

Accor Hotels World Youth Team Championships Sydney Olympic Park - Australia

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Bulletin 7

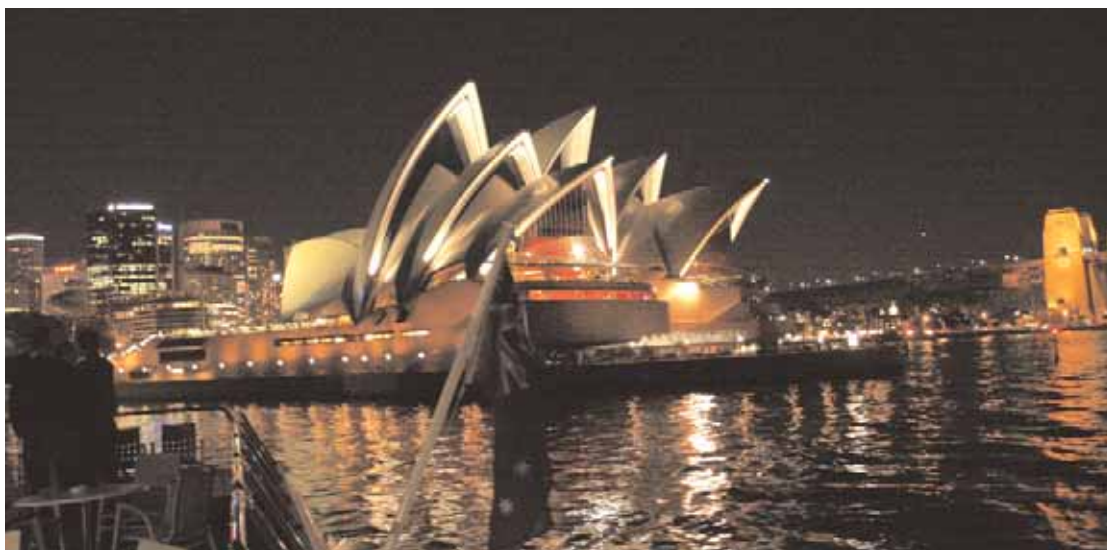
Sunday, 14 August 2005

**7th to 17th
August 2005**

Australia
Brazil
Canada
Chile
China Hong Kong
Chinese Taipei
Egypt
England
France
Hungary
Israel
Japan
New Zealand
Norway
Pakistan
Poland
U.S.A. 1
U.S.A. 2



A GREAT DAY OUT



The Sydney Opera House as seen from the dinner cruise ship

The weather was just perfect for yesterday's outing, allowing everyone to have a great time. After leaving the hotel around lunchtime the first stop was at the Koala Park, where there was time to relax for a while before enjoying the barbecue lunch.

There was plenty of time after lunch to explore the park and, as well as seeing the many different species of Australian animals, including getting up close enough to cuddle koalas, wallabies and even wombats, there was an exhibition of sheep-shearing. Anyone who had never seen an expert sheep-shearer at work would have been amazed at the speed and skill displayed.

The evening featured a dinner cruise with an excellent menu of well-prepared local food. The cruise took us along the Paramatta River and around the gulf, passing the famous Sydney Opera House and

other local landmarks. All in all, one of the best rest days of recent youth championships.

Those who did not go on the dinner cruise would have been impressed with the organisation and atmosphere surrounding the rugby union international in the Telstra Stadium, just next to the hotel. Unlike soccer crowds in many parts of the world, the Australian and New Zealand fans mixed together happily with no hint of trouble and a good time was had by all – even if the result (a 30-13 win for New Zealand) would not have pleased the majority of the crowd.



VUGRAPH MATCHES

Poland - Australia	10.00
Israel - Canada	14.10
to be announced	17.40





TODAY'S PROGRAM

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 15

1	USA2	FRANCE
2	CHILE	JAPAN
3	NORWAY	HUNGARY
4	ISRAEL	CHINESE TAIPEI
5	BRAZIL	EGYPT
6	USA1	NEW ZEALAND
7	CANADA	ENGLAND
8	POLAND	AUSTRALIA
9	CHINA HONG KONG	PAKISTAN

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 16

1	EGYPT	FRANCE
2	CHINESE TAIPEI	NEW ZEALAND
3	HUNGARY	ENGLAND
4	JAPAN	AUSTRALIA
5	USA2	PAKISTAN
6	CHILE	CHINA HONG KONG
7	NORWAY	POLAND
8	ISRAEL	CANADA
9	BRAZIL	USA1

ROUND ROBIN SESSION 17

1	FRANCE	USA1
2	CANADA	BRAZIL
3	POLAND	ISRAEL
4	CHINA HONG KONG	NORWAY
5	PAKISTAN	CHILE
6	AUSTRALIA	USA2
7	ENGLAND	JAPAN
8	NEW ZEALAND	HUNGARY
9	EGYPT	CHINESE TAIPEI

RANKING AFTER SESSION 14

1	POLAND	286
2	FRANCE	264
3	USA 1	261.8
4	CANADA	247
5	AUSTRALIA	233
6	NORWAY	222
7	HUNGARY	221
8	ISRAEL	220.7
9	CHINESE TAIPEI	212
10	JAPAN	201
11	ENGLAND	199
12	CHILE	198
13	EGYPT	197
14	CHINA HONG KONG	193
15	BRAZIL	190
16	USA 2	187
17	NEW ZEALAND	137
18	PAKISTAN	50



BridgeBase Online Vugraph Matches

Norway - Hungary & Brazil - Egypt	10.00
Chinese Taipei - New Zealand & USA 2 - Pakistan	14.10
To be announced	17.40

Individual and Swiss Pairs

As listed in the Official Program, there is a two-session Individual competition and also a two-session Swiss Pairs. Those wishing to take part, please enter these two competitions in advance by putting your names on the lists posted from Sunday morning near the scoring table.

The times of the competitions are as follows:

Individual: Monday and Tuesday at 14.10 (The sessions will be shorter than as listed in the program)

Swiss Pairs: Monday and Tuesday at 20.30

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ROUND ROBIN

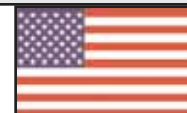
Round 13



CANADA

v

USA 2



by Ron Klinger

Try this problem:

West	North	East	South
2♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
What would you do as South with:			
	♠ 9 7 3		
	♥ A 7 4		
	♦ J 3		
	♣ A 9 8 5 4		

(See Board 19 later)

The excitement started on the first board with a possible slam and a sacrifice:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A K 9 7 3	♠ 10	♠ Q J 8 6 4 2
♥ 6	♥ A K J 7	♥ Q
♦ Q 7	♦ K 5 4 2	♦ 10 9 8 3
♣ 10 9 7 4 3	♣ A 8 6 5	♣ J 2
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">N</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">E</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">W</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">S</div> </div>	
	♠ 5	
	♥ 10 9 8 5 4 3 2	
	♦ A J 6	
	♣ K Q	

Datum: N/S +570

West	North	East	South
Capes	M.Rice	Grainger	J.Rice
4♠	1♦	2♠	3♥
	5♥	All Pass	

Lead: ♠A; 12 tricks, +480

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Wolpert	Crank	Demuy
4♠	1♣	2♠	Dble
	Dble	All Pass	

Lead: ♣K

Declarer lost the obvious five top losers for two down, -300, and 5 Imps to USA2.

Both sides bid the slam in the Chile vs USA1 match:

West	North	East	South
Robles	Grue	Pacareu	Kranyak
4♠	1♦	2♠	3♥
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
	6♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Smith	Hurd	Riedel
4♠	1♥	2♠	3♠
Pass	Dble	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣(i)	Pass	5♥(ii)
	6♥	All pass	

(i) 0 or 3 key cards

(ii) In case it is 0

Then USA2 took a phantom sacrifice, but picked up IMPs anyway:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ J 6 5	♠ 9 7 2	♠ A K Q 8 3
♥ J 6	♥ K Q 10 9 7 2	♥ 5 3
♦ 10 9 5 3 2	♦ -	♦ K 6 4
♣ J 10 4	♣ A 7 6 2	♣ K Q 5
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">N</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">E</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">W</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">S</div> </div>	
	♠ 10 4	
	♥ A 8 4	
	♦ A Q J 8 7	
	♣ 9 8 3	

Datum: N/S +170

West	North	East	South
Capes	M.Rice	Grainger	J.Rice
Pass	2♥	1♠	2♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	3♥
		All Pass	

Lead: ♠A

East continued with ♠Q. West had played ♠6, then ♠5. A club switch will defeat the contract, but East played the SK, ruffed in dummy. Next came the ♣A, club discard, and the ♦Q, club discard, run to the ♦K. East shifted to the ♣K, too late, taken by the ace. After ♥K, heart to the ace, declarer threw his remaining club loser on the ♦J for +620.

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Wolpert	Crank	Demuy
INT	2♥	1♠	Pass
4♠	Dble	3♠	4♦
		All Pass	

Lead: ♥4

North won and shifted to the ♣6. East's ♣K held and he drew trumps, then exited with a heart won by North, who played a third heart. East ruffed and played the ♣Q. North took it and played a fourth heart, ruffed. As South was

down to only diamonds East was bound to make a diamond tricks and escape for -300.8 IMPs to USA2.

In Chile versus USA1 both tables reached 4♥ after East opened 1♠. Smith for Chile made his game, not so Grue at the other table. Pacareu led the ♠A and switched at trick 2 to the ♣K, West playing a helpful ♣J. Perhaps the club switch can wait till trick three, but where else could the defence collect four tricks in all?

Grue took the ♣A, played a heart to the ace, pitched a spade on the ♦A and another on the ♦Q. The defence collected two club tricks for one down and 12 IMPs to Chile.

It was the same outcome in France versus Israel, where both Norths played in 4♥ after East had opened 1♠ and both Easts led a top spade. The French declarer succeeded, while at the other table O. Bessis also switched to the ♣K at trick two and the contract went one down.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 7 3		
♥ 10 6		
♦ A Q 6 4 3		
♣ J 4 3		
♠ K J 10 6		♠ A 9 8 2
♥ A K 9 4 3		♥ J 8 5
♦ 7		♦ 10 5 2
♣ 10 8 6		♣ 9 5 2
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
	♠ 5 4	
	♥ Q 7 2	
	♦ K J 9 8	
	♣ A K Q 7	

Datum: N/S +200

In Canada vs USA2 both sides played in 3♣ for +110. There was far more excitement in the other BBO matches.



Michael Rice, USA

Chile versus USA1:

West	North	East	South
Robles	Grue	Pacareu	Kranyak
INT			
2♣(i)	3NT	All Pass	
(i) Majors			
West led the ♥A: six – five – seven and continued with the ♥3. Ten tricks to South, +430.			

West	North	East	South
Wooldridge	Smith	Hurd	Riedel
INT			
2♣(i)	2♠	Dble	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

(i) Majors

No doubt North regrets that 2♠ bid now, but the aftermath was not easy to foresee. West led the ♠J to give the defence four tricks there and when East switched to the ♥J, they had five more tricks. Down five, -250, and 12 IMPs to USA1.

France versus Israel:

West	North	East	South
Hoffman	T.Bessis	Ofir	Gaviard
INT			
Dble*	3NT	All Pass	

*Majors

West led the ♥4; ten tricks and France +430.

West	North	East	South
De Tessieres	Ginossar	O.Bessis	Reshef
Wooldridge	Smith	Hurd	Riedel
INT			
2♣(i)	2♦	2♠	3♦
3♠	All Pass		

(i) Majors

South began with three rounds of clubs and switched to the ♦K, followed by the ♦8, ruffed with the ♠6. Declarer cashed the ♥A and ♠SK and continued with the ♠J, seven, eight, five. The next spade drew North's trump. As South had a doubleton spade, declarer played South to have started with ♥Q-x-x and led the ♥J. This pinned North's ♥10 and gave declarer nine tricks for +140 and 11 IMPs to France. Things were quiet for the next ten boards, then:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 6 4		
♥ 9 5 2		
♦ J 10 5 4 3 2		
♣ 9 8		
♠ A 9 3 2		♠ K 8 7 5
♥ K Q 10 4		♥ 6
♦ 9 6		♦ K Q 8 7
♣ K J 3		♣ Q 6 4 2
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
	♠ Q J 10	
	♥ A J 8 7 3	
	♦ A	
	♣ A 10 7 5	

Datum: N/S -140

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Wolpert	Crank	Demuy
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Lead: ♣9

Declarer made nine tricks for +140.

West	North	East	South
Capes	M.Rice	Grainger	J.Rice
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Lead: ♥9

South ducked the lead to West, who continued with the ♦9: two – eight! – ace. South played a low heart, West winning to play ♦6, ten, queen, five of clubs. A club to the jack was followed by the ♣K. South won and cashed the ♥A for the third and final trick for the defence. +630 and 10 IMPs to Canada.

A like gain ensued on the next board:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 8 7 6 5 3	♠ A K	♠ Q 9 4
♥ 7 5 3	♥ Q 9	♥ A 10 4 2
♦ A J 8 4	♦ 9 7 5 3 2	♦ 10 6
♣ 9	♣ A Q 10 8	♣ K 6 4 2
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;"> N W E S </div> </div>	
	♠ J 10 2	
	♥ K J 8 6	
	♦ K Q	
	♣ J 7 5 3	

Datum: N/S +40

West	North	East	South
Hurd	Wolpert	Crank	Demuy
	INT	Pass	Pass
Pass		Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Lead: ♥4

This was a helpful lead and declarer made nine tricks for +400.

West	North	East	South
Capes	M.Rice	Grainger	J.Rice
	1♦	Pass	Pass
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT
Pass			
All Pass			

Lead: ♣2

The auction made a heart lead unattractive and East started with the ♣2, three, nine, queen. The ♥Q was taken by

the ace and East shifted to the ♦10, king, ace. Back came the ♦4 to the ♦Q. Declarer now played a club to the ace and another club. East took the ♣K and exited with his last club. Declarer cashed the ♠A, ♠K and went one down for –50 and 10 IMPs to Canada.

In Chile vs USA1, a similar ending was reached. This was the auction:

West	North	East	South
Robles	Grue	Pacareu	Kranyak
		Pass	1♦
Pass	2♦(i)	Pass	2♥
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

(i) Forcing

Lead: ♣4

The lead went to the ♣9 and ♣Q and North played the ♦2 to the queen and ace. West shifted to the ♠7, king, four, two. North led the ♥Q, ace, six, seven, and East reverted to a low club, won by North, who continued with the ♣A and another club. East exited with a diamond to dummy's king, leaving this ending:

♠ 8	♠ A	♠ Q 9
♥ 5 3	♥ 9	♥ 10 4 2
♦ J 8	♦ 9 7 5	♦ –
♣ –	♣ –	♣ –
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;"> N W E S </div> </div>	
	♠ J 10	
	♥ K J 8	
	♦ –	
	♣ –	

Grue produced a very pretty stepping-stone endplay via ♠10 to the ace, ♥9 to the ♥K and the ♠J exit. East won and played the ♥4. Grue finessed the ♥8 to score a well-deserved 400. That was worth 10 IMPs to USA1 when 3NT went one down at the other table.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 9 8 4 3	♠ K Q 5 2	♠ –
♥ 4 3	♥ J 5 2	♥ A Q 8 7 6
♦ A K 6	♦ Q 4	♦ J 9 3 2
♣ 10 7 5 4	♣ A K 8 2	♣ Q J 9 6
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;"> N W E S </div> </div>	
	♠ A J 10 7 6	
	♥ K 10 9	
	♦ 10 8 7 5	
	♣ 3	

Datum: N/S +350

West	North	East	South
<i>Capes</i>	<i>M.Rice</i>	<i>Grainger</i>	<i>J.Rice</i>
	1♣	1♥	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Lead: A

It needs a trump lead to defeat 4♠ by South. West shifted to the ♥4 at trick 2 and East took the ♥A. West won the diamond return and now switched to the ♠3. South won, ruffed a diamond and drew trumps, overtaking the ♠Q en route. Dummy's second club winner allowed South to ditch his remaining diamond loser and the heart finesse was ten tricks for +420.

West	North	East	South
<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Crank</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Lead: ♣Q

Declarer can succeed (play ♣A, ♣K pitching a heart and lead a heart), but this is not obvious with no opposition bidding and declarer went one down for -50 and 10 IMPs to USA2.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

♠ J
 ♥ 10 2
 ♦ 10 7 5 4 2
 ♣ 9 7 6 3 2

N
 W E
 S

♠ A 9
 ♥ A K 7 6
 ♦ A K Q 8 3
 ♣ J 8

♠ J 10 2
 ♥ 9
 ♦ J 9 6
 ♣ K Q 5 4

Datum: N/S +80

West	North	East	South
<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Crank</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
		2♣	Pass
2♥(i)	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

(i) Artificial, negative

South led the ♠5 and declarer's ninth trick appeared early. +400 to USA2.

West	North	East	South
<i>Capes</i>	<i>M.Rice</i>	<i>Grainger</i>	<i>J.Rice</i>
		2♣	Pass
2♥(i)	Dble	2NT	All Pass

(i) Artificial, negative

Lead: ♥ 9

The double stopped South from leading a low spade, but it did not prevent nine tricks.

Declarer covered the ♥9 with the ♥10, ♥J, ♥A. Declarer

played his top diamonds, followed by a fourth diamond to dummy to play the ♥2: eight, king. The ♥7 was taken by the ♥Q, leaving the ♥6 high. Nine tricks, +150, but 6 IMPs to USA!

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ A K Q J 4
 ♥ Q 2
 ♦ A 9 4
 ♣ J 6 3

♠ 8 2
 ♥ K J 9 6 5 3
 ♦ K 10 7
 ♣ 7 2

♠ 10 6 5
 ♥ 10 8
 ♦ Q 8 6 5 2
 ♣ K Q 10

♠ 9 7 3
 ♥ A 7 4
 ♦ J 3
 ♣ A 9 8 5 4

N
 W E
 S

Datum: N/S +260

West	North	East	South
<i>Capes</i>	<i>M.Rice</i>	<i>Grainger</i>	<i>J.Rice</i>
2♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	4♠	All Pass	3♠

Lead: ♥ 10

This was ducked to West's king and, wishing to remove the entry to the ♥A, West shifted to the ♣7: three, ten, ace. Declarer continued clubs and East won with the ♣Q and cashed the ♣K. West played the ♥9 on this and so East exited with a heart.

North took it with the ♥Q and played the ♠A, ♠K, praying for an opponent to hold ♠10 doubleton. It was not to be. North now played a low diamond. East rose with the ♦Q and played the ♠10 to take the contract two off; +100 to Canada.

West	North	East	South
<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Wolpert</i>	<i>Crank</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
2♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT!

Lead: ♣7

Declarer made ten tricks for +430 and 11 Imps to Canada, who won the match by 41- 35, 16-14 in VPs.

Eric Kokish, commenting on BBO made two salient points about the auction. After (2♥) – 2♠ (Pass) – ?, 2NT should be played as forcing and if you bid 2NT you can still finish in 4♠, but if you bid 3♠, you will not play 3NT.





Appeal No. 2

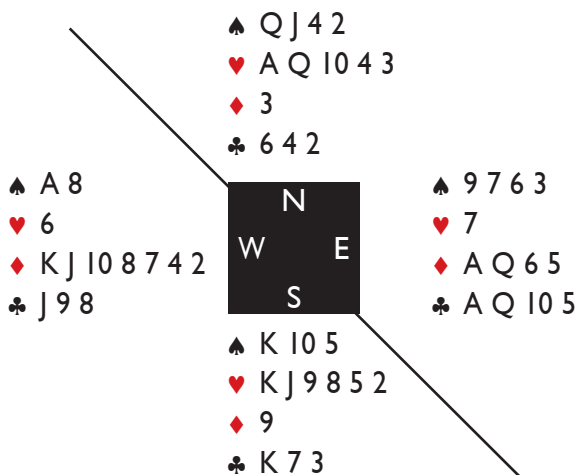


Round 10

Table 6 Open Room. Canada v Egypt

Appeals Committee: Brian Senior (Chairman), Stefan Back, Ismael Del'Monte. Also present, Joan Gerard (Tournament Appeals Chairman), without voting rights as North American team involved in appeal.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Tawfik	Wolpert	Noshy	Demuy
	Pass	1♦	1♥
2♥(i)	4♥	Pass	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

(i) Invitational plus with diamond support

E/W System: Strong NT, Five-card majors, 1♦ = 4+ diamonds

Play: ♥9 to six, ace and seven; ♣6.

Table result: N/S -400.

Result in other room: N/S -400

Appealing Side: N/S

TD's Statement of Facts:

After East had claimed eleven tricks at trick five, North summoned the TD. He had asked for an explanation about E/W's methods. East explained that they open 1♣ with 4-4 in the minors, except when 4-4-4-1. North asked specifically what with 4-1-4-4, 1♦? He believed that he got the answer, 'No'. East insists that he just pointed to his previously written answer.

If East is 4-1-4-4, North needs to play a spade, if East has Kxxx, xx, AQxx, A10x, he needs to play a club to avoid South being endplayed (an elimination then a club to the ten).

Law References:

75C, 40C

TD's Ruling:

Score stands; East did not give incorrect explanation (nor misbid).

TD: Marc van Beijsterveldt

The Hearing:

While understanding North's point about the necessity to switch to a spade if declarer was 4-1-4-4, the Committee saw no merit in the appeal. They believed that East's initial response to the question had been unambiguous and had covered everything that could be required of him. The fact that East stated that 4-4-4-1 was the exception had to relate to hands with 4-4 in the minors, because that was what he had been asked about and to what the rest of his reply related.

Appeals Committee Decision:

The TD's ruling stands and the deposit is forfeited.

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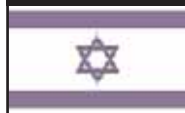
ACCOR WISHES ALL THE COMPETITORS THE BEST OF LUCK IN THE 2005 WORLD YOUTH BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

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ROUND ROBIN

Round 13



ISRAEL

v

FRANCE



The French Collection

by David Lusk

But for the bridge paraphernalia, the area is reminiscent of a railway waiting room. Olivier Bessis is pacing around, firing systemic questions at Godefroy De Tessieres, who is studying his opponents' card, as if patiently reading a newspaper. Eldad Ginossar sits staring into space whilst Ophir Reshif, boots removed, sits impassively in his stockinged feet, occasionally placing his head in his hands.

The Open Room on vugraph starts ten minutes later than the other tables, so the four players must wait it out. Israel must do well to stay in the race for a finals berth, the French are keen to push the Polish team out of first place.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tessieres	Ginossar	O Bessis	Reshef
INT	2♥	1♠	Pass
All Pass		Dble	4♥

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hoffman	T Bessis	Ofir	Gaviard
Pass	2♥	1♠	Pass
2♠	3♣	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	4♥	Pass	3♥
		All Pass	

West led the spade ace and switched to the ♣K. A helpful West dropped the jack and the club continuation left declarer with the prospect of taking the ruffing finesse in diamonds for the contract. That didn't work and East had another club to play.

At the other table, East was unaware that declarer was void in diamonds. He attempted to force dummy with a third round of spades, hoping to deny declarer the diamond suit. Thomas Bessis played the ace of diamonds and

took the ruffing finesse, throwing clubs at each turn. The jack of diamonds took care of the last club. The French had collected their first big swing – 12 IMPs.

A well timed two- opening pushed the French out of their comfort zone on this hand:

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tessieres	Ginossar	O Bessis	Reshef
1♥	INT	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	Dble	Pass
		2♦	All Pass



Ophir Reshef, Israel

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hoffman	T Bessis	Ofir	Gaviard
2♥(i)	2NT	Pass	Pass
		All Pass	

(i) Weak with both majors

Hoffman's opening forced North to 2NT. After Ofir started with the ♠A, there was no real play for the contract. The result was two light for -100. In the Open Room, West's light 1♥ opening engineered the contract to East/West, even though they didn't want it. The 5-1 diamond fit is no worse than any other two-level contract and Bessis did well to scramble out for one light. This was 5 IMPs to Israel, but it was France's day for collecting.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ Q 8 5 3	♠ 7 4	♠ 10 2
♥ 7	♥ K 10 6 4	♥ Q J 5 3 2
♦ 7 6 3 2	♦ K 9 8 5 4	♦ J 10
♣ K 7 5 3	♣ J 9	♣ Q 10 6 2
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">N</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">W</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">E</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">S</div> </div>	
	♠ A K J 9 6	
	♥ A 9 8	
	♦ A Q	
	♣ A 8 4	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tessieres	Ginossar	O Bessis	Reshef
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣(i)
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣(ii)	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT		
West	North	East	South
Hoffman	T Bessis	Ofir	Gaviard
Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣(i)
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣(ii)	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦

All Pass

(i) Strong

(ii) Five-card Stayman

In the Open Room, North/South bid routinely to 3NT, making an easy ten tricks when the diamond J-10 fell doubleton. Would they have reasonably expected a loss on this board? In the Closed Room, Bessis knew he could sign off in 4NT if his move to 4♦ did not bring a favourable reaction from South. South loved the slam try in diamonds and, with ♦AQ and all those controls, co-operated fully to reach the slam.

There is work to be done if East leads a club against 6♦, picking the lay-out of spades being an important part of the

exercise. East's choice of the ♥Q gave declarer some much needed breathing space. He took the first trick in hand before leading to dummy's two top diamonds, noting the fortunate fall of the jack and ten. Next came two top spades followed by the jack. West did not cover, so North ruffed anyway and drew trumps, discarding dummy's small clubs. His next play was a heart to the nine and, when West showed out, he simply gave West his spade trick and claimed a high dummy. +920 against +430 meant that France collected 10 IMPs.

The vugraph commentary suggested that the French were steady bidders but Thomas Bessis' aggressive style added to the collection four boards later:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 10 4	♠ K J 7 6 5 3 2	♠ 8
♥ A K 10	♥ 7 3	♥ 9 8 2
♦ 4 3 2	♦ A	♦ K J 7 6 5
♣ A 9 6 5 2	♣ 8 7 4	♣ Q J 10 3
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">N</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">W</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">E</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 0 5px;">S</div> </div>	
	♠ A Q 9	
	♥ Q J 6 5 4	
	♦ Q 10 9 8	
	♣ K	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tessieres	Ginossar	O Bessis	Reshef
1♣	2♠	3♣	4♠
5♣	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hoffman	T Bessis	Ofir	Gaviard
1♣	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

A spade lead would have restricted declarer to just nine tricks in 4♠ but, in the Closed Room, East made the reasonable choice of the ♣Q. With communication available in diamonds, declarer had little difficulty in ruffing two clubs in dummy to make his contract; +620 to France.

In the Open Room, Ginossar found the single jump overcall in spades. Whilst this may have satisfied the bidding purists, it gave Bessis the opportunity to show support for clubs, allowing Tessieres to find the 5♣ sacrifice. North led the ♦A and switched to a spade. South won with the ace and shifted to his lowest heart. Declarer declined the double finesse in hearts, rising with the king in order to win and gain access to dummy via a spade ruff. The ♣10 went to the king and ace before declarer played a diamond towards dummy. North pitched a heart and declarer could only manage nine tricks. The sacrifice added 8 IMPs to the collection.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ J	♠ 10 7 6 4 2	♠ A 9
♥ 10 2	♥ Q J 8 5 4 3	♥ A K 7 6
♦ 10 7 5 4 2	♦ —	♦ A K Q 8 3
♣ 9 7 6 3 2	♣ A 10	♣ J 8
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">N</div> <div style="text-align: center;">W</div> <div style="text-align: center;">E</div> <div style="text-align: center;">S</div> </div>	
	♠ K Q 8 5 3	
	♥ 9	
	♦ J 9 6	
	♣ K Q 5 4	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tessieres	Ginossar	O Bessis	Reshef
2♦(ii)	2♥	2♣(i)	Pass
		Dble	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hoffman	T Bessis	Ofir	Gaviard
2♥(ii)	Pass	2♣	Pass
Pass	3♣(iii)	2NT	Pass
All Pass		Pass	4♠

- (i) Strong
(ii) Negative
(iii) Both majors

In the Open Room, Ginossar could have rescued himself to 2♠, but it is likely that the game would have still been missed. East led a diamond and declarer was forced from the outset. The defenders slipped a trick when East failed to give West a spade ruff but the contract was still one light; +200 to France.

In the Closed Room, North bided his time until the auction subsided in 2NT. Then he came out with an amazing gadget –3♣ for the majors! As a result, South bid the impregnable 4♠. East exercised amazing restraint when he refused to double but the damage had been done; +650 to France for a 13 IMP swing.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K J 10 8 7 4 2	♠ 6 3	♠ A Q
♥ J 9 5	♥ A 8 6 3 2	♥ 10
♦ Q 2	♦ 8 7	♦ A K 9 4 3
♣ A	♣ J 8 6 5	♣ Q 10 9 7 2
	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">N</div> <div style="text-align: center;">W</div> <div style="text-align: center;">E</div> <div style="text-align: center;">S</div> </div>	
	♠ 9 5	
	♥ K Q 7 4	
	♦ J 10 6 5	
	♣ K 4 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Tessieres	Ginossar	O Bessis	Reshef
1♠	Pass	2♣(i)	Pass
2♥(ii)	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT(iii)	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT(iv)	Pass
5♠(v)	Pass	6♠	All Pass

- (i) Game force
(ii) Denying four hearts
(iii) Inviting a cuebid
(iv) RKCB
(v) Two with the queen

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hoffman	T Bessis	Ofir	Gaviard
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Just when we were all thinking that things couldn't get much worse for the Israelis, as their residual VPs kept slipping away, the French completed the collection with this board. The bidding in the Open Room was excellent. The *coup de grace* came when West showed extra length in lieu of the queen of spades. In reality, once the cuebidding started the destination was inevitable. The play posed no problems; +1430 to France.

There is little in the bidding to suggest that the Israeli East/West even gained the sniff of a slam and the French gained a well-earned 13 IMPs.

There is no doubt that this match was a rout and the Israelis were pressured in the most impressive fashion, not by the occasion but by some very skilful and solid bridge from their opponents.

Final Score: France 95 Israel 6 (25-0 VPs)



Julien Gaviard, France

ROUND ROBIN

Round 14



CANADA v CHINA HONG KONG



The morning match had seen Canada creep back into fourth place ahead of hosts, Australia. Now they needed to consolidate their position to allow them to relax on the rest day before the final three rounds of qualification. Canada could not have asked for a better start:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>♠ 2 ♥ 10 9 6 3 2 ♦ A 6 2 ♣ 8 6 3 2</p>		<p>♠ K Q 10 5 3 ♥ A K Q 8 ♦ 10 ♣ Q 10 5</p>		<p>♠ J 8 4 ♥ — ♦ 9 8 4 3 ♣ A K J 9 7 4</p>	
<p>♠ A 9 7 6 ♥ J 7 5 4 ♦ K Q J 7 5 ♣ —</p>		<p>♠ A 9 7 6 ♥ J 7 5 4 ♦ K Q J 7 5 ♣ —</p>			
West	North	East	South		
Demuy	FY Ng	Wolpert	Mak		
	1♠	2♣	4♣		
Dble	4♥	5♣	6♠		
All Pass					
West	North	East	South		
C-h Leung	Grainger	C. Ng	Lavee		
	1♠	3♣	4♦		
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣		
Pass	6♠	All Pass			

Do you like a simple 2♣ overcall or a weak jump? Given what some of us would bid 3♣ on, maybe this is worth the more constructive option but, of course, it is a matter of partnership style. It didn't seem to matter too much as Fei-Yeung Ng/Kwok Fai Mak got to slam via a 4♣ splinter and David Grainger/Daniel Lavee via a fit-jump. Six Spades is a good contract on the two hands, but it is also an unlucky one which should fail.

Gavin Wolpert made the aggressive opening lead of the nine of clubs, trying for a quick kill. Dummy ruffed – discarding would make the slam, who could find that? Ng played two rounds of spades then the ten of diamonds, overtaking with dummy's king. Vincent Demuy won the ♦A and, after a few moments thought, gave his partner the heart ruff that was surely indicated by the opening lead; down one for –50.

At the other table, Chi-Cheung Ng led a more pedestrian ace of clubs and again dummy had to ruff. Grainger tried a low diamond at trick two and Cheuh-hin Leung went in with the ace. Here, there had been a normal-looking opening lead that did not give Leung a clue that partner had a

ruff coming. Perhaps he might have got it right anyway, but it was more difficult and he decided to return a diamond, which meant that Grainger could win, draw trumps and cash twelve tricks for +980 and 14 IMPs to Canada.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ 8 5 4 ♥ J 9 6 3 ♦ Q 10 6 ♣ A 8 7</p>		<p>♠ Q 10 7 ♥ Q 7 2 ♦ A 4 3 ♣ K J 6 4</p>		<p>♠ A J 9 6 ♥ K 10 5 ♦ 8 7 5 ♣ 10 5 3</p>	
<p>♠ K 3 2 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ K J 9 2 ♣ Q 9 2</p>		<p>♠ K 3 2 ♥ A 8 4 ♦ K J 9 2 ♣ Q 9 2</p>			
West	North	East	South		
Demuy	FY Ng	Wolpert	Mak		
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦		
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT		
All Pass					
West	North	East	South		
C-h Leung	Grainger	C. Ng	Lavee		
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT		
All Pass					



David Grainger, Canada

According to Deep Finesse, 3NT is always beatable, whatever the opening lead. However, it does require good defence.

Wolpert led a low spade round to Ng's ten. Ng played the jack of clubs and Wolpert played the five, Reverse Smith so suggesting a switch. Demuy won the ♣A and switched to a low heart – the nine or jack is better in theory – and Ng went up with the queen when he would have done better to play low as the cards lie. Wolpert won the ♥K and continued with the ♥10 then ♥5. Declarer had eight tricks and no prospect of a ninth on the actual layout; –100.

At the other table, Ng also led a low spade round to the ten. Grainger led to the queen of clubs, losing to the ace, and back came a spade to the ace. Ng cleared the spades but Grainger was now in control, able to play ♦K, a diamond to the ace and a third diamond to establish his ninth trick; +600 and 12 IMPs to Canada.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Demuy	FY Ng	Wolpert	Mak
Pass	Pass	1♦	2♣
Pass	Pass	2♦	All Pass



Fei-Yeung NG, China Hong Kong

West	North	East	South
C-h Leung	Grainger	C. Ng	Lavee
Pass	Pass	1♦	2♣
3NT	All Pass	2♦	Pass

After identical starts to the auction, Demuy took what looks to be a huge position when he passed his partner out in 2♦ despite holding 14 HCP facing a one-level opening bid, while Leung just jumped to 3NT in the same position – are there no bids between 2♦ and 3NT rather than these two committal actions? Note that 5♦ is cold and requires little more than an even trump break.

Demuy's inaction proved to be more successful than Leung's action. Mak led his spade against 2♦, won the first round of trumps and tried to cash the ace of clubs; twelve tricks for +170. Meanwhile, Grainger's lead of the jack of clubs swiftly put paid to 3NT; down two for –100 and 7 IMPs to Canada.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Demuy	FY Ng	Wolpert	Mak
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
C-h Leung	Grainger	C. Ng	Lavee
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠

All Pass

Wolpert led the jack of hearts to dummy's ace and Ng played a low club. Demuy thought about that for a bit then went up with the king, correctly I believe in case declarer's singleton was the jack. He switched to a trump and Ng won the ace then passed the queen of diamonds to the ace, pitching a heart from dummy. Back came a second trump to the king and Ng led the ♦J, covered and ruffed. He led a heart to the ten, ruffed a diamond and led to the ♥K. Had the nine of diamonds fallen in four rounds, the contract would have succeeded, but as it was there was a second diamond to lose along with the club and the ♠Q, down one for –50.

At the other table Ng could see the danger of a crossruff and found the brave lead of a trump from queen to three. Grainger won the ♠9 and ran the ♦Q to the ace, won the trump return and ruffed a low diamond. A heart to hand allowed a second diamond ruff – jack, king, spade – and Grainger had to lose only a heart and a diamond for ten tricks; +420 and 10 IMPs.

Canada led by 50-5 at the half-way point in the match, close to a maximum.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ K J 8		
♥ A 10		
♦ Q 10 7 5 3		
♣ Q 7 4		
♠ A 9 6 3		♠ 5 4
♥ Q 4		♥ J 8 7 6 5
♦ 6 4		♦ A K
♣ A J 10 9 3		♣ K 6 5 2
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
♠ Q 10 7 2		
♥ K 9 3 2		
♦ J 9 8 2		
♣ 4		

West	North	East	South
Demuy	FY Ng	Wolpert	Mak
1♣	1♦	Dble	2♦
Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass
West	North	East	South
C-h Leung	Grainger	C. Ng	Lavee
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♣	All Pass

Given a free run, Leung/Ng stopped safely in partscore, the 1♠ rebid confirming genuine clubs so that East could give invitational jump preference; +110.

The China Hong Kong intervention seemed to create more problems than should have been the case as Demuy/Wolpert reached the hopeless game; down two for -100 and 5 IMPs to China Hong Kong, their biggest swing to date.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ K Q 10 9 8 2		
♥ 4		
♦ K 8 4		
♣ 9 6 2		
♠ 4 3		♠ –
♥ 9 8 7 5 3 2		♥ K J 6
♦ 9 3		♦ 7 6 5 2
♣ A K 7		♣ Q J 10 8 5 4
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
♠ A J 7 6 5		
♥ A Q 10		
♦ A Q J 10		
♣ 3		

West	North	East	South
Demuy	FY Ng	Wolpert	Mak
Pass	4♠	All Pass	1♠
West	North	East	South
C-h Leung	Grainger	C. Ng	Lavee
Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	6♠	All Pass	6♦

I don't like Ng's game raise at all, much preferring a splinter, for all that the hand contains only 8 HCP. Mak knew that the right North hand might make slam, but the wrong North hand could have been a lot weaker than the actual one, making a slam hunt not at all safe. He passed and soon had twelve tricks stacked in front of him; +680.

Grainger's 3♥ response is a limit raise with at least four-card support according to his convention card, which again seems a serious understatement to me. It worked though, as Lavee bid a mark-time 3NT to see what his partner might be able to cuebid and was charmed to hear of a diamond control. He leaped to slam, suggesting diamonds as an alternative spot, and so the cold slam was reached; +1430 and 13 IMPs to Canada.

That helped to get Canada up to the maximum, 73-21 IMPs, 25-5 VPs.

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