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Wednesday, 19 June 2002

Italian Hot Streak Continues



Bulletin 4

The special Lavazza brew

Despite a losing draw to **The Netherlands** in the afternoon, **Italy** continued to set a blistering pace at the top of the table. Their total of 171 VP gives them a healthy 15 points lead over second placed **Iceland**. **Norway** is third, **Bulgaria** fourth, closely followed by the new look French team.

We are approximately one fifth of the way through the Open series and of the favoured teams **Poland** Sweden and **Denmark** all need to move up the table over the next couple of days.

Today we welcome the contestants in the Championships for Women and Seniors. You might care to try and calculate the number of World and European Champions who are taking part.

Captains Meetings

Wednesday 19th June - 2nd floor Congress Room 10.15 Senior teams Captains meeting 11.15 Women teams Captains meeting

Today's VuGraph Matches

OPEN TEAMS - Round 9
Italy v Iceland 10.30
OPEN TEAMS - Round 10

Bulgaria v Poland 14.15

OPEN TEAMS - Round 11
Norway v Yugoslavia 17.35

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Butler Ranking

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

	ROU	ND 9 10.30
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1 1	POLAND	ENGLAND
2	HUNGARY	BULGARIA
3	FINLAND	CYPRUS
4	IRELAND	FAROE ISLANDS
5	ISRAEL	LIECHTENSTEIN
6	FRANCE	DENMARK
7	SWITZERLAND	UKRAINE
8	SLOVENIA	SWEDEN
9	PORTUGAL	GREECE
10	LEBANON	NETHERLANDS
	CZECH REP	BELGIUM
12	ITALY	ICELAND
13	MONACO	AUSTRIA
14	SCOTLAND	ROMANIA
15	WALES	SPAIN
16	CROATIA	GERMANY
17	SAN MARINO	YUGOSLAVIA
18	RUSSIA	TURKEY
19	LATVIA	NORWAY

	ROUN	ID 10 14.15
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
	WALES	LATVIA
2	SPAIN	SCOTLAND
3	ROMANIA	MONACO
4	AUSTRIA	ITALY
5	ICELAND	CZECH REP
6	BELGIUM	LEBANON
7	NETHERLANDS	PORTUGAL
8	GREECE	SLOVENIA
9	SWEDEN	SWITZERLAND
10	UKRAINE	FRANCE
11	DENMARK	ISRAEL
12	LIECHTENSTEIN	IRELAND
13	faroe islands	FINLAND
14	CYPRUS	HUNGARY
15	BULGARIA	POLAND
16	ENGLAND	RUSSIA
17	TURKEY	SAN MARINO
18	YUGOSLAVIA	CROATIA
19	GERMANY	NORWAY

	ROUN	D I 17.35
Table 2 3 4 5	Home Team POLAND HUNGARY FINLAND IRELAND ISRAEL	Visiting Team CYPRUS FAROE ISLANDS LIECHTENSTEIN DENMARK UKRAINE
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	FRANCE SWITZERLAND SLOVENIA PORTUGAL LEBANON CZECH REP ITALY MONACO SCOTLAND NORWAY CROATIA SAN MARINO RUSSIA LATVIA	SWEDEN GREECE NETHERLANDS BELGIUM ICELAND AUSTRIA ROMANIA SPAIN WALES YUGOSLAVIA TURKEY ENGLAND BULGARIA GERMANY

OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

ROUND 6				
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 2 3 4 5	ROMANIA AUSTRIA ICELAND BELGIUM NETHERLANDS	LATVIA SPAIN WALES SCOTLAND MONACO	22 - 56 48 - 75 66 - 23 42 - 54 36 - 39	8 - 22 9 - 21 24 - 6 13 - 17 14 - 16
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	GREECE SWEDEN UKRAINE DENMARK LIECHTENSTEIN FAROE ISLANDS CYPRUS BULGARIA ENGLAND TURKEY YUGOSLAVIA	ITALY CZECH REP LEBANON PORTUGAL SLOVENIA SWITZERLAND FRANCE ISRAEL IRELAND FINLAND HUNGARY	29 - 69 33 - 21 67 - 15 51 - 40 23 - 60 19 - 38 31 - 92 63 - 46 53 - 22 62 - 69 29 - 37	7 - 23 17 - 13 25 - 5 17 - 13 7 - 23 11 - 19 3 - 25 19 - 11 21 - 9 14 - 16
17 18 19	GERMANY NORWAY CROATIA	POLAND RUSSIA SAN MARINO	44 - 71 69 - 37 23 - 62	9 - 21 22 - 8 7 - 23

	ROUND 7		
Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
I POLAND 2 HUNGARY 3 FINLAND 4 IRELAND 5 ISRAEL 6 FRANCE	YUGOSLAVIA TURKEY ENGLAND BULGARIA CYPRUS FAROE ISLANDS	25 - 72 40 - 25 51 - 45 37 - 67 28 - 55 46 - 21	16 - 14 9 - 21
7 SWITZERLAND 8 SLOVENIA 9 PORTUGAL 10 LEBANON 11 CZECH REP 12 ITALY 13 MONACO 14 SCOTLAND 15 WALES 16 SPAIN 17 SAN MARINO 18 RUSSIA 19 LATVIA	LIECHTENSTEIN DENMARK UKRAINE SWEDEN GREECE NETHERLANDS BELGIUM ICELAND AUSTRIA ROMANIA NORWAY GERMANY CROATIA	22 - 49 48 - 35 58 - 45 16 - 76 39 - 57	9 - 21 18 - 12 18 - 12 3 - 25 11 - 19 15 - 15 5 - 25 15 - 15 7 - 23 14 - 16 3 - 25 17 - 13

	ROUND 8			
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
- 1	SPAIN	LATVIA	104 - 5	25 - 0
2	ROMANIA	WALES	36 - 71	8 - 22
3	AUSTRIA	SCOTLAND	27 - 32	14 - 16
4	ICELAND	MONACO	55 <i>-</i> 24	21 - 9
5	BELGIUM	ITALY	7 - 72	3 - 25
6	NETHERLANDS	CZECH REP	21 - 28	14 - 16
7	GREECE	LEBANON	51 - 4 2	17 - 13
8	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL	46 - 22	20 - 10
9	UKRAINE	SLOVENIA	27 - 51	10 - 20
10	DENMARK	SWITZERLAND		13 - 17
Ш	LIECHTENSTEIN	FRANCE	22 - 56	8 - 22
12	FAROE ISLANDS	ISRAEL	33 - 55	10 - 20
13	CYPRUS	IRELAND	43 - 97	4 - 25
14	BULGARIA	FINLAND	45 - 18	21 - 9
15	ENGLAND	HUNGARY	73 - 48	20 - 10
16	TURKEY	POLAND	52 - I4	23 - 7
17	YUGOSLAVIA	RUSSIA	8 - 53	6 - 24
18	GERMANY	SAN MARINO	78 - 20	25 - 4
19	NORWAY	CROATIA	66 - 31	22 - 8

OPEN TEAMS RANKING after 8 rounds

- 1	ITALY	171.00
2	ICELAND	156.00
3	NORWAY	153.00
4	BULGARIA	151.00
5	FRANCE	148.00
6	SPAIN	146.00
7	CZECH REP.	144.00
8	RUSSIA	144.00
9	NETHERLANDS	142.00
10	ENGLAND	139.00
П	SCOTLAND	138.00
12	ISRAEL	132.00
13	HUNGARY	127.00
14	AUSTRIA	126.00
15	LEBANON	122.00
16	YUGOSLAVIA	120.00
17	SLOVENIA	120.00
18	POLAND	119.00
19	IRELAND	118.00
20	TURKEY	117.00
21	SWEDEN	116.00
22	UKRAINE	116.00
23	GERMANY	113.00
24	GREECE	113.00
25	SWITZERLAND	110.00
26	MONACO	110.00
27	WALES	109.00
28	ROMANIA	105.00
29	PORTUGAL	104.00
30	FINLAND	103.00
31	CROATIA	101.00
32	DENMARK	95.00
33	SAN MARINO	91.00
34	FAROE ISLANDS	90.00
35	CYPRUS	86.00
36	BELGIUM	83.00
37	LATVIA	75.00
38	LIECHTENSTEIN	65.00

WOMEN TEAMS PROGRAM

	ROUND I	14.15
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
I	DENMARK	Bye
2	SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS
3	FINLAND	CROATIA
4	GERMANY	POLAND
5	NORWAY	SCOTLAND
6	ICELAND	ISRAEL
7	SAN MARINO	FRANCE
8	ENGLAND	TURKEY
9	CZECH REP.	FAROE ISLANDS
10	ITALY	SPAIN
11	IRELAND	AUSTRIA
12	RUSSIA	HUNGARY

	ROUN	D 2 17.35
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
I	NETHERLANDS	DENMARK
2	FINLAND	SWEDEN
3	POLAND	CROATIA
4	NORWAY	GERMANY
5	ISRAEL	SCOTLAND
6	SAN MARINO	ICELAND
7	TURKEY	FRANCE
8	FAROE ISLANDS	ENGLAND
9	SPAIN	CZECH REP.
10	IRELAND	ITALY
11	HUNGARY	AUSTRIA
12	Bye	RUSSIA

SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM

	RO	JND I 14.15
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
I	SCOTLAND	ISRAEL
2	DENMARK	Bye
3	FRANCE	CZECH REP.
4	SWEDEN	CROATIA
5	ENGLAND	IRELAND
6	SPAIN	NETHERLANDS
7	TURKEY	AUSTRIA
8	WALES	PORTUGAL
9	ITALY	POLAND
10	GERMANY	SWITZERLAND

	ROUND	2 17.35
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
I	Bye	SCOTLAND
2	CZECH REP.	DENMARK
3	CROATIA	FRANCE
4	IRELAND	SWEDEN
5	NETHERLANDS	ENGLAND
6	AUSTRIA	SPAIN
7	PORTUGAL	TURKEY
8	POLAND	WALES
9	SWITZERLAND	ITALY
10	ISRAEL	GERMANY

OPEN TEAMS

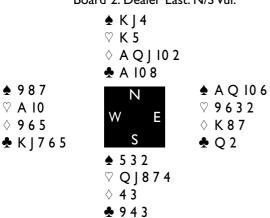
Round 4

England v France

As the four countries of the United Kingdom only recently decided to become separate members of the EBL, one cannot maintain that an encounter between England and France can be considered a match between old rivals. So we will forget about this and concentrate on what happened at either table of Monday afternoon's Vugraph match. It was a good show, and, more interesting, a clash between two very different approaches of the game. Many boards to be presented below will serve as examples of these interesting contrasts.

England scored their first goal on board I, an unexciting overtrick, so they led I-0 when the second board came up. It was a perfect example of both the difference in opening standards and the approach to 3rd hand opening bids by both teams.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bitran	Justin H.	Voldoire	Jason H.
	-	Pass	Pass
♣	Dble	I♦	Pass
Pass	INT	Dble	Pass
2.	All Pass		

As usual in international bridge journalism, the Hackett twins are not mentioned by their family name, but by their forenames only. Voldoire did not consider his hand worth an opening bid, not even green v. red. The point was not lost on Bitran, who made an almost classic 3rd hand opening bid. I by Voldoire was a transfer to hearts, effectively silencing South, so Justin could show his values by simply rebidding INT. It looks as if Bitran had nowhere to go after his partner's double, but he got away with 2 undoubled. The twins were right, as the very favourable layout permitted West to make an overtrick. France +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Davies	Duguet	Armstrong	Toffier
		Ι♡	Pass
INT	Dble	All Pass	

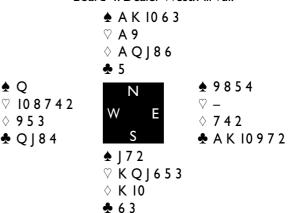
The difference in style did create a problem here for Duguet. He was sort of obliged to double INT but Toffier had no safe spot to go. On the very favourable layout (here as well...) declarer soon grabbed eight tricks for +280 to England, 5 more IMPs.



Justin Hackett, England

Two boards later, the difference in approach may well have been at the basis of a slam swing.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bitran	Justin H.	Voldoire	Jason H.
Pass	I♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2◊	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4◊
Pass	4♡	Pass	4NT
Pass	5◊	Pass	5♡
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♡
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

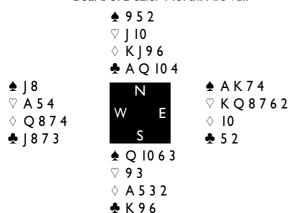
Had Voldoire been able to make a vulnerable overcall in clubs, and had Bitran supported partner's suit, Voldoire might so easily have been among the happy few who found the lead of a low club. According to Lavinthal's theory the ♣9 looks best as it clearly pinpoints the heart void. When he selected the A as his opening lead, the slam was quickly home when the ♠Q appeared. England +1430. Please note that the better heart slam fails on the trump break. A slam in diamonds would need the same underlead in clubs to defeat it.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Davies	Duguet	Armstrong	Toffier
Pass	I♠	3♣	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♡
Pass	4NT	Pass	5◊
Pass	5♡	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

When Toffier denied possession of the ΦQ Duguet was not tempted. In a sense, he was right, but it cost his side I3 IMPs anyway when Armstrong did find the underlead and duly got his heart ruff.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bitran	Justin H.	Voldoire	Jason H.
	اً ♣	1♦	I♠
INT	Pass	3♡	Pass
4 ♡	All Pass		

A transfer overcall this time followed by a semi-natural INT and a jump rebid in hearts saw the French in game which technically speaking was too high. On a trump lead and continuation, declarer will end up one trick short, as could be seen on several score sheets all over the place. Making ten tricks was as popular a score, so much hinged on the opening lead by Jason Hackett. He did not find the killing trump lead, but led a club instead. Now Justin can win this and continue trumps, after which the defence will prevail. Instead, he led a spade after which declarer had time to ruff two spades and draw trumps, the latter being 2-2, thus landing his contract. France +420.

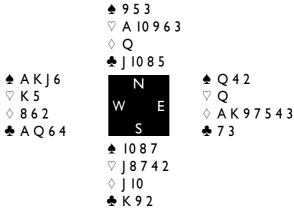
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Davies	Duguet	Armstrong	Toffier
	Pass	ΙΫ́	Pass
INT	Pass	2♡	All Pass

Once again, a difference in style. Duguet did not open, so Armstrong opened his longer suit and simply rebid a natural enough 2° . There it ended and the same ten tricks were made when the trump lead (shift) was not found. England +170 but 6 IMPs to France, their first entry on the scoresheet.

With the score at 19-7 to England we saw a misunderstanding.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bitran	Justin H.	Voldoire	Jason H.
			Pass
INT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♡	Pass
4♠	Pass	5◊	Pass
6♢	All Pass		

Though 6NT by West is the best contract, the French did very well to get to the slam, which was often missed. With the trumps breaking, there were no problems in the play, not even on a club lead. 3♣ of course showed diamonds and 3NT showed a maximum.

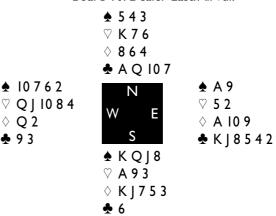
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Davies	Duguet	Armstrong	Toffier
			Pass
I♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3◊	Pass
3♠	Pass	4 ♦	All Pass

Well, in this sequence one might expect that 4♦ would still be forcing, but...England +170 only for a 15-IMP loss. The match had a new leader (22-19).

With England again leading, by 26-22 at this point, the French struck another blow.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bitran	Justin H.	Voldoire	Jason H.
	-	l 🙅	Dble
I♦	INT	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

Nine tricks on a club lead, England +150. It looks as if declarer can come to nine tricks even on a heart lead. He can win this in dummy and ducks a diamond all round. Provided he plays another diamond to the king he will always make his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Davies	Duguet	Armstrong	Toffier
		♣	I ♦
ΙŸ	INT	2♣	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT

No take-out double here, but a simple overcall, followed by a rebid of South's other suit, implying a strong hand. When Armstrong understandably led his own suit declarer had no problem whatsoever. He led a spade to the king and then a low diamond from dummy. Next, he won the heart return in hand with the king and led a diamond to the king, felling the queen and thus ensuring his contract. France +600 and 10 IMPs.

With the margin still at 6 to France this board turned up:

Board 16 Doalor West E/W/Wul

Board	1 16. Dealer Wes	st. E/VV Vul.
	♠ Q 10	
	♡ 4	
	♦ 854	
	♣ K Q J 10 8	6 5
★ J 6 3	Ν	★ 74
♡ J 9 7		∇ A K Q 10 8 3
	W E	♦ 10 7 2
♣ A 4	S	♣ 9 7
	♠ AK9852	
	♡ 652	
	♦ K 9	
	& 3.2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bitran	Justin H.	Voldoire	Jason H.
I♦	INT	Dble	Pass
Pass	2♣	2♡	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	Pass
3♡	All Pass		

After the suit opening, Justin could launch his comic suit which effectively kept the French out of their game when the $\Diamond K$ proved to be well-placed.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Davies	Duguet	Armstrong	Toffier
INT	4♣	4♡	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	5♣	Dble	All Pass

Here, Davies could open a 12-14 NT so the complexion of the auction changed completely. Duguet showed his suit, only to see Armstrong forced into bidding his suit at game level. Toffier was not to be silenced either, but Duguet just rebid his semi-solid suit as it would be of no value in a spade contract. He was down three, which would have been a good save had the game been bid, but this time it cost the French 8 IMPs, so England were back into the lead.



Philippe Toffier, France

Two boards later, we saw a defensive slip:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

A A Q | 8 6 3 ♥ 6543 ♦ 106 **2**

♥ A 9 7 ♦ 74

♣ A K J 10 9 8 3 ♠ K 10 7 5

♦ 92 ♥ K 10 ♦ Q J 5 3 2 ♣ 7654

♥ Q J 8 2 ♦ A K 9 8 ♣ Q

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bitran	Justin H.	Voldoire	Jason H.
	•	Pass	ΙŸ
3NT	4♡	All Pass	

When Bitran led his singleton spade, he was bound to get his

ruff sooner or later to defeat the contract. France +100.

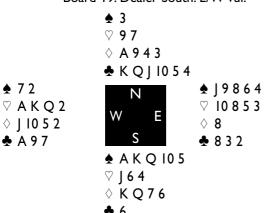
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Davies	Duguet	Armstrong	Toffier
		2♦	Dble
3♣	4♠	All Pass	

Against Four Spades, Davies led a top club on which Armstrong contributed the Four. Would you have found the heart switch away from the ace to create a ruff for your partner? France another +620 and again back into the lead.

Virtually speaking, they had been in the lead for a long time, as the Vugraph audience knew that their first board looked good for France.

Board 19. Dealer South, E/W Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bitran	Justin H.	Voldoire	Jason H.
	-		Ī♠
Dble	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3◊
Pass	4 ♦	Pass	5◊
Dble	All Pass		

The bad distribution not only meant that there was no game on for NS, but also enabled Bitran to venture a double, holding four possible top tricks and a trump trick. France +300 from nearly nowhere on the first board of the Vugraph show. But did the twins not do too much bidding on this one?

Closed Room

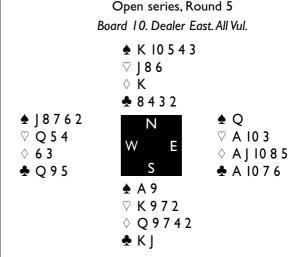
West	North	East	South
Davies	Duguet	Armstrong	Toffier
			I♠
Dble	Redble	2♡	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	3◊
Pass	4 ♦	All Pass	

The French showed more restraint, calling it a day at the four-level. On the bad breaks, they went down one, but losing only 50 gave them a first entry on the scoresheet of 6 IMPs.

The final result of the match thus became 58-43 to France, 18-12 V.P.

Leonid & Louk

Only 5 IMPs at stake at this one, but still:



Israel versus England, closed room

West	North	East	South
Kalish	Justin H.	Podgur	Jason H.
		I ♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
Pass	Dble (!)	Redble ⁽²⁾	Pass
I♠	Pass	2♣	All Pass

- (1) Precision, three or more diamonds
- (2) Good hand

Justin Hackett's balancing double would certainly not be anyone's choice, but was quite understandable though. His partner (and brother) Jason easily could have a penalty pass. And in fact he had. It all ended quiet, though the play in 2♣ was at some interest. South led a low heart for jack and ace and Leonid Podgur returned the suit immediately. South won the king and another heart was for dummy's queen. Next came a diamond for king and ace. The ◇J was played, taken by South, who continued with ♣A and another spade, ruffed by East. Declarer played the ◇10 ruffed by North, who returned a spade, ruffed with the ten and overruffed with the jack. Later declarer did not find the king bare of trumps and went down one.

Scotland versus The Netherlands, open room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Dragric	Verhees	Diamond
		I♦	Pass
I♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
All Pass			

Derek Diamond led his $\triangle A$ and played another spade for jack and king. Louk Verhees ruffed and played a low heart. South won and returned the suit. Verhees won the ace, crossed to dummy with the $\heartsuit Q$ and played a diamond for king and ace. He then tried the $\lozenge 10$, ducked by South and ruffed by North, who continued with a spade. Verhees ruffed with the ten, Diamond overruffed with the jack and returned a diamond. Verhees ruffed with the nine in dummy and played a club to his ace, noting the drop of the trump king. Now the contract was made. Verhees ruffed another diamond with the Queen and played a spade, scoring the seven of trumps en passant. Well timed play by Louk Verhees.

OPEN TEAMS

Round 5

Poland v Norway

The invisible match

hough some imprudent onlooker caused a major internal network breakdown, we are still able to present some of the highlights from the invisible Rama match on Monday evening. Poland were playing Norway, so many of us would have hoped to see two eventual qualifiers at work. It was not to be, but here is a small anthology from what happened.

The first board on VuGraph was this one.



Cezary Balicki, Poland

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

5 4 3

10

	♠ A 10 7♡ K J 5◇ A 10 7 4 3♣ 9 2	
Q 9 ♥ 9863 ♦ K 962 • K 74	N W E S ♣ J 8 2 ♡ A Q 4 2	♠ K 6 5 ♡ 10 7 ◇ J 8 5 ♣ Q J I

Open Room

•			
West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lesniewski	Helness	Martens
			♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

♣ A 8 6 5 3

On VuGraph, West led a heart and thus declarer had time to establish the clubs as the spade switch came too late. A diamond switch does not beat the contract either. Poland +400.

It was pointed out by the commentators that the only realistic chance to beat 3NT was a spade lead. Thus, the contract had to be played from the North seat.

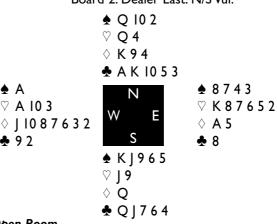
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Sælensminde	Balicki	Brogeland
			l 🐣
Pass	1♦	Pass	I♡
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led a spade and that was it. Poland +50 and straight off the mark with 10 IMPs.

Next, we have to dwell on the theme of doubled partscores. Surprisingly enough, most of the substantial swings in this match were caused by this phenomenon. Maybe that's why the network broke down...

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lesniewski	Helness	Martens
		Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

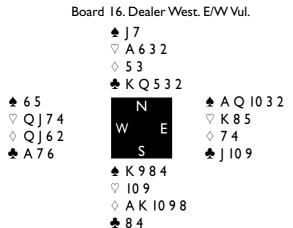
As E/W are pretty cold for $4\heartsuit$ (or even $5\heartsuit$) going down two undoubled for 200 looked good for Poland. So it proved, but in unexpected fashion:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Sælensminde	Balicki	Brogeland
		Pass	Pass
3◊	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

The true nature of South's double was not picked up to its full extent by North, so the Poles reached their game very quickly. Eleven tricks could not be prevented, so instead of conceding 450 the Norwegians lost 670 or 10 IMPs instead of 6.

The Norwegians would have to suffer more ignominy of the same kind near the end of the match, on two successive boards:



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lesniewski	Helness	Martens
Pass	Pass	I♠	Pass
INT	Dble	Pass	2◊
Dble	All Pass		

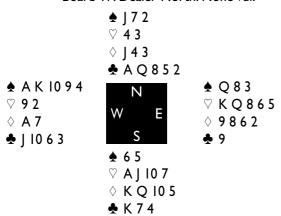
When West led a trump away from his QJxx, declarer had time to establish the clubs and make an overtrick. Poland +280.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Sælensminde	Balicki	Brogeland
Pass	♣	I♠	2NT
All Pass			

A spade went to the 10 and king and a club was taken with dummy's king. Next, declarer ducked a diamond to West, but when Zmudzinski next found the heart switch, it was all over. Down three, another 150 to Poland for 10 IMPs on what looked an innocent partscore hand.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lesniewski	Helness	Martens
	Pass	Pass	♣
I♠	2♣	Dble	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♣
Dble	All Pass		

As Martens was sure of the five-card support he could com-

pete once more. The double and the fall of the \$9 meant he had to lose just two spades, a heart and a diamond for his contract. Poland +470 this time.

Closed Room

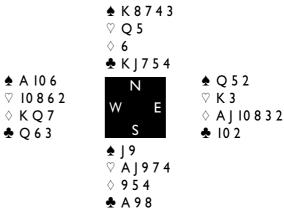
West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Sælensminde	Balicki	Brogeland
	Pass	Pass	1♦
I♠	2♣	3♡	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

A nice fitbid by East, but the bad heart break meant 3 \Diamond was already too high. When the defenders switched to trumps after being given the first trick in diamonds eight tricks were the maximum. So Norway +50, but 9 more IMPs to Poland.

With the doubled partscore stories from this match exhausted, it's time to turn our attention to the swings Norway got. In spite of all the hands reported about above, the final score of the match was 39-35 or 16-14 VP only to Poland, so there must have been a few...

A strange swing to Norway occurred on board 5. The scorecards of the match informed us that in one room $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\Phi}$ had gone down, but that in the other room they had made $4 \stackrel{\bullet}{\Phi}$.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lesniewski	Helness	Martens
	2♠	All Pass	

2♠ showed the twosuiter and Lesniewski got the favourable lead of the \heartsuit K. Now he decided to go for a safety line, cashing his top tricks first and then hoping to make enough trump tricks with the additional strength of dummy's jack-nine. This line would have worked, but no longer when the heat in the playing room induced him to forget about cashing the \heartsuit Q. Norway +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Sælensminde	Balicki	Brogeland
	I♠	2♦	Dble
2NT	3♣	Pass	3♦
Dble	4♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

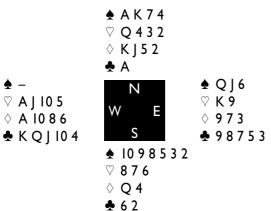
This contract was much more ambitious and on a diamond lead and continuation it looks as if declarer will be fatally shortened very quickly. But the defence have to be alert. Balicki led the $\Diamond A$ and continued the suit, declarer ruffing. Now the heart finesse



Erik Saelensminde, Norway

was taken successfully and the ♠J called for.West has to rise with the ace and continue diamonds; if he does not, he will be out of diamonds when he gets the lead with the ♠A and declarer thus will make his contract. As this is exactly what happened, the mysteries of this hand are revealed. Norway another +620 when the club finesse also worked. I2 useful IMPs back to them.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Lesniewski	Helness	Martens
			Pass
I♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

Easy enough after Helness' jump. Norway +750.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Sælensminde	Balicki	Brogeland
			Pass
♣	Dble	INT	Pass
2♣	Dble	3♣	3◊
4♣	All Pass		

As Balicki could not be so sure about the meaning of 1♣, he did not feel free to jump. This suddenly made it much more difficult to reach game... Poland +150 and 12 IMPs to Norway again. Balance had been restored.

England Open Team

The present team offers a unique blend of earthlings and extra-terrestrials, the latter being inhabitants of other worlds within our galaxy who have colonized the earth for no better reason, apparently, than to play and promulgate the game of bridge.

The team has three earthlings, led from the rear by the captain John WILLIAMS who, in a long and unproductive career has embodied the well-established principle "those who can, do, those who can't, teach, those who can't even teach, become administrators and eventually NPCs". Twenty years in theatre management, followed by a similar span as secretary of the EBU, qualified him uniquely for his present role, as he worked principally with alien beings in both capacities. John ARMSTRONG, on the other hand, has successfully pursued a career in the insurance industry whilst canning and doing at bridge to the extent of being the team's only past European champion (Killarney 1991). He has proved adept in partnership with other earthlings (e.g. Graham Kirby of Powergen) but also with extra-terrestrials such as his present partner. The same can be said of Tony WATERLOW, who was chairman and managing director of Kodak plc prior to his retirement, which has allowed him to concentrate on developing his undoubted bridge skills with current extra-terrestrial partner Paul HACKETT. Paul is a native of the planet lucre. Its inhabitants invariably leave in reach of bridge advancement on earth because, frankly, it's filthy. Paul has demonstrated a weakness common to all extra-terrestrials - they can marry earthlings and even procreate with them but their offspring (as with Jason and Justin on the present England team), while they inherit bridge skills in full measure, seem unable to develop earthly characteristics apart from a love of food, wine and football. Danny DAVIES is another extra-terrestrial who shows the ability to function well in partnership with an earthling. Like Jason and Justin he is a former World Junior Champion (Bali 1995). He comes from the planet Yorkshire - similar in many respects to Earth, although its climate is a little wetter. Its inhabitants have a tendency to truculence and eccentricity (other typical Yorkshiremen have been Geoffrey Boycott, Freddie Truman and Harold Franklin). Lastly there is the team coach David BURN, who has shown equal ability as a player in partnership with Brian Callaghan (Brian's life story "lost in space" is currently filming) and as a coach of unparalleled perception. David comes to us from the distant world Fosters, a planet covered entirely in chilled amber-coloured oceans, laced with traces of lime. Its inhabitants have developed webbed feet, hands and gullets from lifetimes swimming permanently in its depths. Some of them live forever beneath the surface, only emerging in the primeval form of Tournament Directors. But that's another

Follow the 46th European Championships on Internet through the EBL official web site:

www.eurobridge.org

Networks can fail, if humans help

On Monday the Net Services were interrupted and the Bridgerama was stopped during round 5; the problem was solved in less than one hour, and the results of the matches were given as expected.

We apologize for the disservice, but it is worth telling how it happened; the problem was originated in the press room, were somebody took the data cable out of a notebook that was not busy at the moment, to plug it in his/her own portable computer.

Nothing uncommon up to this, but when it was time to reconnect the cable to the original notebook, it was plugged back in the central distribution box instead.

The result can be described as a "data short", whose effect was the immediate saturation of the network and the disruption of all communications.

It took a time to imagine the exact nature of the trouble, never experienced before, and that at the start had the appearance of a heavy anomalous attack from an external hacker, but luckily after one hour everything was restored with no damage for the equipment.

Due to the unavoidable necessity of using mobile equipment (the connexion boxes), the users are kindly requested to be very careful, and to ask for assistance if they are not totally sure of their operations on the net.

G. Baldi

Laws of bridge (I)

A committee has started the process to consider proposals for a new version of the laws to be launched in a couple of years. This is not an easy job, since there are many different ideas in many aspects of how to develop our laws. I am interested in the opinion of bridge players and it is my intention to write a series of short articles in the bulletins describing an issue and asking for your ideas. Please speak up.

Let us start with something revolutionary. You know that the laws describe in detail the penalties for many irregularities. For example after a bid out of turn there are at least six different descriptions in detail, depending on the exact situation.

What do you think about the following: we abandon the approach with penalties prescribed in detail for every specific infraction, but follow the more general approach of irregularities possibly causing unauthorized information for partner which he may not use. So after a bid out of turn left hand opponent gets the choice to accept this bid. If he does not accept, the bid is taken away, the auction continues normally, the player may make any call he wants, but partner may not use the information available from the bid out of turn.

Such an approach will diminish the number of laws, but not necessarily make the TD's job easier. Instead of automatic penalties there will be more judgement cases to be dealt with. So more situations in which disputes will arise. What is your opinion?

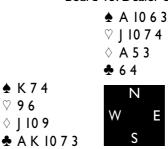
Keep the automatic penalties, with different weights of the consequences for the results or no penalties and the judgement of the TD involved to prevent unjustified advantage for the infringing side?

Ton Kooijman

Tough defense

The Netherlands had a great start in this championship. They even took the lead after four rounds. In the fifth round however, due to a 9-21 loss to Scotland, they fall back a little. This is one of the boards on which the Scots did an excellent job by putting the pressure on Jan Jansma who was faced with a tough defensive problem:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



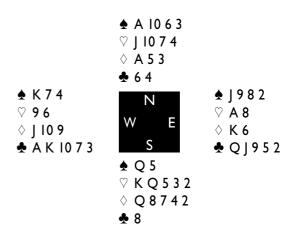
Jansma as West heard this bidding:

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Dragic	Verhees	Diamond 2 %(1)
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

 $^{(1)}$ 5 % and a five card in a minor, 5-10 HCP

Jansma led the $\clubsuit K$ and saw the nine with his partner and the eight with declarer. East-West play upside down count, so declarer could easily have a stiff club. Moreover, Louk Verhees might not have pitched the $\clubsuit Q$ from his five card, suggesting a spade shift, in the case that he had nothing useful in spades.

Knowing nothing better, Jansma continued the suit. Wrong:



Derek Diamond ruffed and played a heart to the jack. East won the ace, returned a heart and now declarer played $\Diamond A$ and another diamond. Verhees came in with the $\Diamond K$ and played a low spade. Diamond guessed that one - Jansma did not switch to a spade at trick two - and made his vulnerable contract, which was 'missed' at the other table.

Afterwards, Jan Jansma, was the first to admit that he should have switched to a diamond at trick two. The best declarer could do then is to raise with the ace and play the \heartsuit J, suggesting a finesse in trumps. If East ducks, declarer still makes his contract by ruffing a club and exit with a heart.

GLI INCONTRI DEGLI AZZURRI BOARD PER BOARD

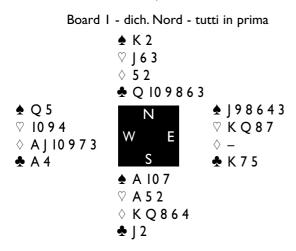
6° INCONTRO OPEN: GRECIA - ITALIA

Aperta:	NORD Hatzidakis / SUD Sapounakis	GRE
	EST Lauria / OVEST Versace	ITA



BOARD I

Alle prese con una manche a picche ad alto rischio, Lauria, in Est, gioca fulmineamente l'impasse al 10 di picche e successivamente quello al Fante di cuori, mantenendo il contratto. Se si è impegnati nel contratto di manche, la giocata, vista la disposizione delle carte e la scarsità di ingressi al morto, pare obbligata. Il giocatore greco in chiusa, che di picche ne gioca 2, realizza il contratto senza surlevée. 7 I.M.P. per l'Italia.



BOARD 2

Stavolta il board è pari; entrambi gli Ovest vanno I down a 4 picche.

BOARD 3

Ancora parità: Bocchi-Duboin cadono di una presa a 3 fiori (giocando con il fit ottavo); i loro omologhi in aperta, benché scelgano di giocare 3 quadri, colore in cui il fit è solo di 7 carte, ottengono lo stesso risultato grazie alla divisione 3-3 delle atout.

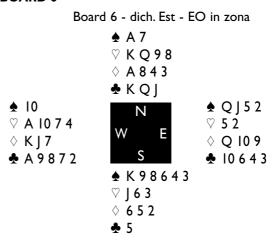
BOARD 4

Gli azzurri guadagnano 1 I.M.P. dal momento che Versace ottiene una surlevée in più del suo omologo greco nel contratto di 4 picche.

BOARD 5

Mentre in chiusa i greci, in EO, giocano I senza sebbene in possesso di doppio fit minore, mantenendo il contratto, in aperta Versace-Lauria optano per il parziale di 3 quadri mantenendolo con una surlevèe. Uno per l'Italia.

BOARD 6

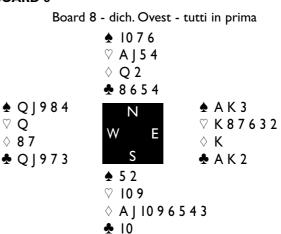


Duboin gioca 3 picche in chiusa, realizzandone 4 grazie ad un attacco assai favorevole: 10 di picche, che consente a Giorgio di prendere d'Asso e, dopo aver anticipato fiori per liberarsi poi delle quadri perdenti, effettuare l'impasse a Dama-Fante di picche, pagando una sola levée d'atout. In aperta i greci di picche ne giocano 4 (Sud il dichiarante), e Alfredo Versace attacca magistralmente 9 di quadri da RFx (colore non dichiarato) affrancando immediatamente due prese nel seme e demolendo il contratto avversario: 4 picche -3 e 8 l.M.P. all'Italia.

BOARD 7

Down in NS in entrambe le sale: Bocchi - Duboin I senza -I, Hatzidakis - Sapounakis 3 cuori -2.3 I.M.P. agli azzurri. 20 - 0 per noi.

BOARD 8





Ancora licita e attacco micidiali da parte del Blue Team; Bocchi e Duboin spingono, rialzando a 5 quadri, gli avversari fino a 5 picche. Sull'attacco a fiori da 8 quarto di Norberto, Zotos non trova la linea vincente - incassare due teste di picche prima di muovere cuori o quadri -. Muovendo immediatamente cuori, il dichiarante consente alla difesa di incassare il taglio a fiori, decisivo per battere il contratto. In aperta Lauria - Versace segnano 4 picche + I con attacco quadri. I I per l'Italia.

BOARD 9

Perdiamo 2 I.M.P. scegliendo manche a quadri in aperta, mentre in chiusa i greci optano per quella a senza. 31 - 2 per l'Italia.

BOARD 10

I greci ci lasciano giocare 2 picche in NS in chiusa e cadiamo di 2; la non amichevole divisione dei colori costringe al down anche Lauria-Versace, in EO nell'altra sala, che chiamano, con 23 punti sulla linea, 3 senza; la posizione del board - tutti in zona - ci porta via 7 I.M.P.

A metà incontro l'Ucraina sta battendo il Libano, terzo in classifica, 41 a 7, mentre la Repubblica Ceca, seconda nella provvisoria, sta perdendo 25 a 8 dalla Svezia.

BOARD II

Fit 7-2 a cuori e 21 punti sulla linea per gli EO. I greci in chiusa segnano 3 cuori +1, Lauria-Versace sfruttano la lunga nel nobile rosso giocando 3 senza e realizzando 10 prese. 6 I.M.P. Italia. 37 - 9 Italia

BOARD 12

La Grecia in chiusa finisce 3 down a 4 cuori in EO, mentre Versace limita ad una le prese di caduta giocando 5 fiori sulla stessa linea in aperta. 3 I.M.P. per noi. 40 - 9 Italia

BOARD 13

12 I.M.P. alla Grecia, che mantiene manche a senza, mentre noi cadiamo di 1 presa. Conduciamo 40 - 21.

BOARD 14

3 senza - I entrambi i Sud. Parità.

BOARD 15

Incassiamo 7 I.M.P. giocando correttamente 2 cuori +2 in chiusa e battendo il 4 cuori avversario in aperta. 47 - 21 Italia

BOARD 16

A I termine di una forte competizione dichiarativa, entrambi gli

Est giocano 5 fiori mantenendo il contratto, ma perdiamo 4 I.M.P. perché i nostri in chiusa avevano contrato. 47 - 25 per noi.

BOARD 17

3 senza fatte da Duboin in chiusa, sfruttando la lunga di quadri; solo 4 quadri +1 i greci sulla stessa linea nell'altra sala. 6 l.M.P. Italia.

L'Olanda, quarta nella classifica provvisoria, sta faticando contro Monaco.

BOARD 18

Si gioca un parziale in Sud in entrambe le sale. I greci fanno un down in più di noi, che incassiamo 3 l.M.P.. 56 - 25 Italia.

BOARD 19

4 I.M.P. per loro alla 19; cadiamo di una presa sia in chiusa, dove giochiamo 2 senza, sia in aperta, dove chiamiamo manche a cuori sull'altra linea. 56 - 29.

BOARD 20

Concludiamo con un gran colpo: 6 picche chiamate e fatte in zona per Lauria - Versace, mentre gli omologhi greci giocano 4 +2. I 3 I.M.P. Italia.

FINALE

Italia - Grecia 23 - 7 (69 - 29). Molto concrete entrambe le coppie azzurre in campo. Accumuliamo gran parte del vantaggio nella prima parte dell'incontro (i nostri avversari incassano i loro primi I.M.P. - 2 - solo al board 9), mostrando, casomai fosse il caso di confermarlo, tecnica ineccepibile nel gioco con il morto e in dichiarazione. Impressionanti, in entrambe le sale, un paio di nostri attacchi micidiali e decisivi. La seconda parte del match è più combattuta, ed è grazie ad una brillante dichiarazione di Lauria - Versace all'ultimo board che il risultato assume la sua fisionomia definitiva. Con questa larga vittoria ed in concomitanza con risultati non brillanti degli immediati inseguitori, gli azzurri consolidano il primato nella classifica provvisoria.



Dando uno sguardo alla classifica parziale, ampiamente condotta dall'Italia con 131 V.P., possiamo notare che le squadre che via via occupano le posizioni dietro gli azzurri (al momento sono secondi gli islandesi con 120 e terzi i ceki con 117) tendono ad avere un andamento irregolare con netti successi alternati a momenti meno felici. Questo determina continui cambiamenti nelle posizioni che contano per essere ammesse ai mondiali.

2002 EBL CHAMPIONS CUP CANB TROPHY

Warsaw, Poland 25th-27th October 2002

The EBL is proud to announce the first ever European Champions Cup in collaboration with CA~IB Bank. The event will be held in Warsaw, Poland, from 25th to 27th October 2002.

Right to participate

The EBL Champions Cup - CA-IB Trophy is an official EBL competition reserved to EBL NBOs which have has their own National Open Teams Championship structured in series, with a pyramidal format.

The Open Team Champions of the first 7 NBOs classified in the European Open Teams Championship in Salsomaggiore Terme, June 2002, plus the Team Champions from the Host Country, will be allowed to participate. If the Host country is already classified in the first seven positions of the ranking, the 8th will also be allowed to participate. An official invitation from the EBL will be sent to the Federations of all these teams before 1st July 2002.

The Federation should send their replies, with the name of the Teams, Captain and Players, by 31st July 2002. After the approval from the EBL Credentials Committee, confirmation will be sent to the Federations in the next 48 hours.

If a Federation is unable or not permitted to participate, the Champions Teams of the following NBOs in the ranking of the European Open Teams Championship will be invited.

Format

The Teams will be divided into two groups of four which will play a complete Round-Robin of 20 board matches after which the two top teams of each group will play a 32 board K.O. semi-final match. The winning teams will play a 32 board K.O. final match for the 1st place and the loser a 24 boards K.O. play-off match for 3rd place. The other four Teams will play another two matches to classify for 5th place.

Schedule of Play

Friday 25th	- 16.00	Welcome Cocktail
	- 16.30	Round-Robin 1st Match
	- 20.45	Round-Robin 2nd Match
Saturday 26th	- 10.00	Round-Robin 3rd Match
	- 15.30	Semi-finals / Consolation
Sunday	- 11.00	Final / Play-off
	- 19.00	Prize-giving & Victory Banquet

Prizes

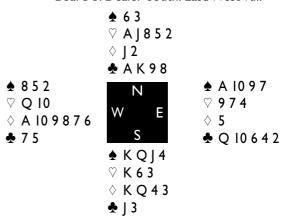
The EBL Champions Cup - CA-IB Trophy will be awarded to the winning Team and replicas to the players. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded to the players of the first 3 Teams classified.

Cash prizes totalling \$15.000 will be awarded: 1st team \$7.000, 2nd \$3.500, 3rd \$2.250, 4th \$1.250, 5th \$1.000.

Bangkok Brilliancy

by Brian Senior

Board 3. Dealer South. East/West Vul.



If you think it matters not whether you play in 3NT or 4° by North/South on Board 3 in Round 4, think again.

3NT is ironclad with at least nine tricks for the taking but what about 40? Looking at the complete deal one may well wonder how is it possible for any declarer to fail in that contract, despite the defensive diamond ruff.

Well, it happened in the match between Australia and China Hong Kong in the Youth series. The Australian pair in the Closed Room reached 4♥ by South after a Moscito relay sequence. L. H. Chin in the West seat led ♣7 which declarer took in dummy to play a trump to his king. On this trick Chin smoothly followed with his queen! This falsecard threw declarer completely off track. It does look as though he might play to establish the spades now, intending to use the diamonds as an entry to hand. However, convinced that hearts had to be four-one, and fearful of a bad spade break, declarer decided to attempt to ruff two clubs in hand. The opening lead had suggested that West would be the shorter in clubs, increasing the likelihood not only that the club ruffs would stand up, but also that there might be bad breaks elsewhere as West would then be short in two suits.

When West over-ruffed the third club, declarer nearly fell off his chair. Chin unerringly switched to ace and another diamond to give his partner a ruff, and the ace of spades was the setting trick.

At the half-way point in the championships, the China Hong Kong Youth team are 30 VPs ahead of second. If they continue to play like this, they will surely win the title in some comfort.

Nickell wins US Open Team Trials

The team of **Nick Nickell** (-Freeman, Meckwell, Soloway-Hamman) will represent the ACBL as USA I in next year's Bermuda Bowl. Monday night, after a final of two days and 120 hands team, Nickell turned out to be the winner against Richard Schwarz's team (-Becker, Mahmood-Rosenberg, Berkowitz-Cohen) with 261 - 232. In June 2003 another trial will be held for the second team to represent the USA.

In the News

The Gazzetta Di Parma - a snip at Euro 0.88 - will be carrying a daily report on the Championships.

Championship Diary

When work is finished for the day we invariably discuss a whole range of topics, most of them entirely unsuitable for this publication. However, some of them are loosely linked to bridge.

For example, there are some situations where it is necessary for extra boards to be played to determine the outcome. Why not get both tables to play the same deal at the same time and the first IMP scored wins - the Golden IMP!

Continuing the link to football, why not give a player/pair who make a frivolous appeal a yellow card? Collect two and you have a red card and miss the next match! Collect too many red cards in one Championship and miss the next! You could even allow the Directors to dispense yellow and red cards - imagine getting sent off on VuGraph!

Ron Tacchi refuses to accept any responsibility for Italy's Draw with the Netherlands after he responded to their request for the results of the minor matter of a football match against Korea.

We were cheered by the arrival of Scotland's Jill Arthur - her husband Jimmy is Captain of the English women's team - as she always brings a supply of short-bread and a mysterious concoction called tablet.

A Very Special Offer



To celebrate the I0th anniversary of the opening of its premises in London, Bridge Magazine, edited by Mark Horton, is offering everyone attending the Championships the chance to subscribe at a discount of 25% against current rates.

The cost of a one year subscription is reduced to Euro 55, while two years will cost Euro 90.

In addition, you will receive a free copy of The Bedside book of Bridge by Tony Forrester, or The Expert Game by Terence Reese.

To subscribe, call in at the bulletin office any time after 09.00 any day.

Bridge Magazine IMP presents Herman's Bridge Team Ratings

After the Lady Milne trophy in Great Britain and Ireland, new ratings have become:

The first number is the rating. in VP; the second is the number of (16-board) matches that are taken into account for the rating.

I France 21.63 112 37 Chile 12.55 11 2 Germany 20.29 116 38 Northern Ireland 12.16 17 3 United States 20.25 122 39 Monaco 12.02 5 4 Netherlands 19.50 104 40 Portugal 12.02 5 5 Austria 19.35 102 41 San Marino 11.96 21 6 England 18.71 88 42 India 11.74 71 7 China 18.66 100 43 Morocco 11.71 15 8 Canada 18.17 69 44 Wales 11.50 30 10 Poland 17.15 53 46 Singapore 11.24 17 11 Italy 16.74 66 48 Ireland 11.09 46 12 Norway 16.74 66 48 Ireland 11.09 46 15 Sweden 16.18 79 49 Peru 10.59 48 15 Sweden 15.05 74 51 Bolivia	ıα	ung.				
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31 Hungary 13.19 39 67 South Korea 6.16 26 32 New Zealand 13.13 59 68 Barbados 6.03 6 33 Greece 12.99 51 69 Jamaica 5.85 26 34 Croatia 12.86 51 70 Guadeloupe 4.01 9 35 Turkey 12.71 33 71 Mauritius 2.58 2	29	Indonesia	13.56	56	65 Philippines 6.86 2	0
32 New Zealand 13.13 59 68 Barbados 6.03 6 33 Greece 12.99 51 69 Jamaica 5.85 26 34 Croatia 12.86 51 70 Guadeloupe 4.01 9 35 Turkey 12.71 33 71 Mauritius 2.58 2	30	Scotland	13.24	60	66 Paraguay 6.59	8
33 Greece 12.99 51 69 Jamaica 5.85 26 34 Croatia 12.86 51 70 Guadeloupe 4.01 9 35 Turkey 12.71 33 71 Mauritius 2.58 2	31	Hungary	13.19	39	67 South Korea 6.16 2	6
34 Croatia 12.86 51 70 Guadeloupe 4.01 9 35 Turkey 12.71 33 71 Mauritius 2.58 2	32	New Zealand	13.13	59	68 Barbados 6.03	6
35 Turkey 12.71 33 71 Mauritius 2.58 2	33	Greece	12.99	51	69 Jamaica 5.85 2	6
'	34	Croatia	12.86	51	70 Guadeloupe 4.01	9
36 Iceland 12.36 31 72 Martinique -1.08 3	35	Turkey	12.71	33	71 Mauritius 2.58	2
	36	Iceland	12.36	31	72 Martinique -1.08	3

Quelques coups de ci de là

Cette donne paraissait simple et pourtant, quelques déclarants étourdis y ont laissé des plumes.



Contrat : 6♦ par Nord, Entame : 3 de ♠

Après avoir pris de l'As, vous avez résisté à la tentation de tirer trois tours de ♣ pour effacer un ♠ (en effet, si vous ne trouvez pas la Dame de ⋄, vous allez chuter - perdant un ♡ et un ⋄). Mais vous n'êtes pas pour autant sorti de l'auberge car vous tirez le Roi de ⋄ puis ⋄ pour l'As (Est défausse) et vous vous rabattez maintenant sur l'impasse au Valet de ♣. Impasse gagnante... mais vous étiez dans la mauvaise main pour la faire. Vous remontez à l'As de ♡, jouez ♣ pour le 10, Roi de ♣ et... catastrophe ! Plus de remontée pour encaisser As-Dame de ♣ !

Dans le quatrième match, un problème de conscience s'est posé à quelques joueurs en Est avec la main suivante :

Voici la séquence :

0	N	E	S
	I♠	-	2♣
-	2◊	-	2♠
-	4♣	-	4◊
-	4♡	-	4SA
-	5◊	-	5♡
-	5♠	-	6♡
-	6♠		

Quelle aurait été votre entame sachant que Nord est visiblement singleton 📤 ?

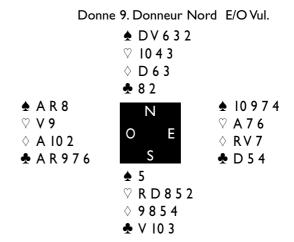
C'est là que se pose le cas de conscience. Votre paire résistera-t-elle à l'entame d'un petit & sous As-Roi ? C'est un long débat entre vous, votre conscience, votre partenaire et vos coéquipiers.

Il semble que la voie de la raison l'emporte sur celle de figurer dans les rubriques de bridge.

Main d'Ouest : ♠ D ♡ 108742 ♦ 953 ♣ DV84

Il est vrai qu'après une intervention et un soutien à ♣, l'entame sous As-Roi vient mieux !

Dans le 7ème match, on a pu remarquer le talent d' Helgemo pour réaliser 12 levées en Ouest à 3SA :

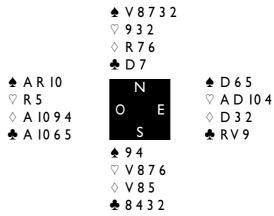


Contrat: 3SA, Entame: 3 de 4

L'entame malheureuse permet au déclarant de faire la première levée du 10 de . Pour la Dame, pour le Roi, As de et 9 de (Nord défausse un \heartsuit et un et Sud un \heartsuit). Sur As-Roi de , Sud défausse deux \heartsuit . Suit le 7 de sur lequel Nord se sépare d'un \heartsuit et Sud d'un \diamondsuit pour conserver Roi-Dame de \heartsuit secs. As de \heartsuit et \heartsuit pour le Roi de Sud et merci pour la Dame de \diamondsuit qui arrive toute seule!

Une autre donne délicate consistait à réaliser 12 levées à Sans-atout, en Quest :

Donne 12. Donneur Ouest N/S Vul.



Contrat : 6SA, Entame : 3 de ♠

Il faut de toute manière trouver la Dame de \clubsuit mais avant, il faut clarifier les \diamondsuit car on pourra à ce moment là se passer du Valet de \heartsuit . Prenez l'entame de la Dame de \spadesuit et jouez \diamondsuit pour le 9 qui pousse au Roi. Première bonne nouvelle ! Le retour \spadesuit est pris de l'As. Vous jouez alors \diamondsuit pour la Dame, \diamondsuit pour l'As (\diamondsuit 3-3) puis trois tours de \heartsuit en espérant la chute du Valet... qui ne vient pas. Vous jouez donc le Roi de \spadesuit , le 13ème \diamondsuit en défaussant le 10 de \heartsuit du mort (Sud défausse le Valet de \heartsuit). Vous connaissez maintenant les \clubsuit 4-2 ; faites l'impasse contre le côté long et.... chutez de 2. Triste jour !

BUTLER RANKING													
after 8 rounds													
I	Lauria Loren	ITA		(100)	72	Gotard Tomas	GER	0.25	(100)	143	Mattila Jukk	FIN	-0.20 (80)
2 3	Versace Alfr Buratti Andr	ITA SPA		(120) (120)	74	Pierakek Jos Kutner Roger	GER SWI	0.25 0.23	(100) (120)		Vihtila Pekk Soroldoni Ma	FIN SMR	-0.20 (80) -0.20 (120)
1	Lanzarotti M	SPA		(120)	'	Terretaz J.B	SWI	0.23	(120)		Zaccaria Dan	SMR	-0.20 (120)
5	Kurka Josef	CZE		(100)	76	Bitran Alber	FRA	0.21	(100)	147		ROM	-0.21 (100)
	Mraz Tomas	CZE		(100)		Voldoire J-M	FRA	0.21	(100)		Stirbu Calin	ROM	-0.21 (100)
	Einarsson Bj	ICE		(120)		Karaivanov I	BUL	0.21	(120)	149	Eidi Michel	LEB	-0.23 (120)
9	Ingimarsson Karaivanov K	ICE BUL		(120) (100)	80	Stamatov Jer Fredin Peter	BUL SWE	0.21 0.20	(120) (120)	151	Harfouche Ga	LEB LEB	-0.23 (120)
′	Trendafilov	BUL		(100)	60	Lindkvist Ma	SWE	0.20	(120)	131	Medawar Sami Hamdam Fayca	LEB	-0.24 (100) -0.24 (100)
11	Gloyer Andre	AUT		(120)		Hopfenheit G	GER	0.20	(120)		Goldberg Vic	SCO	-0.24 (100)
	Schifko Mart	AUT		(120)		Reim Sebast.	GER	0.20	(120)		Gordon Irvin	SCO	-0.24 (100)
13	Bocchi Norbe	ITA		(160)	84	Torres J.lgn	SPA	0.17	(100)	157	Politis Taki	CYP	-0.24 (140)
1 15	Duboin Giorg Diamond Jere	ITA SCO		(160) (100)	86	Frances Anto Fitzgibbon N	SPA IRE	0.17 0.16	(100) (120)	156 157	Sementa Anto Kemeny Gyorg	ITA HUN	-0.25 (60) -0.31 (100)
'	Dragic Miros	SCO		(100)	00	Mesbur Adam	IRE	0.16	(120)	137	Szappanos Ge	HUN	-0.31 (100)
17	Juhas Anamar	YUG		(100)		Borevkovic G	CRO	0.16	(120)		Anderson Rex	IRE	-0.31 (100)
	Parezanin Da	YUG		(100)		Tesla Miro	CRO	0.16	(120)	171	Greenwood Da	IRE	-0.31 (100)
	Helgemo Geir Helness Tor	NOR NOR		(120) (120)	90	Lantaron Lui Ventin J.Car	SPA SPA	0.15 0.15	(100) (100)	161	Petersen Han Sivertsen Ar	FAR FAR	-0.36 (100) -0.36 (100)
	Dubinin Alex	RUS		(120)	92	Cuthbertson	SCO	0.13	(120)	163	Briciu Mariu	ROM	-0.37 (120)
	Krasnosselsk	RUS		(120)	-	Matheson Joh	SCO	0.14	(120)		Ghigheci Ovi	ROM	-0.37 (120)
23	Duguet Miche	FRA		(120)	94	Van Eijck Wi	NET	0.12	(100)	165	Duong Hong D	SWI	-0.38 (100)
٦٠	Toffier Phil	FRA		(120)	0/	Westra Berry	NET	0.12	(100)		Yalcin Tarik	SWI	-0.38 (100)
25	Aa Terje Grotheim Gle	NOR NOR		(100) (100)	96	Karlsson Sno Sigurhjartar	ICE ICE	0.11 0.11	(80) (80)		Michaud-Lari Tardy Stepha	MON MON	-0.38 (100) -0.38 (100)
27		ISR		(120)		Hatzidakis E	GRE	0.11	(120)	169	Vozabal Davi	CZE	-0.41 (100)
l	Barel Michae	ISR		(120)		Sapounakis A	GRE	0.11	(120)		Zadrazil Mic	CZE	-0.41 (100)
29	Gustawsson M	SWE		(120)		Aydin Ata	TUR	0.11	(100)	171	Koistinen Ka	FIN	-0.45 (120)
31	Morath Ander Khven Maxim	SWE RUS	0.70 (0.69	(120) (80)	102	Yilmaz Gokha Bizon Piotr	TUR POL	0.11 0.09	(100) (100)		Nyberg Clas Abouchanab B	FIN SWI	-0.45 (120) -0.45 (100)
"	Matushko Geo	RUS	0.69	(80)	102	Kowalski Dar	POL	0.09	(100)		Sasselli Mar	SWI	-0.45 (100)
33	Nikolayenko	UKR		(120)		Lesniewski M	POL	0.09	(100)		Joensen Roi	FAR	-0.45 (100)
,_	Rybnikov Ge	UKR		(120)		Martens Krzy	POL	0.09	(100)		Simonsen Bod	FAR	-0.45 (100)
35	Mihov Vlad. Nanev Ivan	BUL BUL		(100) (100)		Protega Bran	SLO SLO	0.09 0.09	(100) (100)	177	Turletti Tol	LIC LIC	-0.48 (120)
37	Svoboda Otak	CZE		(120)		Ralca Danilo Gromov Andre	RUS	0.09	(100)	179	Arnaboldi Se Kannavos Pan	GRE	-0.48 (120) -0.51 (80)
-	Volhejn Wit	CZE		(120)		Petrunin Ale	RUS	0.09	(120)		Kapayannides	GRE	-0.51 (80)
39	Gantar Metod	SLO		(120)	110	Hackett Jaso	ENG	0.08	(119)	181	Ambroz Bojan	SLO	-0.56 (100)
41	Senk Matija	SLO ENG		(120)	112	Hackett Just	ENG	80.0	(119)		Novak Miro	SLO DEN	-0.56 (100)
"'	Hackett Paul Waterlow Ton	ENG		(100) (100)	112	Juuri-Oja Jo Kiema Osmo	FIN FIN	0.00 0.00	(120) (120)		Schaltz Dort Schaltz Pete	DEN	-0.56 (100) -0.56 (100)
43	Kurbalija Fi	WAL		(100)		Carroll John	IRE	0.00	(100)	185	Elinescu Mic	GER	-0.58 (100)
	Rees Tim	WAL		(100)		Garvey Tom	IRE	0.00	(100)		Entscho Wlad	GER	-0.58 (100)
	Johannsson S	ICE		(120)	116	Aukens Jens	DEN		(100)	187		AUT	-0.60 (100) -0.60 (100)
	Jonsson Stei Jansma Jan	ICE NET		(120) (120)	118	Schaffer Lau Kalish Avi	DEN ISR	-0.02 -0.0 4		189	Wernle Alex. Barbosa Juli	AUT POR	-0.62 (100)
	Verhees Louk	NET		(120)		Podgur Leoni	ISR	-0.04		,	Pinto Rui	POR	-0.62 (100)
	Muller Bauke	NET	0.45	(100)	120	Denning Paul	WAL	-0.05	(120)	191	Kaplan Alain	BEL	-0.65 (100)
_F ,	De Wijs Simo	NET		(100)	122	Thomas Adria	WAL	-0.05		102	Polet Guy	BEL	-0.65 (100)
51	Bessis Miche Rombaut Jero	FRA FRA		(100) (100)	122	Catellani Ma Fissore Henr	MON MON	-0.06 -0.06		193 194	Germanis Aig Blasket Lars	LAT DEN	-0.68 (40) -0.69 (120)
53	Lopes Jorge	POR		(100)	124		POL	-0.12		' '	Bruun Mathia	DEN	-0.69 (120)
	Sa Joao	POR	0.40	(100)		Zmudzinski A	POL	-0.12	(120)	196	Costa Ant.An	POR	-0.70 (120)
	Evseev Vo	UKR	0. 4 0	(80)		Carcassonne	BEL	-0.12	`	100	Mascarenhas	POR	-0.70 (120)
57	Volkov OI Briolini G.C	UKR SMR	0.40 0.39 ((80) (100)	128	Labaere A Angelini Fra	BEL ITA	-0.12 -0.13	(100) (4 0)	198	Koumas Micha Duricic Bran	CYP YUG	-0.71 (120) -0.71 (100)
"	Fiorini Fior	SMR		(100)	120	Nikolic Vlad	YUG	-0.13	` ,		Radisic Gora	YUG	-0.71 (100)
59	Armstrong Jo	ENG	0.35	(100)		Vucic Alex	YUG	-0.13	(120)	201	Mouritsen He	FAR	-0.74 (120)
1	Davies Danny	ENG		(100)	131	Schneider Ra	ISR	-0.14	(80)	202	Mouritsen Jo	FAR	-0.74 (120)
61	Jakab Sandor Szilagy Lasz	HUN HUN		(120) (120)	133	Shaham Eran Allavena J.C	ISR MON	-0.14 -0.16	(80) (120)	203	Arigun Cengi Cengiz Nuri	TUR TUR	-0.85 (60) -0.85 (60)
63	Hegedus Gal	HUN		(120)	133	Guglielmi Mi	MON	-0.16		205	Jansons Ugis	LAT	-0.86 (160)
	Honti Laszlo	HUN	0.33	(100)	135	Matei Corn.D	ROM	-0.17	(100)	206	Christophide	CYP	-0.90 (120)
65	Baroudi Nagi	LEB		(100)		Savin Daniel	ROM	-0.17	` '	207	Milgravia An	LAT	-0.91 (160)
	Tchamitch Ha Kalavanas Di	LEB CYP		(100) (100)	137	Babsch Andre Bieder Wolf.	AUT AUT	-0.18 -0.18		209	Rubenis Gint Bendiks Jani	LAT LAT	-0.91 (160) -0.92 (120)
68	Assael Salv.	TUR		(160)		Cakic Aljosa	CRO		(100)	210	Coenraets Ph	BEL	-0.92 (120) -0.96 (120)
	Zorlu Nafiz	TUR	0.29	(160)		Diklic Dubra	CRO	-0.18	` <i></i>		Jeunen Frans	BEL	-0.96 (120)
70	Brogeland Bo	NOR		(100)	141	Skoularikis	GRE	-0.19	(120)	212	Mykhaylenko	UKR	-0.98 (120)
	Saelensminde	NOR	0.28	(100)		Zotos Loukas	GRE	-0.19	(120)		Nemtsev OI	UKR	-0.98 (120)

Messages from the **Executive Committee:**

Those who start their championships today should take note of some announcements that have appeared in earlier bulletins:

Antidoping test

Antidoping tests will take place today

Open Series at 20:30

Women's Series at 11:30

Three players in the Open series and three players in the Women's series will be chosen by the Appeals' Committee by random draw today. Team Captains are welcome to be present at the draw.

Additional Conditions of Contest

Pursuant to the provision of Condition L the following additions provisions are added to the conditions of contest of the Open, Women's and Senior Team Championships:

- 5. Leaving the table during the bidding and play. No player may leave the table during the bidding. Dummy may leave the table after the opening lead has been made with the consent of his screen-mate.

A player may leave the table between hands to go to the lavatory or to get a drink. But no partnership may leave the table together and no partnership may have any discussion during the match except through the screen aperture (between hands) in the presence of their opponents.

Mobile Phones - Spot Checks

Team Captains and Players, Scorers and Kibitzers are reminded that Mobile Phones may not be brought into the playing area and toilets.

In order to ensure that this regulation is strictly adhered to there will be random spot checks of all the members of a team, including the captain and scorer at the start of each match. Teams are asked to co-operate with these spot checks which will include a search of personal belongings.

Mobile phones may be left with Reception for the duration of the match.

Badges

As a security precaution, BADGES MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

No one will be allowed to enter the Congress Center without displaying his badge. Badges are issued by reception upon receipt of a properly completed Security Form which requires, among other information, your Passport or Identity Card number.

For Dutch readers only

De makers van IMP, bridgeblad voor de rechtgeaarde bridgeliefhebber, hebben het genoegen u de IMP NEWS FLASH te presenteren. De INF is het internetbridgeblad voor Nederland en België en bestemd voor iedere bridger die beschikt over een emailadres en is gratis. De redactie bestaat uit Bep Vriend en Jan van Cleeff. Meld u aan op

impflash@xs4all.nl

en ontvang iedere maand dit tijdschrift in uw inbox. De content spreekt voor zich:

Spel-van-de-Maand, de Rode draad, de panelquiz ,Wat ging er mis?' met alle topspelers van Nederland en ,Vraag het Bep', waarin lezers al hun bridgeproblemen kunnen voorleggen aan tweevoudig wereldkampioen Bep Vriend. Voor de eerste keer in juli 2002.

En voor wie het nog niet wist, maar wel wil: een abonnement op Bridge Magazine IMP kost slechts EUR 35 per jaar of EUR 65 per twee jaar. Binnenkort natuurlijk met de fantastische EK Special met bijdragen van NL teamlid Berry Westra, captain Ed Hoogenkamp en Joost Prinsen.

Verzeker u van veel bridgeplezier. Stuur een mailtje naar jvcleeff@xs4all.nl met uw naam en adres.

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