

Daily Bulletin



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Time to Accelerate



Anxious moments as the players check their scores

In Group A of the Open Series, **Italy** reasserted themselves and moved back to the top of the table, comfortably ahead of **Czech Republic, Netherlands, Israel** and **Iceland**.

In Group B **Sweden** has a commanding advantage over **Norway**, who is a distant second with **Russia** third and **Bulgaria** fourth.

In both groups the real interest now centres on who will secure the ninth and last qualifying spot – a race that promises to go down to the wire.

In the Women's series **England** is setting the early pace, just head of, **Italy, Norway** and **Israel**.

Round 16			Round 17			Round 18		
16	Germany - Sweden	RAMA	18	Norway - Russia	RAMA	4	Czech Rep. - Finland	RAMA
11	Hungary - France	BBO 1	11	France - Estonia	BBO 1	11	Austria - France	BBO 1
6	Iceland - Italy	BBO 2	7	Italy - Scotland	BBO 2	7	Denmark - Italy	BBO 2
4	Netherlands - Israel	BBO 3	16	Malta - Germany	BBO 3	15	Germany - Bulgaria	BBO 3
14	Poland - Bulgaria	BBO 4	14	Ireland - Poland	BBO 4	8	Croatia - England	BBO 4
18	Russia - Belarus	BBO 5	21	Italy - Netherlands (W)	BBO 5	19	Portugal - Belarus	BBO 5
30	Sweden - France (W)	BBO 6	23	France - Ireland (W)	BBO 6	29	Croatia - France (W)	BBO 6
29	Ireland - Denmark (W)	SWAN	8	England - Denmark	SWAN	17	Russia - Sweden	SWAN

OPEN TEAMS PROGRAM

GROUP A

ROUND 16 10.30

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

ROUND 17 14.15

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

ROUND 18 17.35

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

Today's Schedule

- 10.00** Senior Teams Registration
- 10.30** Open Teams, Round 16 - Women Teams, Round 4
- 14.15** Open Teams, Round 17 - Women Teams, Round 5
- 17.35** Open Teams, Round 18 - Women Teams, Round 6
- 18.00** Senior Teams Captains Meeting
- 19.00** Senior Teams Welcome Coctail

GROUP B

ROUND 16 10.30

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

ROUND 17 14.15

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

ROUND 18 17.35

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

Gaps in an International Career

A suggestion has been received from Maureen Dennison that Henry Mansell's first appearance at a World Championships might have been when his mother was heavily pregnant with him in the 1950's, and that his next appearance was when South Africa were reinstated (35 years later) has been dismissed with extreme prejudice..... but nonetheless, a good try!

OPEN TEAMS RESULTS

GROUP A

ROUND 13 - subject to official confirmation

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 TURKEY	LATVIA	48 - 37	17 - 13
2 LITHUANIA	ISRAEL	25 - 65	7 - 23
3 GREECE	FINLAND	46 - 46	15 - 15
4 SERBIA	SPAIN	51 - 22	21 - 9
5 ITALY	LUXEMBOURG	78 - 22	25 - 4
6 ENGLAND	NETHERLANDS	50 - 28	20 - 10
7 MONACO	CZECH REP.	18 - 41	10 - 20
8 SWITZERLAND	ICELAND	34 - 38	14 - 16
9 SCOTLAND	CROATIA	28 - 16	17 - 13
DENMARK	BYE		18 - 0

ROUND 14 - subject to official confirmation

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 ISRAEL	TURKEY	43 - 19	20 - 10
2 FINLAND	LITHUANIA	65 - 39	20 - 10
3 SPAIN	GREECE	53 - 11	24 - 6
4 LUXEMBOURG	LATVIA	37 - 52	12 - 18
5 NETHERLANDS	ITALY	29 - 61	8 - 22
6 CZECH REP.	ENGLAND	36 - 62	10 - 20
7 ICELAND	MONACO	49 - 25	20 - 10
8 SCOTLAND	SWITZERLAND	17 - 52	8 - 22
9 DENMARK	CROATIA	40 - 37	16 - 14
SERBIA	BYE		18 - 0

ROUND 15 - subject to official confirmation

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 TURKEY	FINLAND	75 - 25	25 - 5
2 LITHUANIA	SPAIN	76 - 23	25 - 5
3 GREECE	SERBIA	41 - 40	15 - 15
4 ISRAEL	LUXEMBOURG	39 - 59	11 - 19
5 LATVIA	NETHERLANDS	41 - 60	11 - 19
6 ITALY	CZECH REP.	57 - 36	19 - 11
7 ENGLAND	ICELAND	57 - 49	16 - 14
8 MONACO	SCOTLAND	54 - 46	16 - 14
9 SWITZERLAND	DENMARK	35 - 37	15 - 15
10 CROATIA	BYE		18 - 0

GROUP B

ROUND 13 - subject to official confirmation

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11 FRANCE	MALTA	59 - 43	18 - 12
12 SAN MARINO	BULGARIA	6 - 76	2 - 25
13 AUSTRIA	IRELAND	39 - 49	13 - 17
14 ESTONIA	HUNGARY	60 - 16	24 - 6
15 SWEDEN	SLOVAKIA	34 - 10	20 - 10
16 NORWAY	POLAND	42 - 23	19 - 11
17 BELARUS	ROMANIA	48 - 45	15.5 - 14
18 PORTUGAL	GERMANY	22 - 40	11 - 19
19 WALES	BELGIUM	21 - 61	7 - 23
RUSSIA	BYE		18 - 0

ROUND 14 - subject to official confirmation

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11 BULGARIA	FRANCE	24 - 54	9 - 21
12 IRELAND	SAN MARINO	28 - 45	11 - 19
13 HUNGARY	AUSTRIA	18 - 81	3 - 25
14 SLOVAKIA	MALTA	49 - 31	19 - 11
15 SWEDEN	POLAND	76 - 28	25 - 5
16 ROMANIA	NORWAY	29 - 49	11 - 19
17 GERMANY	BELARUS	49 - 42	16 - 14
18 PORTUGAL	BELGIUM	50 - 52	15 - 15
19 RUSSIA	WALES	42 - 34	16 - 14
ESTONIA	BYE		18 - 0

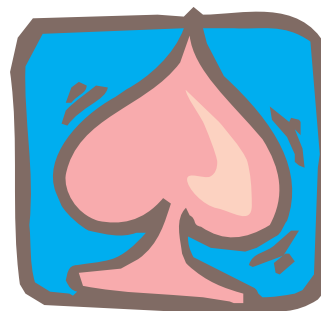
ROUND 15 - subject to official confirmation

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
11 FRANCE	IRELAND	70 - 26	24 - 6
12 SAN MARINO	HUNGARY	43 - 60	11 - 19
13 AUSTRIA	ESTONIA	55 - 53	15 - 15
14 BULGARIA	SLOVAKIA	61 - 23	23 - 7
15 MALTA	POLAND	25 - 52	9 - 21
16 SWEDEN	ROMANIA	95 - 26	25 - 2
17 NORWAY	GERMANY	82 - 19	25 - 3
18 BELARUS	BELGIUM	34 - 28	16 - 14
19 PORTUGAL	RUSSIA	65 - 24	23 - 7
WALES	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.



OPEN TEAMS RANKING GROUP A

after 15 rounds

subject to official confirmation

1	ITALY	276.00
2	CZECH REP.	264.00
3	NETHERLANDS	261.00
4	ICELAND	257.00
	ISRAEL	257.00
6	FINLAND	254.00
7	LATVIA	251.00
8	TURKEY	244.00
9	ENGLAND	241.00
10	DENMARK	239.00
11	MONACO	223.00
12	CROATIA	210.00
13	SPAIN	207.00
14	GREECE	201.00
15	SWITZERLAND	193.00
16	LUXEMBOURG	188.00
17	SERBIA	181.00
18	LITHUANIA	175.00
19	SCOTLAND	174.00

OPEN TEAMS RANKING GROUP B

after 15 rounds

subject to official confirmation

1	SWEDEN	312.00
2	NORWAY	269.30
3	RUSSIA	266.00
4	BULGARIA	260.00
5	GERMANY	258.00
6	FRANCE	244.00
7	PORTUGAL	240.50
8	POLAND	239.00
9	BELARUS	237.50
10	ESTONIA	232.00
11	IRELAND	223.70
12	AUSTRIA	215.00
13	SLOVAKIA	207.00
14	BELGIUM	206.00
15	WALES	190.00
16	HUNGARY	189.00
17	ROMANIA	184.00
18	SAN MARINO	178.00
19	MALTA	117.00

Foie gras

Who found out that you could eat goose liver, which is better known as foie gras, as the dish is named not only in France but all over the world?

The bulletin gives you the answer, as always.

The Roman historian Pliny the elder (23-73 B.C.) claimed that it was the gourmet Marcus Gavius Apicius

who found out that the liver on geese swell if the animals were fed dry figs by force. The popular goose liver was very much appreciated in the upper classes in the early era. However, the dish disappeared when the Roman Empire fell apart. However, when a Jewish butcher reinvented foie gras some 500 years ago, the course returned to the princely dinner tables.

WOMEN TEAMS PROGRAM**ROUND 4 10.30**

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

WOMEN TEAMS RESULTS**ROUND 1 - subject to official confirmation**

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 ICELAND	SCOTLAND	29 - 31	15 - 15
2 RUSSIA	CZECH REP.	51 - 35	18 - 12
3 WALES	GERMANY	56 - 40	18 - 12
4 PORTUGAL	DENMARK	46 - 57	13 - 17
5 HUNGARY	FRANCE	22 - 52	9 - 21
6 NETHERLANDS	TURKEY	62 - 44	19 - 11
7 ITALY	POLAND	46 - 15	21 - 9
8 LEBANON	ISRAEL		12 - 18
9 FINLAND	SWEDEN	16 - 53	7 - 23
10 ENGLAND	IRELAND	46 - 15	21 - 9
11 AUSTRIA	CROATIA	17 - 64	6 - 24
12 GREECE	SPAIN	15 - 38	10 - 20
13 NORWAY	BYE		18 - 0

ROUND 5 14.15

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

ROUND 2 - subject to official confirmation

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 GREECE	ITALY	18 - 63	6 - 24
2 WALES	TURKEY	31 - 63	8 - 22
3 ENGLAND	HUNGARY	36 - 22	18 - 12
4 AUSTRIA	PORTUGAL	49 - 42	16 - 14
5 NORWAY	LEBANON	74 - 31	24 - 6
6 GERMANY	RUSSIA	69 - 13	25 - 4
7 CROATIA	SCOTLAND	39 - 66	9 - 21
8 IRELAND	CZECH REP.	9 - 59	4.5 - 24.5
9 SWEDEN	ISRAEL	43 - 49	14 - 16
10 SPAIN	DENMARK	41 - 36	16 - 14
11 POLAND	FRANCE	43 - 29	18 - 12
12 FINLAND	NETHERLANDS	27 - 17	17 - 13
13 ICELAND	BYE		18 - 0

ROUND 6 17.35

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

ROUND 3 - subject to official confirmation

Home Team	Visiting Team	IMPs	VPs
1 TURKEY	POLAND	37 - 48	13 - 17
2 FRANCE	SPAIN	43 - 44	15 - 15
3 ITALY	WALES	54 - 67	12 - 18
4 ISRAEL	IRELAND	57 - 18	23 - 7
5 CZECH REP.	CROATIA	56 - 47	17 - 13
6 ICELAND	GERMANY	26 - 28	15 - 15
7 RUSSIA	NORWAY	48 - 50	15 - 15
8 LEBANON	AUSTRIA	64 - 25	23 - 7
9 PORTUGAL	ENGLAND	45 - 62	11 - 19
10 HUNGARY	FINLAND	86 - 23	25 - 3
11 NETHERLANDS	GREECE	8 - 43	8 - 22
12 DENMARK	SWEDEN	37 - 33	16 - 14
13 SCOTLAND	BYE		18 - 0

WOMEN TEAMS RANKING

after 3 rounds
subject to official confirmation

1	ENGLAND	58.00
2	ISRAEL	57.00
	ITALY	57.00
	NORWAY	57.00
5	SCOTLAND	54.00
6	CZECH REP.	53.50
7	GERMANY	52.00
8	SPAIN	51.00
	SWEDEN	51.00
10	FRANCE	48.00
	ICELAND	48.00
12	DENMARK	47.00
13	CROATIA	46.00
	HUNGARY	46.00
	TURKEY	46.00
16	POLAND	44.00
	WALES	44.00
18	LEBANON	41.00
19	NETHERLANDS	40.00
20	GREECE	38.00
	PORTUGAL	38.00
22	RUSSIA	37.00
23	AUSTRIA	29.00
24	FINLAND	27.00
25	IRELAND	20.50

Dutch duck

In round 9 Bas Drijver was the only declarer to make Three No Trumps.

Board 6. Dealer East. E-W Vul.

♠ J 10 5 ♥ K 10 9 7 6 3 ♦ 5 ♣ K 5 2	<table border="1" style="width: 60px; height: 60px; 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 K 6 3 ♥ A Q 4 ♦ J 10 6 ♣ A 10 9	♠ Q 9 7 4 ♥ 8 2 ♦ A K 9 7 ♣ 8 7 3
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♠ 8 2 ♥ J 5 ♦ Q 8 4 3 2 ♣ Q J 6 4												

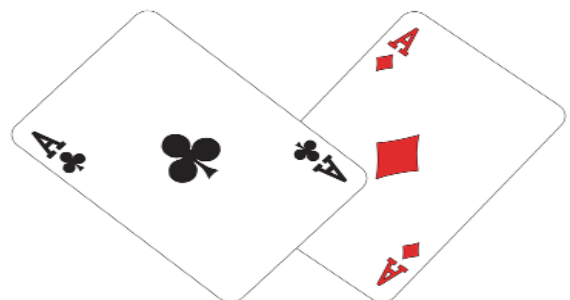
West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	Pass	Pass
1♥	INT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

South showed 0-7 over Drijver's Polish-style club opening. The INT rebid showed 18-19 so South jumped to 3NT.

East chose to ignore his partner's overcall and led a high diamond. Bas carefully unblocked the ten. East switched to the heart eight which Bas won with the queen. He could deduce that West held six hearts and the rounded kings so he found the way to success by exiting with a low spade, cutting communication between the enemy hands.

After winning the heart continuation, and cashing the high spades, Bas could play diamonds to East. As it happened, East had the last spade, but it didn't matter. He was endplayed and had give dummy an entry to the diamonds and the club finesse.

Well done!



OPEN TEAMS

Round 11

France v Norway

Russia v Germany

by Jos Jacobs

Wednesday was going to be an important day for France. At the start of the day, their position was just within the top nine but they would have to play three well-placed teams in succession: Belarus, Norway and Sweden. Their encounter with Belarus was an especially important one, as the latter were occupying 10th spot when the match started. This match ended 22-8 to Belarus so the two teams had switched positions when the afternoon round got underway, France having dropped out of the first nine temporarily.

Meanwhile, both Germany and Russia had consolidated their good positions in the table; a match between the leaders and the 3rd-placed team should always produce some good bridge from both sides, worth keeping an eye on and to write about.

France were off to a good start when the Norwegians were too ambitious on board 2:

Board: 2. Dealer East/NS vul.

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

7♦ is cold and was easily reached by the French in the Closed Room:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lévy</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Mouïel</i>	<i>Lund</i>
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	7♦	All Pass

France +1440.

This was the auction in the Open Room:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
		1♥	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♦	Pass	7NT	All Pass

2♦ showed either 3-card heart support with 0-7 hcp or diamonds, forcing.

A diamond was led to declarer's Queen and next came a surprising card: the ♠A. After that, no squeeze developed so declarer needed to be clairvoyant to make his contract. When he eventually played hearts from the top, he discovered his fate. France +50 and 16 IMPs.

If declarer first cashes three top hearts, he will find out that it's North who holds the ♥J. At this point, he has to decide whom to play for the ♣K. If it's South, the ♣A (Vienna Coup) will set up a double squeeze; if it's North, a simple finesse will be good enough. This looks an acceptable alternative line as you are pretty sure to go down anyway if South holds ♥J9xx.

Of course, an initial spade lead wrecks the double squeeze...

Russia had taken an early lead v. Germany (11-0) and they more than doubled it on board 5 when Dubinin and Grovov showed some excellent bidding:



Espen Lindqvist, Norway

Board: 5. Dealer North/NS vul.

♠ A 4 2 ♥ Q 10 9 7 5 ♦ 7 5 2 ♣ 8 3	♠ Q 10 9 8 5 ♥ 3 2 ♦ A 8 ♣ A J 4 2 <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div> ♠ K 7 ♥ A 8 6 ♦ 10 4 3 ♣ K Q 10 6 5	♠ J 6 3 ♥ K J 4 ♦ K Q J 9 6 ♣ 9 7
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wladow</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Elinescu</i>	<i>Dubinin</i>
	1♠	2♦	Dble
3♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

As the spades could easily be established to get rid of all the losers in one of the red suits, 11 tricks were easy. Very well done; Russia +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khioppnen</i>	<i>Gromoeller</i>	<i>Kholomeev</i>	<i>Kirmse</i>
	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	



Michael Elinescu, Germany

When Kholomeev did not overcall, 9 tricks looked easier than 11 for the Germans. This is true quite often but this time there were only eight, on the obvious diamond lead. So Russia scored another +100 and 12 IMPs.

After that, the boards remained very quiet for a very long time; we had to wait till board 11 and 13 before the scorers in either match really got troubled again.

With the score at 23-10 to Russia this was board 11:

Board: 11. Dealer South/None vul.

♠ A ♥ Q 10 6 ♦ K J 9 3 ♣ A K 9 5 2	♠ K 6 4 3 ♥ K 9 4 ♦ 10 8 7 6 5 2 ♣ — <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> N W E S </div> ♠ J 2 ♥ A J 8 7 5 2 ♦ A ♣ J 10 4 3	♠ Q 10 9 8 7 5 ♥ 3 ♦ Q 4 ♣ Q 8 7 6
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In the Closed Room, it did not look a very exciting board, as 3♥ would have made:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khioppnen</i>	<i>Gromoeller</i>	<i>Kholomeev</i>	<i>Kirmse</i>
			1♥
Dble	2♦	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♥	3♠	All Pass

Down two. Germany +100.

In the Open Room, however, the Germans apparently assumed the hand belonged to them:


Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wladow</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Elinescu</i>	<i>Dubinin</i>
			1♥
INT	2♥	2♠	3♣
Dble	3♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Finding out that this was not the case, cost them 500 and 9 IMPs. The play: ♦A lead, North contributing the three, club ruff, diamond ruff, club ruff, ♥A, club ruff and a diamond. When declarer ruffed this with the queen he was down three, having lost the first six tricks.

In the other match, with the score at 29-11 to France, this was board 13, that caused some loud cheers here in Pau:

Board: 13. Dealer North/All vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lévy</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Mouïel</i>	<i>Lund</i>
	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, the Russians had reached a decent contract and made 12 tricks when the ♣K behaved. Russia +620. The French had other ideas:


Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Lindqvist</i>	<i>Quantin</i>
	INT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

2♦ was two-way: either a transfer to hearts or a strong hand with minors. 2♠ then confirmed the latter and also explains why Bompis accepted the general invitation by bidding 6♦ and not 6NT. With the ♣K right there was nothing to the play. France +1370 and 13 IMPs to lead 42-11.

Near the end, big swings on two consecutive boards sealed the German fate. In the other featured match, the same boards produced two small swings as part of Norway's late rally.

Board: 18. Dealer East/NS vul.

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

When East opens a weak two, it seems normal enough for N/S to end up in 3NT and this in fact was the final contract at all four tables in our two matches.

If you get a spade lead and cash out, helped by a successful club finesse, you will escape for one down. If you don't, you will go down more.

This way, Norway chalked up 5 IMPs for cashing out whereas the French declarer tried something else and went three down, vulnerable. The score here now: 49-21 to France.

In the other match, nothing special happened in the Closed Room and Gromoeller quietly went two down in his 3NT. Russia +200.

In the Open Room, however, Elinescu tried to extract the maximum:


Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wladow</i>	<i>Gromov</i>	<i>Elinescu</i>	<i>Dubinin</i>
		3♠	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

He elected to lead a heart. This turned out to be a very good shot when Wladow won the queen and returned an interesting ♠9, covered by declarer's ten. Maybe, ducking is best now but when East won and returned another heart to West's ace, the contract was suddenly made when West pushed a second spade through...Russia a surprise +600 and 13 IMPs to lead by 57-16 with two to go.

Another example of this difference in approach led to a big swing to Russia on the next board too:

Board: 19. Dealer South/EW vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Khioppenen</i>	<i>Gromoeller</i>	<i>Kholomeev</i>	<i>Kirmse</i>
			Pass
Pass	Pass	1♥	1♠
2♦	2♥	Pass	2♠
3♣	Pass	3♥	All Pass

OPEN TEAMS

Round 10

Monaco v Turkey

by Peter Ventura

Monaco seems to feel at home here in this racing-city of Pau, as they are still a candidate for a qualifying spot.

This was far from a boring set of boards. The first large swing went to Monaco, who reached game here, and as it happened that was a far better contract than the part-score the Turks settled for.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

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

N	E
W	S

Open Room

West <i>Senguler</i>	North <i>Desmoulin</i>	East <i>Sen</i>	South <i>Tognetti</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	All Pass



Yalcin Atabey, Turkey

Tognetti led his singleton heart against 3♠, won by dummy's ace. Next came a spade to the queen, king and ace, and South switched to the ten of clubs. North won the king, and then gave South a heart ruff. Declarer tried the finesse on the diamond return, but North could win and play another heart, so that was down two for -200.

Closed Room

West <i>Vincentelli</i>	North <i>Assael</i>	East <i>Garcia</i>	South <i>Atabey</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Against Three No Trump there was no defence. On the heart lead declarer had six top tricks and he could establish the needed tricks in the black suits – indeed, he eventually emerged with an overtrick, Monaco +630 and 13 IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

N	E
W	S

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

Open Room

West <i>Senguler</i>	North <i>Desmoulin</i>	East <i>Sen</i>	South <i>Tognetti</i>
3♠	1♣	Dble	1♦
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West <i>Vincentelli</i>	North <i>Assael</i>	East <i>Garcia</i>	South <i>Atabey</i>
2♥	1♣	1♥	2♣
3♦	3♦	3♥	All Pass

Sen's double paid off heavily for the Turks, since Senguler could jump to Three Spades, while his counterpart had to face a heart overcall and the auction developed in such a way that the spade suit in the Closed Room never came into light.

In Four Spades Senguler got a diamond lead. It seems as if a good line might be to cash the club ace before drawing trumps, but declarer knew what he was doing. He drew one round of trumps, and then started establishing dummy by playing the jack of hearts. Senguler didn't mind losing a trick to a heart ruff, since he had to lose a trump trick anyway. South won the queen and returned a diamond, but declarer could ruff, play the heart king and claim ten tricks, thus E/W +420. Well done.

At the other table Garcia had four losers in Three Hearts, so the contract was made, exactly for 7 IMPs to Turkey.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ A 10 9 8 2 ♥ 10 5 ♦ 9 8 4 ♣ Q 5 2	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 5 ♥ A 9 7 3 ♦ K Q 6 5 ♣ 10 9 8 3
N					
W E					
S					
♠ Q 7 3 ♥ 8 2 ♦ 7 3 2 ♣ A J 7 6 4	♠ K J 6 4 ♥ K Q J 6 4 ♦ A J 10 ♣ K				

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Senguler</i>	<i>Desmoulins</i>	<i>Sen</i>	<i>Tognetti</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♥
Dble	Pass	2♣	Dble
3♣	All Pass		



Tezcan Sen, Turkey

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Vincentelli</i>	<i>Assael</i>	<i>Garcia</i>	<i>Atabey</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

The light third seat opening by Sen managed to keep N/S out of game, a game that would make if declarer finesses in spades through West after a diamond lead. The defence had five tricks in Three Clubs, so collected one down; Monaco +50.

In the Closed Room Garcia led the king of diamonds and when declarer played the trumps from the top he had one loser in each suit. Monaco +50 and 3 IMPs for them. At this stage Monaco were leading 17-7.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 10 8 7 6 5 ♥ 10 7 3 ♦ K 7 ♣ J 8 7	<table style="border: 1px solid black; width: 80px; height: 80px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="text-align: center;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A K Q 2 ♥ A J 6 5 ♦ Q J 9 5 ♣ A
N					
W E					
S					
♠ J 9 4 3 ♥ K Q 8 2 ♦ 4 ♣ 6 5 3 2	♠ — ♥ 9 4 ♦ A 10 8 6 3 2 ♣ K Q 10 9 4				

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Senguler</i>	<i>Desmoulins</i>	<i>Sen</i>	<i>Tognetti</i>
	Pass	2NT	3NT*
Dble	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Vincentelli</i>	<i>Assael</i>	<i>Garcia</i>	<i>Atabey</i>
	Pass	1♦	2♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

The No Trump opening showed 22-24 HCP's and South's Three No Trumps promised both minors. It was not too bad for the Turks to double Four Clubs, especially not when Desmoulins managed make only five tricks, conceding -1100 instead of -800.

This was an excellent result for Turkey, and when E/W scored 620 in Four Hearts at the other table, that was 10 IMPs for the Turks.

At half time the score had advanced to Monaco 17, Turkey 22.

On board 11 the Turks found the killing lead against Three No Trumps. Senguler had this hand as West:

♠ Q 6 5 2
♥ K J 10 8 3
♦ 10 6 3 2
♣ —

West	North	East	South
			1♣
2♣*	2♠*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Two Clubs showed 5-4 in the major suits, Two Spades was a cue and Three Hearts asked for help in hearts. What is your lead?

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Senguler</i>	<i>Desmoulins</i>	<i>Sen</i>	<i>Tognetti</i>
			1♣
2♣*	2♠*	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Vincentelli</i>	<i>Assael</i>	<i>Garcia</i>	<i>Atabey</i>
			1♣
1♥	Dble	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

As you can see, a diamond lead would be fatal for declarer, and Senguler indeed found it. Well done by him! One off.

At the other table the opening lead was the jack of hearts, which was won in dummy by the queen. Declarer could now establish the club suit and though the play

record does not reveal if West was endplayed or discarded spades, nonetheless eventually declarer had no less than eleven tricks, +460 and that was 10 IMPs for Turkey.

The Turks missed a decent game in Three No Trumps on the following board; Monaco gained 7 IMPs by bidding and making the game at the other table.

Then a grand slam came up; but would it be bid?

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Senguler</i>	<i>Desmoulins</i>	<i>Sen</i>	<i>Tognetti</i>
	3♣*	Pass	3♦
Dble	Pass	4♥	5♦
6♥	All Pass		

After the Monegasque pre-empt (either weak with diamonds or game forcing with a two-suiter including diamonds) it wouldn't be easy for the Turks in the Open Room.

If South doesn't bid a second time, West might think there were two diamond losers. Even though it is not easy to bid Seven Hearts, South's Five Diamonds made it possible for E/W to reach the grand, since it is likely for East to be void in diamonds. However, Senguler simply jumped to Six Hearts and was left to play there. Sen might have done more than Four Hearts over partner's double? Turkey +1460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Vincentelli</i>	<i>Assael</i>	<i>Garcia</i>	<i>Atabey</i>
	1♦	2NT*	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♠	Pass	5NT	Pass
7♥	All Pass		

Garcia's intervention of Two No Trumps was the key to finding the grand for the E/W pair in the Closed Room, since Vincentelli could not be stopped under the seven level.

Mastering The Fates

by Mark Horton



Each player must accept the cards life deals him or her. But once they are in hand, he or she alone must decide how to play the cards in order to win the game. - Voltaire

In European mythology, there are three goddesses dispensing fate. The 'Fates', known as Norns in Norse mythology determine the events of

the world through the mystic spinning of threads that represent individual human destinies.

I don't know if Geir Helgemo is aware of this, but in Round 13 of the Open series he avoided what fate had in store with a play that escaped everyone else's attention.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ 10 3 ♥ J 7 5 3 ♦ K Q 9 8 3 ♣ J 8</p>	<p>♠ Q 8 ♥ A 10 9 8 4 2 ♦ 2 ♣ K Q 10 9</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ J 9 7 5 2 ♥ K ♦ J 7 6 5 ♣ 5 4 3</p>	<p>♠ A K 6 4 ♥ Q 6 ♦ A 10 4 ♣ A 7 6 2</p>
---	--	--	---

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Aa	Gierulski	Molberg	Skrzypczak
Pass	2♦*	Pass	INT
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♥
Dble	3♥	Pass	3♦*
Pass	4♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♠	Pass	4NT
All Pass			6♣

East led a diamond and declarer won with dummy's ace and drew trumps ending in dummy. He then ran the queen of hearts to East's king, ruffed the diamond return and cashed the ace of hearts. When East discarded de-

clarer conceded one down, -100. That was a fate suffered by virtually everyone who attempted Six Clubs, although a couple of declarers got home by taking a second finesse in hearts, a line that offers a 71% chance of success.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kwiecien	Helgemo	Jagniewski	Lund
Pass	2♦*	Pass	INT
Pass	3♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♦*	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	4♠*
Pass	6♣	All Pass	5♣

Once again a diamond was led and play developed a long similar line, but when West did not cover the queen of hearts, Helgemo realized there was a way to cheat fate. He put up dummy's ace, a play that would only lose to ♥KJxxx or KJxx in West, when it would be miraculous for West to fail to cover.

Englishman Peter Clarke, describing a brilliant victory by World Chess Champion Mikhail Tal over the Dane Bent Larsen wrote: 'That is what happens when a player of the highest quality crosses swords with a genius.'



Jerzy Skrzypczak, Poland

MONSIEUR LOYAL

On ne change pas une formule qui gagne. Tout comme pour l'open, la présentation des équipes de dames, à la fois sérieuse et bon enfant, illustrée de musiques typiques, a été un succès, orchestré par les fameux duettistes Olivier Audouard en Monsieur Loyal et Thierry Gadan aux manettes.

L'EURO TOUJOURS

Le corps arbitral se trouve désormais renforcé depuis l'arrivée de Pierre Collaros. De nationalité grecque, mais vivant en Suisse et marié à une Française, l'on comprend que les résultats de l'euro de football l'aient plutôt conduit à venir à Pau !!!

LE TON MONTE

Chaude ambiance chez certaines équipes d'open à l'approche de la qualification. Nous avons même entendu un joueur en colère s'adresser à son partenaire en ces termes : « Aujourd'hui, tu as alterné le pire et... le mauvais. »

SOUS LE SIGNE DU CYGNE



Il est le directeur de la salle de presse ; Il se nomme Jan Swaan (le cygne). Il est Néerlandais - de La Haye - mais parle presque parfaitement le français et, au moins aussi bien, l'allemand, l'anglais, l'italien, le russe et le suédois. Il a réalisé les minimas olympiques, ce qui lui vaudra d'exercer les mêmes fonctions à Pékin ; l'apprentissage du chinois lui

sera d'ailleurs facile.

D'abord adjoint, et ce depuis 1979, de ses sœur et beau-frère Elly et René Ducheyne, il fait preuve d'une serviabilité à toute épreuve, voire d'une infinie patience à l'égard des journalistes, dont, par exemple, certains handicapés technologiques dont nous sommes.

D'abord psychologue d'éducation, puis contrôleur financier dans un bureau, Jan connaît, bien sur, tous les journalistes de bridge (depuis 30 ans, pensez donc), quelque peu monomanes, pour certains. Il se félicite de les retrouver à l'occasion de deux ou trois grands rendez-vous annuels, tout en regrettant de ne pas côtoyer les champions comme en un temps où la salle de presse était moins isolée. Joueur lui-même, il se situe dans les « amateurs éclairés ».

Le gentil Jan est un grand voyageur qui aime à rencontrer les gens ; spécialement en Suède et en Italie, pays de culture où peut s'épanouir son goût pour la musique classique. Il rêve de venir assister au festival de musique baroque de Beaune, afin d'y écouter Vivaldi, son musicien préféré en n'importe laquelle des quatre saisons.

Du côté de chez Swaan.

DES FOUILLES CURIEUSES

Préalablement à chaque rencontre, deux tables (une par salle) sont tirées au sort, et un arbitre est préposé à la fouille des joueurs afin de s'assurer que personne ne dispose d'un moyen de communication tel que le téléphone mobile par exemple. Christian Bordonneau s'est proposé pour cette fouille, mais... dans l'épreuve féminine, de préférence.

BIEN VU, RENE

Les commentateurs du rama, merci Philippe Cronier, nous ont permis de vivre un grand suspense hier matin pendant le match Monaco/République Tchèque. Aidés par René Tognetti qui a longtemps hésité entre trois cartes sur la donne 10, saisissant l'une puis une autre, puis une troisième avant de répéter l'opération et de choisir finalement la bonne sous les applaudissements de tout l'auditorium.

L'AVVENTURA

Relevé la phrase suivante sur la feuille de conventions d'un joueur tchèque : « Chaque donne est une aventure ».



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- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1- ITA-ANGELINI | 7- ITA-D'AVOSSA |
| 2- ITA-LAVAZZA | 8- RUS-GROMOV |
| 3- SWE-BLUE | 9- ITA-CESATI |
| 4- POL-GORACO | 10- HUN-PRINTECH |
| 5- ITA-MIROGLIO | 11- ITA-MIOZZI |
| 6- SWE-YELLOW | 12- HUN-STEVE |

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 |

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 from September 30.



As a side event to the main Championships, the French Bridge Federation is organizing a bridge tournament called "le Trophée de L'Euro".

This tournament will take place at the Hippodrome (The horse race field premises) of Pau. It will consist of two sets

of approximately 28 boards, played on **Saturday June 21 at 2pm and Sunday June 22 at 1:30pm**. It is opened to all bridge players. Registration fee is 40 Euros per player.

Those interested should register with Coralie Bel, at the FFB office in the Palais Beaumont, before Saturday June 21 at 10:30am.

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