49th European Bridge Team Championships BARRY RIGAL, P.O. SUNDELIN. JAN VAN CLEEFF, PETER VENTIRA Layout editor: GEORGE HADJIDAKIS. Photas: RON TACCHI

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## The French Defence



The holders France take a bow at the Opening Ceremony
In the Women's series, the holders, France start the defence of their title today, following the official opening of the Championships by EBL President Gianarrigo Rona at yesterday's Opening Ceremony.
In the Open series Netherlands has taken over the lead of Group A, albeit by just IVP from Czech Republic. Finland is third, Italy having dropped to fourth place.
In Group B the overnight leaders Germany had a bad day and have dropped to third place as Sweden and Russia took full advantage to occupy the first two places.

|  | Round 13 |  |  | Round 14 |  |  | Round 15 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 | Monaco-Czech Rep. | RAMA | 5 | Netherlands - Italy | RAMA | 17 | Norway - Germany | RAMA |
| 11 | France - Malta | BBO I | 11 | Bulgaria - France | BBO I | 11 | France - Ireland | BBO I |
| 5 | Italy - Luxembourg | BBO 2 | 15 | Poland - Sweden | BBO 2 | 6 | Italy - Czech Rep. | BBO 2 |
| 6 | England - Netherlands | BBO 3 | 17 | Germany - Belarus | BBO 3 | 19 | Portugal - Russia | BBO 3 |
| 18 | Portugal - Germany | BBO 4 | 7 | Iceland - Monaco | BBO 4 | 7 | England - Iceland | BBO 4 |
| 16 | Norway - Poland | BBO 5 | 6 | Czech Rep. - England | BBO 5 | 14 | Bulgaria - Slovakia | BBO 5 |
| 15 | Sweden-Slovakia | BBO 6 | 31 | Poland - France (W) | BBO 6 | 22 | France - Spain (W) | BBO 6 |
| 25 | Hungary - France (W) | BBO 7 | 9 | Denmark - Croatia | SWAN | 32 | Denmark - Sweden (W) | SWAN |
|  |  | - |  | SOCIETE generale | nal. Ci |  | CASINO DE PAU | 174: |

## OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

## GROUPA

| ROUND 13 |  |  |  | Visiting Team |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Table | Home Team | LATVIA |  |  |
| I | TURKEY | ISRAEL |  |  |
| 2 | LITHUANIA | FINLAND |  |  |
| 3 | GREECE | SPAIN |  |  |
| 4 | SERBIA | LUXEMBOURG |  |  |
| 5 | ITALY | NETHERLANDS |  |  |
| 6 | ENGLAND | CZECH REP. |  |  |
| 7 | MONACO | ICELAND |  |  |
| 8 | SWITZERLAND | CROATIA |  |  |
| 9 | SCOTLAND | BYE |  |  |
|  | DENMARK |  |  |  |


| ROUND 14 |  |  |  | Visiting Team |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Table | Home Team | TURKEY |  |  |
| I | ISRAEL | LITHUANIA |  |  |
| 2 | FINLAND | GREECE |  |  |
| 3 | SPAIN | LATVIA |  |  |
| 4 | LUXEMBOURG | ITALY |  |  |
| 5 | NETHERLANDS | ENGLAND |  |  |
| 6 | CZECH REP. | MONACO |  |  |
| 7 | ICELAND | SWITZERLAND |  |  |
| 8 | SCOTLAND | CROATA |  |  |
| 9 | DENMARK | BYE |  |  |
|  | SERBIA |  |  |  |

## GROUPB

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


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


| ROUND I5 |  |  |  | I7.35 |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |  |  |
| I | TURKEY | FINLAND |  |  |
| 2 | LITHUANIA | SPAIN |  |  |
| 3 | GREECE | SERBIA |  |  |
| 4 | ISRAEL | LUXEMBOURG |  |  |
| 5 | LATVIA | NETHERLANDS |  |  |
| 6 | ITALY | CZECH REP. |  |  |
| 7 | ENGLAND | ICELAND |  |  |
| 8 | MONACO | SCOTLAND |  |  |
| 9 | SWITZERLAND | DENMARK |  |  |
|  | CROATIA | BYE |  |  |

## Today's Schedule

I0.30 Open Teams, Round I3
Women Teams, Round I
I4.I5 Open Teams, Round I4
Women Teams, Round 2
17.35 Open Teams, Round I5

Women Teams, Round 3

ROUND 15
17.35

| Table | Home Team |
| :---: | :--- |
| 11 | FRANCE |
| 12 | SAN MARINO |
| 13 | AUSTRIA |
| 14 | BULGARIA |
| 15 | MALTA |
| 16 | SWEDEN |
| 17 | NORWAY |
| 18 | BELARUS |
| 19 | PORTUGAL |
|  | WALES |

Table Home Team
II FRANCE
12 SAN MARINO
AUSTRIA
BULGARIA

SWEDEN
NORWAY

PORTUGAL
WALES


Visiting Team
IRELAND HUNGARY ESTONIA SLOVAKIA POLAND ROMANIA GERMANY BELGIUM RUSSIA BYE

## Butler scores

From now on the butler scores will be updated every round and can be watched on the website and the intranet.

## OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

## GROUPA

ROUND 10 - subject to official confirmation

|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| I | MONACO | TURKEY | $51-49$ | $15-15$ |
| 2 | ENGLAND | LITHUANIA | $62-36$ | $20-10$ |
| 3 | ITALY | GREECE | $49-44$ | $16-14$ |
| 4 | LATVIA | SERBIA | $88-33$ | $25-4$ |
| 5 | ISRAEL | SPAIN | $44-39$ | $16-14$ |
| 6 | LUXEMBOURG | SWITZERLAND | $49-37$ | $17-13$ |
| 7 | NETHERLANDS | CROATIA | $52-49$ | $16-14$ |
| 8 | CZECH REP. | DENMARK | $55-31$ | $20-10$ |
| 9 | ICELAND | SCOTLAND | $46-29$ | $19-11$ |
|  | FINLAND | BYE |  | $18-0$ |


| ROUND II - subject to official confirmation |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| I | TURKEY | ENGLAND | $42-23$ | $19-1 I$ |
| 2 | LITHUANIA | ITALY | $41-64$ | $10-20$ |
| 3 | GREECE | LATVIA | $30-52$ | $10-20$ |
| 4 | SERBIA | ISRAEL | $39-72$ | $8-22$ |
| 5 | SPAIN | FINLAND | $31-44$ | $12-18$ |
| 6 | MONACO | LUXEMBOURG | $75-50$ | $20-10$ |
| 7 | SWITZERLAND | NETHERLANDS | $24-65$ | $7-23$ |
| 8 | CZECH REP. | CROATIA | $72-17$ | $25-4$ |
| 9 | DENMARK | ICELAND | $18-27$ | $13-17$ |
|  | SCOTLAND | BYE |  | $18-0$ |

## ROUND 12 - subject to official confirmation

|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| I | ITALY | TURKEY | $12-36$ | $10-20$ |
| 2 | LATVIA | LITHUANIA | $74-19$ | $25-4$ |
| 3 | ISRAEL | GREECE | $21-11$ | $17-13$ |
| 4 | FINLAND | SERBIA | $58-30$ | $21-9$ |
| 5 | LUXEMBOURG | ENGLAND | $20-36$ | $12-18$ |
| 6 | NETHERLANDS | MONACO | $45-10$ | $22-8$ |
| 7 | CZECH REP. | SWITZERLAND | $45-34$ | $17-13$ |
| 8 | ICELAND | CROATIA | $29-29$ | $15-15$ |
| 9 | SCOTLAND | DENMARK | $25-71$ | $6-24$ |
|  | SPAIN | BYE |  | $18-0$ |

Delegates to the General Assembly


The delegates of every NBO are requested to confirm their attendance at the General Assembly which will take place on Sunday 22 June 2008.

## GROUP B

## ROUND 10 - subject to official confirmation

|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | ---: |
| II | BELARUS | FRANCE | $72-39$ | $22-8$ |
| I2 | NORWAY | SAN MARINO | $74-23$ | $25-5$ |
| I3 | SWEDEN | AUSTRIA | $58-64$ | $14-16$ |
| I4 | MALTA | ESTONIA | $40-77$ | $7-23$ |
| I5 | BULGARIA | HUNGARY | $78-17$ | $25-3$ |
| I6 | SLOVAKIA | PORTUGAL | $53-53$ | $15-15$ |
| I7 | WALES | POLAND | $31-56$ | $10-20$ |
| I8 | ROMANIA | RUSSIA | $44-75$ | $9-21$ |
| I9 | GERMANY | BELGIUM | $32-44$ | $13-17$ |
|  | IRELAND | BYE |  | $18-0$ |


| ROUND II - subject to official confirmation |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | ---: | :---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |  |
| II | FRANCE | NORWAY | $55-27$ | $21-9$ |  |
| I2 | SAN MARINO | SWEDEN | $34-81$ | $6-24$ |  |
| I3 | AUSTRIA | MALTA | $47-25$ | $20-10$ |  |
| I4 | ESTONIA | BULGARIA | $45-15$ | $21-9$ |  |
| I5 | HUNGARY | IRELAND | $50-34$ | $18-12$ |  |
| I6 | BELARUS | SLOVAKIA | $51-26$ | $20-10$ |  |
| I7 | PORTUGAL | POLAND | $42-37$ | $16-14$ |  |
| I8 | WALES | ROMANIA | $23-5 I$ | $9-21$ |  |
| I9 | RUSSIA | GERMANY | $66-18$ | $25-5$ |  |
|  | BELGIUM | BYE |  | $18-0$ |  |


| ROUND 12 - subject to official confirmation |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Home Team | Visiting Team | IMPs | VPs |
| II | SWEDEN | FRANCE | $50-5$ | $24-6$ |
| I2 | MALTA | SAN MARINO | $37-63$ | $10-20$ |
| I3 | BULGARIA | AUSTRIA | $59-31$ | $21-9$ |
| I4 | IRELAND | ESTONIA | $42-39$ | $16-14$ |
| I5 | SLOVAKIA | NORWAY | $39-65$ | $10-20$ |
| I6 | BELARUS | POLAND | $15-33$ | $11-19$ |
| I7 | ROMANIA | PORTUGAL | $25-28$ | $14-16$ |
| I8 | GERMANY | WALES | $27-24$ | $16-14$ |
| I9 | RUSSIA | BELGIUM | $96-10$ | $25-0$ |
|  | HUNGARY | BYE |  | $18-0$ |

## WOMEN TEAMS PROGRAM

| ROUND I |  |  |  | 10.30 |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |  |  |
| I | ICELAND | SCOTLAND |  |  |
| 2 | RUSSIA | CZECH REP. |  |  |
| 3 | WALES | GERMANY |  |  |
| 4 | PORTUGAL | DENMARK |  |  |
| 5 | HUNGARY | FRANCE |  |  |
| 6 | NETHERLANDS | TURKEY |  |  |
| 7 | ITALY | POLAND |  |  |
| 8 | GREECE | SPAIN |  |  |
| 9 | FINLAND | SWEDEN |  |  |
| 10 | ENGLAND | IRELAND |  |  |
| 11 | AUSTRIA | CROATIA |  |  |
| 12 | LEBANON | ISRAEL |  |  |
| 13 | NORWAY | BYE |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |


| ROUND 2 |  |  |  | 14.15 |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |  |  |
| I | GREECE | ITALY |  |  |
| 2 | WALES | TURKEY |  |  |
| 3 | ENGLAND | HUNGARY |  |  |
| 4 | AUSTRIA | PORTUGAL |  |  |
| 5 | NORWAY | LEBANON |  |  |
| 6 | GERMANY | RUSSIA |  |  |
| 7 | CROATIA | SCOTLAND |  |  |
| 8 | IRELAND | CZECH REP. |  |  |
| 9 | SWEDEN | ISRAEL |  |  |
| 10 | SPAIN | DENMARK |  |  |
| 11 | POLAND | FRANCE |  |  |
| 12 | FINLAND | NETHERLANDS |  |  |
| 13 | ICELAND | BYE |  |  |


| ROUND 3 |  |  |  | I7.35 |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Table | Home Team | Visiting Team |  |  |
| I | TURKEY | POLAND |  |  |
| 2 | FRANCE | SPAIN |  |  |
| 3 | ITALY | WALES |  |  |
| 4 | ISRAEL | IRELAND |  |  |
| 5 | CZECH REP. | CROATIA |  |  |
| 6 | ICELAND | GERMANY |  |  |
| 7 | RUSSIA | NORWAY |  |  |
| 8 | LEBANON | AUSTRIA |  |  |
| 9 | PORTUGAL | ENGLAND |  |  |
| 10 | HUNGARY | FINLAND |  |  |
| 11 | NETHERLANDS | GREECE |  |  |
| 12 | DENMARK | SWEDEN |  |  |
| 13 | SCOTLAND | BYE |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## Ramondt made the right view

by Jan van Cleeff

## Croatia vs. The Netherlands (Round IO)

Green against red Vincent Ramondt from The Netherlands was dealt this South hand:
$4-$
$\checkmark 94$
$\diamond$ A 108632
\& K Q 1094

Dealer North. E/WVul.

| West <br> Brguljan | North <br> Westra | East <br> Rase | South <br> Ramondt |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pass | IS (strong) | $1 \diamond$ |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | Dble | 39 |
| $4 \diamond$ | Pass | $4 \hookleftarrow$ | $?$ |

I dare say that most of us would gave it another shot with Vincent Ramondt's holding. However, he decided to pass. First of all, chances were great that his partner possessed five spades. Secondly, he had already drewn a picture of his hand and was therefore in the position to leave the final word to his partner. And this proved to be the case. Berry Westra indeed had long spades, so the bidding peacefully rested in the spade game. Double dummy analysis says eleven tricks can be made in Four Spades. But with trumps 5-0 declarer had a difficult task and ended up one down. Five diamonds, by the way, is two light. The full deal was:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

- 108765
- 1073
$\diamond$ K 7
- J 87
- 1943
© K Q 82
$\diamond 4$
-6532


In the other room the N/S pair found their club fit and decided to 'save' in Five Clubs doubled: down IIOO and a swing of 15 IMPs in favour of The Netherlands.

## OPEN TEAMS RANKING GROUP A <br> after 12 rounds <br> subject to official confirmation

| I | NETHERLANDS | 224.00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | CZECH REP. | 223.00 |
| 3 | FINLAND | 214.00 |
| 4 | ITALY | 210.00 |
| 5 | LATVIA | 209.00 |
| 6 | ICELAND | 207.00 |
| 7 | ISRAEL | 203.00 |
| 8 | TURKEY | 192.00 |
| 9 | DENMARK | 190.00 |
| 10 | MONACO | 187.00 |
| 11 | ENGLAND | 185.00 |
| 12 | SPAIN | 169.00 |
| 13 | CROATIA | 165.00 |
|  | GREECE | 165.00 |
| 15 | LUXEMBOURG | 152.00 |
| 16 | SWITZERLAND | 142.00 |
| 17 | SCOTLAND | 135.00 |
| 18 | LITHUANIA | 133.00 |
| 19 | SERBIA | 127.00 |

## OPEN TEAMS RANKING GROUP B after 12 rounds subject to official confirmation

|  | SWEDEN | 242.00 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | RUSSIA | 225.00 |
| 3 | GERMANY | 220.00 |
| 4 | NORWAY | 206.30 |
| 5 | BULGARIA | 203.00 |
| 6 | POLAND | 202.00 |
| 7 | BELARUS | 192.00 |
|  | PORTUGAL | 192.00 |
| 9 | IRELAND | 189.70 |
| 10 | FRANCE | 181.00 |
| 11 | ESTONIA | 175.00 |
| 12 | SLOVAKIA | 171.00 |
| 13 | AUSTRIA | 162.00 |
| 14 | HUNGARY | 161.00 |
| 15 | ROMANIA | 157.00 |
| 16 | BELGIUM | 154.00 |
| 17 | WALES | 151.00 |
| 18 | SAN MARINO | 146.00 |
| 19 | MALTA | 85.00 |

## Germany on a Roll

by Mark Horton

The Round 7 match between the teams occupying first and fourth places was an obvious choice, and there was plenty to enthuse about, as the Great Shuffler provided a testing set of deals.

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.

- 65
©AJ5 3
$\diamond$ AJ987
- 87


Open Room


Michael Gromoeller, Germany

Closed Room

| West Wladow | North Jagniewski | East <br> Elinescu | South <br> Kwiecien |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pass | Pass | 19* |
| $2 \diamond *$ | Dble | Pass | Pass |
| 24 | Pass | Pass | Dble |
| Pass | $3 \bigcirc$ | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

The Poles were in a position to duplicate the result in the other room, but there was obviously some doubt as to the precise nature of South's double.
East led his spade and declarer went up with dummy's ace, played a heart to the ace and ran the jack of hearts to the queen. West cashed the king of spades and played the ten of spades for East to ruff. That ensured one down, -50 and a fast start for Germany, leading II-0.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.
$\perp 9$
ค A 109
$\diamond$ K 108643
\& Q 43

| A AJ7652 | N | - K Q 108 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 53$ |  | QQJ 7 |
| $\checkmark 72$ | W E | $\diamond 195$ |
| ¢ K 108 | S | - 762 |
|  | - 43 |  |
|  | PK8642 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ A Q |  |
|  | * AJ9 5 |  |

Open Room

| West <br> Gierulski | North <br> Gromoeller | East <br> Skrzypczak | South <br> Kirmse |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2 \diamond^{*}$ | Pass | $3 จ^{*}$ | Dble |
| $3 \boldsymbol{3}$ | $4 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

2 Multi
38 Pass or correct
The multi gave East/West a chance to restrict their opponent's bidding space and as a result the German pair missed an eminently playable game.
After a spade lead and continuation declarer ruffed, and combined drawing trumps with playing on hearts to score eleven tricks, +150 .

## Closed Room

| West <br> Wladow | North <br> Jagniewski | East <br> Elinescu | South <br> Kwiecien |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | I |
| $2 \boldsymbol{4}$ | $4 \diamond *$ | $4 \uparrow$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

West's delayed entry into the auction turned out badly. The defenders took six tricks to collect +800 and 12 IMPs. That gave Poland the lead, which they immediately extended.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/WVul.


Open Room

| West <br> Gierulski | North <br> Gromoeller | East <br> Skrzypczak | South <br> Kirmse |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $2\rangle^{*}$ | Pass |
| $2 \mathbf{2}^{*}$ | Pass | $3 \mathbf{2}^{*}$ | Pass |
| $4 \vee$ | All Pass |  |  |


| $2 \triangleleft$ | Multi |
| :--- | :--- |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | Forward going in hearts |

3\% Maximum in hearts

The Multi gave North/South no reasonable opportunity to get into the auction.


Boguslaw Gierulski, Poland

North led the queen of hearts and declarer won in dummy and played the jack of clubs. When the king appeared he won, crossed to the ace of hearts and played on clubs. The defenders could take only three tricks, +620 .

Closed Room

| West <br> Wladow | North <br> Jagniewski | East <br> Elinescu | South <br> Kwiecien |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| $2 \mathbf{2 0}^{*}$ | Pass | $2 』$ | Pass |
| Pass | $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ | $3 \boldsymbol{2}$ | $3 \boldsymbol{3}$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

The German pair missed the boat here. East cashed a top heart and switched to a club. West won and reverted to hearts, declarer ruffing, ruffing a club, crossing to the ace of spades and ruffing his last club. With a more or less complete count he then picked up the diamonds for +170 and 13 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

- A 7543
$\bigcirc$ AK 7
$\diamond 2$
\& Q J 82

| ¢ 982 | N | ¢ K J 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 942$ | $W^{\text {c }}$ | $\bigcirc 83$ |
| $\diamond$ KJ 9843 | W E | $\diamond$ A Q 1076 |
| 95 | S | \& A 94 |
|  | $\pm$ Q 10 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ Q J 1065 |  |
|  | $\diamond 5$ |  |
|  | \& K 10763 |  |

Open Room

| West <br> Gierulski | North <br> Gromoeller | East <br> Skrzypczak | South <br> Kirmse |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| Pass | $1 \mathbf{2}$ | INT | $2 \boxtimes$ |
| $3 \diamond$ | $4 \vee$ | $5 \diamond$ | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

North's aggressive jump to game worked like a charm when East decided to take out some insurance.
North cashed the king of hearts, South playing the queen and then tried the ace of spades and a spade. Declarer went up with dummy's king and when the queen appeared he had escaped for one down, -200 .

## Closed Room

| West <br> Wladow | North <br> Jagniewski | East <br> Elinescu | South <br> Kwiecien |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | $4 \rrbracket$ | All Pass | $\mathbf{2} \nabla^{*}$ |

West led his club, collected a couple of ruffs and the contract was -200, those 9 IMPs leaving Poland ahead by 9 IMPs.

Board I3. Dealer North. All Vul.

- QJ 52

〉 J 875
$\triangleleft$ AJ 97
$\%$


East led his heart and declarer put up dummy's ace and played a spade to the queen and king. West won the club switch with the ace, cashed the king of hearts and played a second club. Declarer could ruff, draw trumps and claim +620 .

| Closed Room <br> West <br> Wladow | North <br> Jagniewski | East <br> Elinescu | South <br> Kwiecien |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pass | 39 | $3 \triangleleft$ |
| $3 \triangleleft$ | $5 \diamond$ | All Pass |  |

North/South failed to get spades into the picture and arrived in a more difficult contract.
West led the three of clubs (!) and East won with the king and switched to his heart. Declarer took the ace, ruffed a club, drew two rounds of trumps and played a heart. East ruffed and exited with a club. Declarer pitched a spade from hand, ruffed in dummy and played the queen of spades, covered by the king and ace. There was no reason for him to do anything other than finesse in spades, so he was one down, -I00 and IO IMPs went to Germany.

Board I6. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

- A 1042

$\triangleleft \mathrm{Q} 98$
4 A 76532
Q Q 85
© AK 1072
$\triangleleft A K 6$
- 10


QJ 984
$\diamond 2$
-K QJ 984

Open Room

| West <br> Gierulski | North <br> Gromoeller | East <br> Skrzypczak | South <br> Kirmse |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I $\&$ | Dble | $3 \Omega$ | $5 \boldsymbol{\Omega}$ |
| Dble | All Pass |  |  |

West led the ace of hearts, and declarer ruffed in dummy and claimed an overtrick, +650 . That was a good result....but for which team?

## Closed Room

| West <br> Wladow | North <br> Jagniewski | East <br> Elinescu | South <br> Kwiecien |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $12^{*}$ | $1 Q^{*}$ | Pass | 2 NT* $^{*}$ |
| Pass | $3 \%$ | $3 \diamond$ | $5 \%$ |
| $5 \diamond$ | Dble | All Pass |  |

South led his spade and North won and returned the ten of spades for South to ruff. The heart return and North's ruff left declarer one down, -200 and IO IMPs to Germany, who now had a healthy lead.

Board I9. Dealer South. E/WVul.
$\perp 6$
คAQ753
$\diamond 1073$
\& K Q J 3

| ¢ Q 832 | N | , K J 9 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 98642$ | W E | $\bigcirc \mathrm{KJ}$ |
| $\diamond 194$ | W E | $\checkmark$ Q 8652 |
| 96 | S | ¢ 1084 |
|  | ¢ A 10754 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 10$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AK |  |
|  | \& A 9752 |  |

Open Room

| West <br> Gierulski | North <br> Gromoeller | East <br> Skrzypczak | South <br> Kirmse |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | $1 \mathbf{1 Q}$ |
| Pass | $2 \vee$ | Pass | $3 \mathbf{2}$ |
| Pass | $3 \diamond *$ | Pass | $3 N T$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

When North elected to ignore the known club fit the excellent slam was missed. On West's lead of the nine of diamonds declarer won and played a heart to the queen, claiming nine tricks when the finesse lost, +400 .


That simple auction gave Poland II useful IMPs, but Germany still added another 20VP to their total and retained their lead.

While Board I9 is still on your minds, let's take a look at the way Marc Bompis and Jean-Christophe Quantin tackled the deal:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/WVul.

|  | ¢ 6 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AQ 753 |  |
|  | $\checkmark 1073$ |  |
|  | \% K Q J 3 |  |
| ¢ Q 832 | N | ¢ K J 9 |
| $\bigcirc 98642$ | $W^{\text {c }}$ | $\bigcirc \mathrm{KJ}$ |
| $\diamond$ J 94 |  | $\checkmark$ Q 8652 |
| 96 | S | \% 1084 |
|  | - A 10754 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 10$ |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ AK |  |
|  | \& A 9752 |  |

Open Room

| West <br> Matushko | North <br> Bompis | East Khokhlov | South <br> Quantin |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | 19 |
| Pass | 18 | Pass | 14 |
| Pass | $2 \diamond *$ | Pass | 30 |
| Pass | 4\% | Pass | $4 \diamond *$ |
| Pass | 4 ${ }^{*}$ | Pass | 4** |
| Pass | 4NT* | Pass | 5\%* |
| Pass | 5NT* | Pass | 6\%* |
| Pass | 78 | All Pass |  |

When South opened One Club his side was off to a very good start and once clubs were after a series of cue bids were North ascertained that South had three aces and one king before venturing the grand slam.
With no obvious losers, the question was could the declarer find a route to thirteen tricks? (Bear in mind that at every other table where the grand slam was attempted declarer went down.)

West led the four of diamonds and declarer won, cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade. He then took the ace of hearts and ruffed a heart, felling East's king. He took the king of diamonds, ruffed a club and advanced the queen of hearts. When East pitched a diamond declarer got rid of a spade. He then cashed the queen of clubs, ruffed a heart, ruffed a spade and played a heart, certain that he must score the last two tricks via trump coup on East.
Excellent bidding matched by flawless play.
For the record on a trump lead declarer can win in hand and follow Quantin's line, having only to be careful in the matter of the entries needed to ruff spades in dummy.

## Sitout 3 - Solution

You play Five Diamonds as West. North opened Three Spades, led the spade king which you won with the ace while South contributed the jack. On a trump to the ace South threw a club.
Best play? What are the chances to make?

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \qquad \text { K Q } 98 \\ & \diamond 954 \\ & \diamond \text { QJ } 10 \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - A 5 | N | - 76 |
| $\bigcirc$ AK 83 |  | $\bigcirc 762$ |
| $\checkmark 9876543$ | W E | $\checkmark$ AK2 |
| - - | S | -KQJ83 |
|  | - J 10 |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ QJ 10 |  |
|  | $\checkmark$ - |  |
|  | $\diamond$ A 109 |  |

Play a high club and discard the spade whatever South does.

## A. South plays low.

If you win the trick, give up a heart, and ruff the last heart in dummy.
If North ruffs you win any major return, draw the last trump and give up a heart.
If North takes the club ace you win any major return and give up a diamond. The heart losers go on the clubs.
B. South plays the club ace which holds the trick.

You win any major return and give up a diamond.
Should you carelessly ruff the club ace, North will overruff, play a spade to South who gives North another ruff.
The chances to make? $100 \%$.

## Sitout exercise - 4

Six card ending. Too many cards may be confusing. Hopefully six are not too many. West to play. How many tricks can he make with hearts as trumps?


## OPEN TEAMS

## Russia v Poland

## Round 9

Tuesday's evening matches included the encounter between Russia and Poland in group B. Though the teams were lying 3rd and 6th at the start of their match, they both had not won a match all day.As their negative margins were not that big, they both had managed to stay in the running, though the gap between the fourth-ranked Norway and Belarus in 9th place was a mere 9.3 V.P. Germany and Sweden were leading the group quite comfortably, the latter holding a 21 V.P. advantage over 3rd placed Russia.

In group A, in the meantime, Finland were playing Israel, believe it or not also the match between the 3rd and 6thranked teams in the group. The standings in this group were much closer than in group B, the nos. I and 9 separated by just 22 V.P.

So once again, a combined report on these two matches looked the correct approach. I will often refer to them as match A and match B ; it should be obvious that this has nothing to do with my ideas about the quality of either match...

Match A started off in quite lively fashion, IMPs flying back and forth during the first six boards. First blood was struck by Israel in exactly the same way as Poland did in match B.

Match B started very well for Poland, who recorded successive swings on the first four boards. Twice the swing amounted to an overtrick, once to a minor partscore swing but this was that early big swing board:


Boguslaw Pazur, Poland

| Board: 2. Dealer East/NS vul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - 642 |  |  |  |
| -K 10987 |  |  |  |
| $\diamond$ K 86 |  |  |  |
| \& 96 |  |  |  |
| - 853 | N |  |  |
| $\bigcirc$ Q 42 |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark 9542$ |  | $\checkmark$ A | J 103 |
| + 852 | S |  | 73 |
|  | - AKQ 109 |  |  |
|  | $\bigcirc 3$ |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q 7 |  |  |
|  | \& K Q J 104 |  |  |
| Open Room Match A |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Limor | Koistinen | Mintz | Nyberg |
|  |  | INT | $2{ }^{1}$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |
| Open Room Match B |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Gierulski | Khiouppenen | Skrzypczak | Kholomeev |
|  |  | INT | 21 |

As you can see, both the Russian and the Finnish NS pair could not double the strong NT for penalties. When hey contented themselves with 2s (showing a twosuiter in the Finnish agreements) they were left to play there.

In both Closed Rooms, their Israeli and Polish counterparts could double, for penalties or anything else, making it plain sailing to reach game:

Closed Room Match A

| West <br> Blomqvist | North Pachtman | East <br> Kiema | South <br> Ginossar |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | INT | Dble* |
| Pass | 24 | Pass | 49 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |
| * Spades and another suit |  |  |  |
| Closed Room Match B |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Gromov | Zawislak | Dubinin | Pazur |
|  |  | INT | Dble |
| 2\% | Pass | 3 | 39 |
| Pass | 49 | All Pass |  |

So a vulnerable game swing, 10 IMPs, to both Israel and Poland.

Two small swings to Finland saw them level their match when board 5 arrived:

Board: 5. Dealer North/NS vul.

- AKJ 5
$\bigcirc 73$
$\checkmark 92$
Q Q 10987

```
- 1093
คAJIO 542
\(\diamond A 105\)
* \(A\)
```



```
- 72
ค96
\(\diamond\) K Q J 6
\& K 6 543
```

In the Closed Room, the Finnish overbid a little:

| Closed Room <br> West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Blomqvist | Pachtman | Kiema | Ginossar |
|  | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| 18 | Pass | $2 \varnothing$ | Pass |
| 24 | Pass | $3 \Omega$ | Pass |
| $4 \varnothing$ | All Pass |  |  |

There is no way for declarer to escape losing at least four tricks. The spade ruff put the contract two down very quickly. Israel + 100 .

In the Open Room, North fell from grace in defence:

Open Room

| West <br> Limor | North <br> Koistinen | East <br> Mintz | South <br> Nyberg |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $1 Q$ | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | Pass | $2 \triangleleft$ | Pass |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | Pass | $2 N T$ | Pass |
| $3 \otimes$ | Pass | 3NT | All Pass |

South, who could pass is due to their system agreements, had not doubled 3NT and led the $\checkmark \mathrm{K}$. Declarer immediately won this in dummy and asked for the $\$ 10$. North ducked this...so no matter if declarer played the $\varphi Q$ (as he did) or not, he was home, all of a sudden. North apparently could not imagine that South might hold the 2 K as well...

Israel +400 and II IMPs to regain the lead, $2 I-10$. Their gambit to try 3NT with a 6-3 heart fit had paid off very well indeed.

On the next board, most of their lead evaporated when the NS agreements proved very useful indeed:

Board: 6. Dealer East/EW vul.
A AK6 3
$\checkmark$ A Q 4
$\diamond J 106$

- A 109
- J 105

คK 109763
$\diamond 5$
\& K 52


Q Q 974
$\bigcirc 82$
$\diamond$ AK 97
\& 87

- 82

『 J 5
$\diamond$ Q 8432
\& QJ 64
Open Room

| West <br> Limor | North <br> Koistinen | East <br> Mintz | South <br> Nyberg |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | Dble | Pass | Pass |
| $2 \triangleleft$ | Dble | All Pass |  |

When Koistinen could double $2 \checkmark$ for penalties as well, Nyberg was quite happy to pass. The contract went down only two when the defence did not find the spade ruff. Still, Finland had scored +500 .

In the other room, Pachtman's 2NT overcall ended the auction:

| Closed Room <br> West | North <br> Blomqvist | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2 \vee$ | $2 N T$ | All Pass | Pass |

The contract just made for +120 to Israel but Finland had scored 9 IMPs to trail by 19-2I.

Time to switch back to match B again, where the score after board 5 stood at 16-0 to Poland. Here, this board 6 was a comedy of errors at both tables.

## Open Room

| West <br> Gierulski | North <br> Khiouppenen | East <br> Skrzypczak | South <br> Kholomeev |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| I $\varangle$ | Dble | Pass | $2 \diamond$ |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 3NT |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

East led a heart against 3NT which declarer ducked. He won the second round and led the $\diamond I 0$, ducked all round. East won the second diamond and went on to cash his other top diamond as well before exiting with a spade. Now, declarer
was able to play a club to dummy's queen, thus establishing an entry to dummy's diamonds. Russia +400 .

In the Closed Room, Dubinin did not take a possible light opening bid from his partner into account:

| Closed Room <br> West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gromov | Zawislak | Dubinin | Pazur |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| I $\oslash$ | Dble | Redble | Pass |
| Pass | INT | Pass | $2 \diamond$ |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | All Pass |

This contract was made with two overtricks, so Poland scored +380 for a loss of just I IMP.

More Russian IMPs on the next board:
Board: 7. Dealer South/All vul.
\& KJ965
-A 753
$\diamond 43$
\& K 9
74
$\bigcirc$ Q 108
$\diamond 10975$
上」 1042

$\bigcirc 42$
$\diamond$ AK 6
\& A 865

| Open Room <br> West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gierulski | Khiouppenen | Skrzypczak | Kholomeev |
|  |  |  | 19 |
| Pass | $\mathbf{I} 8^{*}$ | Dble | $1 \Phi$ |
| Pass | $4 \boldsymbol{s}$ | All Pass |  |

* Spades

A simple auction and a routine game. Russia +620 .
In the Closed Room, South elected not to open the bidding and had to regret it later on:

| Closed Room <br> West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gromov | Zawislak | Dubinin | Pazur |
|  |  |  | Pass |
| Pass | I $\diamond$ | INT | Dble |

Not scoring the second undertrick they were entitled to, cost the Poles 300 points. Russia thus got only -200 for a 9-IMP gain.


On board I0, we got a swing in both our matches again. It was another instance of a good major suit fit not being the best denomination:

Board: I0. Dealer East/All vul.

- 106
$\triangle$ A Q J
$\diamond$ A 108542
82

```
$842
\84
Q Q 7
&Q IO 963
```



```
- A 5
- K 1096532
\(\diamond 93\)
- AK
-K QJ97 3
\(\bigcirc 7\)
\(\diamond\) K 6
- J 754
```

In our match A , there were an accident or two:
Open Room

| West <br> Limor | North <br> Koistinen | East <br> Mintz | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 18 | 19 |
| Pass | $2 \diamond$ | 28 | 24 |
| Pass | 2NT | Pass | 49 |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

West led a heart to dummy's ace and declarer continued with a club from dummy. Mintz won this, cashed his other top club and exited with and another. Next came the
$\bigcirc$ Q but when Mintz covered this, the timing for a squeeze on West was destroyed. One down, Israel +I00.

Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Blomqvist | Pachtman | Kiema | Ginossar |
|  |  | 18 | 29 |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | Pass |
| 39 | All Pass |  |  |

This was not the best of contracts. Down three and another +300 and 9 IMPs to Israel.
At the halfway stage, Israel were leading 30-I9.
In the other match, the Polish NS did very well indeed:

Closed Room

| West <br> Gromov | North <br> Zawislak | East <br> Dubinin | South <br> Pazur |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 18 | $1 \$$ |
| Pass | INT | $2 \boxtimes$ | $2 \$$ |
| Pass | 3NT | All Pass |  |

Played by North, this contract was unbeatable. Poland +600 .

Open Room

| West <br> Gierulski | North <br> Khiouppenen | East <br> Skrzypczak | South <br> Kholomeev |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 18 | 19 |
| Pass | $2 \triangleleft$ | $2 \boxtimes$ | $2 \$$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

In a not very exciting way, Russia scored +140 for a 10 IMP gain to Poland. They were leading 26-16 at the halfway stage of their match.

For the second half of this round, the boards were very quiet so nothing very much happened in either match. Only the final board offered either team a chance to score big:

Board: 20. Dealer West/All vul.
¢ AK 765

$\diamond K 8762$
\& K 92

| - 12 | N | (Q109843 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\bigcirc 8764$ |  | Q J5 |
| $\checkmark$ A 54 | W E | $\checkmark$ J 93 |
| -8653 | S | * A Q |
|  | - - |  |
|  | $\bigcirc$ AKQ |  |
|  | $\diamond$ Q 10 |  |
|  | * J 1074 |  |

The normal contract is $4 \checkmark$ and it's also quite normal that South will be the declarer. In that case, the contract can be defeated if West leads a club, East winning his queen and ace and returning a diamond to West's ace in order to get a club ruff.
If, for one reason or another, North becomes declarer, this defence is impossible and the contract is cold. Here is the Finnish auction.

## Open Room

| West <br> Limor | North <br> Koistinen | East <br> Mintz | South <br> Nyberg |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pass | $1 \$$ | 12 | $2 \triangleleft$ |
| Pass | $2 \boxtimes$ | Pass | $3 \mathbf{3}$ |
| Pass | $3 N T$ | Pass | $4 \checkmark$ |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

The transfer worked perfectly well here. Finland a fully deserved +620 .

In the Closed Room, Israel reached $4 \oslash$ played by South and West duly led a club. East cashed his two top clubs and did find the diamond switch but West, after winning his ace, continued the suit...no swing.

The final score in the match: 30-23 to Israel, a win by 16-14 V.P.

In the other match, South became declarer in $4 \checkmark$ at both tables. When the Russian West led the $\diamond A$, the hand could no longer be defeated: Poland +620.
Gierulski and Skrzypczak showed the way at the other table. Two rounds of clubs, diamond to the ace and a club ruff meant one down, +100 to Poland and a I2-IMP swing for them to win the match $41-30$ or I7-I3 V.P.


Clas Nyberg, Finland

## Champagne Moment: Perfect Bridge Partner

by Mark Horton

Round 9 delivered a deal that afforded the opportunity for the Bulletin to make its first nomination for a Champagne Moment and also choose the recipient of the first Perfect Bridge Partner award.

Board I2. Dealer West. N/S Vul.
Q -
$\bigcirc$ QJ 10732
$\diamond$ Q J 932
\& 107
\& K Q 7542
$\bigcirc \mathrm{K}$
$\triangleleft 8654$
」 4


4 1963
คA 6
$\diamond$ AK 107

* A Q 2

4 A 108
$\bigcirc 9854$
$\diamond$ —
2 K 98653
In the match between Bulgaria and Ireland both sides reached a slam:

Open Room


Hugh McGann, Ireland

South led the eight of hearts and declarer won with dummy's king, played the jack of clubs to the ace and discarded a club on the ace of hearts. He then ruffed a club and played the king of spades. When that held he played a spade to the jack and ace. To be certain of defeating the contract South should now play the king of clubs, removing an entry from the dummy, but he returned a spade to dummy's queen, declarer unblocking the nine. When declarer played four of diamonds North followed with the two and declarer put up dummy's ace - and was one down.
(That is how the play is depicted on BBO, North discarding hearts at every opportunity. However, l'm reliably informed that at some point North discarded the nine of diamonds - to show an odd number - so perhaps declarer should have prevailed.)

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2 \diamond *$ | Pass | 2NT* | Pass |
| 34* | Pass | 4** | Pass |
| 4 ${ }^{*}$ | Pass | 4NT* | Pass |
| 5\%* | Pass | 5 $\checkmark^{*}$ | Pass |
| 5 ${ }^{*}$ | Pass | 64 | Dble |
| Pass | Pass | 6NT | Pass |
| Pass | Dble | All Pass |  |

South led the three of clubs and declarer put up dummy's jack. When that held he played the king of spades, ducked, a spade to the jack, ducked and a spade. South won (North discarding heart, diamond, heart) and exited with the four of hearts. Declarer won with dummy's king and played a diamond to the .....king, so Bulgaria scored a couple of IMPs.
West, Hugh McGann, said not a word and calmly placed the next board onto the table - and in doing so collects the first Perfect Partner award.
Six Spades (sometimes doubled) was attempted at a number of tables, but only two declarers drew the right inference. This happened in the match between Italy and Serbia (and see page 18).
In the Closed Room Serbia stopped safely in Four Spades and scored +450 . The stakes were higher at the other table:
Open Room

| West <br> Sementa | North <br> Jovanovic | East <br> Angelini | South <br> Djuricic |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $2 \boldsymbol{2}$ | Pass | $2 N T^{*}$ | Pass |
| $\mathbf{3 0 ^ { * }}$ | Pass | $5 \boldsymbol{N}^{*}$ | Pass |
| $6 \boldsymbol{2}$ | Pass | Pass | Dble |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

North knew his partner could ruff something and so naturally led the queen of hearts. Declarer won in hand with the king and played the queen of spades. South won and played back a heart, so declarer won with dummy's ace, discarding a club from hand, drew trumps and played the four of diamonds. When North contributed the two declarer put in the seven and claimed +1210 .
That's our first Champagne Moment!

## OPEN TEAMS

## Round 8

## Monaco v Greece

by Peter Ventura
Monaco has so far surprised many of us in a positive way, and they were lying in a qualifying spot after they defeated Greece in Round 8 by $23-7$. Here are a couple of boards from that match.

| Board II. Dealer South. None Vul. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \& Q 54 |  |  |  |
| $\bigcirc 5$ |  |  |  |
| $\diamond$ J10 52 |  |  |  |
| \& J 10763 |  |  |  |
| - J63 | N | - K 107 |  |
| $\bigcirc$ A Q 732 |  | ¢K96 |  |
| $\checkmark$ K 76 |  | $\checkmark 84$ |  |
| +92 | S | * AKQ 85 |  |
| - A982 |  |  |  |
| Q JI0 84 |  |  |  |
| $\checkmark$ A Q 93 |  |  |  |
| - 4 |  |  |  |
| Open Room |  |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
| Bozemberg | Tognetti | Kaminaris | Desmoulins |
|  |  |  | $1 \diamond$ |
| 18 | $2 \checkmark$ | 2NT | Pass |
| 38 | Pass | $4 \bigcirc$ | All Pass |

North led a diamond to partner's ace. Declarer won the diamond return, and then ruffed a diamond. Two rounds of trumps revealed the bad break and from here on declarer could no longer make his game. South will win the fourth trump trick and now a spade switch is a gift for declarer and a diamond will squeeze partner in the black suits, so he must exit with the only card that beats the contract - his singleton club.

To prevent this, declarer must play one round of clubs before drawing trumps - a play too difficult for most of us! When declarer gives up the trump trick, South is endplayed at this position:

Q Q 54
None
$\checkmark$ None
」 107
4 163
$\bigcirc 73$
$\diamond$ None
9


- K 107
$\bigcirc$ None
$\diamond$ None
ค K Q 8
- A 982
® J
$\checkmark$ Q
None

North has to discard a black card when West plays a trump. South's best return is a diamond, but declarer can ruff and simply play a spade to the ten. North has probably pitched a spade, since he must keep three clubs, so declarer should work things out and find to play the king of spades, under which the queen will drop.

| Closed Room |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| West | North | East | South |
| Garcia | Karamanlis | Vincetelli | Vroustis |
|  |  |  | $1 \diamond$ |
| 18 | Pass | 23 | Pass |
| 2 | Pass | 48 | Dble |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

South's double in the Closed Room marked him with most of the missing HCP's. North led his singleton trump to the six, eight and queen. Declarer's next move was to cross to dummy in clubs and then play a diamond up. South played low, so declarer won the king and then played a club to dummy's queen, which was ruffed by South. On the trump return North at this point erred by discarding a spade. Declarer won the trump ace, and then drew trumps. The club ace followed, then a club ruff and a spade to the ten and ace. South cashed a diamond trick and put declarer to the test by playing a spade, but Garcia played low and was glad to see the queen appearing from North. Monaco +590 and that was 12 IMPs for them.

Double-dummy West can always make the game by finessing clubs at trick two.

Board I7. Dealer North. None Vul.
. K
-A 75
$\diamond$ J 64
Q QJ9 862


| $\begin{array}{c}\text { Open Room } \\ \text { West }\end{array}$ | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bozemberg | Tognetti | Kaminaris | Desmoulins |
|  | $1 \mathbf{2}$ | Pass | I 8 |
| 34 | Pass | Pass | Dble |
| Pass | 48 | All Pass |  |

North hoped to find South with five hearts, which would have given this hopeless contract slightly more hope. As it was now Four Hearts had no prayer and declarer went four off, -200.

## Closed Room

| West Garcia | North Karamanlis | East <br> Vincetelli | South <br> Vroustis |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 19 | Pass | I $\diamond$ |
| 14 | 2\% | Pass | $2 \bigcirc$ |
| 34 | Pass | 49 | Dble |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

North led the queen of clubs and declarer played another club after winning the ace. North followed with the nine, indicating something in hearts, and South was able to ruff the ten of clubs. South followed partner's signal and played a heart to North's ace. At this point a club would have killed the contract, since South can ruff with the jack and if West over-ruffs with the ace, North's king will become a trick. However, when North instead played the trump king declarer was back in with a shoot and when he worked out the diamond position he had ten tricks in his basket. E/W +590 and that was 9 IMPs for Monaco, which contributed to their victory.

## Round 7

by Peter Ventura

West pre-empts Three Clubs. Would you reopen as South?

|  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\bigcirc$ |  |  |
|  | $\diamond$ K |  |  |
|  | \% K |  |  |
| West | North | East | South |
|  |  | Pass | Pass |
| 3\% | Pass | Pass | ? |

This board produced a large swing for France in their match against Russia, thanks to both good bidding and play by the French.


If East had chosen to pass over Three Clubs, do you think South would have protected? When Bompis reopened, the French pair ended up in a playable game, but would JeanChristophe Quantin work out the diamond position correctly?

West led the club ace and declarer ruffed the next club, and then played a heart to East. Declarer ruffed the club switch and played a spade to the ace, and could happily notice West following with the king.A spade to the queen followed and the moment of truth had come. Quantin played the king of diamonds and noticed East's jack. With Q-J in diamonds, the jack of spades and the two heart tops East would likely have opened, so Quantin settled for the diamond finesse. Just made, +420 . Well done!

In the Closed Room another Frenchman was declaring:

## Closed Room

| West <br> Levy | North <br> Khiouppene | East <br> Mouiel | South <br> Kholomeev |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{4 9}$ | Pass | $\mathbf{2} \oslash$ | Pass |
| $\mathbf{4 8}$ | All Pass |  | Pass |

Here N/S did not participate at all in the bidding. Levy's fit-bid effectively held N/S out of the bidding.

South led a spade against Four Hearts and Mouiel could establish a spade trick when North played another spade back. With the club king onside declarer had ten tricks here too, so France +620 and an impressivel4 IMPs to them.


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## Deep Finesse Not Needed

by Patrick Jourdain (Wales)

Jason Hackett of England was a little disappointed that his Greek opponent in this round 9 deal made a helpful lead against his slam. For, even if the lead had been unhelpful, Jason was ready to take a necessary first round finesse of a 7 !

This was the board (to distinguish the many Hacketts we refer to them by first names in the diagram):

(a) Jacoby
(b) Shortage
(c) Any two suits other than spades
(d) Roman Keycard
(e) One or four keys
(f) Lightner, for a diamond (but see other table)

## Closed Room

| West | North | East | South |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 39 | Pass | 4\% (a) | Pass (b) |
| $4 \bigcirc$ (c) | Pass | 4NT (d) | Pass |
| 5\% (e) | Pass | 64 | Dble (f) |
| All Pass |  |  |  |

(a) Spade raise and cue
(b) Anticipating wanting a diamond lead
(c) Cue
(d) Keycard
(e) One key
(f) Lightner (see text)

Both tables reached Six Spades by West and South made a Lightner double hoping for a diamond lead.

When Waterlow was South for England he had reason to believe that partner might find the diamond lead. (Waterlow had not doubled Four Clubs and declarer had shown shortage in hearts.)

However, to Paul Hackett, there was a case for leading any of his three suits. He actually chose a club. It was, perhaps, a little lucky for England that this sinks the slam because the hearts are blocked and declarer has no way to reach his hand in time to discard the losing club. So declarer was compelled to finesse and the slam went one down. IOO to England.

At the other table Jason was alert to the danger that North would have a killing lead against Six Spades, and decided to run away to Six Notrumps.

South actually led a club. Jason won with the jack and knocked out the ace of spades. South switched to a heart. Jason won in dummy and, needing only three diamond tricks for his slam led a diamond to the TEN. This was worth 990 or 14 IMPs to England who won the match 5836 or I9-II in VPs.

Had South led a major suit then Jason had already decided that South's reason for doubling was a diamond void. And he would have had the pleasure of starting the suit by leading a small diamond to the SEVEN. And that, of course, is how Deep Finesse plays it!


Justin Hackett, England

## Championship Diary

Despite strong protests from the staff of the Bulletin the Editor has so far resisted the temptation to use the headline Early Doors, which has strong connotations with football, having allegedly been invented by the former manager and commentator Ron Atkinson.
This may be because extensive research has revealed that Early Doors is also cockney rhyming slang for a pair of drawers, as in knickers. Hmmmm...

Immortality is a wonderful concept. Competitors here in Pau who aspire to it would do well to observe a simple rule. If your Captain says you are sitting West, don't occupy the East seat and confuse our photographer.

Mentioning our photographer reminds me to tell you that if you are here in Pau make sure you take a look at the Internet version of the Bulletin. Then you will appreciate the quality of his pictures, which are done scant justice in the paper copy.

An unnamed journalist, discussing two members of his country's squad, differentiates the degree of cooperation expected from the pair of them.
'Player A simply ignores any request for co-operation;' he said. 'You will get nothing out of him, but at least you avoid argument.'
Player B, by contrast not only refuses to co-operate, he loudly argues his point of view until either you or he give up in disgust. You get nothing out of him - and you get a headache.'


The latest optical dealing machine (no bar codes needed!) is on view on the first floor.
Representatives of NBOs and other interested parties are invited to have a chat with Terry Collier today between 10.00 and I3.30.


Bulgarian names
Due to some recording problems some of the facts in yesterday's bulletin seem to be wrong. Firstly, the Bulgarian Valentin Kovachev AIShati pointed out that it was not him, but his partner Vladis Nikolov Isporski, who made an effort for slam with a poor nine-count opposite a
Two No Trump-opener showing 22-23 HCP's. (See page 16.) We deeply apologise for this confusion over Bulgarian names. Although, it seemed fair (for us) to ask Valentin why he accepted the slam invitation with his poor 22-count, which led to a hopeless slam with two losing top tricks. 'You're right, I shouldn't have bid the slam', was the answer.

We were also given the wrong information concerning Frederic Wrang's play in Two No Trumps (page 17). The Swedish npc Jan Kamras informed us that Wrang played perfectly correctly and that the contract was made thanks to his safety play. However, when the Bulgarians bid and made the no-trump game at the other table it was still a large swing for Bulgaria.

## Zugzwang

"Curious hand", said Oscar the Owl. Why did he say this?


Answer tomorrow


Thierry Vincentelli, Stéphane Garcia et le capitaine Christophe Desmoulins font les points.

## ENCHERES TRAVAILLEES

Agréablement surpris par l'équipe monégasque, qu'il nous soit permis de nous attarder sur la donne 13 (chiffre porte-bonheur ?) du $10^{\circ}$ tour.
Stéphane Garcia et Thierry Vincentelli furent l'une des très rares paires à appeler 7 Cœurs en Est Ouest.
Après l'ouverture turque d'l Carreau en Nord, Stéphane, placé en Est et craignant d'être débordé sur sa gauche, annonça 2 SA , quitte à surprendre certains puristes. Puis, assimilant sa chicane Carreau à un As, répondit 5 Coeur au Blackwood de son partenaire. Thierry insista en déclarant 5 Piques. Stéphane annonça alors sa Dame de Cœur en déclarant 5 SA. Thierry Vincentelli n'eut plus qu'à conclure à 7 Coeurs.
Nos amis sont tous deux d'origine corse. A propos, qui a prétendu qu'en Corse, on ignorait les enchères... travaillées ?

Donne I3. Donneur Nord. Tous Vul.

- D 83
$\bigcirc \vee$
$\triangleleft$ AD 86543
- D 8
ARV 1074
$\&$ AR 107
$\diamond$ RV
$\& 2$

- 96
$\bigcirc 52$
$\checkmark 10972$
\& R 9754


## REMPLACEMENT?

En cas de qualification, cette équipe monégasque risque de se retrouver incomplète en deuxième semaine étant donné les obligations professionnelles de certains de ses membres.
Afin d'éviter un scratch éventuel, Guido Ferraro s'est proposé en tant que remplaçant en précisant que ses pertes au casino de Monaco permettaient de lui conférer la nationalité monégasque. Voilà qui rappelle le mot de Tristan Bernard qui avançait que ses gains au jeu l'autorisaient à s'acheter une casquette de yachtman. Avant d'ajouter qu'avec ses pertes, il aurait pu se payer... le bateau.

## PYRENEES VARIEES

Le responsable des présents écrits est si âgé que, comme le disait Pierre Desproges: «Lorsque suis né, la Mer Morte n'était encore pas malade. »En ce temps, notre département se nommait Basses-Pyrénées; mais, de même que la Loire et la Seine ne sont plus «inférieures », et que les Basses-Alpes sont maintenant de Haute-Provence, Pau se situe désormais en Pyrénées-Atlantiques.
Or, dans les très nombreuses publicités réservées à notre championnat, nous avons relevé le terme évocateur de Pyrénées-Océanes. Cette observation nous vaut en tout cas de nous réjouir de l'excellente exposition en panneaux, affiches et vitrines visible tout au travers de la bonne ville de Pau.

## TORTS PARTAGES

Entendu un bridgeur dire à propos d'un mauvais coup, que les torts étaient partagés. Renseignements pris, il voulait dire par là que la responsabilité de ses ennuis incombait pour $50 \%$ à son partenaire, et... $50 \%$ aux adversaires.

DUPLIQUONS ENSEMBLE


Sophie Lacarrère et Monica Gorreri, du staff duplication

C'est une équipe transnationale qui se charge de la duplication des quelques 4000 étuis qui vont être joués chaque jour. Italiens et Français s'y consacrent quotidiennement sous l'aimable houlette de Monica Gorreri qui dirige cette opération responsable en bien des circonstances. Sur le nombre, 4 étuis de chaque série, ainsi que tous ceux du rama sont, au demeurant, automatiquement vérifiés. Il ne reste plus - simple détail - à Monica, la supportrice du fameux club de foot de Parme, qu'à se perfectionner, ce
qu'elle a promis, dans le jeu proprement dit.

## DE PLUS EN PLUS FOOT

Un appel concernait hier matin l'équipe italienne. A l'issue de son audition par la commission, il a été demandé à Alfredo Versace s'il avait une question à poser. S'adressant alors spécialement à Jean-Paul Meyer, il s'est contenté de l'interroger: «Quel est le résultat du France Italie de football d'hier et qu'en pensez-vous au juste ?».


## Jouez Vatout Nationa//Citer

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3- SWE-BLUE
4- POL-GORACO
5- ITA-MIROGLIO
6- SWE-YELLOW

7- ITA-D'AVOSSA 8-RUS-GROMOV 9- ITA-CESATI 10- HUN-PRINTECH 11-ITA-MIOZZI 12- HUN-STEVE

118 TEAMS • 2007


## RANKING 2007 TOP SECTION

1- POL-DWORAN 7-BUL-CAFFE' QUINDICI 2- HUN-LACATOS 8- ITA-HUGONY
3-ITA-DIGITALIA 9-CRO-JOE DALTON
4- BUL-QUANTUM 10- BIE-VITAS
5- ITA-LAVAZZA 11-ITA-PINGUELLO
6- POL-GORACO 12-ITA-ROSETTA

INFORMATION

## c/o F.I.G.B. Milano

Attention Federica Zorzoli Tel. ++39-02-700000222 Fax ++39-02-70001398 Cell. ++39-329-5609989 azzurri@federbridge.it


Copy of the 2008 programme on www.federbridge.it from September 30.

## BUTLER - after II Rounds

| BOCCHI Norberto | DUBOIN G. | 1.16 | 160 | Italy |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VOLHEJN Vit | KOPECKY M. | 1.16 | 20 | Czech Rep. |
| BRINK Sjoert | DRIJVER Bas | 1.13 | 120 | Netherland |
| ZHUKOV Alexander | TIMAKHOVICH A. | 1.04 | 80 | Belaru |
| NYSTROM Fredrik | BERTHEAU Peter | 1.03 | 160 | Sw |
| SMIRNOV Alexander | PIEKAREK Josef | 0.97 | 120 | Germany |
| HRISTOV Hristo | STOYANOV A.r | 0.89 | 140 | Bulg |
| KHOLOMEEV Vadim | KHIOUPPENEN J. | 0.87 | 100 | Russia |
| HELGEMO Geir | LUND Boerre | 0.78 | 160 | Nor |
| SENGULER Zafer | SEN Tezcan | 0.69 | 160 | Turkey |
| AA Terje | MOLBERG Jorgen | 0.68 | 120 | Nor |
| NILSSON Ulf | WRANG Frederic | 0.68 | 120 | Sw |
| ROLL Yossi | BAREKET Ilan | 0.68 | 120 |  |
| GROMOV Andrei | DUBININ A. | 0.67 | 180 | Rus |
| WESTRA Berry | RAMONDTV. | 0.65 | 140 | Netherland |
| BALDURSSON Jon | JONSSONT. | 0.64 | 120 |  |
| FITZGIBBON N. | MESBUR Adam | 0.61 | 140 | Irelan |
| BETHERS Janis | LORENCS Martins | 0.58 | 100 | atvia |
| LAANEMAE Tiit | KARPOV Maksim | 0.53 | 140 | Est |
| BILDE Morten | HANSEN Jorgen | 0.52 | 160 | en |
| NEIMANIS Janis | RUBINS Karlis | 0.51 | 140 |  |
| PAZUR Boguslaw | ZAWISLAK Slawek | 0.49 | 140 | Polan |
| KIEMA Osmo | JUURI-OJA Jouni | 0.49 | 160 | Fin |
| WLADOW Entscho | ELINESCU Michael | 0.47 | 120 | Germany |
| GIERULSKI B. | SKRZYPCZAK J. | 0.45 | 140 | Polan |
| FILIP Anatol | VELECKY Eduard | 0.45 | 200 | Slov |
| GROMOELLER M. | KIRMSE Andreas | 0.43 | 160 | Germany |
| CULLIN Per-Ola | UPMARK Johan | 0.41 | 120 | Swede |
| VOZABAL David | SLEMR Jakub | 0.41 | 120 | Czech Rep |
| BERTENS Huub | BAKKEREN Ton | 0.35 | 140 | Netherland |
| VERSACE Alfredo | LAURIA Lorenzo | 0.35 | 120 | taly |
| TOGNETTI Rene | DESMOULINS C. | 0.34 | 160 | Monac |
| BOMPIS Marc | QUANTIN J.C. | 0.30 | 160 | Franc |
| THOMAS Andrian | GOODMAN Peter | 0.28 | 120 | Wale |
| ZHURAVEL Valentin | ARLOVICH Andrei | 0.27 | 220 | Belar |
| MULTON Franck | ZIMMERMANN P. | 0.27 | 120 | ranc |
| EINARSSON B. | JONSSON S. | 0.24 | 140 | Icelan |
| BARBOSA Juliano | PINTO Rui | 0.22 | 180 | Portuga |
| KOISTINEN Kauko | NYBERG Clas | 0.22 | 140 | Finla |
| BRGULJAN Karlo | RASE Davor | 0.21 | 120 | Croat |
| VINCENTELLIT. | GARCIA Stephane | 0.21 | 140 | ra |
| ZORIC Vedran | BOREVKOVIC G. | 0.16 | 180 | Croa |
| CARROLL John | GARVEY Tommy | 0.12 | 140 | rela |
| KHOKHLOV Jouri | MATUSHKO Georgi | 0.11 | 160 | Russ |
| JORGENSEN A. | ARMANNSSON S. | 0.11 | 140 | Icel |
| ISPORSKIVladis N. | KOVACHEVV. | 0.10 | 120 | Bulgari |
| HACKETT Jason | HACKETT Justin | 0.08 | 120 | England |
| KORZUN Aleksandr | TIMAKHOVICH A. | 0.07 | 100 | Belaru |
| KURKA Josef | MRAZ Tomas | 0.07 | 160 | Czech Rep |
| LIMOR Doron | MINTZ Yaacov | 0.06 | 100 |  |
| KNAP Andres | WASIK Arturo | 0.05 | 160 | Spain |
| PESSOA Sofia | CASTANHEIRA J. | 0.04 | 160 | Portugal |
| FUCIK Jan | PURKARTHOFER | 0.03 | 160 | Austri |
| HACKETT Paul D | WATERLOW Tony | 0.03 | 160 | England |
| CATELLANI Marco | FISSORE Henri | 0.01 | 140 | Monaco |
| WERNLE Sascha | SIMON Josef | 0.01 | 140 |  |


| KARAMANLIS M. | VROUSTIS Vassilis | 0.01 | 140 | Greec |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| HEGEDUS Gal | HONTI Laszlo | 0.00 | 160 | Hungary |
| KARAKOLEV Georgi | DANAILOV Dyan | -0.01 | 140 | Bulgaria |
| GINOSSAR Eldad | PACHTMAN Ron | -0.02 | 180 | srael |
| ARMSTRONG John | HOLLAND John | -0.03 | 120 | England |
| KWIECIEN Michal | JAGNIEWSKI Rafal | -0.05 | 120 | Poland |
| FAZZARDI G. | ZUCCHINI P. | -0.05 | 140 | San Marino |
| DUMBOVICH Miklos | GOTTHARD L. | -0.09 | 160 | Hungary |
| ATABEY Yalcin | ASSAEL Salvador | -0.10 | 160 | Turkey |
| DE CABOOTER K. | DE SCHRIJVER Luc | -0.11 | 120 | Belgium |
| LEVY Alain | MOUIEL Herve | -0.11 | 120 | France |
| SANTOS J. | CRUZEIRO Jorge | -0.13 | 100 | Portugal |
| KARAMANLIS P. | PROTONOTARIOS | -0.13 | 160 | Greece |
| PERISIC Marko | TODOROVIC N. | -0.16 | 119 | Serbia |
| ASKGAARD Michael | BJARNARSON G. | 0.17 | 40 | Denma |
| LEVENKO Vassili | SESTER Sven | -0.18 | 160 | Estonia |
| BANCHEREAU P. | PALAZO Denis | -0.18 | 140 | uxembourg |
| CUTHBERTSON M. | WALKER David | -0.20 | 139 | Scotland |
| COLDEA lonut | IONITA Marius | -0.21 | 180 | Romania |
| RENARD Claude | BOCKEN Patrick | -0.21 | 140 | Belgium |
| FISCHER Doris | SAURER Bernd | -0.21 | 140 | Austria |
| VAINIKONIS V. | OLANSKIWojtek | -0.23 | 160 | Lithuania |
| CARRASCO Gabriel | FRACTMAN G. | -0.26 | 140 | Spain |
| LINDQVIST Espen | BROGELAND B. | -0.28 | 120 | Norway |
| HANLON Tom | McGANN Hugh | -0.28 | 120 | reland |
| SEMENTA Antonio | ANGELINI F. | -0.29 | 100 | taly |
| BASABE Enrique | PABLOS P. | -0.31 | 140 | Spain |
| BAUSBACK Nikolas | LOEFGREN Martin | -0.31 | 140 | Luxembourg |
| KROEJGAARD Niels | CASPERSEN H. | -0.32 | 140 | Denmark |
| MICESCUViorel | VOINESCU Dan | -0.34 | 140 | Romania |
| RUBENIS Ivars | JANSONS Ugis | -0.38 | 160 | Latvia |
| BOZEMBERG K. | KAMINARIS F. | -0.38 | 140 | Greec |
| CORNELIS Tom | AMSEL Alon | -0.39 | 140 | Belgium |
| VLAJNIC Branko | ZIPOVSKI D. | -0.46 | 180 | Serb |
| MAGNUSSON S. | YALCINT. | -0.46 | 140 | Switzerland |
| REES Tim | KURBALIJA Filip | -0.51 | 180 | Wales |
| POSKA Gediminas | VAINIKONIS Erikas | -0.51 | 140 | Lithuania |
| LUKS Leo | NABER Lauri | -0.51 | 140 | Estonia |
| FIORINI Fiorenzo | MIETI Renzo | -0.54 | 140 | San Marino |
| ENGEL Berthold | RENNO Ilkka | -0.55 | 120 | Luxembourg |
| SHORT Brian | PATERSON Jack | -0.56 | 120 | Scotland |
| GASCHEN Alain | NIKOLENKOV | 0.56 | 140 | Switzerland |
| TYLA Albertas | JANKAUSKAS | 0.62 | 140 | Lithuania |
| SASSELLI Marco | ABOU CHANAB | -0.65 | 160 | Switzerland |
| GHIGHECI Ovidiu | BRICIU Marius | -0.76 | 80 | Romania |
| LOHAY Karol | HENC Marian | -0.78 | 200 | Slovakia |
| TEDD Mike | SALISBURY John | -0.79 | 140 | Wales |
| DJURICIC Branislav | JOVANOVIC D. | -0.83 | 140 | Serb |
| KOKSOY Enver | KAHRAMAN A. | -0.85 | 80 | Turkey |
| SPILJAK Branco | DIKLIC Dubravko | -0.87 | 140 | Croatia |
| PIZZA Ettore | GADDI Camillo | -0.94 | 160 | San Marino |
| McGEORGE James | STEEL Les | -1.00 | 140 | Scotland |
| SZAPPANOS Geza | MAGYAR Peter | -1.08 | 120 | Hungary |
| PARNIS-ENGLAND | DIX Mario | -I. 24 | 140 | Malta |
| MARLIN Natalie | PENNEY G. | -1.46 | 100 | Malta |
| CLARE Oliver | VELLA Anna | -1.60 | 160 | Ma |

