



Daily Bulletin

46th European Bridge
Teams Championships

Salsomaggiore Terme - Italy
15th - 29th June 2002

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Bulletin 6

Friday, 21 June 2002

They Think It's All Over



Providers of the 45,840 Deals in this Championship

With three big wins **Italy** have opened up a massive 30 VP lead over second placed **Norway** after only 14 rounds of the Open series. **Bulgaria** are third and then there is a log jam with only six points covering the next six teams, **Netherlands, Iceland, Poland, France, Russia** and **Spain**.

England has gone into the lead in the Women's series, ahead of **Germany** and **Czech Republic** but the big story concerns the highly regarded **French** team. They were involved in what might be regarded as the first major upset of the event when they that lost heavily to the **Faroe Islands** and followed that with an even heavier defeat by **Spain**. However, they can perhaps draw comfort from a comparison with that of **Poland** in the Open - they have plenty of time and whilst form is temporary, class is permanent.

Two maximums saw **Denmark** sweep to the top of the Seniors, just ahead of **France** with **Israel** third.

Today's VuGraph Matches

OPEN TEAMS - Round 15

Hungary v Sweden 10.30

OPEN TEAMS - Round 16

Iceland - Israel 14.15

OPEN TEAMS - Round 17

Czech Republic v Italy 17.35

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OPEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 12**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	SCOTLAND	LATVIA	95 - 41	25 - 4
2	WALES	MONACO	45 - 23	20 - 10
3	SPAIN	ITALY	23 - 55	8 - 22
4	ROMANIA	CZECH REP	60 - 36	20 - 10
5	AUSTRIA	LEBANON	56 - 53	16 - 14
6	ICELAND	PORTUGAL	38 - 19	19 - 11
7	BELGIUM	SLOVENIA	15 - 107	0 - 25
8	NETHERLANDS	SWITZERLAND	69 - 23	24 - 6
9	GREECE	FRANCE	49 - 61	13 - 17
10	SWEDEN	ISRAEL	29 - 58	9 - 21
11	UKRAINE	IRELAND	22 - 49	9 - 21
12	DENMARK	FINLAND	39 - 29	17 - 13
13	LIECHTENSTEIN	HUNGARY	22 - 45	10 - 20
14	FAROE ISLANDS	POLAND	32 - 55	10 - 20
15	CYPRUS	RUSSIA	21 - 78	4 - 25
16	BULGARIA	SAN MARINO	69 - 31	23 - 7
17	ENGLAND	CROATIA	49 - 36	18 - 12
18	TURKEY	NORWAY	33 - 45	13 - 17
19	YUGOSLAVIA	GERMANY	12 - 78	2 - 25

ROUND 13

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	POLAND	LIECHTENSTEIN	88 - 29	25 - 4
2	HUNGARY	DENMARK	42 - 54	13 - 17
3	FINLAND	UKRAINE	64 - 12	25 - 5
4	IRELAND	SWEDEN	15 - 80	3 - 25
5	ISRAEL	GREECE	53 - 50	16 - 14
6	FRANCE	NETHERLANDS	37 - 44	14 - 16
7	SWITZERLAND	BELGIUM	68 - 20	25 - 5
8	SLOVENIA	ICELAND	41 - 47	14 - 16
9	PORTUGAL	AUSTRIA	45 - 68	10 - 20
10	LEBANON	ROMANIA	13 - 77	3 - 25
11	CZECH REP	SPAIN	63 - 51	17 - 13
12	ITALY	WALES	91 - 36	25 - 4
13	MONACO	SCOTLAND	55 - 37	19 - 11
14	GERMANY	TURKEY	33 - 69	8 - 22
15	NORWAY	ENGLAND	68 - 32	22 - 8
16	CROATIA	BULGARIA	43 - 54	13 - 17
17	SAN MARINO	CYPRUS	56 - 60	14 - 16
18	RUSSIA	FAROE ISLANDS	57 - 72	12 - 18
19	LATVIA	YUGOSLAVIA	37 - 63	10 - 20

ROUND 14

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	MONACO	LATVIA	101 - 47	25 - 4
2	SCOTLAND	ITALY	14 - 55	7 - 23
3	WALES	CZECH REP	58 - 41	19 - 11
4	SPAIN	LEBANON	27 - 93	2 - 25
5	ROMANIA	PORTUGAL	52 - 48	16 - 14
6	AUSTRIA	SLOVENIA	78 - 45	22 - 8
7	ICELAND	SWITZERLAND	54 - 37	19 - 11
8	BELGIUM	FRANCE	22 - 98	1 - 25
9	NETHERLANDS	ISRAEL	48 - 60	13 - 17
10	GREECE	IRELAND	38 - 84	6 - 24
11	SWEDEN	FINLAND	50 - 36	18 - 12
12	UKRAINE	HUNGARY	54 - 25	21 - 9
13	DENMARK	POLAND	16 - 46	9 - 21
14	LIECHTENSTEIN	RUSSIA	33 - 57	10 - 20
15	FAROE ISLANDS	SAN MARINO	40 - 103	3 - 25
16	CYPRUS	CROATIA	61 - 85	10 - 20
17	BULGARIA	NORWAY	49 - 43	16 - 14
18	ENGLAND	GERMANY	59 - 30	21 - 9
19	TURKEY	YUGOSLAVIA	79 - 24	25 - 4

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 15****10.30**

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

ROUND 16**14.15**

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

ROUND 17**17.35**

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

OPEN TEAMS RANKING after 14 rounds

1	ITALY	299.00
2	NORWAY	269.00
3	BULGARIA	254.00
4	NETHERLANDS	246.00
5	ICELAND	246.00
6	POLAND	245.00
7	FRANCE	245.00
8	RUSSIA	245.00
9	SPAIN	240.00
10	TURKEY	238.00
11	ISRAEL	238.00
12	AUSTRIA	234.00
13	SWEDEN	230.00
14	HUNGARY	226.00
15	ENGLAND	224.00
16	FINLAND	223.00
17	CZECH REP	218.00
18	ROMANIA	215.00
19	LEBANON	210.00
20	SCOTLAND	209.00
21	GERMANY	207.00
22	GREECE	206.00
23	WALES	205.00
24	IRELAND	204.00
25	SLOVENIA	198.00
26	CROATIA	196.00
27	UKRAINE	195.00
28	MONACO	190.00
29	SWITZERLAND	190.00
30	DENMARK	189.00
31	PORTUGAL	176.00
32	SAN MARINO	173.00
33	YUGOSLAVIA	168.00
34	FAROE ISLANDS	155.00
35	BELGIUM	135.00
36	CYPRUS	134.00
37	LIECHTENSTEIN	120.00
38	LATVIA	108.00

Laws of bridge (3)

In the present laws it is an infraction to misexplain a bid from partner but it is not an infraction to make a misbid (a bid not in accordance with the agreements in a partnership). This causes problems more than once. Give partner ♠KJ87 ♥AQ763 ♦3 ♣J73 after your opening of one spade and an overcall of 2NT which promises clubs and diamonds. This hand is certainly less promising now than after an overcall of three clubs which promises diamonds and hearts. You understand what happened, overcaller did misbid his hand, he should have bid three clubs and your side misses a normal slam due to this mistake.

Is there a reason to change the laws to make these kind of mistakes more costly? Should we give the organising body the possibility to adjust scores after certain misbids, considering the other side damaged as a consequence of bad preparations (no clear agreements) for example?

Don't worry about psyches, we can handle that, but take into account low level play where mistakes are more common.

At this moment declarer or dummy has to rectify a misexplanation from partner before play starts. Misbids are no infraction, so no need to tell anything in that case. Is there a reason to change this approach asking declarer and dummy to tell opponents about their misbid if they really thought to follow the partnership agreements when making their wrong call?

Ton Kooijman

Team Photographs

If any of the teams would like to have their photographs taken at the Anniversary Ceremony on Saturday night whilst they are in uniform, please see Ron Tacchi in the Bulletin Room to make an appointment.

Ladies Gossip

Strange rumors in the Palazzo about the next Beauty Contest that will award the most beautiful player in the Open Teams. The jury is only composed of women. If you want to be in the jury please contact M. B. in the Press Room.

Celebration

The celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the European Bridge Team Championships, a very important milestone in our history, will be held at the "Teatro Nuove", Viale Romagnos, on Saturday 22nd June at 19:15.

Many of the great champions who during the past years have led their country to victory in the European Teams Championships, will be present.

A party will follow in the garden of the Grand Hotel Milano.

Please don't forget your invitation card or your badge, to be shown at the entrance.

NBO Formal uniform or Formal wear.

WOMEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 3**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	DENMARK	FINLAND	56 - 43	18 - 12
22	SWEDEN	POLAND	45 - 41	16 - 14
23	CROATIA	NORWAY	52 - 61	13 - 17
24	GERMANY	ISRAEL	66 - 33	22 - 8
25	SCOTLAND	SAN MARINO	67 - 47	19 - 11
26	ICELAND	TURKEY	43 - 46	14 - 16
27	FRANCE	FAROE ISLANDS	39 - 59	11 - 19
28	ENGLAND	SPAIN	43 - 39	16 - 14
29	CZECH REP.	IRELAND	85 - 20	25 - 3
30	ITALY	HUNGARY	43 - 60	11 - 19
31	AUSTRIA	RUSSIA	46 - 56	13 - 17
32	NETHERLANDS	Bye	0 - 0	18 - 0

ROUND 4

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	POLAND	DENMARK	45 - 73	9 - 21
22	NORWAY	SWEDEN	50 - 88	7 - 23
23	ISRAEL	CROATIA	43 - 53	13 - 17
24	SAN MARINO	GERMANY	49 - 56	14 - 16
25	TURKEY	SCOTLAND	38 - 38	15 - 15
26	FAROE ISLANDS	ICELAND	43 - 33	17 - 13
27	SPAIN	FRANCE	57 - 28	21 - 9
28	IRELAND	ENGLAND	20 - 75	4 - 25
29	HUNGARY	CZECH REP.	48 - 49	15 - 15
30	RUSSIA	ITALY	42 - 66	10 - 20
31	Bye	AUSTRIA	0 - 0	0 - 18
32	NETHERLANDS	FINLAND	51 - 33	19 - 11

WOMEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 5 10.30**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	DENMARK	NORWAY
22	SWEDEN	ISRAEL
23	CROATIA	SAN MARINO
24	GERMANY	TURKEY
25	SCOTLAND	FAROE ISLANDS
26	ICELAND	SPAIN
27	FRANCE	IRELAND
28	ENGLAND	HUNGARY
29	CZECH REP.	RUSSIA
30	ITALY	AUSTRIA
31	POLAND	NETHERLANDS
32	FINLAND	Bye

ROUND 6 14.15

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	ISRAEL	DENMARK
22	SAN MARINO	SWEDEN
23	TURKEY	CROATIA
24	FAROE ISLANDS	GERMANY
25	SPAIN	SCOTLAND
26	IRELAND	ICELAND
27	HUNGARY	FRANCE
28	RUSSIA	ENGLAND
29	AUSTRIA	CZECH REP.
30	Bye	ITALY
31	NETHERLANDS	NORWAY
32	FINLAND	POLAND

**WOMEN TEAMS RANKING
after 4 rounds**

1	ENGLAND	84.00
2	GERMANY	82.00
3	CZECH REP	74.00
4	DENMARK	73.00
5	SWEDEN	71.00
6	NETHERLANDS	67.00
7	RUSSIA	66.00
8	ICELAND	64.00
9	AUSTRIA	63.00
10	SPAIN	60.00
11	ITALY	58.00
12	HUNGARY	58.00
13	TURKEY	58.00
14	CROATIA	57.00
15	FRANCE	57.00
16	NORWAY	55.00
17	FAROE ISLANDS	55.00
18	SCOTLAND	54.00
19	FINLAND	51.00
20	POLAND	50.00
21	ISRAEL	49.00
22	SAN MARINO	42.00
23	IRELAND	41.00

ROUND 7 17.35

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	DENMARK	SAN MARINO
22	SWEDEN	TURKEY
23	CROATIA	FAROE ISLANDS
24	GERMANY	SPAIN
25	SCOTLAND	IRELAND
26	ICELAND	HUNGARY
27	FRANCE	RUSSIA
28	ENGLAND	AUSTRIA
29	CZECH REP.	ITALY
30	ISRAEL	NETHERLANDS
31	NORWAY	FINLAND
32	POLAND	Bye

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 3**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	SCOTLAND	CZECH REP.	27 - 62	8 - 22
42	DENMARK	CROATIA	80 - 21	25 - 4
43	FRANCE	IRELAND	76 - 28	25 - 5
44	SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS	48 - 73	10 - 20
45	ENGLAND	AUSTRIA	46 - 45	15 - 15
46	SPAIN	PORTUGAL	30 - 49	11 - 19
47	TURKEY	POLAND	60 - 44	18 - 12
48	WALES	SWITZERLAND	37 - 46	13 - 17
49	ITALY	GERMANY	63 - 34	21 - 9
50	Bye	ISRAEL	0 - 0	0 - 18

ROUND 4

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	CROATIA	SCOTLAND	61 - 47	18 - 12
42	IRELAND	DENMARK	25 - 88	3 - 25
43	NETHERLANDS	FRANCE	48 - 52	14 - 16
44	AUSTRIA	SWEDEN	61 - 53	16 - 14
45	PORTUGAL	ENGLAND	30 - 37	14 - 16
46	POLAND	SPAIN	69 - 15	25 - 4
47	SWITZERLAND	TURKEY	18 - 59	7 - 23
48	GERMANY	WALES	58 - 43	18 - 12
49	ISRAEL	ITALY	72 - 18	25 - 4
50	Bye	CZECH REP.	0 - 0	0 - 18

SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 5 14.15**

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
41	SCOTLAND	IRELAND
42	DENMARK	NETHERLANDS
43	FRANCE	AUSTRIA
44	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL
45	ENGLAND	POLAND
46	SPAIN	SWITZERLAND
47	TURKEY	GERMANY
48	WALES	ITALY
49	CROATIA	Bye
50	CZECH REP.	ISRAEL

ROUND 6 17.35

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
41	NETHERLANDS	SCOTLAND
42	AUSTRIA	DENMARK
43	PORTUGAL	FRANCE
44	POLAND	SWEDEN
45	SWITZERLAND	ENGLAND
46	GERMANY	SPAIN
47	ITALY	TURKEY
48	ISRAEL	WALES
49	Bye	IRELAND
50	CZECH REP.	CROATIA

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www.eurobridge.org

**SENIOR TEAMS RANKING
after 4 rounds**

1	DENMARK	86.00
2	FRANCE	84.00
3	ISRAEL	79.00
4	NETHERLANDS	72.00
5	TURKEY	71.00
6	ITALY	65.00
7	POLAND	65.00
8	WALES	65.00
9	AUSTRIA	64.00
10	ENGLAND	59.00
11	CZECH REP	59.00
12	GERMANY	56.00
13	CROATIA	54.00
14	PORTUGAL	54.00
15	SCOTLAND	52.00
16	SWEDEN	47.00
17	SWITZERLAND	39.00
18	SPAIN	37.00
19	IRELAND	35.00

Championship Diary

Jos Jacobs and Jan van Cleeff frequently combine in the production of an article. Fortunately this has not so far resulted in any Double Dutch!



The World's number one referee Pierluigi Collina was quick to enter our competition advertised yesterday. He requests that if he wins he gets the visit to Norberto's barber!

OPEN TEAMS
Round 9
Italy v Iceland

Have these Championships already reached a stage in which it's more interesting to speculate who will finish second rather than who will win? One would certainly be inclined to think so after watching the match on VuGraph between the two leading teams at that moment, Italy and Iceland. Not for the first time in the matches played by Italy so far, it was one-way traffic in their favour. For a change, however, the Italian not so much outbid their opponents; but rather they outplayed them on a number of crucial boards.

Board 2, after a simple push on board 1, was an early example of the pattern of this match.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ - ♥ A K 10 9 7 3 ♦ Q 9 ♣ 10 9 6 5 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; 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		♠ J 9 8 4 2 ♥ - ♦ A K J 8 ♣ K Q J 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ A 10 7 5 3 ♥ Q J 5 2 ♦ 6 4 3 ♣ 7									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Johansson</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Jonsson</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
		Pass	Pass
1♥	1♠	4♥	4♠
5♥	5♠	Dble	All Pass

With 5♥ not on, Bocchi for once had made the wrong decision by going on to 5♠. How was he to know that spades were 5-0? On any other break the contract has reasonable to good chances.

The play was interesting however, as Bocchi had to avoid going down more than one. He ruffed the heart lead and led a spade up. East immediately took his ace and led a spade back, not a heart, so Bocchi could stay in control by playing minor suit winners and just lost two more trump tricks. One down, Iceland +200, still a good result for them.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Ingimarsson</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Einarsson</i>
		Pass	Pass
3♥	Dble	4♥	Dble
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

With the play in the Open Room in mind, one might think 4♠ would make. East had not sent a warning to declarer, so who can blame him for ruffing the heart lead and leading a spade up? When Lauria correctly ducked, the king in dummy won but declarer had a problem. He tried his best by ruffing hearts in hand, using the ♣A as an entry, but as he could not afford to play even one more round of trumps, he had to go one down. Italy+100 so only 3 IMPs to Iceland where it might have been 9 IMPs had the

defence in the Open Room adopted the same strategy. On the next board, the bidding gave away the show:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 8 7 3 ♥ A K 5 4 ♦ A 9 7 ♣ Q 4 2	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; 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		♠ A 9 ♥ Q 6 ♦ K 10 6 3 ♣ 10 9 8 6 5
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ K Q 5 4 ♥ J 10 3 ♦ 8 4 ♣ A K J 7									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Johansson</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>Jonsson</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
			Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Bocchi led a diamond. Declarer won the third round, crossed in clubs and ran the ♥J. One down. He might have decided to play spades up to dummy's KQ first; with the ace doubleton onside this line would have been successful, though you might as well go down if South ducks the first spade, which he will do as a matter of routine. Anyway, Italy +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Ingimarsson</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Einarsson</i>
			2♦
Dble	Redble	3NT	All Pass

Two Diamonds showed four diamonds and a longer major in a weak hand. The redouble should confirm diamonds but Lauria bid 3NT anyway. When South led a spade to the ace the hand was over. Italy another +630 and 12 IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ A 10 8 6 4 ♥ Q 3 ♦ 10 9 3 ♣ 8 5 3	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; 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		♠ Q 3 ♥ K 10 8 5 2 ♦ 8 6 4 ♣ Q 6 4
	N										
W		E									
	S										
		♠ 5 ♥ A J 9 7 6 4 ♦ K Q J 7 2 ♣ A									

♠ K J 9 7 2 ♥ - ♦ A 5 ♣ K J 10 9 7 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Johansson	Bocchi	Jonsson	Duboin
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♥
4♥	3♣	4♦	Pass
	All Pass		

Please note that Bocchi did not double the final contract. A club was led to the ace and declarer, once again not having received a warning, played a low heart to the queen and king. A club came back, declarer ruffing, and the diamond continuation was won by South who persisted with clubs. As Bocchi now held one more trump than declarer he had to come to two more tricks for one down, Italy +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ingimarsson	Lauria	Einarsson
Pass	Pass	1♥	2♥
4♥	2♠	4♦	Pass
	Dble	All Pass	

Here, North had been kind enough to issue a warning, so Lauria won the spade lead and first drove out the ♦A. He ruffed the next spade and crossed to the ♦10 in dummy to advance the ♥Q. This was covered by the king and ace, and South showed out. Lauria now could cross to dummy's ♦9 and play another trump through North. Next came the ♥A and a top diamond, North ruffing. As Lauria could exit in diamonds to endplay North in trumps again, the contract was home. Italy +590 and another 12 IMPs for an already ominous-looking lead of 24-6 after five boards.

After two more pushes, a bluff by Versace paid off:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Johansson	Bocchi	Jonsson	Duboin
1♣	1♥	Dble	Pass
2♣	2♥	All Pass	

All of a sudden, EW had lost their diamond fit. Bocchi made an overtrick for 140 to Italy.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ingimarsson	Lauria	Einarsson
1♣	1♥	Dble	Pass
INT	2♥	3NT	All Pass



Lorenzo Lauria, Italy

Well, Qx very much looked like an additional stopper in hearts. When Lauria bid 3NT over 2♥ in convincing style, North decided this was not the moment to play hearts from the top. He led the ♥8 which ran to declarer's queen to present him with his 9th trick. Italy another +400 and 11 IMPs. They led by 36-7.

Then we saw for once a swing to Iceland.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Johansson	Bocchi	Jonsson	Duboin
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
All Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT

Here, Bocchi-Duboin had a long sequence duly avoiding all the good games, including 3NT from the right position (North).

In the VuGraph theatre everybody was discussing which diamond West should lead against Duboin's 3NT. Someone suggested the nine to avoid a blockage in the suit if declarer would play low from dummy. However, East, who might think that West led from his doubleton, could consider a first round duck. The lead of the jack would have solved this problem, but at the same time



Stefan Johannsson, Iceland

have created another one, since East might think that his partner had J109 and therefore after winning the ace, might continue with a small diamond. In real life West led the four and Duboin very understandably inserted the king won by East. A small diamond back and four other ones resulted in a quick down two.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ingimarsson	Lauria	Einarsson
	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Here, the Icemen reached the reasonable game of 5♣. East started with the ♦A and later the declarer handled the trumps for all the tricks. Plus 420, Iceland +11 IMPs.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

At both tables NS played in 4♥ which basically comes down to picking up the diamonds for no loser. These were the auctions, with one significant difference between them:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Johansson	Bocchi	Jonsson	Duboin
Pass	1♥	Dble	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East found the good lead of the ♥8. Bocchi won the ace, cashed another high trump and fooled around a little in the black suits. Meanwhile he closely paid attention to count signals. This, in combination with the fact that West did not bid 4♣, which he might have done with six cards in clubs, convinced him that clubs were 5-5. Therefore Bocchi was pretty sure that East, who for his take out double should have four spades, had started with a 4-2-2-5. This meant that West originally had three diamonds. The ♠K and the ♥9 meant two entries of which Bocchi happily made use to finesse the diamonds twice. Contract made.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ingimarsson	Lauria	Einarsson
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Here, something strange happened. East kicked off with the ♦5, a very unlucky lead for his side, because now it seems that declarer's diamond problem has vanished. The first trick went small from dummy, the six by West and the eight by North. Declarer cashed two rounds of hearts, exited with a club, ruffed the club return with the ♥J and strangely enough cashed ♦A. When the king did not drop, declarer had to accept down one. Another 10 IMPs to Italy.

On the board below, we saw a remarkable difference in approach. Johannsson boldly jumped to 5♦ whereas Duboin carefully bid 1♦ to suggest some defensive values as well.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Johansson	Bocchi	Jonsson	Duboin
5♦	Dble	Pass	1♣
		All Pass	

The preempt here was an easy prey for Bocchi with his three trump tricks. On careful defence the contract went the maximum four down, Italy +800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ingimarsson	Lauria	Einarsson
		Pass	1♣
1♦	1♥	Pass	2♣
3♦	3NT	Pass	Pass
4♦	Dble	All Pass	

Of course, N/S have a game on in hearts, but South preferred to respect his partner's double of 4♦. When North led a spade a defensive tricks got lost, so Duboin only lost 300 for another 11-IMP gain to the Azzurri.

The final nail went into the Icelanders' coffin when Bocchi-Duboin found a save before their opponents realised they had a game on:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Johansson	Bocchi	Jonsson	Duboin
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	Dble	2♠
3♥	Dble	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

One down when the spade finesse was wrong, Iceland +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ingimarsson	Lauria	Einarsson
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	Dble	2♠
4♥	All Pass		

When Versace put on the pressure by jumping to 4♥, the Iceland N/S pair was not tempted. 4♥ might well be a thin affair, and in fact it was. Diamonds had to be 2-2 with the ace onside, but when this materialised and the club honours were split, declarer could not go down any more. In fact his life was made easy by a diamond lead to the ace followed by a spade switch to the ace. So Italy chalked up an enterprising +420 and saw the score go up to 67-20 now.

Little happened on the last two boards, Italy winning by 70-21, another 25-5 to them. Who will be able to stop them from winning their fifth successive title with a day to spare?

The Laws of Bridge (2A)

by Grattan Endicott

Reading Ton's second piece on the laws I am encouraged to think that we might get back somewhere close to the European practice under the 1975 laws. At that time our object when adjusting scores in Europe was to produce an outcome for the table that represented in a single score the fairest equity for the two sides that we could judge. The rather crude weighting of scores then operating has since been refined. It has been my constant opinion this approach to score adjustment should be the objective and I hold in scorn the taradiddle about 'at all probable' and 'most likely'; it was due to the strong disenchantment of the 1984 EBL Laws Committee with the extreme adjustments to which Law 12C2 would incline, that Zone I fought for the relief now embodied in Law 12C3. As for split scores, there are occasions for them - such occasions as we met in the second appeal at these Championships - but I believe they require to be justified by the facts of the bridge and should not be the norm. Lastly, one of my senior colleagues here in Salso thinks that we should dispense with the word 'equity' in the laws and replace it with some such term as 'fair judgment'.

EBL 2002
SENIOR CONGRESS

The EBL 2002 Senior Congress will take place at 11 a.m. on Monday 24th June in the Congress Room on the second floor of the Congress Centre. All EBL Executive Committee Members, NBO officers, Senior players and officials of the European Senior Championships are invited to attend.

The Agenda will be the following:

1. Greetings from the EBL President, Gianarrigo Rona.
2. Greetings from the WBF President, José Damiani.
3. Report by the EBL Seniors Committee Chairman on the 2002 Senior Teams Championship:
 - (a) Why 19 teams;
 - (b) Why 20 boards;
 - (c) Lessons for the future.
4. Open floor discussion on the 2002 Senior Teams Championship: complaints and compliments.
5. Future EBL-sponsored Senior Congresses:
 - (a) July 2002 - Poland
 - (b) August 2002 - Brighton, England
 - (c) October 2002 - Pisa, Italy
 - (d) February 2003 - Tel Aviv, Israel
 - (e) April 2003 - Malta
 - (f) May 2003 - Larnaka, Cyprus
6. WBF Senior events in Montreal:
 - Senior Teams: 23-26 August 2002
 - Senior Pairs: 27-30 August 2002
7. Varia

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Nissan Rand
Chairman EBL Seniors Committee

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karaivanov	Lesniewski	Trendafilov	Martens
		Pass	Pass
1♦	1♠	2♣	2♠
3♣	3♠	Dble	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	All Pass

Trendafilov had an obvious-looking double of 3♠ which looks like going one down. Understandably, Karaivanov did not want to sit it, but the Bulgarians were very lucky to escape the double themselves, as 4♦ went no less than four down, vulnerable. 4♣ would have been much better as it needs a trump lead to beat it. Poland had scored another useful 7 IMPs to lead 24-0 now.

Bulgaria hit back on the very next board:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Stamatov	Balicki	Karaivanov
			Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When Zmudzinski led the ♥K, Ivo Karaivanov had his anxious moments when Zmudzinski followed to the ♣A with the nine. When he continued with a low club, Adam paid tribute to his play by playing his jack, making the finesse impossible. Bulgaria +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karaivanov	Lesniewski	Trendafilov	Martens
			Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Here, Kalin Karaivanov found the fine passive lead of a low club. This exposed the finesse, but that did not matter. Left to his own resources, declarer could not come to nine tricks and Bulgaria had scored their first 12 IMPs.

Apart from one more accident in Bulgarian partscore bidding no further swings were recorded until we came to the last five boards. Yet, one beautiful play by Kalin Karaivanov should be re-

ported here and nominated for the best played hand of the tournament too:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

This looks a routine game in 3NT, and indeed it was in the Open Room. Poland got +430 when Balicki set up a squeeze possibility first and then decided to take the diamond finesse after all for his 9th trick. As North really had been squeezed, he in fact made an overtrick.

In the Closed Room, Kalin Karaivanov had to cope with a nasty trump lead in 4♥. We could see in the VuGraph Auditorium that several declarers had gone down in 4♥, but Kalin showed the way. The first trump went to the jack and ace, and the ♣K was won by North's ace. Another trump came back, won in dummy, and the ♣J (!) was played, declarer shedding a spade. North won the queen and shifted to the ♠Q, ducked all round. Declarer won the spade continuation, drew the last trump and advanced the ♦J. Had North covered this, declarer's next move would have been to play the ♣9 and thus establish the clubs, but when North did not cover the jack won the trick and the hand was over immediately for a well-earned +420 and...no more than a push.

The score stood at 36-16 to Poland when this slam hand arrived:

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Stamatov	Balicki	Karaivanov
1♣	Pass	1♠	2♣
2♦	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Here it looks as if there was no way for East to convey the possession of two red key cards to his partner. West, for that matter, might have made one more try as well. With both players holding something in reserve, it was no wonder that the slam was missed. Poland +690.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karaivanov	Lesniewski	Trendafilov	Martens
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

Strong Club and jump rebid made things easy. East could cue-bid straight away and when he did, the problems were over. Well done, +1370 to Bulgaria and 12 IMPs back.

And:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Stamatov	Balicki	Karaivanov
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

It was difficult for Zmudzinski to find any forward-going action over 4♣, even more so in view of his previous bid of 3♠, but the singleton club made the slam a good proposition from the West hand. Please note that played from the East position the slam is over 90%. Poland +480.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karaivanov	Lesniewski	Trendafilov	Martens
	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Here, the Bulgarians chose a less scientific road when West could show a limit hand with good trumps. As a result, they man-

aged to reach the top spot: 6♥ by East. Well done, had it been a bidding contest, and quite effective here to gain another 11 IMPs and take the lead in the match: 39-36.

On the penultimate board we saw another misplay, this time by a Polish declarer.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Zmudzinski	Stamatov	Balicki	Karaivanov
Pass	3♣	All Pass	Pass

This time, the 3rd seat preempt was mistimed as it hit partner with a passed, but very well-fitting hand. Eleven easy tricks, Bulgaria +150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Karaivanov	Lesniewski	Trendafilov	Martens
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Dble	3♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

The Polish approach of treating the North hand as a serious opening bid worked much better on this layout and game was duly reached and doubled. West led a heart to the ace and East cashed the ♠A before switching to the ♦K. Lesniewski won and cashed the ♥K. He now played on hearts, but West ruffed and was overruffed. Had Lesniewski drawn one round of trumps now the position would have been clarified, but he ruffed a diamond instead and led another top heart, ruffed and overruffed. Another diamond was ruffed and a spade ruffed in hand, followed by the last diamond ruffed with the king in dummy. At this point, declarer could only get back to his hand by means of a spade ruff, so he could no longer avoid the promotion of the ♣J into the setting trick.

This hand is a perfect example of how difficult it is to find a winning line of play in doubled contracts when you first of all have to find out why you got doubled. Full marks to Trendafilov who conjured up this swing out of very thin air to salvage his team. The final score now became 46-36 or 17-13 VP to Bulgaria, whereas Poland would have won 16-14 had Lesniewski made his contract, undoubled or doubled.

Bangkok Blunder

By Brian Senior

Is there any law that says that the Hand of the Day has to be one on which someone did something good? No? Just as well, because today I offer you a little light relief from the PABF Championships in sunny Bangkok.

Board 6. Dealer East. East/West Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Moriyama	Barrack	Takasaki	Cumpstone
Pass	1♠	1♣	Pass
2♦	All Pass	INT	Pass

It is not often that you have 19 HCP as dummy and your side fails to make a single trick. In the second round robin match between New Zealand and Japan in the Ladies Series, that is precisely the misfortune which befell the Japanese East/West pair.

West's second bid was intended as a transfer but not read as such by East who passed. South could see what had happened, of course, and was not about to do something silly and allow her vulnerable opponents a second chance.

Against 2♦, North led her ace of spades, on which South discarded the heart loser. A second spade was ruffed by South who returned a small diamond. North won the diamond and switched to her club and declarer, desperate to take a few tricks, finessed the queen. When that lost to the king, declarer could no longer make a trick as North got two club ruffs to establish South's suit. Two Diamonds minus eight for -800!

At the end of the hand the Japanese East asked 'How many tricks?' and, when told 'None', said 'No, How many tricks?'. Again the answer was 'Zero', at which stage she said 'No jokes, how many tricks?'

East was still shaking her head several boards later.

In the other room, Japan made 5♦ doubled on the North/South cards but +550 meant a 6 IMP loss for them.

Mind you, there were worse fates available to East/West on this deal. The New Zealand Open team conceded 6♦ by leading a trump. Ouch!

In the News

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

Avec le flanc !

Donne 10. Donneur Est. Tous vul.

♠ A 5 ♥ RV 4 3 2 ♦ R 10 7 5 ♣ 7 6	<table style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>O</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		O		E		S		♠ RV 2 ♥ 10 8 7 ♦ DV 3 ♣ AV 8 2	♠ D 9 7 ♥ A 6 5 ♦ A 9 6 ♣ 10 5 4 3
	N											
O		E										
	S											

Vous voici déclarant au contrat de 4♥ en Ouest. (1♥-2♥-3♦-4♥)

Nord entame atout pour la Dame de Sud et votre Roi.

Vous commencez par tirer deux autres tours d'atout et avancez le 5 de ♠. Nord prend du Roi. A ce moment, si Nord n'arrive pas à lire le ♠ fourni par son partenaire et ne rejoue pas ♣, vous gagnez votre contrat en défaussant un ♣ sur la Dame de ♠.

Mais Nord lit bien dans les cartes et tire l'As de ♣, joue ♣ pour le Roi de Sud. Ce dernier, dans la foulée, tire la Dame de ♣ que vous coupez avec délectation. As de ♠, le dernier ♥ (défausse du 6 de ♦) et ♦ pour l'As. Sur la Dame de ♠, vous défaussez un ♦ de la main et Nord est tristement squeezez. Vous gagnez donc grâce à la complicité du flanc.

Mais vous auriez pu gagner tout seul. Après la levée du Roi de ♥, vous jouez immédiatement ♠ pour la Dame. Nord prend du Roi, encaisse deux ♣ et rejoue atout pour votre Valet. Vous tirez l'As de ♠ et avez maintenant une remontée supplémentaire (à ♥) pour couper un ♣. Vous finissez alors votre squeeze comme ci-dessus !

Mais, malgré votre jeu déjà plus brillant que précédemment, le flanc peut vous faire chuter. Après deux tours de ♣, Sud rejoue ♦ pour casser votre squeeze. Il peut le faire !

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.

OPEN TEAMS
Round 12
Spain v Italy

Like the day before, the leaders were to play the runners-up on VuGraph. This time, Spain was to be their opponent, and once again most of the swings went to Italy's favour. Still it was an interesting match to watch, with many good bidding and play from both sides.



Antonio Frances, Spain

We join the action on board 3:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 7 6 4 2	<table border="1"> <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		♠ J 10 9 8 3
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ K Q 9 8 4	♥ -										
♦ 4	♦ 10 6 3 2										
♣ A 5 3	♣ 9 8 7 4										
	♠ A K										
	♥ J 7 6 5										
	♦ K Q 9 8 5										
	♣ K 6										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantaron
Pass	2♣	Pass	INT
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♦

Alfredo Versace showed good judgement when he decided not to show his major twosuit over his RHO's INT opening. He got his reward when his opponents reached 4♥, a reasonable

enough contract which went one down. Italy +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
1♥	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	4NT	All Pass	3NT

In the Closed Room, due to the 1♦ opening by Duboin and the 1♥ overcall by Torres, the Italians ended up in an easy quantitative 4NT instead of in 4♥ in the 4-4 fit. That looked like a good result for Italy. And good it was: Italy +460 and 11 IMPs to lead 13-0.

On the next board we saw another good bidding judgement by Versace who this time did enter the bidding with a twosuit at the three level.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A K Q 10 4 2	<table border="1"> <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		♠ J 5
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ 9 6 2	♥ A 3										
♦ K 9	♦ Q J 7 3										
♣ 8 3	♣ J 9 6 5 2										
♠ -	♠ 9 8 7 6 3										
♥ Q J 10 5 4	♥ K 8 7										
♦ 8 5 2	♦ A 10 6 4										
♣ A Q 10 7 4	♣ K										

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
Pass	1♠	Pass	3NT
Dble	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

The Italians in the closed room reached 4♠ in an uncontested auction and Bocchi duly made eleven tricks. More entertainment from the open room

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantaron
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
3♠	4♠	4NT	Pass
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

Versace's 3♠ showed a twosuit hearts and a minor, enabling Lauria to compete at the five level.

Ventin brilliantly led the ♦K against 5♣ doubled and in the auditorium all the Spanish ladies jumped up and cried 'si, si, si' from



Norberto Bocchi, Italy

excitement. When Ventin tried to cash his ♠A first, they fell back again into their chairs. Versace ruffed and could have escaped for down one if he simply played the trump ace. Alfredo, who wanted to make his contract, tried all the finesses. South came in with the ♥K and gave his partner the ruff. NS +500. Still 4 IMPs to the Italians, who led 17-0 now.

We skip 5 and rush to 6:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantaran
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Dble	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

2♣ was strong and 3♣ a relay which, according to VuGraph commentator Guido Ferraro, had already been described by Benito Garozzo in 1975. It showed a side suit, 3♦ asked for it and

3♠ showed diamonds. When Versace heard zero key cards he settled for 6♦. Another 12 IMPs to Italy as the slam was missed at the other table..

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
		Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Eleven tricks, Spain +650.

On the next one, Spain struck back:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantaran
		Dble	Pass
1♠	INT		All Pass

Here, Ventin invented a new convention: the 'gambling' 1 NT. Of course he was doubled, of course he stood his ground and of course East led the ♥K and of course NS scored 180 and of course this convention had been invented in several other matches at the same time, since exactly the same result was booked at at least three other tables.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
			Pass
1♠	2♦	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Bocchi made the more normal overcall of 2♦ after which the Spaniards had no problem in reaching the normal spade game. Spain another +620 and 13 IMPs back. The score stood at 29-13.

On nine Spain won some more IMPs when they bid 3NT and made it when the diamonds were 4-4 and the ♣K well placed. Both these conditions had to be met with. This 3NT was 'missed' at the other table.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantarón
	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Ten tricks in the end when East did not bother to cash his 4th diamond after winning the ♠A. Spain +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

A perfectly safe contract: Italy +150 but 7 IMPs more to Spain, down 20-31 now.

Two boards later a rather unexpected decision by Ventin:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantarón
	3♥	4♠	1♦
2♣	5♦	All Pass	Pass
Pass			



Ignacio Torres Juan, Spain

One down when the ♥K proved wrong. Italy +50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
			1♦
2♠	3♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble		

It appears that a double on 4♠ is the more normal action. Italy +300 and 8 IMPs. 39-22 now.

Board Fourteen was an interesting wash.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
		INT	Pass
2♦	2♠	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

In the Closed Room, North never bid higher than 2♠, EV bid 4♥ and the defence got one trick too many. N/S +100.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantaron
		1♣	1♦
Dble	4♠	Dble	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	All Pass

Here, Versace ran out of his partner's double of 4♠ whereafter it came to an end in 5♥, also for a quiet 100 to Spain. In the VuGraph theatre Guido Ferraro was not quiet at all: 'It's clear that this catastrophe was for 80% Lauria's fault; with this hand he should not double.' One might ask oneself (or him) with which hand you can...

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantaron
			Pass
Pass	1♣	Dble	1♦
Dble	3♣	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
			Pass
Pass	1♣	Dble	Pass
2♥	3♣	4♥	All Pass

The next hand is a nice double dummy problem. Nowadays it's easy, just let DeepFinesse, a beautiful piece of software that analyses complex bridge problems in one tenth of a second. Everybody bid and made 4♥, sometimes even with an illegal over-trick, like Frances-Torres managed in the closed room.

Suppose West plays the hand and North leads a club. South wins the ace and should return an unlikely SPADE to defeat 4♥. Hereafter it is just a matter of not letting declarer come in his hand (to play a heart) in combination with the menace of South obtaining a spade ruff.

Easy defence, for the bridge gods that's to say and for DeepFinesse of course, but not for us human beings.

Now suppose East is declarer. North might even double now to draw attention to his diamond void. South leads his lowest diamond, North ruffs with the queen, returns a club to South's ace and ruffs another diamond with the ace. After this, South's ♥108x over the nine have eloped into the setting trick.

The last board of the match settled the Spanish fate:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Ventin	Lauria	Lantaron
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

Lantaron got a diamond lead to the queen and king and led a heart to the ten. This obviously held the trick as no defender was interested in solving declarer's communication problems. The ♣Q came next, won by West who returned a diamond. A heart now went to the eight and ace and East cleared the diamonds. Next came a spade, taken by West who cashed out for five defensive tricks. Just made, Spain +120.

As this board was being played early in the Open Room, the commentators predicted that Bocchi-Duboin would probably bid 3NT. Right they were:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Torres	Bocchi	Frances	Duboin
Pass	Pass	Pass	INT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

On the same diamond lead as in the Open Room Duboin had the same communication problem. He solved it neatly by first running the ♥9! Of course, this was ducked all round, but now he could easily continue the suit. East took his ace and returned a diamond. Duboin now had an extra time to lead a spade up before he took the losing club finesse. West won and cleared the diamonds, but Duboin had nine tricks: three diamonds, three hearts when the suit broke, two clubs and the stolen spade. Well done Italy, a final +600 for 10 more IMPs to seal another good win.

This time it was 55-23 or 22-8 VP.

GLI INCONTRI DEGLI AZZURRI BOARD PER BOARD

12° INCONTRO OPEN: SPAGNA - ITALIA

Aperta: NORD Ventin / SUD Lantaron SPA
EST Lauria / OVEST Versace ITA

Chiusa: NORD Bocchi / SUD Duboin ITA
EST Frances / OVEST Torres SPA

BOARD 1

Mentre in chiusa Bocchi, ben giocando, va 1 down a 2 cuori in NS a causa della pessima divisione degli atout, in EO in aperta Lauria-Versace vincono il board in dichiarazione, aggiudicandosi il contratto di 3 fiori grazie ad un intervento convenzionale in bicolore effettuato da Versace, che grazie ad un favorevole attacco, mantiene il parziale addirittura con una surlevée. 2 I.M.P. Italia. 2-0.

BOARD 2

4 cuori -2 entrambi gli Ovest. Pari

BOARD 3

Bocchi-Duboin scelgono, come una buona parte del coppie in NS del Campionato Open, di giocare a senza, nonostante il fit ottavo a cuori, a lo fanno a livello 4 in avvicinamento a slam, in una mano nella quale non esistono problemi di fermi e i minori sono pieni tranne l'Asso di fiori; 11 le prese realizzate. Gli omologhi spagnoli scelgono, nell'altra sala, la manche a cuori, trovano i resti in atout divisi 5-0 (RD98x), e cadono di una presa. 11 I.M.P. Italia. 13-0.

BOARD 4

Mentre Norberto gioca 4 picche in chiusa con 11 atout e 22 punti in linea facendone 5, in aperta Lauria-Versace trovano la difesa a fiori (10 atout e Ovest chicane a picche) cadendo di 2 prese; 4 I.M.P. Italia. 17-0.

BOARD 6

Board 6 - dich. Est - EO in zona

Mentre in EO in chiusa gli spagnoli giocano manche a picche nella 6-2 e fanno +1, Lauria-Versace, in aperta sulla stessa linea, si spingono fino a 6 quadri vincendo il board in dichiarazione.

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

West	North	East	Sud
<i>Versace</i>		<i>Lauria</i>	
		Passo	Passo
2♣	Passo	2♦	Passo
2♠	Passo	2NT	Passo
3♣	contro	3♦	Passo
3♠	Passo	4♦	Passo
4NT	Passo	5♣	Passo
6♦			



2 senza e 3 quadri sono relais, 3 fiori vuol dire "ho una quarta qualsiasi", 3 picche significa "ho la quarta di quadri", 4 quadri fissa, 4 senza chiede gli Assi, 5 fiori ne dà zero, 6 quadri è il contratto giusto, chiamato da Alfredo nella valutazione che i relais di Lorenzo e il suo superamento del livello di 3 senza dovessero promettere almeno le carte che in effetti possiede. 12 I.M.P. Italia. 29-0.

BOARD 7

Gli spagnoli giocano in chiusa 4 picche in Ovest, mantenendo l'impegno. In aperta contriamo 1 senza agli avversari, ma uno sfortunato attacco consente all'avversario di mantenere il contratto. 13 I.M.P. Spagna. 29-13.

BOARD 8

Due surlevée in più per noi a 4 picche in EO. 2 I.M.P. Italia. 31-13.

BOARD 5

Pari a 4 cuori giocate in Est.

BOARD 9

La Spagna raggiunge manche a senza in aperta, contro il nos-

tro parziale a fiori in chiusa sulla stessa linea. I contratti vengono entrambi mantenuti, la manche con una surlevée, il parziale con due. 7 I.M.P. Spagna. 31-20.

BOARD 10

In NS l'Italia gioca manche a senza e le fa giuste; gli spagnoli scelgono 4 picche nella 5-2, ma la favorevole disposizione delle carte ed una corretta linea di gioco tenuta dal dichiarante consentono loro di realizzare 11 prese. 2 I.M.P. Spagna. 31-22

BOARD 11

Incassiamo 8 I.M.P. perché i nostri avversari giocano 4 picche contrate -2 in chiusa in EO (con 15 punti in linea in difesa su manche a cuori), mentre in aperta preferiscono rialzare a 5 quadri -1 in NS (la linea ha doppio fit rosso) invece di contrare il nostro 4 picche difensivo. 39-22.

BOARD 12

Identici contratto, attacco ed esito: 5 fiori -1 in Ovest in una mano sbilanciata di grosso fit nel colore in cui gli EO hanno 24 punti in linea.

BOARD 13

Pari a 2 cuori -1 in Nord.

BOARD 14

Perdiamo una buona occasione di punire un barrage avversario destinato a fornirci un buon guadagno ma pareggiamo il board pagando lo stesso numero di down anche se giochiamo ad



un livello superiore con lo stesso atout.

BOARD 15

1 I.M.P. per la Spagna, che incassa una surlevée a 4 cuori in EO. 39-23.

BOARD 16

Pari a 4 picche in Nord fatte in aperta e chiusa.

BOARD 17

Accorto stop a 3 picche +1 Lauria-Versace; 4 picche -1 Torres-Frances. 6 Italia. 45-23

BOARD 18

9 prese con atout cuori nel parziale dichiarato dalle due linee EO. Pari.

BOARD 19

4 cuori in EO; si pagano 3 Assi. Pari.

BOARD 20

Board 20 - dich. Ovest - tutti in zona

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

Gli spagnoli in aperta stoppano a 2 senza che fanno giuste, mentre in chiusa Giorgino Duboin si esibisce in un fantastico 3 senza, che realizza in zona. Preso l'attacco a quadri, fa girare il 9 di cuori, che resta in presa. Ripetuto cuori per il 10, su cui Est prende d'Asso, Duboin riprende la mano a quadri e muove una picche. Il Re del morto fa la presa e Giorgino gioca ora la Dama di fiori presa dal Re di Ovest, per affrancare le prese che gli servono per arrivare a nove. Sembra facile! 10 per l'Italia. 55-23.

FINALE

Italia-Spagna 22-8 (55-23). Nel dodicesimo turno, praticamente a un terzo del Campionato Open, l'Italia affronta una Spagna che, con la franca vittoria su Monaco, è salita al secondo posto della classifica, alla pari con la Norvegia. In questo pericoloso incontro al vertice - gli iberici sono una squadra che tradizionalmente dà il meglio di sé nella prima fase delle lunghe competizioni - il Blue Team domina, soprattutto nella fase iniziale, mostrando ancora una volta, in diverse occasioni, brillanti

soluzioni dichiarative e eccezionale tecnica di gioco e capacità valutativa nella scelta delle opzioni, nonostante gli azzurri perdano un paio di buone occasioni per "ammazzare" del tutto gli avversari. L'Italia consolida il proprio primato in classifica provvisoria, allontanando di molto, in questo scontro diretto, una temibile rivale. L'Italia guadagna anche sull'altra più ravvicinata inseguitrice, la Norvegia, protagonista di una vittoria di misura - 17-13 - contro la Turchia.

"E' stato un incontro lineare, giocato sostanzialmente bene da tutte e due le squadre - commenta Norberto Bocchi -: loro hanno fatto qualche errore in più di noi e così sono bastati pochi episodi a determinare il risultato finale."

Thrust Parry and Riposte

When Austria met Italy in Round 10 this deal gave rise to one of those classic situations where there are countless possibilities in both the play and defence.

playing one to the ace and a heart. Seeing dummy now had no entry, West cashed his other heart winner to produce this ending:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

<p>West <i>Lauria</i></p> <p>Pass Pass All Pass</p>	<p>North <i>Gloyer</i></p> <p>1♣* 2NT</p>	<p>East <i>Versace</i></p> <p>1♦ Pass</p>	<p>South <i>Schifko</i></p> <p>Pass 2♦* 3NT</p>
--	--	--	--

One Club was Blue and Two Diamonds was either 4-4-4-1 or balanced

East led the two of spades and declarer put up the king, played a club to the ace, a club to the queen and took two more tricks in the suit, East discarding two diamonds and a heart.

Placing East with five diamonds and seeking to remove possible exit cards declarer sought to remove East's heart's by

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

At this point, West played a low diamond and East won with the jack and played back a spade. If West puts up the queen then declarer can win and throw East in to lead into the diamond tenace. So West played the nine but declarer won, cashed the ace of spades and exited with a spade, forcing West to present dummy with the ninth trick.

In the five card ending, West must exit with the nine of spades. Declarer takes the ace and exits with a spade, but dummy is squeezed!

Declarer played very well, but after taking the clubs it may be better to run the jack of hearts. Say West wins and plays the ten of diamonds. Declarer covers with the queen and East wins and plays back a spade. Declarer ducks, wins the next trick, cashes his remaining ace to remove West's last exit card and ducks a heart to West who is endplayed.

There are many variations, but there is no winning defence.

Photographs of Teams and Players

The EBL is building up a photo database of players to be used primarily on the Internet, but also for publicity purposes.

Our photographer, Marco Marin, is here to accomplish this.

Team photographs will be taken before the start of each match, in accordance with a schedule to be published daily. Team captains will be informed through the Daily Bulletin and with notices in the team's pigeonhole when their team's photos are to be taken. To avoid double work, all players and the npc must be present. The whole procedure will be short, not exceeding 10 minutes per team.

Your cooperation will be very much appreciated.

Panos Gerontopoulos
Honorary Secretary

TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS



Today morning is the turn of the following teams to have their photographs taken for the EBL database. Would the captains please ensure that **all players** of the team plus the **npc** are present at the LineUp desk as follows:

Women Teams

Ireland	9.50	Spain	10.00
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Open Teams

Croatia	10.10	Switzerland	17.00
Spain	10.20	Ireland	17.10
Ukraine	17.20	Greece	17.30

Senior Teams

Spain	13.35	Switzerland	13.55
Croatia	13.45	Germany	14.05
Ireland	17.00		

Marco Marin
EBL Photographer

Appeal No. 4

Switzerland v Greece

Appeals Committee:

Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England)*, Anton Maas (the Netherlands)
(*report scribed by)

Open Teams Round 11
Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

<p>♠ 5 ♥ J 10 9 2 ♦ A K 9 6 4 ♣ K 5 3</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="width: 100%; height: 100%; background-color: black; color: white; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> </div>	<p>♠ A K J 6 2 ♥ A K Q 8 5 ♦ - ♣ Q 9 6</p>	<p>♠ 10 7 3 ♥ 4 3 ♦ Q 10 8 5 ♣ J 7 4 2</p>
---	---	--	--

West	North	East	South
<i>Sapounakis</i>	<i>Abouchanab</i>	<i>Hatzidakis</i>	<i>Sasselli</i>
1♦	2♦ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3♠ ⁽²⁾
Pass	4♦ ⁽³⁾	Dble	Pass ⁽⁴⁾
Pass	Redble ⁽⁵⁾	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Comments:

- ⁽¹⁾ Majors weak or strong
- ⁽²⁾ Game invite if strong
- ⁽³⁾ Cue
- ⁽⁴⁾ No control ♦ - not alerted (any side)
- ⁽⁵⁾ 1st round control

Contract:

Six Spades, played by South.

Result:

12 tricks, N/S +980.

The Facts:

West called the Director after the play saying that South had hesitated before bidding 4♣. South agreed the hesitation.

On the other side of the screen it was agreed that the tray had been slow in returning. North suggested this could have been because West was considering 5♦.

The Director:

Ruled that Pass was not a logical alternative for North.

Ruling:

Result Stands.

Relevant Laws:

Law 16A

East/West appealed.

Present:

All players and both Captains

The Players:

There was discussion as to when the Director had been called. Finally it seemed clear this was after the 6♣ bid. It was West who had called the Director. There was also discussion about the length of the hesitation by South over his 4♣ bid; this was estimated variously between 10 seconds and one minute, depending upon which player was asked. The Director's view was that it was somewhere in between the two extremes, but sufficiently long to be capable of conveying unauthorized information. West did not deny that some of the delay may have been caused by a question asked about the redouble.

East/West questioned whether it could certainly be known what was the meaning of South's pass of 4♦x, they felt it was not clear this denied values in diamonds. North suggested that the delay in returning the tray had not been very noticeable on the North/East side of the screen, and repeated also that South's pass showed he held nothing of value in the suit.

The Committee:

Drew attention to the fact that, with screens, it should not be a player on the side of the screen where a hesitation occurs who calls attention to it. What is important is whether a significant delay in returning the tray is noticed by the players on the other side of the screen. Further, the player who may have unauthorized information in this case is North and it is his bid of 5♥ that may be in question; so the desirable time to call the Director is when the 5♥ bid is made and it should be East, not West, who calls the Director.

The Committee considered that if South has diamond values, wasted opposite the cue, he will bid 4♣ rather than pass over 4♦x. The implication of this is that any additional values beyond the ♠Q are in clubs. In the North/South system North has not denied a second round club control if he has a first round control in diamonds, and if South is still slam interested he will pass the double allowing North to show if he has first round control or only second round control (and therefore no club control). It follows that North, because of the invitational jump to 3♣ and the pass over the double, has a clear case not to pass 4♣ and his 5♥ bid is entirely justified.

The Committee's decision:

Director's ruling upheld.

Deposit:

Returned.

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Double Bravo

"They are too good for Four Spades"

Round 9, Sweden - Slovenia

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ K Q 9 6 4 ♥ K Q 2 ♦ K 8 2 ♣ A 2	♠ A J 7 ♥ 10 8 7 5 3 ♦ 5 4 ♣ Q J 5 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 5px auto;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 8 5 3 ♥ A J 6 ♦ Q 10 7 6 ♣ K 8 4	♠ 10 2 ♥ 9 4 ♦ A J 9 3 ♣ 10 9 7 6 3
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Contract 2♣, opening lead ♦5

The Slovenian South, Matija Senk, realized immediately that the contract will be fulfilled because of the 3-3 break in clubs and so he played the ♦Q at trick three from dummy. Ace and a small club to the jack and another diamond to the nine and ten and a diamond ruff, one down and +50 for Slovenia meaning 5 IMPs. Comment from the Swedish player as pointed above.

After board 20 and the final calculation we have the same comment about the very good and sympathetic Swedish team. Nevertheless, the defence was very nice and thoughtful. Cooperation by North was also at an appropriate level and deserves to be mentioned. Bravo for Slovenia, Bravo for Sweden.

Sponsor's Corner

The Slovenian Bridge Team expresses gratitude to its sponsors: ITS, NIL, SIMP, Repro, Difra, Krka, Lesnina and Slovenica, whose donations help us to participate at these championships.

THANK YOU

Members of the International Bridge Press Association were invited by the President of the Federation, Gianarri-go Rona, to visit the Barilla factory have followed by lunch. The IBPA would like to express their appreciation for this interesting break and for the support that the Journalists have always received from the European Federation at all championships.

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