | Thuillez L | - | | FRA | 0.36 | 280 | Lund Madsen | - | Lund Madsen | DEN | -0.27 | 280 |
| 22 | Bakkeren T | - | Bertens H | NET | 0.35 | 260 | 76 Papakyriako | - | Filios A | GRE | -0.28 | 279 |
| | Wladow E | - | Elinescu M | GER | 0.35 | 278 | Honti L | - | Harangozo L | HUN | -0.28 | 300 |
| | Sebane L | - | | FRA | 0.35 | 320 | 78 Vainikonis | - | Olanski W | LIT | -0.29 | 320 |
| 25 | Balicki C | - | Zmudzinski | POL | 0.34 | 320 | 79 Vincent H | - | | SPA | -0.31 | 340 |
| 26 | Nyberg C | - | Koistinen K | FIN | 0.33 | 300 | Abouchanab | - | Sasselli M | SWI | -0.31 | 280 |
| 27 | Zipovski D | - | Vlajniae B | S&M | 0.31 | 339 | 81 Eliasson PG | - | Matisons M | LAT | -0.33 | 280 |
| 28 | Ludewig B | - | Reps K | GER | 0.29 | 240 | 82 Salisbury J | - | Tedd M | WAL | -0.34 | 260 |
| 29 | Castanheira | - | Dias J | POR | 0.24 | 280 | Einarsson B | - | Ingimarsson | ICE | -0.34 | 220 |
| | Sylvan J | - | Sundelin PO | SWE | 0.24 | 220 | 84 Thomas A | - | Denning P | WAL | -0.37 | 300 |
| 31 | Levinger A | - | Liran I | ISR | 0.23 | 300 | 85 Nikolenkov | - | Piedra F | SWI | -0.46 | 300 |
| 32 | Kholomeev V | - | Zlotov D | RUS | 0.22 | 260 | 86 Diklic D | - | Miladin I | CRO | -0.47 | 260 |
| | Bilde M | - | Hansen J | DEN | 0.22 | 260 | 87 Terraneo C | - | Simon J | AUT | -0.51 | 299 |
| 34 | Kiema O | - | Juuri-Oja J | FIN | 0.21 | 260 | 88 Svoboda O | - | | CZE | -0.52 | 320 |
| | Kaplan A | - | Polet G | BEL | 0.21 | 280 | Tesorieri U | - | | RSM | -0.52 | 320 |
| | Karakolev G | - | | BUL | 0.21 | 280 | Maloviae M | - | Radojeviae | S&M | -0.52 | 279 |
| | Gotard T | - | Piekarek J | GER | 0.21 | 319 | 91 Mlraz T | - | | CZE | -0.54 | 300 |
| 38 | Zahariev Z | - | | BUL | 0.16 | 260 | 92 Folque L | - | Henriques J | POR | -0.56 | 280 |
| 39 | Schaltz D | - | Schaltz P | DEN | 0.14 | 300 | 93 Kallsberg P | - | Mohr Danjal | FAR | -0.57 | 300 |
| 40 | Price D | - | Simpson C | ENG | 0.13 | 260 | Kikiae S | - | Sabljiae S | S&M | -0.57 | 260 |
| | Multon F | - | | FRA | 0.13 | 260 | 95 Treossi P | - | | RSM | -0.59 | 400 |
| 42 | Hackett Ja | - | Hackett Ju | ENG | 0.11 | 340 | 96 Tyla A | - | Babickas R | LIT | -0.60 | 240 |
| 43 | Austberg PE | - | Furunes JE | NOR | 0.10 | 280 | 97 Mouritsen J | - | Mouritsen H | FAR | -0.62 | 320 |
| 44 | Brogeland B | - | Salensminde | NOR | 0.09 | 340 | 98 Vozabal D | - | Zadrazil M | CZE | -0.69 | 300 |
| | Uzum D | - | Pehlivan O | TUR | 0.09 | 220 | O'Braian P | - | Pigot PJ | IRE | -0.69 | 280 |
| | Quantin JC | - | | FRA | 0.09 | 200 | 100 Volhejn V | - | | CZE | -0.70 | 280 |
| 47 | Muller B | - | De Wijs S | NET | 0.06 | 280 | 101 Savin D | - | Matei C | ROM | -0.71 | 240 |
| | Coenraets P | - | Neve O | BEL | 0.06 | 280 | 102 Fort T | - | | CZE | -0.74 | 260 |
| | Jansons U | - | Rubenis I | LAT | 0.06 | 300 | Voinescu D | - | Rotaru I | ROM | -0.74 | 280 |
| 50 | Fischer D | - | Saurer B | AUT | 0.05 | 260 | 104 Vesturklett | - | Mouritsen G | FAR | -0.83 | 260 |
| 51 | Zotos L | - | Lambrinos A | GRE | 0.04 | 279 | 105 Birbalas L | - | Poska G | LIT | -0.86 | 280 |
| 52 | Borevkovic | - | Zoric V | CRO | 0.03 | 280 | 106 Catucci C | - | | RSM | -1.01 | 320 |
| | Jourdain P | - | Ratcliff T | WAL | 0.03 | 280 | 107 Fazzardi GF | - | | RSM | -1.08 | 320 |
| 54 | Piper D | - | Murdoch J | SCO | 0.00 | 300 | 108 Zucchini PG | - | | RSM | -1.12 | 320 |

Butler Ranking after 15 Rounds - Women's Teams

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---------------|---|-------------|-----|------|-----|----|---------------|---|-------------|-----|-------|-----|
| 1 | Pasman J | - | Simons A | NET | 1.00 | 180 | | Piscitelli F | - | Torielli V | ITA | 0.01 | 180 |
| 2 | Bertheau K | - | Midskog C | SWE | 0.94 | 180 | 36 | Viola C | - | Viola M | SPA | -0.02 | 220 |
| 3 | D'Ovidio C | - | Gaviard D | FRA | 0.84 | 200 | 37 | Krogulska J | - | | POL | -0.03 | 179 |
| 4 | Grumm I | - | Weigkricht | AUT | 0.79 | 300 | 38 | Brunner M | - | Goldenfield | ENG | -0.05 | 140 |
| 5 | Zur Campanile | - | Poplilov M | ISR | 0.63 | 260 | 39 | Lancova M | - | Medlinova B | CZE | -0.11 | 200 |
| 6 | Hoogweg F | - | Van Zwol W | NET | 0.57 | 200 | 40 | Toth J | - | Kovacs J | HUN | -0.12 | 200 |
| 7 | Von Armin D | - | Auken S | GER | 0.55 | 280 | 41 | Adiguzel C | - | Merze S | TUR | -0.17 | 180 |
| 8 | Forsberg C | - | Gronkvist M | SWE | 0.53 | 180 | | Guy V | - | Peploe C | SCO | -0.17 | 160 |
| | Cronier B | - | Willard S | FRA | 0.53 | 220 | | Brkljadic T | - | Pilipovic M | CRO | -0.17 | 200 |
| 10 | Kandolu O | - | Yavas D | TUR | 0.44 | 260 | | Pokorna J | - | Svobodova P | CZE | -0.17 | 199 |
| 11 | Mantyla M | - | Kulmala S | FIN | 0.40 | 200 | 45 | Nurmi P | - | Suppula T | FIN | -0.19 | 199 |
| 12 | Banaszkiewicz | - | | POL | 0.38 | 220 | 46 | Zaim M | - | Baytok C | TUR | -0.27 | 160 |
| 13 | Brock S | - | Teltscher K | ENG | 0.36 | 160 | 47 | Abousleiman L | - | | LEB | -0.29 | 140 |
| | Andersson P | - | Langstrom L | SWE | 0.36 | 240 | 48 | Rahelt M | - | Farholt S | DEN | -0.31 | 299 |
| 15 | Dhondy H | - | Smith N | ENG | 0.33 | 300 | 49 | Mezei K | - | Csipka S | HUN | -0.41 | 200 |
| | Brewiak G | - | Sarniak A | POL | 0.33 | 280 | 50 | Nielsen R | - | | ICE | -0.44 | 239 |
| 17 | Bessis V | - | Lustin C | FRA | 0.29 | 180 | 51 | Petrovic R | - | Zagajsek S | CRO | -0.48 | 200 |
| 18 | Birman D | - | Levit Porat | ISR | 0.28 | 240 | 52 | Arthur Ji | - | Mac Donald | SCO | -0.50 | 220 |
| 19 | Santos C | - | Matut M | SPA | 0.25 | 200 | 53 | El Khazen M | - | Kreidieh H | LEB | -0.51 | 220 |
| 20 | Nehmert B | - | Reim A | GER | 0.24 | 260 | 54 | Restorff M | - | Mikkelsen A | FAR | -0.53 | 220 |
| | Smederevac J | - | Kriftner S | AUT | 0.24 | 300 | 55 | Siguryonsdott | - | | ICE | -0.54 | 259 |
| 22 | Arnolds C | - | Vriend B | NET | 0.20 | 220 | | Kertesz Z | - | Ormay E | HUN | -0.54 | 200 |
| 23 | Brevik K | - | Remen S | NOR | 0.19 | 200 | 57 | Kekhia G | - | | LEB | -0.58 | 160 |
| | Nolanska A | - | | POL | 0.19 | 140 | 58 | Pattinson M | - | Kirby B | IRE | -0.68 | 160 |
| 25 | Greenwood D | - | Burns C | IRE | 0.16 | 220 | 59 | Langeland A | - | Torkelsen S | NOR | -0.72 | 180 |
| | Paoluzi S | - | Saccavini I | ITA | 0.16 | 200 | 60 | Matijevic I | - | Ruso S | CRO | -0.76 | 200 |
| 27 | Alexander M | - | Benson J | SCO | 0.15 | 220 | 61 | Ivarsdottir A | - | Oskarsdotti | ICE | -0.79 | 220 |
| 28 | Cleary E | - | Finn M | IRE | 0.11 | 220 | 62 | Svenstrup H | - | Grunnveit J | FAR | -0.88 | 199 |
| | Buratti M | - | Forti D | ITA | 0.11 | 220 | 63 | Chamaa I | - | | LEB | -0.97 | 180 |
| 30 | Bo Krefeld C | - | Kirstan M | DEN | 0.09 | 300 | 64 | Sigurbjornsd | - | | ICE | -1.04 | 120 |
| 31 | Fuglestad AK | - | Harding M | NOR | 0.07 | 220 | 65 | Ragi D | - | | LEB | -1.14 | 200 |
| | Erdeova J | - | Hnatova D | CZE | 0.07 | 200 | 66 | Gudnadottir A | - | | ICE | -1.16 | 140 |
| 33 | Barlund B | - | Savolainen | FIN | 0.06 | 200 | 67 | ChristiansenM | - | Danielsen L | FAR | -1.20 | 180 |
| 34 | Mestres M | - | Panadero M | SPA | 0.01 | 180 | | | | | | | |

Butler Ranking after 11 Rounds - Senior Teams

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|--------------|---|-------------|-----|------|-----|----|--------------|---|-------------|-----|-------|-----|
| 1 | Kratz U | - | Strater B | GER | 1.67 | 96 | 25 | Lund P | - | | DEN | 0.22 | 160 |
| 2 | Birman D | - | | ISR | 1.46 | 112 | 26 | Cedolin G | - | Tramonto D | ITA | 0.18 | 112 |
| 3 | Zeligman S | - | | ISR | 1.21 | 128 | | Textor M | - | | CZE | 0.18 | 112 |
| 4 | Marsal R | - | Schroeder D | GER | 0.89 | 144 | 28 | Rimon R | - | | FIN | 0.13 | 96 |
| 5 | Omernik K | - | Sikorski K | POL | 0.84 | 80 | 29 | Filip A | - | | CZE | 0.09 | 128 |
| 6 | Rue D | - | Stanley K | ENG | 0.82 | 112 | 30 | Hebak P | - | Nosek J | CZE | 0.00 | 112 |
| 7 | Moller S | - | | DEN | 0.79 | 112 | 31 | Collings J | - | Jones D | ENG | -0.08 | 96 |
| 8 | Humburg H | - | Mattsson G | GER | 0.77 | 112 | | Nordby H | - | Koppang K | NOR | -0.08 | 80 |
| 9 | Waterlow T | - | Hackett P | ENG | 0.73 | 144 | 33 | Bomhof JW | - | Ramer R | NET | -0.09 | 128 |
| | Dahl F | - | Norris G | DEN | 0.73 | 160 | | Alfredsson L | - | Hallen HO | SWE | -0.09 | 112 |
| 11 | Ekberg S | - | | SWE | 0.59 | 128 | 35 | Krizek F | - | | CZE | -0.14 | 96 |
| | Chemla P | - | Mari C | FRA | 0.59 | 144 | 36 | Forch GJ | - | Verhoef R | NET | -0.20 | 80 |
| 13 | Bull SE | - | Trollvik J | NOR | 0.57 | 96 | 37 | Honkavuori R | - | | FIN | -0.23 | 112 |
| 14 | De Falco D | - | Romanin G | ITA | 0.55 | 112 | 38 | Marshall F | - | Innes W | SCO | -0.25 | 128 |
| | Damiani J | - | Faigenbaum | FRA | 0.55 | 112 | 39 | Maesel H | - | Jensen O | NOR | -0.28 | 112 |
| 16 | Jansson BA | - | | SWE | 0.53 | 112 | 40 | Rae K | - | Gerrard D | SCO | -0.42 | 128 |
| 17 | Mosca C | - | Sbarigia S | ITA | 0.50 | 128 | 41 | Romik P | - | Levit Y | ISR | -0.43 | 112 |
| 18 | Dieden J | - | Hyden LI | SWE | 0.46 | 128 | 42 | Favager E | - | Favager A | WAL | -0.74 | 80 |
| | Zdzienicki A | - | Aleksandrza | POL | 0.46 | 80 | 43 | Cagne' P | - | Harris D | WAL | -0.90 | 112 |
| 20 | Stoppa JM | - | Stretz F | FRA | 0.42 | 96 | 44 | Frei J | - | Imhof H | SWI | -1.20 | 176 |
| 21 | Korpetta J | - | Radecki J | POL | 0.41 | 96 | 45 | Meehan P | - | O'Farrell R | IRE | -1.44 | 176 |
| 22 | Jansa Z | - | | CZE | 0.31 | 144 | 46 | Frew D | - | Liggat D | SCO | -1.45 | 96 |
| 23 | Boesiger H | - | Spengler W | SWI | 0.30 | 176 | 47 | Sheridan L | - | Patrick J | WAL | -1.52 | 96 |
| 24 | Doremans N | - | Trouwborst | NET | 0.28 | 144 | 48 | Higgins C | - | Daly F | IRE | -2.34 | 176 |



THE WORLD BRIDGE OLYMPIAD

Istanbul, Turkey, 23 October - 6 November 2004



Istanbul — a fabulous city where East meets West, the bridge between Europe and Asia, a thriving metropolis of 12 million people — exotic yet distinctly western — a meeting place for peoples of many religions and cultures who came together and learned to live in peace and harmony.

Ultra-modern amenities, the splendours of the Ottoman past and the honoured traditions of Turkish hospitality combine to make Istanbul a fascinating city, one that will impress all visitors with treasured and lasting memories. Istanbul will reward you with the comfort of home while offering sights, sounds and smells that carry you swiftly to another culture, another time. This vibrant, exciting city is really accessible from all parts of the world, served by more than 50 airlines. Every major European Airport is 2-3 hours away. There are frequent non-stop or direct flights to Istanbul from most European cities, and all the important cities in the world.

Istanbul is a treasure trove of sight-seeing possibilities, and has many wonderful places that should not be missed—for example, Tokapi Palace: the residence of the Sultan for four centuries, a city within the city; the Blue Mosque; St Sophia; the Basilica Cistern; the spice market; Rumeli Castle and many other historic monuments—followed, of course, by a shopping expedition to the Grand Bazaar.

The World Bridge Olympiad will be held in the heart of Istanbul at the Grand Cevahir Hotel and Convention Centre which is a truly luxurious deluxe hotel. It combines a state of the art convention centre with an extremely comfortable hotel, ideal for such a prestigious Championship. Accommodation will also be available in hotels nearby which will include 2 and 3 star hotels as well as the more expensive 4 and 5 star hotels, so that as wide a range of rates as possible can be offered to players coming to the Championships.

Five major Championships will be staged during the course of the two weeks, with the most important being the 12th World Open and Women's World Team Olympiad. The 2nd Senior International Cup will be held during the first week, the 2nd World University Teams Bridge Cup will be held during the second week, and the 3rd World Transnational Mixed Teams Championship will also be held during the second week, enabling players eliminated from the Olympiad to participate in this enjoyable and challenging event.

3rd WORLD TRANSNATIONAL MIXED TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP

This event has been a successful and exciting Championship since its inception in Rhodes when 86 teams competed. We feel sure that many players would enjoy participating in this challenging event, which gives them the opportunity of pitting their bridge skills against some of the greatest players in the world, as well as having the chance to watch the exciting final stages of the World Team Olympiad on the expert vugraph presentation.

Entry fees: free for the eliminated players
US \$ 800 for a new team

If a team is composed of players eliminated from the Olympiad together with players who have not competed in the Olympiad, the players who have not competed will be charged US \$150 per head if it is a team of six, or \$200 per head if it is a team of four.

Teams must consist of at least two women and two men from any country, playing in Mixed partnerships.

The Transnational Mixed Teams will be played during the second week of the Championships, starting on Tuesday 2 November, with 15 rounds of 10 boards being played for the qualification to the semi-finals and final.

Teams wishing to enter this event should contact their NBO as soon as possible to request nomination. In any event, entries should be made before 15th August 2004, although late entries may be accepted provided there is sufficient space at the venue.

