

2nd EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

18 JUNE - 2 JULY 2005

DAILY BULLETIN



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HUNGARY LEADS THE WAY AS ENTENTE CORDIALE SHINES



Tomas Brenning with assistance from Carl Ragnarsson in the I.T. nerve centre

England and France shared the honours at the end of the qualification stage of the European Open Teams Championship with both countries having five teams (with some transnationals in their ranks) carrying their colours into the knock out stage. Pride of place and the right of first choice of opponents goes to the Hungarian team that finished at the top of Swiss A, Miklos Dumbovich, Peter Laktos, Gyorgy Szalay and Gabor Winkler.

Because there were appeals to be heard the

Captains meeting has been postponed until 09.45 today and the draw for the round of 32 is not available.

The Senior and Women's qualifying contests finish today and there should be some exciting finishes between the teams trying to secure the fourth qualification spot in all four groups.

You can follow the knock out matches live on www.bridgebase.com and www.swangames.com

Detective Work

Our apologies to the players who must have thought they had been dreaming when they read yesterday's Bulletin. What we can tell you is that we took the final standings from the Internet - but they turned out to be different from the results posted elsewhere.

How could this happen when the correct results appear on the back page of the Bulletin? Herman de Wael, searching for the truth discovered that those teams that had received a bye in one of Friday evening's matches had not been credited on the Internet with the 18VP they received and one match result had not been entered.

The Team Events

The women and senior events play the last day of round robins and will have a shared captains meeting at 9.45 in Imperial. Most starting times at 10.30 but the women group B starts at 14.00.

To establish the K.O. matches, the winners of the groups may choose their opponent from the third and fourth ranked team in the other group. The runners up play the other team.

The open teams start the K.O phase with the round of 32 and 16, being played in two sessions of 14 boards in Los Espejos. The other teams in the open event play a Swiss of 5 rounds of 8 boards in Tenerife and Minerva. Starting time 10.30 for both.

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Schedule of Play

09.45	Open	Teams	Captains Meeting
10.30	Open	Teams	Round of 32
10.30	Women A & Senior	Teams	Qualifying Round Robin
14.00	Women B	Qualifying	Round Robin

Registration

Open, Women, Senior Pairs Event
Today 27 June, 14.00 - 20.00

2008 European Teams Championship

In his presentation French Federation President Maurice Panis, told the EBL executives that BIARRITZ, MARSEILLE and LETOUQUET were bidding to welcome the European Championships to their cities in 2008.

OPEN TEAMS ROUND 3 - ZIMMERMANN v. AUSTRIA

by Jos Jacobs

On Saturday morning, the Open Teams were scheduled to play their third match of the round robin qualification. With four matches to be played after this one, every match could be interesting or important. So there was no obvious choice at all which match to watch, in my opinion, and therefore I decided to have a look at the Austrians playing some great names.

On the first board in the Open Room, the Austrians almost pushed their opponents into slam:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Schifko	Fantoni	Wernle	Nunes
5♥	1♠	4♥	4NT
All Pass	6♣	Pass	6♠

Once Nunes bid 4NT the Italian pair would reach the slam. In view of the bidding, Fantoni decided to finesse the ♠K rather than play for

the drop and thus succeeded in making his contract. As the Austrians did not bid it in the Closed Room, Zimmermann had their first 11 IMPs on the scoreboard.

Overoptimistic bidding caused another big swing on board 5:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Schifko	Fantoni	Wernle	Nunes
Dble	1NT	Pass	2♠
4♥	2NT	Pass	3NT
	Dble	All Pass	

Taking the vulnerability into account, a save in any major might well be a good proposition, so Schifko tried again. Luck was not with him when there happened to be not very much of a fit. Down five and 1100 to Zimmermann.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Multon	Babsch	Quantin	Bieder
2♠	1♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	Pass	Pass	3♠
	3NT	All Pass	

No such frivolities at the other table. Multon did not bother at all to bid a second time so ten tricks were made in peace. Zimmermann another 10 IMPs.

Austria missed a great chance when Wernle doubled his opponents trying to direct partner's lead:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Schifko	Fantoni	Wernle	Nunes
1♣	Dble	1♦	Pass
2♣	3♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass

Both the ♦A and the ♣A leads by West would in all probability have beaten the contract. A heart however did not do the job. So the operation by Wernle was successful but the patient died. Zimmermann +790.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Multon	Babsch	Quantin	Bieder
1♣	Dble	1♥	Pass
2♣	4♠	All Pass	1♠

Once again routine prevailed over imagination when Quantin let 4♠ go undoubled. Though his seven-card suit might have inspired Multon to find the club lead, he too led a heart. Austria +620 but 5 IMPs more to Zimmermann.

On the last board of the match, neither side came anywhere near the cold slam in diamonds:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Schifko	Fantoni	Wernle	Nunes
2NT*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4NT*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
5♠	All Pass	5♦*	Pass

The Austrian relays did not manage to reveal their nice diamond fit, so over 5♦ Schifko had to retreat to 5♠ which was asking just too much. Had the spades been A109xxx there would have been no story. One down.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Multon	Babsch	Quantin	Bieder
4♠	All Pass	2♠	Pass

This auction looks almost too pedestrian, but once again routine prevailed over imagination. Zimmermann an easy +620 and 12 IMPs again to make it 39-5 or 25-5 in VP to



Championship Diary

We like to invent new words (not difficult if the proof reading is not up to scratch!). A famous one we 'borrowed' from the English television series Blackadder is interfrastically.

On Saturday we came up with a new one - 'Look, there's Micke Melandering along the corridor.'

Our amiable photographer celebrated 33 years of married life on Friday. When we offered our congratulations he jovially responded, 'If I'd shot her I'd be out by now.' (Our best wishes to Mrs T - The Editor.)

Pony Nehmert told Sabine Auken that she had worked out Sabine preferred playing in Open events as opposed to women's. 'Why?' asked Sabine. 'Because in the women's event no-one asks for your phone number!'

When someone had the effrontery to suggest to Tacchi that he had taken most of a day off to go on the IBPA outing he pointed out that he had been working the whole time. 'But you didn't take your camera.' Ah, I have a photographic memory.'

THE BRIDGEMATE

It works! Hurrah, it works. Let me tell you about it. Somewhere in the late nineties I had a dream. Fed up with all these terribly written score slips causing incredible results in the rama show and wondering why we needed three of four people having a day job to enter those results in the computer, therewith creating a new source for mistakes, I dreamt about a device at the table with which the results were entered directly going to a computer. I started talking with several people developing scoring devices and it always seemed possible but no real development took place. Then I met a guy who had a small shop at our Olympiad in Maastricht 2000. He had developed a device for scoring bridge results, which at that time started to be sold to clubs in the Netherlands. It had a memory that had to be emptied at the end of the session. Then the results were out within a couple of minutes thereafter. I asked some questions about the possibility to build a receiver and to have the data available with a radiographic signal in real time. He showed some interest but being a business man who just had found that hundreds of clubs in the Netherlands were interested in the device he had just introduced it wasn't the time yet. But I kept chasing him and he 'surrendered'. Less than a year ago this new version saw daylight.

'He' is Ron Bouwland who has studied

Japanese and Economics and didn't know much about bridge. The idea to build the bridgemate came up when his parents started talking about bridgeresults calculated by hand and taking a long time. One of his qualities is to surround himself with very capable people, one of which is Wouter Couzijn, an electro-engineer, who designs and develops the machine the hardware. He is not much of a bridge player either. But it only took me a couple of minutes to explain the idea of showing the percentage of an entered score in a pairs event and it was done. We do not combine different rooms yet, but something to improve should be left.

You all have experience with the bridgemate now and I find it remarkable how easy to use it is. But a lot of work has to be done to get this far. The bridgemate itself produces the data you insert. Then we need the software to work with those data, which for this tournament is developed by Tomas Brenning from Sweden. Don't think light of that. He did a tremendous job to let you have the results of 24 boards before the session has ended. Or to give you the butler in team events, which did not work because you need to enter a pair number then, and most of you forgot to do so.

Of course new technology brings new problems, partly because people need some

time to understand consequences. We had our first here. Scorers broadcasting a match on Internet wanted a better table and just changed table numbers, forgetting that the bridgemates are strictly dedicated to tables, which they did not change. So the bridgemate results in two matches had nothing to do with the real results, a beginners incident.

What will happen in the near future is that we are going to use the bridgemate for recording bidding and play, making it possible to follow matches live on the Internet. What about a world championship from which you can pick any match you want at home? Using this device we are going to build huge data bases with interesting bridge information. I just saw a list printed with the bridge results of specific boards played here. We can easily add the bidding and play to that. Of course this information was already available on paper in championships, as long as the journalists were able to decipher and combine the hieroglyphs. Now some clever manipulating of data will do the tricks and analysis can be much improved.

I convinced the EBL and WBF to join each other in buying enough of them, so you will see them in all their events from now on. And of course you will buy them yourself. Believe me, you can't do without it anymore.

Ton Kooijman

VILAMOURA ONCE AGAIN

by Herman De Wael and Marc van Beijsterveldt

When the European Championships were held in 1995 in Vilamoura, Portugal, Herman discovered that the coat of arms of that city had six hearts either side. Ever since, he's been on the look-out for Vilamoura hands, that is hands containing a six-six fit in Hearts. We had to wait until 2004 to see semi-Vilamoura hands in European Championships (6-6 fits in other suits, one in spades, one in diamonds), but on Saturday a real Vilamoura hand finally came up.

Marc was the first to discover that the second session of Saturday's Open Teams had a Vilamoura hand among them:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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



Marc came across the board very coincidentally, when he was watching one table where the following bidding came up:

West	North	East	South
	2♦	Pass	2NT
Dble	3♦	Pass	3♥
3♠	Pass	4♦	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

Herman was able, after the session, to examine what all the tables did on this particular hand.

At 12 tables (15.4%) the bidding stopped quietly at the 4♥ level, all but one going one down. +420 would be the absolute top in a pairs tournament, -50 would score 72%.

Only one table was allowed to play 5♦, doubled even, and made, for -550 (5%).

13 North/South's were allowed to play 5♥ undoubled, for -100 (56%).

9 others got their 5♥ contracts doubled, which should be the par contract (-300=25%)

Twelve East/West pairs overstretched their hands and went to 6♦. Two of them weren't doubled, and made their contract, one even with the overtrick (-920=4%; -940=3%).

We don't see why the double would make a difference, but after doubling, defenders are apparently more awake, and all 10 tables went one down, scoring +100 (88%).

23 North/South pairs followed the Law to the letter and went to 6♥. 10 were doubled (-500=12%), one of the others escaped with a

trick to many, and 12 pairs scored -150 (40%).

Three pairs thought they needed to be at the level of seven (7♦X-2=+300 (97%), and three others had meanwhile showed spades, so they could "defend" against 6♥ a level lower, and one even managed to make 6♠X (-1210=1%).

One other pair got to play the slam in spades:

West	North	East	South
	2♦	3♦	4♦
6♦	Pass	Pass	6♠
Dble	All Pass		

South obviously "knew" what North's major suit was. Full marks to East for holding on to as many diamonds as he did, although he must have discarded one to many, leaving South with one trick. -2900 was not a top. (names of the players omitted to protect the innocent)

The Multi mix-up is a common feature of a Vilamoura hand. The same thing happened last year in Malmö, where 4♥X on a six-six spade fit went for -2300.

To be complete, we need to mention a pair that found 4♣ from the South seat, -4 (31%)

(This board also appeared in yesterday's bulletin in the Ozdil-Pont match, and in Barry Rigal's article of today)

Round Robin Qualifying

In round three of the Round Robin two teams with a legitimate chance to advance further met one another. Welland played the Bulgarian team of Nanev.

The first deal saw a swing arising from the play of the trump suit.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Mihov</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Stefanov</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
	1♠	4♥	4♠
5♥	5♠	All Pass	

The auction above creates many problems for standard bidding. Should a pass of 5♥ by North be forcing? If so, would a double of 5♠ be defensive, or stopping partner from bidding on? Steve Weinstein settled for the simple bid of 5♠ - very reasonably - and Rosenberg knew he was probably facing a singleton heart so his heart control was not worth that much. In 5♠ Weinstein justified his partner's pessimism by misguessing trumps (always good for team morale) to collect 450. by contrast in the other room Nanev/Vassiliev were playing a strong club. Their auction was:

West	North	East	South
<i>Fallenius</i>	<i>Nanev</i>	<i>Welland</i>	<i>Vassiliev</i>
	1♣	4♥	4♠
5♥	5♠	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

On this auction where North's second round pass would clearly be forcing, maybe a direct 5♠ should be weaker not stronger than passing and removing the double to 5♠? As against that the trump support in spades is so useful maybe one should emphasize it at once. Vassiliev guessed spades and racked up 980 for 11 IMPs to his side.

Rosenberg and Weinstein got the IMPs back at once when they bid to a slam which would



Bjorn Fallenius, Sweden

have depended on the heart finesse on a diamond lead. Since they did not get a diamond lead they did not need the finesse - which worked anyway.

Then the same pair must have fancied their chances of gaining here.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Mihov</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Stefanov</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
	1♠	Pass	1♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	2♠
Pass		All Pass	

On the lead of the singleton club Weinstein put up the ace, dropping the jack from hand, then crossed to the ♦A and ran the ♠9 to the ♠Q. West won and returned...a diamond, and then played a third diamond when in with the ♠A. that meant 450.... But only a 2 IMP gain since this was what happened in the other room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Fallenius</i>	<i>Nanev</i>	<i>Welland</i>	<i>Vassiliev</i>
	Pass	3NT	2♦
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Spades, we don't need no stinking spades. 3NT took the first nine tricks, and a moral victory for the Bulgarians even if the 2 IMPs went in the other direction.

With no more significant swings arising, both sides were probably happy enough with a drawn match, which had hurt neither side's chances of qualifying.

In the second match of day two, two of the mainly English teams met up, with a great deal more than bragging rights at stake. This was the decisive board of the match.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

It may be a truism, but the most expensive disasters of all are those that feature redoubles. Cui culpa here, do you think?

In one room Andrew McIntosh and Phil King went plus with the N/S cards, defending

to 5♣ doubled, a decent if normal result. However in the other room things were more exciting:

West	North	East	South
<i>Robson</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Zia</i>	<i>Simpson</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
Redble	All Pass		

Does the pass of the redouble suggest a desire to play in that contract or nothing to say? With the North hand should one bid 2♠ anyway, and avoid this problem? Maybe we need to discuss this matter with David Price (actually, probably safer not to do so). Suffice it to say, 2♣ redoubled with two overtricks scored up - hands up how many of you know how much? The number was 1560 and that was 18 IMPs.

For the fourth match of the day I watched Bocchi and Duboin take on the heroes of the previous deal, Robson and Zia. This was the deal that swung the match

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Robson</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Zia</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
1♦	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♣	2♥	Dble	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Naturally, having bid hearts, Bocchi did not lead them; instead he advanced the top of his doubleton spade, and Robson had been given a temporary reprieve. He won dummy's queen and played diamonds from the top. Alas for him when Duboin took the third round of diamonds he found the key defensive move of continuing with a second spade. Robson had to win this in hand and now needed to cash some of his diamonds or the defense would still have time to set up hearts.

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

After four rounds of diamonds, Robson sensibly played for the ♣10 to be doubleton and cashed another diamond to pitch a club

from dummy then played on clubs, which led to one down. Had he played on clubs, by leading to the nine in the above ending, Duboin would have taken the king and cleared hearts while declarer still had only eight tricks.

Ralph Katz has the reputation for being an unlucky player - at least he does if you ask him - but I think he would admit if pressed that he got away fairly lightly with the following.

Holding a six-count 1-1-7-4 hand with the ace-jack of diamonds and the jack of clubs he heard his RHO open a Multi 2♦. He jumped to 4♦ preemptive, and over 4♥ on his left his partner bid 6♠. This was doubled on his left, and that ended the auction. Before the opening lead how would you feel when your partner poked his head under the screen and said 4♦ did show diamonds and a major did it not?

Well, the defence dropped one trick, and only set him 100 - and Ralph is still claiming he was unlucky! The full story, reported in Herman De Wael's article is as follows:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 8 5 2 ♥ K J 9 7 6 3 ♦ K ♣ 7 6 4	N W E S	♠ 4 ♥ 4 ♦ A J 9 8 6 3 2 ♣ J 9 5 3	♠ 10 9 6 3 ♥ A Q 10 8 5 2 ♦ - ♣ A K 2
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In another match Steve Weinstein for the Welland team made 6♠ doubled (2♥ - P - 6♥ - 6♠) on a heart lead, but George Jacobs (Ralph's partner) was set a trick on the club lead - at least they did not find the diamond ruff! This was only good for a flat board: in the other room Steve Garner passed the North hand and heard the auction go 3♦ - 3♥ - 6♦ - Pass - Pass - Dble - All Pass. Note Steve Garner neither bid hearts, nor raised hearts at any point; well judged him.



George Jacobs, USA

A SWINDLER FROM NORWAY OR HOW TO COOK ZUCCHINI

by David Stern

Boye Brogeland is as nice a person as one would want to meet both at the bridge table and socially. But don't let this fool you - zip up your pockets and protect your wallet when you play against him as he has larceny on his mind.

Try this triumph involving the bidding, the lead and the defence from the last round match in Group 7 between Gillis and Fazzardi.

Dealer East. N/S Vul

♠ J 8 4 2 ♥ J 9 7 ♦ K J 10 4 ♣ 10 8	N W E S	♠ A K Q 6 ♥ K 3 2 ♦ 9 ♣ A Q J 4 3	♠ 10 9 5 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ 8 7 6 2 ♣ K 9 7
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♠ 7 3 ♥ Q 10 6 5 ♦ A Q 5 3 ♣ 6 5 2	West <i>Brogeland</i>	North <i>Fazzardi</i>	East <i>Saelensminde</i>	South <i>Zucchini</i>
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		Pass	Pass
1♦	Dble	2♦	Dble
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Following two passes and at favourable vulnerability Brogeland decided to make a psychic opening hoping to obstruct the opponents. The opponents, with a combined 27 count brushed this aside and found the good 3NT played by the correct hand - South.

Brogeland continued his larcenous ways by avoiding the diamond lead and leading a low spade. Declarer won this in dummy and led ♣A followed by the ♣Q won by East who continued with the ♦8. Declarer confidently won this with ♦A with reasonable 'certainty'

that he could now make his ninth trick by leading a heart up to dummy fully expecting West to hold the ace and unable to take more than one diamond trick.

The final swindle came when Boye unblocked the ♦J to ensure that partner could play through a diamond while retaining the lead to lead yet another one.

You can only imagine the look of shock on



Boye Brogeland, Norway

declarer's face when the ♥K lost to the East's ace and ♦7 came through followed by another diamond to scuttle the contract by one trick.

We can all see that the hand can be made by ducking the diamond altogether but if you believe that the heart ace is with West is that true? Assume declarer ducks the diamond, wins the spade continuation and cashes all the black suit winners to reach this position:

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

Obviously a heart to the queen would work on the actual layout but a heart to the ten would be perfectly reasonable hoping that East held the jack and West the ace. This would fail with the defence taking two hearts, one diamond ducked, one club and one spade.

(If declarer could be sure this was the ending with West having two hearts then playing the king of hearts first is the indicated line. Editor)

Even losing to the heart jack had the possibility that West's remaining cards were

♠ - ♥ A J ♦ K 10 ♣ -

EBL Seniors Committee Meeting

Monday 27 June 2005 at 13.30
Monaco Salon on the ground floor of
Mare Nostrum (offices floor)

Open to Members of the Committee, Captains of Senior Teams in Tenerife, Presidents and Senior officers of NBO's and EBL Executive officers.

Agenda

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Discussion on the number of teams (18) competing in Tenerife
3. Format of the European Senior Team
4. Any other business

Göran Mattsson

Seniors Committee Chairman

Open Teams Round 5 - Welland v. De Botton

At this stage of the qualification, Welland were leading their group and De Botton were lying in second place, though at a distance of 10VP. So the latter were in danger of falling back if they were to lose, whereas a win for them would bring the tension back in the group.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Ja. Hackett</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ju. Hackett</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
			Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

When the Hackett twins did not find out about the diamond duplication in time, they soon ended up too high. Welland +100. Please note that Rosenberg did not open the South cards.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Sandqvist</i>	<i>Fallenius</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>
			1♠
2♥	2♠	3♦	Pass
3♥	3♠	All Pass	

At the other table, South did open his sub-minimum hand, and North competed up to the three-level. He was lucky not to get doubled, but three off gave Welland another 300 and 9 IMPs.

After some quiet pushes, there was action at both tables on a number of successive boards near the end.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Ja. Hackett</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ju. Hackett</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
			1♥
Pass	INT	2♠	2NT
4♠	5♣	Pass	Pass

5♠ Dble All Pass

Five Clubs would have failed by one trick, and so did 5♠. It might have been made, however, had declarer guessed right in diamonds. South led the ♥K to the ace, declarer shedding a club. Next, dummy's club was led, North winning the jack. He returned a spade to Justin's ace. Next, declarer ruffed a club and ruffed a heart, drew two rounds of trumps and led a diamond. When he elected to put up dummy's king he was down one in a contract he might have made. In the aftermath, Levin said he should have won the club trick with the king, suggesting ♣AK and thus persuading declarer to misguess diamonds, but this proved not necessary in the end. Welland +100 which looked a good result.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Sandqvist</i>	<i>Fallenius</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>
			1♥
Pass	2♣	3♠	Pass
4♦	4♥	4♠	5♥
			All Pass

With 4♠ making, saving in 5♥ was the correct decision, and when Malinowski went two down due to the vicious trump break this too looked a fine result, even more so as they were playing undoubled. It certainly must have been as a disappointment to find out that you lose 5 IMPs on the deal.

De Botton recouped points on the next board:

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Ja. Hackett</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ju. Hackett</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
			Dble
1♥	Pass	3♥	
4♥	All Pass		

Strange things happened in the defence. North led the ♣A and switched to the ♠8 which ran to the ace. When Rosenberg failed to play ♠K and another (he could not be sure his partner would hold another trump) but led a second round of clubs instead, the contract suddenly was made. De Botton +620.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Sandqvist</i>	<i>Fallenius</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>
			1♠
1♣	Pass	1♦	1♠
2♥	Dble	4♥	All Pass

In the Closed Room, both bidding and play

were much more according to classical standards. North led the ♣A and duly switched to the ♠10. West won the ace, but when in with the ♥A Malinowski could be sure from the auction that his partner still had a trump left, so he simply played ♠K and another. 12 IMPs back to De Botton.

They immediately handed back these IMPs when 4♠ was misguessed at one table:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Ja. Hackett</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Ju. Hackett</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>
	1♠	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

♣10 to the jack and ace, low heart to the king and ace and ♣Q covered with the king and ruffed by West gave the defence three quick tricks. After drawing just one round of trumps declarer could not go down any more as East was unable to score any diamond overruffs.

This all may sound a little trivial, but at the other table they proved that even trivialities are not always obvious.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Welland</i>	<i>Sandqvist</i>	<i>Fallenius</i>	<i>Malinowski</i>
	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Here, the ♦J was led to the ace. Instead of drawing trumps declarer first tried to ruff a diamond in his hand, only to see it overruffed by East. Next came the ♣10 covered by the jack and ace. A fourth diamond was then ruffed high. Now, declarer cannot draw two rounds of trumps, else he runs out of trumps. So he drew one round and tried to cash the ♣K. If this had lived he would have had 10 tricks...but it did not. One down thus was the outcome and De Botton had lost 12 more IMPs and the match as well. The final



SEGUNDA FASE EQUIPOS

Después de la primera fase, se ha decidido ya los equipos clasificados en los grupos A y B. En el primero han conseguido clasificarse los equipos Pont y Goded, ya que quedaron entre los 4 primeros de sus respectivos grupos.

En el grupo A participan ahora un total de 44 equipos, que deben luchar entre sí en un suizo de 6 rondas (8 manos cada una) para decidir los 27 que se clasifican para los dieciseisavos de final. Por otro lado, en el grupo B, los restantes 37 equipos también luchan de igual manera, pero tan sólo para 5 puestos.

En la primera ronda jugada hoy algunos declarantes en Sur tuvieron ocasión de lucirse. Así es como fue en la mesa que observaba este cronista (girada para conveniencia del lector):

Dador Oeste. Este-Oeste vulnerables.

Oeste	Norte	Este	Sur
Paso	Paso	1♣	1♥
Paso	1♠	Paso	2ST
Paso	3ST	Todos pasan	

Después de la salida del ♣5 (terceras y quintas) tiene que intentar ganar el contrato:

♠ A 10 7 4 3
♥ 6 3
♦ K Q J
♣ 8 7 3

N		
W		E
	S	

♠ K 8 5
♥ A K J 8 5
♦ A 6 3
♣ J 10

La vista del muerto es desalentadora, ya que 4♠ es el contrato razonable. Tal vez Norte debería haber subastado 3♣ sobre 2ST, pero como decían en todos los cuentos: "Eso es otra historia ...".

La salida es ganada por Este con la ♣Q y, después de larga pensada, juega el ♥2. Bueno, parece que el trébol está 4-4, porque hacer tantos kilómetros para no avanzar un palo 5° firme (la subasta de 1♣ promete 4 cartas) a 3ST está fuera de cuestión. Pasamos el ♥J que hace baza y adelantamos ♥AK, descartando un ♦ el jugador en Oeste.

Este descarte es un error. Permite que el declarante, sea cual sea la distribución del palo, pueda contar la mano a la perfección. Adelantamos, por tanto, los 3 diamantes y Oeste descarta un trébol en el tercero.



Si nos fijamos de los contrarios (trébol 4-4), conocemos la mano a la perfección. Este tenía originalmente una 1-4-4-4, y su compañero una 4-2-3-4. Por tanto, jugamos el ♠K (cae la ♠Q en Este) y ♠ para el ♠10. La mano completa:

♠ A 10 7 4 3
♥ 6 3
♦ K Q J
♣ 8 7 3

N		
W		E
	S	

♠ Q
♥ Q 9 7 2
♦ 10 7 4 2
♣ A K Q 2

♠ K 8 5
♥ A K J 8 5
♦ A 6 3
♣ J 10

Si Oeste no hubiera descartado un diamante, sino un trébol, el declarante no hubiera podido contar la mano con exactitud (Oeste podía tener 1-4-4-4 ó 2-4-3-4) y hubiera tenido que acertar la posición.

En la ronda 2 también apareció una mano interesante, en la que de nuevo la defensa no presionó lo suficiente al declarante.

Dador Norte. Todos vulnerables.

Oeste	Norte	Este	Sur
1♦ (2)	Paso	1♣ (1)	Paso
3♥	1♠	2♥	2♠
	Paso	4♥	Todos pasan

(1) Precisión: 16+

(2) Negativo, 0-7

En Sur, sale usted del ♠4 (terceras y quintas) y aparece el siguiente muerto:

♠ J 5
♥ Q 9 6 3
♦ 10 9 7 4
♣ 10 6 2

N		
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 8 4
♥ 8 2
♦ J 6 3
♣ A J 8 5 3

La primera baza es ♠4, ♠5, ♠K y ♠A. El declarante juega ♥AK (Norte asiste a ambos con el ♥7 y el ♥5, en este orden) y juega el ♠7, para su ♠Q y el ♠9 del compañero. ¿Y bien?

El declarante tiene aún el ♠10 (Norte lo hubiera puesto de tenerlo en la primera baza), por lo que hay peligro de descarte en el muerto. Por otro lado, tanto el ♥7 como el ♠9 son una llamada de Norte al palo de ♦, y por tanto la vuelta de pequeño trébol (buscando ♣Kx delante) está descartada. Jugamos por tanto diamante y confiemos que Norte cruce el trébol. La mano completa:

♠ K 9 6 3 2
♥ 7 5
♦ A Q 8 2
♣ Q 9

N		
W		E
	S	

♠ Q 8 4
♥ 8 2
♦ J 6 3
♣ A J 8 5 3

♠ A 10 7
♥ A K J 10 4
♦ K 5
♣ K 7 4

Norte ganará con el ♦A y cruzará (sin dudar, esperemos) de la ♣Q. El declarante debe acertar si lo hace con Qx(x) ó bien con QJx(x). En el primer caso (el real) debe cubrir la ♣Q con el ♣K, mientras que en el segundo caso debe poner pequeño. Otra vez la desagradable tesitura de tener que acertar.

En la mesa, Norte-Sur no vieron la posición y volvieron de ♠ tras ganar la ♠Q. El declarante descartó trébol, subió al muerto con el ♥9 y jugó trébol hacia el K, asegurando el contrato siempre que Norte tenga uno de los 2 Ases.

La ronda 3 presentó una mano muy interesante.

Dador Sur. Este-Oeste vulnerables.

Oeste	Norte	Este	Sur
Paso	Paso	1♣	Paso
1♠	Paso	2ST	Paso
3♦	Doblo	3ST	Todos pasan

(1) Precisión: 16+

♠ K 8 3
♥ Q J 7 6
♦ Q 10
♣ 9 8 5 4

N		
W		E
	S	

♠ Q J 10 5 2
♥ 10 8 4
♦ 8 2
♣ Q J 6

♠ A 9 6
♥ K 9 5 2
♦ A J 9
♣ A K 3

♠ 7 4
♥ A 3
♦ K 7 6 5 4 3
♣ 10 7 2

En la mesa que observaba, Sur salió del ♦5 (cuartas), para la ♦Q de Norte y el ♦A. El declarante puede ganar si encuentra el ♠K segundo en Norte subiendo al muerto con trébol e im pasando una vez el pic.

Sin embargo, el declarante escogió jugar el ♠9 en la primera baza. Si Norte gana dicha baza para jugar el ♦10 el contrato está blindado (4 bazas en ♠, 2 en ♦ y 3 en ♣) pero viendo que él posee dicha carta y que el palo está bloqueado incluso si Sur tuviera ♦K9, decidió ceder. Bien jugado, aunque por la subasta no parece que Este tenga 3 pics de As (hubiera podido decir 3♠ sobre el doblo de Norte).

El declarante ya no puede ganar el contrato, aunque suba al muerto con trébol, impase el pic y acierte el diamante. Eso sólo 3 bazas en ♠, 2 en ♦ y 3 en trébol, para una multa.

Cuando se llevan jugadas 4 rondas, los dos equipos españoles del grupo A están en la zona baja, aunque unos buenos resultados los podrían situar en la fase de eliminatorias. En el momento de escribir esta crónica están disputando la ronda 5 del suizo.



WOMEN TEAMS
 (after 8/7 rounds)

GROUP A		GROUP B			
1	D'OVIDIO	155	1	USA/RUSSIA	140
	BAKER	155	2	WEBER	126
3	VERBEEK	147	3	PASMAN	122
4	DHONDY	131	4	CHANTAL	107
	POLAND	131		DENMARK	107
6	ITALIA - PENNISI	120	6	TANANBAUM	105
	HELNESS	120	7	ITALIA - RESTA	98
8	PENFOLD	118	8	ALMIRALL	92
9	BARR	105		CAVE	92
10	OSLO	80	10	JACOBUS	53
11	EURO CHICKS	73			

SENIOR TEAMS
 (after 7 rounds)

GROUP A		GROUP B			
1	KLUKOWSKI	132	1	HOLLMAN	136
2	RESTA	131	2	AUBRY	125
3	PRIDAY	122	3	SZENBERG	121
4	SCHIPPERS	116	4	TROUWBORST	110
5	RAND	107	5	FORNACIARI	109
6	SERF	96	6	JOURDAIN	101
	KAPLAN	96	7	IRELAND S.	91
8	SPENGLER	87	8	PRAHA	87
9	GORZYNSKI	73	9	EURO-AGRO	70

OPEN SWISS TEAMS
 (results subject to appeal)

GROUP A		GROUP B			
1	DUMBOVICH	117	1	IRELAND	119
2	BURAS	115	2	PALMA	113
3	OZDIL	114	3	PIEKAREK	113
4	JACOBS	113	4	KHAZANOV	110
5	KALISH	111	5	ALLIX	106
6	DE BOTTON	110	6	DOLPHINS	106
7	TEAM ORANGE I	106	7	SMITH	104
8	SAZONOV	106	8	IZISEL	104
9	LESNIEWSKI	106	9	BREMARK	102
10	JENS AUKEN	106	10	PETERSSON	101
11	BLUMENTAL	105	11	MCGOWAN	101
12	HECHT	105	12	NORDBY	100
13	RUBIN	104	13	AKILLES	100
14	GRENTHÉ	104	14	BELGIUM COOREMAN	98
15	WOLFARTH	102	15	HARANGOZO	97
16	HIRST	101	16	ONSTOTT	97
17	DENMARK	99	17	PANIS	96
18	ZIMMERMANN	98	18	COMPUTERLAND AZS PWR	94
19	AGRESSOR	98	19	HAUGE	93
20	PONT	98	20	ALIZEE	92
21	POLAND I	94	21	REESE	91
22	MIROGLIO	94	22	DENMARK JUNIOR I	91
23	BAREL	90	23	EGYPT	88
24	POPOVA	89	24	PUIG-DORIA	84
25	WELLAND	88	25	QUERAN	84
26	PANAHPOUR	88	26	BERSET	82
27	ARMSTRONG	86	27	O'ROURKE	82
28	MOSSOP	86	28	FAZZARDI	81
29	NANEV	85	29	HIRCHENAUT	79
	POLAND 2	85	30	LIECHTENSTEIN	78
31	STEEN MOELLER	84	31	BELGIUM HENRI	78
	CHEMLA	84	32	PASSARINHO	78
33	REKUNOV	83	33	BODIS	76
34	GILLIS	82	34	LATVIA	69
35	TEAM ORANGE 2	79	35	CASTELLANI	66
36	VIEGO	77	36	JUREK	63
37	TERRANEO	76	37	UYSAL	56
38	PORTUGAL	73	38	DENMARK JUNIOR 2	56
	BESSIS	73			
40	GODED	72			
41	LAVAZZA	71			
42	KIRILENKO	68			
43	FIORINI	57			
44	TOR	55			