

Daily Bulletin

46th European Bridge Teams Championships

Salsomaggiore Terme - Italy
15th - 29th June 2002

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Bulletin 2

Monday, 17 June 2002

Italy's Gladiators Get Maximus



The road to Bali starts here

Today's VuGraph Matches

Italy v Denmark	10.30
England v France	14.15
Poland v Norway	17.35

Contents

OPEN TEAMS Program & Results	2
OPEN TEAMS Ranking	3
Gli Incontri Degli Azzurri Board per Board.....	4
Lebanon v Bulgaria.....	6
Herman's Bridge Team Ratings	9

The heat wave continued as the Open Series started on the first day of play at the 46th European Bridge Team Championships. It was business as usual for the holders **Italy**, who scored a maximum 50VP to stand alone at the top of the table. The heat had no effect on **Iceland**, just two points behind on 48VP. **The Netherlands** are third, **England** fourth and **Bulgaria** fifth.

The match of the day was the round two encounter between **Poland** and **Russia**, (to be reported tomorrow) which featured some fine play from both teams and entertained a fair sized VuGraph audience, before finishing in an exact tie.

Commentator **Guido Ferraro** backed up yesterday's bulletin forecast by predicting the top five teams will be Italy, Norway, Poland, Bulgaria & Russia.

The biggest surprise so far is the second round defeat of the highly regarded **Swedish** team by **Wales** - but you can be sure that more shocks are in store.

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 3 10.30**

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

ROUND 4 14.15

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

ROUND 5 17.35

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

OPEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 1**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 POLAND	LATVIA	87 - 11	25 - 1
2 HUNGARY	RUSSIA	34 - 61	9 - 21
3 FINLAND	SAN MARINO	35 - 56	11 - 19
4 IRELAND	CROATIA	52 - 27	20 - 10
5 ISRAEL	NORWAY	46 - 44	15 - 15
6 FRANCE	GERMANY	36 - 36	15 - 15
7 SWITZERLAND	YUGOSLAVIA	50 - 77	9 - 21
8 SLOVENIA	TURKEY	39 - 48	13 - 17
9 PORTUGAL	ENGLAND	20 - 56	8 - 22
10 LEBANON	BULGARIA	37 - 52	12 - 18
11 CZECH REP.	CYPRUS	53 - 54	15 - 15
12 ITALY	FAROE ISLANDS	108 - 16	25 - 0
13 MONACO	LIECHTENSTEIN	72 - 34	23 - 7
14 SCOTLAND	DENMARK	65 - 26	23 - 7
15 WALES	UKRAINE	40 - 43	14 - 16
16 SPAIN	SWEDEN	47 - 33	18 - 12
17 ROMANIA	GREECE	60 - 38	20 - 10
18 AUSTRIA	NETHERLANDS	16 - 61	6 - 24
19 ICELAND	BELGIUM	74 - 5	25 - 2

ROUND 2

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 LATVIA	ICELAND	20 - 57	7 - 23
2 BELGIUM	AUSTRIA	22 - 64	6 - 24
3 NETHERLANDS	ROMANIA	43 - 16	21 - 9
4 GREECE	SPAIN	36 - 57	11 - 19
5 SWEDEN	WALES	21 - 48	9 - 21
6 UKRAINE	SCOTLAND	37 - 49	13 - 17
7 DENMARK	MONACO	52 - 30	20 - 10
8 LIECHTENSTEIN	ITALY	11 - 66	4 - 25
9 FAROE ISLANDS	CZECH REP.	20 - 50	9 - 21
10 CYPRUS	LEBANON	21 - 92	2 - 25
11 BULGARIA	PORTUGAL	65 - 24	23 - 7
12 ENGLAND	SLOVENIA	80 - 51	21 - 9
13 TURKEY	SWITZERLAND	39 - 51	13 - 17
14 YUGOSLAVIA	FRANCE	36 - 28	16 - 14
15 GERMANY	ISRAEL	13 - 17	14 - 16
16 NORWAY	IRELAND	22 - 14	16 - 14
17 CROATIA	FINLAND	63 - 52	17 - 13
18 SAN MARINO	HUNGARY	15 - 57	6 - 24
19 RUSSIA	POLAND	28 - 28	15 - 15

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on Internet through the EBL official web site:

www.eurobridge.org

OPEN TEAMS RANKING after 2 rounds

1	Italy	50.00
2	Iceland	48.00
3	Netherlands	45.00
4	England	43.00
5	Bulgaria	41.00
6	Poland	40.00
7	Scotland	40.00
8	Lebanon	37.00
9	Spain	37.00
10	Yugoslavia	37.00
11	Russia	36.00
12	Czech Rep.	36.00
13	Wales	35.00
14	Ireland	34.00
15	Hungary	33.00
16	Monaco	33.00
17	Israel	31.00
18	Norway	31.00
19	Turkey	30.00
20	Austria	30.00
21	Romania	29.00
22	Germany	29.00
23	Ukraine	29.00
24	France	29.00
25	Croatia	27.00
26	Denmark	27.00
27	Switzerland	26.00
28	San Marino	25.00
29	Finland	24.00
30	Slovenia	22.00
31	Greece	21.00
32	Sweden	21.00
33	Cyprus	17.00
34	Portugal	15.00
35	Liechtenstein	11.00
36	Faroe Islands	9.00
37	Belgium	8.00
38	Latvia	7.00

Greetings from Bangkok

By Brian Senior

This is the first European Team Championships that I have failed to attend in some capacity or other for almost twenty years. However, when the opportunity came along to edit the bulletins at the 41st PABF Championships in Bangkok instead of going to Salsomaggiore it was difficult to turn down.

The least that I felt I could do in the circumstances was to send you a hand a day so that I could say that I was really working on two bulletins, many thousands of miles apart, at the same time. Your illustrious editor and I agreed to exchange Hand of the Day articles between the two events for the week or so when they are running concurrently, and this is my first contribution. Actually, it is a bit of a cheat as the hand in question was written up by Richard Solomon of New Zealand. Still, I have never minded letting other people do my work for me so....

No Quick Revenge

by Richard Solomon

Chinese Taipei's Open match against New Zealand did not start too well. After a few boards their mini no trump opening was doubled and restricted to two tricks which, even though not vulnerable, was despatched for -1100, a poor score with game the limit for their opponents. The very next hand was Board 4:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ K Q 7 6		
	♥ 10 5		
	♦ A K 9 6		
	♣ A 10 7		
♠ A J 4 3		♠ 8 5	
♥ Q J 8 4		♥ A K 9 3	
♦ Q 5 2		♦ 8 3	
♣ K 9		♣ J 8 5 4 3	
	♠ 10 9 2		
	♥ 7 6 2		
	♦ J 10 7 4		
	♣ Q 6 2		
West	North	East	South
Reid	S L Lee	Newell	Huang
INT	Dble	All Pass	

The lead was the six of spades and Peter Newell put down a rather better than his opponent had done on the previous hand. When the ♠J scored at trick one, Martin Reid had six tricks. He proceeded to cash his four heart winners, on which North pitched the ♦9 and ♣7. Martin exited with a diamond and the defence now cleared the ♠A, but another spade from declarer left North with four inescapable winners and, at the end, an inescapable loser (to declarer's ♣K). Plus 180 earned New Zealand 7 IMPs and put them on their way to a great start in the event.

GLI INCONTRI DEGLI AZZURRI BOARD PER BOARD

1° INCONTRO OPEN: ITALIA - ISOLE FAROE

Le isole Faroe, un Paese di soli 50.000 abitanti tuttora strettamente collegato alla Danimarca, ma con un proprio Parlamento ed una certa autonomia governativa, si presenta a questi Campionati Europei con due formazioni: Open e Ladies. Il sestetto Open, formato da Joensen, Simonsen, Hedin e Joannes Mouritsen, Petersen e Sivertsen, pur essendo alla sua prima apparizione ufficiale in una competizione internazionale d'alto livello, giunge a

Salsomaggiore vantando tre vittorie su tre incontri disputati in preparazione contro la forte Danimarca.

Aperta:	NORD Bocchi / SUD Duboin	ITA
	EST H. Mouritsen / OVEST J. Mouritsen	FAR
Chiusa:	SUD Joensen / NORD Simonsen	FAR
	EST Lauria / OVEST Versace	ITA



lo stesso contratto dichiarato da Joensen/Simonsen in chiusa. 32 - 0 Italia.

BOARD 7

Entrambi i NS giocano 3 senza con attacco picche, che risulta decisivo a seconda della posizione (Nord o Sud) di chi si trova nel ruolo di dichiarante. 12 per Le Isole Faroe; Italia a +20.

BOARD 8

Board pari: 3 senza -3 nostro in aperta (-150) e 3 picche fatte per noi (+140) in chiusa.

BOARD 9

L'Italia si riscatta immediatamente, guadagnando 10, in questo board in cui Lauria-Versace chiamano e mantengono manche a picche (in EO in chiusa), mentre i fratelli Mouritsen si limitano a giocare 3 picche+1 (in EO in aperta). Italia 42 - Isole Faroe 12.

BOARD 10

Ancora doppio score grosso per noi. I nostri avversari vanno sotto in tutte due le sale, pagando, in aperta, 500 a 5 quadri contrate -2, e 100, in chiusa, a 4 cuori -1. A metà incontro Italia a +42 I.M.P. A questo punto del turno sempre in grosso vantaggio (43 - 2) la Scozia sulla Danimarca; si fa consistente anche il distacco tra Russia e Ungheria (42-7), mentre la Svezia si trova a +5 sulla Spagna e la Norvegia conduce di 9 I.M.P. su Israele. Se finisse ora l'Italia condurrebbe la classifica generale con 24 V.P.

BOARD 11

Parità: 5 fiori -1 in NS sia in aperta che in chiusa.

BOARD 12

Bocchi - Duboin incassano 680 a 5 cuori +1, mentre Lauria - Versace pagano 300 in difesa a 5 fiori -2, su cui gli avversari preferiscono contrare piuttosto che rialzare a cuori. 9 I.M.P. per noi, che conduciamo adesso 63 a 12.

BOARD 13

2 cuori +1 per le Isole Faroe in chiusa; in aperta Bocchi - Duboin chiamano e mantengono manche a cuori; + 10 Italia, che si porta 73 a 12. Si amplia anche il vantaggio della Polonia sulla Lituania (53 a 12 che, convertito in V.P., corrisponderebbe a 24 - 6) e dell'Islanda sul Belgio (47 - 5 = 24 - 6).

BOARD 14

2 I.M.P. ancora per noi, che incassiamo 3 surlevée a 3 senza in chiusa, mentre i nostri avversari in aperta soltanto una. Azzurri a +63.

BOARD 1

Si comincia con un parziale a quadri giocato e mantenuto in entrambe le sale; score pari.

BOARD 2

6 I.M.P. all'Italia: Lauria-Versace chiamano e mantengono 3 senza, mentre i due Mouritsen, loro omologhi di linea in aperta, si limitano al parziale al senz'atout (1 senza +2).

BOARD 3

Altri 9 per l'Italia: mentre i nostri in chiusa mantengono ampiamente, in EO, il parziale a picche dichiarato, in aperta EO si spingono questa volta alla manche a senza, cadendo di due prese, per un saldo attivo di +370 per noi. Italia a +15.

BOARD 4

Questione di surlevée: entrambi gli EO dichiarano 2 picche, ma solo i nostri ne realizzano 3; ancora 1 I.M.P. per noi; Italia a + 16.

BOARD 5

4 cuori contrate +1 realizzate da Versace in chiusa (+690); solo 2 cuori +2 per gli omologhi di linea in aperta; 11 I.M.P. al Blue Team, che si porta a + 27. Da notare, a questo punto della gara, il parziale di 26 a 2 con cui la Scozia conduce sulla Danimarca e quello di 26 - 4 inferto dalla Jugoslavia alla Svizzera.

BOARD 6

Ancora 5 per gli azzurri che subiscono il parziale di 1 senza avversario in aperta, ma contrano e battono di due (300 per noi)

**BOARD 15**

Noi facciamo 6 quadri in aperta, loro vanno sotto di 2 nello stesso contratto in chiusa; ancora 17 ai nostri; 92 - 12 il risultato attuale.

BOARD 16

Concediamo 2 I.M.P. agli avversari mantenendo noi 1 senza in aperta e loro 2 cuori +1 in chiusa; +78 Italia. In questo momento la classifica vedrebbe con 25 V.P. Italia e Islanda e con 24 Polonia e Scozia.

BOARD 17

6 per gli azzurri: gli avversari giocano a picche in entrambe le sale (4 picche contrate - 1 da una parte e 2 picche - dall'altra). 98 a 14 per noi. Anche Polonia e Islanda stanno ora facendo 25 V.P.

BOARD 18

1 I.M.P. alle Isole Faroe per una surlevée in più a 1 senza. Anche la Jugoslavia si aggiunge, insieme a Italia, Polonia e Islanda, alla schiera delle squadre che, allo stato attuale, vincerebbero a 25 V.P. In modesto svantaggio la Norvegia contro Israele.

BOARD 19

Per noi in chiusa 2 picche fatte in EO; per loro in aperta 2 picche -3 sulla stessa linea. 9 I.M.P. per gli azzurri che si portano 107 - 15.

BOARD 20

1 I.M.P. per gli avversari per una surlevée in più a manche.

FINALE

107 - 16 per l'Italia, che chiude vincendo per 25 a 0. Incontro senza storia: una valanga di I.M.P. a favore di un gioco azzurro pressoché perfetto nella tecnica e nelle "indovinate", contro cui nulla ha potuto un avversario non troppo esperto.

Il match fin dai primissimi board è a senso unico: gli italiani al giro di boa (dopo dieci mani delle 20 previste) già conducono la classifica parziale grazie alla maggiore differenza match point: 54 a 12. La musica non cambia neanche nella seconda parte dell'incontro.

Gli azzurri non lasciano alcuno spazio agli isolani e, macinando punti su punti, lasciano gli indifesi avversari a soli 16 punti, di cui 12 persi alla mano 7: un down in aperta contro i 3SA fatti dagli avversari in chiusa: "Il nostro particolare sistema che ci porta ad alzare il livello della licita - dichiara Norberto Bocchi - ha impedito agli avversari di dichiarare le picche, costringendoci così a giocare dalla parte opposta".

Alfredo Versace, al termine del turno commenta così la prestazione: "Abbiamo incontrato una squadra senza esperienza, ma che non arriverà di certo ultima. Lorenzo ed io (ma visto il punteggio finale, anche Norberto e Giorgio) non abbiamo praticamente sbagliato nulla, indovinando, tra l'altro anche molte cose. I nostri avversari non hanno mai avuto alcuna difesa".

Tra le favorite, buono l'esordio della Polonia e dell'Islanda, che totalizzano 25 V.P. rispettivamente contro Lituania e Belgio; la Norvegia deve accontentarsi di un pari con Israele. Brutta la partenza della Danimarca, che perde seccamente contro la più debole Scozia.

L'Italia conduce la classifica dopo 1 turno di gioco con 25 V.P. Fanno bottino pieno, insieme agli azzurri, soltanto Polonia e Islanda.

Panem et circenses

C'est parti ! Les 46èmes championnats d'Europe sont ouverts. Dans un palais au décor mauresque digne d'un conte des mille et une nuits, les 38 équipes de l'Open sont lâchées comme des fauves dans l'arène. Bonne chance à tous et que le meilleur gagne !

Pour le confort des joueurs, la pièce centrale du palais est agrémentée - entre autres - de deux tonneaux de bon vin rouge - du " Brunello di Montacino " m'a-t-on dit - ce qui serait l'équivalent d'un grand cru classé du Bordelais. Au goût, on reconnaît un vin jeune, un peu barriqué (comme on dit chez nous Parkerisé au goût américain pour une meilleure exportation) mais très agréable. Panem et circenses devient aujourd'hui du vin et des jeux.

Finalement, on retombe dans les jeux du stade de l'antiquité avec le vin pour stimuler les athlètes.

Certes, maintenant que le bridge est sport olympique, on peut néanmoins se poser la question sur la présence de ce nectar : le vin est-il un produit dopant ?

On peut penser qu'un excès de vin ne sera pas spécialement bénéfique aux joueurs. Les effets tonifiants du vin sont

de courte durée... et la période de sommeil est longue !

Qu'à cela ne tienne, en face du vin, on vous propose de la vitamine. Acutil, vous prémunit contre la fatigue mentale et physique ! Indispensable pour maintenir l'intégralité du fonctionnement de vos neurones.

B1, B2, B3 ... coulé, comme à la bataille navale, B4 absent du catalogue (ils l'ont sans doute oublié) B5, B6 (connu chez les Français), B12 (quand il y en a deux), acide folique et tant d'autres ! Vitamine C mais pas C4 - avec les contrôles à l'entrée - impossible de faire rentrer le moindre explosif.

Je ne sais pas si ce cocktail plurivitamines est dopant mais il semble que vous pouvez en prendre avec des effets bénéfiques. Un joueur, et non des moindres, le fabrique ! ... et le propose à ses concurrents ! Quelle sportivité !

Pas d'abus cependant ! Vous avez tous été prévenus. Contrôle antidopage jeudi prochain.

Côté bridge francophone, un départ en fanfare pour le Liban, en père de famille pour Monaco, prudent pour la jeune et sympathique équipe de France, conservateur pour la Suisse et très prudent (peut-être même trop) pour l'équipe belge.

Yesterday's Side Game:

Lebanon v. Bulgaria

During the opening rounds of these Championships, when favourites only exist on paper, there is ample time to have a look at any of the participating teams. To pick the right match certainly is a delicate task, but we were not at all disappointed with the choice we made. Lebanon, well established again as regular participants and no mean performers, were playing Bulgaria, a team that might have won a Bermuda Bowl berth last year had they won their last match instead of losing it. The match ended 52-37 or 18-12 V.P. to Bulgaria, as both sides had their chances but Bulgaria just making more of theirs. Here are some of the highlights.

On board 1, the Strong Club used by Bulgaria showed its advantages.



Ivo Karaivanov, Bulgaria

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Trendafilov	Eidi	Karaivanov	Harfouche
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	3♦	Dble	Pass
4♣	All Pass		

Just made. Bulgaria +130. The Strong Club put the final decision back to Trendafilov, so Kalin Karaivanov stayed out of trouble.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Tchamitch	Stamatov	Baroudy	Karaivanov
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	3♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Baroudy understandably preferred a cheap major to returning to what might be a short suit at the four-level. He went down one, but Bulgaria were off the mark with 5 IMPs.

Board 3 looked like another unlucky board to Lebanon, but when the smoke cleared they had recouped 3 IMPs:

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Trendafilov	Eidi	Karaivanov	Harfouche
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

A nice conventional sequence. INT was forcing, 2♣ might be three cards only, and 2♦ showed either 5-10 with at least four hearts or 8-10 any shape. 2♥ was another relay and 2NT confirmed the latter variety. Eidi led a low heart and Trendafilov began by misguessing the hearts, putting up the king which lost to the ace. After four more heart tricks South played a diamond

Scorers needed

Any guest, wife, girlfriend, boyfriend or other person present at these championships and willing to help by scoring matches at the table can present themselves to Maureen Dennison in the Press Room on the ground floor. Payment is 30 Euros per match.



Jerry Stamatov, Bulgaria

to his partner's king, and thus declarer had to guess which finesse to take in the end to escape with two down. When he chose the clubs, he was down three and 300 to Lebanon.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Tchamitch	Stamatov	Baroudy	Karaivanov
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Same contract, same lead, same defence, but in the end Tchamitch took the spade finesse though Stamatov had discarded his two small spades earlier. Well done, and surprisingly enough worth 3 IMPs.

More overbidding on the next board, but this time with more normal consequences:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Trendafilov	Eidi	Karaivanov	Harfouche
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Simple and effective. Ten tricks made, Bulgaria +170.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Tchamitch	Stamatov	Baroudy	Karaivanov
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♦	Dble	Redbl	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

With both East and West stretching a little, the pair fell overboard. Declarer won the diamond lead and tried to discard the losing diamonds on the hearts, but North ruffed the third round of hearts with the nine to defeat the contract. Bulgaria another +100 and 7 IMPs.

The IMPs went back on the next deal when they offered their opponents a second chance.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Trendafilov	Eidi	Karaivanov	Harfouche
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
2♠	All Pass		

Just made. Bulgaria +110.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Tchamitch	Stamatov	Baroudy	Karaivanov
2♠	1♦	Pass	1♠
3♥	Pass	Pass	3♣
	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Declarer lost a club, ruffed the next club, drew one round of trumps to the ace and proceeded to play winning and later losing spades through North. This way, the only other loser was the ♥K so the contract just made for a good +420 to Lebanon.

A few boards later, Lebanon reached another good game not bid by their opponents, but this time they managed it completely on their own, and vulnerable too:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ AK4 ♥ 754 ♦ K105 ♣ KQJ4	♠ J2 ♥ J1062 ♦ 8432 ♣ 975 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 65 ♥ AQ93 ♦ AQJ97 ♣ A10	♠ Q109873 ♥ K8 ♦ 6 ♣ 8632
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Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Trendafilov</i>	<i>Eidi</i>	<i>Karaivanov</i>	<i>Harfouche</i>
INT	Pass	Pass	1♦
Redbl	Pass	2♥	Dble
		2♠	All Pass

With the redouble denying a heart stopper, Karaivanov successfully put the contract back into the correct hand, but Trendafilov understandably made no further move. Ten tricks, +170 to Bulgaria.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Tchamitch</i>	<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Baroudy</i>	<i>Karaivanov</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
3♦	Pass	3NT	2♦
4♠	All Pass		Pass

Here, Tchamitch had more information, as he knew about the Strong Club to his right. With the ♥K protected there were no problems. Lebanon +620, 10 IMPs back to take the lead for the first and only time in the match.

Two successive slam swings to Bulgaria changed the pattern of the match.

In the Closed Room, the Lebanese investigated but did not consider the fits they found good enough for slam. As might be expected by the connoisseurs, the Bulgarians fully exploited the values of their nines and tens.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ Q86 ♥ QJ ♦ AQ85 ♣ A972	♠ KJ42 ♥ 975 ♦ J1064 ♣ K4 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ 953 ♥ 10842 ♦ 932 ♣ Q63	♠ A107 ♥ AK63 ♦ K7 ♣ J1085
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Open Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Trendafilov</i>	<i>Eidi</i>	<i>Karaivanov</i>	<i>Harfouche</i>
INT	Pass	1♣	Pass
4NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass	5NT	Pass

Strong Club and positive response, 2♣ relay and a quantitative reply accepted with 5NT. Next, 6♣ was the first of possible alternative spots and when it turned out to be a 4-4 fit, there it rested. Bulgaria +920.

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Tchamitch</i>	<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Baroudy</i>	<i>Karaivanov</i>
3♣	Pass	INT	Pass
3NT	All Pass	3♦	Pass

Ten tricks, Lebanon +430, but 10 IMPs to Bulgaria. And next:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ KQ102 ♥ J54 ♦ Q65 ♣ J83	♠ 54 ♥ K96 ♦ AJ10972 ♣ K10 <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 5px auto; display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> N W E S </div> ♠ AJ ♥ A732 ♦ K43 ♣ AQ42	♠ 98763 ♥ Q108 ♦ 8 ♣ 9765
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Michel Eidi, Lebanon

Both sides reached 6♦ by North and got a spade lead, won by the ace. We leave it to Deep Finesse or others to work out what the best line is. Picking up the trumps for no loser definitely helps a lot, but neither declarer showed that amount of clairvoyance. Stamatov, after getting the bad news, put all his remaining eggs in one basket when a played a club from dummy to the ten in his hand. Bulgaria +1370.

At the other table, Eidi went for a squeeze that might develop but did not, so he had to concede one down and a 16-IMP loss. Bulgaria led by 28 now.

Two boards later, their winning margin was restricted to 15 IMPs when Lebanon got a substantial gain:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room:

West	North	East	South
Trendafilov	Eidi	Karaivanov	Harfouche
	Pass	Pass	3♥
All Pass			
Just made, Lebanon +140.			

Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Tchamitch	Stamatov	Baroudy	Karaivanov
	Pass	Pass	2♥
2♠	Pass	3♥	Dble
3NT	All Pass		

The double showed a fair hand, but it inspired Jerry Stamatov to lead the ♥A. Though he found the diamond switch at trick two, the damage had already been done. Tchamitch won the second diamond and led a spade. When South showed out, Tchamitch won his ace and led a low spade. Stamatov did well not to put in the ten, but dummy's eight won and all was set for an endplay. ♠K, ♣AQ, ♥K, ♣K and a club throwing a heart from hand. Last trick to the ♠J. Just made, Lebanon +400 and 11 IMPs back.

Message from the President

The President congratulates the teams on their uniforms.

Only 4 teams are not playing in uniform. The President wishes to remind the players that this is in the regulations.

Bridge Magazine IMP presents Herman's Bridge Team Ratings

Herman invites all interested parties to visit his website (<http://users.skynet.be/hermandw/>) and/or e-mail: (hermandw@skynet.be) him for further details.

After the Camrose Trophy, the ratings for the Open Series have become:

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

1 Italy	21.02	150	51 Monaco	12.48	31
2 United States	20.42	131	52 Chile	12.47	20
3 Poland	20.02	150	53 Guadeloupe	12.45	60
4 Norway	19.58	160	54 Slovenia	12.36	70
5 Indonesia	18.83	89	55 Faroe Islands	12.18	16
6 Netherlands	18.73	77	56 Syria	12.12	20
7 France	18.36	116	57 Côte d'Ivoire	11.91	10
8 Russia	18.36	87	58 Peru	11.81	10
9 England	18.32	113	59 Latvia	11.36	46
10 Sweden	18.12	108	60 Thailand	11.29	43
11 Israel	17.96	90	61 Lithuania	11.22	28
12 Spain	17.44	28	62 Bahrain	11.19	18
13 Denmark	17.32	97	63 Uruguay	11.03	26
14 Brazil	17.24	86	64 Colombia	10.90	32
15 Austria	17.17	77	65 Malaysia	10.72	49
16 China	17.14	78	66 Luxembourg	10.65	61
17 Belgium	17.09	71	67 Mexico	10.58	16
18 Bulgaria	16.96	70	68 Zimbabwe	10.43	2
19 Greece	16.85	70	69 Philippines	10.35	49
20 Chinese Taipei	16.70	70	70 Liechtenstein	10.31	69
21 Iceland	16.63	96	71 Tunisia	10.24	28
22 Germany	16.53	69	72 San Marino	10.10	69
23 Hungary	16.41	70	73 Bangladesh	9.99	26
24 Canada	16.29	44	74 China Macao	9.98	33
25 Argentina	16.21	57	75 Venezuela	9.96	34
26 Wales	15.99	101	76 Sri Lanka	9.32	17
27 Scotland	15.72	101	77 Trinidad & Tobago	9.21	20
28 India	15.71	78	78 Bermuda	9.15	24
29 Lebanon	15.57	69	79 French Polynesia	9.03	4
30 Turkey	15.54	70	80 Singapore	8.95	49
31 Australia	15.43	112	81 Reunion	8.74	29
32 Egypt	15.38	53	82 New Caledonia	8.64	10
33 Japan	15.36	70	83 Jordan	8.60	15
34 Portugal	15.23	70	84 Martinique	8.13	24
35 Ireland	15.12	129	85 Kenya	7.98	21
36 South Africa	15.11	49	86 Mauritius	7.97	21
37 New Zealand	14.76	105	87 Paraguay	7.87	10
38 Czech Republic	14.50	69	88 Guyana	7.81	8
39 Finland	14.29	91	89 Jamaica	7.77	15
40 Morocco	14.08	16	90 Cyprus	7.76	31
41 Romania	13.90	69	91 Bolivia	7.62	10
42 Croatia	13.88	69	92 Tonga	6.61	10
43 N. Ireland	13.78	20	93 Barbados	5.88	13
44 Estonia	13.36	28	94 Malta	4.90	27
45 Switzerland	13.09	70	95 Ecuador	4.62	10
46 Yugoslavia	12.87	40	96 Tanzania	4.62	21
47 Belarus	12.87	9	97 Botswana	1.04	13
48 Ukraine	12.85	54	98 Palestine	-1.96	16
49 China Hong Kong	12.74	66	99 Costa Rica	-5.13	8
50 Pakistan	12.62	52			

Championship Diary

The Daily Bulletin was hit by a series of Virus attacks believed to emanate from Dutch sources and production of the first edition was in jeopardy for some time. One consequence was the mysterious disappearance of the first days VuGraph presentations and the schedule of matches for yesterday.

The town is a hot bed of activity on a Saturday night. Our first rendezvous was with the Austrian Open team - and if charm and hospitality count for anything they will be at the business end of the leader board.

There was no sign of Danish Dynamite on Saturday, as England swept past their Scandinavian opponents in the World Cup. Maybe Denmark will take their revenge at the table?

We tend to get a lot of visitors to the Bulletin office. Great if you are bringing an important message, reporting an interesting deal or wanting to subscribe to Bridge Magazine, IMP or Le Bridgeur, but otherwise don't forget the standard fee of one bottle of red wine!

At the Captain's meeting the names of the teams were called out one by one. After Sweden one was interjected 'Senegal'.

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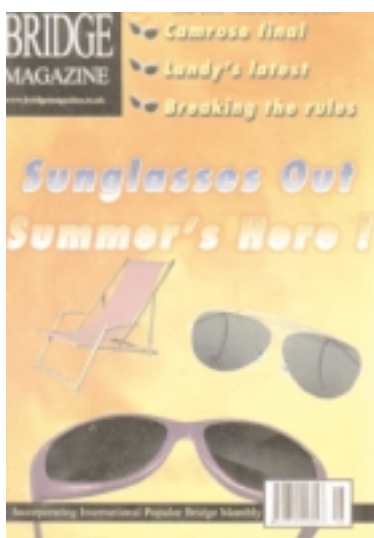
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A Very Special Offer



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.

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

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

US Open Team Trials



The US Open Team Trials in Memphis has reached its final stage. In fact today (Monday June 17th) after a knock out of 21 teams the final between team Nickell (-Freeman, Meckwell, Soloway-Hamman) and team Schwartz (-Becker, Mahmood-Rosenberg, Berkowitz-Cohen) is to be concluded over 120 boards. The winning team will be nominated as the US Open International Team representative competing for the 2003 WBF Bermuda Bowl. A second US Team will be selected June 2003.