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Saturday, 22 June 2002

Italy's Hot Streak Continues

Italy increased their lead to 48 VP over **Norway** and **Bulgaria** who are tied for second place. Those two are ten ahead of **The Netherlands**, who are hotly pursued by **Spain**, **Israel**, **France** and **Poland**.

Bulletin 7

Germany had a tremendous day, amassing 72 VP to regain the lead in the Women's Championship. They are four points ahead of **England** and these two teams are well ahead of third placed **Denmark**. **France** continues to struggle, and they are already 33 VP away from fifth place. It will take a gargantuan effort for them to recover.

France sits on top of the Seniors. Their total of 122 VP means they enjoy a five point lead over **Denmark**, who in turn are three points ahead of **The Netherlands**.

Celebration

The celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the European Bridge Teams Championships, a very important milestone in our history, will be held at the "Teatro Nuovo", Viale Romagnos; today 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 gardens 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.

Today's VuGraph Matches

OPEN TEAMS - Round 15
Spain v France

10.30

OPEN TEAMS - Round 16 Russia v Netherland

14.15

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OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

	R	OUND 15		
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
	POLAND	UKRAINE	41 - 25	18 - 12
2	HUNGARY	SWEDEN	34 - 45	
3	FINLAND	GREECE	48 - 49	15 - 15
4	IRELAND	NETHERLANDS	11 - 32	11 - 19
5		BELGIUM	71 - 26	24 - 6
6	FRANCE	ICELAND	28 - 33	14 - 16
7	SWITZERLAND	AUSTRIA	38 - 61	10 - 20
8		ROMANIA	41 - 68	
9	PORTUGAL	SPAIN		7 - 23
10	LEBANON	WALES	17 - 58	
	CZECH REP	SCOTLAND	60 - 4	25 - 4
12	ITALY	MONACO	73 - 27	24 - 6
13	YUGOSLAVIA	ENGLAND	71 - 13	25 - 4
14	GERMANY	BULGARIA	40 - 64	
15	NORWAY	CYPRUS	59 - 40	
16	CROATIA	FAROE ISLANDS		
17	SAN MARINO	LIECHTENSTEIN		
18	RUSSIA		26 - 79	
19	LATVIA	TURKEY	47 - 45	15 - 15

	ROUND 16			
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
	ITALY	LATVIA	62 - 45	19 - 11
2	MONACO	CZECH REP	29 - 62	8 - 22
3	SCOTLAND	LEBANON	14 - 76	3 - 25
4	WALES	PORTUGAL	18 - 24	14 - 16
5	SPAIN	SLOVENIA	31 - 12	19 - 11
6	ROMANIA	SWITZERLAND	58 <i>-</i> 48	17 - 13
7	AUSTRIA	FRANCE	26 - 54	9 - 21
8	ICELAND	ISRAEL	21 - 63	6 - 24
9	BELGIUM	IRELAND	48 - 33	18 - 12
10	NETHERLANDS	FINLAND	65 - 40	20 - 10
11	GREECE	HUNGARY	16 - 57	7 - 23
12	SWEDEN	POLAND	47 - 36	17 - 13
13	UKRAINE	RUSSIA	32 - 45	12 - 18
14	DENMARK	SAN MARINO	41 - 34	16 - 14
15	LIECHTENSTEIN	CROATIA	55 - 61	14 - 16
16	FAROE ISLANDS	NORWAY	19 - 53	8 - 22
17	CYPRUS	GERMANY	19 - 79	3 - 25
18	BULGARIA	YUGOSLAVIA	103 - 25	25 - I
19	ENGLAND	TURKEY	46 - 59	12 - 18

	R	ROUND 17		
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
	POLAND	GREECE	57 - 19	23 - 7
2 3	HUNGARY	NETHERLANDS	20 - 64	6 - 24
	FINLAND	BELGIUM	28 - 54	10 - 20
4 5	IRELAND	ICELAND	52 - 37	18 - 12
	ISRAEL	AUSTRIA	48 - 28	19 - 11
6	FRANCE	ROMANIA	40 - 18	20 - 10
7	SWITZERLAND	SPAIN	22 - 67	6 - 24
8 9	SLOVENIA	WALES	18 - 73	4 - 25
	PORTUGAL	SCOTLAND	28 - 40	13 - 17
10	LEBANON	MONACO	23 - 51	9 - 21
11	CZECH REP	ITALY	22 - 85	3 - 25
12	TURKEY	BULGARIA	29 - 54	10 - 20
13	YUGOSLAVIA GERMANY	CYPRUS FAROE ISLANDS	69 - 78	13 - 17 24 - 6
15	NORWAY	LIECHTENSTEIN		9 - 21
16	CROATIA	DENMARK		11 - 19
17	SAN MARINO	UKRAINE	53 - 72	11 - 19
18	RUSSIA	SWEDEN	35 - 21	18 - 12
19	LATVIA	ENGLAND	1 -104	0 - 25

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

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

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



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pencils, Micro20, BridgeBaron12 and the Swedish 2004 Elk-mascot.

See you in the Scandinavian Pavillion.

OPEN TEAMS RANKING after 17 rounds

ı	ITALY	367.00
2	NORWAY	319.00
3	BULGARIA	319.00
4	NETHERLANDS	309.00
5	SPAIN	306.00
6	ISRAEL	305.00
7	FRANCE	300.00
8	POLAND	299.00
9	RUSSIA	286.00
10	TURKEY	281.00
П	ICELAND	280.00
12	SWEDEN	276.00
13	AUSTRIA	274.00
14	CZECH REP.	268.00
15	HUNGARY	268.00
16	GERMANY	266.00
17	ENGLAND	265.00
18	WALES	265.00
19	ROMANIA	263.00
20	FINLAND	258.00
21	LEBANON	253.00
22	DENMARK	249.00
23	IRELAND	245.00
24	UKRAINE	238.00
25	CROATIA	235.00
26	GREECE	235.00
27	SCOTLAND	233.00
28	MONACO	225.00
29	SLOVENIA	222.00
30	SWITZERLAND	219.00
31	PORTUGAL	212.00
32	SAN MARINO	208.00
33	YUGOSLAVIA	207.00
34	FAROE ISLANDS	191.00
35	BELGIUM	179.00
36	LIECHTENSTEIN	175.00
37	CYPRUS	161.00
38	LATVIA	134.00

Une enchère en laiton

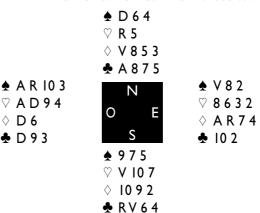
e sont les Monégasques qui ont découvert l'enchère la plus terroriste de ces championnats

Donne 8. Donneur Ouest Personne Vul. ♦ V 10 9 7 ♥ V852 ♦ 2 ♣ 7432 **★** 42 ♠ RD863 ♥ R D 7 4 ♡ A 9 ♦ R 10 8 5 ♦ A D 4 3 A DV **♣** 8 5 **♠** A 5 ∇ 10 6 3 ♦ V976 ♣ R 10 9 6

Après l'ouverture d'ISA en Est, le Letton en Nord produisit l'enchère de 2♦ bicolore majeure/mineure. 3♥ - Texas ♠ - en Est et 3SA en Sud pour défendre en mineure. La boucherie s'acheva par 4♣ contrés et 1700 pour les gentils.

Après avoir pris une volée contre la Roumanie, le Liban décidait de se venger contre l'Espagne. Arrive alors une donne pour l'instant insipide. Après une banale séquence d'enchères (ISA-2♣-2▽-3▽-4▽) le Libanais Tchamitch surnommé Hagar l'Horrible, assis en Nord, regarda sa main avant d'entamer (cela ne peut qu'améliorer les choses). Sa religion lui interdisant d'entamer sous un Valet 4ème le jeudi, il choisit l'entame du 7 de ♣ sous l'As.

Donne 13. Donneur Nord . Tous vul.



Contrat : 4♥ (Ouest) Entame : 7 de ♣

En Sud, Najib Baroudi, alias le Kharfan, prit du Roi et retourna ♣ pour l'As de Buratti (de la nouvelle paire espagnole Buratti - Lanzarotti). Ce dernier tira ◊ pour l'As puis ◊ pour la Dame. Il devina bien les ♡ (As de ♡ et petit ♡ à blanc pour le Roi). Hagar revient du Valet de ◊ pour le Roi du mort. Buratti suppose fortement l'As de ♣ en Sud. Il avance le 10 de ♣. Sud fournit petit et le déclarant, lançant un regard confiant à Najib (toi, tu es capable d'avoir duqué) refuse l'impasse au Valet et passe la Dame à la volée. Une de chute !

WOMEN TEAMS RESULTS

		ROUND 5		
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21 22 23 24 25 26 27	DENMARK SWEDEN CROATIA GERMANY SCOTLAND ICELAND FRANCE	NORWAY ISRAEL SAN MARINO TURKEY FAROE ISLANDS SPAIN IRELAND	19 - 21 40 - 29 90 - 17 73 - 11 86 - 13 30 - 38 61 - 28	15 - 15 17 - 13 25 - 1 25 - 3 25 - 1 14 - 16 22 - 8
28 29 30 31 32	ENGLAND CZECH REP. ITALY POLAND	HUNGARY RUSSIA AUSTRIA NETHERLANDS Bye	93 - 20 25 - 76 68 - 17 19 - 74 0 - 0	25 - I 5 - 25 25 - 5 4 - 25 18 - 0

	ROUND 6			
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	ISRAEL	DENMARK	23 - 79	4 - 25
22	SAN MARINO	SWEDEN	14 - 65	5 - 25
23	TURKEY	CROATIA	52 - 28	20 - 10
24	FAROE ISLANDS	GERMANY	6 -118	0 - 25
25	SPAIN	SCOTLAND	28 - 58	9 - 21
26	IRELAND	ICELAND	48 - 18	21 - 9
27	HUNGARY	FRANCE	55 - 14	23 - 7
28	RUSSIA	ENGLAND	43 - 48	14 - 16
29	AUSTRIA	CZECH REP.	42 - 23	19 - 11
30	Bye	ITALY	0 - 0	0 - 18
31	NETHERLANDS	NORWAY	54 - 37	19 - 11
32	FINLAND	POLAND	72 - 27	24 - 6

	ROUND 7			
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	DENMARK SWEDEN CROATIA GERMANY SCOTLAND ICELAND FRANCE ENGLAND CZECH REP. ISRAEL NORWAY POLAND	SAN MARINO TURKEY FAROE ISLANDS SPAIN IRELAND HUNGARY RUSSIA AUSTRIA ITALY NETHERLANDS FINLAND Bye	71 - 28 52 - 41 590 - 25 61 - 26 61 - 26 41 - 33 16 - 44 82 - 17 18 - 55 44 - 54 43 - 43 0 - 0	24 - 6 17 - 13 25 - 3 22 - 8 22 - 8 16 - 14 9 - 21 25 - 3 7 - 23 13 - 17 15 - 15 18 - 0

WOMEN TEAMS RANKING after 7 rounds

	arter / rounus	
ı	GERMANY	154.00
2	ENGLAND	150.00
3	DENMARK	137.00
4	SWEDEN	130.00
5	NETHERLANDS	128.00
6	RUSSIA	126.00
7	ITALY	124.00
8	SCOTLAND	122.00
9	CROATIA	117.00
10	FINLAND	108.00
11	ICELAND	103.00
12	CZECH REP	97.00
13	NORWAY	96.00
14	HUNGARY	96.00
15	FRANCE	95.00
16	TURKEY	94.00
17	SPAIN	93.00
18	AUSTRIA	90.00
19	ISRAEL	79.00
20	IRELAND	78.00
21	POLAND	78.00
22	FAROE ISLANDS	59.00
23	SAN MARINO	53.00

WOMEN TEAMS PROGRAM

	ROUN	ND 8 10.30
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	TURKEY	DENMARK
22	FAROE ISLANDS	SWEDEN
23	SPAIN	CROATIA
24	IRELAND	GERMANY
25	HUNGARY	SCOTLAND
26	RUSSIA	ICELAND
27	AUSTRIA	FRANCE
28	ITALY	ENGLAND
29	Bye	CZECH REP.
30	NETHERLANDS	SAN MARINO
31	FINLAND	ISRAEL
32	POLAND	NORWAY

	ROL	JND 9 14.15
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
21	DENMARK	FAROE ISLANDS
22	SWEDEN	SPAIN
23	CROATIA	IRELAND
24	GERMANY	HUNGARY
25	SCOTLAND	RUSSIA
26	ICELAND	AUSTRIA
27	FRANCE	ITALY
28	ENGLAND	CZECH REP.
29	TURKEY	NETHERLANDS
30	SAN MARINO	FINLAND
31	ISRAEL	POLAND
32	NORWAY	Вуе

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS

		ROUND 5		
	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	SCOTLAND	IRELAND	45 - 30	18 - 12
42	DENMARK	NETHERLANDS	24 - 65	7 - 23
43	FRANCE	AUSTRIA	46 - 26	19 - 11
44	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL	50 - 14	22 - 8
45	ENGLAND	POLAND	28 - 55	9 - 21
46	SPAIN	SWITZERLAND	36 - 30	16 - 14
47	TURKEY	GERMANY	43 - 40	16 - 14
48	WALES	ITALY	43 - 56	12 - 18
49	CROATIA	Bye	0 - 0	18 - 0
50	CZECH REP.	IŚRAEL	47 - 40	16 - 14

ROUND 6			
Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41 NETHERLANDS 42 AUSTRIA 43 PORTUGAL 44 POLAND 45 SWITZERLAND 46 GERMANY 47 ITALY 48 ISRAEL 49 Bye	SCOTLAND DENMARK FRANCE SWEDEN ENGLAND SPAIN TURKEY WALES IRELAND	56 - 38 24 - 69 43 - 64 65 - 16 40 - 54 45 - 11 45 - 42 47 - 30 0 - 0	19 - 11 6 - 24 11 - 19 25 - 5 12 - 18 22 - 8 16 - 14 19 - 11 0 - 18
50 CZECH REP.	CROATIA	21 - 72	5 - 25

SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM

	ROU	ND 7 14.15
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
41	SCOTLAND	AUSTRIA
42	DENMARK	PORTUGAL
43	FRANCE	POLAND
44	SWEDEN	SWITZERLAND
45	ENGLAND	GERMANY
46	SPAIN	ITALY
47	TURKEY	WALES
48	NETHERLANDS	Bye
49	IRELAND	ĆZECH REP.
50	CROATIA	ISRAEL

	ROUND 8 17.		
Table	Home Team	Visiting Team	
41	PORTUGAL	SCOTLAND	
42	POLAND	DENMARK	
43	SWITZERLAND	FRANCE	
44	GERMANY	SWEDEN	
45	ITALY	ENGLAND	
46	WALES	SPAIN	
47	ISRAEL	TURKEY	
48	Bye	AUSTRIA	
49	ĆZECH REP.	NETHERLANDS	
50	CROATIA	IRELAND	

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SENIOR TEAMS RANKING after 6 rounds

- 1	FRANCE	122.00
2	DENMARK	117.00
3	NETHERLANDS	114.00
4	ISRAEL	112.00
5	POLAND	111.00
6	TURKEY	101.00
7	ITALY	99.00
8	CROATIA	97.00
9	GERMANY	92.00
10	WALES	88.00
11	ENGLAND	86.00
12	AUSTRIA	81.00
13	SCOTLAND	81.00
14	CZECH REP	80.00
15	SWEDEN	74.00
16	PORTUGAL	73.00
17	IRELAND	65.00
18	SPAIN	64.00
19	SWITZERLAND	62.00

Championship Diary

The arrival of Stefan Back is good news, as he will be buying the first round of drinks following Germany's defeat of the USA.

After their defeat in the World cup England have followed the splendid example of Italy by banning the sale and importing of Brazil nuts.

A group went to see a performance of Hamlet last night, which reminded us of a little poem: Said Hamlet to Ophelia 'I'll draw a sketch of thee'. 'What kind of pencil will you use?' 'To be or not to be'.

WOMEN TEAMS

Round 3

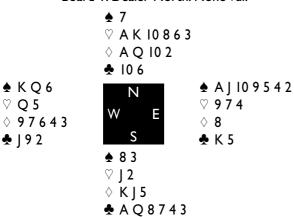
Croatia v Norway

Everyone knows the great Champions playing in the Women's series. They will take centre stage in due course, but to begin with let's take a look at two of the less well know sides.

aving handed over the microphone to EOK it was time to resume operations on the writing front. Conditions in the playing rooms are, well shall we say, hot (I was going to write sultry, but it was suggested no one would understand what it meant) so I sat as close as possible to one of the water coolers. The first thing I noticed was the very classy convention cards that were in use - maybe we should have contests for the best cards and the best-dressed teams.

The second thing was that North was a player I recognised from previous Championships, Nikica Sver, who has previously represented her country in the Open series. Her father is here representing Croatia in the Seniors. Her mother plays as well, but surprisingly she was not taught to play by her parents. The action started on the very first deal:

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Room

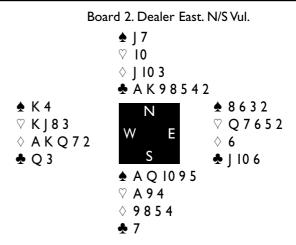
West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
	I♡	I♠	2♣
2♠	3◊	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

East's overcall was very conservative, but it still led to the excellent save. As you can see on this layout declarer will make twelve tricks in hearts, but it was hardly obvious for either North or South to bid on. Declarer was able to ruff a heart in dummy for two down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
	I♡	3♠	4♣
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

The more aggressive course of action chosen by East led to a similar outcome, so it was 0-0 after one deal.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
		Pass	I♠
Dble	2♣	2♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

East's decision to make a free bid saw her side get too high and it was easy enough for the defenders to take their four tricks, +50.

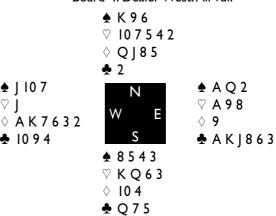
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
		Pass	2◊*
Dble	2♡	All Pass	

Two Diamonds was a multi and when West doubled North bid Two Hearts, presumably asking partner to bid her major (one method is to pass to show diamonds, and redouble to ask partner to bid) but their was a major misunderstanding and North was left to stew.

A trick disappeared in the play and declarer finished five down, -500 and the first big swing to Croatia, ahead II-0.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South led the right suit, hearts, but alas she selected the three and declarer must have been elated to win the trick with dummy's jack. She gave up a trick to the queen of clubs and in desperation South switched to a spade. Twelve tricks, +690.

However, the other table came to the rescue:

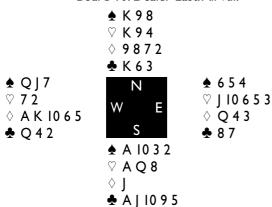
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
Pass	Pass	♣*	Pass
 ◆ *	Pass	2♣	Pass
2◊	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♡*	Pass
5◊*	Pass	6♣	All Pass

One Club was strong and the response promised three controls. East had lose a trump trick, but the spade finesse was right, so she was +1370 and Croatia had collected another 12 IMPs.

(As an aside, P.O.Sundelin told me he had foolishly bid to Seven Clubs. Particularly as the contract in the other room was Three Diamonds!)

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.



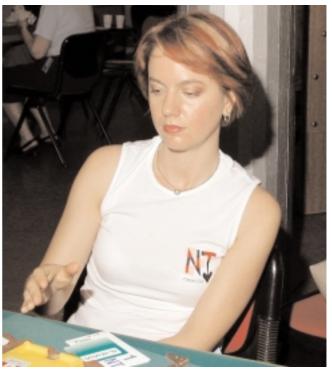
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
		Pass	◊*
Pass	INT	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

If East leads a heart, declarer might well make 3NT, placing the club length with West. However, Remen saved her side with her lead directing double. The defence started with five diamond tricks. West elected to exit with the queen of spades and declarer won in dummy, cashed three hearts and the ace of clubs and then ran the ten of spades for one down, -200.

Closed Room

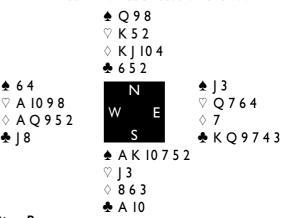
West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
		Pass	♣
1♦	INT	Pass	2NT
All Pass			



Nikica Sver, Croatia

West's overcall left North awkwardly placed. Pretending to have a diamond stopper was the alternative to double, and when South raised North did well to pass, as the defenders again took the first five diamond tricks. Declarer discarded a heart from her hand and two spades and two clubs from dummy. West exited with a heart, but declarer took three rounds of the suit, squeezing West in the black suits, +120 and a useful pick up for Norway.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
			Ì♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♡	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♡	Dble	All Pass	

Meckwell's law says that South should close her eyes and bid Four Spades when her six card suit is raised. It's a poor contract

to be sure, and it can be beaten if the defenders find their diamond ruffs but they won't.

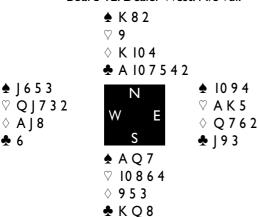
East adopted a subtle approach, anticipating that the opponents would go on to Three Spades and got both her suits in. However, Four Hearts was too high and with such good defensive cards North doubled. Declarer had to lose four tricks, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
			I♠
Dble	2♣*	2♡	2♠
3♡	3♠	4♡	4♠
All Pass			

West's aggressive double meant everyone was quickly into the auction. West led the ace of hearts and a second heart, so declarer won, drew trumps and took the diamond finesse. Ten tricks and +450 for 8 Norwegian IMPS.





Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
All Pass			

I was considering writing a couple of pages about this auction but fortunately Tacchi suggested going for a drink.

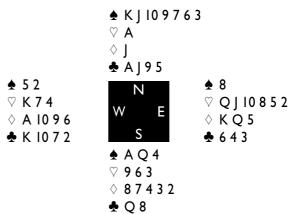
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
Pass	Pass	INT	Pass
2◊*	Pass	2♡	Pass
Pass	3♣	3♡	3NT
Dhle	All Pass		

East opening bid promised 11-13, so it was not much of a stretch. North did well to protect, but then things got out of hand, South's final bid having little merit.

The defenders stated with five rounds of hearts and declarer had to make four discards from dummy. She parted with two spades and two clubs and West could delay taking the ace of diamonds that meant two down and +500 for another big swing to Croatia.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
	I♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	4◊*	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

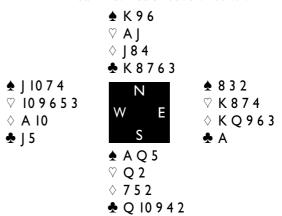
East led a heart and declarer won, crossed to a spade and played the queen of clubs. West covered with the king and declarer was able to take the ace and jack and ruff her club losers for a not too shabby +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
	I♠	2♡	2♠
3♡	4♠	All Pass	

This time declarer did not bother with the club finesse, so +650 and more points for Croatia. However, Norway were picking up points here and there and they did rather better than that on our next deal:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
			Pass
Pass	I ◊*	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

South's choice of bid led to the club fit being missed.



Marina Pilipovic, Croatia

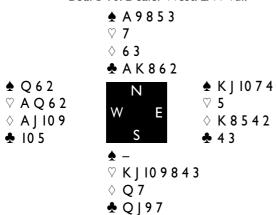
West led the ten of hearts and declarer tried the jack. East took the king and switched to the king of diamonds. West overtook and played the ten of diamonds. When that held she knocked out the ace of hearts. Declarer tired to sneak a club trick, so she was held to three tricks, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
			Pass
Pass	I♣	I♦	2◊*
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

East led the king of diamonds and West overtook and returned the ten. North did not cover, but East overtook and played a third diamond. West strangely discarded a heart, so eight tricks had turned into nine, +110 and 12 IMPs for Norway.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
1♦	I♠	All Pass	

I confess I would not be able to bring myself to pass with the South hand East led the two of diamonds and the defenders took

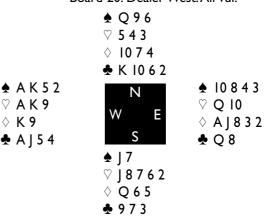
two tricks in that suit and played a third round, forcing declarer to ruff. She tried a heart to the jack but West won and forced declarer again. She ruffed, crossed to a club and tried to ruff a heart. East overuffed and declarer finished two down, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
1♦	I♠	Pass	2♡
Pass	2♠	Dble	3♡
Dble	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

As you can see, Three Hearts is unbeatable and West was perhaps unwise to double. However, North decided to run and struck gold. When West, doubtless thinking her opponents were now overboard, double again, she presented Norway with +510 and another 12 IMPs.

Board 20. Dealer West, All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Remen	Sver	Thoresen	Pilipovic
2♣*	Pass	2◊*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3◊*	Pass	3♡*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5◊*	Pass
5♡*	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Something went wrong here as the puppet Stayman auction had located the spade fit and Six Spades is perhaps a better slam that 6NT. North knew that East had the ace of diamonds and hoping to give nothing away she selected the seven of diamonds. That was enough to give the contract as now declarer had five diamond tricks and could afford to lose a club. +1440.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Jurisic	Breivik	Brkljacic	Harding
♣*	Pass	Ϊ́	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Declarer took twelve tricks for +680 but the 13 IMP swing here saw Norway turn the match around right at the end to win a high scoring encounter 61-52 IMPs or 17-13 VP.

GLI INCONTRI DEGLI AZZURRI BOARD PER BOARD

15° INCONTRO OPEN: ITALIA - MONACO

Aperta: NORD Bocchi / SUD Duboin ITA EST Catellani / OVEST Fissore MON

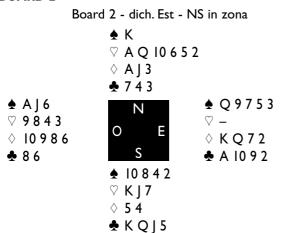
Chiusa: NORD Allavena / SUD Guglielmi MON EST Lauria / OVEST Versace ITA



BOARD I

I monegaschi in NS in chiusa cominciano con una bomba, dichiarando 6 cuori in una mano con 25 punti in linea e senza particolari pregi distribuzionali; lo slam si mantiene grazie al favorevole piazzamento di quattro carte chiave ed alla divisione 3-3 di un colore. In aperta i nostri giocano ovviamente manche. II I.M.P. per loro.

BOARD 2



Ci riprendiamo subito il maltolto. Nelle due sale il contratto è 4 cuori da Nord con attacco picche su cui Ovest prende d'Asso.

In aperta la difesa prosegue quadri cu cui Norberto rileva d'Asso per rigiocare nel colore; solo ora i monegaschi rigiocano picche, ma Bocchi, che adesso ha un tempo di vantaggio, può tranquillamente tagliare in mano la picche, al morto la quadri, battere gli atout e cedere l'Asso di fiori, mantenendo il contratto.

In chiusa Alfredo, in presa con l'Asso di picche, prosegue di piccola nel colore, mettendo pressione al dichiarante, che a carte viste potrebbe portare a casa il contratto giocando fiori e poi cuori oppure subito cuori, incassando una barca di atout e facendo scoppiare le carte in mano ad Est. In realtà il Nord monegasco finisce in fuorigioco e va I down. 12 I.M.P. Italia.

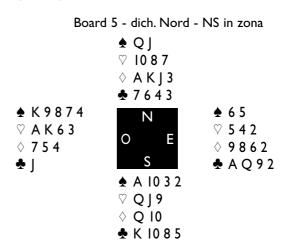
BOARD 3

Mentre Bocchi in aperta fa 2 cuori nonostante la divisione 4-0 dei resti in atout, Versace non fatica a realizzare 4 quadri +1 sull'altra linea in aperta.
6 I.M.P. per noi. 18-11.

BOARD 4

Pari a 4 cuori +1 facili in Est nelle due sale.

BOARD 5



Mentre il sistema di intervento di Lauria-Versace mette pressione ai monegaschi che si fermano al parziale a fiori, che cade di 3 prese a causa della divisione 4-1 degli atout e ad una fallosa linea di gioco del dichiarante, in aperta Bocchl - Duboin raggiungono la manche a senza.

Giorgio riceve l'attacco Asso, Re di cuori e cuori; prende e muove picche verso Dama e Fante; Ovest non è lesto ad entrare per chiudere il board a favore della difesa, Duboin prende



di Dama al morto e gioca fiori verso il Re, che fa presa (cade il Fante di Ovest). Ora 4 giri di quadri e fiori dal morto verso il 10 della mano. Est può entrare, incassare l'altra sua fiori, ma poi deve concedere il 10 al dichiarante. 14 I.M.P. per noi. 32-11.

BOARD 6

I I.M.P. per loro per una surlevée in più a 3 senza. 32-12.

BOARD 7

EO hanno 30 punti in linea con cuori 5-2 chiuse e quadri 5-3 chiuse, ma mancano Asso e Re di fiori e slam non si fa; Fissore-Catellani, in aperta, si fermano a 5 cuori, ma cadono di 2 pagando quadri taglio immediato (i resti a quadri sono 5-0 e quelli a cuori 4-1), fiori per l'Asso, ancora quadri taglio e Re di fiori; in chiusa Bocchi-Duboin scelgono la manche nel minore rosso, im-



perdibile nonostante i resti 5-0. Anche qui siamo in zona. Altri 13 I.M.P. Italia. 45-12.

BOARD 8

I I.M.P. per loro ancora per una surlevée. 45-13.

BOARD 9

Giorgino porta a casa 4 picche giostrando bene il colore critico (cuori), mentre Monaco non va oltre 3 picche +1.7 per noi. 52-13.

BOARD 10

2 I.M.P. Italia per due surlevée in più per noi a manche.

BOARD II

4 picche +1 in EO nelle due sale. Parità.

BOARD 12

Incassiamo I perché Norberto fa una presa in più del suo omologo a 3 senza. 55-13

BOARD 13

Monaco gioca 3 picche - I in aperta, e 4 fiori in chiusa, che realizza grazie ad una linea di eliminazione e messa in presa. I I.M.P. Monaco. 55-14.

BOARD 14

Board 14 - dich. Est - tutti in prima **◆** 5 4 2 ♡ 754 ♦ 10432 ♣ K 9 7 **★** K 8 7 6 3 **AKQI0** ♡ 196 0 ♦ KQJ986 ♦ A ♣ | 10 4 2 ♠ Q J I0 ♡ 832 ♦ 75 ♣ A Q 8 6 3

Lorenzo in chiusa ben valuta la propria mano e la linea raggiunge l'ottimo 6 quadri (finendo con il realizzare 13 prese), mancato invece dagli omologhi monegaschi, che scelgono invece la manche a picche nella 5-2 mantenendo il contratto senza surlevée.

Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
Versace		Lauria	
		I ♦	Passo
I♠	Passo	2♡	Passo
2NT	Passo	3♡	Passo
3NT	Passo	4 ♦	Passo
4♠	Passo	4NT	Passo
5◊	Passo	6◊	Fine

2 cuori è mano forte in monocolore, bicolore o in fit a picche; 2 senza è relais che promette 8+ punti; 3 cuori dà la bicolore 6 quadri / 4 cuori; 4 quadri riapertura, 4 picche cue-bid, 4 senza blackwood, 5 quadri: I Asso.

11 I.M.P. Italia. 66-14.

BOARD 15

Monaco fa 3 cuori in aperta e 4 cuori in chiusa. I3 I.M.P. per i nostri avversari. 66-27.

BOARD 16

Pari a 3 senza +2 contro 4 cuori+1.

BOARD 17

Pari a 3 senza in Nord.

BOARD 18

Pari a 3 senza in Est.

BOARD 19

I I.M.P. per noi per una surlevée a 3 senza. 67-27.

BOARD 20

2 prese di differenza tra Alfredo Versace, che fa 2 cuori +1, ed il suo omologo monegasco che, nello stesso contratto, finisce 1 down. 6 I.M.P. Italia. 73-27.

FINALE

Italia - Monaco 24 - 6 (73 - 27). Il consistente vantaggio in classifica dopo 14 turni - 30 punti sulla Norvegia - non riduce la concentrazione degli azzurri che affrontano Monaco con grande attenzione. I nostri avversari iniziano attaccando all'arma bianca. Il siluro immeritatamente andato a segno a favore dei nostri avversari al board I consente loro di impedire all'Italia di chiudere il match a punteggio pieno, nonostante il solito filotto di swing favorevoli derivati da brillanti scelte dichiarative e di gioco dei nostri ragazzi.

A metà gara il punteggio è di 23-7 per l'Italia. La fisionomia del match non cambia nella seconda parte, con gli azzurri ancora più volte in evidenza: al termine ancora un 24-6 che ci consente di incrementare il vantaggio sugli inseguitori. Ora abbiamo la Norvegia a -35 e la Bulgaria a -49.

"Mi hanno fatto lo slam più ridicolo dei miei quarant'anni di bridge - dice Lorenzo Lauria -, uno slam all'un per mille, anzi all'un per diecimila di probabilità...". Ovviamente Lorenzo si riferisce al 6 cuori della prima mano.



When the Faroe Islands caused a sensation

by Svend Novrup

The Faroe Islands is situated in the North Atlantic and has a population of around 45,000 inhabitants. Its has its own parliament but being in a union with Denmark it was not until 1980 that the bridge federation of the Faroes which was founded in the sixties was allowed to participate in the Nordic Championships. This was a tough task as the three Scandinavian countries and Iceland are of big general strength, and ahead of these championships the Faroes had defeated Denmark five times and Finland once as their only victories.

Eight months ago it was decided to try and make the European Championships. The costs were huge and seemingly completely out of reach but splendid support from Giannarrigo Rona and the Italian Bridge Federation (sponsoring expenses in Salsomaggiore) cut down the amount so much that with support of Landsstyret (the Faroe "government") and several sponsors in addition to hard work from the players, raising about 20,000 euros themselves, in the end made it possible for two teams to enter.

The determined work started in November with the decision to ban any drinking of alcohol during the training as well as the weeks of the championships and a decision to work on the physical and mental side as well as the bridge. Friends in Denmark set up a four country event over Easter in Graasten, Denmark, in which both Faroe teams met with Denmark, Sweden, and Germany. An invitation to the Bonn Nations Cup followed, and here the team defeated Sweden 21-9 and Czech Republic 25-5 as the best of several good results which boosted their confidence. These experiences were of great value, and it was two very motivated teams which arrived in Salsomaggiore ready to show great determination but also wanting to show that they can go through the full event with three functioning pairs in both series and be just as fresh at the finish as in the beginning.

It was a tough start, 0-25 against Italy but they did not expect much there, and now they sort of got the feel of the championship. After 9-21 against Czech Republic and 11-19 against Lebanon they even started to win: 20-10 against Portugal and 19-11 against Slovenia. Already at this point the results made headlines at home. Following nice results like 10-20 against France and Israel they were ready to deliver a real blow: 18-12 against Russia.

In the meantime the women had started. The Faroe ladies team had lost 47 out of 48 matches ahead of Salsomaggiore but now got off to a 15-15 against Czech Republic followed by a sensational win against the Venice Cup silver team from France - in the same round as the open victory against Russia. Can you imagine what it means to a tiny nation to defeat Russia and France at the same time in the same sport? The players are now media stars, and others may just as well take note of them:

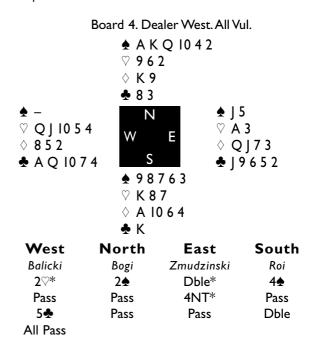
Open: Bogi Simonsen - Roi Joensen, Hedin Mouritzen - Joannes Mouritzen, Arnbjoern Sivertsen - Hans-Jacob Petersen. Npc: Finn Ougaard.

Ladies: Marjun Restorff - Arnleyg Mikkelsen, Laila Danielsen - Maria Christiansen, Majken Johansen - Jona Grunnveit. Npc: Mortan Rasmussen

I am the coach of both teams and have been guiding their training since the start in November.

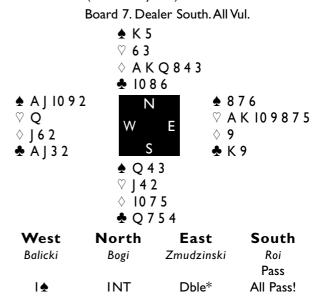
We have established a lot of Faroe records. Whenever Marjun (usually only first names are used in the Faroes) or Joannes play, they establish a new record of caps. Joannes started with 53 caps and will get to 75 before the finish. Marjun had 43 and celebrates her 50th cap Saturday, just to mention some of them.

A couple of hands. Against Poland Bogi - Roi had a dream of playing Balicki - Zmudzinski fulfilled, and they did so with no respect. They played a lot of very steady bridge, and already board four was very nice.



The double of 2Φ showed minors and 4NT carried the same message. North - South not only did their best by doubling but extracted the maximum penalty. Φ A was ruffed by West who ran the \heartsuit Q to \heartsuit K. Roi now brilliantly worked out that his partner held Kx in diamonds and switched to a low diamond. \diamondsuit K, \diamondsuit A, and a diamond ruff meant down two and 500 for the Faroes who never the less lost on the board when East-West did not sacrifice against 4Φ at the other table.

The most amusing hand, however, was when Bogi tried a deceptive "comic NT" (not in the system)!



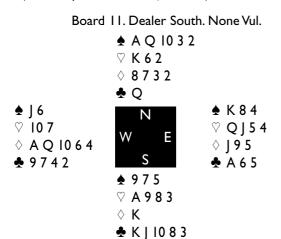
The double showed a hand with one long suit. Now, opening with the fourth best of the longest suit could have netted East-West 1400 but when East cashed a top heart they could get no more than six tricks. Roi made certain that Bogi recognized how well it was that he had a heart stopper. +180 to the Faroes. In the other room E-W bid and made 4♠ for another 620 to the Faroes. 13 IMPs to the islanders.

England - Germany 3:4

by Stefan Back

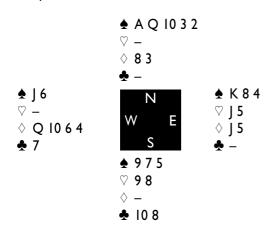
A Ithough England scored a convincing 21:9-victory over Germany in round 14, the Germans had their moments as well. On board 11 Tomasz Gotard and Josef Piekarek, winners of the Schiphol Teams 2002, found a defence that - at the time - could have been a prediction of the score of the soccer world cup final between these two countries.

(We think you mean 4-3 Stefan! Editor)

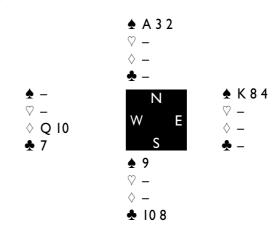


West	North	East	South
Piekarek	P. Hackett	Gotard	Waterlow
			♣
I♦	I♠	Dble	Rdble
2♦	2♠	3♦	Pass
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

After Gotard had led $\lozenge 9$ to the king, ace and 7, Piekarek returned $\lozenge 10$ to declarers king. North continued with $\clubsuit Q$ to East's ace, who now played back $\image Q$ to the ace. After $\clubsuit KJ$, North discarding a heart and a diamond, declarer called for dummy's $\image 8$.



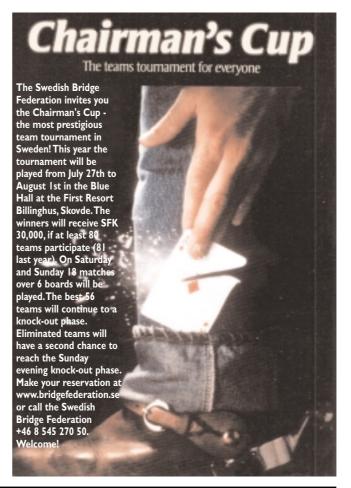
Piekarek ruffed high with \clubsuit J, declarer overruffed with the queen and East contributed \heartsuit J (!) to make sure West ruffed the next heart. North then ruffed \diamondsuit 3 and played his winning heart from dummy. Piekarek knew to insert \clubsuit 6, which declarer had to overruff with \clubsuit 10 to be able to trump his last diamond in dummy.



Declarer continued with $\clubsuit9$ to his $\spadesuit2$ and East's king. East's $\spadesuit8$ now forced out North's ace, which meant that the last trick "saw" the final score:

England: ♠ 3 Germany: ♠ 4

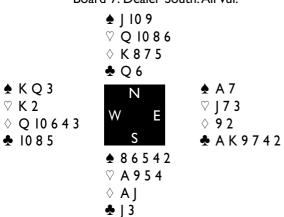
Down one and a perfect trump promotion, which led to a 6 IMP gain for the Germans, when in the other room North/South scored a part score in spades.



Nice Bids & Plays

On VuGraph on Thursday afternoon, in the France v. Netherlands match, a few interesting situations occurred, both in bidding and play.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Voldoire	Verhees	Bitran
			Pass
Pass	Pass	♣	Dble
INT	2♡	3♣	All Pass

With the friendly breaks in both clubs and the red suits, nine tricks at NT are very easy. Scoring +130 only thus looked a bad score for The Netherlands, but...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Toffier	Van Eijck	Duguet	Westra
			2♣
Pass	2♦	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		



Berry Westra, Netherlands

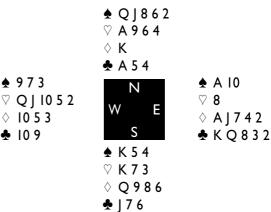


Jean-Michel Voldoire, France

Here, Westra could open 2♣ showing a weak hand with both majors. As a consequence, Van Eijck led a heart against 3NT, presenting declarer with what should have been his 9th trick. However, after winning the ♡K at trick two, Duguet led the ♣10 from dummy and Van Eijck covered with the queen. Later, declarer crossed in spades to finesse the clubs again...two down and 8 IMPs to the Netherlands where they should have lost 11.

Two boards later, Bitran found a very nice defensive play:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Voldoire	Verhees	Bitran
	I♠	2NT	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

Well judged by Bitran to let $3\Diamond$ in peace. He might have done even better by axing it, but that's really asking too much. The defence was worth retaining for posterity. Spade lead to the ace, heart to the jack and ace, $\Diamond K$ ducked and a spade to the king. Now trumps had to be continued, and the only correct card to play now is the $\Diamond Q$. After some thought, this card made her ap-

pearance on the table/the video screen. Very nice, as declarer could not ruff a club any more without completely losing control. Down three, vulnerable for a beautiful 300 to France.

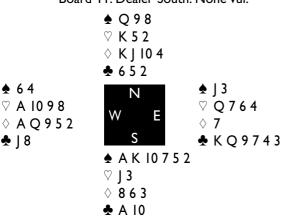
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Toffier	Van Eijck	Duguet	Westra
	I♠	2NT	Pass
3◊	Pass	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

Westra took the more straightforward view of bidding the full support value of his hand. The contract duly made, but France had recouped 4 IMPs.

On the final board of this short report, a difference in bidding approach led to another good result for the French.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Voldoire	Verhees	Bitran
			I♠
Dble	2♠	3♣	3♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

When West bid 30, Voldoire had every reason to believe that his hand had improved considerably. In a sense he was right, but we wonder what would have happened had Verhees doubled the final contract. Would that suggest a diamond lead for two ruffs and one down?

On a passive trump lead, ten tricks were quickly there for +420 to France.

Closed Room

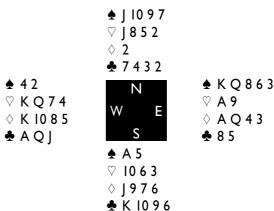
West	North	East	South
Toffier	Van Eijck	Duguet	Westra
	-		I♠
Dble	2♡	3♡	3♠
Pass	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

Here, 2^{\heartsuit} was a transfer to show a good raise to 2^{\spadesuit} , and Duguet preferred to show his heart support ahead of his clubs. With the fit established West had no reason to give any further information, so North had no idea about the value of his diamonds and left 4^{\heartsuit} alone. The contract went one down of course, but by losing only 50 here France had scored another 9 IMPs.

Match Winner

This deal from Round 14 gave a former Bulletin Editor a chance to write his own story.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Mraz	Ratcliff	Kurka	Jourdain
I♦	Pass	I♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣*	Dble
2◊*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	4◊	Pass
4♡	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♡	Pass	6◊	All Pass

Two Clubs redoubled would have been a pleasant spot for East /West but South survived his ambitious entry into the auction

North naturally led a club to the king and ace and declarer played the five of diamonds for the two, ace and nine. Declarer now played the three of diamonds from dummy and when South followed with the six he went into deep thought before eventually playing the king and conceding one down.

Tomas Mraz recalled that he had attended the junior camp in Fiesch some years ago when Patrick Jourdain was one of the lecturers. He turned to Patrick and said, 'You were giving me lessons then and you are still giving me lessons now!'

It gave Wales IIIMPs as the result at the other table was 3NT+3 - and they only won the match 58-41.

Poolside Gossip

"how good a player is X?"
"based on the Welsh Ladies she's a fringe player".

Patton de Monte - Carlo

8 - 9 - 10 Novemdre 2002

Montant des prix : 30.000 Euros Informations : www.federation-bridge.mc

Ou à Salso auprès de Jean-Marc Allavena (Monaco team)

OPEN TEAMS

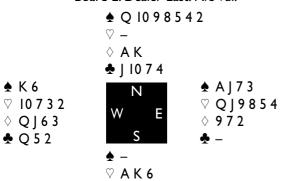
Round 14

Bulgaria v Norway

Thursday night Bulgaria v. Norway was the logical match to pick for VuGraph. For more then two decades Norway has been one of the reigning powers in world bridge whereas Bulgaria entered the top of the European bridge scene around the mid-nineties. No wonder that both countries are in serious contention for top places here in Salsomaggiore.

The match started with a dull push in 3NT but serious stuff already presented itself on the very next board when Terje Aa decided to open the East hand with an eight count.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



♦ 10854

♣ AK9863

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grotheim	Stamatov	Aa	Karaivanov
		I♡	2♣
2♡	4♡	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

Open Stamatov-Karaivanov soon found their big club fit, but after North's splinter South, looking at his diamonds, decided to sign off in 5. Bulgaria +620.



Glenn Grotheim, Norway

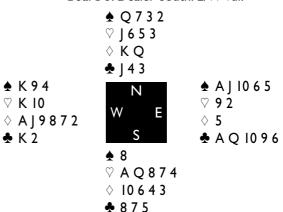
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mihov	Helness	Nanev	Helgemo
		Pass	♣
Pass	I♠	2♡	3♣
3♡	4♡	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

In the Closed Room Tor Helness had a slightly different view. He splintered like Jerry Stamatov did in the Open Room, but after the sign off, Helness still pressed to six. And right he was. First blood to Norway.

In several other matches even the grand was bid, which failed on the unfavourable trump position. But even with trumps 2-1, thirteen tricks are far from certain.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mihov	Helness	Nanev	Helgemo
			Pass
INT	Pass	2♡	Dble
Pass	3♡	4♣	Pass
4♡	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♡	Pass	5♠	All Pass

In the Closed Room Mihov-Nanev avoided the dubious slam and signed off in $5 \clubsuit$.

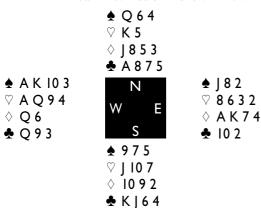
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grotheim	Stamatov	Aa	Karaivanov
			2♦
2NT	Pass	3♡	Dble
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♡	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♡	Pass	6♠	All Pass

One would expect the same from Grotheim-Aa with their sophisticated Viking Precision Club. However, due to the 2 \Diamond opening by South the system could not be used on this hand. Terje Aa, hearing two key cards only, must have known that slam would be

thin. Already in the bidding he seemed to know exactly what he was doing. In view of the weak two-suiter as opened by South, North was the favourite to be in possession of the queen of trumps, so Aa did bid the slam. Another 13 IMPs to Norway.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



The bidding was the same in both rooms:

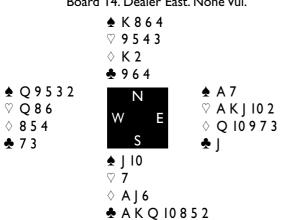
West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	Pass
I♣	Pass	I♦	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♡	Pass	4♡	All Pass

Double-dummy, $4\heartsuit$ can be made but the successful line is far from obvious. Yet, the contract was made several times, but not in the VuGraph match. Mihov, in the Closed Room, came a long way but just failed in the finale. He got a diamond lead won with dummy's $\lozenge K$ and led a club. Now Helgemo rose with the king (a fantastic play) and pushed the •9 through. Mihov had to win in hand, cashed the $\lozenge Q$ and simply continued $\heartsuit A$ and another, felling the king and thus solving the trump problem. Helness' only safe exit was another diamond, giving Mihov an extra entry to dummy. Now came the •10, and Helgemo played low. Had Mihov risen to the occasion like Helgemo did before, he would have played low now to show he realised what had happened, but at the table he went up with the queen. When Helness won the ace and returned the suit, Mihov was left with a spade loser and thus went one down after all.

At the other table, declarer was quickly two down when he won the diamond lead in dummy and played a heart to the queen and king. Still 3 IMPs for Bulgaria.

More action on 14:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mihov	Helness	Nanev	Helgemo
		I♡	3♡
Pass	4♣	4 ♦	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

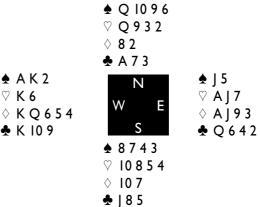
In the Closed Room, Geir Helgemo asked for a heart stopper by bidding 3° . Uncharacteristically the Norwegian stars took a rather conservative view and in the end were rewarded with a modest plus 100 only.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grotheim	Stamatov	Aa	Karaivanov
		ΙŸ	3♡
Dble	Pass	4◊	Pass
4♡	5♣	All Pass	

In the Open Room Jerry Stamatov and Kalin Karaivanov bid all the way to 5\(\Delta\) in which contract declarer, due to the opening bid by East, had no trouble in handling the spades correctly.





Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mihov	Helness	Nanev	Helgemo
I ♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3◊	Pass	3♡	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Mihov-Nanev bid 3NT and made twelve tricks. Bulgaria +690.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grotheim	Stamatov	Aa	Karaivanov
l ♣	Pass	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♡	Pass	3♡	Pass
3♠	Pass	4◊	Pass
6◊	All Pass		

The bidding needs some explanation. After the Strong Club INT showed 9-14 balanced and 20 showed the maximum (12-

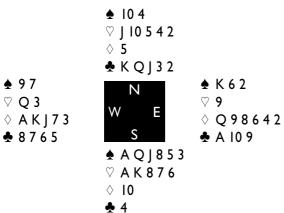
14). 3^{\heartsuit} then showed 2-3-4-4 and 4^{\diamondsuit} showed two aces of the same colour. Of course, 2^{\clubsuit} and 2^{\heartsuit} were just relays and 3^{\spadesuit} was asking for aces.

So Grotheim-Aa bid well to the reasonable slam, but twelve tricks were by no means sure. South found the best lead for the defence, a spade. Declarer won the ace, drew the trumps in two rounds, cashed his other spade, ruffed the third in his hand and played a club to the king. North won and returned the suit. Aa rose with the queen and finally relied on the heart finesse, which worked. 12 IMPs to Norway.

With all cards open one might note that North could do better. If he ducks the $\clubsuit A$, the losing option of the finesse of the $\clubsuit J$ instead of the heart finesse might become more attractive.

Strange things happened on the last board of the set:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Mihov	Helness	Nanev	Helgemo
Pass	Pass	Pass	I♠
Pass	INT	Pass	3♡
Pass	4♣	Pass	4 ♦
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

All completely normal, Norway +650. The abnormal things occurred in the Open Room:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grotheim	Stamatov	Aa	Karaivanov
Pass	2♡	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Dble	3♡	4◊	4NT
Pass	5◊	Pass	6♡
All Pass			

Apparently the Bulgarians erred with their version of RKC or at least North must have thought that clubs were to be the trump suit. So NS were heading for a quick down one. East lead a diamond to his partner's ace, who surprisingly continued the suit. Declarer ruffed in hand, pitching his stiff club from dummy, pulled the trumps, successfully finessed in spades and claimed twelve tricks for an unexpected swing to Bulgaria of 13 IMPs.

The final result of the match was 49-43 or 16-13 V.P. to Bulgaria when Norway were fined I V.P. for slow play, as the VuGraph audience had clearly been able to see.



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	5		
Austria	17.00	Denmark	17.30
Czech Rep.	17.15	England	17.45
Open Teams			
Austria	9.50	Poland	13.30
Czech Rep.	10.05	Portugal	13.45
Scotland	10.15	_	

Marco Marin

EBL Photographer

70th Anniversary Ceremony

On Saturday evening at 7.15 p.m. in the Teatro Nuovo the Champions who have won the European Teams Championships (according to the attached list) will be present to be awarded.

José Damiani, WBF President and EBL President Emeritus, Jaime Ortiz-Patiño, WBF President Emeritus and EBL Honorary Member, Ernesto D'Orsi, WBF Past President, Nils Jensen, EBL President Emeritus, Bill Pencharz, EBL Honorary President, Roberto Fabbricini, EOC Member, Adriano Grolli, Mayor of Salsomaggiore, Armand Trippaers, NBB President and Filippo Palma, FIGB President Vicarious will attend the Ceremony and award the plaques to the Champions.

All Members of the EBL Executive Committee and former Members Karl Rohan, Feijo Durkzs, Dirk Schroder, Géza Szappanos, Grattan Endicott and Sabine Auken will also be present.

Marc Hodler, IOC Vice-President, will join us here on Sunday 23rd.

ALL PLAYERS, JOURNALISTS, STAFF AND GUESTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY AND ARE INVITED AFTERWARDS TO THE PARTY "SERATA PARMIGIANA" IN THE GARDENS OF THE GRAND HOTEL ET DE MILAN.

All participants not in possession of the Championship badge are requested to register for it at the Hospitality Desk in the Palazzo dei Congressi.

SENIOR TEAMS		
STOBIECKI WLODZIMIERZ	1995-01	
NOWAK JANUSZ C.	1995	
ADAD PIERRE	1997-99	
AUJALEU MAURICE	1997-99	
DELMOULY CLAUDE	1997-99	
KLAPPER WIT	2001	
RUSSYAN JERZY	2001	
WALA WLODZIMIERZ	2001	
WILKOSZ ANDRZEJ	2001	

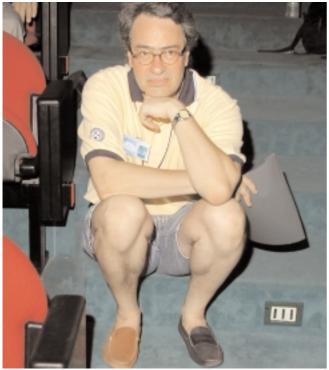
OPEN TEA	MS	WOMEN'S TEAMS			
PRIDAY RICHARD ANTHONY SWARC HENRI DE FALCO DANO FRANCO ARTURO VIVALDI ANTONIO LEENHARDT FRANCOIS MARI CHRISTIAN DI STEFANO FRANCO MOSCA CARLO GOTHE HANS G. LINDQVIST C. MAGNUS SUNDELIN PER OLOV MORATH ANDERS LAURIA LORENZO MARTENS KRYZSZTOF KLUKOWSKI JULIAN MOUIEL HERVE' ROHAN KARL BALICKI CEZARY ZMUDZINSKI ADAM ARMSTRONG JOHN LESNIEWSKI MARCIN VERSACE ALFREDO BURATTI ANDREA LANZAROTTI MASSIMO PATTACINI MAURIZIO SEMENTA ANTONIO BOCCHI NORBERTO DUBOIN GIORGIO FERRARO GUIDO ATTANASIO DARIO	1961 1966-70-74-83 1973-79-99-01 1973-75-79 1973 1974 1974 1975 1975 1977-87 1977-87 1977-87 1977-89 1981-89-93 1981-89 1983 1985 1989-93 1999-91 1993 1995-97-01 1995-97 1995-97 1995-1995 1997-99-01 1997-99-01 1999	BALDON SUZANNE BOURCHTOFF ANDREE PETERSEN VIBEKE VENTURINI MAVI CAPODANNO LUCIANA D'ANDREA MARISA SMITH NICOLA BRUNNER MICHELLE DENNISON MAUREEN CHEVALLEY GINETTE WILLARD SYLVIE BESSIS VERONIQUE D'OVIDIO CATHERINE PIGEAUD FABIENNE CRONIER BENEDICTE AUKEN SABINE SCHROEDER KAREEN VON ARNIM DANIELA BAMBERGER GABRIELE ERHART MARIA FISCHER DORIS RYMAN MARI MCGOWAN LIZ DHONDY HEATHER GOLDENFIELD RHONA	1953-54 1953-54 1953-57 1970-71-73 1974-77 1974-77 1975-79-81-97-99-01 1981 1983-85-87 1983-85-87-95 1983-85-87-95 1985 1987-95 1989 1989 1989 1991 1991 1991 1991 19		

OPEN TEAMS

Round 15

Hungary v Sweden

In Round 15 the VuGraph brought us Hungary v. Sweden. In the auditorium one could see Jan Kamras, the non-playing captain of the Swedes. And if one looked better one could see him wearing two different kinds of shoes. How come? Two players of his team accidentally lost one shoe each. This inspired the captain to wear the remaining shoes, which in fact looked more or less the same, except for the colours (blue and brown). Moreover, from the moment that Kamras has been wearing his pair of odd shoes, his team started winning all its matches. So he is not inclined to take them off for the rest of the championships.



Jan Kamras, npc, Sweden

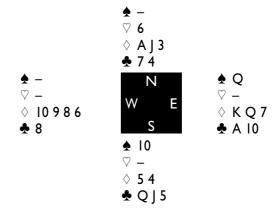
We start the report with a hand which surely will be published all over the world. In fact, Jean-Paul Meyer already bought the rights for Le Bridgeur from us.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

Four Hearts was the popular contract, but hardly anyone made it. The 4-1 trump split was too hot to handle, since the dan-

ger of getting shortened in trumps was always there. In fact, in the Closed Room the Hungarian declarer didn't come any further than nine tricks and therefore the save by Magnus Lindkvist in the Open Room in 44 doubled down two cost him money.

Back to the 'impossible' 4%. Impossible ? Perhaps not. With all cards open one might find the solution. Let's say East leads a spade to the ace of his partner who returns the suit. Declarer ruffs, cashes the % 10 and notices the unfavourable trump split. He plays a club to the king, and plays another three rounds of trumps. This is the position:



Remember, declarer lost one trick so far. He plays a second club and East has to duck again. Now the last spade is ruffed, declarer exits with the third club and East is caught in a standard Bath coup.

Is this a double dummy analysis with the help of the beautiful bridge programme DeepFinesse?

By all means, no. It was Dutch star Louk Verhees, who in his match against Ireland, displayed this great play!



Louk Verhees, Netherlands

Sweden was unlucky on this one:

In the Closed Room, PO played in 3NT.West led a spade, East cashed his two top spades and played another one for Sundelin's queen. Declarer cashed first all his high cards in the minor suits and nothing favourable happened to him. He now relied on the heart finesse, alas, down two. In the open room Kemény had a clue which Sundelin lacked: East had opened the bidding. So here declarer had every reason to finesse the &Q I I IMPs to Hungary. Board 14 was interesting in relation to slam bidding.

When you are playing a natural system it seems to be very difficult, perhaps impossible, to reach $6\lozenge$. Though it is very understandable that the Hungarians bid $6\heartsuit$ it is not the right contract. On a club lead and the trumps 4-2 or worse, you go down.

Playing a strong club system makes life sometimes easier. Jovi Smederevac and Sascha Wernle playing for Austria against Switzerland for example had a characteristic Blue Club sequence:

West	East
Wernle	Smederevac
	I♣ (strong)
I ♠ (3 controls)	2♦
2♠	3♦
3NT (minimum)	4 ♦
4♠ (cuebid)	6◊*
Pass	

^{*} knows that **♣**A or ◊A will do

Another interesting point is that 60 is even a better contract than 3NT. In one of the women's matches declarer went down in 3NT after a club lead by South for jack and king, a club to the queen and the eight of clubs, ducked in dummy.

Directions for the Anniversary Celebration

Turn right out of the building.

Down to the fountain and straight on.

Teatro Nuovo is the Cinema on the left a short distance along.

Afterwards the 'Serata' is at the Grand Hotel Milano which is on the roundabout with the fountain.

Laws of bridge (4)

In 1987 we changed the laws for Europe making it an infraction (with a severe penalty) to ask partner (defender) about a possible revoke. 'No spades partner?' was not allowed anymore. They tried the same in the ACBL but the opposition by the players there was such that this law was not changed there. Up till today a defender in zone 2 (Northern America) is allowed to ask partner whether he can follow suit. Since our aim is to have the same laws all over the world this is not a preferable situation.

So my question is: should we change our approach in Europe, should we try to convince the ACBL to change theirs or should we meet each other somewhere in between, making it a severe infraction to have the question meant more than just a warning not to revoke?

Ton Kooijman



The IBPA is a club of the world's bridge journalists. It has a monthly Bulletin of world bridge news and a selection of the best hands sent in by members. There are plans have a weekly updated web with current items and useful information. Members enjoy the use of the Pressroom at majors championships like this, and there are other benefits such as the Annual Awards and various Clippings Competitions. Each member receives a Handbook with details of other members.

If you wish to apply for membership, please go to the Press Room and ask the Press Room Manager, Elly Ducheyne, for an Application form. The Annual subscription is £40 or 60 US dollars. New members joining after March pay £10 per quarter for the rest of the year and £40 for the following year. So the total payment makes you a member through to the end of the following year. Maureen Dennison, secretary to the I.B.P.A. is on duty in the Press Room each morning for an hour before start of play and between match two and three.

Members who have not paid their 2002 subscription can pay Maureen Dennison and she will arrange for the back issues of the Bulletin to be sent to you.

	BUTLER RANKING											
after 17 rounds												
I	Lauria Loren	ITA	1.65	(260)	77	Fitzgibbon N	IRE	0.31 (240)		Simonsen Bod	FAR	-0.21 (220)
2 3	Versace Alfr Buratti Andr	ITA SPA	1. 4 9 1.30	(280) (280)	79	Mesbur Adam Juuri-Oja Jo	IRE FIN	0.31 (240) 0.20 (240)	154	Torres J.Ign Frances Anto	SPA SPA	-0.22 (180) -0.22 (180)
	Lanzarotti M	SPA	1.30	(280)	' '	Kiema Osmo	FIN	0.20 (240)	156		SLO	-0.25 (220)
5	Bocchi Norbe	ITA	1.13	(300)		Svoboda Otak	CZE	0.20 (2 4 0)		Ralca Danilo	SLO	-0.25 (220)
,	Duboin Giorg	ITA	1.13	(300)	0.2	Volhejn Wit	CZE	0.20 (240)		Catellani Ma	MON	-0.25 (220)
7	Helgemo Geir Helness Tor	NOR NOR	1.00 1.00	(240) (240)	83	Soroldoni Ma Zaccaria Dan	SMR SMR	0.17 (240) 0.17 (240)	160	Fissore Henr Ambroz Bojan	MON SLO	-0.25 (220) -0.26 (220)
9	Aviram Yoram	ISR	0.85	(260)	85	Van Eijck Wi	NET	0.16 (219)	100	Novak Miro	SLO	-0.26 (220)
۱	Barel Michae	ISR	0.85	(260)		Westra Berry	NET	0.16 (219)		Sementa Anto	ITA	-0.26 (120)
	Trendafilov Karaivanov K	BUL BUL	0.76 0.73	(240) (240)	87	Aydin Ata Yilmaz Gokha	TUR TUR	0.14 (160) 0.14 (160)		Turletti Tol Arnaboldi Se	LIC LIC	-0.26 (220) -0.26 (220)
13	Jakab Sandor	HUN	0.71	(240)	89	Briciu Mariu	ROM	0.14 (100)	165	Carcassonne	BEL	-0.28 (240)
'	Szilagy Lasz	HUN	0.71	(240)		Ghigheci Ovi	ROM	0.13 (2 4 0)		Labaere A	BEL	-0.28 (2 4 0)
	Fredin Peter	SWE	0.71	(260)	91	Briolini G.C	SMR	0.12 (220)	167		POR	-0.29 (240)
17	Lindkvist Ma Jansma Jan	SWE NET	0.71 0.63	(260) (239)	93	Fiorini Fior Smederavac	SMR AUT	0.12 (220) 0.11 (220)	169	Mascarenhas Skoularikis	POR GRE	-0.29 (240) -0.30 (239)
''	Verhees Louk	NET	0.63	(239)	/ / /	Wernle Alex.	AUT	0.11 (220)	107	Zotos Loukas	GRE	-0.30 (239)
19	Karaivanov I	BUL	0.62	(220)	95	Khven Maxim	RUS	0.10 (200)	171		ISR	-0.31 (160)
20	Assael Salv.	TUR TUR	0.61 0.61	(340) (340)	97	Matushko Geo Lantaron Lui	rus Spa	0.10 (200) 0.09 (220)	173	Shaham Eran Evseev Vo	ISR UKR	-0.31 (160) -0.37 (200)
22	Zorlu Nafiz Stamatov Jer	BUL	0.61	(3 4 0) (2 4 0)	7/	Ventin I.Car	SPA	0.09 (220)	1/3	Volkov Ol	UKR	-0.37 (200)
23	Lesniewski M	POL	0.54	(220)	99	Aa Terje	NOR	0.06 (220)	175	Matei Corn.D	ROM	-0.39 (220)
	Martens Krzy	POL	0.54	(220)	101	Grotheim Gle	NOR	0.06 (220)	177	Savin Daniel	ROM	-0.39 (220)
	Baroudi Nagi Tchamitch Ha	LEB LEB	0.5 4 0.5 4	(220) (220)	101	Hackett Jaso Hackett Just	ENG ENG	0.04 (259) 0.04 (259)	177	Blasket Lars Bruun Mathia	DEN DEN	-0.40 (240) -0.40 (240)
	Kurka Josef	CZE	0.54	(220)		Hopfenheit G	GER	0.04 (220)	179	Allavena J.C	MON	-0.42 (240)
	Mraz Tomas	CZE	0.54	(220)		Reim Sebast.	GER	0.04 (220)		Guglielmi Mi	MON	-0.42 (240)
	Kurbalija Fi Rees Tim	WAL WAL	0.5 4 0.5 4	(240) (2 4 0)	105	Elinescu Mic Entscho Wlad	GER GER	0.02 (220) 0.02 (220)	181	Medawar Sami Hamdam Fayca	LEB LEB	-0. 44 (200) -0. 44 (200)
	Brogeland Bo	NOR	0.54	(230)	107	Johannsson S	ICE	0.02 (220)	183	Anderson Rex	IRE	-0.45 (220)
	Saelensminde	NOR	0.54	(220)		Jonsson Stei	ICE	0.00 (2 4 0)		Greenwood Da	IRE	-0.45 (220)
33	Gustawsson M	SWE	0.53	(220)		Armstrong Jo	ENG	0.00 (220)	100	Kalavanas Di	CYP	-0.45 (220)
35	Morath Ander Gotard Tomas	SWE GER	0.53 0.52	(220) (2 4 0)	1111	Davies Danny Eidi Michel	ENG Leb	0.00 (220) -0.02 (260)	186	Sundelin P.O Sylvan Johan	SWE SWE	-0.50 (200) -0.50 (200)
"	Pierakek Jos	GER	0.52	(240)		Harfouche Ga	LEB	-0.02 (260)	188		SCO	-0.51 (220)
37	Serpoi Gheor	ROM	0.51	(220)	113	Koistinen Ka	FIN	-0.03 (260)		Gordon Irvin	SCO	-0.51 (220)
39	Stirbu Calin Gromov Andre	ROM RUS	0.51 0. 4 9	(220) (2 4 0)		Nyberg Clas Lopes Jorge	FIN Por	-0.03 (260) -0.03 (219)	190	Mykhaylenko Nemtsev Ol	UKR UKR	-0.53 (240) -0.53 (240)
"	Petrunin Ale	RUS	0.49	(240)		Sa Joao	POR	-0.03 (219)	192		LIC	-0.56 (280)
41	Duguet Miche	FRA	0.48	(239)	117	Carroll John	IRE	-0.04 (220)	104	Palmieri C.A	LIC	-0.56 (280)
43	Toffier Phil Mihov Vlad.	FRA BUL	0. 4 8 0. 4 7	(239) (200)	119	Garvey Tom Diamond Dere	IRE SCO	-0.04 (220) -0.05 (220)	194	Politis Taki Nikolic Vlad	CYP YUG	-0.59 (280) -0.65 (240)
44	Bessis Miche	FRA	0.45	(220)	'''	Dragic Miros	SCO	-0.05 (220)	''	Vucic Alex	YUG	-0.65 (240)
	Rombaut Jero	FRA	0.45	(220)	121	Mattila Jukk	FIN	-0.06 (180)	197		BEL	-0.66 (220)
	Nikolayenko	UKR UKR	0. 4 5 0. 4 5	(240) (240)		Vihtila Pekk	FIN SLO	-0.06 (180) -0.06 (240)	199	Polet Guy	BEL HUN	-0.66 (220) -0.72 (220)
48	Rybnikov Ge Nanev Ivan	BUL	0.43	(270)		Gantar Metod Senk Matija	SLO	-0.06 (2 4 0)	177	Kemeny Gyorg Szappanos Ge	HUN	-0.72 (220)
49	Muller Bauke	NET	0.42	(220)	125	Cuthbertson	SCO	-0.08 (240)	201	Petersen Han	FAR	-0.73 (220)
١.,	De Wijs Simo	NET	0.42	(220)	127	Matheson Joh	SCO	-0.08 (240)	202	Sivertsen Ar	FAR	-0.73 (220)
51	Bizon Piotr Kowalski Dar	POL POL	0. 4 0 0. 4 0	(220) (220)	127	Schaltz Dort Schaltz Pete	DEN DEN	-0.10 (220) -0.10 (220)	203	Mouritsen He Mouritsen Jo	FAR FAR	-0.76 (240) -0.76 (240)
53	Kalish Avi	ISR	0.39	(259)	129	Denning Paul	WAL	-0.13 (240)	205	Abouchanab B	SWI	-0.77 (200)
	Podgur Leoni	ISR	0.39	(259)		Thomas Adria	WAL	-0.13 (240)	207	Sasselli Mar	SWI	-0.77 (200)
	Gloyer Andre Schifko Mart	AUT AUT	0.39 0.39	(240) (240)		Babsch Andre Bieder Wolf.	AUT AUT	-0.13 (220) -0.13 (220)	207	Koumas Micha Christophide	CYP CYP	-0.79 (240) -0.82 (260)
	Hackett Paul	ENG	0.39	(200)	133	Kutner Roger	SWI	-0.13 (220)	209	Barbosa Juli	POR	-0.83 (219)
	Waterlow Ton	ENG	0.39	(200)		Terretaz J.B	SWI	-0.14 (240)		Pinto Rui	POR	-0.83 (219)
59	Einarsson Bj	ICE ICE	0.37 0.37	(240) (240)		Hatzidakis	GRE GRE	-0.14 (240) -0.14 (240)	211	Marinkovic P Rase Davor	CRO	-0.85 (200) -0.85 (200)
	Ingimarsson Dubinin Alex	RUS	0.37	(240) (240)	137	Sapounakis A Duong Hong D	SWI	-0.14 (240) -0.15 (240)	213	Milgravia An	CRO LAT	-0.83 (200)
l .	Krasnosselsk	RUS	0.37	(240)		Yalcin Tarik	SWI	-0.15 (2 4 0)		Rubenis Gint	LAT	-0.90 (280)
63	Aukens Jens	DEN	0.36	(220)	139		GRE	-0.18 (199)	215		YUG	-0.94 (200)
65	Schaffer Lau Hegedus Gal	DEN HUN	0.36 0.35	(220) (220)		Kapayannides Arigun Cengi	GRE TUR	-0.18 (199) -0.18 (180)	217	Radisic Gora Coenraets Ph	YUG BEL	-0.94 (200) -1.03 (220)
	Honti Laszlo	HUN	0.35	(220)		Cengiz Nuri	TUR	-0.18 (180)		Jeunen Frans	BEL	-1.03 (220)
	Karlsson Sno	ICE	0.35	(200)		Cakic Aljosa	CRO	-0.18 (2 4 0)	219	Jansons Ugis	LAT	-1.04 (280)
69	Sigurhjartar Juhas Anamar	ICE YUG	0.35 0.33	(200) (2 4 0)	145	Diklic Dubra Michaud-Lari	CRO MON	-0.18 (240) -0.20 (220)	220	Bendiks Jani Lordos Rena	LAT CYP	-1.22 (240) -1.23 (180)
"	Parezanin Da	YUG	0.33	(240)	'-'	Tardy Stepha	MON	-0.20 (220)	441	Tylliri Fros	CYP	-1.23 (180)
71	Balicki Ceza	POL	0.32	(240)		Jourdain Pat	WAL	-0.20 (200)	223	Baghetti Pao	LIC	-1.26 (180)
	Zmudzinski A Bitran Alber	POL FRA	0.32 0.32	(240) (219)	149	Ratcliff Ton Vozabal Davi	WAL CZE	-0.20 (200) -0.21 (220)	225	Guaraldi And Fazzardi Fra	LIC SMR	-1.26 (180) -1.35 (220)
	Voldoire J-M	FRA	0.32	(219)	177	Zadrazil Mic	CZE	-0.21 (220)	223	Simoncini Ma	SMR	-1.35 (220)
	Borevkovic G	CRO	0.32	(2 4 0)		Angelini Fra	ITA	-0.21 (100)	227	Germanis Aig	LAT	-1. 4 3 (160)
	Tesla Miro	CRO	0.32	(240)		Joensen Roi	FAR	-0.21 (220)		Rubenis Ivar	LAT	-1. 4 3 (120)

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La notte dei campioni

Ufficio Stampa F.I.G.B.

Giugno 1932. A Scheveningen, sobborgo della capitale olandese, si decide di dar vita, con l'organizzazione di una pionieristica International Bridge Association e della Dutch Bridge Bond, guidata dal presidente Anthoine Lucardie, al primo campi-

onato europeo di bridge a squadre open. Da allora, il bridge ha fatto molta strada: nel 1947 è stata fondata, a Copenhagen, la European Bridge League che oggi conta 44 Federazioni affiliate e nel 1958, a Oslo, la World Bridge Federation, che grazie alla forte spinta dei presidenti Jaime Ortiz Patino, Ernesto D'Orsi e Josè

Damiani, è arrivata a raggruppare 120 paesi di tutto il mondo. Nel 1997 la WBF è stata riconosciuta dal CIO come federazione internazionale e due anni più tardi come federazione sportiva internazionale; nello stesso anno la EBL è stata ufficialmente riconosciuta dal Comitato Olimpico Europeo. Il prossimo passo è il riconoscimento del bridge come sport olimpico a tutti gli effetti, che ci si augura di poter celebrare a Torino nel 2006. L'arrivo a Salsomaggiore del vice presidente CIO, Marc Hodler, è a questo riguardo significativo e di

buon auspicio. Giugno 2002. I Campionati Europei sono l'occasione per festeggiare i settanta anni da quella lontana data e per ricordare tutti coloro che, in questo tempo, hanno contribuito a far crescere il bridge e a promuoverne i valori di correttezza, di sano agonismo, di rispetto degli avversari, insieme all'orgoglio di appartenenza, all'amore per la propria storia e alla riconoscenza per quanto i campioni di tutti i Paesi hanno dato a questo sport. A questa vera e propria festa del bridge europeo, voluta dal presidente della EBL e della Federazione italiana Gianarrigo Rona, saranno presenti i più importanti e rappresentativi dirigenti del bridge internazionale e alcuni esponenti del movimento olimpico.

Saranno festeggiati e premiati i giocatori, uomini e donne, che hanno vinto almeno un'edizione dei campionati europei a squadre: in tutto 67 grandi campioni ai quali tutti coloro che amano il bridge devono qualcosa. Saranno tutti presentati alla numerosa e scelta platea a coppie, partendo dai bridgisti e bridgiste che hanno vinto il maggiore numero di titoli continentali. Concluderà l'eccellente passerella la pluricampionessa mondiale ed europea Sabine Auken che porterà la testimonianza di tutti i giocatori e giocatrici presenti.



I CAMPIONI

SMITH NICOLA	1975-79-81-97-99-01	BESSIS VERONIQUE	1983-85-87-95
SVARC HENRY	1966-70-74-83	DE FALCO DANO	1973-79-99-01
WILLARD SYLVIE	1983-85-87-95	VENTURINI MAVI	1970-71-73
LAURIA LORENZO	1979-95-97-01	FRANCO ARTURO	1973-75-79
CHEVALLEY GINETTE	1983-85-87	DHONDY HEATHER	1997-99-01
MARTENS KRYZSZTOF	1981-89-93	VERSACE ALFREDO	1995-97-01
BALDON SUZANNE	1953-54	BOURCHTOFF ANDREE	1953-54
BOCCHI NORBERTO	1997-99-01	DUBOIN GIORGIO	1997-99-01
CAPODANNO LUCIANA	1974-77	D'ANDREA MARISA	1974-77
LINDQVIST C. MAGNUS	1977-87	SUNDELIN PER OLOV	1977-87
BRUNNER MICHELLE	1979-01	D'OVIDIO CATHERINE	1985-95
KLUKOWSKI JULIAN	1981-89	BALICKI CEZARY	1989-93
CRONIER BENEDICTE	1987-95	MCGOWAN LIZ	1997-99
ZMUDZINSKI ADAM	1989-93	BURATTI ANDREA	1995-97
GUT ENRICA	1977	MARTINELLI ANDREINA	1977
LANZAROTTI MASSIMO	1995-97	FERRARO GUIDO	1999-01
DENNISON MAUREEN	1981	PIGEAUD FABIENNE	1985
PRIDAY RICHARD ANTHONY	1961	VIVALDI ANTONIO	1973
SCHROEDER KAREEN	1989	VON ARNIM DANIELA	1989
LEENHARDT FRANCOIS	197 4	MARI CHRISTIAN	1974
BAMBERGER GABRIELE	1991	ERHART MARIA	1991
DI STEFANO FRANCO	1975	MOSCA CARLO	1975
FISCHER DORIS	1991	RYMAN MARI	1993
MORATH ANDERS	1977	MOUIEL HERVE'	1983
GOLDENFIELD RHONA	2001	ARMSTRONG JOHN	1991
ROHAN KARL	1985	LESNIEWSKI MARCIN	1993
PATTACINI MAURIZIO	1995	ATTANASIO DARIO	1999
SEMENTA ANTONIO	1995	STOBIECKI WLODZIMIERZ	1995-01
ADAD PIERRE	1997-99	DELMOULY CLAUDE	1997-99
AUJALEU MAURICE	1997-99	NOWAK JANUSZ C.	1995
KLAPPER WIT	2001	WALA WLODZIMIERZ	200 l
RUSSYAN JERZY	2001	WILKOSZ ANDRZEJ	200 l
AUKEN SABINE	1989	-	

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
- 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

In the News GAZZETTA DI PARMA

The GAZZETTA DI PARMA - a snip at Euro 0.88 will be carrying a daily report on the Championships.



New regulation

Just at the end of the first round in the seniors a mobile phone rang. It couldn't be ignored since the TD stood next to the table where it happened. So after the match both, TD and player, came to the result desk to clear the situation. According to the regulations there are two fines, a 2VP penalty and a 100 euro fine. The player still looked somewhat dizzy, as a consequence of what had happened and of the temperature in the playing room most probably. So I decided to restrict the penalty to the 2VP, even here considering equity more important than penalising. The player reacted unexpectedly. Showing his anger with himself he took his phone and destroyed it with brute force just in front of me, apparently not accepting only to be damaged in the result of the match.

This has resulted in a supplement in the regulations: when caught with a mobile phone or similar attribute you either pay 100 euro or you destroy your phone in front of players and staff in the lobby. I prefer the latest.

Ton Kooijman