



Daily Bulletin

World Bridge Championships



Hotel Transamérica - São Paulo - Brazil

29 August - 12 September 2009



Chief Editor: Brent Manley / Coordinator: Jean-Paul Meyer
Lay-out Editor: Akis Kanaris / Web Editor: Fotis Skoularikis

Issue No. 3

Tuesday, 1 September 2009

EIGHT - THE MAGIC NUMBER



These three women were spotted at the Hostess Desk at the Hotel Transamerica, greeting players and greatly improving the scenery. They are Juliana Macieira, Carolina Diniz and Matilde Confalonier.

The three events of the World Bridge Championships are in full swing now after six matches in the qualifying phase, and the teams are still tightly bunched at the top. No team so far seems likely to run away from the field – and the top eight in each group is the target of all.

The round robin phase – three 16-board matches per day – concludes on Saturday, and the quarterfinals in all three major championships begin the following day

USA1 in the Venice Cup has the largest lead of any group leader, and they are only 6.5 victory points ahead of China Long Zhu and France, tied for second.

In the Bermuda Bowl, Norway has a 5-VP lead over Bulgaria, followed closely by the Netherlands. Rounding out the top five are Italy and USA2.

In the D'Orsi Seniors Bowl, England is ahead of second-place Egypt by 4VPs, with Poland and USA2 just 1VP behind.

Tournament on TV

Guests at the Hotel Transamerica can keep up with all three events in the World Championships – Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup and D'Orsi Seniors Bowl – on Channel 96 on their television sets. The daily broadcasts will include running scores and rankings.

VUGRAPH MATCHES



Round 7 (11.00-13.20)

VG:	Table 6	Chile - Italy	(BB)
BBO 1:	Table 8	Netherlands - Chinese Taipei	(BB)
BBO 2:	Table 9	Russia - Norway	(BB)
BBO 3:	Table 24	Indonesia - USA 1	(VC)
BBO 4:	Table 2	Argentina - India	(BB)
OurGame:	Table 11	China Long Zhu O - Brazil	(BB)

Round 8 (14.30-16.50)

VG:	Table 1	Bulgaria - USA 2	(BB)
BBO 1:	Table 9	Germany - Argentina	(BB)
BBO 2:	Table 3	Norway - Netherlands	(BB)
BBO 3:	Table 24	France - USA 2	(VC)
BBO 4:	Table 51	England - Indonesia	(OSB)
OurGame:	Table 22	Germany - China Long Zhu W	(VC)

Round 9 (17.20-19.40)

VG:	Table 3	China Long Zhu O - Argentina	(BB)
BBO 1:	Table 10	Chinese Taipei - Italy	(BB)
BBO 2:	Table 7	Bulgaria - Germany	(BB)
BBO 3:	Table 23	USA 1 - France	(VC)
BBO 4:	Table 44	Poland - USA 1	(OSB)
OurGame:	Table 22	Denmark - Spain	(VC)

Watch BBO at: <http://www.bridgebase.com>
Watch OurGame at: <http://worldbridge.ourgame.com>





RESULTS

Bermuda Bowl



ROUND 4

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	Norway	Guadeloupe	80 - 5	25 - 0
2	Chinese Taipei	Bulgaria	26 - 19	16 - 14
3	Brazil	USA 2	2 - 23	10 - 20
4	Japan	Argentina	9 - 14	14 - 16
5	Pakistan	Netherlands	7 - 48	6 - 24
6	Mexico	China Long Zhu	13 - 50	6 - 24
7	Germany	Chile	29 - 44	12 - 18
8	India	Morocco	69 - 16	25 - 3
9	New Zealand	USA 1	36 - 56	10 - 20
10	Egypt	Australia	27 - 28	15 - 15
11	Italy	Russia	30 - 17	18 - 12

ROUND 5

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	Netherlands	China Long Zhu	19 - 53	7 - 23
2	Russia	Chile	81 - 28	25 - 3
3	Japan	Mexico	89 - 19	25 - 1
4	Bulgaria	USA 1	51 - 23	22 - 8
5	Guadeloupe	Australia	40 - 30	17 - 13
6	Norway	Argentina	55 - 26	22 - 8
7	Chinese Taipei	Egypt	46 - 54	13 - 17
8	Brazil	New Zealand	59 - 36	20 - 10
9	Italy	India	53 - 16	24 - 6
10	Pakistan	Germany	8 - 80	0 - 25
11	USA 2	Morocco	31 - 25	16 - 14

ROUND 6

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	Guadeloupe	Bulgaria	20 - 60	6 - 24
2	Norway	USA 2	24 - 22	15 - 15
3	Chinese Taipei	Russia	49 - 25	21 - 9
4	Brazil	Netherlands	14 - 34	10 - 20
5	Italy	China Long Zhu	8 - 24	11 - 19
6	Japan	Egypt	48 - 13	23 - 7
7	Mexico	Morocco	25 - 41	11 - 19
8	Germany	USA 1	51 - 31	20 - 10
9	India	Australia	67 - 9	25 - 3
10	New Zealand	Argentina	18 - 42	9 - 21
11	Pakistan	Chile	33 - 36	14 - 16

Ranking after 6 Rounds

1	Norway	126
2	Bulgaria	121
3	Netherlands	116
4	China Long Zhu Open	115
5	Argentina	113
6	Italy	110
7	USA 2	106
8	Germany	104
9	Chinese Taipei	101
10	India	91
11	Japan	90
	Russia	90
13	Egypt	85
14	Chile	84
15	Australia	73
16	Brazil	71
17	USA 1	69
18	Pakistan	66
19	New Zealand	63
20	Guadeloupe	58
21	Morocco	57
22	Mexico	37

Masood Saleem

Masood Saleem, one of Pakistan's most well known players and a longtime partner of Zia Mahmood, died on Sunday in Karachi, Pakistan, after a long illness.

Saleem and Zia were key members of the Pakistani team that came from nowhere in the 1981 Bermuda Bowl in Port Chester NY to make the final against a strong team from the USA. The team from Pakistan finished second, but they had made their mark.

A businessman, Saleem won his country's national championship seven times and the zonal championships five times among many other stellar achievements in bridge competition.

A more detailed obituary will appear in the Daily Bulletin later in the tournament.



RESULTS

Venice Cup



ROUND 4

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	Brazil	France	20 - 31	13 - 17
22	Sweden	Spain	31 - 47	11 - 19
23	Indonesia	Germany	16 - 73	3 - 25
24	Egypt	Denmark	25 - 54	8 - 22
25	Venezuela	USA 1	8 - 63	2.25 - 24.25
26	Japan	China Long Zhu	10 - 38	8 - 22
27	Pakistan	Australia	31 - 41	13 - 17
28	Jordan	USA 2	28 - 32	14 - 16
29	Italy	Argentina	35 - 13	20 - 10
30	Barbados	New Zealand	17 - 68	4 - 25
31	Canada MP Press	Morocco	16 - 16	15 - 15

ROUND 5

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	Japan	Venezuela	45 - 30	18 - 12
22	Pakistan	Egypt	19 - 60	6 - 24
23	Jordan	Indonesia	33 - 31	15 - 15
24	Italy	Sweden	36 - 27	17 - 13
25	Barbados	Brazil	32 - 45	12 - 18
26	Canada MP Press	France	13 - 85	0 - 25
27	New Zealand	Spain	71 - 25	25 - 5
28	Argentina	Germany	52 - 22	22 - 8
29	USA 2	Denmark	60 - 28	23 - 7
30	Australia	USA 1	36 - 36	15 - 15
31	China Long Zhu	Morocco	58 - 43	18 - 12

ROUND 6

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	Morocco	Spain	37 - 18	19 - 11
22	Germany	France	27 - 28	15 - 15
23	Denmark	Brazil	56 - 34	20 - 10
24	USA 1	Sweden	56 - 18	24 - 6
25	China Long Zhu	Indonesia	42 - 25	19 - 11
26	Australia	Egypt	15 - 78	2 - 25
27	USA 2	Venezuela	41 - 21	20 - 10
28	Argentina	Japan	45 - 34	17 - 12
29	New Zealand	Pakistan	25 - 42	11 - 19
30	Canada MP Press	Jordan	39 - 45	14 - 16
31	Barbados	Italy	16 - 71	2.5 - 24.5

Ranking after 6 Rounds

1	USA 1	125.5
2	China Long Zhu Women	119
	France	119
4	Italy	112
5	USA 2	108
6	Egypt	107
7	Denmark	101
8	Germany	93.25
9	New Zealand	92
10	Indonesia	91
11	Morocco	89
12	Spain	88
13	Sweden	86
14	Jordan	77.5
15	Pakistan	77
16	Japan	75
17	Brazil	73.5
18	Argentina	72.5
19	Canada Master Point Press	70
20	Australia	69
21	Venezuela	51.25
22	Barbados	50.5



The playing card company Copag is among the sponsors of the World Bridge Championships in São Paulo, and Gabriela has been showing off Copag cards during the tournament.



RESULTS

d'Orsi Seniors Bowl



ROUND 4

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41 USA I	USA 2	7 - 39	7 - 23
42 South Africa	Brazil	58 - 17	24 - 6
43 Japan	Australia	35 - 19	19 - 11
44 Egypt	Uruguay	33 - 12	20 - 10
45 India	Pakistan	24 - 28	14 - 16
46 Barbados	Poland	31 - 24	16 - 14
47 Canada	Turkey	53 - 37	19 - 11
48 Italy	Venezuela	64 - 20	25 - 5
49 Sweden	Belgium	20 - 32	12 - 18
50 Indonesia	New Zealand	54 - 26	21.5 - 7.5
51 England	Argentina	45 - 29	19 - 11

ROUND 5

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41 Brazil	Australia	24 - 51	9 - 21
42 USA 2	Uruguay	47 - 28	19 - 11
43 USA I	Pakistan	27 - 18	17 - 13
44 South Africa	Poland	23 - 62	6 - 24
45 Japan	Turkey	9 - 57	4 - 25
46 Egypt	Venezuela	48 - 31	19 - 11
47 India	Belgium	23 - 24	14.5 - 14.5
48 Barbados	New Zealand	23 - 44	10 - 20
49 Canada	England	27 - 57	8 - 22
50 Italy	Indonesia	4 - 90	0 - 25
51 Sweden	Argentina	68 - 27	24 - 6

ROUND 6

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41 Argentina	Brazil	30 - 28	15 - 15
42 Australia	USA 2	20 - 12	17 - 13
43 Uruguay	USA I	4 - 90	0 - 25
44 Pakistan	South Africa	65 - 39	21 - 9
45 Poland	Japan	48 - 19	22 - 8
46 Turkey	Egypt	21 - 47	9 - 21
47 Venezuela	India	6 - 36	8 - 22
48 Belgium	Barbados	43 - 14	22 - 8
49 New Zealand	Canada	45 - 49	14 - 16
50 England	Italy	32 - 27	16 - 14
51 Indonesia	Sweden	4 - 45	6 - 24

Ranking after 6 Rounds

1	England	121
2	Egypt	117
3	Poland	116
	USA 2	116
5	Pakistan	110
6	Indonesia	107.5
7	Belgium	106.5
8	USA I	104
9	Sweden	101
10	Canada	92
11	Australia	88
12	Argentina	81
13	New Zealand	79.5
14	Barbados	76
15	India	75.5
16	Japan	75
	Turkey	75
18	Italy	72
19	Brazil	69
20	Venezuela	63
21	South Africa	62
22	Uruguay	52

WBF cards for sale



Packs of used WBF playing cards – with 5-bar codes – are for sale. If you are interested in buying some, please contact Christine Francin in the WBF Secretariat situated on the basement floor of the Hotel - Brasilia 2 room.

The price is US\$0.60 per pack

WBF Laws Committee

The committee will meet on Friday, Sept. 4, at 1:30 p.m. in the WBF meeting room.



BERMUDA BOWL**Round 2****Morocco**

v

Bulgaria**Strictly Bridge**

by Mark Horton

The Samba music rhythm has been danced in Brazil since its inception in the late 19th century. There is actually a set of dances, rather than a single dance, that define the Samba dancing scene in Brazil; thus, no one dance can be claimed with certainty as the 'original' Samba style.

It is one of the dances featured in the world wide series of TV programmes centered around ballroom dancing (based on the movie Strictly Ballroom) where celebrities appear with professional ballroom dancers, who each week compete by performing dances, which are then given scores by a panel of judges.

It occurred to me that one way for bridge to obtain some welcome publicity would be for some of our stars to appear on the programme. Two that readily spring to mind are Sabine Auken & Zia Mahmood, both of whom would look good on the dance floor. No doubt you can suggest others.

While I'm thinking of ways to introduce them to the TV producers you might like to think up some bridge dancing partnerships. How about Boye Brogeland & Cecilia Rimstedt, or Victor Aronov & Connie Goldberg?

I'll leave you to try your hand at some other combinations but before I present the highlights from the Bermuda Bowl match between Morocco and Bulgaria I'll refer you to page 44 of the Championship programme which illustrates that the link between bridge and dacing is by no means far fetched – it refers to the Senior's Ball.



Georgi Karakolev, Bulgaria

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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



♠ A Q 6
♥ Q 7
♦ K 10 9 8 7
♣ K J 6

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Hayat	Stefanov	Cambournac
Pass	3♥ *	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT *	Pass	3♠ *
Pass	4NT *	Pass	4♣ *
Pass	6♥	All Pass	5♦ *

- 3♥ Sets trumps
- 3♠ Spade control, doubleton heart
- 3NT Key card ask
- 4♣ One key card
- 4NT King ask
- 5♦ Two kings

With North as declarer a spade lead would spell the defeat of Six Hearts, but could East find one? Given that West had not doubled Four Clubs or Five Diamonds it was surely a real possibility, but East could not resist laying down the ace of diamonds and now the diamond position meant declarer was in control, +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Berrada	Karakolev	Rerhaye	Danailov
Pass	2♦*	Pass	INT
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3NT

North/South right-sided the contract, but when they not unreasonably stopped in game Bulgaria lost 13 IMPs.

As their Captain remarked – 'Okay, we wait for the next board' and as you will see it was worth waiting for:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Hayat	Stefanov	Cambournac
2♠ *	2NT	Pass	Pass
Pass	3♥	All Pass	3♦ *

West promised spades and a minor (a popular method which is explained in detail in a forthcoming Masterpoint Press book entitled *The Mysterious Multi*) and when East declined to get involved North/South settled peacefully in a part score.



Diyan Danailov, Bulgaria

East led the four of clubs and West took the ace and returned the suit (a diamond switch would give the defenders a chance of a plus score). Declarer won with the king and somewhat mysteriously played a diamond to the queen, followed by a trump to the queen and ace. (It was hardly obvious for West to go up with the king.) East cashed the ace of spades and played a diamond, but West could only ruff with the king of hearts and now declarer could pick up East's trumps to record +140.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Berrada	Karakolev	Rerhaye	Danailov
2♠	4♥	4♠	2♥ *
Pass	Dble	All Pass	Pass

There is an old adage 'Twice armed is he whose cause is just, but thrice armed is he who gets his blow in first.' Here it was South who struck first and that produced an auction that rapidly escalated. South led the five of hearts and declarer failed to divine the position in either black suit, finishing with only six tricks, down four, -1100 handing Bulgaria 14 IMPs and a lead they were not to relinquish.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Aronov	Hayat	Stefanov	Cambournac
1♦ *	1♠	1♣ *	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass
		3NT	All Pass
1♣	Precision		
1♦	Negative		

Having shown a modest hand with his negative, West was able to double for take out on the next round and East had an easy jump to game. South led the eight of spades and declarer put up dummy's ten, ducking when North produced the jack. (As the cards lie it is better to win at once.) North continued with the king of spades and declarer won and played the king of hearts. When that held he continued with the ace and queen of clubs, South ducking, when it is

better to win and switch to hearts. Declarer could now get home by switching to diamonds but a third club put South on play. The five of hearts was covered by the nine and North's... four. Now the game of ping pong was decided in declarer's favour as he simply gave up a diamond to score +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Berrada</i>	<i>Karakolev</i>	<i>Rerhaye</i>	<i>Danailov</i>
		2NT	All Pass

South led a diamond and declarer won and played the king of hearts. When that held a diamond went to South's king and the diamond return saw declarer win in dummy and play a club to South's king. The spade switch went to the king and ace and when declarer cashed his minor suit winners North discarded too many spades so East made eleven tricks, +210, but lost 9 IMPs.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Aronov</i>	<i>Hayat</i>	<i>Stefanov</i>	<i>Cambournac</i>
	2NT	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

As is so often the case the opening lead was a key issue on this deal. On a spade lead declarer would have been in with a chance, but East led the five of clubs and West cashed his aces, +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Berrada</i>	<i>Karakolev</i>	<i>Rerhaye</i>	<i>Danailov</i>
	1♣*	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			
1♣	Precision		

North/South earned an easy 13 IMPs by avoiding the slam. Naturally West led a spade, so declarer could discard his losing clubs and then, when it didn't matter, get the diamonds right for +680.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Aronov</i>	<i>Hayat</i>	<i>Stefanov</i>	<i>Cambournac</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

3NT was hopeless. West led the ten of diamonds and the defenders cashed five tricks in that suit and then switched to a heart, leaving declarer with no way to take more than six tricks, -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Berrada</i>	<i>Karakolev</i>	<i>Rerhaye</i>	<i>Danailov</i>
Pass	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Played by North Five Clubs has excellent chances, as the king of diamonds is protected. East led the jack of hearts and declarer won in hand, cashed the top spades discarding a diamond and then ruffed a spade with the jack of clubs. Now the winning line at double dummy is to play on cross ruff lines, but naturally declarer played a diamond, the king losing to the ace. East accurately switched to a club, but West failed to split his honours. Declarer won in hand, and now made the natural looking play of ruffing a diamond (a spade ruff is required). He cashed a top heart, discarding a spade and then played the queen of hearts. Now West must ruff with an honour to leave declarer a trick short, but a diamond discard saw declarer discard his remaining spade. He then ruffed a heart as West discarded his last spade (it was too late to ruff high now) and ruffed a diamond. West could overruff, but then had to lead into North's ♣A6.

That gave Bulgaria another 11 IMPs and a comfortable victory.

Round 3 Slams

by Brian Senior

Round 3 featured a couple of slam deals. Well, sort of slam deals. Take this first one – I was brought up to think that it was a bad idea to bid slam off a cashing ace-king. What do I know!

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>♠ A 9 7 4 ♥ 5 ♦ 9 6 4 3 ♣ 9 8 4 3</p>	<p>♠ 10 6 ♥ K J 10 8 4 ♦ K Q ♣ K Q 7 2</p>	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ K J 8 5 3 ♥ 7 2 ♦ 8 7 5 2 ♣ 10 5</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
<p>♠ Q 2 ♥ A Q 9 6 3 ♦ A J 10 ♣ A J 6</p>												

West	North	East	South
<i>Ferlazzo</i>	<i>Poncioni</i>	<i>Manara</i>	<i>Castello-B</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

I happened to watching the Venice Cup match between Brazil and Italy and saw the above auction. Italy's Gabriella Manara led a trump and that meant that Graca Poncioni's slam was home.

I was also brought up on the idea that one should make attacking leads against small suit slams so I wondered how often this slam had been bid and how successful it had been.



Caterina Ferlazzo, Italy

In the Bermuda Bowl the slam was reached 11 times out of 22. Six times the lead was a diamond, once a club and four times a spade, so the two-top-loser slam made seven times and failed four times. Well done Tadashi Teramoto (Japan), Bauke Muller (Netherlands), Jeff Meckstroth (USA2) and Arjuna de Livera (Australia), for finding the spade lead.

In the Venice Cup, slam was bid 12 times and succeeded eight times – there were five trump leads and three diamond leads. Maud Khouri (Egypt), Emma Sjoberg (Sweden), Diana Smart (Australia) and Fera Damayanti (Indonesia), led a spade.

Fifteen pairs bid to slam in the Senior Bowl. There were five trump leads, three club leads and two diamond leads, meaning ten successful declarers. The two USA defenders, John Sutherlin and John Solodar, were joined by Denny Sacul (Indonesia) and Jorge Gueglio (Argentina) in leading a spade. Mohamed Yehia Khalil (Egypt) was on lead as West and led ace and another spade.

So in total the slam was bid 38 times and made 25 times – a clear profit for bidding a slam off two cashing tricks.

The wildest board of the set was Board 7.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

<p>♠ 9 ♥ Q ♦ A Q 10 3 2 ♣ A Q J 9 8 2</p>	<p>♠ Q 7 ♥ K 10 5 4 2 ♦ 8 7 6 ♣ 10 6 5</p>	<table style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		<p>♠ A K J 10 8 4 2 ♥ A 8 6 3 ♦ 9 ♣ 3</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	<p>♠ 6 5 3 ♥ J 9 7 ♦ K J 5 4 ♣ K 7 4</p>											

West	North	East	South
<i>Pacheco</i>	<i>Saccavini</i>	<i>Vargas</i>	<i>Paoluzi</i>
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	6♣	All Pass

West	North	East	South
<i>Ferlazzo</i>	<i>Poncioni</i>	<i>Manara</i>	<i>Castello-B</i>
2♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

It looked as though Brazil had gained a big swing when Juliana Pacheco and Isabella Vargas de Andrade bid to the club slam and made it. That was a brave jump to slam by Vargas, looking at a small singleton in each of partner's suits, even if Pacheco had reversed then shown extra distribution.

Iliara Saccavini led a low heart and, with 12 tricks a long way off, Pacheco ran this to her bare queen. A good start but there was still plenty of work to be done. Pacheco led ace and jack of clubs to the king. Simonetta Paoluzi returned a diamond and there was another decision to be made. A successful diamond finesse would still have left declarer requiring three spade tricks, so Pacheco went up with the ace, drew trumps and took the spade finesse. As it happened, that was unnecessary as the queen was doubleton on side. Plus 1370 looked to be a great result.

For Italy, Caterina Ferlazzo opened with a natural 2♣ and Manara forced with 3♠. Four Diamonds was natural and, when Ferlazzo followed up with 4♠, Manara jumped to the spade slam. This contract too needed some good fortune, but probably a little less than had 6♣.

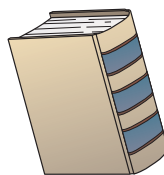
Noemia Castello-Branco led a low diamond. Manara called for dummy's queen and was relieved to see it hold the trick. She cashed the diamond ace for a heart pitch then ruffed a diamond, played ace of hearts and ruffed a heart, and led a fourth diamond off the table. Poncioni ruffed in with the spade queen, hoping to promote a trump winner for her partner, but it didn't matter. Manara over-ruffed, drew trumps and led to the ace of clubs to cash the established diamond; 13 tricks for +1460 and 3 IMPs to Italy – so much for Brazil's good board.

Around the room, the Bermuda Bowl saw 6♠ bid four times and 6♣ once, always making. Other contracts were 4♠ 13 times, 5♠ once, 5♣ twice, and 3♠ once. In the Venice Cup, including the match above, there were four 6♠ contracts and one 6♣, always successful, one 5♠ and 16 4♠. Eight pairs of Seniors bid 6♠ but one went down, while two played in 5♠ and 12 in 4♠.



Noemia Castello-Branco, Brazil

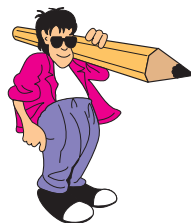
World Championship Book 2009



The Official book of these Championships in Sao Paulo will be available in March 2010, when the official price will be US\$34 plus postage. Advance orders can be made in Sao Paulo to Jan Swaan in the Press Room at the discounted price of US\$30, Euros 20, or Reals 55 per copy, including postage.

The principal writers will be Brian Senior, Barry Rigal, John Carruthers and Geo Tislevoll. There will be a full listing of all participants and results and many photographs. Every board of the finals and semi-finals of the Bermuda Bowl and Venice Cup will be covered, along with the best of the action from the earlier stages, plus the Senior Bowl and Transnational Teams.

Championship Diary



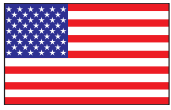
Looking for ways to while away the hours waiting for the championships to start I checked out the TV channels in the hotel. Many of them offer programmes in English and several play movies 24/7. Whilst surfing I happened upon a film I missed on release, *The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor* – just the sort of hokum to while away a couple of hours. It was only when the opening credits faded away that I realised that the film was in Chinese with Portuguese subtitles.

For those teams who had a poor first day we offer the following Russian proverb: *It is better to travel hopefully than to arrive.*

One of the Editors found himself in the lift with two very attractive members of the Danish women's team. When the lift unexpectedly stopped between floors he said, 'Don't worry I have my mobile.' 'Turn it off' they replied.

As the Bermuda Bowl got under way I noticed one of the Norwegian pairs was playing a system with a lot of relays. As they got embroiled in a long sequence which started 1♥-1NT-2♥-2♠-3♣-3♦-3♠ I recalled that many years ago a pair of my acquaintance had learnt a version of Relay Precision. One of them was worried about the inevitable memory lapse so they agreed that if either of them jumped to 4♦ in the middle of an auction that was to be treated as end signal. Partner had to bid 4♥ and the next bid would be the final contract. Just to prove there is nothing new in bridge and illustrate its universal nature the next bid in my featured auction was 4♦! The responder duly bid 4♥ and when that was passed out it made with an overtrick.

BERMUDA BOWL Round 3



USA 1

v

USA 2



Familiar faces

by Brent Manley

The U.S. Bridge Championships earlier this year in White Plains NY produced two fine teams for the 2009 World Bridge Championships in Sao Paulo. As is the norm, the two American squads met early in the round robin qualifying for the Bermuda Bowl.

USA1 is Peter Boyd – Steve Robinson, Doug Doub – Adam Wildavsky and Fred Stewart – Kit Woolsey. Boyd, Robinson and Woolsey were members of the winning Rosenblum Cup team in 1986, and Doub and Wildavsky were on the bronze medal team in the Bermuda Bowl in 2005.

USA2 is the formidable Nick Nickell squad, who made it to Sao Paulo via a repechage after they lost in the semifinal round of the USBC in New York. Nickell is playing with Ralph Katz, who took the place of the late Dick Freeman. The rest of the team is Jeff Meckstroth – Eric Rodwell and Bob Hamman – Zia Mahmood.

USA2 started fast, earning a big swing on the first deal.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Robinson	Meckstroth	Boyd
	1♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

The wheels came off somewhere in the auction, but the bad slam was going to make without a spade lead. Unfortunately for Peter Boyd and Steve Robinson, Meckstroth put a spade on the track and the defenders quickly had two tricks for plus 50.

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Zia
	1♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Dble	Pass	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Hamman and Zia didn't come close to slam. Hamman lost two spade tricks, but plus 450 was good for an 11-IMP gain. There was more bad news for USA1 on the next deal.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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



Eric Rodwell, USA 2

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Robinson	Meckstroth	Boyd
		1NT	Pass
2♠	Dble	3♣	All Pass

Meckstroth had no difficulty making 3♣, losing two hearts, a spade and a diamond for plus 110. Hamman and Zia did much better in the auction.

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Zia
		1NT	Pass
2♠	Dble	2NT	Pass
3♣	Dble	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Hamman liked his hand well enough to double twice, which was impetus enough for Zia to cuebid, forcing to game. Doub started with the ♣A, ruffed by Hamman in dummy. He played a diamond to his king and Doub's ace. Doub was looking at two trump tricks, and so he tried to take the second defensive trick with the ♦Q. Hamman ruffed, however, cashed the ♠A and ruffed a club, then discarded his ♣Q on the ♦J. He still had to lose two trump tricks, but that was plus 620 and 12 more IMPs to USA2, now leading 23-0.

Another 4 IMPs went to USA2 on board 3 when Zia was allowed to play 1♠, making one for plus 80, while Boyd landed in 3♣, one down for minus 100.

Board 4 produced only a 1-IMP swing, but it had an interesting aspect.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

At both tables, East played 3NT after North had shown hearts. When Doub played 3NT, he won the opening lead of the ♠K with the ace, played the ♦K and took the correct view in diamonds, finessing against South's queen. With the ♠10 having fallen from North, Doub simply played a spade to his 9 and Zia's queen, claiming 12 tricks for plus 690.

At the other table, Jeff Meckstroth played low from dummy on the opening lead of the ♠5. He took the ♠10 with the ace, cashed the ♦K and played a diamond to the 10. At that point, there were two ways to make all the tricks: a simple squeeze against North (note that Meckstroth's ♣6 is a threat) or a double squeeze.

After the ♦10 held, Meckstroth played the ♥A, a heart to the jack and the ♥K. He could now run the diamonds, pitching his ♥7 if North discarded down to a doubleton club to guard hearts. That, of course, would subject South to a black-suit squeeze even if he had been dealt a club higher than the 6. Plus 720 upped the score to 28-0 for USA2.

The IMPs just kept on coming for USA2 when a tricky opening lead by Boyd backfired.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Zia
	Pass	1♥	1NT
All Pass			

Wildavsky started with the ♥5 to the 2, 6 and 9. Zia tried the ♣K to Doub's ace, and Zia won the heart return with the queen. The ♦K was next, and Doub won to clear the heart suit. Now the ♣J put Wildavsky in, and he played a spade to Doub's king. The defenders took two hearts, two spades, two clubs and a diamond for plus 100 – not nearly enough considering what happened at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Robinson	Meckstroth	Boyd
	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Boyd had a horrible hand to lead from, and he knew whatever he selected might blow a trick, so he started with the ♠8, the kind of lead that often pays dividends. Not this time, however.

Meckstroth called for dummy's ♠10, and Robinson played low, hoping to deny Meckstroth a later entry. At trick two, Meckstroth played a heart to his jack and Boyd's queen, and the ♠Q was returned. Meckstroth won in hand and put the ♥K on the table. Boyd won and played a third round of hearts, ruffed in dummy. Meckstroth then played a diamond to his jack and Boyd's king. Boyd, no doubt sick of being endplayed (more or less starting a trick one) got out with another diamond. Meckstroth could claim at that point, picking up the last trump and discarding two clubs from dummy on good hearts. That was another 8 IMPs to USA2, now leading 36-0.

USA1 finally broke through on the next deal.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Robinson	Meckstroth	Boyd
1♠	3♣	1♦	1♥
4♠	All Pass	Dble	Pass

Robinson started with the ♥A, ruffed by Rodwell. Already, he was reduced to the same number of trumps as Boyd. Rodwell played the ♣Q at trick two. Robinson won and continued the tap with another heart. Rodwell ruffed again and played the ♦10 to Boyd's queen. A third round of

hearts reduced Rodwell to a doubleton spade. He played the ♠J and let it ride to Boyd's king, Rodwell finished with seven tricks for minus 300.

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Zia
		Pass	Pass
1♠	Dble	2♥	4♥
4♠	5♥	Dble	All Pass

The phantom save cost 300, giving USA1 their first score of the match and cutting the margin to 36-12.

Board 11 was a killer for USA1

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rodwell	Robinson	Meckstroth	Boyd
Pass	1♠	2♠	2NT
3♠	4♠	5♦	Dble
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

Meckstroth led the ♠8 to the king and ace. The ♠Q picked up Meckstroth's other trump. Declarer then led the ♦10. Meckstroth went up with the ace and cashed the ♥A. There was nowhere for declarer's club loser to go, so it was plus 50 for East-West.

West	North	East	South
Wildavsky	Hamman	Doub	Zia
			Pass
Pass	1♣	1♥	1♠
3♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	5♥	Dble
Pass	5♠	Dble	All Pass

Wildavsky led the ♥10 to Doub's ace. Doub didn't know his partner had the ♣A, so he thought he needed a club ruff to defeat the contract. Playing his partner for the ♦K, Doub boldly underled his ♦A. Zia no doubt was surprised when his ♦K held the trick, but he quickly picked up trumps and conceded a club for an unexpected plus 650 and another 12 IMPs to USA2.

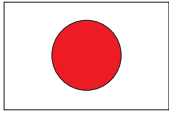
That was it for the excitement, although USA2 did pick up another 7 IMPs on the final five boards to end the session with a 56-18 victory.



Peter Boyd, USA 1

VENICE CUP

Round 4



Japan

v China Long Zhu



by Phillip Alder

The Chinese women's team is experienced and have come very close to winning world titles, no less so than last year in Beijing. Therefore, they started as the favorite against their Oriental neighbors, Japan.

The match began well for China Long Zhu.

Board 17. Dealer North. None vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wang W.	Shimamura	Liu	Banno
	INT (a)	2♦ (b)	Pass
2♥ (c)	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (a) 15-17 points
- (b) Heart or spade one-suiter
- (c) Pass or correct

West	North	East	South
Nishida	Sun	Miyakuni	Wang H.
	INT (a)	2♣ (b)	Pass
2♦ (c)	Pass	2♥ (d)	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2♠
3♥	All Pass		

- (a) 14-16 points
- (b) A variety of possibilities
- (c) To play opposite a diamond one-suiter
- (d) A heart one-suiter

In the Closed Room, Sun Ming did well to make a takeout double when two hearts came around to her. In reply Wang Hongli decided to bid her three-card spade suit. (Should two notrump ask for a choice of minor suit or be natural, with some heart cards but not enough to pass for penalty?) Then Natsuko Nishida, who knew of at least a nine-card fit, followed the Law of Total Tricks.

However, three hearts was one too high, Ayako Miyakuni

losing two spades, one heart, one diamond and one club. (After her diamond-queen lead held trick one, Wang shifted accurately to a spade.)

At the other table, when Liu Yi Qian used a Multi-style overcall, it was harder for the Japanese. And their defense was not so good, either. Kyoko Shimamura (North) led a low diamond, ducked to South's jack. But Kazuko Banno played another diamond, so declarer Wang Wenfei (West) won with dummy's ace and led the club queen. North took the ace and tried a third diamond, declarer ruffing and leading the heart queen. North took this and failed to see the need to cash the spade ace. Instead, she returned her last heart. West took this in her hand and discarded all of dummy's spades on her clubs for two overtricks.

Plus 50 and plus 170 gave China 6 IMPs.

Board 18. Dealer East. North-South vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wang W.	Shimamura	Liu	Banno
		Pass	INT (a)
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

- (a) 15-17 points

West	North	East	South
Nishida	Sun	Miyakuni	Wang H.
		1♦	Dble
1♥	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Interestingly, the player using a strong-club system (Liu) did not open the East hand, while the person playing natural (Miyakuni) did.

Miyakuni led the heart jack because her partner had bid the suit. West won with her ace and shifted to the diamond seven because her partner had bid that suit. Neither play

upset declarer. Eventually Sun took two spades, three hearts, three diamonds and two clubs for an overtrick.

In the Open Room, Wang Wenfei led her fourth-highest club, the most testing start. South took the first trick with her ace and had to attack hearts to remove West's entry. But she led the diamond jack. East grabbed the trick with her ace and returned a club, West winning with her jack and clearing the suit. Then, when Wang got in with her heart ace, she cashed two clubs to defeat the contract.

Plus 630 and plus 100 gave China 12 IMPs.

The next four boards were flat, but one was a very tough bidding problem for East-West.

You pick up

♠ —
♥ 8 7 6 5 4 3
♦ A Q 8 6
♣ 9 4 2

The dealer on your right passes. At favorable vulnerability, would you open with a Multi?

Assuming you do, the next player overcalls a natural two spades, your partner cue-bids three spades (a slam-try in hearts) and righty passes. What would you do now?

This was the layout:

Board 21. Dealer North. North-South vul.

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

In the Closed Room, Miyakuni did open two diamonds, despite a suit that was much better suited for poker than bridge. And when her partner made a slam-try, she worried so much about her bad trumps that she signed off in four hearts, despite having two first-round controls.

As you can see, six hearts is a desirable contract, only a tad worse than one out of two finesses.

This was the auction in the other room:

West	North	East	South
Wang W.	Shimamura	Liu	Banno
	Pass	Pass	1♠
INT	2♠	3♦ (a)	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

(a) Transfer

Some deals are just too difficult.

On Board 23, Banno misplayed three spades to go down one. In the Closed Room, Sun brought home an overtrick. Plus 100 and plus 170 gave China 7 IMPs and the lead by 25-0.

Wang Hongli played well to save points here:

Board 24. Dealer West. None vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wang W.	Shimamura	Liu	Banno
Pass	INT (a)	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

(a) 15-17 points

West	North	East	South
Nishida	Sun	Miyakuni	Wang H.
Pass	INT (a)	Pass	2♦ (b)
Pass	2♠ (c)	Pass	3♦ (d)
Dble	Pass (e)	Pass	3♥
All Pass			

(a) 14-16 points

(b) Transfer

(c) Superaccept: four hearts and a maximum

(d) Retransfer

(e) Reretransfer!

In the Open Room, Liu (East) led a trump against two hearts. Declarer drew two rounds ending in the dummy, then played a spade to her ten. East took her ten and shifted to the club three, declarer winning with her ace and returning a club to East's ten. Now East led the spade king, so declarer could claim an overtrick, losing one spade, two diamonds and one club.

When Wang Hongli (South) was declarer in three hearts, West started the defense with three rounds of diamonds, South discarding her club loser. East shifted to a low club, declarer winning dummy's ace, drawing trumps, and ruffing the last club in her hand, which marked declarer with 4=5=2=2 distribution. Then a spade went to dummy's ten and East's jack. East smartly exited with a club. Now Wang played another spade and after a short pause called for dummy's ace, dropping East's king to make her contract.

How did Wang Hongli find this play?

She knew that West had started with the ace-king of diamonds and a club honor. Declarer felt that if West had also

held the spade king, she would have acted on the first round.

After another three flat boards, you pick up:

♠ A K J 10 6 5
 ♥ K 6 5
 ♦ Q 8
 ♣ 10 5

You are in fourth position at unfavorable vulnerability. It goes two passes and one notrump (14-16 or 15-17) to you. Would you enter the auction?

Banno did bid and was doubled in two spades, going down two (and double-dummy it could have been three). Wang Hongli passed and defended against three notrump, which made with an overtrick.

Plus 500 and minus 460 gave China 2 IMPs.

Finally Japan got onto the scoreboard:

Board 29. Dealer North. Both vul.

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



Yi Qian Liu, China Long Zhu Women

West	North	East	South
Wang W.	Shimamura	Liu	Banno
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Nishida	Sun	Miyakuni	Wang H.
Pass	1♦ (a)	Pass	1♥
All Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥

(a) 11-15 points and zero-plus diamonds!

Wang Hongli knew that the values would be thin for game, but maybe she should have risked a more aggressive rebid.

To stop four hearts the way the cards lie, West must lead the spade king to get the defensive spade trick in before declarer can discard it on a club. But Nishida selected the club ten: minus 170.

Banno, who was sure of diamond length opposite, invited game with her three-diamond rebid, and Shimamura took a shot at three notrump, as surely would we all.

This can be defeated by a low-spade lead and careful defense thereafter, but Liu started with the club two. Declarer (North) won with dummy's jack, played a diamond to her ace, and led another diamond, East taking her king and shifting to a spade – but it was too late. North won with her ace, took the heart finesse, and ended with an overtrick after a misdefense in the end-position.

Minus 170 and plus 630 gave Japan 10 IMPs.

On the next board, West picked up in third position with neither side vulnerable:

♠ 8 7 3
 ♥ A J 9 8 6
 ♦ K 9
 ♣ Q 9 5

In the Closed Room, the auction started like this:

West	North	East	South
Nishida	Sun	Miyakuni	Wang H.
1♥	1♠	1♣	1♦
3♣	3♦	2♣ (a)	Pass
??		Pass	Pass

(a) Fewer than three hearts

What would you do now?

In the other room, East opened two clubs, Precision: 11-15 points with six-plus clubs, or five-plus clubs and a four-card major. You respond two diamonds, asking, and partner rebids three clubs: six-plus and a minimum. What would you do now?

This was the full deal:

Board 30. Dealer East. None vul.

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

Nine tricks were the limit in clubs, so China gained 4 IMPs.

Another 11-point opening worked well on the penultimate deal:

Board 31. Dealer South. North-South vul.

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

What is the par contract?

It is mildly surprising, but par is five diamonds bid and made by South. (Note that five diamonds by North is defeated by three rounds of hearts, East ruffing the last with her diamond ten to gain a trump trick for her partner.)

In our match, Wang Wenfei passed over three clubs and bought it. The opponents did not bid when laydown for game. On this deal Banno should have risked a two-diamond overcall despite the poor suit quality.

In the Closed Room, Nishida competed to four clubs, when I felt she should have bid three notrump. There was a definite possibility of nine tricks if the opponents could not take the first five, and since she had not bid notrump on the last round, she had to have some doubt about the contract.

Note that if either East had had the club jack or clubs had not been 0-4, three notrump would have been unbeatable.

West	North	East	South
<i>Wang W.</i>	<i>Shimamura</i>	<i>Liu</i>	<i>Banno</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT (a)	Pass	2♣ (b)	Pass
2♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

- (a) 11-13 points
- (b) Puppet to two diamonds: to play in two diamonds or to invite game somewhere

West	North	East	South
<i>Nishida</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Miyakuni</i>	<i>Wang H.</i>
1♥	1♠ (b)	Pass	1♦ (a)
All Pass			INT (c)

- (a) 11-15 points, zero-plus diamonds
- (b) Four-plus spades
- (c) 11-13 points

One notrump in the Closed Room played like a dream. West led the spade king. Declarer won with dummy's ace and played a spade to her jack. West took her queen and shifted to a low diamond, won by South's queen. Declarer then got the clubs right and ran the suit, East incorrectly throwing a spade. At the end West erred by discarding down to a singleton diamond king. So South took three spades, three diamonds and five clubs.

Defending against two diamonds, Shimamura did very well, leading her trump. If South had put in her ten, they could have defeated the contract. But South won with her ace and shifted to a spade, two rounds being played. Now West played a heart to dummy's ace, led a diamond to her king, cashed the heart king, throwing a club from the dummy, and crossruffed home, losing only one spade, two diamonds and two clubs.

Plus 210 and plus 90 gave China 7 IMPs.

The last board was a flat game, so China had deservedly taken the match by 38 IMPs to 10, or 22-8 in victory points.



Natsuko Nashida, Japan

D'ORSI SENIORS BOWL**Round 5****Canada****v****England****Senior Service***by Mark Horton*

The race for the *D'Orsi Seniors Bowl* is no less intense than in the other contests taking place here in Sao Paulo. In recent years the definition of a Senior has occasionally changed and whilst pursuing one of my other passions I noticed that one of our sister mind sports, Chess, has come up with a new idea.

Back in 1966 I became the youngest player ever to compete for the British Chess Championships, a record soon eclipsed by a certain Nigel Short who qualified for the Championships at the age of 12 and went on to become a superstar, contesting a World Championship final against Garry Kasparov.

Nigel was not even an IM, let alone a GM, but nowadays 12-year old GMs are commonplace. Most senior chess players are not too keen to play against juniors and the situation is not much different in bridge.

A baseball-cap head, just visible through the screen, quaffing litres of diet coke and guzzling crisps whilst effortlessly rattling of the bids of a complex relay system makes it easy to sympathize with W. C. Fields, who when asked how he liked children, replied 'Boiled or fried!'

Now it happens that Dutch IT legend Joop van Oosterom has been generously sponsoring an annual chess match in Amsterdam between a team of youngsters, and a team of veterans, usually over 50, and sometimes older still. A great idea – the best young GMs in the world against such legends of chess as Victor Korchnoi. The problem was that the older generation was no match for the youngsters and the sporting interest in the contest was almost non-existent.

To spice up the event the organisers decided that the so called 'Experience' team needs a little less experience. So, out have gone most of the over-45s, and in have come such 'veterans' as Loek van Wely (aged 36), Peter Heine Nielsen (aged 36) and Peter Svidler (aged 33). Veterans? Peter Svidler, a veteran??

If these guys are veterans what hope is there for Senior bridge players? Has middle age vanished? Bob Hope remarked that 'Middle age is when your age starts to show around your middle', and that's a line that many a bridge player can relate to.

Strangely enough, the tournament website is silent on the subject of what the prize is for the top scorer of the Experience team, although there are rumours of a motorised wheelchair, an electric blanket and a year's supply of denture-cleaning fluid. Maybe I should pass that on to the organizers of future senior bridge championships?

My plan had been to cover the Round 4 encounter between the two teams representing the USA in the D'Orsi

Seniors Bowl, but the match was on BBO and Internet problems proved to be insurmountable, so with the help of Patrick Jourdain, who reports on the action in the Open Room, I present the highlights of the Round 5 encounter between two of the teams at the business end of the field, England and Canada.

Board 3 was not a good advertisement for the Canadians' bidding methods:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ A Q J		♠ 9 2									
♥ Q J 10 6 5		♥ A K 9 3 2									
♦ 10 7		♦ Q 9 5									
♣ A 9 2		♣ 8 7 3									
♠ 8 7 6 5	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; 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		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 4											
♦ 8 6 3											
♣ K J 10 6 4											
♠ K 10 4 3											
♥ 8 7											
♦ A K J 4 2											
♣ Q 5											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Holland</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Kirr</i>
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	4♠

Kirr opened 1♠ on the South hand preparing to canapé into diamonds. Hobart responded with an artificial game force of 2♣. Kirr duly showed longer diamonds than spades and Hobart showed his hearts.

Kirr considered bidding 2NT which would have led to the popular game reached and made at most tables but after some thought, worrying about whether ♣ Qx would be a stop, he bid the nebulous 3♦. When Hobart showed delayed spade support, Kirr had another chance to bid 3NT, implying a half-stop as he had not bid it on the previous round. He chose instead to bid Four Spades which would also have succeeded, but Hobart corrected to 5♦.

This game was at risk and the England pair found the winning defence. Holland led his singleton heart to Hallberg's king. A heart continuation or a club switch beats the game thanks to West's four spades.

Hallberg actually chose to switch to clubs. Kirr tried the queen but it was beaten by the king. Declarer could draw

trumps successfully but then he had to concede a heart and a club for one down, -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schoenborn</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Baran</i>	<i>Simpson</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♣*	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	2♥
All Pass		Pass	3NT
2♣	Game forcing		

3NT was straightforward, declarer winning the club lead in hand with the queen, playing a spade to the jack and then playing on diamonds. He took four spades, five diamonds and two clubs, +460 and 11 IMPs to England.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Board 4 was an interesting contest in 3NT:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Holland</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Kirr</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♠	Pass	2♦
All Pass		Pass	3NT

INT was 15-17 and 2♦ was game-forcing Stayman. South, Kirr, was at the helm, and Hallberg led his fourth highest diamond. Kirr overtook the six with the seven to lead a second diamond. Hallberg won this and Holland discarded ♥7. West switched to hearts and the five was beaten by the nine and ace. A third diamond was won by West and this time East ditched the ♠3. Hallberg now tried ♠J which declarer allowed to hold. Hallberg exited with a diamond and both dummy and East discarded clubs, Holland smoothly baring his queen.

Declarer correctly cashed the ace of clubs, but then went adrift by taking the club finesse. Holland won and came to a heart later to defeat the game. If declarer had read the ending correctly he had to drop East's queen.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Schoenborn</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Baran</i>	<i>Simpson</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Dble*	Redble*	2♦*	Pass
Pass*	Dble	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

- Dble One major and a longer minor
- Redble Strong
- 2♦ Asks for the major
- Pass Shows diamonds

Having passed initially West made a dubious entry into the auction over South's strong NT. From that point on it was simply a question of where East/West come to rest.

North found the standard lead of a trump and South played three rounds of the suit. West unblocked dummy's queen so he could win the third round and draw the last trump and he then exited with a heart. North, who had discarded two hearts, went in with the king and switched to the jack of clubs. That was covered by the queen and ace and South returned a club, North winning with the king and accurately exiting with a club. Whatever declarer did he was booked for three down, -800 giving England 14 IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Board 5 was a solid slam reached by Hallberg & Holland:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Holland</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Kirr</i>
	Pass	INT	Pass
2♥	Dble	Pass	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	6♣	All Pass

INT was 15-17, 2♥ was a transfer doubled by North to show the suit. East's Pass showed less than three spades. Holland bid his clubs and Hallberg raised to set the suit. The next three bids were alerted as cuebids and Hallberg had heard enough.

On the lead of ♥K Holland was able to claim all 13 tricks. He drew trumps and discarded all dummy's diamonds on his spades for 940 to England

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Schoenborn	Price	Baran	Simpson
	1♥	INT	2♥
4♠	All Pass		

Perhaps unnerved by the previous deal West hardly did justice to his hand opposite his partner's strong overcall and that cost his side another 10 IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

This was Board 6:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Holland	Hobart	Hallberg	Kirr
		Pass	Pass
1♦	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Of course, looking at the two hands one would want to reach 3NT. But it is very difficult to identify the spade stop (two halves do make a whole on this occasion) and one can hardly blame the Canadians for reaching 4♥. However this was quickly doomed when Holland led and continued diamonds. Hallberg ruffed the third and returned a spade. A fourth diamond was ruffed high, but declarer was already down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Schoenborn	Price	Baran	Simpson
		Pass	2♥
Dble	4♣*	4♠	5♥
Dble	All Pass		
4♣	Fit jump		

South's decision to bid on over Four Spades was poorly judged, as he was the first to admit. West cashed the ace of diamonds, then took the ace of spades before cashing a second diamond. East ruffed the next diamond so that was two down, -300 and 6 badly needed IMPs for Canada.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

The most expensive decision of the bad run for Canada came on this deal:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Holland	Hobart	Hallberg	Kirr
			Pass
3♥	4♥*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♣
Pass	6♦	Pass	7♦
Dble*	All Pass		

Dble Lightner

Given the pre-empt the spades were sure to lie badly and it was certainly risky to bid the grand, not knowing how solid the suits were. Maybe South was influenced by knowing he was well behind in the match. On such occasions one rarely seems to meet with luck. Holland made a Lightner double and Hallberg duly led a spade for the grand to fail at once.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Schoenborn	Price	Baran	Simpson
			Pass
3♥	4♥*	Dble	5♣
Pass	5NT*	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

When South volunteered a bid over East's double North felt his hand justified the use of the grand slam force. South's trump holding was not good enough for him to accept that invitation, but he showed how to tackle Six Clubs, ruffing the heart lead and then advancing the jack of clubs. That gave him a rapid +1390 and added a massive 17 IMPs to England's total.

Having put 52 IMPs on the scorecard on just four boards England was in control of the match and went on to win 57-27 IMPs, 22-8 VP.

Febo Asoma...

Por Fernando Lema y Ana Roth

En la rueda 4 de la clasificatoria el equipo chileno enfrento al fuerte equipo alemán. Veamos lo que ocurrió en la ante-ultima mano, la N° 31 del match:

Dador Sur, N/S Vulnerable

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

En el cuarto abierto la pareja alemana sentada en N/S llevo al contrato de 4♠ y se fue una abajo...+100 para Chile.

En la otra sala la subasta se desarrolló de la siguiente manera:

Oeste	Norte	Este	Sur
	JMRobles		Caracci
1♥	Db1	Redbl *	1♣
*	El Redoblo promete ♥A o ♥K		Fin



JM Robles, M. Monsegur y M. Caracci

Salida: ♦7

Sur tomó la salida con el ♦A y volvió triunfo hacia el ♥A del muerto eliminando la única entrada a la mesa. El declarante no tuvo más remedio que repetir diamante y jugo el ♦3, Sur sirvió su ♦10, Oeste siguió con su ♦K y Norte fallo con el ♥3.

Robles jugo el ♣J que fue baza, y repitió trébol con el ♣6, para el ♣10 de Sur que fue baza...y ahora Oeste no pudo dejar de perder una baza de espadas, tres de corazón, dos de diamante y dos de trébol...8 bazas para N/S...2 multas redobladas +600...que sumados a los +100 de la otra sala le dio a Chile 12 IMPs.

El match finalizo con la victoria de Chile por 18 a 12.

Bridge & Humor

El Gran Maestro Sudamericano Sergio Aranha de Brasil nos relató la siguiente anécdota. Amante de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, Sergio la eligió para pasar su luna de miel. Recién casado con una bridgista, ambos decidieron alojarse en un hotel que quedaba frente al mejor Club de Bridge de Argentina de ese momento.

Una noche decidieron ir a jugar el duplicado. En una de las mesas la novel pareja tuvo que jugar la defensa de un contrato en que el carteo tenía un cierto grado de dificultad. El declarante, Norte, mostró una excelente técnica de carteo pero Sergio analizando la mano encontró lo que para él era una línea mejor...

Al finalizar la mano, Sergio entabló un dialogo con el declarante y comenzó a exponer su idea...cuando el compañero lo interrumpió:

- SUR: UD sabe con quien esta hablando?
- Sergio: No
- SUR: Héctor Camberos (miembro del equipo argentino de Bridge de esa época)
- Héctor: Disculpe, es un alumno...continuem...por favor

Ambos jugadores continuaron la charla, Héctor reconoció que no había elegido la mejor línea de juego y así nació una amistad que perdura hasta hoy.

Unos días mas tarde Sergio y su mujer quisieron conocer otro Club de Bridge, le dieron el nombre al taxista y este los llevo por error a otro Club de nombre parecido...como había un torneo Barómetro... se quedaron. Al finalizar el juego, resultó que habían ganado con el 102,4%...el torneo era con handicap.

Por casualidad uno de los participantes era el alumno de Héctor Camberos...que se acerco al director y comento para que todos escucharan:

- No podía ser de otra manera...si UD le da 24% de handicap al profesor de carteo de Héctor Camberos.