4th EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sanremo, Italy, June 2009

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One is the Loneliest Number

The tense wait for the results

In the Round of 16 in the European Mixed Team Championship, **Neve, Zimmerman, Hauge, De Botton** and **Vriend** all recorded easy wins, but the other three matches were much closer. **Bridge Akarana** managed to hold on to enough of their halftime lead to advance, and **Badger** recovered from a halftime deficit to go forward. The most dramatic match was that between **Hansen** and **Lavazza**. The former led by 5 IMPs at halftime, but Lavazza countered strongly in the second half, scoring 50 IMPs. However, two disasters at one table cost them dearly and Hansen held on to win by 1 IMP.

Today's - Schedule

10.30	**Mixed Teams Round of 8**
10.30	**Mixed Pairs (Qualifying 3rd)**
15.30	**Mixed Teams Semi-Final**
15.30	**Mixed Pairs (Qualifying 4th)**

Round of 8

1	HANSEN	NEVE
2	BADGER	ZIMMERMANN
3	HAUGE	BRIDGE AKARANA
4	VRIEND	DE BOTTON

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MIXED TEAMS

ROUND OF 32

		1st	2nd	total
1	BUAIGH	24	29	53
	HANSEN	**27**	**46**	**73**
2	**VRIEND**	**42**	**54**	**96**
	BUDKIN	5	28	33
3	BERTHAU	32	5	37
	BRIDGE AKARANA	**12**	**40**	**52**
4	CAP. KANGAROO W/WO	30	12	42
	KHONICHEVA	**59**	**33**	**92**
5	**BADGER**	**22**	**71**	**93**
	MAAREK	11	15	26
6	**HAUGE**	**42**	**73**	**115**
	QUEEN	23	10	33
7	**DE BOTTON**	**49**	**63**	**112**
	ALBAMONTE	12	15	27
8	CALANDRA	42	25	67
	BEAUMIER	**34**	**52**	**86**
9	VYTAS	10	10	20
	NEVE	**44**	**20**	**64**
10	SERF	24	29	53
	CALLAGHAN	**34**	**54**	**88**
11	**RO. MIXT**	**38**	**61**	**99**
	PAYEN	0	31	31
12	**ALIZEE**	**26**	**44**	**70**
	JOEL	31	30	61
13	**ZIMMERMANN**	**51**	**31**	**82**
	ROSSARD	6	40	46
14	**PENFOLD**	**39**	**33**	**72**
	FAMILY TEAM	12	30	42
15	MCGANN	28	41	69
	ZALESKI	**32**	**56**	**88**
16	**LAVAZZA**	**24**	**62**	**86**
	ERICHSEN	19	30	49

ROUND OF 16

		1st	2nd	total
1	**HANSEN**	**28**	**46**	**74**
	LAVAZZA	23	50	73
2	**NEVE**	**42**	**56**	**98**
	BEAUMIER	33	9	42
3	**BADGER**	**30**	**46**	**76**
	ALIZEE	31	28	59
4	**ZIMMERMANN**	**34**	**57**	**91**
	KHONICHEVA	27	13	40
5	**BRIDGE AKARANA**	**44**	**18**	**62**
	PENFOLD	28	23	51
6	RO. MIXT	26	33	59
	HAUGE	**63**	**54**	**117**
7	**DE BOTTON**	**85**	**46**	**131**
	CALLAGHAN	13	21	34
8	ZALESKI	2	14	16
	VRIEND	**53**	**43**	**96**

The making of 3NT

Sometimes 3NT looks like a great contract both ways, but it turns out each side´s AKxxxxx opposite xxx splits 3-0.
But let us go further:
If you sit out for a session or two, instead of relaxing, try to construct a deal where no declarer can be stopped from making nine tricks, on any lead?
Furthermore, everyone has a card of each denomination.
Correct solutions will be admired.

Mixed Pairs

At the end of today we form 5 sections to play the semi final A (130 pairs). The main stream exists of pairs from the qualification. Added are pairs dropped out in the KO teams and some pairs entitled to start in the semi finals. We estimate that number to be a bit more than 20, which leaves room for 105 to 110 pairs qualifying.

Duplimate Discounts

The Duplimate dealing machines used at these championships will be sold at the end of the event with a 20% discount. Visit the Jannersten Bookshop on the first floor.

An avalanche of IMPs
Mixed Teams Swiss A, Round 2

by Jos Jacobs

In round two of Sunday's Mixed Swiss A, two interesting-looking matches between some of Saturday's group winners were scheduled: Erichsen v. Bertheau and Hansen v. Vriend. In the first match, it would be Norway v. Sweden with a little help from the Dutch (Michielsen) whereas in the other match, the Dutch team (Vriend) would have to face Austrians, Bulgarians and even a Swedish lady. Here are some hands from this round.

The Nordic match was decided on three consecutive boards, halfway the round:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	*Brogeland*	*Michielsen*	*Brogeland*
			1♣
1♠	Dble	2NT	3♣
All pass			

In a natural system, reaching game is pretty difficult. Even Boye could not solve the problem. One overtrick, Erichsen +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helness	*Upmark*	*Helness*	*Bertheau*
			1♣
Pass	1♡	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All pass	

After a 2NT rebid, reaching game is easy enough and so was the play. Kathrine Bertheau won the opening spade lead with the ace, cashed the ♣A, then played a heart to dummy's king, followed by a club. When East's ♣K popped up, Kathrine had her game in top tricks, and she was rewarded for her expert play when the ♡Q dropped doubleton. That was +630 and 11 IMPs.

In the other match, Maas-Vriend missed game on mainly the same natural auction but Wernle-Smederevac had no trouble in getting there with their Strong Club. Hansen +11 IMPs.

More IMPS to come on the next board:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	*Brogeland*	*Michielsen*	*Brogeland*
Pass	3♣	Dble	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT	All pass

In 3NT, there are just eight tricks unless South elects to lead her own suit (♡Q) rather than partner's.

Tonje Brogeland started with the ♡Q, taken by Marion Michielsen with the ace. She immediately started on diamonds, playing the jack from hand. North won the ♢Q and played the ♣K, ducked. Michielsen took the ♣Q with the ace and played the ♢K, ducked. Declarer then entered dummy with a spade to the queen and drove out the ♢A. She finished with four spades, two diamonds, two hearts and a club. Plus 600 to Bertheau.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helness	*Upmark*	*Helness*	*Bertheau*
Pass	3♣	Dble	Pass
3♡	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♡	All pass		

Making 4♡ undoubled is virtually impossible, as was proved by Tor Helness. He won the ♣K lead and played off two rounds of trumps first. After that, he could no longer make the contract as South was in control. Bertheau had another +100 and 12 IMPs.

Making 4♡ doubled, on the other hand, is easy, as was shown by Huub Bertens in our other featured match. This had been the bidding:

West	North	East	South
Bertens	*Wernle*	*Van Zwol*	*Smederevac*
Pass	3♣	Dble	Pass
3♡	Pass	4♡	Dble
All Pass			

Bertens, too, won the ♣K lead but after one top trump, he immediately led a spade to his queen. Next came a diamond to the jack and ace. South, out of clubs, could not do anything good so she returned a diamond to dummy. Another spade went to declarer's jack and the ♢9 was run when North did not cover (not that it mattered much at this stage). Two more spades, on which the losing club disappeared, survived to bring declarer's tally to eight. A club from dummy now restricted South to her two trump tricks only. Very well played for a fully deserved +790.

At the other table, Rimstedt bid 3NT over 3♡ after the same start of the auction. On a club lead, she had no chance and eventually went down three for a loss of 14 IMPs.

The very next board was a slam but would you really like to be in it?

Marion Michielsen, Netherlands

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	*Brogeland*	*Michielsen*	*Brogeland*
	1♣	Pass	1♢
1♠	2♣	2♠	3♢
All pass			

Well, I have been taught long ago that a new suit at the three-level is forcing for at least one round, but this old adage does no longer apply. Two overtricks, Erichsen +150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helness	*Upmark*	*Helness*	*Bertheau*
	1♣	Pass	1♡
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♢
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♢
Pass	3♡	Pass	3♠
Dble	Redble	Pass	4♢
Pass	5♢	Pass	6♡
All pass			

For North, even South's 2♢ was clearly forcing (as it would for most of us) so slam was reached without any trouble. On a spade lead and continuation, the only problem left for declarer was to locate the ♢Q. The more obvious finesse through East, which also works if the suit is 4-1, saved the day for N/S. Bertheau +980 and +13 IMPs. Mind you, bidding game would have brought them only 8 IMPs.

When the smoke cleared, Bertheau had blitzed Erichsen all ends up and Hansen held a strong advantage over Vriend, winning 20-10 VP.

An Apology

by Jos Jacobs

On page 9 in yesterday's Bulletin 3 it read that East bid 3♠, which was doubled by South and passed out. As is often the case, real life was even more cruel. East had duly bid 4♠, the proper action, and South doubled this, of course. North's pass was immaculate but the defence was not…So it should have read +590 to Akarana and 12 IMPs to them

Mixed Teams Swiss A Round 3

by Jos Jacobs

One of the matches in yesterday's middle round was the one between the Italian team Calandra and a Czech team, named Praha. There were a few spectacular plays to enjoy but first blood went to Prague when the Italians missed a cold game, vulnerable:

Board 21. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fort	*De Falco*	*Ditetova*	*Olivieri*
	Pass	1NT	3♠
All pass			

To me, it appeared that South and North were not on the same wavelength as far as their treatment of weak NTs was concerned. Eleven easy tricks on a diamond lead but only +200 to Calandra.

Emanuela Calandra, Italy

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ferraro	*Kyrka*	*Calandra*	*Pokorná*
	Pass	1NT	Dble
2♢	Dble	2♡	4♠
All pass			

The Czechs did much better. South doubled to show a strong hand and when North could double the transfer to show cards, South was in a good position to go all out for game. Right she was, 11 tricks as well but +650 and 10 IMPs to Praha.

Two boards later, Dano de Falco struck back almost single-handedly:

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ferraro	*Kyrka*	*Calandra*	*Pokorná*
			1♢
Pass	1♡	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♡	All pass	

At this table, North showed no interest in either the diamond fit or a heart game. East led a trump, so 10 tricks were quickly there. Praha +170.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fort	*De Falco*	*Ditetova*	*Olivieri*
			1♢
2♣	Dble	2NT	3♠
Pass	4♡	All pass	

2NT showed a good club fit but this did not deter Dano from having a go at the heart game, with his good suit. The contract can be beaten on a diamond or a spade lead but the ♣A would not do. Declarer now has the much-needed quick entry back to his hand to complete the process of drawing trumps. Alternatively, on a club continuation, the danger of losing both a diamond ruff and a spade is gone – and that's the way play went at the table. Heart to the ace and a diamond to the king and ace. Spade back to the queen and king but that was the end of the defence. When the ♡Q appeared on time, Calandra could write down +620 and chalk up 10 IMPs to level the match.

But not for long…

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fort	*De Falco*	*Ditetova*	*Olivieri*
Pass	Pass	2♣	Dble
Pass	4♣	4♠	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All pass

A classic game force, after which West did well to bid one more, nicely assessing the value of his heart holding. Praha +980.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ferraro	*Kyrka*	*Calandra*	*Pokorná*
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♢	Pass	4♠	All pass

After the Strong Club and his own negative response, Guido Ferraro was in a much more difficult position to decide if he should go on or not. When he passed, his team had lost 11 more IMPs.

The top award in a bidding contest will, of course, go to those phenomenal pairs who can find a way to reach 7♡ on this hand. The club ruff in East will be the 13th trick.

Two more accurate partscore hands had brought the Calandra deficit back to just two IMPs (20-22) when the penultimate board arrived:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Ferraro	*Kyrka*	*Calandra*	*Pokorná*
	1NT	2♣	Dble
Pass	Pass	2♡	3♡
Dble	Redble	Pass	3NT
All pass			

1NT was 12-14 and 2♣ showed majors. N/S accurately found out about their combined heart stopper (showing half a stopper each) but the play's the thing.

Calandra led the ♡10 and Ferraro contributed the eight. Unsure about the heart position, North did not give up a club to West, afraid of losing five more heart tricks next. Instead, he played ♣A and a club, West splitting his honours and North winning the king. Four rounds of diamonds were cashed and dummy exited with a heart, hoping to catch East in a major suit endplay. When West produced the ♡K instead, he could cash his club winner and push a spade through to set the contract. Well defended, Calandra +100.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Fort	*De Falco*	*Ditetova*	*Olivieri*
	1♣	2♣	Dble
Pass	Pass	2♡	Dble
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All pass			

2♣ also showed majors and here too, N/S found a way to show half a heart stopper each. East led the ♡10 and, like his Italian counterpart, West followed suit with the eight. De Falco gave this a good look but then cashed his diamonds first before simply ducking a club to West. On play with the ♣J, West could cash his ♡K and push a spade through but declarer had nine tricks: four diamonds, three clubs and one in each major. This fine declarer play turned out to be the matchwinner: Calandra +600 and 12 IMPs to win the match 32-22 or 18-12 VP.

Day Two Swiss A - Round Four

by Barry Rigal

For the fourth round I settled in to watch Alizee (Germany/Austria) against Joel (US/Poland/Netherlands), two of the group winners from day one, who only needed to coast in with two draws to qualify.

In the Open Room Zmudzinski/Seamon-Molson would take on Gromoeller/Shreckenberger, with Saurer/Fischer against Verhees/Sokolow in the other room

After a quiet first deal, Alizee struck when Doris Fischer was allowed to steal a partscore, while 1NT was being defeated 200 in the other room. Alizee led 8-0, but gave back those IMPs with interest on the next deal.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

While the Austrians played the hopeless 4♠, down two on diamond ruffs, Adam Zmudzinski doubled 1♢ - an interesting, and I would guess a minority, choice. When Janice Seamon-Molson cuebid then introduced her clubs, he headed for 3NT, and received the lead of ♢9.

Michael Gromoeller put up the ♢Q and Zmudzinski ducked, won the next diamond, and went after spades. With the honours split he could not be prevented any more from taking nine tricks (since the defenders could not establish either red-suit in time) for an 11- IMP pick-up. Can you see the ways the defenders could have done better? The first route was to shift to hearts at trick two; North must duck and East wins and reverts to clubs, setting up a fifth trick for the defence. But far easier was for Gromoeller to duck the first diamond. Now when East wins the first spade and continues the attack on diamonds declarer is helpless.

Joel now led 11-8 but that was the end of the good news for them in the match. On the next deal Seamon-Molson did not balance over a weak no-trump and transfer into hearts with:

♠ A 10 6 5 2
♡ A K
♢ 10 7 2
♣ Q 5 4

Had she done so she might have made 2♠ on anything but perfect defence, or pushed her opponents to a hopeless 3♡. They took the push to 3♡ in the other room so that was 6 IMPs to Alizee. Then Louk Verhees/ Tobi Sokolow bid to a virtually hopeless game (indeed, 2♡ might have been set in the other room after less than optimal declarer play). That was 6 more IMPs, and then to complete the pattern, a third consecutive 6-IMP swing when Sokolow passed:

♠ Q J
♡ Q 10 8 7 5
♢ 8 3
♣ A K 3 2

That let her opponents play 4♢ while in the other room Ulrike Schreckenberger opened 1♡ and heard her partner jump to 4♡ – which would have been a touch-and-go contract but it pushed Zmudzinski to 5♢x down 100.

If Schreckenberger had done the normal and successful thing on that deal, she did exceptionally well here.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♢
1♠	3♢	Dble	Pass
4♡	Pass	5♢	Pass
6♡	All Pass		

In abstract, 6♡ is just on the spade finesse, and maybe not too many outrageous breaks in the majors. But after hearing 1♢-1♠-3♢ (weak) Schreckenberger doubled rather than bid hearts. Over her partner's jump to 4♡ she advanced with 5♢ -- which may be a little aggressive but is hardly unreasonable. Gromoeller's singleton club was just what the doctor ordered; he bid 6♡ now and wrapped up 12 tricks on repeated club leads. That meant a lead of 39-11.

The bad news was by no means done; I thought Gromoeller did very well here.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

It looks natural to act directly or in balancing seat as West when South opens 1♡ in third seat and North raises to 2♡, but Gromoeller knew he was having a good set and was prepared to pay off to losing a partscore. He sold out to 2♡, and this was very much the right moment to stay silent; he led spades against 2♡ and Schreckenberger won and shifted to the ♣10, ducked all round. From there on in declarer appears to be due only two spades, a club and two trumps, and that was all she got. Since a sporting 3NT had been reached in the other room, down 100, the lead was up to 35.

Finally, the gilt on the gingerbread:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
			1♣
Pass	2♢	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♢	Pass	3♡
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

5♣ is obviously an inferior contract compared to 5♢; it was easy enough to defeat the club game via the diamond ruff, but equally, it looked easy enough to beat 5♢ via the club ruff. Not so fast! When Fischer opened her systemic action with the South cards of 1♢ she had managed to get the long clubs on lead against 5♢, and after the lead of a top spade the defence was dead.

Would it have been a simple task to beat 5♢ by North on a club lead? Yes and no. At almost every table the defenders were able to manoeuvre their ruff with great ease. But if East leads a club might North not play this to be from a singleton (what other reason could there be to lead it?) and play three rounds of hearts, planning to pitch his spade and cut the defenders' communications. Now East has to be awake enough to unblock two top hearts under the ace and king to let his partner win the third heart, in order to defeat this line of play. If any declarer went for the scissors coup the bulletin will be waiting with bated breath for the details – whether or not he succeeded.

(Note that 4♠ can be beaten on a heart ruff 4♡ on various routes including a spade ruff.)

This all resulted in a 25-2 win for Alizee; but that is not the end of the story. The two teams have drawn one another in the round of 32. I will be there to follow the next episode (or I would if I hadn't been banned by Seamon-Molson from watching!)

GREAT LEAD

by David Stern

I was watching the scores for my team on the last round of the Swiss A watching us slowly drift down from tenth equal to 13th 15th and 22nd with a few boards to go. I was a bit shocked to see that last fall so I checked the score sheet and caught this result:

Swiss A Round 5

Board 17 - Dealer North, None Vul

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

In the closed room South played 4♡ making +480. In the open room however the result came through as 4♡ -50.

The way this happened was West led the ♠3 ducked by declarer to East's queen, a spade return to the ace and a spade ruff and the ♣A. Although the lead does look spectacular East had doubled earlier in the auction to show honour doubleton to pave the way for this fine opening lead.

Highlights from the Mixed Teams Swiss A, Round 4

by Jos Jacobs

This time, we are featuring matches between teams from Ireland/Norway, France, Argentina and an intercontinental combination. Tislevoll-Payen and Budkin-McGann were our choices.

Most of the boards were quiet once again but even a flat board can be exciting, as we shall see later. Let's first go to board 6, where we saw four quite different results at our four tables.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Tislevoll-Payen:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Soulet	*Gill*	*Dutilloy*	*Davies*
		1♡	Pass
2♣	2♢	3♣	Dble
4♡	4♠	Pass	5♢
Dble	All pass		

If the defence manages to lead a diamond in time, they will beat 4♡ by one trick. At this vulnerability, an insurance save is cheap, even if it turns out to be phantom. Payen +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tislevoll	*Coriat*	*Mayer*	*Coriat*
		1♡	Pass
3♢	Dble	3♡	Pass
4♡	All pass		

3♢ showed an invitational raise but also took away enough bidding space from N/S to enable them to find their profitable (for E/W…) save. So E/W were left to play in 4♡ only to find out they couldn't make it. Payen another +100 and 5 IMPs to increase their lead to 17-1.

Budkin v. McGann

Open Room

West	North	East	South
McGann	*Heads*	*Brown*	*Dianita*
		1♡	Pass
3♣	3♢	3♡	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♢
All pass			

Here, 3♣ was a less invitational raise, so East correctly signed off. N/S thus were allowed to maybe struggle in 4♢ but quickly found out that ten tricks were always there. Budkin +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Angeleri	*Hoyland*	*Alonso*	*Glaerum*
		1♡	Pass
4♡	Dble	All pass	

The double was quite OK but this cannot be said of the defence. South led a spade to North's ace and back came…a club. A diamond at this point would have beaten the contract easily but declarer now was quick to seize her

Ricardo Angeleri, Argentina

chance. ♣A and another spade to North, who persisted with clubs but it was already too late. The diamond would go on the established ♠10 anyway as North cannot over-ruff dummy if declarer ruffs a club himself.

So a huge +790 and 14 IMPs to the Argentinians, who led 23-8 at this stage.

On the next board, slam was in the air, even more so when South opened the bidding:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

In the Tislevoll-Payen match, neither side bothered to go beyond game but the Irish were more enterprising, needing some IMPs, too:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Angeleri	*Hoyland*	*Alonso*	*Glaerum*
			1♢
1♠	3♢	3♡	Pass
4♡	All pass		

After the weak raise by North, East had no room left to fully describe her hand so E/W settled for a quiet game, making all the tricks on a diamond lead to dummy's queen. Budkin +710.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
McGann	*Heads*	*Brown*	*Dianita*
			1♢
1♠	Pass	2♡	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♢	Pass
4♡	Pass	4N!!	Pass
5♡	Pass	6♡	All pass

When North passed 1♠, East simply bid 2♡ which launched West into a cuebid. The rest was plain sailing and so was the play of the hand. McGann a fine +1430 and 12 IMPs back.

On board 8, a clear misdefence saw Tislevoll closing the gap to just 6 IMPs but the really interesting hand of the set was the last board:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Soulet	*Gill*	*Dutilloy*	*Davies*
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♢	1♠	2♠
3♢	5♢	All pass	

Both 4♠ and 4♡ in E/W should easily go down on a ruff in the other major. Looking at it superficially, one would say that a club lead beats 5♢ and, double dummy, this is true. It needs very careful defence, however, if declarer follows the best line: a scissor's coup. Win the club lead and play three rounds of hearts, intending to throw the losing spade on the third round. As we can see, East has to unblock two of his high hearts to enable West to win trick 4 and return a club. Not easy.

At the table, declarer looked like being on the right track but suddenly moved off it. He cashed the two top hearts but instead of playing a third heart (East had not unblocked), he continued trumps at trick four. East won, played a spade and got his ruff. Payen +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Tislevoll	*Coriat*	*Mayer*	*Coriat*
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♢	Dble	Pass
1♠	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♢	Pass	3♡
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♢
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♢	All pass	

When North cuebid spades twice, South believed him

and checked aces, only to find out that the pair were missing a few of them. East led a friendly ♡Q so the contract went just one off for =100 to Tislevoll and no swing. The final result: 19-12 or n17-13 V.P. to Payen.

Budkin v. McGann:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
McGann	*Heads*	*Brown*	*Dianita*
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♢	Dble	Pass
1♠	3♢	All pass	

When Heads made an invitational jump to 3♢, nobody was tempted any more. Budkin a remarkably quiet +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Angeleri	*Hoyland*	*Alonso*	*Glaerum*
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♢	Dble	Pass
1♠	3♢	Pass	3♠
Dble	5♢	All pass	

When South moved over 3♢, the partnership was committed to game. On a club lead by East, declarer went after the trumps immediately and thus was one down rather quickly. Budkin another +100 and 6 IMPs to win the match 28-22 or 17-13 VP as well.

Ana Maria de Alonso, Argentina

Stupid remark

by Jan van Cleeff

Board 20, round 5, Saturday 13 June

Dealer West, All vul.

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

Tor Helness played 3NT from West. North, which happened to be your reporter, kicked off with a low spade and when I advanced my fourth spade I stupidly remarked: "Everybody is squeezed." True and not true. As it turned out to be, the only person who was squeezed, was my poor partner Elisabeth – as usual.

At the table East, West and South got rid of a club. Some tricks later, on the third round of hearts, Tor caught me in a minor suit squeeze. I decided to sit on my diamonds and Tor's ♣5 was his ninth trick.

Question 1. Should South have discarded a diamond rather then a club? Again declarer would prevail. South had to reduce her club holding to two after three rounds of diamonds and eventually North got squeezed again in clubs and diamonds.

Question 2. Should North-South cash one or two spades and exit with an idle card? No. Sooner or later declarer will play a spade himself to set up a squeeze.

Question 3. Should defence cash exactly three spades and then exit with an idle card? No. A club towards the ♣8 or ten would do the job; eventually the thirteenth club is declarer's ninth trick.

Question 4. Would a lead in another suit spoil declarer's party? Not so. Again declarer will attack spades himself, leaving defence without no chance.

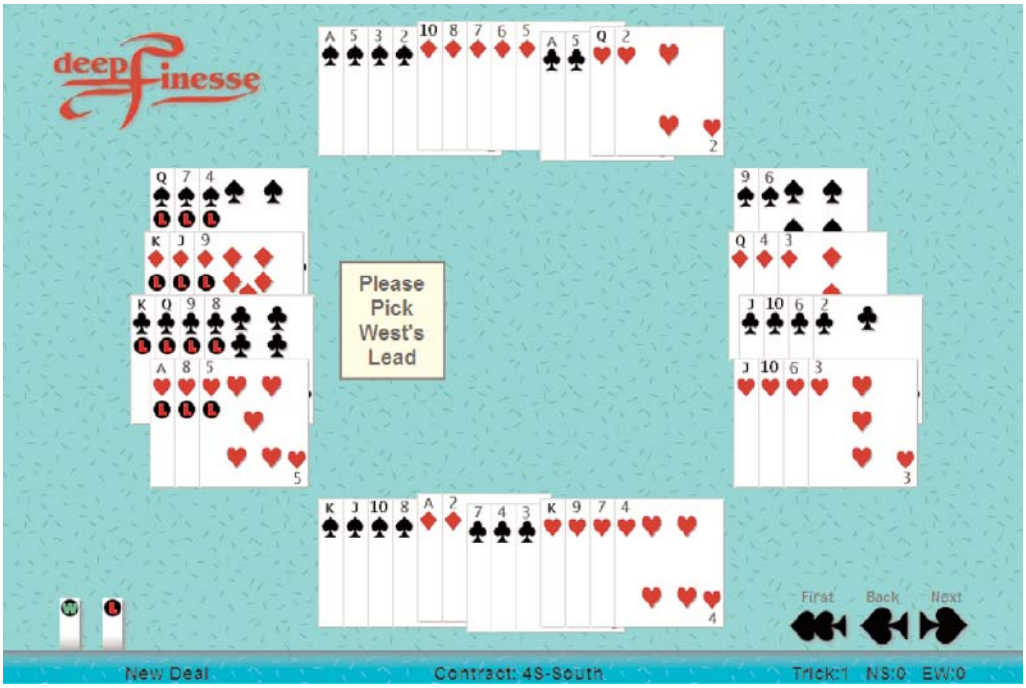
Needless to say that the board proved to be a push.

SHALLOW FINESSE
THE DAY DEEP FINESSE LOST ITS WAY

by David Stern

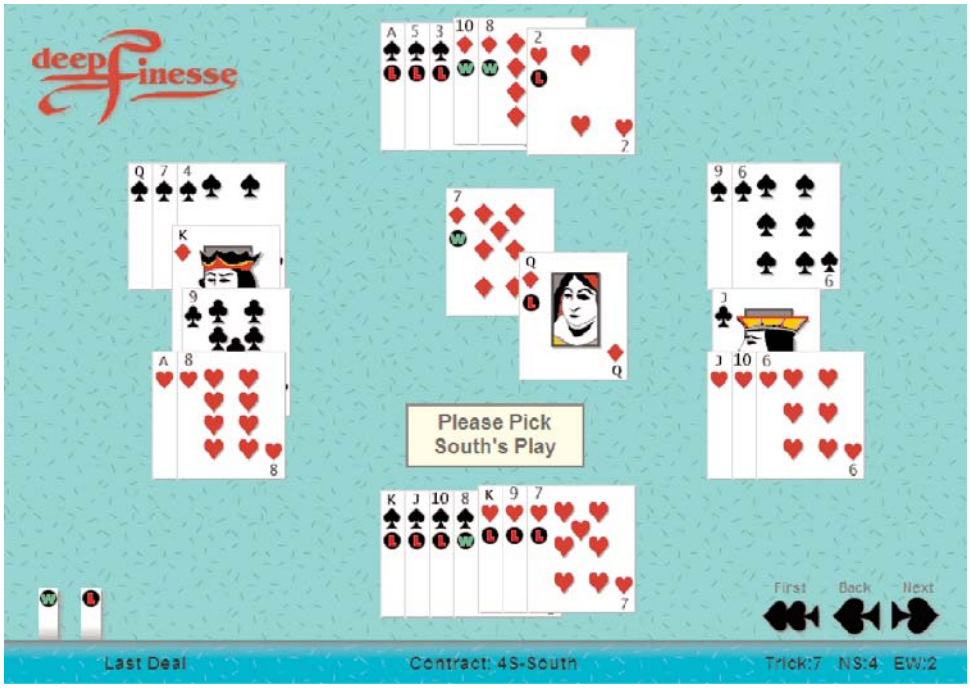
Some of you will have noticed my article yesterday in which I discussed the author and quality of Deep Finesse. In that article I noted that I have rarely if ever seen Deep Finesse in error.

When I arrived at the Bulletin Office, I was greeted by Jean-Paul Meyer who questioned my assertions with the following deal which apparently cost him a dinner when, like me he suggested that Deep Finesse being wrong was 'pas possible'.

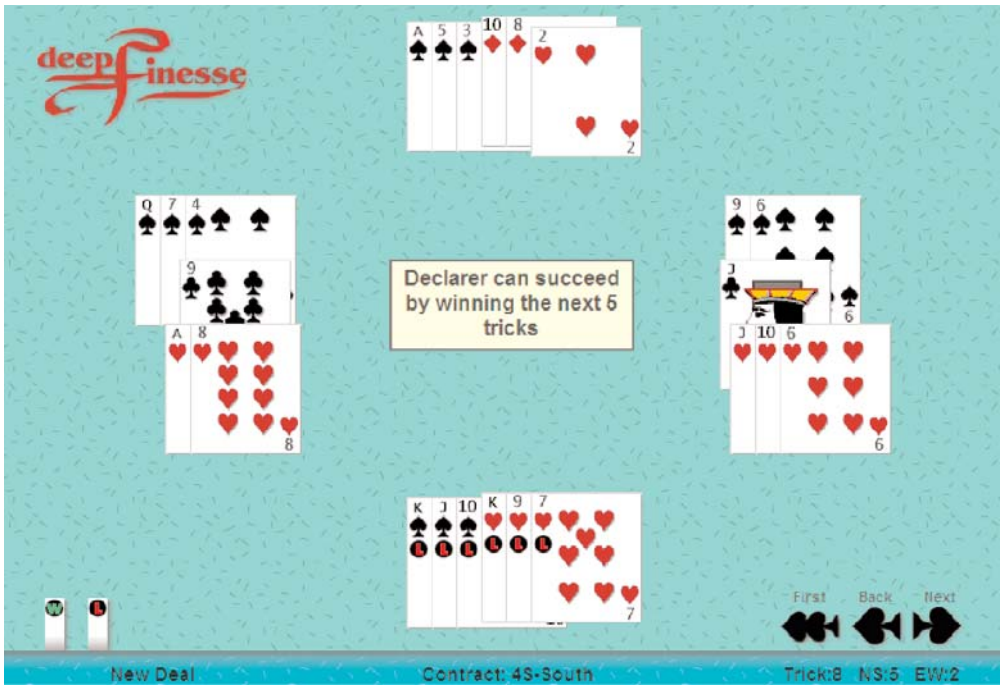


This screen shows the original deal. In each of the next six cards DF still maintains that the defence loses (letter L next to each of West's cards) and declarer will therefore succeed.

You follow the 'winning line' of ruffing diamond with the ♠8 in this position:



Then you arrive at this position where DF now tells you that every play by South loses.



As you can see DF suggests with declarer already having taken five tricks (bottom right of screen) that five more tricks are available. Note however that it also suggests that every card which South can play will lead to defeat. Nothing has changed from what DF has told you to play to the previous trick where it suggested that you were about to succeed.

With the spade suit blocked and no entry to dummy to enjoy the established diamonds it is clear that declarer will now fail provided West covers the ♠J or ♠10.

Is there a doctor in the house as Barry Rigal confesses the the pillar of his very being has been shaken to the ground. Wont you come home Bill Bailey and explain this to us poor humble journalists.

Stern views

In Bulletin 1 David Stern presented statistics to show that 3NT is better than a major game if opener has a strong NT hand with 4(333), and responder has (4)432, and probably also 4(333) - even if he didn´t mention it.

If both have 4(432) the major game is superior.

Who are we to question statistics? It seems to me that David´s findings tell us that a responder with 4(333) shouldn´t bother to use Stayman.

Would the fact that 1NT may contain a 5-card major make any difference to responder´s choice? After all we might have a 5-4 fit – rarely but still...

A responder with 4(432) should ask for majors as opener is more likely to hold (4432) than (4333). But in my opinion it is a waste of bidding space to use up a bid after finding a major fit to say I have support but perhaps we should play 3NT if you have a 4(333) hand (The old fashioned English Stayman in Doubt or SID, using a 3D continuation over a major-suit response to 2♣. Not only do you need the few bids available below 3NT for other purposes but 4(333) is much less frequent than 4(432) anyway. And unrevealing bidding will produce many extra tricks against someone other than Deep Finesse.

If responder has a five-card major, transfers, and bids 3NT, the simulation said that opener should pass with 4333. But responder might have 52(42) and no interest in a minor game, perhaps even 5(431) sometimes. That makes the calculation somewhat harder

Personally I find it more annoying if I am allowed to make a choice, and then I do the wrong thing, than if I just bid my major-suit game, and it fails because of bad splits.

There is such an abundance of other annoying factors, that I´m happy if I can avoid just one.

Mixed Teams Swiss A, final round

by Jos Jacobs

Here are a few decisive hands from two matches in the final round of Sunday's Swiss A. In both matches, neither team could afford a big defeat, so there would be much at stake for all four teams involved. The featured matches are Erichsen (Norway) v. Gladiator (Germany) and Bridge Akarana (New Zealand) v. Lavazza (Italy).

In fact, Gladiator needed a win to proceed to the round of 32. They made just the start they wanted as this was board 12:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helness	*Engel*	*Helness*	*Gladiator*
Pass	Pass	1♢	2♣
Dble	Pass	2♢	Pass
2♡	All pass		

When East opened a natural 1♢, N/S were effectively talked out of their best fit – not that they would regret it! Over 2♢, West had to pick a major. On this misfit, neither would have been a great success. The final contract went two off for a score of +100 to Gladiator.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weber F	*Brogeland*	*Weber E*	*Brogeland*
2♢	Pass	2NT	3♢
3♠	4♢	Dble	Pass
4♡	Pass	Pass	5♢
Pass	Pass	Dble	All pass

In the Open Room, West opened 2♢ to show his major twosuiter. East enquired, South overcalled, West showed his 5-5, North raised his partner and East doubled for what looks very much like business. West was not convinced however, nor was South…

Down three, a major disaster for the Norwegians, +800 and 14 IMPs to Gladiator.

In the Akarana-Lavazza match, there also was a swing:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sementa	*Jacob T.*	*Cuzzi*	*Jacob S.*
Pass	Pass	1♢	Pass
2♡	Pass	2♠	All pass

Two Hearts showed both majors, so E/W reached a reasonable enough spot only to find out they could not make the contract. One down, Akarana +50.

The New Zealand E/W did much better:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cornell	*Bocchi*	*Cornell*	*Auken*
Pass	Pass	1♢	2♣
Dble	All pass		

The Cornells managed to double and pass the 2♣ overcall. When it went one off, they had scored the magic +200 and collected 6 IMPs.

On the next board, Lavazza missed a delicate vulnerable game but still recorded a good swing in their favour:

Tonje Aasand Brogeland, Norway

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sementa	*Jacob T.*	*Cuzzi*	*Jacob S.*
	1♢	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♢	All pass	

If you don't want to rebid 2NT, for systemic or any other reason, this is a case of the rebiddable four-card suit. When South did not bother to speak again, N/S had landed in an interesting contract which had to go two off. Lavazza +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cornell	*Bocchi*	*Cornell*	*Auken*
	1♢	Pass	3♣
All pass			

The invitational jump to 3♣ might have inspired Bocchi to have a go at 3NT but as it happened, passing it was already good enough to gain a swing. Eleven tricks, Lavazza +150 and 8 IMPs.

In the other match, Erichsen struck back:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weber F	*Brogeland*	*Weber E*	*Brogeland*
	1♣	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All pass	

3♠ showed a singleton and asked for a stopper and 3NT confirmed the presence of it…
It did not matter as with spades 4-4 the contract is cold.

Just made, Erichsen +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helness	*Engel*	*Helness*	*Gladiator*
	Pass	Pass	3♣
All pass			

Once you don't consider AK, A an opening bid, you won't bid games like this very easily. Without a stopper in either major North has little choice but to pass the pre-empt. Gladiator +130 but 10 IMPs back to Erichsen.

On the next board, there was an Italian accident:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cornell	*Bocchi*	*Cornell*	*Auken*
		1♣	Dble
1♢	Dble	1♠	Pass
2♠	2NT	All pass	

West had shown spades with 1♢ and 2NT had confirmed a minor-oriented hand. Three of either manor would have been a better contract for N/S but in 2NT, the defenders have to be alert. After the lead of a top spade by East and a low spade continuation, E/W took their four tricks in the suit and then it was up to East to find the right shift. When she played a club rather than the ♡Q, the contract was home. Lavazza +120.

Not that it mattered very much:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sementa	*Jacob T.*	*Cuzzi*	*Jacob S.*
		1♣	Pass
1♡	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	3♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All pass		

Maybe, Sementa should have contented himself with a spade raise but passing the double with such indifferent trump spots does not appeal to me either. Anyway, an overtrick was quickly born for +570 and 10 IMPs to Akarana. They had gone back into the lead.

The Italians got their revenge two boards later when they sort of stole a slam:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Cornell	*Bocchi*	*Cornell*	*Auken*
2♢	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

When the long clubs never entered the scene, 3NT was the logical outcome. Eleven tricks, Akarana +660.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sementa	*Jacob T.*	*Cuzzi*	*Jacob S.*
1♣	1♢	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♢	Pass
4♡	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♣	All pass		

After 3NT, Sementa knew he had a nice source of tricks he set off for a slam and duly reached it when he heard a positive response. North might have beaten it by leading ♢A and another but when he led a spade instead, Sementa was not tested in the play.

Needless to say 6NT is much safer, though it needs some good finessing to make it – as would be needed to land 6♣ in case of a neutral lead.

Tom Jacob, New Zealand

Anyway, Lavazza had gained 12 IMPs here to go in front again in the match. They held on to win 28-19 or 18-12 VP which meant that both teams qualified – Akarana finishing joint 26th to just make it!

In the other match, with the scores level after board 14, they had played three flat boards in succession when this one came by:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helness	*Engel*	*Helness*	*Gladiator*
		Pass	1NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All pass			

After a weak NT and a diamond transfer (or was it Puppet Stayman), the normal contract was reached and West led a spade to the jack and king. Declarer won the next spade and played on diamonds, West winning the second round. He immediately shifted to the ♡10 rather than first cashing the spades. Declarer won the ace in dummy and cashed her remaining diamond winners but East could afford to throw a spade now, so the defenders were never in trouble and the contract eventually had to go one down. Erichsen +100.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weber F	*Brogeland*	*Weber E*	*Brogeland*
		Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All pass	

Here, 1♠ showed diamonds but the final contract and lead were the same. The play was not, however. South won the ♠A immediately and went after the diamonds. West took his ace immediately and the defenders first cashed their spade winners before West exited with the ♡6 to dummy's ace. East now thought she had to stick to her ♡QJ in the end so she decided to discard all but one of her clubs, holding on to the bare jack rather than the king. Declarer thus had no problem in making the rest of the tricks for a huge +600 and 12 IMPs to Erichsen. It looked all over.

And so it turned out. Both teams scored a 5-IMP swing each on the two last boards but Erichsen had won 32-20 or 19-11, so they were in and their opponents were not.

Forward movement

by Brent Manley

Entering the final round of the Mixed Teams Swiss, the Erichsen and Gladiator teams were on the cusp, standing 27th and 29th, respectively, with the top 27 in their group making it to the knockout phase. The winner, therefore, was likely to move on and the losers heading for the Mixed Pairs.

Things started well for Gladiator who gained 14IMPs on round 12 (see page 14).

The Erichsen team struck back on the next board.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
T. Helness	*Engel*	*G. Helness*	*Gladiator*
	Pass	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

Anne Gladiator lost one spade and two hearts for plus 130. The Brogelands found a better spot at the other table.

Gunn Helness, Norway

West	North	East	South
F. Weber	*B. Brogeland*	*E. Weber*	*T. Brogeland*
	1♣	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Boye Brogeland's opening of 1♣ apparently showed a balanced hand. Tonje Brogeland's club raise showed some extras, and her spade bid obviously served as a warning that her partner ignored (neither opponent had bid spades, so he had a reasonable hope the suit was 4-4, and he was right). East/West took the first four spade tricks, and Boye claimed as soon as both opponents followed to the first round of clubs. Plus 600 and 10 IMPs to Erichsen.

The Norwegians gained another 5 IMPs when Tor Helness played in 3♡ on a 6-2 fit, making three, and the Webers bid 4♠ on their 4-4 fit but went down because of bad splits in the majors. It was now 15-15.

Three pushes followed, then Erichsen struck again.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
T. Helness	*Engel*	*G. Helness*	*Gladiator*
		Pass	1NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Tor Helness started with a low spade to the jack and king, declarer ducking. Gladiator won the next spade and played a diamond to dummy's queen, then a diamond to the 10, king and ace. Helness was not sure of the layout of the spades, so he exited with the ♡10, taken in dummy with the ace. Declarer played a diamond to her 9 and another diamond, East discarding the ♠10 on the fourth round of diamonds. On the last diamond, East discarded the ♣J, so Gladiator entered her hand with the ♡K and played the ♣Q, considered running it but eventually went up with the ace. That was it for tricks, and she finished one down for minus 100.

If declarer had crossed to hand with a diamond to the king in order to play a spade, intending to put in the ten, West can go in with the jack after which declarer has no winning move.

If declarer had played a spade to the ace at trick two and then played a heart she might have got home but she would have needed to get the trumps right and then finesse the ten of diamonds.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bakkeren	*Mayantz*	*Arnolds*	*Budkin*
			1NT
Pass	2♡*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♡	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West cashed the ace of diamonds and continued the suit, declarer taking East's jack with the king. Should she have been suspicious? In the event she cashed dummy's top spades and then played a diamond to the ten. West ruffed the third round of clubs so she was the same one down.

Dessy Popova was one of five players who made 4♠. She was also treated to two rounds of diamonds and although she though long and hard about playing a spade to the ten she also cashed the ♠AK. However, she then played a heart and when a sleepy East failed to take the ace she won in hand with the king and played the top clubs, discarding dummy's hearts.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Angeleti	*Maas*	*Alonso*	*Vriend*
Pass	1♡	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♡	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

Should South pass Two Hearts? That would make in some comfort, whereas a spade lead defeats Three Clubs in simple fashion. West led…. the queen of spades, one down, +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bakkeren	*Mayantz*	*Arnolds*	*Budkin*
Pass	1♡	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♡	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Two Spades was very optimistic and it led to a hopeless 3NT. West led a spade and declarer won at one and ran the queen of diamonds. When that held she tried the eight of hearts, but with nothing good happening she finished three down, -150, and lost 5 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Angeleti	*Maas*	*Alonso*	*Vriend*
			Pass
1♢	Pass	1♡	1♠
2♢	All Pass		

You would like to be in 3NT on the East/West cards, but with the diamond queen failing to oblige it looked as if the +130 achieved by declarer would open the Argentinean team's account.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bakkeren	*Mayantz*	*Arnolds*	*Budkin*
			Pass
1♢	Pass	1♡	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♢	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the seven of spades and declarer won in hand with the ten and ran the jack of diamonds to North's queen. With the singleton king of clubs on view in dummy North tried the effect of switching to the six of clubs and declarer claimed ten tricks and +660.

Do you blame North for failing to find the heart switch?

Declarer had bid hearts, but had also bid 1NT, perhaps suggesting something in clubs. Whatever you think it cost 11 IMPs.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Angeleti	*Maas*	*Alonso*	*Vriend*
	Pass	Pass	1♡
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♡
All Pass			

Declarer won West's club lead with the ace and played a heart to dummy's queen. When that held she tried a diamond finesse and West won and played the jack of spades, covered by the king and ace. East cashed the queen of spades and the king of clubs and then played another club. Declarer ruffed with the eight of hearts and when that held she exited with the king of hearts, pinning the jack, +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bakkeren	*Mayantz*	*Arnolds*	*Budkin*
	Pass	Pass	1♡
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♡
Pass	Pass	Dbl	Pass
2♠	3♣	All Pass	

A fine protective effort by East saw North/South go a level higher in a different suit.

Three Clubs had no play at all, and declarer finished three down, -150. That was another 6 IMPs to Vriend, who won a one sided set 42-4 IMPs.

The second half also went well for Vriend who won easily, 96-33 IMPs.

Decisions of the Appeal Committee

At a disciplinary hearing held on Sunday evening, the player Leonardo Cima (Italy) has been found guilty of causing a severe disturbance in the playing area during a session. He is severely admonished and this decision is to be made known to his national federation.

In one of the Knock-Out matches, a team arrived 12 minutes late at the table. Under the powers vested in it by regulation 27 of the Conditions of Contest, the Appeal Committee fined the offending team 6 IMPs in the match.

Combined Effort

by Nikolas Bausback

Normally one scores 690 single-handedly, by coming to 12 tricks in a vulnerable notrump game. A more exclusive club to join is by scoring this number as a combined effort, collecting 16 notrump tricks at both tables.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

North/ South in the Closed Room rested after an uncontested auction in a somewhat uncomfortable 1NT contract, but aided by a friendly defence, declarer was allowed to take 7 tricks (3♠, 2♡, 1♢, 1♣).

The real brilliancy took place in the Open Room, where Barbara and Tomek Gotard were a little bit more active in the bidding than their counterparts. A 1NT overcall of South's natural One Club opening put them quickly into game.

West	North	East	South
Gotard		*Gotard*	
	Pass	Pass	1♣
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♢*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Tomek ducked spades twice and after winning his ace on the third round finessed in clubs. North took the queen and cashed his established spade winner. South discarded a heart and declarer let go a club on this trick. Winning the heart switch in his hand, not wasting dummy's queen, Tomek managed to pick up the queen of diamonds by cashing the ace and then playing the jack. North covered and declarer won with dummy's king and cashed the ten to reach this position:

	♠ — ♡ J 6 ♢ 6 ♣ 5	
♠ — ♡ 4 ♢ — ♣ A J 8	N W E S	♠ — ♡ Q 9 ♢ 7 ♣ 2
	♠ — ♡ K ♢ — ♣ K 7 6	

Now the seven of diamonds squeezed South, to earn a nice 12-IMP swing for his team.

MIXED PAIRS - QUALIFYING

(standings after 2 sessions - provisional)

Rank	Names	Percentage
1	HOMME - HOMME	61,29
2	KARAKOLEV - MITOVSKA	59,90
3	ROMANOVSKA - MAGNUSSON	59,40
4	OREY CAPUCHO - CAPUCHO	59,40
5	CARNESECCHI - GASPARINI	59,19
6	BAREL - TAL	58,60
7	PONOMAREVA - DUBININ	57,95
8	CALDARELLI - CASTIGNANI	57,89
9	ZOBU - ARONOV	57,83
10	MISZEWSKA - ZAKRZEWSKI	57,68
11	ANFINSEN - SOLHEIM	57,66
12	EIJCK - EIJCK	57,27
13	FIASCHI - ROMANO	56,82
14	BABAC - UYSAL	56,52
15	MONTANARI - CARAFA	56,48
16	BUDD - HARRIS	56,41
17	GALAKTIONOVA - STOLBOVSKIJ	56,36
18	DRIJVER - HAYMAN PIAFSKY	56,11
19	OPPENSTAM - NILSSON	56,04
20	MACKENZIE - MACKENZIE	55,97
21	MACI - PASQUARE	55,95
22	GRENTHE - BERG	55,91
23	PROKOPIOY - PAPYRAKI	55,83
24	HALLBERG - HARPER	55,80
25	FREY - PRIMAVERA	55,66
26	LUTOSTANSKI - JELENIEWSKA	55,54
27	BLAAGESTAD - SAETERDAL	55,53
28	RINGSETH - THORESEN	55,40
29	LIOSSIS - NIKA	55,40
30	BRKLJACIC - IVANCIC	55,38
31	BEAUCHAMP - BOARDMAN	55,35
32	REMEN - AASAN	55,31
33	GRENTHE - D'OVIDIO	55,19
34	BAHNIKOVA - BAHNIK	55,18
35	ENGEBRETSEN - SALDZIEVA	55,15
36	BRANDOLINI - RIVANO	55,00
37	FORNACIARI - BARONI	54,92
38	WITTEVEEN - WARENDORF	54,70
39	ELSINEN - ELSINEN	54,58
40	WEBER - WEBER	54,55
41	GILL - DAVIES	54,31
42	TITOW - TITOW	54,11
43	GOLD - SEALE	54,02
44	KAREKE - KAREKE	53,98
45	MANDELLI - MARIANI	53,97
46	PACE - TARANTINO	53,95
47	BIRMAN - BIRMAN	53,94
48	CIMA - GEMIGNANI	53,78
49	DENNISON - MOSSOP	53,76
50	MCLEISH - MCLEISH	53,70
51	PAGAN - GODFREY	53,41
52	POKORNA - KURKA	53,41
53	DEWASME - DEHAYE	53,34
54	KHAZANOV - LEBEDEVA	53,27
55	PELLE - HAVERKATE	53,19
56	CASSAI - ROSTI	53,17
57	NATHAN - NATHAN	53,13
58	PARNIS-ENGLAND - DIX	53,08
59	MULTON - CAPORALI	53,07
60	ODELLO - MOFAHKAMI	53,06
61	STANICIC - ZJACA	53,03
62	SAKOWSKA - BUTRYN	52,89
63	BIANCHI - CATELLANI	52,87
64	KRAVCHENKO - SHOKHAN	52,71
65	SIMON - ARTMER	52,69
66	GROMOVA - GROMOV	52,63
67	KANDEMIR - NUHOGLU	52,58
68	AGHEMO - CORTI	52,55
69	DE GOETZEN - PORCINO	52,53
70	BONORI - GAVELLI	52,48
71	LIN - CHIEN	52,48
72	LILLIS - MCGLOUGHLIN	52,42
73	GOODMAN - MACHALE	52,41
74	HODEROVA - KOPECKY	52,34
75	PUNCH - PETERKIN	52,33
76	FENESS - KOPSTAD	52,24
77	NELSON - NELSON	52,16
78	BLAKEY - BLAKEY	52,12
79	KONDAKCI SEN - SEN	52,11
80	SIRIKLIOGLU - TUNALI	52,10
81	DHONDY - DHONDY	52,01
82	PISAK - GATTENIO	51,98
83	MORIN - DE RUSSE	51,94
84	CLAIR - PAGNINI-ARSLAN	51,92
85	DAVIES - GISBORNE	51,90
86	TESSARO - WILLS	51,87
87	SCHIPPERS-BOSKLOPPER - STIENEN	51,81
88	BIRIN - ZENKEVICH	51,79
89	BEGAS - GROSMANN	51,66
90	GERST - FREY	51,64
91	GOTARD - GOTARD	51,63
92	REDDAN - MITCHELL	51,61
93	CHODOROWSKA - CHODOROWSKI	51,60
94	BARBAN - MARCELLO	51,51
95	LONGINOTTI - MAI	51,51
96	TIHANE - STRAUME	51,48
97	PANA - MUCHA	51,43
98	BARONI - FRATI	51,27
99	JESENICNIK - ORAC	51,26
100	BOHNSACK - BOHNSACK	51,26
101	DANYLYUK - DANYLYUK	51,24
102	MCGOWAN - LIGGAT	51,19
103	BARENDREGT - GOTARD	51,17
104	BASARAN - KANSAK	51,13
105	BUSI - RICCI	51,11
106	BIANCHERI - SIMEOLI	51,06
107	COLOMBARO - DANIC	51,02
108	CLIFFORD - CLIFFORD	50,94
109	HOLMGREN - ANDREASSON	50,90
110	STRETZ - ROTH	50,88
111	SOLOMON - SOLOMON	50,82
112	CESARI - NATALE	50,77
113	TISLEVOLL - MAYER	50,73
114	KUNST - VIOREL	50,64
115	ASTORE - COLOMBO BRUGNONI	50,61

116	HERBST - BARR	50,61
117	TELTSCHER - COYLE	50,48
118	SCHILHART - GRAMBERG	50,46
119	YAVAS - KAHYAOGLOU	50,46
120	CYPRES - CRESTEY	50,42
121	PISANI - MARINO	50,42
122	LANGER - GWINNER	50,37
123	VISENTIN - REPETTO	50,36
124	UTNER - ANGEBRANDT	50,17
125	MARIANI - BURATTI	50,14
126	RÖHLK - GRENZ	50,13
127	STAHL - FAEHR	50,11
128	PSZCZOLA - SIMPSON	50,08
129	STOKKVIK - FARSTAD	49,89
130	TERNBLAD - TERNBLAD	49,79
131	SIROLA - SIROLA	49,76
132	BANKOGLU - BANKOGLU	49,72
133	JONES - JONES SYDNEY	49,72
134	SMITH - HARPER	49,66
135	FORGE - VENTOS	49,58
136	VAN MIDDELEM - STUYCK	49,56
137	PEDERZOLI - MINALDO	49,49
138	NETSMAN - NETSMAN	49,49
139	ZLOBICH - HAPONAVA	49,41
140	FABRIZI - RAFFAELLI	49,31
141	NIEMEIJER - PASMAN	49,21
142	ERDEOVA - MASEK	49,20
143	BADRANKOVA - ARLOVICH	49,13
144	O'LUBAIGH - FINN	49,06
145	SORO - LEGGIO	49,02
146	DITETOVA - FORT	48,98
147	ALP - GUR	48,97
148	PATTINSON - PATTINSON	48,92
149	SHAMI - CAMP	48,81
150	LESKELA - VIRTANEN	48,76
151	GUERMANI - NURISIO	48,75
152	GAVIARD - ALLOUCHE - GAVIARD	48,74
153	TEMPESTINI - FOSSI	48,74
154	JOST - JOST	48,72
155	CAPORALETTI - MARINELLI	48,68
156	JANSMA - SCALAMOGNA	48,65
157	SVEDLUND - EFRAIMSSON	48,52
158	SALONEN - MORAWSKI	48,39
159	PALMA - PRADOS	48,30
160	BRUNNER - HOLLAND	48,28
161	CAMPAGNANO - MORITSCH	48,23
162	PIGANAU - PIGANEAU	48,21
163	KARLSSON-UISK - UISK	48,01
164	KUZNIATSOVA - TIMAKHOVICH	47,96
165	KOTRONAROU - SIDIROPOULOS	47,94
166	ENGEL - GLADIATOR	47,88
167	MUNTEANU - MUNTEANU	47,81
168	YOUNG - YOUNG	47,60
169	EMODY - SCHWARTZ	47,55
170	YILMAZ - GULTEKINGIL	47,54
171	BALDI - BALDI	47,45
172	MEGLIO - PISCITELLI	47,42
173	PASSARINHO - PIDAL	47,38
174	KOZYRA - OHRYSKO	47,30
175	BRENNER - ANIDJAR	47,24
176	TRALLO - CAMINATI	47,22
177	FRANCHI - CARFAGNA	47,21
178	COSIMI - BETTARELLI	47,16
179	RUBINS - VOROBEYCHIKOVA	47,13
180	SMYKALLA - SCHNEIDER	47,07
181	MINA - FEDERICO	46,97
182	VOLHEJN - JANKOVA	46,96
183	DE BRONAC - DE BRONAC	46,93
184	LEDGER - HANNAH	46,91
185	RONIN - RONINOVA	46,85
186	REYGADAS - GAMIO	46,85
187	FERRAMOSCA - LANZOTTI	46,77
188	NORDBY - VIGMOSTAD	46,69
189	BAUSBACK - ALBERTI	46,63
190	TOKAROVA - ZLACKY	46,61
191	CARPENTIERI - DIAMANTI	46,58
192	KOKTEN - ALUF	46,58
193	POLLEDRO - FORNI	46,53
194	SEN - SUT	46,53
195	SVOBODOVA - SVOBODA	46,26
196	JONSSON - JAKOBY	46,20
197	TONINI - SALVADORI	46,15
198	LUSTIN - RUNACHER	46,14
199	AUBONNET - CARDE	45,95
200	DAVIES - DAVIS	45,70
201	MALCHUS - HOEGER	45,34
202	SEQUI - LEONARDI	45,33
203	DALPOZZO - MALAGUTI	45,17
204	MICHELIN - FEIGENBAUM	45,09
205	SHPAK - BELIANKINA	45,09
206	AMBROZ - AMBROZ	45,04
207	OLSSON - ALLGOWER	44,92
208	VAN HOOIJDONK - NGUYEN	44,68
209	GENTILI - GENTILI	44,58
210	PIEDRA - SAESSELI	44,48
211	VERBEEK - FREAN	44,05
212	MILMAN - STELMASHENKO	43,90
213	THEELKE - SKELTON	43,44
214	KUTNER - NIKITINE	43,35
215	ATALIK - ATALIK	43,25
216	WALSH - KEMPLE	43,08
217	ZARKESCH - BOEDDEKER	42,72
218	KENT - KENT	42,70
219	DELIMPALTADAKIS - PAPAIOANNOU	42,64
220	ABLEY - IRWIN	42,61
221	CONDOLEO - OCCELLI	42,38
222	PROIA - CERRI	42,28
223	CASTRO DE LOMELI - FRONTAURA	42,27
224	FUZEAU - SIMILLE	42,17
225	GREPPI - PELIZZARI	42,11
226	CEDOLIN - JACONA	41,92
227	BARLA - RUFFINO	41,59
228	RONCONI - CALZOLARI	41,58
229	BRINK - BRINK	41,58
230	MARINONI - ROMANO	41,42
231	PALMIERI (2) - SCIUBBA	40,90
232	VESTH-HANSEN - VESTH-HANSEN	40,90
233	TAPSTER - LANE	40,47
234	ANGELINI - CAPITANI	39,77
235	AZERRAF - BENYES	39,09
236	LONGO - COSTAGLIOLA	38,62
237	SALA - PIATERRA	37,96
238	NATTA - BARLA	36,72
239	HARFOUCHE - FAYAD	23,33

EUROPEAN WOMEN's BRIDGE JAMBOREE'
ROME - ITALY 6/11 OCTOBER 2009

Under the auspices of Anna Maria Torlontano,
Chairman of the EBL and WBF Women's Committees

The European Jamboree' is dedicated to the Women Bridge players of any level and rank. It is a true "Festival" where serious and qualified Bridge Tournaments, high level tourism, friendship and warm hospitality, merge in a pleasant, relaxing and amusing atmosphere. This event is "transnational" which means that Women players from different countries can play together and, more, is extended to the players from outside Europe, from other continents. We are so lucky, this year because the "Jamboree' will be organized in Rome! The splendour of Rome, built throughout the centuries by Emperors and Popes, is still visible to day in his streets and squares. The beauty of the churches, abbeys, fountains and monuments truly makes it the "Eternal City"! ….. and October is one of the best months in Rome!! For your 5 unforgettable days, this is the **PROGRAMME**

1st day (Tuesday 6 October 2009)

	Arrival in Rome Transfer to Hotel Sheraton
15.30/18.30	Registration to the "Jamboree"
18.45	Welcome drink and dinner in Hotel
	After dinner ,transfer to the "Bridge Club Eur", our playing area
21.30	Friendly Tournament (optional 5 Euros)
	Evening free for the players who don't intend to participate in the tournament.

2nd day (Wednesday 7 October 2009)

8.30 (approx)	"Apal Audience" (if His Holiness the Pope will be in Rome). otherwise visit of the cathedral of Saint Peter and the Cappella Sistina.
	At the end, continuation to the Bridge Club. Mini-lunch
14.00	Individual Tournament (one session)
	Transfer to the Hotel.
19.30	Dinner in the Hotel
21.00	Social Tournament in the Club (optional) or evening free.

3rd day (Thursday 8 October 2009)

9.00	Full day guided tour to the historical centre of Rome (lunch included)
19.30	Dinner in the Hotel
21.00	"Italian National Simultaneous Tournament" in the Club, or evening free.

4th day (Friday 9 October 2009)

	Morning free- Optional excursion to two well known outlets, for shopping. (25 minutes by coach – tickets to be purchased)
16.45	Transfer to the Bridge Club
17.00	Pairs Tournament (1st session)
19.30	Dinner in the Hotel and return to the Club
21.15	Pairs Tournament (2nd session).

5th day (Saturday 10 October 2009)

	Morning free
16.00	Coach to the Bridge Club
17.00	Pairs Tournament (3rd session)
	At the end return to the Hotel
21.30	Victory Banquet and Prize-giving

VENUE

CLUB "BRIDGE EUR" Via dell'Archivio di Stato 15 ROMA Tel: 39 06 5922459

HOTEL SHERATON *****

Located in the modern EUR business district. All comforts of a five star Hotel.. It has restaurants- bar-swimming pool-air conditioning- TV, connection to internet, minibar in all rooms- parking- tennis and squash courts-ground jogging-fitness centre. transfer from and to the Airport.

ENTRY DEADLINE - JULY

Entry must be made to ENRICO BASTA not later than July 2009 and must be accompanied by a deposit equivalent to Euro 150.00 per person. (see Registration Form). Later entries can be accepted if accommodation is available.

INFORMATION

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IMPORTANT

To find out more about Women's Bridge, go to our Official sites at: **www.wbfwomensbridgeclub.org**
www.worldbridge.org **www.eurobridge.org** (and in each case click on category Women)
ECatsBridge: **www.ecatsbridge.com** and you will find lots of interesting information

AND HERE IN SANREMO TO SILVIA VALENTINI – HOSPITALITY DESK