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Paradis aux Pyrénées



Divertissements de Pau

After informative and entertaining speeches of welcome from French Deputy and Mayor of Pau **Madame Martine Lignières-Cassou**, President of the French Bridge Federation **Yves Aubry**, and Deputy Mayor for Tourism and Economy **Madame Odile Denis**, EBL President **Gianarrigo Rona** declared open the 49th European Bridge Team Championships.

The formal part of the ceremony was followed by a presentation of the teams with musical accompaniment that ranged from Beethoven to the Beatles after which the audience was treated to a range of regional musical entertainment.

Round 1

2	Greece - Netherlands	BBO 5
6	Israel - Denmark	SWAN
8	Italy - Switzerland	RAMA
12	Austria - Poland	BBO 3
14	Hungary - Germany	BBO 1
16	Bulgaria - Russia	BBO 4
19	Norway - Belarus	BBO 2

Round 2

4	Iceland - Serbia	BBO 5
6	Denmark - Finland	SWAN
9	Monaco - Italy	BBO 2
11	Slovakia - France	BBO 1
14	Germany - Estonia	BBO 3
16	Russia - Ireland	RAMA
17	Wales - Bulgaria	BBO 4

Round 3

1	Turkey - Netherlands	BBO 3
3	Greece - Iceland	BBO 5
9	Italy - England	BBO 1
11	France - Poland	RAMA
13	Austria - Germany	BBO 2
15	Hungary - Russia	BBO 4
19	Sweden - Norway	SWAN

Today's Schedule

10.30	Open Teams, Round 1
14.15	Open Teams, Round 2
17.35	Open Teams, Round 3

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

GROUP A

ROUND 1 10.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	LITHUANIA	LUXEMBOURG
2	GREECE	NETHERLANDS
3	SERBIA	CZECH REPUBLIC
4	SPAIN	ICELAND
5	FINLAND	SCOTLAND
6	ISRAEL	DENMARK
7	LATVIA	CROATIA
8	ITALY	SWITZERLAND
9	ENGLAND	MONACO
	TURKEY	BYE

ROUND 2 14.15

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	LUXEMBOURG	TURKEY
2	NETHERLANDS	LITHUANIA
3	CZECH REPUBLIC	GREECE
4	ICELAND	SERBIA
5	SCOTLAND	SPAIN
6	DENMARK	FINLAND
7	CROATIA	ISRAEL
8	SWITZERLAND	LATVIA
9	MONACO	ITALY
	ENGLAND	BYE

ROUND 3 17.35

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
1	TURKEY	NETHERLANDS
2	LITHUANIA	CZECH REPUBLIC
3	GREECE	ICELAND
4	SERBIA	SCOTLAND
5	SPAIN	DENMARK
6	FINLAND	CROATIA
7	ISRAEL	SWITZERLAND
8	LATVIA	MONACO
9	ITALY	ENGLAND
	LUXEMBOURG	BYE

GROUP B

ROUND 1 10.30

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
11	SAN MARINO	SLOVAKIA
12	AUSTRIA	POLAND
13	ESTONIA	ROMANIA
14	HUNGARY	GERMANY
15	IRELAND	BELGIUM
16	BULGARIA	RUSSIA
17	MALTA	WALES
18	SWEDEN	PORTUGAL
19	NORWAY	BELARUS
	FRANCE	BYE

ROUND 2 14.15

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
11	SLOVAKIA	FRANCE
12	POLAND	SAN MARINO
13	ROMANIA	AUSTRIA
14	GERMANY	ESTONIA
15	BELGIUM	HUNGARY
16	RUSSIA	IRELAND
17	WALES	BULGARIA
18	PORTUGAL	MALTA
19	BELARUS	SWEDEN
	NORWAY	BYE

ROUND 3 17.35

Table	Home Team	Visiting Team
11	FRANCE	POLAND
12	SAN MARINO	ROMANIA
13	AUSTRIA	GERMANY
14	ESTONIA	BELGIUM
15	HUNGARY	RUSSIA
16	IRELAND	WALES
17	BULGARIA	PORTUGAL
18	MALTA	BELARUS
19	SWEDEN	NORWAY
	SLOVAKIA	BYE

Open Teams

Since Lebanon will not be playing in the Open Series, Malta will move from Group A to Group B and replace Lebanon.

Accordingly in Group A when a team was scheduled to meet Malta they will have a bye.

Sit-out exercise I

If for one reason or another your captain omitted or refused to line you up, here is a chance to waste your time on something else while sipping your Lavazzas, and letting your teammates sweat for imps.

What is the maximum number of high card points your side can have without being able to make 3NT, whoever is on lead?

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE FFB

Welcome to all of you, Welcome to Pau in Béarn.

You are in a city of great history, where Henry IVth, King of France and Navarre, was born.

It is a city of multiple influences, connected to the French, Spanish but also British and American history.

Pau is a modern and dynamic city, a university and industrial town which is also particularly sport-oriented.

But it is mainly a city where life is enjoyable and I am pretty sure that during this fortnight you will be able to appreciate all the assets of the city, its heritage, climate, cooking and wines ...

You are here to compete for the 49th European Championship.

Many thanks to the EBL for having entrusted this championship to the French Bridge Federation.

This year we will break all the participation records with 38 teams in the Open, 26 in the Women and 20 in the Senior series.

As you noticed, the Palais Beaumont offers exceptional premises for these championships; for the players, two marvellous playing rooms in natural light, facing the Pyrenees and for the journalists, officials in charge and staff, functional premises and all technological facilities.

Of course this championship would not have taken place without numerous actors whom I am anxious to thank.

First of all the city of Pau. My predecessor Maurice Panis presented the project in 2005; André Labarrère, at that time the Mayor of Pau, reacted very favourably to it and the French Federation then elected to organise this championship in Pau.

Perfectly adapted premises, an important financial

contribution and the support of André Labarrère's successors (thank you Mrs Lignièrès-Cassou) allowed the project to be realised.

Thank you also for their contribution to the Community of towns, to the Pyrénées-Atlantiques General Council and to the Aquitaine Region.

Thank you again to our historic partners as the Société Générale which has been supporting all our projects for 20 years, but also to numerous partners: the Casino of Pau, National Citer, Lavazza, Peugeot cars, France Cartes, Rank Xerox, RTO.

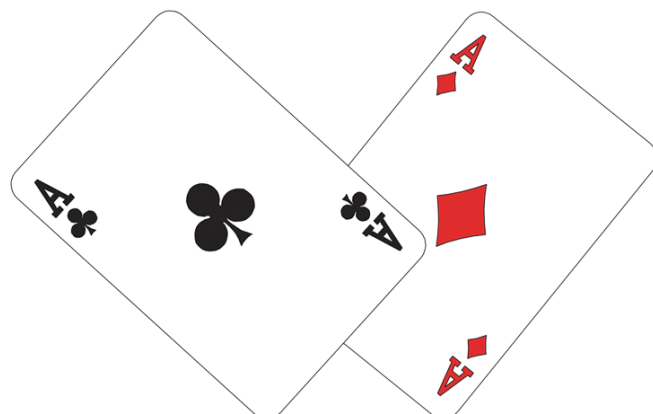
Thank you finally to all the French Bridge Federation team, elected representatives or employees, who have been accompanying me for 2 years to organise everything.

Our sport is punctuated by important competitions as these European championships but also by strong moments of conviviality and exchange between all the players and all those who form the big Bridge family.

I wish this championship remains as an excellent souvenir in your memory.

Enjoy yourself !

Yves Aubry
FFB President



WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE EBL PRESIDENT

Madame la Maire de Pau, Mr. President de la Federation Française de Bridge, Authorities, distinguished guests, dear colleagues and dear friends,

Welcome to Pau to participate and enjoy together the 49th European Bridge Teams Championships. The Championship comes back to France for the third time, almost 59 years and 15 years respectively since this event was held in Paris (1949) and in Menton (1993).

First of all I want to present to you greetings from José Damiani, WBF President and EBL President Emeritus. Unfortunately José cannot be with us today in person, but he is certainly with us in spirit and I hope that he will be able to attend the Closing Ceremony. Personally and on behalf of all of you I am pleased to send to him our greetings and best wishes.

I am sure that, having achieved a record participation with teams representing some 39 countries, this will be a more than usually great bridge event, thanks not only to the City of Pau and its Mayor M.me Martine Lignièrès-Cassou, who today honours us with her presence, but also to the French Bridge Federation and its President, my colleague and dear friend Yves Aubry, and the Organising Committee, led by Mr. Olivier Audouard, who have worked with such commitment, passion, professionalism and enthusiasm towards its success. To all of them go our most sincere thanks. I am also pleased to offer special congratulations to the French Bridge Federation, one of the founder members of the International Bridge Bodies, which celebrates its 75th Anniversary here in Pau and enriches our event even more.

We are also very grateful to the Conseil General Des Pyrénées Atlantique, the Conseil General d'Aquitaine, the Pau Tourism Office and the other local Authorities for their significant and essential con-

tribution, and to Société Générale, Lavazza Company and all our Sponsor-friends who have allowed us to organise and manage this event.

As I have already written in the programme, I am confident that the historical Ville de Pau, queen of the fabulous Pyrénées, will welcome and host you to the highest standard according to its tradition and culture. I hope that from now on Pau will be remembered by the sport fans not only for the Tour de France and the Cars Grand Prix but also for the Bridge Championship.



This year, the Olympic Year, Sport will celebrate its greatest moments and Bridge, together with the other Minds Sports will be part of this celebration, in October in Beijing, underlining that it is possible to play together, to compete together, to interact with each other, rejecting any discrimination, in peace, friendship and harmony. This is our message and this message starts from here, from Pau, where, once

again, I am sure that you will be proud to show the real and true values of our discipline. Once again this event will reflect our way of being and thinking. Once again we will reinforce the message of our motto "Bridge for Peace"

And now the stage is yours, for the players, the true protagonists. I declare the 49th European Bridge Teams Championships officially open. Enjoy the Championship and your stay in Pau.

Gianarrigo Rona
EBL President



The Newest International

by Patrick Jourdain (Wales)

The Camrose series is one of the world's most-played internationals, launching in 1937, after the Europeans, but being played annually. The participants are England, Scotland, Wales, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Over the years the series has been expanded to include one for Women (the Lady Milne), for Under 25s (the Junior Camrose) and Under 20s (the Peggy Bayer Trophy). The obvious missing link was one for Seniors. And two weeks ago in Oxford that gap was remedied by the launch of the Teltscher Trophy.

The event proved a clear win for England. Three of that Senior team are in the Open series here in Pau (Paul Hackett, Tony Waterlow and John Holland). Their partners in Oxford were Ross Harper, Ian Panto and Gunnar Hallberg.

The format is the same as the Camrose with a Patron's team added to make an even number. The Patron, Bernard Teltscher, fielded some of Britain's most famous names of the past, including Tony Priday, the sole survivor of the European gold medal team of 1961. Other members of the team were Rob Sheehan, Colin Simpson, Chris Dixon, and Victor Silverstone. The latter two are in the England Senior team here in Pau. Silverstone featured as declarer in the fascinating deal below.

There is always something new to see in bridge. Would you believe me if I told you declarer has the singleton 4 of trumps in one hand and six good trumps in the other including the 5 and the 3, and his error was to ruff with the 3 rather than the 5?

Here is the full deal:

Senior Match 4 Patron v. Wales
Board 28, Dealer West, N/S Game

♠ J 9 8 7
♥ Q 10 6 4
♦ K 7 6
♣ 6 5

♠ A K 6 4 2
♥ A K 8 2
♦ 4
♣ Q 4 3

N
W E
S

♠ 5
♥ 9 5 3
♦ A J 10 5 3 2
♣ K 10 8

♠ Q 10 3
♥ J 7
♦ Q 9 8
♣ A J 9 7 2

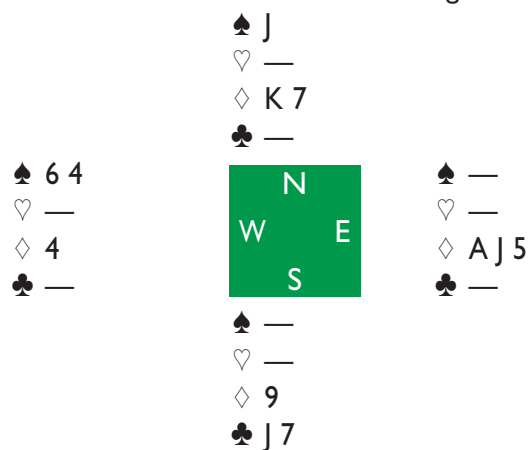
West	North	East	South
Silverstone	Tedd	Dixon	Jourdain
1♠	Pass	INT	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Silverstone's Two Diamond call showed hearts and had the effect of making him declarer when East signed off in Three Diamonds.

Mike Tedd, North, (another competing in the Open here in Pau) led a club to the eight, nine and queen. Declarer cashed the top spades, throwing a heart from dummy, and

ruffed a spade low. He then took two top hearts and ruffed a heart, fatally as it turned out, with the three rather than the five of trumps.

As South 1 over-ruffed with the eight, then played ace of clubs and a club for my partner to ruff. The next heart was ruffed with the ten and over-ruffed with the queen to leave South on lead in this three-card ending:

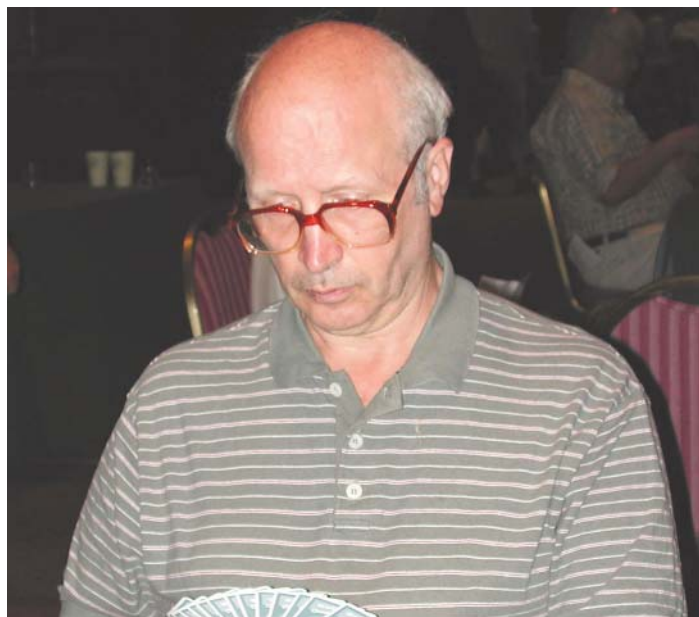


A trump would clearly give declarer the rest, so I tried the effect of leading a club. West ruffed in his own hand with his singleton 4, but Tedd was awake enough to discard his winning spade. Poor Silverstone had to over-ruff in dummy and concede a trump to North for one off.

But suppose in the ending dummy's smallest trump had been the 3. Then when North threw away declarer would be able to under-ruff in dummy leaving West on lead at trick 12 to catch North in a trump coup!

Editor: When I read Patrick's article a memory stirred (as Terence Reese once wrote) and a little research unearthed the following, which is an extract from Sally Brock & Barry Rigal's *Fit for a King*:


This board comes from the last match in the round robin



Patrick Jourdain, Wales


of the 1981 Venice Cup. Great Britain could afford to lose 10 IMPs to Brazil on the set but that was all. As it happened, they gained 12 crucial IMPs on this deal and 1 IMP overall, so all was well and the following day they went on to beat the USA in the final.

Dealer North, N/S Vul

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

West	North <i>Landy</i>	East	South <i>Brock</i>
	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
4♣	4♠	All Pass	

Agota Mandelot, West, led the seven of hearts which ran to declarer's queen. At trick two declarer started cashing diamonds, discarding hearts, and West ruffed the third round with the two of spades. West continued with a second heart, covered and ruffed by declarer, who now exited with the king of clubs. West won the ace and continued with yet another heart, ruffed by South. Declarer decided that the bidding and play to date marked West with her actual distribution, so she trumped a club and ruffed a diamond with the ten of spades. This was the position:

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

Declarer ruffed her last club with the queen of spades and East had no counter. In practice she overruffed; if she had returned a trump declarer would have finessed. Instead she led the thirteenth heart. Declarer ruffed in hand with the carefully preserved seven, and overruffed in dummy with the eight. Now when she led a diamond she had the K-9 of spades poised over East's J-5.

As you can see, in bridge it is hard to find something new under the sun!

Championship Diary

Be careful what you say when talking to Bulletin staff – you may end up being immortalised in the Championship Diary.

Romania may not be setting the pace at the European Football Championships, but they do have a player who might have a future at the bridge table – especially if he is transferred to a French team – Cosmin Contra.

I spotted this on an obscure web site: 'Football is like chess, only without the dice.' That gem came from the German striker Lukas Podolsky – pity he didn't say 'Football is like bridge, only without the dice.'

Continuing the footballing theme Barry Rigal reports:

For many years Grattan Endicott has been associated both with football (in his work on the pools panel) and bridge, via the appeals committee.

He has added an addendum to the laws that will be in force during this tournament, following the match between Holland and Italy. Law 56 has been amended to read: a player knocked unconscious from his chair but lying face up next to the table WILL be adjudged still to be in play.

Today's amuse bouche:

A Hollywood legend claims that Warner Brothers, makers of Casablanca (1942), threatened to sue the Marx Brothers for using the word 'Casablanca' in the film title A Night in Casablanca. Groucho Marx wrote a letter to Warner Brothers in which he threatened to sue them for using the word 'Brothers'!

For aficionados of the English TV Sitcom Only Fools & Horses: when someone was trying to connect to the printer in the Bulletin Room they asked, 'What's the printer called?' Tacchi was on the ball with 'Its Dell Boy!'

While trying to decide who will make it through the Group stages of the Open Championship one pundit declared that it was impossible to find nine teams in one group who deserved to qualify! Another announced a computer has already calculated it!

Meanwhile a well know photographer is basking in the anticipation of an Irish victory, having obtained the remarkable odds of 100-1 from a well know Internet site.

There is a rumour circulating that a well-known Swedish player is about to host a series of bridge themed cruises. We wonder which shipping line he will be using?

Champagne Moment

Every day we will choose a champagne moment – it could be for some achievement at the table or anything connected with the tournament that takes our fancy. At the end of the Championships the best one will secure a magnum of Champagne for the winner.

Monk-ey Business

Thirty years ago in June 1978 David Bird introduced the Abbot Yorke-Smith and the monks of St Titus to the readers of *Bridge Magazine* in the following story entitled *Bridge in the Vicarage*. The Abbot has not yet represented England in the European Championships, but we understand Brother Paulo is on the shortlist for Italy.

The Reverend Richard Hyde unlatched the oak front door, and in from a howling gale came Abbot Yorke-Smith, looking even more red-faced than usual.

'Come and warm yourself by the fire, Abbot; Father O'Neill is here already. Who did you manage to get for a fourth tonight?'

'Well, it wasn't easy to find anyone on choir practice night, but eventually I persuaded Brother Anthony to play again.'

'Oh! Er...good,' replied Rev Hyde unconvincingly.

Brother Anthony was a rather unpopular partner since, being a member of the Eustacian order, he had to obey their vow of total silence, and this naturally restricted his accuracy in the bidding. Only the previous week the Abbot had had to reprimand a young novice who had feigned a sudden severe cramp in the leg, and hobbled off towards the infirmary when he had cut brother Anthony at the monastery £1-a-hundred table.

The first hand of the evening was boldly bid by the Rev Hyde:

Love All; Dealer West

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Father O'Neill</i>	<i>Brother Anthony</i>	<i>The Abbot</i>	<i>Rev Hyde</i>
Pass	Pass	1♥	3NT
All Pass			

It was standard tactics to open light in front of Brother Anthony's partner in order to disrupt even further communications which were already almost non-existent, but Rev Hyde clearly regarded his solid holdings as adequate for the Eustacian gambling 3NT convention.

Father O'Neill's queen of hearts was covered by the king and ace, and the Abbot's club switch was won in the dummy. When Rev Hyde played off four rounds of spades the Abbot, shifting uncomfortably in his cassock, discarded two clubs and two hearts and was subsequently thrown in to concede a trick to dummy's ten of hearts.

'Sorry, Patrick, I should have tried baring my knave of hearts,' said the abbot, reluctantly writing down the score.

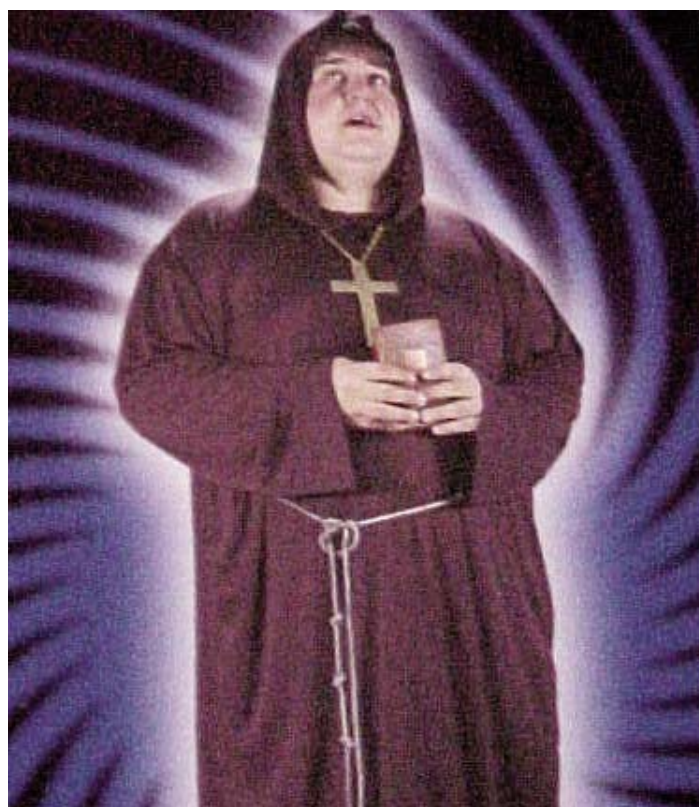
'I forgive you,' said his partner in a professional tone.

Soon afterwards the Abbot dealt the cards as follows:

Game All; Dealer East

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

Rev Hyde viewed his dismal collection in the South seat, and proceeded to open the bidding with a confident One Club. This diversion was, after all, fairly safe with Brother Anthony as partner.



Brother Anthony gazed wistfully at his 22-count. What could they make? A small slam? A grand slam? As he prepared himself to deliver the almost imperceptible shake of the head that had formed his bidding methods for the past 30-odd years, he thought how proud of him his fellow Eustacians must be.

'Surely the Abbot was dealer,' said Father O'Neill suddenly. 'Your bid was out of turn, Richard, but there is no penalty if the Abbot passes.'

'One Club,' said the Abbot promptly, reaching for the rule book, and eagerly locating the appropriate section.

'It says that the offender's partner is...silenced for the rest of the auction,' he said, unable to hide his annoyance at this useless penalty.

'Come, come partner, this is only a game between friends,' said Father O'Neill compassionately. 'Let us waive the penalty.'

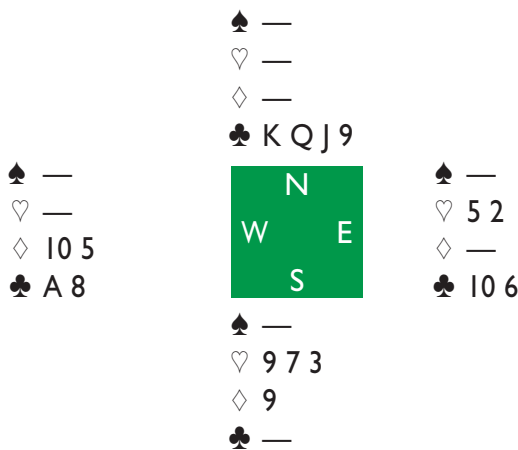
Rev Hyde passed, and Father O'Neill raised the Abbot to Five Clubs.

Brother Anthony re-scanned his 22-count, seething with anger. They were making a mockery of him. They were insulting the venerable Eustacian order. They were implying that over 400 years of silence had all been in vain.

The time had come to teach them a sharp lesson.

'Double!' he said firmly, noting with interest that, since taking his vows at a tender age, his voice had broken.

Only the ticking of the grandfather clock interrupted the stunned silence that followed. Eventually the Rev Hyde, eyeing his partner with a singularly unclerical expression, led the ten of hearts. The Abbot won in hand, and cross-ruffed at high speed to produce the following ending with West, the dummy, on play:



Brother Anthony was forced to ruff the diamond high, and exit with another high trump to the ace. Dummy's last diamond promoted declarer's ten of trumps and the game was home.

'What on earth do you mean by breaking your vow of silence, just to double a cold game?' cried the Rev Hyde.

Brother Anthony shook his head almost imperceptibly, and pulling up the cowl of his cloak, he walked sadly to the front door, and out into the unforgiving night.

Directors and Captain's Meeting

Opening Instructions and advice



The following is a summary of the special instructions and advice from the directors' and captains' meeting.

NO Electronic equipment (pagers and Blackberries) may be brought in. NONE. And that includes such machines when turned off! They must be left at hospitality. There will be fines; and that brings us to....

Random checks will be made every match by the directors, for pagers, cell-phones etc.

Players may not leave the table during the matches for smoke-breaks; if they do they will be fined.

Every player must wear a badge before he is allowed in to the playing rooms. Spectators also need badges, which they can get from hospitality on production of ID. Accredited journalists can get badges from the Press Room in the basement.

Spectators who wish to watch in the Open Room can only do so with the permission of the Directing staff and must take their place before the start of play and will not be re-admitted if they leave the room. A maximum of two journalists are allowed per table.

Captains must lodge line-ups by computer within 15 minutes of the end of the previous match. Failure to do so will result in fines. They may only change line-ups with Director permission in the case of ill-health.

All line-ups will be blind (i.e. no home or away team) unless a team has a pair playing two or more Brown Sticker conventions. If they do, then that team will lose seating rights regardless of whether that pair is playing.

Brown sticker conventions can be removed from the card if replaced with a natural convention, if approved by Grattan Endicott. Such conventions can only be introduced after a three-match delay and details must be submitted to all teams still to play this squad.

The tournament will be played under the new laws. The most significant change is that a defender can ask his partner whether he has revoked without incurring the revoke penalty.

Appeals will generally be heard at 9.30 AM before the start of play.