



4th EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS Sanremo, Italy, June 2009

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Issue No. 15

Saturday, 27 June 2009

Leaders of the Pack



The 100.000th board of the tournament in play on Friday

As the final day of the European Open Championships gets under way, the pairs at the top of the table in all three competitions enjoy reasonable, but not decisive leads.

In the *Open Pairs*, **Brink-Drijver** hold sway ahead of **Fitzgibbon-Mesbur** and **Multon-Zimmermann**.

In the *Women's Pairs*, **Nehmert-Giampietro**, who led the way for just about the whole day are clear of **Bessis-Hugon** and **Delestre-Bourdin**.

In the *Senior Pairs*, **Lasocki-Russyan** lead the way from **Buer-Munkvold** and **Grenthe-Vanhoutte**.

Prize Money

A list of the winners will be posted as soon as possible after play is completed today.

The first three in each category, Open, Women & Senior, will receive their awards at the prize giving ceremony. Everyone else must collect his or her prize from the Registration desk before the prize giving.

Today's - Schedule

- 10.30 O/W/S Pairs Final A&B (3rd)
- 15.30 O/W/S Pairs Final A (4th)
- 20.00 Pairs Prize Giving & Closing Ceremony



Gestetner

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Open Pairs Semifinal, Round 3

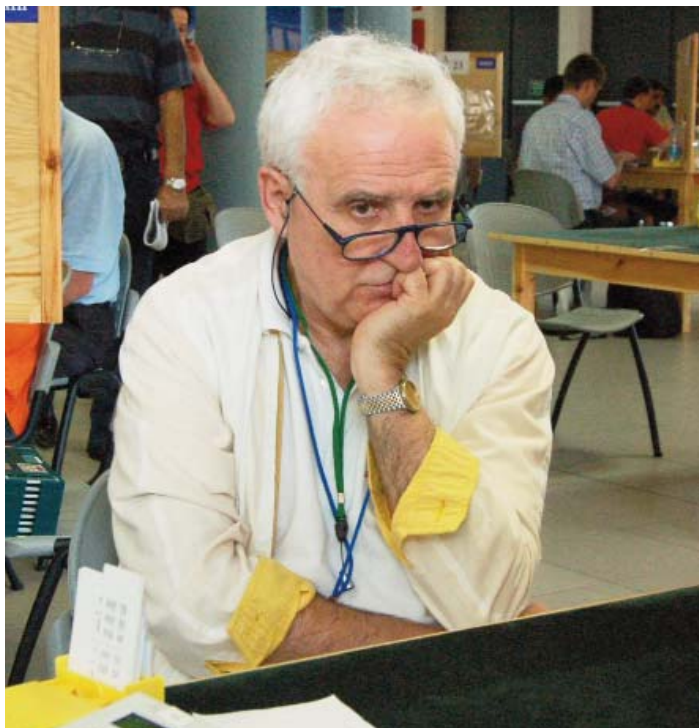
by Jos Jacobs

On Thursday morning, with two sessions still to play, I went out into the playing area hoping to find some good boards. This is not an easy task as it requires both patience and a fair amount of luck: being at the right table at the right moment. I certainly had some luck when I was watching the two boards played by Hollman-Ferguson (USA) against the overnight leaders, the German doctors Elinescu and Wladow. This was the first board:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West <i>Ferguson</i>	North <i>Wladow</i>	East <i>Hollman</i>	South <i>Elinescu</i>
			1♦
2♣	Dble	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	



Entscho Wladow, Germany

4♠ was the normal contract and one down would be the normal result and an over-average matchpoint score for N/S. Of course, you might make 4♠ by ruffing a club with dummy's king and taking a first-round finesse of the ♠J but that's for double dummy players only. What happened was that Elinescu managed to go down three. How come?

Ferguson found the imaginative lead of the ♥Q. They were playing standard leads, which they told declarer quite correctly, as there is no obligation whatsoever to tell your opponents in advance that you have done something extraordinary.

Though the lead might as well have been from ♥Qx, Elinescu eventually based his line on West holding the ♥J as well. He won the ace, cashed ♠AK getting the bad news and took a spade finesse to his eight. Next, he led a club up to the king and when this won the trick, decided to put all his eggs in one basket. He drew the last trump and led a heart to the ten. When East produced the jack, the defenders were not only able to cash a few clubs but West also had a useful exit card left: his third heart. When declarer decided to finesse dummy's seven, he thus was three down. Not that the third undertrick mattered very much...

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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


West <i>Ferguson</i>	North <i>Wladow</i>	East <i>Hollman</i>	South <i>Elinescu</i>
	1♦	Pass	INT
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

On the second board of the round, Elinescu was facing another typical pairs decision. Maybe 2♠ would not have been everybody's overcall as they have gadgets (like 2♦) here and there to show a major two-suiter after this start to the auction. It did not matter very much, as 2♠ would have brought E/W a good score. It got even better when Elinescu doubled. Defending 2♠ would not have been a great success, Wladow correctly judged, so he removed to 2NT, which was not a success either when the diamond finesse proved wrong and East started to cash his clubs...

Down two would give N/S a meagre 25 MP out of a 128 top. When declarer discarded a spade from dummy, he even-

tually went down four to further reduce his m.p. score to 12. It was by no means misery only for the Germans as they showed on the next board. By contrast, let's start with the auction at the table of the overnight runners-up, Ramondt-Westra, who were playing strong Norwegian opponents:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West <i>Westra</i>	North <i>Helness</i>	East <i>Ramondt</i>	South <i>Hauge</i>
	1♦	3♣	Dble
3NT	Pass	4♣	Dble
Pass	4♥	All Pass	


No matter what N/S did, they were set for an under-average score. +100 for one down in 4♣ doubled is not good and going down in 4♥ just yielded them 13 m.p.

West <i>Bach</i>	North <i>Wladow</i>	East <i>Cornell</i>	South <i>Elinescu</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♥
INT	2♥	2NT	3♥
All Pass			

When Cornell did not overcall, the timing of the auction was right for the Germans. They thus ended up in 3♥ which easily made for 93 MP.

On the second board of the round, Westra-Ramondt got a fine score when their opponents were among the many who failed to find their heart game:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.


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

West <i>Westra</i>	North <i>Helness</i>	East <i>Ramondt</i>	South <i>Hauge</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

If North doubles 3♣, N/S have a chance to play a contract themselves. Just 18 NS pairs managed to reach 4♥ and write 96 MP for it. Making 3♠ brought E/W 95 MP.

The weak NT (10-12) is a dangerous weapon but it can easily backfire:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West <i>Löfgren</i>	North <i>Wladow</i>	East <i>Bausback</i>	South <i>Elinescu</i>
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

N/S hold 25 HCP between them but neither of them made a bid. This can be serious if 3NT is on but on the actual NS hands, eight tricks are the maximum. So declarer's job was to avoid down three, which he can do double-dummy by guessing the spades correctly for three tricks and trying to score the ♣Q sooner or later. Wladow led the ♣A and continued a diamond, the defence taking their three tricks in the suit. Now, Wladow cashed the ♣K as well and exited with a club on which declarer put dummy's ten. South played the jack and declarer ruffed. The ♥K was taken by South's ace and a heart came back. Declarer won his ♥Q and ♥J and led the ♣Q, which South ruffed with the ♠8, an uppercut for declarer, who now could no longer avoid the loss of two more trump tricks for down three and 105 MP for N/S.

At another table, the French juniors showed how easy it is to get to 3NT if undisturbed:

West <i>Westra</i>	North <i>Rombaut</i>	East <i>Ramondt</i>	South <i>Tignel</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Dble	Pass	1♠	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Almost whatever the defence do, declarer has eight tricks and no more than that. Still, one down in 3NT was good for 44 MP, about 34%.

Women Teams Final, segment 3 Dutch Blue v. CBC Milano

by Jos Jacobs

With 16 boards to go, the score stood at 65-47 to Milano. The Dutch had scored 7 IMPs on the first four boards in small portions and were thus trailing by only 11 when this one arrived:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ A 4 ♥ 9 8 4 ♦ A 9 ♣ Q J 10 9 6 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q 9 7 5 ♥ Q 7 3 ♦ Q J 6 5 3 ♣ 8	♠ K 10 ♥ 10 2 ♦ K 10 8 7 2 ♣ A K 7 5
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Severgnini</i>	<i>Verbeek</i>	<i>Gentili</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>
All Pass	1♣	1♦	3NT

3NT was a practical decision but this time, it proved not good enough when West led a top heart, neatly followed by a low heart to partner's queen. Down one. Milano +100. We saw Dostoyevsky nodding in approval.



Luigina Gentili, Italy

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van der Salm</i>	<i>Rosetta</i>	<i>Wijma</i>	<i>Vanuzzi</i>
2NT	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	Pass	4♠	4NT
Pass	5♣	Dble	All Pass

After West's major two-suited overcall and East's pre-empt, South found the unusual bid of 4NT, a fine example of a hand with interest in either minor. Rosetta converted to 5♣ so the Italians had reached the top spot. The double brought them a score of +750 and 13 IMPs rather than 12. They led by 24 now; the match might well have been decided here...

Very little indeed happened on most of the later boards until we were close to the end of the match:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ J 5 3 2 ♥ 10 9 7 4 ♦ 5 ♣ 9 8 7 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A K 9 4 ♥ 8 3 ♦ A K 10 8 ♣ A Q 10	♠ Q 7 6 ♥ 5 2 ♦ Q J 6 4 3 ♣ J 6 3
N						
W E						
S						

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van der Salm</i>	<i>Rosetta</i>	<i>Wijma</i>	<i>Vanuzzi</i>
3♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass	3♦	Pass

In the Closed Room, the Dutch had an automatic auction to the inevitable 3NT. South led her 4th best heart, continued the suit and collected +50 to make both herself and Dostoyevsky happy.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Severgnini</i>	<i>Verbeek</i>	<i>Gentili</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>
Pass	Pass	2♦	2♥
3♥	Pass	Dble	Pass
4♠	All Pass	3♠	Pass

As Gentili had to open 2♦, Van Zwol could overcall in hearts and thus 3NT was out of the question. As a result, the Italians reached an interesting game in a Moysian fit. The main issue was, of course: could they make it?

The defenders cashed two top hearts and continued a diamond. I am still wondering what would have happened if a third round of hearts is played (double-dummy declarer can succeed see page 9). At the table, Gentili had little trouble in finding the winning line. She won the diamond, played ♠A and ♠Q and finessed the ♠9 on the 3rd round of the suit. Ten tricks, Milano +420, 10 more IMPs and the gold medal – well deserved after such a display of well-timed declarer play.

The last board of the match gave the Dutch some consolation. Getting as far as being the runners-up in an event like this is quite an achievement, too, looking back on it. This board was the final proof of their ability here in Sanremo.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ 4 ♥ Q J 4 ♦ Q J 9 6 ♣ 8 5 4 3 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> N </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> W E </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;"> S </div> </div>	♠ A J 7 ♥ K 2 ♦ K 10 8 5 ♣ A K 9 6	♠ K 10 8 5 2 ♥ A 6 ♦ A 4 2 ♣ Q J 7
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Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van der Salm</i>	<i>Rosetta</i>	<i>Wijma</i>	<i>Vanuzzi</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

Wijma sold out to 3♠ when she could not find a way to convince partner to try for four of a minor. The problem when you double is of course that partner, who already passed 1♠, might bid hearts after all...

Vanuzzi, too, showed her playing skills when she made the contract by finessing the ♠J through East. Milano +140.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Severgnini</i>	<i>Verbeek</i>	<i>Gentili</i>	<i>Van Zwol</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♥
2♦	3♠	3NT	Dble
All Pass			

In the Open Room, East did take action over 3♠. West had shown some values, after all. Van Zwol's well-conceived double was the final tribute to Dostoyevsky in this match, I would say. The contract had no play and easily went down two. Dutch Blue +500, 8 IMPs to make the final score 95-70 to CBC Milano.

Misplay and Misedefend this hand with Jan & Jan

by Tania van Flieschboeuf



During one of the last days of my Italian trip I had the opportunity to kibitz a session of the open pairs in San Remo. Being a great fan of Jan and Jan (Jansma and Van Cleeff) I was delighted to watch a couple of hands they played. That was the good news. The bad

news, however, was that since Lille 1998 they had broken up their partnership. The reason? They just were not utterly convinced of each other's skills at the bridge table. Can happen.

Now you may form an opinion which one is the lesser bridge player. This hand might help your judgement. Nowadays it is Jan versus Jan:

Open pairs, Semi-Final, Session 3, Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 7 6 ♥ K Q 9 8 7 4 ♦ K 9 5 3 ♣ 5	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> N </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> W E </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;"> S </div> </div>	♠ K ♥ J 10 3 ♦ A 8 ♣ 10 9 8 6 4 3 2	♠ J 5 4 3 ♥ 6 5 2 ♦ Q 4 ♣ A K J 7
--	---	--	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Kendrick</i>	<i>Paulissen</i>	<i>Van Cleeff</i>	<i>Jansma</i>
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♥	3♣	All Pass

Jansma kicked off with his ♥A and understandably continued with the ♦J. Van Cleeff wanted to duck in dummy and in hand. Being busy talking with some kibitzers, something went wrong with his head-hand co-ordination. Van Cleeff erred by winning the jack with his ace. Stupid of course, otherwise he would have had an easy endplay against his big friend Jansma: next diamond for queen and ace, a high club and ♠K. Jansma could have prevented this by cashing his ♠A first and then exit in diamonds. However, he honestly admitted that he would not have found that defence.

Stupidity galore, I would say. Famous last words by Gert-Jan Paulissen: "Bridge sometimes is very simple. Just start with your two aces and all your problems are solved."

(You can hardly blame declarer for taking his eye off the ball under the gaze of such a beautiful kibitzer! Editor.)

Two out of three ain't bad – except in the Open Teams final

by Brent Manley

In the final of the Open Teams, the Israeli team Herbst won two out of the three sets, but the 30-IMP lead forged by Netherlands White in the first set held up for a nail-biting 94-89 victory.

The champions are Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Bauke Muller and Simon de Wijs. The silver medallists are Ophir and Ilan Herbst, Yaniv Zack and Michael Barel.

On the first deal of the second set, the Israelis had a major gain.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 10 9 4 ♥ 5 4 2 ♦ J 10 8 7 6 5 ♣ 2	♠ A Q ♥ K 3 ♦ A K 3 2 ♣ Q J 9 4 3 <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 8 6 3 ♥ 9 7 6 ♦ Q 4 ♣ K 10 8 5
	♠ K 7 5 2 ♥ A Q J 10 8 ♦ 9 ♣ A 7 6	

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Brink</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

The bad trump break doomed that contract, and Drijver was quickly one down for minus 50. The Israelis got to a superior spot.

West	North	East	South
<i>Wijs</i>	<i>O. Herbst</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>I. Herbst</i>
	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

With the club finesse working, North always has 13 tricks in no-trump via a spade-club squeeze on East – and it doesn't matter whether East covers the ♣Q. If he does, de-

clarer wins the ♣A and can cash the ♠K, then play a diamond to hand, cash the other high diamond and then run hearts. In the end, East cannot hold his fourth spade and the club guard.

If East declines to cover the ♣Q, declarer must play in a different order: run hearts, discarding a club and two diamonds from hand, cash the ♠K, then play a diamond to his ace. When declarer cashes the ♦K, East must find a discard from the ♠J and the ♣K 10. Whatever he chooses is fatal.

Muller could see the inevitable, so he pitched a spade on the fourth round of hearts. Plus 1020 was good for 14 IMPs to Herbst, now trailing 56-40.

The Israelis can look back on board 21 as “one that got away.”

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 10 7 5 4 ♥ A 6 ♦ J ♣ K 10 9 6 5 3	♠ 6 3 ♥ J 8 7 5 2 ♦ K Q 10 8 6 2 ♣ — <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K J ♥ Q 10 4 3 ♦ 9 7 5 4 ♣ A 8 7
	♠ A Q 9 8 2 ♥ K 9 ♦ A 3 ♣ Q J 4 2	



Sjoert Brink, Netherlands

West	North	East	South
Wijs	O. Herbst	Muller	I. Herbst
	2♥*	Pass	2NT
3♣	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

* ♥ + second suit

That's quite an aggressive call 2♥ by North, but his partner did find a good contract, with the diamond suit bringing in six tricks and the spade finesse working. No matter what the defense does, the ninth trick will have to be surrendered one way or the other.

De Wijs started with a low spade to the king and ace. When the ♠Q picked up the jack with East, declarer drove out the ♠10. The defenders could take three more tricks from that point, but that was all. Plus 600.

The auction at the other table was wild, to say the least, and gave the Israelis an opportunity for a huge gain. Unfortunately for them, it didn't happen.

West	North	East	South
Barel	Drijver	Zack	Brink
	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♣	Dble	2♠	Dble
3♣	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

With no indication of a fit in either of his suits and two bidding opponents, Drijver's 4♣ was asking for trouble – and he got it. Nevertheless, it worked out incredibly well for the Dutch.

Barel led his singleton diamond to declarer's ace. Brink followed with a low club, ruffing in dummy, then a spade. Zack put up the king, taken by the ace, and when the ♠Q



Simon de Wijs, Netherlands

produced the jack from East, Brink continued with the ♠8. Barel won the ♠10

At that point, had Barel exited with a club to his partner's ace and received a diamond ruff, he could have cashed the ♣K and gotten out with a club to South, who would have been forced to play away from his ♥K. That would have been plus 800 for Herbst.

Instead, Barel played the ♥A and a heart to Brink's king. Now declarer could claim an overtrick in 4♣ doubled for plus 990 and a 9-IMP gain instead of a 16-IMP loss. Please send your analysis of the blame on the back of a postcard to the Editors.

On the following deal, Ilan Herbst made a brilliant play that helped his side to a game swing.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

N	E
W	S

♠ A Q 5 4 2
♥ 9
♦ A Q J 10 6 2
♣ Q

West	North	East	South
Barel	Drijver	Zack	Brink
			1♦
2NT	Pass	3♥	3♠
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

Barel led the ♥A and continued with a heart to partner's jack, South ruffing. When West showed out on the ♠A, declarer knew he had two trump losers, so he needed to find the ♦K with East. No luck there – one down for minus 50.


West	North	East	South
Wijs	O. Herbst	Muller	I. Herbst
			1♦
1♥	Dble	2♥	4♠
All Pass			

De Wijs led a low heart to East's jack. Declarer ruffed the heart continuation and cashed the ♠A. Instead of entering dummy with a club and taking the diamond finesse, Herbst played a low diamond from hand at trick four, risking embarrassment had East held the ♦K. De Wijs fell for the gambit, playing low. When the ♦9 held, declarer could ruff out the king and claim for the loss of a heart and two trumps. That was good for 10 IMPs as the Israelis continued to close the gap.

The second set ended at 36-19 for Herbst, trailing at that point 75-62.

The Israelis started the last set with a 3-IMP gain, then gave up 3 IMPs, before they took their first lead since the middle of the first set. It was dramatic.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Wijs</i>	<i>O. Herbst</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>I. Herbst</i>
1♣	2♥	3♦*	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
6♣	All Pass		


Muller's 3♦ showed clubs and the slam was duly reached. De Wijs played expertly after the heart lead to dummy's singleton ace. He played two rounds of trumps, ending in hand, ruffed a heart, played a spade to the ace, spade to the king, spade ruff, then the ♥Q, covered by the king. Instead of ruffing, de Wijs discarded a diamond from dummy, leaving North on play to lead into the ♦A Q or offer a ruff and discard. Well done for plus 1370 – and a big loss.

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1NT	3♥	6♣	6♥
7♣	Dble	All Pass	

Brink led a heart to the jack and ace, and declarer played the ♣A and a club to the jack. He ruffed a heart, played a diamond to the queen, then ruffed another heart and played a diamond to the ace. A club went to the queen, then a club to 10. North was starting to feel the pressure, and when he discarded the ♠Q, the one card Zack was looking for, the doubled grand slam was claimed for plus 2330 and 14 IMPs. Herbst was ahead 79-78.

They lost the lead for good on the next deal.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.


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

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dble
1♠	2♥	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Brink's hope of collecting three trump tricks was realized. He started with the ♥J, taken by Drijver with the ace. The ♣8 went to declarer's ace, and he followed with the ♠K, ducked. The ♣K was next, followed by a spade, taken by Brink with the ace. In due course, he came to three diamond tricks for plus 500.

The same contract was reached at the other table, but Ilon Herbst did not double and collected only plus 200. That was 7 IMPs to the Dutch, back in the lead at 85-79. They got another 7 IMPs on the next deal.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Barel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Zack</i>	<i>Brink</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♦
2♣	Pass	3♠	3NT
Pass	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

The defenders took two trump tricks and two minor-suit aces for plus 100.

West	North	East	South
<i>Wijs</i>	<i>O. Herbst</i>	<i>Muller</i>	<i>I. Herbst</i>
	1♣	Pass	1♠*
2♣	Pass	2♠	3NT
Pass	Pass	4♠	Dble
Pass	4NT	All Pass	

Ilan Herbst's 1♠ showed diamonds.

De Wijs led the ♥A and the ♥K, Muller unblocking, then three more heart tricks for plus 200. Netherlands White was now leading 92-79.

The Israelis chipped away at the lead with small gains, however, and were trailing by only 4 IMPs with four deals

to play. NL White gained 1 IMP on board 13 of the set (number 45 of the match) to move ahead by 5.

The Dutch had a chance for a 10-IMP gain on board 14 (46), but it didn't happen.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ Q 7 6 ♥ 5 2 ♦ Q J 6 4 3 ♣ J 6 3	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A K 9 4 ♥ 8 3 ♦ A K 10 8 ♣ A Q 10	♠ 10 8 ♥ A K Q J 6 ♦ 9 7 2 ♣ K 5 4
--	--	--	---

West <i>Barel</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Zack</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
		2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Brink took the first five tricks in hearts for plus 50. The Dutch got to a better spot at the other table.

West <i>Wijs</i>	North <i>O. Herbst</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>I. Herbst</i>
		1♣*	1♥
1♠*	3♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

- 1♣ Strong
 1♠ Artificial, showing 5-8 HCP.

Alerted by the opponents' bidding, Muller and de Wijs avoided the notrump game.

Ophir Herbst led a heart and Ilan Herbst won to play two more rounds, the best defense. Had the defenders played a different suit at trick three, declarer would almost certainly have gone right with trumps, relying on restricted choice to pick up the suit. Four spades, five diamonds and the ♣A would have been good for plus 420.

Forcing declarer to ruff, even in the short hand, made it much more difficult. De Wijs played the ♠Q and a spade to the ace, discovering the 4-2 split when he cashed the king. He then played on diamonds, but North refused to ruff too soon, so after three rounds of diamonds, de Wijs simply took the club finesse and was down one when it failed.

Had he been able to see all the cards, declarer could have made the game by playing three rounds of diamonds after ruffing the heart. If North ruffs a diamond and plays another heart, declarer can again ruff in hand, cash the ♠Q, enter

dummy with the ♣A and pick up the rest of the trumps, losing only two hearts and one trump.

It's more complicated if North does not ruff the second or third round of diamonds – indeed, declarer must play double-dummy – but 10 tricks can be had on a line of play no reasonably competent player would pursue. It's strictly the stuff of our finessing friend.

That push board was followed by another, and with one deal to play, NL White led 94-89.

This was the final deal.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ 4 ♥ Q J 4 ♦ Q J 9 6 ♣ 8 5 4 3 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A J 7 ♥ K 2 ♦ K 10 8 5 ♣ A K 9 6	♠ Q 9 6 3 ♥ 10 9 8 7 5 3 ♦ 7 3 ♣ 10
--	--	---	--

West <i>Barel</i>	North <i>Drijver</i>	East <i>Zack</i>	South <i>Brink</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
2♣	3♠	3NT	Pass
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
4NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Brink cashed his red aces and sat back to wait for his trump trick. That was plus 200.

West <i>Wijs</i>	North <i>O. Herbst</i>	East <i>Muller</i>	South <i>I. Herbst</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♠
Pass	3♠	3NT	All Pass

It will never be known what would have happened if Ilan Herbst had doubled 3NT, which must have been very tempting given his assets.

Perhaps East would have run to 4♣, which cannot be defeated. If neither East nor West moved over 3NT doubled, it would have cost them the championship.

Herbst led a low spade to the queen and ace. Muller played a diamond at trick two. Herbst went up with the ace, played the ♠K and another spade, then waited to get in with the ♥A or third round of clubs. Muller did all he could by cashing his tricks for two down and a push.

On the same defense to 3NT doubled, the result would have been plus 500. The difference of 300 would have given Herbst 7 IMPs, and the final score would have been 96-94 for the Israelis.

Open Pairs Final

Impressions from the First session

by Jos Jacobs

Yesterday morning saw the start of the closing event of this European Championships: the Open Pairs Final. The format would be a full barometer, so the 54 pairs who qualified would meet all their opponents: 53 rounds of two boards each, 106 boards in all. Below is a selection of the boards played, a mix of good and bad fortunes and plays.

On board 2, it looked as if N/S had missed a game:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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



Marc Bompis, France

West <i>Madala</i>	North <i>Bompis</i>	East <i>Bocchi</i>	South <i>Quantin</i>
		Pass	2♠
Dble	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

This is an interesting hand as far as the play is concerned. First of all, West has no good lead against spades. The ideal lead is a low club as declarer is all too likely to misguess and get a heart through to beat 4♠. On a diamond lead, declarer can take the remaining finesse with some confidence and a heart lead can be run to declarer's queen; but after that, declarer still has to take both diamond finesses to make ten tricks. The two major suit aces would provide the necessary entries for all this. At the table, Quantin settled for +140 by simply giving up a diamond trick after the heart lead to his queen.

In the next round, we saw a Dutch-British confrontation:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West <i>Bakkeren</i>	North <i>Brunner</i>	East <i>Bertens</i>	South <i>Holland</i>
			2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

After a natural transfer auction, Bakkeren had a choice. If partner holds an ace, the singleton lead might hit the jackpot. If he doesn't, it might give the show away. When Bakkeren led a "safe" ♦K, declarer soon had 12 tricks and a good matchpoint score.

The other board:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K 10 5 ♥ Q J ♦ Q 5 ♣ K Q 10 4 3 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N <hr style="width: 80%;"/> W <hr style="width: 80%;"/> S <hr style="width: 80%;"/> E </div>	♠ Q 6 4 3 2 ♥ 6 2 ♦ A 3 ♣ A J 9 6
♠ 9 8 ♥ A K 9 8 7 3 ♦ J 9 7 6 ♣ 8		♠ A J 7 ♥ 10 5 4 ♦ K 10 8 4 2 ♣ 7 5

West	North	East	South
<i>Bakkeren</i>	<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Bertens</i>	<i>Holland</i>
2♦	3♣	All Pass	

On the next board, the Dutch had a big chance to get their revenge but Brunner was too quick for them. 2♦ showed (among other things) a weak two in hearts. Would you as East really double an immediate 3♣ overcall? You might, as it's pairs, and the vulnerability is good for you too, but you have no direct clue as to what partner will hold. On the other hand, if North with all his (her) losers waits a round and then balances with 3♣ the double stands out. An interesting problem at matchpoints only. Down two, of course, the maybe not-so-magic +200 here.

Next, we saw an all-German table:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A 6 ♥ Q 6 2 ♦ A 10 6 5 ♣ 9 7 6 4	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N <hr style="width: 80%;"/> W <hr style="width: 80%;"/> S <hr style="width: 80%;"/> E </div>	♠ Q 5 4 2 ♥ K J 9 5 3 ♦ 4 3 ♣ A K
♠ K J 9 8 3 ♥ 10 7 4 ♦ K J ♣ 10 8 3		♠ 10 7 ♥ A 8 ♦ Q 9 8 7 2 ♣ Q J 5 2

West	North	East	South
<i>Elinescu</i>	<i>Auken</i>	<i>Wladow</i>	<i>Von Arnim</i>
		1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	2NT
Dble	Pass	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

The old story about where the preferences should lie: establish a fit or bidding a suit? When the opponents are quick to find a minor suit fit, it might be dangerous to support hearts later. On this hand, a 1♠ response clearly would have worked much better here. With the spades 2-2, one might even make game in hearts (not in spades: there might be a heart ruff). Passing 3♦ proved a sure road to a bad mp

score for E/W, however. If East doubles (in tempo, of course), West will probably go to 3♥ and all will be relatively well for them.

Two more interesting boards came up when a Dutch pair faced their antipodes.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ 9 8 5 ♥ K 10 8 7 4 3 ♦ A 10 ♣ A 8	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 0 auto; width: 60px; height: 60px; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N <hr style="width: 80%;"/> W <hr style="width: 80%;"/> S <hr style="width: 80%;"/> E </div>	♠ — ♥ Q J 9 5 ♦ Q 7 6 5 4 3 ♣ 9 6 2
♠ K Q 10 4 2 ♥ A 2 ♦ 9 8 ♣ Q 10 7 3		♠ A J 7 6 3 ♥ 6 ♦ K J 2 ♣ K J 5 4

West	North	East	South
<i>Cornell</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Bach</i>	<i>Muller</i>
			1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

INT was a relay and so was 2♦. The final double was natural.

If given enough time to think, Muller might have made the contract. The only problem is that the actual diamond lead into the tenace broke up his communications to both ruff out all the clubs and cash his tricks in the red suits.

Not in real life, however. West led the ♦9, which ran to declarer's jack, a heart was won by West who now returned the...♣Q, suggesting shortness in the suit! This way, it was



Norberto Bocchi, Italy

pretty impossible for declarer to read his distribution correctly so he won the ace, ruffed a heart, crossed to the $\diamond A$ and tried to ruff another heart. When West could overruff, one down was assured. Very cunningly defended! Had Muller read the actual distribution, he could have made the contract on this defence but that's another story: throw a diamond on the $\heartsuit K$, ruff the fourth club, cash the $\clubsuit A$ and exit with the $\spadesuit 9$ endplaying West in trumps.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Cornell</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Bach</i>	<i>Muller</i>
Pass	Pass	1 \spadesuit	4 \clubsuit
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

On the next board, however, Muller got his revenge when he induced the opponents to double him at a profitable level. One down was worth -200 but by no means the pairs kiss of death with 4 \spadesuit an easy non-vulnerable make.

A few boards later, we moved to a German-Dutch match:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Wladow</i>	<i>Westra</i>	<i>Elinescu</i>	<i>Ramondt</i>
Pass	7NT	All Pass	2NT

Here, Westra did what many of us would have done at pairs. Just go all out and hope for the best. Hearts need to be 3-3 or the diamond finesse has to work. In 7 \clubsuit , the best contract, hearts 4-2 will do and if not, the diamond finesse is still there. So both 7 \clubsuit and 7NT will fail by one trick as

declarer will know when he leads a diamond up (show-up squeeze in progress). And the next board:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Wladow</i>	<i>Westra</i>	<i>Elinescu</i>	<i>Ramondt</i>
1 \clubsuit	2 \spadesuit	3 \diamond	Pass
3 \heartsuit	Pass	4 \heartsuit	All Pass

On the next board, we saw quite an unorthodox 2 \spadesuit overcall by Westra. One could not help feeling that the previous board was still playing its part here. Anyway, he escaped undoubled and led an unlucky $\spadesuit J$ into declarer's tenace. Believe it or not: declarer now went on to make all 13 tricks. Heart finesse, club finesse, club ruff, $\spadesuit A$, spade ruff with dummy's $\heartsuit 10$ and finesse against South's $\heartsuit 9$. Nicely played and a very good MP score, of course!

Near the end of the session, the boards (or the dealmaster) woke up again:

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Vroustis</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Eidi</i>
1 \spadesuit	Dble	1 \diamond	1 \heartsuit
3 \clubsuit	4 \spadesuit	INT	2 \spadesuit
		All Pass	

1 \spadesuit denied four spades

Madala and Bocchi showed a neat defence against a very normal 4 \spadesuit contract. Madala led a diamond to declarer's jack and two rounds of trumps were cashed. Next came the diamonds, West ruffing the third round and continuing a low club away from his ace to put his partner in with the

♣K to lead a low heart. Not unexpectedly on such a defensive display, he guessed wrong...One down.

The last round of the session again brought grand slams and this time, one of them even was making:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ J 8 5 ♥ J 9 8 7 5 4 3 2 ♦ 9 ♣ 7	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ — ♥ K Q 10 ♦ K 8 7 6 5 ♣ 10 8 6 4 2	
	♠ A K Q 10 ♥ 6 ♦ A Q ♣ A K J 9 5 3		
West	North	East	South
Gunev	Drijver	Popova	Brink
	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	7♠
All Pass			

On the first board of the last round in the morning (it was about 14.30 at this point ...) Drijver and Brink avoided the trap of bidding 7NT. They made bidding easy for themselves once Drijver judged this a suitable hand for an aggressive 3♠!

East will be squeezed alright but declarer cannot see it. 7♠ proved a laydown as the clubs can be ruffed out, thus avoiding the diamond finesse.

On the final board, declarer had a blind spot:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ K Q 3 ♥ K J 6 4 ♦ Q 7 6 5 ♣ A 10	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 10 8 ♥ 2 ♦ A K J 8 ♣ Q 9 7 4 3 2	
	♠ J 9 5 2 ♥ Q 7 5 ♦ 10 9 4 3 ♣ J 5		
West	North	East	South
Gunev	Drijver	Popova	Brink
		Pass	Pass
INT	2♣	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

2♣ showed majors and 3♠ showed minors, obviously.

In the play, Gunev apparently trusted his opponents too much. Drijver led the ♥10 to the queen and king. Instead of playing ♣A and another, putting up the queen and putting an end to all trouble, Gunev crossed to a top diamond and led

a club to his ten which held the trick. Had he continued the ♣A now, all would still have been well but he went on to cash all his diamonds before playing a spade to the nine, king and ace. Drijver simply returned a club to leave declarer without resources. One down after a pleasant defence.

Championship Diary

We must start by offering our congratulations to Gianarri-gio Rona, who celebrated the birth of his grandson Riccardo yesterday.



Following the death of Michael Jackson, Barry Rigal believes he may now be the most famous person born in 1958. (Mind you we don't think much of the Rigal Five.)

Following the play on BBO we suggested that Herman De Wael would be doing the scoring using pencil, paper and an abacus. When it was suggested that we also supply him with a calculator we pointed out this was dangerous as he might get confused and start using the Duckworth/Lewis method. This is how the scores are calculated in rain-affected cricket matches. The web site was put up on screen: www.duckworth-lewis.com

As a result, 1000's of BBO spectators went to it expecting to see the bridge running scores, causing the site to crash.

Barry was on shopping duty. He said 'Shall I get two bottles of wine or one bottle of wine and some cheese?' 'No - get two bottles of wine and some cheese.'

Herman, our ever-trustworthy counter-of-everything, tells us the 100,000th board of the Championships has been played last evening during the last round of the Open Pairs' Final. The specific board was played by the French pair of Bompis - Quantin against the Irish partnership of Fitzgibbon - Mesbur.

Herman informs us we'll reach nearly 104,000 boards for the championship today. That means these two weeks were more successful than Tenerife and Antalya, but not as highly contested as Menton 2003 (123,647 boards).

It's worth emphasizing that the problems that surrounded the Women's Quarter Final match between Joel and Hansen arose because the Hansen team did not send a representative to the Captain's meeting.

Although Claire Maarek had played in both matches the previous day her name did not appear on the team list at the Captains meeting.

If someone had been present to answer the questions raised at the meeting it is virtually certain that there would not have been a problem. That's something to remember.

EBL Press Conference

The EBL hosted a Press Conference yesterday at the Hotel Nazionale.

The EBL Liaison Officer, **Panos Gerontopoulos**, introduced **Mr Gianarrigo Rona**, EBL President; **Mr Ernesto d'Orsi**, organiser of the 2009 World Championships in Sao Paulo; and **Patrick Jourdain**, IBPA President.

The EBL President reported attendance figures for Sanremo with 1756 players overall, well ahead of Antalya and Tenerife, and close to the record figures set in nearby Menton, demonstrating the choice of Sanremo as a venue was a good one. He had received a letter of congratulation from the Town regarding the contribution the bridge-players were making.

He apologised for shortcomings at the tournament, including late starts and software problems, but it was clear both from the quality and quantity of participation that this was a great event developing. He reported that three

Federations, namely Poland, Bulgaria and Greece, had applied to host the next edition of the championships in 2011. The decision between the options would be made this October.

There were many questions and observations from the assembled journalists:

Jan van Cleeff (*IMP Magazine*) of the Netherlands reported a request on behalf of Elke Weber of Germany who was playing in the Womens Pairs Final. She said the women thought the Pairs schedule too heavy and wanted at least one session off at the semifinal stage to enjoy seeing their families or the environment.

Jens Auken of Denmark, a member of the EBL Executive, said this was a great event but we could improve by implementing some of the regulations better. Players were wandering about too much and very noisy at times.

David Stern of Australia added other matters of concern: late arrival, players leaving between rounds to smoke (**Ron Tacchi** added this also applied to some TDs), and more discipline was needed, to which the President agreed. On the matter of the heavy Pairs schedule which many players found too wearing Mr. Stern suggested the organisers consider an option such

as one where, say, their five best scores counted, and players could miss a session or two if they wanted.

Patrick Jourdain (*Daily Telegraph, London*) reported as a member of the EBL Seniors Committee that a Seniors Forum had been held in Antalya and Pau where the players, by a large majority, had voted for at least one session off in the middle of a six-day Pairs. He wondered whether the Women could have a similar Forum to debate their schedule and find the majority view about time off.

Jean-Paul Meyer (*Le Bridgeur*) said the main conclusion was great satisfaction with the event as conceived but he wanted to mention the software problems that

caused three different rankings to be published at the conclusion of the Mixed Pairs. As a member of the Appeals Committee he also wanted penalties for late arrival to be a matter of regulation and not for the Appeals, with which the President agreed.

Mr. Rona referred to future events. In ten days time the *European Youth Championships* would be held in Brasov, Romania. Attendance in the Girls event was a record 16 countries, meaning that for the first time there would be more females than males taking part in the championships. The WBF were hosting a *World Youth Championship* in Istanbul in August. The *Champions Cup* would be held in Paris in October. Next June/July the *Europeans* would be in Ostend. At the request of the Federations, the schedule in Ostend had been cut from 15 days to 12. Eliminated and new players could take part in a *Transnational Pairs* being staged over the last three days. It was the 50th edition of the Championships and previous champions would be invited to a special event in celebration.

Mr d'Orsi then reported on the World Championships in Sao Paulo. All could take part in the Transnationals the second week. Mr Jourdain said the Press Awards and AGM would be the Monday morning before the Transnationals began. Mr d'Orsi offered a Press outing midweek to the beach resort of Guaruja and was seeking a good day to hold it.

Gianarrigo Rona expresses all his gratitude to all the journalists for their great support in developing everywhere in the world the image and values of bridge.



The feminine touch

by Brent Manley


Midway through the first final session of the Open Pairs, Sabine Auken was asked why she and Daniela von Arnim were playing in the open event when they would have been favorites to win the Women's Pairs.

"We always prefer the Open," said Auken.

She and her regular partner were not the only women in the event – there were some mixed pairs – but they were the only women's pair.

They started off poorly through no fault of their own (note that the movement had pairs sitting different directions during the session).

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West <i>Fitzgibbon</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Mesbur</i>	South <i>Arnim</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♣	2NT*	Dble*	3♠
4♥	Dble	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		


Auken's 2NT was a limit raise of spades. Adam Mesbur's double showed the red suits. Once Nicholas Fitzgibbon bid the cold 4♥, North/South's matchpoints flew out the window. Von Arnim did her best to minimize the damage by pulling the double, but minus 300 meant only 9 of 52 available matchpoints.

The women averaged the round on the next deal.

Duplimate Discounts

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

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.


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

West <i>Fitzgibbon</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Mesbur</i>	South <i>Arnim</i>
		Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Von Arnim's 2♠ showed spades and a minor, and 3♦ was invitational in ♠. Fitzgibbon started with the ♥J, ducked to declarer's queen. Now a spade to the ace and a second spade left Fitzgibbon on lead again. He exited with a low club, but von Arnim went up with the king, conceding a diamond and another spade from there for plus 620 and 43 matchpoints.

The second round was similar to the first – a poor first board and lots of matchpoints on the second. On the first board against New Zealanders Michael Cornell and Ashley Bach, the German women bid to an unlucky 6♥, which was defeated when Bach led a singleton club and Cornell had the trump ace, winning it and giving his partner a ruff. This was the second deal of the round.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West <i>Bach</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Cornell</i>	South <i>Arnim</i>
3♥	All Pass		

The aggressive preempt did not pay off. Auken led the ♣K to dummy's ace. Bach could see seven tricks if trumps broke reasonably, so he tried for some diamond ruffs in dummy, playing the ace and a second diamond. Von Arnim won the ♦K, noting her partner's queen, and played a third round of diamonds. Auken ruffed with the ♥J and returned the ♠10 to her partner's ace for a second diamond ruff. The ♠K was the fifth trick for the defense. Auken played the ♣Q, which was ruffed by declarer, but von Arnim still had a trump trick with three to the 10. Plus 200 was good for 50 matchpoints.

Moving over to the BridgeBase Online table, the women scored about average against another German pair, then stole 37 matchpoints by going off only one in 3♦ while their opponents had 10 tricks available in hearts.

One of the most exciting deals occurred in round five against Swedes Peter Fredin and Bjorn Fallenius.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West <i>Fallenius</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Fredin</i>	South <i>Arnim</i>
Pass	3♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♦*
		Dble	All Pass

- 2♦ Multi
- 3♣ Invitational and asks for a transfer to South's major
- 4♦ Maximum with hearts

Fredin thought his trump stack and other values were sufficient to defeat 4♥, so he went for the gusto with a penalty double, leading the ♦10 to start things off. Auken won the ♦A and played the ♥J, running it when Fredin played low. She played a second heart to dummy's 10 and should have continued cashing hearts, but she called for a low club, inserting the 10 when Fallenius erred by playing low. In with the ♣K, Fredin exited with a club to the jack and ace.

Auken then played a low spade from hand. Fredin went in with the king and got out with a spade to dummy's queen. Now Auken cashed two top hearts and put Fredin in with the fifth round. There was still a trump left in dummy, so Auken could ruff a club return and play a diamond to her hand to cash the ♠A for 10 tricks and plus 790, good for

49 matchpoints.

The next round produced only 26 of the available 104 matchpoints, but the women got back on track immediately after that, taking plus 500 from 1♠ doubled and scoring 44 matchpoints for plus 90 in INT despite their 4-4 spade fit (ruffs and cashing clubs holding any spade contract to seven tricks).

There was a 10-minute break after seven rounds, and the German women started strong in the second part of the session.

First, a Bulgarian pair bid 7NT that needed a successful diamond finesse or a 3-3 heart break, neither of which materialized. That was 33 matchpoints. On the next deal, an opponent ignored his partner's lead-directing bid and suffered a near zero, not entirely because of the lead.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West <i>Arnim</i>	North	East <i>Auken</i>	South
1♥	1♠	2NT*	3♦
4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

2NT was a limit raise of hearts.



Bjorn Fallenius, Sweden

With the club and heart finesses working and suits splitting, 12 tricks are available in hearts, but almost no one managed plus 680. It was easy for von Arnim after North started with the ♠J to her queen. At trick two, she played a club to the jack and king, winning the spade continuation in hand, then playing the ♥Q, covered by North and East. There was not much more to the deal from there. Surprisingly, plus 680 was worth 50 of 52 matchpoints.

Back on BBO, they scored well again, first by playing 3NT from the "right" side.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West <i>Bakkeren</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Bertens</i>	South <i>Arnim</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Had West, Ton Bakkeren, been on lead, he probably would have started with a diamond, which holds declarer to nine tricks. East, Huub Bertens, started with a low club, giving Auken the timing to establish three club tricks before the defenders had their diamond tricks set up. Plus 630 earned them 30 matchpoints.

The next deal produced more good results for the Germans.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West <i>Bakkeren</i>	North <i>Auken</i>	East <i>Bertens</i>	South <i>Arnim</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣*
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
All Pass			

- 1♣ Strong
- 3NT 4414 or 4441
- 4♣ Which?
- 4♦ 4441

Von Arnim said the creator of their bidding system did not build in any mechanism for describing a positive response with 4x1 shape. The 3NT bid by Auken is their way of dealing with the pattern, which in their experience "comes up all the time."

Bakkeren could have been a hero with a diamond lead, but he had no reason to lead from three to the jack. On the spade lead, von Arnim had an easy 12 tricks. She won the ♠9 in hand and played four rounds of clubs, losing only to Bakkeren's jack. Plus 490 was worth 37 matchpoints.

The final round was played against two members of the winning squad in the Open Teams, Simon de Wijs and Bauke Muller. The Germans ended with a slight edge.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

During the round, de Wijs had a good laugh reading the Championship Diary from the Daily Bulletin of that day. In it, the editor poked friendly fun at Muller, who is known to be an extremely slow player at times. The auction on this deal may have set a speed record.

West <i>Arnim</i>	North <i>Wijs</i>	East <i>Auken</i>	South <i>Muller</i>
Pass	2♠	Pass	4NT
All Pass	5♣	Pass	7♠

De Wijs won the ♥K opening lead, pulled trumps, played a club to his singleton queen and claimed, saying he could ruff a club if necessary (it was) to provide sufficient discards to avoid having to take the diamond finesse, which worked anyway.

The Dutch scored 32 matchpoints for plus 1510. The session ended with Auken and von Arnim scoring nearly 46 matchpoints when de Wijs erred on defense.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

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

♠ J 9 5 2		
♥ Q 7 5		
♦ 10 9 4 3		
♣ J 5		

West	North	East	South
Arnim	Wijs	Auken	Muller
		1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠*	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Auken's 1♠ rebid showed at least 5-4 in the minors.

DeWijs led the ♥10 to the 2 and Muller's queen. Von Arnim thought for some time before winning the king. She gave her next play some thought as well, finally playing the ♣A and a low club, going up with dummy's queen when deWijs played low. Von Arnim put de Wijs in with a third round of clubs. Now it was de Wijs's turn to think, and he finally played the ♥9, knocking out declarer's jack. This would have been the right move to prevent an overtrick had his partner held a guarded ♦Q and declarer the ♠K Q J. As it was, von Arnim won the ♥J and showed her hand, which included the ♦Q. Plus 660 was worth 45.73 matchpoints.

The German stars ended the session in ninth place with 54.51 percent.



Daniela von Arnim, Germany

Two Coups for One

by Patrick Jourdain (Wales)

In the Antalya Bulletin I reported excellent play by Christian Mari against me in the Senior Pairs final and he was at it again here in Sanremo in the semifinal "A":

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

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

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

West	North	East	South
Mari	Jourdain	Walter	Tedd
1♥	2♠	Dbf	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Mari was in Four Hearts as West on the lead of the king of spades. He won and at once returned a spade. I won this as North and, having heard the long suit try of Three Clubs, switched somewhat helpfully to a diamond. This was taken by the jack and a low heart led to the queen and king. The trump return showed that Mari faced two more losers.

He engineered the disappearance of one of these as follows: clear the diamonds ending in dummy and lead a third spade. South discarded a club and Mari made one of his low trumps. He then cashed the club winners ending in dummy and led the fourth spade. South was caught in a coup en passant with Mari making his last trump whatever South did. The defensive trump trick and club trick fell together.

There was a completely different coup at another table on the same deal where Paul Hackett of England was declarer:

West	North	East	South
Hackett		Harper	
INT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

INT theoretically showed 14-16 and the next call by West showed five hearts.

North began with the king of spades, and Hackett won to take a finesse of the heart jack. When North contributed the ten Hackett exited with a spade. North switched to a club won by the ace. Hackett followed with three rounds of diamonds, taking the finesse, and a club to dummy. On a third spade South discarded, so declarer made a low trump. Then he exited with a club.

Three tricks remained with South and West down to all trumps. North's lead was inevitably ruffed by South and Hackett smartly under-ruffed! This left South forced to lead away from the trump king. Neat.



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Programme:

The whole event will be played between 2.15 and 8.00 p.m., with the exception of Sunday morning. Screens will not be in use. Bridgemates will be in use.

Saturday	11	11.00 – 14.00 14.15 – 19.45	Mixed Teams – Registration Mixed Teams – Swiss, rounds 1-4
Sunday	12	14.15 – 20.00	Mixed Teams – Swiss, rounds 5-8; Danish round 9
Monday	13	11.00 – 14.00 14.15 – 16,45 17.00 – 19.30	Mixed Pairs – Registration Mixed Pairs – First Session (Qualification) Mixed Pairs – Second Session (Qualification)
Tuesday	14	11.00 – 14.00 14.15 – 16.45 17.30 – 20.00	Individual – Registration Mixed Pairs – Final A & Consolation Individual – First Session
Wednesday	15	14.15 – 16.45 17.15 – 19.45	Individual – Second Session Individual – Third Session
Thursday	16	11.00 – 14.00 14.15 – 16,45 17.00 – 19.30	Open & Ladies Pairs - Registration Open & Ladies Pairs – First Session (Qualification) Open & Ladies Pairs – First Session (Qualification)

Friday	17	14.15 – 20.00	Open & Ladies Pairs – Final A (Barometer Howell)
		14.15 – 16.45	Open & Ladies Pairs – Consolation First Session
		17.00 – 19.30	Open & Ladies Pairs – Consolation Second Session
Saturday	18	11.00 – 14.00	Open Teams - Registration
		14.15 – 16.45	Open Teams – French Patton rounds 1-4
		17.00 – 20.00	Open Teams – French Patton rounds 5-9
Sunday	19	10.00 – 13.00	Open Teams – Finals A, B, C etc. Rounds 1-5
		13.30	Prize Giving Ceremony, Farewell Buffet

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The teams will play 8 rounds of a Swiss, followed by one round of Danish for the best six teams.

Mixed Pairs

Pairs will play two qualification rounds, of 18 boards each, Mitchell movement. At the end, the top 10 pairs will play Final A, Barometer movement, 18 boards. The ones ranked between 11 and 20 will play Final B, also using a barometer 18 boards. The remaining ones will be divided into groups of approximately equal sizes, playing Finals C, D and so on, Mitchell movement, 18 boards. In all Finals there will be a Carry-Over.

Individual

The players will play three rounds, Scrambled Mitchell movement, 18 boards each. In addition to the regular prizes there will be special prizes for the top 10 finishers in the final session.

Open & Ladies Pairs

Pairs will play two qualification rounds, of 18 boards each, Mitchell movement. At the end, the top 18 pairs will play Final A, 34 boards, Barometer movement. The remaining pairs will be divided in groups of approximately equal sizes, and will play Finals B, C and so on, two rounds of 18 boards each. In all Finals there will be a Carry-Over.

Open Teams

Teams will be divided into groups of approximately 10 each, basically playing a round robin (9 rounds of qualification), Mirror Mitchell movement, French Patton scoring (in each match there are 16 VP at stake: 8 according to the IMP difference, and 8 according to a straight Board-a-Match criterium), 4 boards per round. At the end, the top 6 teams will play Final A, round robin, Mirror Howell movement, while the remaining ones will be divided in groups of approximately 6 each, and will play Finals B, C and so on, basically a round robin, Mirror Mitchell movement. All teams will play 5 matches of 4 boards each.

***Italian Championships Manager
Massimo Ortensi***

COSE DI CASA NOSTRA

by Franco Broccoli

A volte camminano. Voi non lo sapete, ma l'umanizzazione delle carte può raggiungere eccessi impensabili. Si dice che con le carte bisogna parlarci, ma non è dato sapere di eventuali passeggiate di onori al di fuori del board. Nella prima mano della pagina italiana di ieri, l'Asso di cuori di Fantoni, Nord, ha deciso di prendersi una vacanza ed è sparito dallo schema per andare a prendere una boccata di aria salmastra sul lungomare. Certamente Fantoni può avere anche uno stile piuttosto spregiudicato nel sottoaprire, ma che uno dei due colori mostrati fosse composto da RF103 sembrerebbe esser stata una manifesta esagerazione. Abbiamo mandato il colpevole della sparizione dell'Asso di cuori a correggere a penna tutti i bollettini in giro per Sanremo. Qui non si scherza (poco).

Una mano del coppie femminile che mi è stata raccontata da una fonte molto, molto vicina:

Board 15. Dich. Nord – N/S in zona

♠ D 8 5	♠ R F 3 2
♥ A 8 2	♥ R D 5
♦ A R D 2	♦ 7 6 3
♣ A R 2	♣ F 5 3

♠ 10 7	♠ A 9 6 4
♥ 10 9 7 6 4	♥ F 3
♦ 8 5	♦ F 10 9 4
♣ 10 9 7 4	♣ D 8 6

♠ N	♠ R 3 2
♥ O	♥ R
♦ E	♦ 7 6 3
♣ S	♣ F

Nel vostro bel contratto di 3SA da Ovest, preso l'attacco cuori in mano, giocate picche verso il Fante del morto con l'intenzione di manovrare due volte in quella direzione sinistra/destra contro l'eventuale Asso secondo in Nord. Non è così in quanto Sud entra al immediatamente a picche torna cuori. Lo avete visto Sud? E' preoccupato. Ne ha ben donde. Per le vostre simpatiche 11 prese, infatti, non avete altro che da tirare prima o poi la terza cuori. Sud, infatti, appesantito da tutte le rette, dovrà abbandonare a malincuore qualcosa di sostanziale. Tralasciate il fatto che Sud, per cercare d'intralciano il dichiarante, potrebbe filare due volte a picche perché, anche questo controgio non servirebbe a stoppare le 11 prese. Rimaniamo a Sud che prende il primo giro di picche e torna cuori, in quanto nel prosieguo, deve anche esercitare una certa attenzione nello scartare la tenuta meno dannosa! Perché se 11 levée sono lì, la dodicesima potrebbe essere dietro l'angolo. Guardate questo finale, per esempio, in cui il dichiarante, per divertimento assoluto, ha tirato il doppio colpo di Vienna con l'incasso di Asso e Re di fiori:

♠ D 8	♠ 10	♠ R 3 2
♥ 8	♥ 9 7 4	♥ R
♦ A R D 2	♦ 8 5	♦ 7 6 3
♣ 2	♣ 10 9	♣ F

♠ 9 6 4	♠ N	♠ R 3 2
♥ —	♥ O	♥ R
♦ F 10 9 4	♦ E	♦ 7 6 3
♣ D	♣ S	♣ F

Sulla piccola cuori per il Re del morto, infatti, Sud deve abbandonare una quadri per limitare ad 11 le prese di Ovest. Se scartasse una qualsiasi altra carta, infatti, sarebbe schiacciato da un'altra fastidiosa compressione che gli lascerebbe il nulla oltre all'Asso di picche iniziale. Non basta essere compressi, bisogna anche subirlo nella maniera meno dolorosa possibile.

Un problema d'attacco. Ecco le vostre carte in Est:

♠ 9 5 4
♥ 9 8 7 4
♦ 3
♣ A 5 4 3 2



La medaglia più graziosa, Amelia

OPEN PAIRS - FINAL A (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	BRINK Sjoert	DRIJVER Bas	57.38	28	HOMONNAY Geza	WINKLER Gabor	51.60
2	FITZGIBBON Nicholas	MESBUR Adam	56.18	29	GUSTAWSSON Marten	SYLVAN Johan	51.58
3	MULTON Franck	ZIMMERMANN Pierre	56.05	30	HARDING Marianne	HOYLAND Sven Olai	51.54
4	JASSEM Krzysztof	MARTENS Krzysztof	55.70	31	MOLENAAR Danny	VERBEEK Tim	51.22
5	ARNIM Daniela von	AUKEN Sabine	55.52	32	MULLER Bauke	WIJS Simon de	51.14
6	BOCCHI Norberto	MADALA Agustin	54.95	33	KOPECKY Michal	VOLHEJN Vit	51.11
7	FALLENIOUS Bjorn	FREDIN Peter	54.30	34	STANICIC Ognjen	TESLA Miro	50.71
8	FURUNES Jon-Egil	HALLBERG Gunnar	54.01	35	KRZEMINSKI Cesa	WALINSKI Boguslaw	50.48
9	GUR Okay	YILMAZ M.Gokhan	53.93	36	FLEURY Herve	GIROLLET Marc	50.43
10	RAMONDT Vincent	WESTRA Berry	53.88	37	HOLLMAN Robert	FERGUSON Bruce	50.14
11	ANGELERI Ricardo	MUZZIO Ernesto	53.55	38	PALAU Jean-Jacques	GUILLAUMIN P.	50.07
12	JANSMA Jan	PAULISSEN Gert Jan	53.51	39	ELINESCU Michael	WLADOW Entschö	50.01
13	BAREKET Ilan	LENGY Assaf	53.33	40	GROMOELLER Michael	KIRMSE Andreas	49.96
14	BACH Ashley	CORNELL Michael	53.24	41	KANE Martin	SHIELDS Patrick	49.83
15	SUWIK -	RADZIAK -	53.20	42	BERG Jan Tore	SVENDSEN Odin	49.81
16	JANISZEWSKI P.	SZTYRAK Leszek	52.99	43	EIDI Michel	VROUSTIS Vassilis	49.53
17	OHRYSKO Lech	RATYNSKI Adam	52.82	44	SAPORTA Pierre	VOLDOIRE Jean-Michel	49.43
18	BREKKA Geir	HOILAND Tom	52.75	45	CERNAT Ovidiu	FEBER Alexandru	49.27
19	ASKGAARD Michael	BJARNARSON Gregers	52.67	46	HARANGOZO Laszlo	HONTI Laszlo	49.14
20	FRANZEL Robert	KRIFTNER Georg	52.57	47	LUNGU Veronel	MICESCU Viorel	48.93
21	BAUSBACK Nikolas	LOEFGREN Martin	52.34	48	BARANTIEV Nikola	PEICHEV Ivan	48.63
22	BOMPIS Marc	QUANTIN J.	52.28	49	MARINA Bogdan	TACIUC Lucian	48.49
23	BESSIS Michel	BESSIS Thomas	52.10	50	IVANOV Atanas	IVANOV Antoni	48.36
24	NEDKOV Stanislav	TENEV Tenyu	52.06	51	STARKOWSKI W.	TUSZYNSKI Piotr	48.30
25	BRUNNER Michelle	HOLLAND John	51.90	52	BAKKEREN Ton	BERTENS Huub	47.94
26	PIETRASZEK Mare	UKRAINSKI -	51.90	53	DRIJVER Bob	GROENENBOOM Merijn	47.07
27	CAPONI Claudio	PIEDRA Fernando	51.81	54	GUNEV Rossen G.	POPOVA Desislava B.	46.56

WOMEN PAIRS - FINAL A (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	GIAMPIETRO Cristina	NEHMERT Pony Beate	57.14	17	VARENNE Miriam	ZUR-CAMPANILE-ALBU	51.94
2	BESSIS Veronique	HUGON Elisabeth	55.67	18	BRKLJACIC Tihana	MARTINOVIC Slavica	51.68
3	DELESTRE Blandine	BOURDIN Dominique	54.98	19	GROMOVA Victoria	PONOMAREVA Tatiana	51.55
4	BAKER Lynn	McCALLUM Karen	54.71	20	ARNOLDS Carla	VRIEND Bep	50.52
5	ATALAY Belis	ZAIM Mey	54.13	21	HANSEN Renate	SMEDEREVAC Jovanka	49.94
6	CRONIER Benedicte	WILLARD Sylvie	53.80	22	GENTILI Luigina	SEVERGNINI Maddalena	49.87
7	HARASIMOWICZ Ewa	SAWICKA Malgorzata	53.65	23	CIVIDIN DE SARIO S.	COLONNA Ornella	49.77
8	VERBEEK Martine	ZWOL Wietske van	53.37	24	RIMSTEDT Sandra	SJOBORG Emma	49.02
9	GLADIATOR Anne	WEBER Elke	53.26	25	COSIGNANI FALA V.	PALANCA RELLA A.	48.88
10	MICHIENSEN Marion	WORTEL Meike	53.26	26	CARBONNEAUX Jessie	PUILLET Carole	48.88
11	BROCK Sally	SMITH Nicola	52.84	27	CHUBAROVA Svetlana	VOROBAYCHIKOVA O.	48.68
12	SPANGENBERG Jamilla	SPANGENBERG Sigrid	52.69	28	CSIBY Eva	MEZEI Katalin	48.47
13	GOLIN Cristina	VANUZZI Marilina	52.51	29	AGHEMO Monica	TAGLIAFERI Vera	47.66
14	KHONICHEVA Elena	NIKITINA Alexandra	52.49	30	PASMAN Jet	SIMONS Anneke	46.14
15	PAOLUZI Simonetta	SACCAVINI Ilaria	52.40	31	GERSTEL Madelaine	WAECHLI Elisabeth	45.56
16	PENFOLD Sandra	SENIOR Nevena	52.08	32	SALM Claudia van der	WIJMA Anke	45.39

SENIOR PAIRS - FINAL A (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	LASOCKI Krzysztof	RUSSYAN Jerzy	57.77	15	MELMAN Victor	RAMER Roald	51.36
2	BUER Bjorn	MUNKVOLD Svein Arne	54.89	16	HASSETT John	HIRST Bill	51.12
3	GRENTHE Patrick	VANHOUTTE Philippe	54.60	17	CARZANIGA Bruno	GIULIANO Giacomo	50.58
4	FERRARA Michele	MAGLIETTA Stefano	53.32	18	SERGEANT Denis	THABAULT Jean-Roger	50.38
5	BONGIOVANNI Giulio	KOWALSKI Apolinary	53.10	19	MILASZEWSKI Miroslaw	SZENBERG Stefan	49.92
6	MEJANE Gaston	PEREZ Moise	52.77	20	BAKKE Tor	TROLLVIK Jan	49.85
7	COMELLA Amedeo	ROMANSKI Jacek	52.56	21	CEDOLIN Franco	DALLACASAPICCOLA	49.57
8	FORNACIARI Ezio	MARIANI Carlo	52.37	22	LIGGAT David	McGOWAN Elizabeth	49.57
9	KIERZNOWSKI Roman	WALA Wlodzimierz	52.35	23	LUCKO Andrzej	ZADROGA Jan	49.56
10	BORM Frans	TUWANAKOTTA Tjali	52.27	24	LUND Erik	TOBIASEN Niels Joergen	49.32
11	JEZIORO Aleksander	KLUKOWSKI Julian	52.05	25	ADAD Pierre	SALLIERE Gerard	46.66
12	BOESIGER Hanspeter	SPENGLER Walter	51.74	26	LUCENO Salvatore	SCHWARZ Daniele	46.65
13	MARI Christian	WALTER Stanley	51.70	27	KRATZ Ulrich	STRATER Bernhard	46.42
14	LEW Jacek	POCHRON Jozef	51.59				

OPEN PAIRS - FINAL B (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	ANDREEV Jurii	ERSHOV Sergei	58.68	43	AGGELOPOULOS Petros	OIKONOMOPOULOS G.	50.75
2	FERRAMOSCA Francesco	SALVADORI Francesco	58.27	44	KOUKOUSELIS Tassos	ZOZIS Sotiris	50.42
3	MAKARUK Janusz	NIEDZIELSKI Pawel	57.39	45	CHERNYAK Leonid	DOBRIN Denis	50.27
4	JANKAUSKAS Arunas	POSKA Gediminas	56.83	46	PETERS Han	TOP Jeroen	49.82
5	KROEJGAARD Mads	KROEJGAARD Niels	56.75	47	FOSSI Niccolo	PAUNCZ Peter	49.68
6	JELENIOWSKI Andrzej	WACHNOWSKI Jaroslaw	56.13	48	BETHERS Janis	RUBINS Karlis	49.60
7	DEBUS Eric	VAN MECHELEN Rutger	55.98	49	DHONDY Heather	PENCHARZ Bill	49.55
8	HUSSEIN Ahmed	SADEK Tarek	55.93	50	CIESLAK Jaroslaw	FILIPOWICZ Dominik	49.46
9	NILSSON Ulf	OLOFSSON Bent-Goran	55.86	51	BOGEN Haakon	HOLAND Jack	49.45
10	ROTARU Iulian	STIRBU Calin	55.75	52	MODRZEJEWSKI Maciej	TOMASZEK Witold	49.38
11	ASTORE Giancarlo	UGGERI Paolo	55.43	53	MARMONTI Dario	MASSA Gaetano	49.07
12	CLAIR Paolo	TOTARO Carlo	55.40	54	BURAS Krzysztof	LASZCZAK Tadeusz	49.03
13	AVCIOGLU Huseyin	OZTURK Bircan	55.33	55	ASH Mike	McPHEE Stuart	49.01
14	CSATLOS Arpad	HITTMANN Laszlo	55.02	56	BREWIAK Mariusz	STASIAK Arkadiusz	48.90
15	McINTOSH Andrew	SANDQVIST Nicklas	54.45	57	KARBANOVICH A.	ZHURAVEL Valentin	48.77
16	CHIEN Steven	LIN Phoebe	54.39	58	KALIDA Janusz	KWIATKOWSKI Leszek	48.69
17	JOKISCH Peter	KASIMIR Udo	54.23	59	KALITA Jacek	RUSSO Biancastella	48.60
18	UYSAL Aydin	SIRIKLIOGLU Mehmet	53.91	60	FILIP Anatol	VELECKY Eduard	48.38
19	ANCESSY Arnaud	BRUNET Frederic	53.88	61	GRZELCZAK Jacek	STASIOLEK Tomasz	48.37
20	GINOSSAR Eldad	PACHTMAN Ron	53.88	62	HAPONAVA Ulyana	ZLOBICH Sergej	48.27
21	MICHELIN Marjorie	FEIGENBAUM Ellis	53.82	63	McGUIRE Brian	RAILING Philip	48.07
22	DELIMPALTADAKIS Nikos	DIONYSOPOULOS D.	53.71	64	SAUVAGE Valerie	BOGACKI Patrick	48.05
23	ZAK Piotr	ZAREMBA Jerzy	53.60	65	GODED Federico	VINCENT Herve	47.57
24	CLEEFF Jan van	KENDRICK David	53.28	66	GOLEBIEWSKI Stanislaw	SIELICKI Tomasz	47.45
25	CATA Stefano	MARINI Giancarlo	53.26	67	FRENCKEN Alain	VANDERVORST Mike	46.60
26	DESMOULINS Jean Pierre	COUNIL Jean-Louis	53.15	68	CHIARO Domenico	MAI Marita	46.36
27	GROSSET Christophe	LORENZINI Cedric	52.81	69	RADKOV Stojcho	TRENDAFILOV Roumen	46.07
28	GOTARD Tomasz	LESNICZAK Jacek	52.78	70	CIVGINER Haldun	SEN Melih Osman	45.87
29	BALASOVS Juris	MAURINS Janis	52.43	71	KRAVCHENKO Igor	SHOKHAN Elena	45.44
30	BELING Zdizilaw	LEWACIAK Gregor	52.39	72	SOULET Philippe	TCHENIO Maurice	45.30
31	FAIGENBAUM Albert	ZALESKI Romain	52.32	73	PAPADOPOULOS Tryfonas	THEOTOKIS Nikos	45.29
32	BOEDDEKER Robert	ZARKESCH Flora	51.99	74	KALISH Avi	PODGUR Leonid	44.28
33	TIMAKHOVICH Aleh	ZHUKOV Alexander	51.97	75	DRENKELFORD Herman	KIRCHHOFF Eric	44.25
34	GOTTHARD Laszlo	DUMBOVICH Miklos	51.74	76	SHUDNEV Andrey	SMILGAJS Andris	44.22
35	FRIEDLANDER Ehu	YADLIN Doron	51.72	77	MULLER Serge de	FRONTAURA Frankie	44.05
36	HENC Marian	LOHAY Karol	51.70	78	BROGELAND Boye	GILLIS Simon	43.01
37	KRYSZTOFCZYK W.	KRYSZTOFIAK Tomasz	51.63	79	BUSSOTTI Paolo	CIRILLO Maurizio	42.40
38	INGIELEWICZ Zdzislaw	NARKIEWICZ Grzegorz	51.54	80	LATTUNEDDU Vincenzo	MONTIERI Giovanni	41.79
39	GIERULSKI Boguslaw	SKRZYPCZAK Jerzy	51.49	81	PIGARELLI Dario	ZAMPERETTI Roberto	40.96
40	SHANURIN Evgeni	TATARKIN Vladimir	51.30	82	CIECHOMSKI Jacek	CZUBAK Edmund	40.61
41	DOBRZYNSKI Maciej	DZIKOWSKI Witold	51.24	83	BOSS Nick	JOHNSON Richard	40.28
42	COLINET Eric	MEYER Jean	51.11	84	BELLINI Valeria	PASSI Flavio	38.39

WOMEN & SENIOR PAIRS - FINAL B (AFTER 2 SESSIONS)

1	BILSKI George	OTVOSI Erwin	58.44	18	BIGAT Halit	YALMAN Ali	49.21
2	BARONI Franco	RICCIARELLI Marco	57.31	19	KNOLL Gabrielle	SZIMANSKI Sabine	48.72
3	MAJ Marta	SZCZEPANSKA Kamila	55.07	20	FOCARDI Gabriella	GAMBERUCCI M.	48.56
4	AVON Danielle	WAKSMAN Sophie	54.89	21	DAN Ora	FARKAS Ruth	47.96
5	FOSSAN Bodil	MOEN Vigdis	54.70	22	HOLCZER Clara	LEVANON Ayelet	47.82
6	PANCHEVA Boriana	YANEVA Valya	54.17	23	KULCHYCKY Jill	RIGNEY T.	47.04
7	HODEROVA Pavla	JANKOVA Jana	53.68	24	CECCONI Patrizia	PERELLI Mirella Maria	46.94
8	BONANNO Filippo	FERNANDEZ Giuseppe	53.38	25	KOCH Nadia	PEDERSEN Ulla Korre	46.88
9	BETTINETTI Giampiero	MARINO Leonardo	53.34	26	MEEHAN Patsy	O'FARRELL Rose	46.76
10	CESARI Barbara	MASINI Nicoletta	52.52	27	BEIJRDORFF Leeuw	RYAN Dennis	46.74
11	BENNETT Roy	SMITH Harry	52.32	28	CASTELLS-CONRADO	LEON Pilar	46.07
12	JAROSZ Aleksandra	KAZMUCHA Danuta	51.84	29	NORDBJORK A.	TORSTENSSON Carina	45.61
13	JOEL Geeske	SOKOLOW Tobi	51.61	30	FRANCO Marta	PANELLA Ana	42.88
14	DIAMANTI Enrica	GIANNINI Silvia	51.47	31	CLIFFORD Carol Ann	LOGUE Kathy	41.67
15	PECCOUD Janine Elise	SAPORTA-TWORZYDLO	51.01	32	EDGAR Caroline	IMPICCIATORE Silva	41.28
16	BALDI Elma	GARRONE Lucia	49.88	33	AKIN Sevil	TEKELI Ayse Sniha	30.83
17	LEIGHTON Cecil	DENNISON Maureen	49.24				

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(Poland)
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Paul Hackett

(England)
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Luis Lantarón

(Spain)
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