

Daily Bulletin

46th European Bridge
Teams Championships

Salsomaggiore Terme - Italy
15th - 29th June 2002

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Bulletin 9

Monday, 24 June 2002

The Never Ending Story



It was business as usual in the Open as **Italy** scored a regulation 50 VP from their two matches to increase their lead over second placed **Norway** to 67 VP. **Bulgaria** are still third, with **Spain** fourth and **Poland**, who have recovered from an indifferent start, fifth. With the EBL Champions Cup in mind, **Turkey** and **Netherlands** occupy the next two places.

Germany's Women recorded a tenth successive win and then held on to their unbeaten record by a whisker, pulling out their match against perennial rivals **Austria** on the very last board.

Denmark and **England** lost ground, the **Danes** losing 4-25 to **Ireland** and **England** going down 18-12 to **France**.

At the moment the Seniors is easily the most exciting of the three contests, with **France** only 3 VP ahead of **Israel** and **Denmark** a further six points behind.

Today's VuGraph Matches

<i>OPEN TEAMS - Round 22</i>	
Italy v France	10.30
<i>OPEN TEAMS - Round 23</i>	
Poland v Spain	14.15
<i>OPEN TEAMS - Round 24</i>	
Iceland v Norway	17.35

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OPEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 20**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	LEBANON	LATVIA	43 - 41	15 - 15
2	CZECH REP	PORTUGAL	66 - 35	21 - 9
3	ITALY	SLOVENIA	66 - 14	25 - 5
4	MONACO	SWITZERLAND	41 - 25	18 - 12
5	SCOTLAND	FRANCE	29 - 17	17 - 13
6	WALES	ISRAEL	25 - 26	15 - 15
7	SPAIN	IRELAND	35 - 41	14 - 16
8	ROMANIA	FINLAND	36 - 23	18 - 12
9	AUSTRIA	HUNGARY	35 - 47	13 - 17
10	ICELAND	POLAND	22 - 40	11 - 19
11	BELGIUM	RUSSIA	41 - 40	15 - 15
12	NETHERLANDS	SAN MARINO	39 - 19	19 - 11
13	GREECE	CROATIA	47 - 26	19 - 11
14	SWEDEN	NORWAY	21 - 41	11 - 19
15	UKRAINE	GERMANY	19 - 54	8 - 22
16	DENMARK	YUGOSLAVIA	82 - 17	25 - 3
17	LIECHTENSTEIN	TURKEY	11 - 59	5 - 25
18	FAROE ISLANDS	ENGLAND	21 - 39	11 - 19
19	CYPRUS	BULGARIA	7 - 59	5 - 25

ROUND 21

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	POLAND	AUSTRIA	54 - 12	24 - 6
2	HUNGARY	ROMANIA	55 - 51	16 - 14
3	FINLAND	SPAIN	26 - 40	12 - 18
4	IRELAND	WALES	42 - 24	19 - 11
5	ISRAEL	SCOTLAND	17 - 9	16 - 14
6	FRANCE	MONACO	63 - 28	22 - 8
7	SWITZERLAND	ITALY	2 - 74	2 - 25
8	SLOVENIA	CZECH REP	30 - 35	14 - 16
9	PORTUGAL	LEBANON	49 - 25	20 - 10
10	BULGARIA	FAROE ISLANDS	34 - 41	14 - 16
11	ENGLAND	LIECHTENSTEIN	80 - 31	25 - 5
12	TURKEY	DENMARK	31 - 29	15 - 15
13	YUGOSLAVIA	UKRAINE	15 - 41	10 - 20
14	GERMANY	SWEDEN	5 - 84	1 - 25
15	NORWAY	GREECE	49 - 14	22 - 8
16	CROATIA	NETHERLANDS	84 - 51	22 - 8
17	SAN MARINO	BELGIUM	35 - 91	4 - 25
18	RUSSIA	ICELAND	25 - 68	6 - 24
19	LATVIA	CYPRUS	25 - 39	12 - 18

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 22****10.30**


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

ROUND 23**14.15**

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

ROUND 24**17.35**

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

Malmo 2004


Don't miss your chance to visit the Scandinavian room to find out what a wonderful experience you are going to have in Sweden in two years time. As well as an audio visual presentation you can enjoy some Swedish hospitality.

The schedule for team visits is below

Today at 12.30-13.30

Switzerland
Czech Republic
Wales
Romania

OPEN TEAMS RANKING after 21 rounds

1	ITALY	463.00
2	NORWAY	396.00
3	BULGARIA	390.00
4	SPAIN	382.00
5	POLAND	377.00
6	TURKEY	369.00
7	NETHERLANDS	367.00
8	ISRAEL	364.00
9	FRANCE	360.00
10	ICELAND	358.00
11	SWEDEN	353.00
12	ENGLAND	347.00
13	CZECH REP	341.00
14	RUSSIA	335.00
15	ROMANIA	328.00
16	HUNGARY	322.00
17	WALES	321.00
18	DENMARK	320.00
19	AUSTRIA	316.00
20	GERMANY	314.00
21	FINLAND	313.00
22	IRELAND	305.00
23	LEBANON	302.00
24	CROATIA	301.00
25	GREECE	299.00
26	UKRAINE	291.00
27	SCOTLAND	291.00
28	MONACO	280.00
29	SLOVENIA	275.00
30	PORTUGAL	264.00
31	SWITZERLAND	259.00
32	BELGIUM	249.00
33	YUGOSLAVIA	248.00
34	FAROE ISLANDS	241.00
35	SAN MARINO	225.00
36	LIECHTENSTEIN	211.00
37	CYPRUS	205.00
38	LATVIA	168.00

EBL 2002 SENIOR CONGRESS

The EBL 2002 Senior Congress will take place at 11 a.m. today 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:

- Greetings from the EBL President, Gianarrigo Rona.
- Greetings from the WBF President, José Damiani.
- Report by the EBL Seniors Committee Chairman on the 2002 Senior Teams Championship:
 - Why 19 teams;
 - Why 20 boards;
 - Lessons for the future.
- Open floor discussion on the 2002 Senior Teams Championship: complaints and compliments.
- Future EBL-sponsored Senior Congresses:
 - July 2002 - Poland
 - August 2002 - Brighton, England
 - October 2002 - Pisa, Italy
 - February 2003 - Tel Aviv, Israel
 - April 2003 - Malta
 - May 2003 - Larnaka, Cyprus
- WBF Senior events in Montreal:

Senior Teams: 23-26 August 2002
Senior Pairs: 27-30 August 2002
- Varia

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Nissan Rand

Chairman EBL Seniors Committee

Mistaken Lindkvist

During the parade of champions at the Anniversary celebration yesterday Magnus Lindkvist was announced as a double winner. In fact this is wrong. Magnus Lindkvist won the event in 1987, but it was Jörgen Lindqvist who was on the Swedish winning team in 1977. Foreign names are not easy but right is right.

www.worldbridge.org

The WBF website is now available at the address www.worldbridge.org. The old address www.bridge.gr will continue to function for some time for the convenience of the players. We advise the players to start using the new address.

WOMEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 10**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	SPAIN	DENMARK	36 - 34	15 - 15
22	IRELAND	SWEDEN	37 - 33	16 - 14
23	HUNGARY	CROATIA	30 - 50	11 - 19
24	RUSSIA	GERMANY	19 - 33	12 - 18
25	AUSTRIA	SCOTLAND	52 - 36	18 - 12
26	ITALY	ICELAND	44 - 1	24 - 6
27	CZECH REP.	FRANCE	39 - 35	16 - 14
28	Bye	ENGLAND	0 - 0	0 - 18
29	NETHERLANDS	FAROE ISLANDS	48 - 29	19 - 11
30	FINLAND	TURKEY	41 - 50	13 - 17
31	POLAND	SAN MARINO	101 - 2	25 - 0
32	NORWAY	ISRAEL	40 - 30	17 - 13

ROUND 11

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
21	DENMARK	IRELAND	45 - 99	4 - 25
22	SWEDEN	HUNGARY	34 - 25	17 - 13
23	CROATIA	RUSSIA	55 - 41	18 - 12
24	GERMANY	AUSTRIA	48 - 47	15 - 15
25	SCOTLAND	ITALY	30 - 28	15 - 15
26	ICELAND	CZECH REP.	44 - 41	16 - 14
27	FRANCE	ENGLAND	48 - 34	18 - 12
28	SPAIN	NETHERLANDS	25 - 22	16 - 14
29	FAROE ISLANDS	FINLAND	24 - 87	3 - 25
30	TURKEY	POLAND	35 - 38	14 - 16
31	SAN MARINO	NORWAY	0 - 73	1 - 25
32	ISRAEL	Bye	0 - 0	18 - 0

WOMEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 12 14.15**

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

ROUND 13 17.35

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

**WOMEN TEAMS RANKING
after 11 rounds**

1	GERMANY	226.00
2	DENMARK	206.00
3	ENGLAND	205.00
4	NETHERLANDS	201.00
5	SWEDEN	200.00
6	ITALY	189.00
7	RUSSIA	185.00
8	FINLAND	184.00
9	CROATIA	178.00
10	NORWAY	175.00
11	SCOTLAND	175.00
12	FRANCE	166.00
13	CZECH REP	164.00
14	SPAIN	159.00
15	AUSTRIA	157.00
16	HUNGARY	154.00
17	POLAND	146.00
18	IRELAND	146.00
19	ISRAEL	141.00
20	ICELAND	138.00
21	TURKEY	136.00
22	FAROE ISLANDS	77.00
23	SAN MARINO	72.00

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See you in the Scandinavian Pavillion.

SENIOR TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 9**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	SCOTLAND	POLAND	18 - 27	13 - 17
42	DENMARK	SWITZERLAND	50 - 36	18 - 12
43	FRANCE	GERMANY	39 - 35	16 - 14
44	SWEDEN	ITALY	65 - 28	23 - 7
45	ENGLAND	WALES	23 - 46	10 - 20
46	SPAIN	TURKEY	20 - 20	15 - 15
47	PORTUGAL	Bye	0 - 0	18 - 0
48	AUSTRIA	CZECH REP.	48 - 24	20 - 10
49	NETHERLANDS	CROATIA	44 - 58	12 - 18
50	IRELAND	ISRAEL	29 - 81	5 - 25

ROUND 10

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
41	SWITZERLAND	SCOTLAND	50 - 27	20 - 10
42	GERMANY	DENMARK	30 - 30	15 - 15
43	ITALY	FRANCE	29 - 59	11 - 19
44	WALES	SWEDEN	34 - 46	13 - 17
45	TURKEY	ENGLAND	28 - 68	7 - 23
46	ISRAEL	SPAIN	46 - 42	16 - 14
47	Bye	POLAND	0 - 0	0 - 18
48	CZECH REP.	PORTUGAL	67 - 31	22 - 8
49	CROATIA	AUSTRIA	40 - 39	15 - 15
50	IRELAND	NETHERLANDS	21 - 48	9 - 21

SENIOR TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 11 14.15**

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

ROUND 12 17.35

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

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on Internet through the EBL official web site:

www.eurobridge.org

**SENIOR TEAMS RANKING
after 10 rounds**

1	FRANCE	191.00
2	ISRAEL	188.00
3	DENMARK	182.00
4	POLAND	180.00
5	NETHERLANDS	177.00
6	CROATIA	163.00
7	GERMANY	155.00
8	SCOTLAND	154.00
9	TURKEY	153.00
10	ITALY	150.00
11	ENGLAND	150.00
12	CZECH REP	150.00
13	SWEDEN	148.00
14	WALES	143.00
15	AUSTRIA	138.00
16	SPAIN	122.00
17	PORTUGAL	114.00
18	SWITZERLAND	112.00
19	IRELAND	97.00

Championship Diary

We are encouraged by the Honorary President's references to sex in his speech at the anniversary dinner. If you have any suggestions as to how we might spice up the bulletin please let us know.

We have tremendous news about the weather - its going to get hotter!

We asked one of the women's teams if they thought they had an unfair advantage because of the heat. 'Not at all' they replied, 'In our country everything is air conditioned.'

Your Editor will be in Warsaw in October for the EBL Champions Cup. The Polish capital has one of the finest Opera houses in Europe and with an idea to take along an assistant he asked Tacchi if he was an opera buff. 'Well, I've never watched opera with no clothes on'.

To combat the fierce heat we suggest you leave your socks in the fridge overnight (or whatever else you can think of!) If you don't have a fridge the one in the Bulletin office can be made available for a modest premium.

There is no truth in the rumour that the Editor has sold the caption to yesterdays picture to the Angelini group. However, he remains open to offers!

OPEN TEAMS
Round 19
Russia v The Netherlands

On paper a promising match, the young, talented Russian team versus The Netherlands, who were, at the time, 6th in the rankings. We pick up the match at board nr. 4.



Muller-De Wijs, The Netherlands

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Matushko	De Wijs	Khven	Muller
1♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

In the Closed Room Muller-De Wijs had no trouble reaching the heart game which was duly made by them.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Gromov	Verhees	Petrinin
1♠	Pass	INT	Dble
Pass	Pass	2♠	Dble
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

In the Open Room Verhees' thin INT response made life a bit more difficult for Gromov-Petrinin. South entered the auction with a take out double and North passed for penalties. When East ran to 2♠ the Dutchies had thrown enough sand in the Russian bidding machinery. Who is to blame here? It might be both North and South. North had shown some values with his second pass and South has good playing power for hearts as trumps.

The next hand:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Matushko	De Wijs	Khven	Muller
Pass	Pass	Pass	2NT
All Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦

Due to the favourable layout NS can make a lot of tricks in a diamonds as Muller did in the Closed Room (eleven tricks, NS plus 150).

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Gromov	Verhees	Petrinin
1♥	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	Pass	3♥	Pass
	Dble	All Pass	

In the Open Room the auction started with a strong club enabling EW to find their heart fit. It all ended in 3♥ doubled when South passed his partner's take out double for penalties.

North led the ♠10, low from dummy. South won the queen, cashed the ace and switched to the ♣K. By that time the audience in the VuGraph theatre expected declarer to go down one, losing two tricks in spades, and one in each of the other suits. That way Holland would have won 2 IMP's on the board. However, Jansma decided to duck the first club trick and inserted the ♣A when South continued with the ♣3 in the next trick. Declarer then played the ♦J, which was ducked. Petrinin took the next diamond and cashed his ♣Q. So declarer went down two instead of one. Later Jansma explained his odd-looking club ma-

noeuvre: he did not expect that North had doubled on 1 HCP only. So he was convinced that the ♣Q was with Gromov and since there was always the danger of getting a ruff in spades, he hoped for a 5-2 club split so that ducking the ♣A would cut communications. He planned to get rid of his club loser later by finessing the ♠J. Anyhow, 4 IMPs to Russia.

Board 7 was of some interest, to the bidding as well as to the play:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Gromov	Verhees	Petrinin 3NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Matushko	De Wijs	Khven	Muller 1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Dble	Pass
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

In the Open Room the Russian gadget of opening a gambling 3NT with an outside ace did not work out well this time, since slam is on. In the Closed Room Simon de Wijs did a good job to forget about 3NT and to raise his partner on the four level thus enabling his side to reach slam.

After a heart lead, probably the best way to play 6♦ is to draw the trumps and to play a low spade from hand to the nine or to let the ♠J run. If East wins the trick, and returns a heart or a club, you ruff or insert the ace respectively and rattle all your remaining diamonds for the show up squeeze.

Bauke Muller however, after winning the first trick and drawing the trumps, cashed his ♣A and played a club to the queen. This card won the trick and now declarer made even thirteen tricks. It comes as a bit of a surprise that Muller, one of the world's greatest dummy players, displayed his alternative line of play. The explanation of course is that after the lead Muller immediately visualised the actual heart position and due to the fact that he never made an overcall, it was almost certain that East did not have the ♠K.

We jump to the last two hands of the set. First 19:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

In the Open Room West played a quiet INT, which basically comes down on handling the heart position correctly. Jansma did (heart to the queen and later heart to the ten) and made seven tricks.

Closed, Simon de Wijs decided to open his nine count in third position. Matushko did well to pass his partner's double on INT and to lead the ♥Q. East ducked when declarer inserted the king. It didn't matter much, the contract is always too light due to the club position. So plus 300 to Russia and 5 IMPs.

Then 20:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Matushko	De Wijs	Khven	Muller
Pass	1♦	1♠	Dble
Redble	Pass	Pass	2♥
Pass	Pass	2♠	All Pass

An unbidable 4♠ in EW, indeed bid by nobody. In the Closed Room Matushko-Khven made ten tricks in 2♠.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Gromov	Verhees	Petrinin
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	2NT	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

More action from the Open Room, where Andrei Gromov interfered with a hair-raising pre-balancing unusual 2NT, which led to down three vulnerable in 3♦. Undoubled, but still 4 IMP's to The Netherlands who won the match 41-19 or 20-10 in VP.

WOMEN TEAMS

Round 7

England v Austria

by Tony Gordon

With England in second place and the new-look Austrian team hovering in mid table, England were hoping for a win that would keep them in touch with leaders Germany, and so it proved.

The first big swing went to England on board 4.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Popp</i>	<i>Goldenfield</i>	<i>Semmelrath</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♦
4♣	4♦	6♠	All Pass

Michelle Brunner's 4♣ splinter showed 8-11, and, as the opponent's bidding suggested her partner's values would be well-placed, Rhona Goldenfield jumped to the good slam. There were no problems in the play and England scored +1430.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Redermeier</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Schnitzer</i>	<i>Smith</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Dble	5♥	All Pass

A similar situation was reached in the other room where the Austrian's canapé approach meant that they locked into their shorter major-suit fit. Alice Redermeier's 2NT showed 7+ with a fit and a shortage and her subsequent 3♥ bid showed short clubs. Blackwood then discovered West's ace, but Susi Schnitzer was unwilling to gamble on a slam and settled for 5♥. +680 to Austria, but 13 IMPs to England.

Austria's sole gain of any significance came on the next board.

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.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Redermeier</i>	<i>Dhondy</i>	<i>Schnitzer</i>	<i>Smith</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
2♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass	2NT	Pass

Nine tricks were not a problem and Austria duly scored +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brunner</i>	<i>Popp</i>	<i>Goldenfield</i>	<i>Semmelrath</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
All Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥

Karin Popp's 2♦ bid was not alerted, but even if it had been there seems no way for East-West to get into the auction once Goldenfield had reasonably passed the East hand. After a club to the ace and a low trump switch, the defence allowed declarer to take a ruffing club finesse and ruff a spade in dummy, so she was able to come to eight tricks for +110 and 11 IMPs to Austria.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Redermeier	Dhondy	Schnitzer	Smith
2♥	2♠	3♥	4♠
All Pass			

With spades 3-3 and the ♣Q onside, 4♠ was unbeatable, and Heather Dhondy duly made her contract for +420 to England.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brunner	Popp	Goldenfield	Semmelrath
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

North's failure to overcall and Goldenfield's raise to 4♥ ensured that England bought the contract in the other room. There were five potential losers, but the defence failed to switch to spades in time so Brunner was able to discard one of her spade losers on a diamond. -50, but 9 IMPs to England who led 24-13 at this point.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Redermeier	Dhondy	Schnitzer	Smith
2♠	Dble	Pass	1♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	2NT

Nicola Smith won the low spade lead with her queen and cashed her top hearts felling West's honours. A club to the king and a diamond to her queen brought her up to eight tricks, and she continued by ducking a diamond to East. When Schnitzer exited with the ♦J, the hand was an open book. Smith won dummy's ♦A, cashed the ♣A and exited with a third club in the knowledge that whichever opponent won this trick would be endplayed. If East won the trick, she could cash a club and a diamond, but would then have to lead into dummy's heart tenace. If West won the trick, which is what happened at the table, she could cash her top spades but that would establish declarer's ♠J as her ninth trick. +400 to England.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brunner	Popp	Goldenfield	Semmelrath
1♠	Dble	Pass	1♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	INT

In the other room, Karin Semmelrath won the opening low spade lead with her jack and ran the ♦Q. This was not an auspicious start, but it was not immediately fatal. Goldenfield won her king and her club switch went to the nine, queen and ace. Now Semmelrath crossed to hand with the ♥A and finessed the ♦10, which was fatal. Goldenfield continued diamonds and declarer took her ace and cashed the other top heart. Two more rounds of hearts endplayed East and guaranteed a trick for declarer's ♣10, but that was only her eighth trick, so she was one down for +50 and 10 IMPs to England.

The next board was a textbook hand.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brunner	Popp	Goldenfield	Semmelrath
4♥	Pass	6♥	4♦
			All Pass

Brunner's overcall made it easy for the English pair to reach the heart slam, and Popp led a diamond to her partner's king. Semmelrath switched to a trump and Brunner won in hand and ruffed the ♦Q. Isolating the spade menace was the next matter of business, so Brunner drew trumps with the ♥A and then ruffed a spade. A club to the ace and another spade ruff completed the process, and the run of the trumps then squeezed North in the black suits for +980 to England.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Redermeier	Dhondy	Schnitzer	Smith
3♥	3♠	4♥	1♦
All Pass			5♦

Smith's 1♦ opening proved more effective in the open room where she was surprisingly allowed to play undoubled in 5♦. After a spade to the ace, on which Smith dropped the queen, East completed a hand she will want to forget by trying to cash the ♣AK. So England scored +600 for a gain of 17 IMPs.

That result made the score 59-17 in England's favour, and worse was to come for Austria when some injudicious bidding on board 18 was punished to the tune of 1100 for the loss of a further 14 IMPs.

When the smoke had cleared, England had won by 82-17 (25-3 VPs) and were now only 4 VPs behind Germany at the top of the table.

WOMEN TEAMS**Round 10****Russia v Germany**

by Stefan Back

All About Spades

The top match of round 10 between the leading Germans and the sixth-placed Russian women didn't see a single double-digit swing but nevertheless contained some interesting "spadish" boards:

A might-have been in spades

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Romanovska	Auken	Galaktionova	von Arnim
Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♠	Pass	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♠

⁽¹⁾ strong

When Auken - von Arnim managed to reach 3NT from the



Beate Nehmert, Germany



Olga Galaktionova, Russia

hand with Jx in spades, East could have been put to the decisive "honour lead-test" in trick one, had she held AQxxx in the suit she bid... It wasn't to be - after a small spade to North's disappointment the queen appeared offside - 3NT had no play and Sabine Auken finished one down, losing four spades and a club. 5 IMPs to Russia, who bid and made 1NT in the other room.

Transferred spades

As West you hold:

♠ 9 6 4
♥ 6 4 3
♦ A K J 7
♣ K 8 2

and hear the following auction:

West	North	East	South
Romanovska	Auken	Galaktionova	von Arnim
			1♣ ⁽¹⁾
1♦	1♠ ⁽²⁾	Pass	3♠ ⁽³⁾
Pass	4♥ ⁽⁴⁾	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

⁽¹⁾ strong⁽²⁾ five clubs (+), game forcing⁽³⁾ good spade suit⁽⁴⁾ cue bid, 8 to 10 HCP

Partner leads ♦3 (fourth best or small from an honour) and the following dummy goes down:

♠ 9 6 4
♥ 6 4 3
♦ A K J 7
♣ K 8 2



♠ A K Q J 10 7
♥ K J
♦ 10 8 5
♣ A 6

You cash ♦AK, North following with ♦4 and ♦2. How do you continue?

You found the trump switch? Well done! At the table West played another diamond, declarer was happy to ruff with her singleton trump and had an easy route to then tricks from there; +420 to Germany:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 2
♥ A 10 8 7
♦ 4 2
♣ Q J 10 9 7 4

♠ 9 6 4
♥ 6 4 3
♦ A K J 7
♣ K 8 2



♠ A K Q J 10 7
♥ K J
♦ 10 8 5
♣ A 6

♠ 8 5 3
♥ Q 9 5 2
♦ Q 9 6 3
♣ 5 3

Of course, playing 4♠ from the North hand makes it much more difficult for the defence to get this one right. Had South played the contract, a trump switch would have been obvious to everybody.

In the Closed Room the Russian pair Maitova - Ponomareva did very well to keep the loss down to only 1 IMP, when they bid the North/South hands as follows:

West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Maitova	Nehmert	Ponomareva
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣*
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♠

Rauscheid - Nehmert collected four diamond tricks, but that was all; Russia +400.

Canapé spades

Another board, an even bigger thriller! And again a case for the defence:

West	North	East	South
Romanovska	Auken	Galaktionova	von Arnim
Pass	1♠ ⁽¹⁾	2♣	3♣
5♣	Dble	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

⁽¹⁾ four (+) spades, canapé possible

As East you hold:

♠ 10 2
♥ J 2
♦ K J 9 5
♣ A Q 6 3 2

You lead ♣A and get to see:



♠ 10 2
♥ J 2
♦ K J 9 5
♣ A Q 6 3 2

dummy

♠ Q J 7 6
♥ K Q 10 7 6 4
♦ A 4
♣ 10

North contributes ♣K. What do you do now?

Did you try a diamond before the loser goes away on dummy's long hearts? Then you did the wrong thing, because declarer had too many diamonds:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K 9 5 4
♥ A 8 3
♦ Q 8 6 3 2
♣ K

♠ A 8 3
♥ 9 5
♦ 10 7
♣ J 9 8 7 5 4



♠ 10 2
♥ J 2
♦ K J 9 5
♣ A Q 6 3 2

♠ Q J 7 6
♥ K Q 10 7 6 4
♦ A 4
♣ 10

The canapé opening definitely helped declarer to win the contract, as East had no idea of how many diamonds North held. A "longue d'abord"-bidding sequence might tell the defenders that North has at least five diamonds, which gives them a good chance to avoid the fatal, but somehow understandable switch.

+650 and another hard-fought IMP to Germany, when Russia came to rest on the four-level after an uncontested auction at the other table:

West	North	East	South
Rauscheid	Maitova	Nehmert	Ponomareva
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West led a small trump and South soon claimed, scoring six hearts, three spades and ♦A; Russia +620.

The match, that stood 9-6 at half-time, remained close until the very end with the leaders scoring their tenth consecutive win: 33-19, or 18:12 respectively.

GLI INCONTRI DEGLI AZZURRI BOARD PER BOARD

20° INCONTRO OPEN: ITALIA - SLOVENIA

Aperta: NORD Angelini / SUD Sementa ITA
EST Protega / OVEST Ralca SLO

Chiusa: NORD Ambroz / SUD Novak SLO
EST Lauria / OVEST Versace ITA

BOARD 1

Nord ha 15 bilanciati, ed Est 12 bilanciati. Mentre in aperta Angelini apre di 1 senza debole e lo sloveno in Est contra, in chiusa lo sloveno apre di 1 senza forte e Lauria non contra. L'Ovest sloveno, in aperta, trasforma con 8 punti (i punti sono divisi 20 e 20). La mano va 1 down in entrambe le sale. Paghiamo 2 I.M.P. 0-2.

BOARD 2

Mentre gli sloveni, in chiusa, in NS si giocano la propria apertura di 1 senza mantenendo il contratto, in aperta ci giochiamo 3 senza con 24 punti il linea e il fit 5-4 a fiori. L'attacco picche condanna il contratto. 3 senza -1. 5 I.M.P. 0-7

BOARD 3

Board 3 - dich. Sud - EO in zona

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

In chiusa Novak gioca 4 picche in Sud; Versace imposta immediatamente uno dei controgiochi vincenti per la difesa, proseguendo, dopo l'attacco di Asso di quadri, immediatamente in atout.

In aperta le manche a picche viene giocata da Francesco Angelini, dopo l'apertura di 1 fiori forte di Sementa e la risposta di 1 picche di Angelini, che mostra due mezzi controlli. Gli sloveni attaccano cuori. Ora Angelini prende in mano e, prima di battere atout per controllare il terzo giro di quadri al morto, gioca Asso di fiori e fiori. La difesa avrebbe ora una chance per battere il contratto ripetendo cuori e costringendo così il dichiarante o a trovarsi al morto in anticipo o a prendere in mano rinunciando così per sempre ad incassare le fiori. Il difensore sloveno in Ovest, però, incassa Asso (farebbe ancora in tempo!) e Re di quadri; ora non può tornare contemporaneamente picche e cuori e Francesco mantiene il contratto. 10 I.M.P. Italia. 10-7.

BOARD 4

Board 4 - dich. Ovest - tutti in zona

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

In una mano di doppio fit nobile in NS, gli sloveni, in chiusa, scelgono come atout nel fit 6-3 e cadono di una presa a 5 cuori (dichiarate sul 5 fiori sull'altra linea degli azzurri), dove già il semplice contratto di manche sarebbe delicato. In aperta Sementa gioca invece 4 picche nella 4-4; dopo aver preso 10 di quadri, per la piccola del morto e di Est e il proprio Asso, Antonio gioca il Fante di picche; Ovest liscia e Sementa non ha problemi. Se Ovest invece prendesse e rinviasse quadri, Est, dopo aver rilevato superando la carta del morto, potrebbe incassare l'Asso di fiori e rigiocare quadri (metterebbe comunque anche in difficoltà il ritorno quadri - non di Re - senza aver incassato l'Asso di fiori), costringendo Antonio a tagliare alto e poi indovinare il 10 di picche. Tutto qui? Provate a invertire tra Est e Ovest 8 e 10 di atout, e scoprirete che giocare un pezzo di atout di mano (oppure muovere subito picche al nove) alla seconda presa salverebbe il dichiarante (se indovinasse successivamente il 10 di picche) dalla promozione a cui sarebbe invece sicuramente destinato giocando picche al Re. 12 I.M.P. Italia. 22-7.

BOARD 5

Una surlevée a manche a cuori per la Slovenia. 1 I.M.P. Slovenia. 22-8.



**BOARD 6**

Pari a 3 picche 1 down in Sud.

BOARD 7

Non fatica Versace in chiusa a fare 3 senza + 3, in una mano in cui si potrebbe realizzare, indovinando il Fante di quadri, un pessimo slam a fiori. In aperta i nostri avversari giocano a quadri nella 4-3 e fanno 12 prese grazie alla divisione amichevole dagli atout. 2 I.M.P. Italia. 24-8.

BOARD 8

1 I.M.P. Italia per una surlevée nel parziale a quadri giocato dai due EO. 25-8.

BOARD 9

In aperta ci giocano 3 senza e fanno 11 prese; in chiusa giochiamo 5 fiori in avvicinamento a slam e le facciamo giuste. 2 I.M.P. Slovenia. 25-10.

BOARD 10

Agevole 3 senza per Versace in chiusa, mentre gli sloveni ci lasciano incredibilmente giocare 2 cuori lisci con 15 punti in linea, dove cadiamo di una presa. 11 I.M.P. Italia. 36-10.

BOARD 11

Gli sloveni giocano 4 quadri -1 in NS in chiusa e 1 senza -3 in aperta sull'altra linea. 5 I.M.P. Italia. 41-10.

BOARD 12

In chiusa la difesa slovena non trova l'attacco vincente e Lauria, ben giostrando il morto, fa 4 cuori in EO, mentre Sementa in aperta realizza 3 picche sull'altra linea. 11 I.M.P. Italia. 52-10.

BOARD 13

Perdiamo 1 I.M.P. per una surlevée a 1 senza. 52-11.

BOARD 14

Pari a 3 quadri +1 in Est.

BOARD 15

3 picche fatte da Versace in chiusa; 4 fiori ben

manovrate da Sementa in aperta, dove andiamo 1 down. 2 I.M.P. per noi. 54-11

BOARD 16

Doppio fit nobile per i NS; in aperta 4 cuori fatte; in chiusa 4 picche fatte. Pari.

BOARD 17

Parziale a cuori per i Nord, dopo il riporto debole dei due Sud nel colore. Angelini giostra meglio del suo omologo e va 1 down di meno. 2 I.M.P. Italia. 56-11.

BOARD 18

Perdiamo 1 I.M.P. per una surlevée a 3 senza. 56-12.

BOARD 19

3 senza in Nord nelle due sale; manche destinata a cadere nonostante l'elevato punteggio della linea (26 punti). 2 down noi, 1 down loro. 2 I.M.P. Slovenia. 56-14.

BOARD 20

2 cuori +1 Slovenia in aperta. 4 cuori Lauria in chiusa. 10 I.M.P. Italia. 66-14.

FINALE

Italia - Slovenia 25 - 5 (66-14). Ecco la nona vittoria azzurra a punteggio pieno ottenuta contro un avversario apparso piuttosto debole ed assai fallosso soprattutto in fase di controgioco. Incontro ben giocato dalle due coppie in campo e largamente dominato, come spesso accaduto in questo Campionato, specie nella prima parte. L'Italia, dopo aver disputato 20 dei 37 incontri del Campionato, si fregia della stratosferica media di 21.9 V.P. a incontro, pari all'87.60%, e vanta 62 V.P. di vantaggio sulla Bulgaria, attualmente seconda, e, in chiave di qualificazione alla Bermuda Bowl, 84 V.P. sulla Turchia, attualmente sesta.

Vista la situazione di classifica, cerchiamo di capire con Sementa, quali possono essere le prospettive future delle avversarie nell'ottica mondiale: "Darei per sicura la Norvegia, poi la situazione si fa un po' confusa, anche se Polonia e Spagna mi sembrano tecnicamente più attrezzate. Per il quinto rimanente posto - prosegue Antonio - vedo favorite a pari merito Bulgaria ed Olanda".



Laws of bridge (6)

An interesting question has to do with the position of appeal committees. We all know that decisions made by TD's meet severe criticism once in a while. But decisions by appeal committees are not less disputable. One of the shortcomings of appeal committees is that they want to be more clever than they should, giving rather personal interpretations of the laws they need to apply to justify their decisions*. We have two of those examples already in the couple of decisions taken in this championship. This makes those decisions rather unpredictable and that encourages teams to appeal TD-decisions even when they estimate their chances to be small. 'You never know how a cow may catch a hare' as we say in Dutch. There are some (in) famous examples of those in the history of bridge. Furthermore bridge seems to be one of the few sports in which the decision by the TD is not final, and not rarely decisions by appeal committees seem to decide the outcome of a match (if not, appeals at the end of a match are not made).

When we do without appeal committees there always could be built in some assurances like strong players as advisors of the TD (as prescribed in the Code of Practice). The problems with respect to the quality of the decisions will certainly be more serious on the club level than in international bridge events with quite capable TD's.

You understand the question coming now: Do you like appeal committees to be the upper judge in bridge or should we give that authority to the TD?

Ton Kooijman

** It is not jealousy that makes me say this. I am the chairman of the national appeal committee in my country and I know that it is not easy to avoid inventing brilliant decisions and to stick to the laws...*

Dear Editor,
Name dropping.

I do think your reports should try to get people's names right. In your report today of an appeal in the Alternate World Cup, you have misquoted the names of my colleagues, not to mention myself, incorrectly. They were:

Mr. J.-P. May-err and Mr. Herman-the-Wily.

Yours truly,
Grattan Menditnot

Sponsors Corner

The Polish Bridge Union wants to thank the "Prokom Software" S.A. for its long term partnership with the PBU, which helps to develop and promote bridge in Poland. "Prokom Software is the largest IT company in Poland and its shares are listed on the Warsaw Stock Exchange.

The Polish Bridge Union wants to thank the insurance company "Skandia" S.A. for its support of the Open team at this Championship.

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TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS



Today 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:

Open Teams

Spain	13.00
Germany	13.15

Women Teams

France	12.00
Germany	12.15
Norway	12.30

Marco Marin

EBL Photographer



Kaplan Nuggets

We have a suggestion that the job description for all budding VuGraph commentators should include a directive to study the comments of the one and only Edgar Kaplan. You may have seen some of these before, but many of them will be new to you. Enjoy!

Hamman reads the cards perfectly, makes 2NT with an overtrick

Making three, plus 150 (what a waste of talent to have him declarer in a part-score!).

Perhaps you understand why three Wests decided to double four spades after their partner had preempted in hearts. All three are marvellous players, so no doubt the decision is more sensible than it looks to me; perhaps it would be right in the long run. In the short run, though, they were unable to take any heart tricks in defence.

There was a swing in both matches when players impiously chose not to lead their God-given sequence.

It is astonishing how often a player in seven is laying huge odds because the opposing team did not reach even six at the other table.

It is not clear where West got his double of four spades in the Closed Room; perhaps from the same place that East got his opening bid.

The Canadians made dubious penalty doubles at both tables (dubious by my standards, but I double fewer voluntarily bid games than most - I figure that good opponents, looking at their cards, may know what they are doing).

West chose to lead king of clubs, club. (Faithful readers of my reports will know that 'chose to lead' carries the implication that I would have chosed differently -to me, a trump lead stands out.)

At table 4, Zia was declarer at five clubs (actually, Deutsch was supposed to hold the South cards, but Zia had reversed the board -what a hand hog!)

At Table 3, East had bid spades, so she tried a surprise, the nine of diamonds. Declarer may have been surprised, but he was not dismayed.

Zia, West at Table 2, counted 6 points extra for length plus 3 for shortness to reach the value for his notrump opening. The three-notrump contract he reached temporarily was indeed the winning spot, although for North-South.

Zia went farther ahead when Meckstroth-Rodwell (I know you're not going to believe this) stopped at two spades with 26 high-card points plus two five-card suits, without a misfit -and they were right.

The Laws should really allow a player who has made a penalty double to look at his cards again, then undouble.

Cohen, South, did not think that the good Lord intended him to be dummy at five diamonds. He held A109xxxx - Qxxxx - x - /

As Levin, West, suspected, there was no duplication of values, but there weren't many values.

The North-South auction in the Open Room was confused. It ended, like most confused slam auctions, in six notrump.

I've never understood why they say that down one is good bridge. After a partscore went one down; with the same cards, Meckstroth made 3NT+1. Making an overtrick -that's good bridge.

It is astonishing how much controversy is caused by players who, trying to be helpful, tell their opponents not what the partnership has agreed but what they think a call should mean.

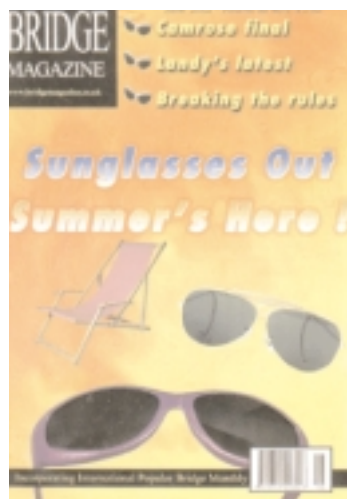
Another ruff had been available to the defenders, but who wants to collect 200 undoubled (particularly when cold for slam)?

On lead against six diamonds, Soloway, West, no doubt reached for the king of hearts, but it was the king of spades that hit the table. The cards lie extremely lucky for declarer; Wolff; Kaplan notes: When you are president of the WBF, the cards behave for you.

In the Closed Room, Rodwell, East, doubled four spades, which would have been fine if it have been for penalties, but to pass partner's first double is considered vulgar nowadays; so, Meckstroth took out to five hearts. Lair, South, doubled that, which probably would have been fine if North had passed. But, of course, Passell, North, took out. East's second double was respected: down 300.

West's double of five diamonds at Table 1 seems to me to have little relation to his hand. A priori, the opponents are unlikely to be able to take 11 tricks on any deal, but the fact of their bidding five must change the odds.

A Very Special Offer



To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the opening of its premises in London, Bridge Magazine, edited by Mark Horton, is offering everyone attending the Championships the chance to subscribe at a discount of 25% against current rates.

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

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Bridge by Tony Forrester, or The Expert Game by Terence Reese.

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

Appeal No. 7

Croatia v Cyprus

Appeals Committee: Steen Møller (Chairman, Denmark), Grattan Endicott (England)*, Anton Maas (the Netherlands)
(*acted as scribe)

Open Teams Round 14
Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Christophides	Borevkovic	Politis	Tesla
			Pass
2♣	3♣	3♠	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

Contract: Six Hearts, played by West

Lead: Queen of Spades

Result: 12 tricks, N/S -1430

The Facts: 2♣ asked for aces, and according to the Convention Card, 3♠ showed two black aces. East had forgotten this and had told North he had shown just spades. North called the Director after the play, saying that he would have led the King of clubs if he had received the correct explanation.

The Director: Considered that North had not been damaged by the misinformation and allowed the result to stand.

Ruling: Result Stands

Relevant Laws: Law 75A, 40C

North/South appealed.

Present: All players, both Captains, and Counsel to the Cyprus team.

The Players: There had been difficulty in understanding what East said when explaining the 3♠ bid: he appeared to say 'spades' and the North player understood by this a spade suit. His actual intention was to say it showed the ♠A, although neither meaning was in fact a correct statement of his system. North stated that

if he had known the bid showed two black aces he would not have led the ♠Q.

The Committee: Noted that whichever of the two meanings attributed to East's explanation North had understood, owing to the communication difficulty, he had nevertheless received an incorrect explanation of the bid. Because of this the Director's decision allowing the score to stand was not fully understood. The Committee did not consider the lead of ♠Q to be "irrational, wild or gambling" and did not see any reason to refuse North the benefit of the margin of any doubt.

The Committee's decision: Score adjusted to:

Both sides receive: 6♥-1 by West (N/S +100)

Deposit: Returned.



1st University Championship

Next year the EBL in cooperation with the FISU (Federation Internationale du Sport Universite) organizes the 1st University Championship using a new formula. Instead of one team per country, the Championship will be open to all Universities (and all other high schools). The Championship is scheduled for the second half of July 2003 in Wroclaw (Poland).

This year the Polish Bridge Union organizes the 1st Polish Open University Championship in a similar formula (any high school across Europe may send more than one team) This event will be held 19-22 September, also in Wroclaw (at the same venue as the 2003 EBL University Championship). Wroclaw is a large city in the South West of Poland with good road and train communication possibilities from all over Europe. There is also an airport with daily flights from Warsaw and Frankfurt/Mein.

The programme:

19-20 Sept. pairs (matchpoints) 3 sessions. The 1st session starts at 14.00

20-21 teams (qualifying rounds)

22. Sept. teams finals (and extra pairs for imps for other pairs).

The entrance fee is 95 PLN (One Euro is about 3.8 PLN)

Accommodation:

Hotel (3 star at the venue): All prices include breakfast and taxes

110 PLN - single

160 PLN - double

2 extra meals at the hotel (lunch and dinner - 50 PLN)

Student hotel - 30 PLN per person (walking distance)

All day food - 35 PLN

There are plenty of other possibilities for hotels and food in Wroclaw.

All reservations and contact:

Polish Bridge Union, Warsaw. Zlota st. 9/4

Tel. 4822/ 8272429

Fax: 4822/ 8273488

e-mail: biuro@polbridge.pl

you may also contact Slawek Latala, general manager of the PBU Office (he is working as the EBL director).

Laws of Bridge (3A)

When a player recalls his system incorrectly and misbids it is my view that the corrective measures to be taken should depend on the level of expertise and preparation expected for the level of tournament in which the error occurs.

Grattan Endicott

LA NOTTE DEI CAMPIONI

Solidarietà, correttezza e rispetto per gli avversari i valori del bridge sottolineati da Sabine Auken



Atmosfera di grande amicizia, con qualche momento di vera commozione, ieri al Teatro Nuovo di Salsomaggiore, per la celebrazione del 70° anniversario del Campionato europeo a Squadre, che si tenne per la prima volta in Olanda nel 1932 e di cui si svolge, proprio in questi giorni, la 46° edizione. Con l'esperta conduzione di Anna Maria Torlontano, la storia dello sviluppo del bridge e degli organismi che lo guidano si è dipanata attraverso gli interventi di J. Ortiz Patino, presidente WBF dal 1976 al 1986, di J. Damiani, attuale presidente e, per la EBL, di B. Pencharz, presidente fino al 1999, quando poi è stato eletto G. Rona. Ne è venuto fuori un quadro di grandi personaggi, di significativi momenti, di obiettivi via via raggiunti fino alla grande prospettiva di oggi: il riconoscimento del bridge come sport olimpico. Un quadro nel quale hanno un posto importante tutti coloro che, partecipando alle competizioni, hanno contribuito a portare avanti i valori del bridge, che la campionessa del mondo Sabine Auken, scelta come portavoce di tutti i giocatori presenti, ha voluto ricordare: la correttezza, la solidarietà, l'amicizia, il rispetto per gli avversari di qualsiasi nazionalità, religione e convinzioni politiche essi siano. La cerimonia si è conclusa con la premiazione di tutte le Federazioni nazionali e dei campioni, uomini, donne e senior, che nei settanta anni hanno vinto almeno un titolo europeo. Per tutti i festeggiati, molti applausi calorosi. Per molti spettatori in sala, la speranza di essere un giorno chiamati a loro volta sul palco.

Patton de Monte - Carlo

8 - 9 - 10 Novembre 2002

Montant des prix : 30.000 Euros

Informations : www.federation-bridge.mc

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

46th European Team Championships

After Round
10

Seniors
Series

Team	FRA	ISR	DEN	POL	NED	CRO	GER	SCO	TUR	CZE	ENG	ITA	SWE	WAL	AUT	ESP	POR	SUI	IRL	Bye	Pen	Team	Total	Rank
FRANCE				13	16	20	16			23		19			19		19	21	25			FRANCE	191	1
ISRAEL						19	20	16	16	14		25		19		16			25	18		ISRAEL	188	2
DENMARK				13	7	25	15			18					24		19	18	25	18		DENMARK	182	3
POLAND	17		17					17	12		21	13	25	15		25				18		POLAND	180	4
NETHERLANDS	14		23			12		19		12	19		20			19			21	18		NETHERLANDS	177	5
CROATIA	10	11	3		18			18		25			23		15				22	18		CROATIA	163	6
GERMANY	14	10	15						14		19	9	15	18		22		19				GERMANY	155	7
SCOTLAND		14		13	11	12				8					25		25	10	18	18		SCOTLAND	154	8
TURKEY		14		18			16				7	14		16	16	15	14	23				TURKEY	153	9
CZECH REP	7	16	12		18	5		22							10		22		20	18		CZECH REP	150	10
ENGLAND				9	11		11		23			20		10	15		16	18	17			ENGLAND	150	-
ITALY	11	4		15			21		16		10		7	18		23		25			2	ITALY	150	-
SWEDEN				5	10	7	15					23		17	14		22	19	16			SWEDEN	148	13
WALES		11		15			12		14		20	12	13			8	25	13				WALES	143	14
AUSTRIA	11		6			15		4	14	20	15		16			19				18		AUSTRIA	138	15
SPAIN		14		4	11		8		15			7		22	11		11	19				SPAIN	122	16
PORTUGAL	11		11					4	16	8	14		8	5		19				18		PORTUGAL	114	17
SWITZERLAND	7		12				11	20	7		12	4	11	17		11					2	SWITZERLAND	112	18
IRELAND	5	5	3		9	8		12		10	13		14							18		IRELAND	97	19

46th European Team Championships

After Round
11

Women
Series

15 - 29 June 2002

46th EUROPEAN BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Team	GER	DEN	ENG	NED	SWE	ITA	RUS	FIN	CRO	NOR	SCO	FRA	CZE	ESP	AUT	HUN	IRL	POL	ISR	ISL	TUR	FRI	SMR	Bye	Pen	Team	Total	Rank
GERMANY							18			24				22	15	19	20	20	22		25	25	16			GERMANY	226	1
DENMARK				16				18		15				15			4	21	25		25	25	24	18		DENMARK	206	2
ENGLAND						14	16					12	11	16	25	25	25				18	25		18		ENGLAND	205	3
NETHERLANDS		14			16			19		19				14				25	17		24	19	16	18		NETHERLANDS	201	4
SWEDEN				14				18		23				14		16	14	16	17		17	25	25			SWEDEN	199	5
ITALY			16				20				15	10	23	15	25	11	12				24			18		ITALY	189	6
RUSSIA	12		14			10			12		11	21	25		17	21					24			18		RUSSIA	185	7
FINLAND		12		11	12				16	15								24	13		13	25	25	18		FINLAND	184	8
CROATIA							18	14		13				11		19	13	13	17		10	25	25			CROATIA	178	9
NORWAY	6	15		11	7			15	17		25												25	18		NORWAY	175	10
SCOTLAND						15	19			4				21	12	7	22				16		15	25	19	SCOTLAND	175	-
FRANCE			18			20	9						14	9	19	7	22				15	11	22			FRANCE	166	12
CZECH REP			19			7	5					16		20	11	15	24				14		15		18	CZECH REP	164	13
SPAIN	8	15	14	16	16	15			19		9	21	10													SPAIN	159	14
AUSTRIA	15		3			5	13				18	11	19			15	17				23			18		AUSTRIA	157	15
HUNGARY	11		1		14	19	9		11		23	23	15		15						14					HUNGARY	155	16
IRELAND	10	25	4		16	18			17		8	8	6		13											IRELAND	146	17
POLAND	10	9		4	14			6	17	11											16		16	25	18	POLAND	146	-
ISRAEL	8	4		13	13			17	13	13	14										14		14		18	ISRAEL	141	19
ICELAND						6	6							16	14	7	16	9			16		14	13	21	ICELAND	138	20
TURKEY	3	5	12	6	13			17	20		15	15									14		16			TURKEY	136	21
FAROE ISLANDS	0	0	4	11	4			3	3		1	19	15													FAROE ISLANDS	77	22
SAN MARINO	14	6		14	4			4	1	1	11	8									0		9		1	SAN MARINO	72	23

