

Daily Bulletin

46th European Bridge
Teams Championships

Salsomaggiore Terme - Italy
15th - 29th June 2002

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Bulletin 3

Tuesday, 18 June 2002

Italy Retain The Lead



VuGraph before the crash

Italy started the day with a third 25 VP win and although they could not maintain that pace they are still at the top of the leader board. They are followed by the **Czech Republic** and **Lebanon**. With **Denmark** and **Sweden** at the wrong end of the table, you can see just how strong these Championships are.

The day was not without drama as during Round 3 the main network totally collapsed, disrupting the VuGraph presentation, shutting down the Press Room and affecting the Internet connection.

Fortunately the local network operating between the Bulletin computers survived, enabling this edition to appear.

Today's VuGraph Matches

Bulgaria v Israel	10.30
Scotland v Iceland	14.15
Netherlands v Czech Rep.	17.35

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Press Room

Please note that the Press Room is strictly for the use of working journalists.

Using the computers for other purposes is not permitted.

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 6 10.30**

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

ROUND 7 14.15

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

ROUND 8 17.35

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

OPEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 3**

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	POLAND	SAN MARINO	14 - 33	11 - 19
2	HUNGARY	CROATIA	41 - 49	14 - 16
3	FINLAND	NORWAY	32 - 101	2 - 25
4	IRELAND	GERMANY	30 - 76	6 - 24
5	ISRAEL	YUGOSLAVIA	69 - 56	18 - 12
6	FRANCE	TURKEY	50 - 46	16 - 14
7	SWITZERLAND	ENGLAND	44 - 69	10 - 20
8	SLOVENIA	BULGARIA	40 - 65	10 - 20
9	PORTUGAL	CYPRUS	56 - 58	15 - 15
10	LEBANON	FAROE ISLANDS	69 - 51	19 - 11
11	CZECH REP	LIECHTENSTEIN	90 - 31	25 - 4
12	ITALY	DENMARK	82 - 34	25 - 5
13	MONACO	UKRAINE	53 - 58	14 - 16
14	SCOTLAND	SWEDEN	49 - 31	19 - 11
15	WALES	GREECE	60 - 69	13 - 17
16	SPAIN	NETHERLANDS	21 - 48	9 - 21
17	ROMANIA	BELGIUM	38 - 33	16 - 14
18	AUSTRIA	ICELAND	47 - 52	14 - 16
19	RUSSIA	LATVIA	63 - 43	19 - 11

ROUND 4

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	LATVIA	AUSTRIA	37 - 100	3 - 25
2	ICELAND	ROMANIA	54 - 25	21 - 9
3	BELGIUM	SPAIN	23 - 54	9 - 21
4	NETHERLANDS	WALES	41 - 1	23 - 7
5	GREECE	SCOTLAND	40 - 19	19 - 11
6	SWEDEN	MONACO	47 - 52	14 - 16
7	UKRAINE	ITALY	71 - 53	19 - 11
8	DENMARK	CZECH REP	32 - 45	12 - 18
9	LIECHTENSTEIN	LEBANON	22 - 69	6 - 24
10	FAROE ISLANDS	PORTUGAL	59 - 36	20 - 10
11	CYPRUS	SLOVENIA	39 - 51	13 - 17
12	BULGARIA	SWITZERLAND	50 - 40	17 - 13
13	ENGLAND	FRANCE	43 - 58	12 - 18
14	TURKEY	ISRAEL	29 - 55	7 - 20
15	YUGOSLAVIA	IRELAND	22 - 54	8 - 22
16	GERMANY	FINLAND	23 - 77	4 - 25
17	NORWAY	HUNGARY	35 - 43	14 - 16
18	CROATIA	POLAND	34 - 47	12 - 18
19	SAN MARINO	RUSSIA	32 - 83	5 - 25

ROUND 5

	Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1	POLAND	NORWAY	39 - 35	16 - 14
2	HUNGARY	GERMANY	44 - 19	20 - 10
3	FINLAND	YUGOSLAVIA	32 - 49	11 - 19
4	IRELAND	TURKEY	21 - 33	13 - 17
5	ISRAEL	ENGLAND	51 - 24	21 - 9
6	FRANCE	BULGARIA	32 - 18	18 - 12
7	SWITZERLAND	CYPRUS	46 - 40	16 - 14
8	SLOVENIA	FAROE ISLANDS	27 - 47	11 - 19
9	PORTUGAL	LIECHTENSTEIN	73 - 36	23 - 7
10	LEBANON	DENMARK	41 - 12	21 - 9
11	CZECH REP	UKRAINE	58 - 6	25 - 5
12	ITALY	SWEDEN	49 - 14	22 - 8
13	MONACO	GREECE	41 - 29	17 - 13
14	SCOTLAND	NETHERLANDS	52 - 21	21 - 9
15	WALES	BELGIUM	49 - 30	19 - 11
16	SPAIN	ICELAND	48 - 27	19 - 11
17	ROMANIA	AUSTRIA	55 - 36	19 - 11
18	CROATIA	RUSSIA	22 - 24	15 - 15
19	SAN MARINO	LATVIA	34 - 48	12 - 18

OPEN TEAMS RANKING after 5 rounds

1	ITALY	108.00
2	CZECH REP.	104.00
3	LEBANON	101.00
4	NETHERLANDS	98.00
5	ICELAND	96.00
6	RUSSIA	95.00
7	SCOTLAND	91.00
8	ISRAEL	91.00
9	BULGARIA	90.00
10	SPAIN	86.00
11	POLAND	85.00
12	NORWAY	84.00
13	ENGLAND	84.00
14	HUNGARY	83.00
15	FRANCE	81.00
16	AUSTRIA	80.00
17	MONACO	80.00
18	YUGOSLAVIA	76.00
19	IRELAND	75.00
20	WALES	74.00
21	ROMANIA	73.00
22	CROATIA	70.00
23	GREECE	70.00
24	UKRAINE	69.00
25	TURKEY	68.00
26	GERMANY	66.00
27	SWITZERLAND	65.00
28	PORTUGAL	63.00
29	FINLAND	62.00
30	SAN MARINO	61.00
31	SLOVENIA	60.00
32	CYPRUS	59.00
33	FAROE ISLANDS	59.00
34	SWEDEN	54.00
35	DENMARK	53.00
36	BELGIUM	42.00
37	LATVIA	39.00
38	LIECHTENSTEIN	28.00

Polish Open Team

In Salsomaggiore, the Poland (open team) is represented by:

K. Martens - M Lesniewski
C. Balicki - A. Zmudzinski
P. Bizon - D. Kowalski

The first two pairs are known all round the world. The case of the third is very interesting as both Bizon and Kowalski were last known as Polish players in the 80-ties.

Piotr Bizon (born in 1956) represented Poland in 1987 European Open Teams Championship in Brighton (with A. Wilkosz) - 4th place. In 1990 he got an offer from M. Lesniewski to play together and to become a professional player. At the same time Bizon wrote a very good work on Physics, (he graduated from the Physics Department at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow) about the "black holes" and received a few offers of work from wide-known European Universities. He had a life choice decision.

He chose Physics. For over 8 year he worked as a professor of physics at the Universities in Vienna, Dublin and University of Michigan (USA). He completely stopped playing bridge.

Dariusz Kowalski (born in 1963) represented Poland in European Junior Teams Championship in Budapest (1985). He played in the Polish First Division till 1993 (with no significant success) and gave up playing at all. He became a licensed investment advisor and he is working now for an Investment Management Company in Warsaw.

In 2001 they both decided to return. In their first tournament they won Polish National Pairs Championship (a very prestigious and tough tournament), playing together for the first time, and after several years of break!! They started playing in the national trials and finished 4th. The PBU Board decided to nominate them to the national open team. This is the most effective and quickest come back in the history of the PBU.

Poland has a very democratic selection process. Every pair may participate starting from the local selections. The better pairs may join later. The final stage consists of 10 pairs: 7 from national trials plus the 3 of the former national team. The 10 pairs are playing twice; First they play against each other (so 9x16 board matches), and the 2nd one against 10 foreign pairs so another 10x16 board matches (This year it has been Dutch pairs.).

The first 2 pairs are automatically members of the national team. The 3rd pair is nominated by the PBU Board out of the 3rd, 4th or 5th pair.

As a result over 1.200 pairs decided to participate including all the top Polish players: (e.g. 5th place Gawrys-Jassem, 7th place Kwicien-Pszczola, 8th place Kowalski-Tuszynski).

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

www.eurobridge.org

GLI INCONTRI DEGLI AZZURRI BOARD PER BOARD

3° INCONTRO OPEN: ITALIA - DANIMARCA

Aperta: NORD Bocchi / SUD Duboin ITA
EST D. Schaltz / OVEST P. Schaltz DAN

Chiusa: SUD Blakset / NORD Bruun DAN
EST Lauria / OVEST Versace ITA



BOARD 1

La linea EO, in possesso di una leggera predominanza di punti, interviene sull'apertura avversaria dichiarando un minore per parte (con reciproco misfit) finendo a giocare a senz'atout. I nostri in chiusa si fermano a 2 senza cadendo di 2 prese, i danesi in aperta giocano 3 senza -3. 2 I.M.P. all'Italia.

BOARD 2

3 quadri in EO in entrambe le sale; surlevée per i danesi, che guadagnano 1 I.M.P.

BOARD 3

Mentre Lauria-Versace, in chiusa, sono bravi, in sfavore di zona, a rialzare a livello 5 nel proprio atout (cuori) sul 4 picche dei danesi, realizzando addirittura 12 prese grazie alla favorevole posizione di tutte le carte avversarie (680 per noi), i coniugi Schaltz, loro omologhi di linea in aperta, contrano 4 picche a Bocchi, che cade di 2 (300 per loro). 9 I.M.P. agli azzurri, che conducono di 10.

BOARD 4

Gli Schaltz giocano 4 cuori e vanno 1 down. Lauria-Versace, nonostante il fit a cuori, scelgono di proteggere la doppia retta nel colore di apertura avversaria (quadri) e di evitarsi il problema, che esisterebbe giocando a colore, di dover effettuare tagli al morto (che ha una 4-3-3-3). Brillante decisione: 3 senza +1. 12 I.M.P. all'Italia, che si porta 23-1.

BOARD 5

Bocchi-Duboin fanno 4 picche +2; Blakset-Bruun si spingono, in tentativo di slam, fino a 5, mantenendo il contratto senza surlevée. 1 I.M.P. per gli azzurri.

BOARD 6

Ancora 8 carte a cuori per i NS. I danesi scelgono questa volta la manche a senza e cadono di una presa. Bocchi-Duboin giocano invece con atout cuori; Benché il livello 5 a cui si spin-

gono sia a rischio, Bocchi mantiene, grazie ad una consistente collaborazione difensiva e ad una brillante linea di gioco, il contratto, portando, con un altro doppio score, ancora 11 I.M.P. all'Italia.

Board 6 - dich Est - EO in zona

<p>♠ 9 7 4 2 ♥ 3 ♦ A Q 4 3 ♣ J 8 6 4</p>	<p>♠ A K Q 8 6 5 ♥ K Q 8 ♦ J 2 ♣ A 10</p> <table style="margin: 0 auto; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">O E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table> <p>♠ - ♥ A 9 7 5 4 ♦ 10 8 7 6 5 ♣ Q 9 7</p>	N	O E	S	<p>♠ J 10 3 ♥ J 10 6 2 ♦ K 9 ♣ K 5 3 2</p>
N					
O E					
S					

L'attacco è Fante di picche. Bocchi prende in mano, taglia una picche e gioca due giri di cuori finendo in mano. Ora comincia ad incassare le picche vincenti scartando le quadri del morto. Est non taglia e Norberto realizza così il contratto.

BOARD 7

1 I.M.P. alla Danimarca, che ottiene una surlevée nel contratto di 4 cuori, giocato dai NS in entrambe le sale.



BOARD 8

La competizione ad alto livello degli EO spinge i NS, in entrambe le sale, ad un infattibile slam a cuori. Parità.

BOARD 9

Lauria-Versace chiamano con ottima valutazione 4 picche con 21 punti in linea e ne fanno 5 in zona; dall'altra parte gli Schaltz stoppano al parziale. 10 all'Italia, che si porta 45 a 2.

BOARD 10

Con 19 punti in linea ed una distribuzione selvaggia, con grosso doppio fit rosso, Lauria-Versace raggiungono il contratto di 6 cuori, imbattibile se chiamato dalla parte giusta, prendendo il contro. La difesa non incassa sull'attacco l'Asso di fiori, unica presa di sua spettanza, e Alfredo gira 13 prese marcando +1860.



Gli Schaltz, loro omologhi di linea, scelgono invece l'altro atout, quadri, ma giocano soltanto manche. L'attacco Dama di fiori penalizzerebbe questo contratto, ma Duboin tenta normalmente di incassare l'Asso di picche sull'attacco e i danesi mantengono l'impegno. 15 I.M.P. per noi.

♠ 9 4 ♥ A K 8 6 4 ♦ A 10 8 ♣ K 8 5	♠ K J 10 3 2 ♥ J 5 ♦ 7 ♣ A J 9 7 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 5px auto;"> N O E S </div> ♠ A Q 8 7 6 5 ♥ Q 9 ♦ J 9 2 ♣ Q 6	♠ - ♥ 10 7 3 2 ♦ K Q 6 5 4 3 ♣ 10 4 3
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La bella dichiarazione in chiusa.

West	North	East	Sud
Versace		Lauria	
contro	2NT	3♠	1♠
4♥	4♠	5♥	Passo
Passo	5♠	Passo	Passo
6♥	contro	fine	

A metà incontro Italia 60 - Danimarca 2.

BOARD 11

Perdiamo 4 I.M.P. andando 1 down a 3 senza in chiusa e subendo il parziale a quadri realizzato dai danesi in aperta.

BOARD 12

Ancora 4 I.M.P. ai nordici, che realizzano 1 cuori +1 in aperta e incassano 1 down sul 2 senza dei nostri in chiusa.

BOARD 13

1 I.M.P. per noi, che incassiamo una surlevée in più dei nostri avversari a 4 cuori, giocate dagli EO in tutte e due la sale.

BOARD 14

2 picche +1 in NS sia in chiusa che in aperta. Pari.

BOARD 15

Bocchi fa 4 picche in aperta, Lauria - Versace difendono a 5 quadri in chiusa e Alfredo va solo un down contratto. 11 per noi. 72 a 10 per noi.

BOARD 16

Cadiamo di 1 presa a 5 cuori in aperta e subiamo 4 fiori fatte dei danesi in chiusa; 5 I.M.P. per loro.

BOARD 17

3 senza +2 in EO in entrambe le sale. Pari.

BOARD 18

Mentre Lauria-Versace chiamano e mantengono un ottimo 3 senza in chiusa, i danesi in aperta giocano 4 cuori nella 5-1 e vanno 1 down. 10 I.M.P. all'Italia.

BOARD 19

Ci fanno 4 picche chiamate in chiusa, mentre in aperta ci fermiamo a 3 picche +1. 6 I.M.P. per loro.

BOARD 20

Ci chiamano slam in zona su un impasse che va bene; noi, dall'altra parte manche; 13 I.M.P. ai danesi.

FINALE

Italia - Danimarca 25 - 5 (82 - 34). Nel primo vero test impegnativo contro l'ostica Danimarca, storicamente avversario difficile, gli azzurri vanno oltre le più rosee aspettative, concludendo con il terzo cappotto consecutivo (25-5) che ne consolida la posizione in classifica. La formazione messa in campo dal capitano Lavazza ha concesso poco ai danesi, che hanno anche mancato alcune occasioni dichiarative e di controgio. Le mani giocate, spesso contraddistinte da distribuzioni inconsuete e complesse da controllare in fase licitativa, hanno a più riprese messo in rilievo la maggiore efficacia dei sistemi adottati dagli azzurri. Con una serie di felici decisioni, il vantaggio dell'Italia cresce progressivamente e a metà gara raggiunge i 58 I.M.P. (60-2). Nella seconda parte, nonostante il tentativo di recupero dei danesi, autori, fra l'altro, di un paio di colpi fortunati, l'Italia controlla il match. Particolarmente brillante la prestazione di Lauria e Versace. "In effetti - dichiara soddisfatto Alfredo Versace - abbiamo giocato molto bene, indovinando, in particolare, uno slam a cuori con soli 19 punti sulla linea, contratto e realizzato in zona".

Gli azzurri, dopo 3 incontri, si trovano, a punteggio pieno, al comando solitario della classifica.

Journalist Outing

The President of the European Bridge League and Mrs Gianarrigo Rona invite all journalists in good standing with the International Bridge Press Association (IBPA) to accompany them on Thursday 20th June to a lunch and visit of the Barilla Factory. The Barilla Company is one of Europe's largest Food Industries, specializing in pasta products.

The bus will leave promptly at 10.00 a.m. from outside the Palazzo dei Congressi and will return before the start of the last match of the day. Journalists who wish to go on the outing must register with Elly Ducheyne or Tania Wagenaar in the Pressroom not later than at the end of the last match on Tuesday 18th June.

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

If West continued in hearts declarer, going after the diamonds, could escape for down one. Jansma therefore continued in diamonds. Still, if declarer plays the ten and wins the jack with his ace and plays another diamond back to West, the contract is still one down. Schiffko however inserted low from dummy hoping to catch jack bare of diamonds. This resulted in down two and another five IMPs to The Netherlands which were now leading by 12 to 3.

Austria got a few IMPs back but got a hard time on two consecutive deals:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Closed room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bieder</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Babsch</i>	<i>Muller</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
INT	Pass	2♥ ⁽¹⁾	Dble
2♠	3♦	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ transfer to spades

North duly led a heart resulting in a quick down one.

Open room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Gloyer</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Schifko</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣ ⁽¹⁾
Pass	1♦ ⁽²⁾	1♠	Dble
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

⁽¹⁾ strong / ⁽²⁾ negative

After his partner's preemptive raise to 3♠ Jansma got a chance to evaluate his hand once more and bid game, which proved to be an easy make since it was played by East.

By the way, this is not a good hand for beginners, since it's hard to explain to them that occasionally the weak hand should not transfer his long suit to the strong hand and that sometimes it might be a good idea to raise partners preempt one more time.

On the next hand with only 19 HCP together De Wijs-Muller bid a vulnerable heart game, which basically comes down to the finesse of the ♠Q. The card proved to be rightsided and Holland won another 12 IMPs, since in the other room Austria rested in 3♥ making nine tricks only.

Half way all this resulted in a 37-8 lead (21-9 in VPs) for The Netherlands.

Austria won eight IMPs back:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Closed room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bieder</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Babsch</i>	<i>Muller</i>
2♣ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	2NT ⁽²⁾	Dble
3♣	Pass	Pass	4♥
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

⁽¹⁾ Precision

⁽²⁾ relay

Declarer lost his four obvious tricks; East-West minus 300. More action from the open room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Gloyer</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Schifko</i>
1♣	Pass	1♦ ⁽¹⁾	Dble
3♣	Pass	3NT	Dble
4♦	Pass	5♣	5♥
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

⁽¹⁾ negative or natural positive

Everybody had fun, especially North when he entered the bidding on the five level for the first time and managed to find the ace of trumps doubleton: East-West plus 650.

This turned out to be the last board on which Austria managed to score some IMPs.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

In the closed room the Austrians ended up in 3NT plus 1. In the open room Jansma-Verhees did not want to settle for that:

West	North	East	South
<i>Jansma</i>	<i>Gloyer</i>	<i>Verhees</i>	<i>Schifko</i>
		INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠ ⁽¹⁾	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦ ⁽²⁾	Pass
4♥ ⁽²⁾	Pass	4♠ ⁽²⁾	Pass
4NT ⁽³⁾	Pass	6♣	All Pass

⁽¹⁾ game forcing relay

⁽²⁾ cue bid

⁽³⁾ asking for extra's (No RKC)

Six clubs by West proved to be unbeatable. Anyway, Gloyer kicked off with a small and when Jansma inserted dummy's spade ten it was all over. Ten IMPs to Holland.

At Board 15 the final contract and the nice dummy play was identical at both tables:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

At both tables 6♦ was bid and made after a spade lead by East. Declarer won the ace, cashed ace and king of diamonds, finessed the ♣10, cashed the ♣K, crossed to dummy in hearts and pitched his losers on the ace and queen of clubs. Twelve tricks.

Another interesting wash on 17:

After South showed his two-suiter, the final contract at both tables was 4♠ played by West and doubled by North. In the closed room North led a diamond which ran to the jack. The heart return was for the king and ace. North cashed the ♥Q and exited with a diamond for the ace. Hereafter declarer lost control and gave away another two tricks: East-West minus 300.

In the open room Jan Jansma won North's diamond lead immediately and played a heart to the nine and the queen. A diamond came back. South won and continued the suit. Jansma ruffed with the nine, overruffed by North with the ten. Gloyer now switched to the deuce of trumps for the three and four (!). Declarer went on with a spade to the eight and cashed the ♠K as well. He then crossed to his hand with a high club on which South, Martin Schifko, followed with the ten (!). Jansma cashed the ♠A in this position:

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

Remember, declarer has already lost three tricks and could escape with one down only by playing a low heart or by guessing the clubs. Jansma, not sure about the position and tempted by Schifko's nice ♣10 (jack-ten bare or third), decided first to cash the ♣Q and then to play a club to the king. Minus 300 as well.

However, 4♠ can be made and, with the knowledge of South having a red two-suiter in combination with the penalty double, perhaps should be made: take the first diamond, pick up all four clubs and pith your second diamond. Then play hearts, but never insert the king, thus avoiding South coming in. In the meantime you finesse over North as much as you can in trumps and eventually you will end up with ten tricks.

On the rest of the boards the Dutchies managed to gain small scores on almost every hand. After twenty hands this led to the final result of Austria 6 (16) - The Netherlands 24 (61).

OPEN TEAMS
Round 2
Russia v Poland

Sunday afternoon's second match on VuGraph was the encounter between Russia and Poland. This proved to be a low-scoring match with much good play from both sides. You will find a few examples below, as well as some of the more costly mistakes.

The first board to be shown on VuGraph traditionally was board 19. Here, Petrunin found a very nice squeeze to land his heart game.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Martens	Gromov	Lesniewski	Petrunin
Pass	2♦	2♠	INT
3♦	3NT	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Martens led the ♠A and exited with a trump. Petrunin ran this to his queen, drew two more rounds of trumps and played the ♣K and another, running it to West when East showed out.

Endplayed for the first time, Martens made the best return of the ♦J to Petrunin's queen. Now Petrunin ruffed a club and led the last trump, on which he threw his losing spade, squeezing West in the process. If he threw a club, declarer's suit would get established; a diamond discard would enable declarer to play ♦A and another to endplay West again. Very well done. Russia +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krasnoselski	Balicki	Dubinina	Zmudzinski
1♦	1♥	2♠	1♣
Pass	4♥	All Pass	3♥

Here the contract was played from the other side of the table, so Dubinina could lead his singleton club, which ran to the ten and king. Zmudzinski next cashed the ♥A and then used his entry to dummy, the ♣A, to take the heart finesse. He also drew the last trump and then exited with a spade to West's bare ace. Endplayed now, West had to continue diamonds, but on play again with the third round of that suit, he could safely play on diamonds, so declarer had to go one down as there was no way to



Adam Zmudzinski, Poland

dispose of the spade losers. Russia +50 and 10 IMP's for an early lead.

Board 1 was a push, but a strange one.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Martens	Gromov	Lesniewski	Petrunin
Dble	Redble	Pass	1♦
Dble	Pass	2♠	1♥
			All Pass

Lesniewski ducked the first diamond, but won the heart switch with the ace. Next, he led a low spade off dummy, Gromov playing low. Declarer inserted the 10, losing to the jack. Petrunin returned a spade, ducked to Gromov's king. Gromov continued a diamond, the ace winning. Lesniewski then took a club finesse, won by Gromov with the queen, and another diamond went to south's jack. A second club was won by dummy's ace and the ♠A was cashed, but as the clubs broke 5-2 declarer could not avoid losing a trick to the ♠9 for one down.



Andrei Gromov, Russia

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krasnosselski	Balicki	Dubinini	Zmudzinski
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	2♦	Dble	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

This was not a success either, but in more normal fashion when declarer lost the four obvious tricks after a diamond lead. No swing.

Poland missed a game due to some surprising bidding on Vu-Graph:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Martens	Gromov	Lesniewski	Petrinin
	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Eleven tricks of course, Poland +200.

In the Closed Room, the Russians produced a more normal auction:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krasnosselski	Balicki	Dubinini	Zmudzinski
	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Of course, the same 11 tricks were made, but +450 and 6 IMPs to Russia.

Another scoring chance was missed by both sides:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Martens	Gromov	Lesniewski	Petrinin
	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

2♣ was natural, but after that good start the relays did not work to perfection. The early appearance of the ♥Q, a relief for the many who were in 7NT, made the play easy. Please note that 7♣ is a very good contract, as the spades can be established for the 13th trick.

The Poles, however, did not get to the top spot either:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krasnosselski	Balicki	Dubinini	Zmudzinski
	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Dble	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
Pass	5NT	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

After the INT opening, the full trick-taking potential of the hand could no longer be described as exactly as needed to get to the grand. No swing again.

Two boards later we had another small swing to Russia when they found a good save in the Open Room:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Martens	Gromov	Lesniewski	Petrinin
4♠	5♦	5♠	4♥
Dble	All Pass		6♥

Down one, Poland +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krasnosselski	Balicki	Dubinini	Zmudzinski
2♥	4♥	4♠	1♥
Dble	Pass	5♠	5♥
			All Pass

The slow approach by the Poles gave the Russians ample space for exploration and judgement, and they did well in going on to 5♠. Russia +450 and 8 IMPs.

Board 15 looked like a routine game, but...

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Well, on any lead you lose two spades and a heart. This proved to be true on VuGraph too, but Lesniewski had his anxious moments when Petrinin led a low spade. Gromov won the queen, returned the suit and ruffed the third spade with the ♥Q. Winning the club continuation, Lesniewski now had to lay down the ♥K and finesse the ♥10 on the next round to the applause of the VuGraph public. Well played by both sides.

In the Closed Room, on a less imaginative lead, declarer was

not tested and in fact made an overtrick when North returned the ♠Q after winning his side's trump trick.

With only one board to play on VuGraph, Russia led 18-6 but this was that last board:

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Martens	Gromov	Lesniewski	Petrinin
2♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

No problems and 11 tricks, Poland +450.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krasnosselski	Balicki	Dubinini	Zmudzinski
2♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
6♥	All Pass	5♣	Pass

Well, this contract has some play, but not enough. With the ♣K offside it had no chance at all, in fact. Poland +50 and the deficit reduced to 18-17.

Board 19 we described at the start of this report. When Zmudzinski did not match Petrinin's play in 4♥, the Russians got their lead back: 28-17. Then came the last board:

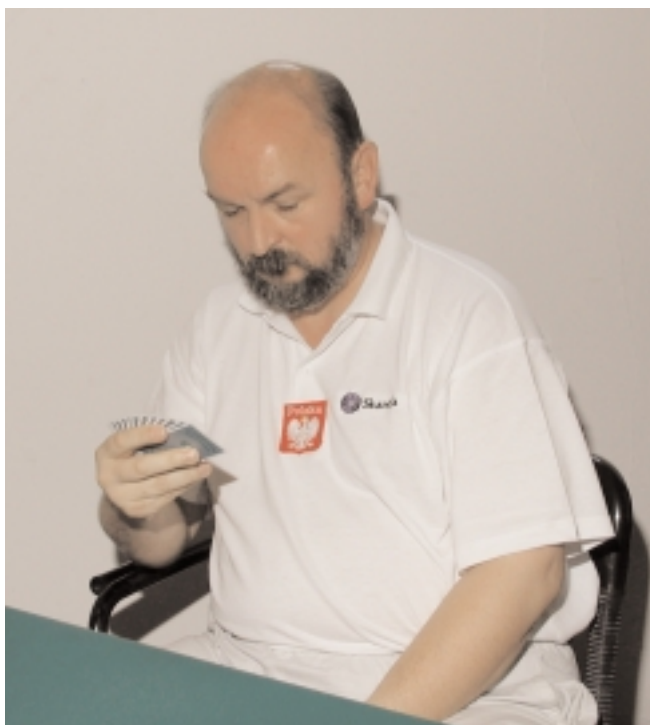
Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Martens	Gromov	Lesniewski	Petrudin
Pass	2♣	Pass	INT
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♦

Play was over very quickly here. Martens led a low club, Petrudin called for dummy's king and when this held, claimed nine tricks. Russia +600.



Krzysztof Martens, Poland

In the other room, however, intervention on a light two suiter led to a heavy loss for the Russians when the Poles found a perfect defence:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Krasnosselski	Balicki	Dubinina	Zmudzinski
2♣	Dble	Redble	INT
2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
All Pass			Dble

E/W found a reasonable 4-4 fit and as they also held some promising side suits prospects looked reasonable. The pattern changed dramatically, however, when Balicki led the ♥Q and switched to a low diamond. Zmudzinski won and played three more rounds of trumps, North throwing spades. Declarer was in dummy now and played another diamond, possibly not his best move. South cashed his diamonds and exited with a club, won by declarer's ace. The only thing declarer could do now was cash out his winners and concede down four, 1100 to Poland and a swing of 11 IMP's to tie the match at 28-28.

Good - Better

A good defense in the closed room was beaten by an even better one in the open. It all happened when Spain met The Netherlands in Round 3 of the Open.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

♠ 7		
♥ Q		
♦ A K J 9 7 6 5		
♣ J 7 6 3		

		N		
	W		E	
				S

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

Closed room

West	North	East	South
Torres	De Wijs	Frances	Muller
1♥	2♦	Pass	Pass
2♥	3♦	Dble	Pass
All Pass		Pass	3NT

José Ignacio Torres led a top spade, saw the dummy and went into the tank. When he finally got out of it, he did the right thing: tabling the ♣Q. Declarer won the king, played a diamond to the ace and the ♥Q. West won the ace and continued in clubs. A smooth down one. Good defense though a diamond switch at trick two and a possible diamond continuation would do also, since declarer is bound for a suicide squeeze. Still, in the open room the defence did even better, much better:

West	North	East	South
Jansma	Ventin	Verhees	Lantaran
Pass	3♦	2♠ ⁽¹⁾	Pass
3♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	Dble

⁽¹⁾ "Muiderberg": five spades and a minor, 0-7 HCP

With his seven bagger Juan Carl Ventin didn't want to stand his partner's double, but tried 3NT. The spade lead by East went for the ten and the king. Like in the closed room Jan Jansma switched to ♣Q. Declarer won the king and, in view of the bidding, not unreasonable played a diamond to the jack. When the smoked cleared 3NT was "five in the mountains" as they say in Holland.

In the News

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

OPEN TEAMS
Round 3
Italy v Denmark

On Monday morning, the overnight leaders, host country Italy, got the chance to clarify their position at the top of the standings with maximum VP to a larger audience. They were to face Denmark, who had not made a particularly solid start. The first two boards to be shown on the screens were 19 and 20, and both looked favourable to Denmark. They will appear at the end of this report, however.

On the first two boards, Italy took the lead by 2 IMPs to 1, but then a series on eight boards came on which the Italians recorded five major swings. Here are four of them in extenso.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P. Schaltz	Bocchi	D. Schaltz	Duboin
1♥	Dble	2♦	1♣
4♥	4♠	Dble	Pass
			All Pass

In spite of knowing about the double fit Peter Schaltz elected to pass his partner's double, thus going for a solid +300 to Denmark. There was more in the board, however, as was proved at the other table:



Alfredo Versace, Italy

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Bruun	Lauria	Blakset
1♥	2♠	Dble	3♠
4♥	4♠	5♥	All Pass

Here, Lauria could "see" his partner's spade void from the bidding, so he was in a good position NOT to double 4♠. Right he was: Italy +680 when Versace took a second-round diamond finesse. Nine IMPs.

Then came:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P. Schaltz	Bocchi	D. Schaltz	Duboin
Pass	1♦	INT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Simple straightforward bidding led to a perfectly normal contract. On the actual layout, the winning defence was perfectly normal too: top diamond won by the ace, trump to the jack and ace followed by two more rounds of diamonds, South ruffing the third round with the queen to promote the setting tricks. Italy +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Bruun	Lauria	Blakset
Pass	1♦	INT	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

A transfer sequence this time followed by two descriptive bids which enabled Lauria to sit 3NT. Once again, he was right, but best defence might have given him a nasty time. South leads the ♦10 and North ducks. At the table, North put up the queen and Lauria ducked, which was the end of the defence as Lauria now could give a heart trick to South who was already out of diamonds. So Italy registered a well-earned +630 and 12 more IMPs.

On board 6, Italy got another big swing when a game was let through at one table, and after two quiet boards we saw the mini-NT in operation:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ AKQ2 ♥ 984 ♦ A864 ♣ 102	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J10875 ♥ 1072 ♦ 5 ♣ AQJ5
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ 6 ♥ AQ63 ♦ K10932 ♣ 876										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P. Scholtz</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>D. Scholtz</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
	INT	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	Pass	2♦
Pass	Pass	2♠	All Pass

The problem here is, whether West is worth a raise when partner first passes the double of the 9-12 NT and then introduces a suit of her own in which you happen to hold AKQx. The VuGrpah majority view was yes, but it has to be taken into account that they could see the hands...

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Bruun</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Blakset</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	2♦	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

The weak N/S bidding seemed to solve the Italian problems, as they bid up to game almost too easily... another 10 IMPs to the Azzurri.

And the most sensational swing of them all:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 94 ♥ AK864 ♦ A108 ♣ K85	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ - ♥ 10732 ♦ KQ6543 ♣ 1043
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ AQ8765 ♥ Q9 ♦ J92 ♣ Q6										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P. Scholtz</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>D. Scholtz</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
		Pass	2♠
Dble	4♠	5♦	All Pass

Looking at the hand superficially, the Danes in the Open Room seemed to have won the board for their side when Duboin failed to find the killing ♣Q lead but put the ♠A on the table instead. Denmark +600 whereas 6♠ goes down only two which would net just +500 to them.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Bruun</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Blakset</i>
		Pass	1♠
Dble	2NT	3♠	Pass
4♥	4♠	5♥	Pass
Pass	5♠	Pass	Pass
6♥	Dble	All Pass	

For the third time in this short string of boards, Lauria did very well. It was his 3♠-bid that enabled Versace to take the winning decision of going on to 6♥ later on. With the hearts 2-2 and the ♣K protected on the lead, this was unbeatable, so Italy scored a rarely seen +1860 and 15 IMPs.

As Denmark recorded two small partscore gains the score stood at 61-10 when the next swing board hit the wall. Once again, the Italians were at the positive side of it:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ K103 ♥ KJ5 ♦ Q109875 ♣ 6	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W</td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ 2 ♥ Q943 ♦ AJ43 ♣ 10874
	N										
W		E									
	S										
	♠ AQ965 ♥ 87 ♦ K2 ♣ KQ92										
	♠ J874 ♥ A1062 ♦ 6 ♣ AJ53										

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P. Scholtz</i>	<i>Bocchi</i>	<i>D. Scholtz</i>	<i>Duboin</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Ten undisturbed tricks, Italy +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Versace</i>	<i>Bruun</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Blakset</i>
		Pass	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	3NT
4♦	4♠	5♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	



Peter Schaltz, Denmark

Versace showed more enterprising spirit than Schaltz when he went for the intervention over 3NT which showed spades. This time, he hit Lauria with a more than suitable hand, so another good score for Italy was born. NS can make 5♠ but it would be asking far too much of them to bid on and prove it. Denmark thus had to be content with +100 only and lost another 11 IMPs.

On the last board to be displayed on VuGraph, we saw another variation on the theme of the superiority of 3NT over 4♥.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P. Schaltz	Bocchi	D. Schaltz	Duboin
1♥	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
Pass	Pass	3♠	Dble
4♦	Pass	Redble	Pass
		4♥	All Pass

Duboin's unexpected double of 3♠ complicated matters for EW. Though 3NT is unbeatable, it did not look a safe spot any longer. Besides, had dummy held any higher heart singleton, 4♥ might have been in safety as well. As it was, four rounds of spades beat 4♥ when North could ruff in front of dummy's ♥3.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Bruun	Lauria	Blakset
1♥	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass	3♠	Dble

The same unexpected double here, but Versace was not to be disturbed. He realised that 4♥ might be in danger and that 3NT might still be made on many a layout of the entire spade suit. Well judged, Italy another 400 and 10 IMPs to bring to score to 82-10.

After all this one-way traffic, we come to the final two boards of the match. The Vugraph audience knew from the beginning that these boards might be useful to Denmark, and so it proved.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P. Schaltz	Bocchi	D. Schaltz	Duboin
2♣	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♠	All Pass	Dble

When the defence started off with three rounds of clubs, Bocchi could ruff in hand and lead a heart to the nine which held to ensure his contract. He simply continued with one round of trumps and another heart from the board, felling the ace. Italy +170. The light 2♣-overall had done its work.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Bruun	Lauria	Blakset
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♠		4♦

When Versace did not overcall (he was vulnerable, after all), the Danes had a free run as North could show his spades immediately. Lauria once again made the best lead, the ♦J to the queen and king, but later on the defence slipped when it failed to take the two club tricks available. Denmark +420 and 6 IMPs back.



Dorte Schaltz, Denmark

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

♠ A 10 8 3 2
♥ 7 4
♦ 8 7 6 2
♣ 7 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P. Schaltz	Bocchi	D. Schaltz	Duboin
Pass	1♣	1♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Always good to bid and make a slam after an opening bid at the one-level by an opponent. The slam was on the diamond finesse, but very much odds-on in view of that opening bid. Well done, Denmark +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Bruun	Lauria	Blakset
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	2♠	2NT	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

When Versace opened the bidding in first seat, Bruun could not give away the show any more, so the Italians settled for the safe game. This late swing brought the final score to 82-34 to Italy, another maximus 25-5.

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Championship Diary

We are almost up to speed after a slow start, and the discovery that there is free wine in barrels has boosted moral. Tacchi is currently trying to solve the problem of how to move the barrels into the Bulletin office.

Alain Levy was faced by a dilemma yesterday, as he is Captain of France and has coached Turkey. They met in Round 3 and he may have been worried that a big win for either would put one of his jobs in jeopardy. Turkey raced into a big lead, but France came right back to just win, 16-14, so both positions look secure.

Ron Tacchi has calculated that by the end of the Championships the number of stairs he will have climbed will be the equivalent of three ascents of the Empire State Building. It is also rumoured he will have consumed a similar number of beers.