







# 4th EUROPEAN OPEN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS Sanremo, Italy, June 2009

Coordinator: Jean-Paul Meyer, Editor: Mark Horton; Co-Editors: Jos Jacobs, Brent Manley, Barry Rigal; Journalists: Alberto Benetti, John Carruthers, Maureen Dennison, Patrick Jourdain, David Stern, Jan Van Cleeff; Lay-out Editor: George Hadjidakis; Photographer: Ron Tacchi









Issue No. 11 Tuesday, 23 June 2009

# Extra Boards at the KO Corral



The President's Gala Dinner

Incredibly, the transnational **Texan Aces** were involved in two tied matches, as the KO stage of the European Open Team Championships got under way. They survived the first after an outstanding appeal and they then won the second after a dramatic four-board play off.

Meanwhile, several of the teams expected to mount a significant challenge were eliminated. First to go was O'Rourke, who went down to Netherlands Red. Then Italy's main hope, Angelini, could not get past Netherlands White.

Apart from the Netherlands, Israel has two teams through to the last eight while the remaining teams represent Bulgaria, Italy and the USA.

# Today's - Schedule

10.30 O/W/S Teams Quarter-final

15.00 O/W/S Teams Semi-final

10.30 O/W/S Pairs Qualifying (3rd)

15.30 O/W/S Pairs Qualifying (4th)

#### Registration

When there is a break in play during the afternoon you can Register and pay for the Pairs events.



A very warm welcome WBF Executive Council member, **Ernesto** D'Orsi. who arrived in Sanremo last night.











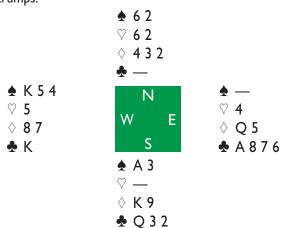
# **OPEN TEAMS**

	ROUND O	F 32	2	
		lst	2nd	total
1	ZIMMERMAN	10	53	63
	MONACO	65	16	81
2	IRENS	54	4	58
	BLUMENTAL	44	26	70
3	CHATEAU ROSSENOVO	60	24	84
	WAC	40	40	80
4	ANGELINI	44	38	82
	DUET	15	23	38
5	WELLAND	57	21	78
	Z-TEAM	48	10	58
6	APTEKER	30	23	53
	WHITE BLI	44	36	80
7	JACOB	34	41	75
	KOLATA	24	27	51
8	SWEDEN I	24	62	86
	HOLLMAN	35	7	42
9	PAYEN	26	20	46
	VITO	30	28	58
10	DENMARK	10	26	36
	VILLA FABBRICHE	59	8	67
H	HET WITTE HUIS 2	40	25	65
	LENGY	37	41	78
12	WHITE HOUSE NLI	I	22	23
	IL FANTE DI FIORI	61	43	104
13	NED WHITE	21	52	73
	ZALESKI	38	10	48
14	POLAND	18	28	46
	TEXAN ACES	50	9	59
15	HERBST	63	41	104
	SYGNITY	16	14	30
16	NED RED	23	59	82
	O-ROURKE	29	13	42

	ROUND OF 16					
		lst	2nd	total		
ı	NED RED	1 <b>4</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>55</b>		
	MONACO	36		37		
2	SWEDEN I	23	14	37		
	VITO	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5 I</b>		
3	<b>WELLAND</b>	<b>57</b>	I	<b>58</b>		
	IL FANTE DI FIORI	13	35	48		
4	ANGELINI	16	17	33		
	<b>NED WHITE</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>43</b>		
5	CHATEAU ROSSENOVO	32	31	63		
	TEXAN ACES	<b>27</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>70</b>		
6	WHITE BLI	22	20	42		
	LENGY	<b>52</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>77</b>		
7	JACOB	1	0	ا		
	<b>Villa fabbriche</b>	27	19	<b>46</b>		
8	HERBST BLUMENTAL	<b>30</b> 19	<b>33</b> 9	<b>63</b> 28		

#### Win six - solution

South on lead and will try to win six tricks with hearts as trumps.



Ruff a club, draw the opposing trumps with the six, finesse and clear diamonds. Then play your small spade up to the queen to enjoy the last diamond. What about the  $\triangle$ A? Oh yes, you discarded it on the  $\heartsuit$ 6.

# **Open Teams Quarter-Final**

LENGY

I NED RED VITO 2 WELLAND NED WHITE

**TEXAN ACES** 

4 HERBST VILLA FABBRICHE

## **Women Teams Quarter-Final**

I JOEL HANSEN
2 RIMSTEDT DUTCH BLUE
3 F.I.G.B. LADIES PENFOLD
4 POLAND CBC MILANO

## **Senior Teams Quarter-Final**

I OTVOSI GORACO

2 FORNACIARI BULGARIA SENIORS

3 MIROGLIO MILNER4 WINANTALYA ADAD

# WOMEN TEAMS FINAL RANKING

#### **GROUP U** I POLAND 207 2 F.I.G.B. LADIES 203 191 3 HANSEN **4 DUTCH BLUE** 182 5 DINKIN - NPC 175 **6 GIRLS FRANCE** 170 7 RUSSIA 168 8 DUTCH GIRLS 167 9 SOLVI 153 **10 SAGARIAN** 134 II LEVS 128 12 NERE PER CASO 74

	GROUP W	
I	JOEL	226
2	RIMSTEDT	220
3	PENFOLD	187
4	CBC MILANO	182
	DUTCH ORANGE	182
6	NORMANY	178
7	GERMAN LADIES	160
8	KULCHYCKY	151
9	S MARINO/PERLINI	129
10	GREECE	128
П	DIAMONDS	81

# SENIOR TEAMS FINAL RANKING

	GROUP S	
I	OTVOSI	228
2	FORNACIARI	224
3	ADAD	220
4	MILNER	218
5	GERMANY I	217
6	AUSTRIA	213
7	FRANCE	202
8	DUTCH SENIORS	198
9	ESTONIA	189
10	HET WITTE HUIS	184
П	NORDBY	178
12	HARPER	165
13	AUTO-POLAND	152
14	VERED	139

	GROUPT	
I	WINANTALYA	235
2	MIROGLIO	233
3	GORACO	231
4	BULGARIA SENIORS	217
	HEERSCHOP	217
6	AVON DANIELLE	200
7	DAMIANI	199
8	AMORE	186
	MAGYAR	186
10	MARKOWICZ	185
П	SCOTLAND	181
12	CASSINI-FINLAND	166
13	MPE	113

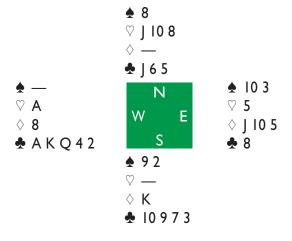
## Rondo a la Turca

by Barry Rigal

My favourite defence of the tournament so far was conducted by Ismail Kandemir and Suleyman Kolata. We have already seen a way to defeat 3NT; here Kolata found a variant to defeat West, without giving him the chance to read the position and succeed.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul. **★** 865 ♥ Q | 1086 ♦ 72 **♣** | 6 5 **♠** A K I0 3 ♠ 7 4 ♡ A 9 3 ♡ 542 W ♦ 1 10 5 4 3 ♦ 098 S ♣ A K Q 4 2 ♠ Q | 9 2 ♡ K 7 ♦ A K 6 10973 South West North East Pass Pass INT **Pass** 2♣ **Pass** 2♦ **Pass** 2NT **Pass** 3NT All Pass

Kolata sat South when Kademir led a top heart. Instead of overtaking to unblock the suit South deliberately ducked, and now on the low heart continuation to the king declarer was seduced into ducking. Kolata now found the killing shift to a top spade, won in dummy. He ducked the diamond play, and won the second diamond to play a second top spade.



The defenders have three tricks and declarer has three, needing six of the last seven. The best he could do was cash the spade ten, pitching a diamond from hand, and the heart ace, but South could keep his clubs and take the last two tricks.

Let's revisit the deal one more time. The successful defence by Bessis father and son had featured a top heart lead overtaken for a high spade shift. Declarer continued with a diamond to the nine and when this held continued with the  $\Diamond Q$ . South won this and continued with the  $\spadesuit$  taken in dummy with the king.

This was the same defence found by a French Junior against Pierre Zimmermann. He managed to recover from this devious defence by cashing three clubs and a heart then exiting with a diamond, the only route to success.

In the three-card ending, South had a club to cash but only two spades left, and dummy had a spade and diamond winner. That game swing was one of the many excellent results that helped Zimmermann to win the qualifier event.

# PAIRS PRIZE-GIVING AND CLOSING CEREMONY



The Pairs Prize-Giving and Closing Ceremony will be held on Saturday 27th June at 20.00, on the 3rd floor of Palafiori Palace.

A buffet will follow.

#### Awards:

- I. Medals and titles will be awarded to the 3 pairs best classified in Final A of each category.
- 2. Plaques will be presented to the first 3 pairs classified in Final B of the three categories.
- 3. Challenge Trophies will be assigned to the Presidents of the Federations to which the first European Pair in each category belong. Replicas will be presented to the first, second and third classified pairs. This only applies to those European pairs where both players are from the same country.

#### The Trophies are:

Paul Magerman Trophy for Senior category AnnaMaria Torlontano Cup for Women category Giorgio Belladonna Trophy for Open category.

Would the players confirm their participation in the Closing Ceremony at the Hospitality Desk not later than Thursday 25th June

#### **Pairs**

#### **Women Pairs**

Approximately 35 pairs will qualify for the semi-final A, played with 52 pairs. The other pairs will play in the semi-final B.

#### **Senior Pairs**

Approximately 33 pairs will qualify for the semi-final A, played with approximately 40 pairs. The other pairs will play in the semi-final B.

#### **Open Pairs**

Slightly more than 100 pairs will qualify for the semi-final A, played with 130 pairs. The other pairs will play in the semi-final B.

Ton Kooijman

## Pat Walshe

The well-known Irish bridge player Pat Walshe died on 21st June 2009, after a short illness, at his summer home in Wexford Ireland.

Pat represented Ireland internationally on many occasions. His most notable international performances included a gold medal in the Common Market Pairs, and silver in the Mixed Teams Championships. He won every major national Irish Championships, and was ranked as a Grand Master.

He will be sadly missed by the Irish contingent in Sanremo, whose thoughts are with his wife Grainne Barton Walshe, his stepsons Andrew David and Paul Barton, and his darling step-grandson.

'Ar dheis De go Raibh a anam' (Translation: May his soul be on the right hand of God).

A book of condolences will be available at the information desk for anyone who wishes to express their sympathy.

# The Norwegian Bridge Festival 2009



Enjoy a visit this summer to beautiful Lillehammer and one of Scandinavia's largest bridge tournaments. This annual event gathers more than 9.000 players in the various sessions and is open to all nationalities. Lillehammer (180 km north of Oslo) hosted The Olympic Winter Games in 1994.

The festival takes place from August 1st – August 9th 2009, and includes all the Norwegian Championships and several side events like Patton Teams, IMP Pairs and Matchpoint Pairs every session. Social bridge every evening at the bridge hotel (Radisson SAS Lillehammer Hotel).

The tournaments take place at the Haakons Hall. Radisson SAS Lillehammer Hotel offers fine accommodation at reasonable prices. Phone: +47 6128 6000 – please refer to the Bridge Festival for special offer.

Please see www.bridgefestival.no for more information or contact

Mrs. Inger Hjellemarken, phone +47 9068 2076 or e-mail: ingerhj@start.no

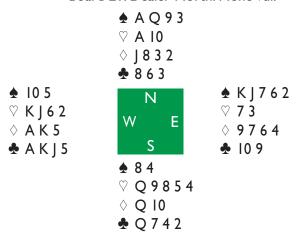
# **Open Teams Swiss A Round 5**

by Jos Jacobs

After four rounds of Sunday's Swiss A, seven(!) teams were sharing 14th place with 69 V.P.With 27 teams scheduled to go through to the knockout phase, having a look at some of the matches between these teams seemed a sensible idea. The choices were Welland v. Bessis and Romania v. Angelini. For Bessis, the Israeli pair Ginossar-Pachtmann would play together with the Russians Gromov-Dubinin; thus not very much French flavour in the team, for this round.

Although the boards, if considered in isolation, were not very wild, a few unusual things happened. Here are some examples:

Board 21. Dealer North. None Vul.



Romania v. Angelini:

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South	
Radulescu	Versace	Stregaroiu	Giubilo	
	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣	All pass			

In the Closed Room, the auction was as humble as can be. Two overtricks, Romania +110.

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South	
Nunes	Lungu	Fantoni	Micescu	
	I♦	♠	Pass	
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass	
3NT	All pass			

Before West, holding by far the best hand of the four, could enter the scene, both North and East already had left their marks. What a difference to the Open Room auction. Once East overcalled, the partnership was committed to at

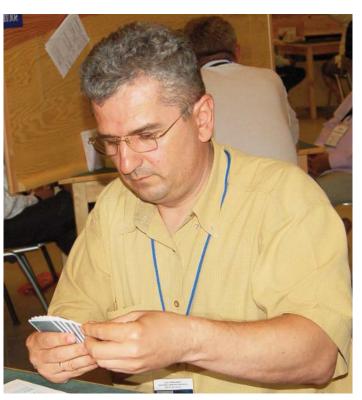
least 3NT but, more important, Nunes found a way to make it.

North found the best lead of a low diamond to the queen and ace, and Nunes continued with a spade to the jack which held. The \$9\$ was then successfully run and the clubs were cashed with a repeated finesse, North throwing a diamond. Another spade was now taken by North's ace. At this point, North had no safe exit. A diamond would see him back on lead two tricks later so he elected to exit with a spade. Dummy's king won and back came a spade to North's nine. No matter what North would play now, declarer would have his nine tricks. An immediate diamond back would be no good either as the \$K\$ then threatens to be the entry to dummy's established diamond. Angelini +400 and 7 IMPs.

#### Welland v. Bessis

Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
Ginossar	Welland	Pachtmann	Zia	
	♣	Pass	ΙŸ	
Dble	Pass	2♠	Pass	
3NT	All pass			

E/W also reached 3NT, but Ginossar adopted a different line of play. He too won the diamond lead and led a spade. His choice of the \$10 was covered by Welland's queen, so



Marian Radulescu, Romania

dummy's king won. Rather than trying his luck with some club finesses, Ginossar went back to hand with a diamond and continued the suit, putting North on lead. Welland was not to be fooled, however: he simply cashed his two major suit aces before exiting with the  $\heartsuit$ 10 to the queen and king. Declarer next advanced the  $\clubsuit$ J but now South could win and return a club, destroying declarer's communications. A low club instead of the jack would have been no good either. One off, Welland +50.

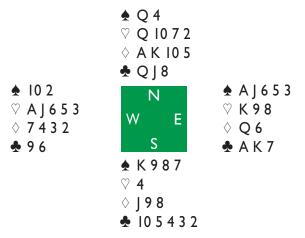
Closed Room

West	North	East	South	
Weinstein	Gromov	Garner	Dubinin	
	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣	Pass	Ι♡	Pass	
INT	Pass	2♡	Pass	
2♠	All pass			

E/W transferred themselves into 2♠, N/S not taking part in the auction. Welland +110 and 4 IMPs.

Two boards later, we saw partscore swings in both matches:

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



Romania v. Angelini

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nunes	Lungu	Fantoni	Micescu
			Pass
Pass	I ♦	I♠	All pass

The second shortest auction of the match so far. Just made, Angelini +80.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Radulescu	Versace	Stregaroiu	Giubilo
			Pass
Pass	I ♦	♠	Pass
2◊	Pass	4♡	All pass

When Radulescu produced a transfer to his hearts, Stre-

garoiu was quick to bid game. Due to the bad trump split, this had no play at all and declarer thus went down three, Angelini another +300 and 9 IMPs.

Welland v. Bessis

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South	
Ginossar	Welland	Pachtmann	Zia	
			Pass	
Pass	INT	All pass		

In the Open Room, E/W stayed quiet against Welland's NT only to find out they could not defeat it. East led a low spade and Welland went on to score his seven tricks for a score of +90.

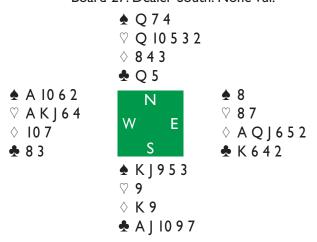
#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South	
Weinstein	Gromov	Garner	Dubinin	
			Pass	
Pass	I ♦	Dble	Redble	
10	Pass	l 🏚	Pass	
2♡	All pass			

When Gromov opened 1 $\diamondsuit$ , E/W could take action. They landed at a pretty safe spot. Welland another +110 and 5 IMPs more.

After a few peaceful boards, an intriguing defensive problem occurred on board 27:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.



Welland v. Bessis

#### Open Room

Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
Ginossar	Welland	Pachtmann	Zia	
			I♠	
2♡	Pass	3♦	Pass	
3NT	All pass			

This was the odd contract out, as you will see later on. On a spade lead, it went no less than 6 down when, after North's low spade lead to declarer's ace, Zia won his  $\Diamond K$  and led back a spade to Welland's seven. Declarer had thrown a club from dummy...Welland +300.

The other three tables all were in  $3 \clubsuit$ , one of them doubled.

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West	North	East	South	
Weinstein	Gromov	Garner	Dubinin	
			I♠	
2♡	2♠	3♦	3♡	
Pass	3♠	All pass		

On the lead of the  $\heartsuit$ A followed by a diamond to the ace and a diamond back, Dubinin advanced the  $\clubsuit$ K and, when it held, played a low spade to the queen which also held the trick. Next, he took two club finesses and ruffed a club to come to nine tricks easily, his only losers being two more trumps.

#### Romania v. Angelini

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South	
Radulescu	Versace	Stregaroiu	Giubilo	
			♠	
Pass	2♠	3♦	Dble	
Redbl	3♡	Pass	3♠	
All pass				

West led the  $\lozenge$ 10 to East's ace and a diamond came back to declarer's king. Next came the  $\clubsuit$ K and, when it held, the  $\clubsuit$ J. This proved fatal as West could now win the ace, cash the  $\heartsuit$ A and play another trump, leaving declarer one trick short. Romania +50.

Open Room

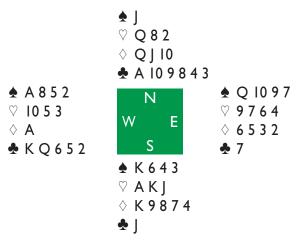
West	North	East	South	
Nunes	Lungu	Fantoni	Micescu	
			♠	
2♡	Pass	3♦	Pass	
Pass	3♠	Dble	All pass	

The stakes were higher when Fantunes were defending but the defence was perfect.  $\heartsuit A$  lead followed by the  $\diamondsuit 10$  which Fantoni brilliantly ducked, after long consideration. With the E/W communication line still intact, declarer was in trouble. He tried the  $\clubsuit J$  and when this held, continued a low spade but now, Nunes could rise with the ace and put his partner in to play diamonds. Declarer ruffed the 3rd diamond with the nine but Nunes discarded a club. Declarer could cross to dummy's  $\spadesuit Q$  now to take some club finesses but Nunes ruffed the second club and exited with the

♡K, which would cost declarer's last trump or be the setting trick if declarer should leave West on play with it. Angelini +100 for just 2 IMPs but very well-deserved this time!

Some curious results were scored on the penultimate board of the match:

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South	
Nunes	Lungu	Fantoni	Micescu	
	Pass	Pass	I♦	
Dble	Pass	l 🏚	Pass	
2♠	All pass			

With spades 4-1 and clubs even 6-1, making  $2 \spadesuit$  was asking too much...Romania +100.



Andrey Gromov, Russia

North	East	South	
Versace	Stregaroiu	Giubilo	
Pass	Pass	I♦	
Pass	Pass	Dble	
	Versace Pass	North East  Versace Stregaroiu  Pass Pass	NorthEastSouthVersaceStregaroiuGiubiloPassPassI ◊

The Fantunes result was still a lot better than what their Romanian counterparts did. When West decided to over-call rather than to double I♦, E/W quickly were in trouble. Things did not get any better when East did not try any rescue action...Down four, Angelini +1100 and 14 IMPs. The final result of the match was an Angelini win by 39-12 or 23-7 V.P.

#### Welland v. Bessis

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Gromov	Garner	Dubinin
	Pass	Pass	I♦
Dble	3♣	All pass	

The invitational jump did not work well this time; one down and +100 to Welland.

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South	
Ginossar	Welland	Pachtmann	Zia	
	Pass	Pass	INT	
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT	
Pass All pass	3♠	Pass	3NT	

Zia's very much off-shape NT opening did it again. 2\(\Delta\) showed clubs and 3\(\Delta\) showed shortness in the suit. West led a spade to the queen and king but with the suit breaking 4-4 the defenders could get no more than the \$\infty\$A and three spade tricks before declarer would have made his required amount of nine tricks. On a different lead, declarer will also succeed as he can easily establish any number of extra tricks in clubs, if necessary.

So it was Welland +600 and 12 more IMPs to convincingly win the match 34-5 or 23-7 V.P. as well.

Both winning teams seemed pretty sure of going through to the K.O. stage now.

# **JOURNALISTS**



There will be an informal meeting of all journalists on Wednesday 24th at 09.30 in the Press Room. Journalists will have a chance to put questions and suggestions to their Executive, and get an update from their President.

# The Power of the White House

by Jan van Cleeff

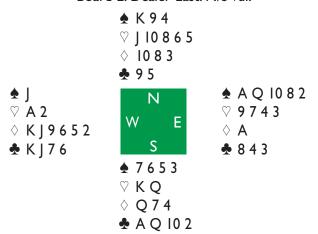
The White House is a highly active and ambitious bridge club in Amsterdam. For five years in a row it hosted a strong international teams event and eventually the club focussed on junior bridge, which led to the White House Juniors, a popular tournament for young bridge players from all over the world. All this has been made possible by the sponsorship of two Amsterdam bridge lovers, Max Abram and Herman Drenkelford.

Max is playing the seniors here in Sanremo and Herman is likely to join in the Open Pairs. In the Open Teams championships the club is represented by two teams. The powerful squad of WHI (Jan Jansma and Gert-Jan Paulissen, Louk Verhees and Ricco van Prooijen) did very well in Swiss A. The other team is the juniors of WH2 (Tim Verbeek-Danny Molenaar, Bob Drijver-Merijn Groenenboom). In 11th place they did not do so badly themselves as well.

Two examples to underline the power of the White House:

White House I v Holand Saturday, June 20th, round 3, qualifications

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



In the Open Room team Holland bid and made 30 in East-West. The Closed Room:

West	North	East	South
Verhees		Van Prooijen	
		I♡	Dble
Pass	I♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Verhees-Van Prooijen play the Ultimate Canapé, a complex relay system designed by the Americans Russell Ekeblad and Ron Rubin. UC allowed East to open his ugly heart holding. A few seconds later he was happy to pass when his partner re-entered the bidding with a double.

East led the  $\lozenge A$  and switched to clubs. When declarer finessed the king he ended up with four tricks only. East-West plus 800; 12 IMPs to WH1.

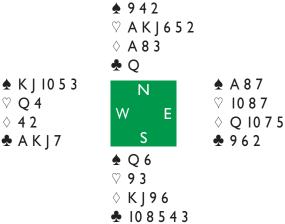
## **Round Robin Reviewed**

by Barry Rigal

The match between Hollman (Hollman/Ferguson and four Swedish players) and Zimmermann (Balicki/Zmudzinski, with Multon/Helness at the other table) looked like it might produce fireworks. Alas, the boards ran quiet, but the players still managed to generate some excitement.

Board II. Dealer North. None Vul. 

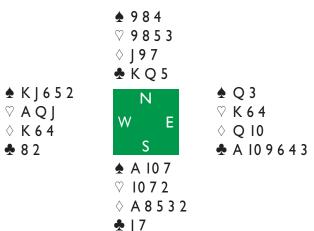
• 9 4 2



You'd fancy your chances of making at least nine tricks in hearts, but both Norths sold out to 2♠ after the simple overcall. That contract looks simple enough on three rounds of hearts because if you cash an early top club you will know what to do next. But while Nilsson/Olofsson duly collected 110 Zmudzinski was seduced into taking an early (premature) finesse in clubs, losing to the singleton queen. He emerged with only seven tricks and Hollman led 4-0.

The next deal brought more good news for Hollman.

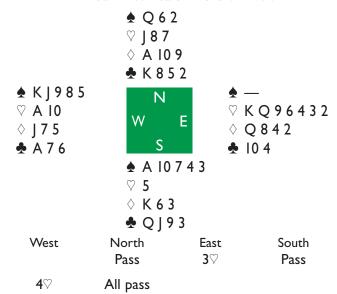
Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.



Balicki/Zmudzinski were 'handicapped' by their natural system, and the fact that they were essentially playing 2/I, so that East could only invite by bidding and rebidding clubs; they were able to stop in INT when Balicki produced that response to I. Alas for him, the cards lay exceptionally favourably, and ten tricks were managed in no-trumps in both rooms. But since Olofsson/Nilsson had found their way to

game after a strong no-trump, it was 10-0 to Hollman now. Zimmermann took the lead on the next deal:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

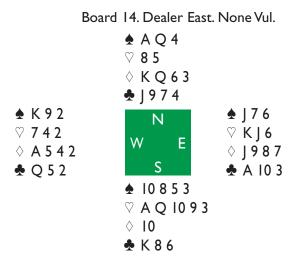


Both tables bid to 4%, and Nilsson won the club and led a low spade to the queen, ruffed. The natural move now was to lead a heart to the ten and ....jack. Nice try but no cigar! That was down 200.

Balicki received the natural top club lead from South and ducked after considerable thought. I think South should have worked out that if a shift was going to kill the contract he would not have been left on lead. But he shifted to a diamond and that was a swift -620. Zimmermann led 13-10 now.

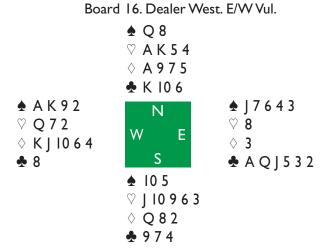


Pierre Zimmermann, France



Upmark passed his balanced 12-count in fourth seat, knowing that his partner would not have as much as an 11-count. Alas for him the heart part-score in hearts reached in the other room ran into five well-placed honours and +140 meant four more IMPs for Zimmermann.

The last chance for Hollman came when Upmark as North might have exercised some devious table presence. But he followed a more normal course of action, and that cost him a game.

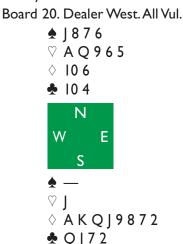


Both Norths overcalled INT over  $I \lozenge$ . While Nilsson/Oloffson could bid naturally to  $4 \spadesuit$ , Balicki came in with  $2 \spadesuit$ , and Cullin might have passed now and got out for -130. Instead he bid  $2 \heartsuit$ , and Balicki was allowed to balance with  $2 \spadesuit$ . The tray now took a minute to come through with West and North's pass on it; who was more likely to have been thinking, and what should North do now? The bulletin staff unanimously duplicated Upmark's choice of  $3 \heartsuit$ ; to me, the hesitation was most likely to have been North thinking of raising to  $3 \spadesuit$ ....and does North have any defence to  $5 \spadesuit$ ? I'd say not. The  $3 \heartsuit$  call saw Balicki re-raise himself to  $3 \spadesuit$  and Balicki bid game. He scored up 650 — another victory for TTASL or teach them a sharp lesson. When the opponents balance you out of a partscore you must double them or bid game.

The match finished 17-12 for Zimmermann – and both teams retained their qualifying positions, eventually both advancing to the A Swiss.

## Anyone can take a finesse?

East opens 1 - 4, you jump to  $5 \circ$ , and receive a spade lead, ruffed. How should you continue?

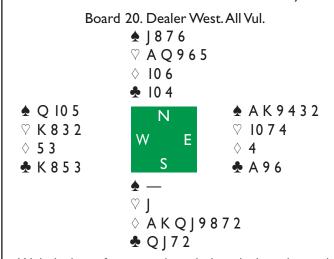


Anyone could try to set up a club and ruff a club but the defenders might get two rounds of trumps in and foil your scheme. Matthew Granovetter found an intriguing line to improve on his chances.

He crossed to the heart ace and led a low club from the dummy' figuring that this would work if East had a singleton trump, no matter whether he had one or both club honours.

West captured the club queen with his king and shifted to trumps, but Granovetter saw his plan through and won in hand to lead a second club. When East had no second trump to lead, declarer was home.

Good news? Alas no! In the other room N/S declared 50x declarer led a low club from hand at trick two and East and West each led trumps at their earliest opportunity. Declarer had to fall back on the heart finesse – and this was the full layout.



With the heart finesse working, declarer had a rather undeserved pick-up of 4 IMPs. If that was unlucky, consider the multiple world champion who found a well-reasoned and unlucky 'improvement' on this line as South.

He won the spade lead and decided that he would play for the heart king to be offside; he led the  $\heartsuit$ J, and when West ducked smoothly he overtook and ruffed a heart, led a club to the ten and ace, won the trump return in dummy and ruffed a heart, then led a second club. West took the trick and played a second trump, and declarer was dead. 'Bad luck, the heart finesse worked' his team-mates consoled him.

## The Bombers

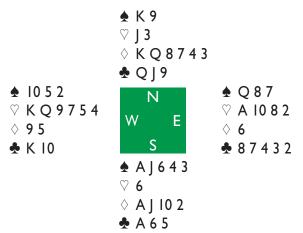
by Brent Manley

In American baseball, a slugger is valued for his ability to change a game with one swing of the bat — usually the home run. When the New York Yankees were in their heyday, with an assembly of big hitters, they were known as the Bronx Bombers.

In round four of the Open Teams Swiss qualifying, the American team led by Lou Ann O'Rourke defeated the Turkish Kolata squad 32-19 in Bronx Bomber fashion, scoring all their IMPs on three deals.

The first swing went against the Americans, however.

Board II. Dealer South. None Vul.



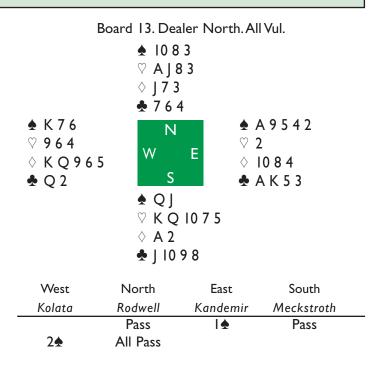
West	North	East	South
Kolata	Rodwell	Kandemir	Meckstroth
			♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♦	All Pass	

As you can see, it is trivial to take 12 tricks in diamonds (unless you are declaring against Bessis - see our earlier report). The Turks at the other table did better in the auction.

West	North	East	South
Hampson	Gur	Levin	Yilmaz
			♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	<b>4</b> ♦	Pass	4♡
Dble	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6◊
All Pass			

That was II IMPs to Kolata when declarer was not put to the test by an early club shift from East.

Two deals later, the Americans hit one over the proverbial fence.



Meckstroth did well not to reopen the bidding, giving the Turks a second chance at the vulnerable game. The way the play went, it wouldn't have mattered.

Meckstroth started with the  $\heartsuit$ K. Declarer ruffed the heart continuation and played a diamond to dummy's king, following with a spade to the ace and a second diamond.

Meckstroth won the ◇A and played a third round of hearts. Declarer ruffed and played a third round of diamonds. Meckstroth ruffed with the ♠Q and exited with the ♣J to declarer's ace. Rodwell's ♠10 8 represented the fourth trick for the defense. Plus 140 for East/West.

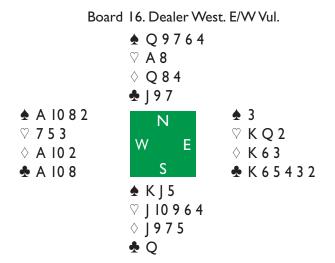


Suleyman Kolata, Turkey

West	North	East	South	
Hampson	Gur	Levin	Yilmaz	
	Pass	♠	2♡	
3♡	4♡	4♠	All Pass	

Gokhan Yilmaz also started with the ♡K, but Okay Gur overtook with the ace to play a club. Bobby Levin won the ♣A and played a spade to the king and another to his ace. When he followed with a low diamond from hand, Yilmaz played the ace. The defenders still had a trump trick coming, but Levin soon was writing plus 620 in his scorecard for a 10-IMP gain.

O'Rourke was trailing 12-10 when the Americans struck again.



West	North	East	South	
Kolata	Rodwell	Kandemir	Meckstroth	
♣	I♠	3♠	Dble	
Redble	Pass	<b>4</b> ♦	Pass	
4♠	Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Eric Rodwell started with the  $\heartsuit A$  and a heart to dummy's queen. Suleyman Kolata played a club to the ace and a club to dummy, Rodwell covering the  $\clubsuit 10$  with the jack. Declarer put Rodwell in with the  $\clubsuit 9$ , and Rodwell exited with the  $\clubsuit Q$ . Declarer won the ace, ruffed a spade in dummy, cashed the  $\heartsuit K$  and tried running dummy's clubs. The layout was not friendly, however, and Kolata had to finish one trick short

Geoff Hampson and Levin got to a better spot at the other table.

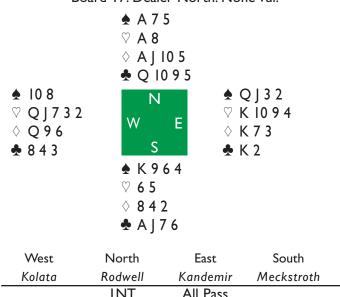
West	North	East	South	
Hampson	Gur	Levin	Yilmaz	
♣	Pass	2♣	Pass	
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass	
3NT	All Pass			

Levin's bidding indicated he was worried about spades, but Hampson had the suit covered, so he persisted to the notrump game.

Gur was apparently fearful of giving up a trick if he led a spade, so he started with a low diamond. Hampson won the ace in hand and went after clubs, conceding the third round to North, South pitching a low spade, a fatal blow to the defense. A spade went to the king and ace, and Hampson played a low heart from hand. North was in with the  $\heartsuit$ A, but the spade suit could not be untangled. When Gur cashed the  $\clubsuit$ Q, Hampson had an overtrick for plus 630. That was 10 IMPs to O'Rourke.

Kolata picked up 6 IMPs on the next board with a non-vulnerable game swing.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



Ismail Kandemir started with a low spade, which went to the 8 and Rodwell's ace. The ♣10 was covered by the king and ace, and when two finesses in diamonds produced



Geoff Hampson, USA

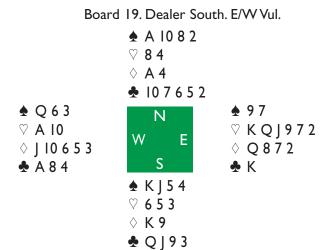
three tricks from the suit, Rodwell had 10 tricks for plus 180.

The game was bid at the other table,

West	North	East	South	
Hampson	Gur	Levin	Yilmaz	
	INT	Pass	2♣	
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT	
Pass	3NT	All Pass		

The play went virtually the same, and the lie of the cards meant plus 430 for Kolata and a small gain.

The final big swing occurred on the penultimate deal.



Both East/West pairs bid hearts – Kolata and Kandemir to the three level, Levin and Hampson to four. On a spade lead, declarer would have had no chance, but Meckstroth started with a trump despite the fact that Rodwell had bid spades and he had raised them. That was all Kandemir needed. He won the  $\heartsuit10$  in dummy, played to his singleton  $\clubsuit$ K, returned to dummy with a heart and got rid of one of his spade losers on the  $\clubsuit$ A.

The defenders at the other table also failed to take their two spade tricks, but Levin was in the heart game. Yilmaz started with the  $\Phi Q$  and soon was writing minus 620 for another 10-IMP loss.

# "University Bridge Pairs on internet"

Every second Sunday of the Months, we play the university bridge pairs on BBO at 7 PM Paris time. Up till now, we have reached between 70 to 220 pairs. In May 2009, we obtained a record of 228 Pairs. Please invite all students to participate in these championships.

Geert Magerman, Chairman TC FISU (International University Sports Federation) & EUSA (European University Sports Association)

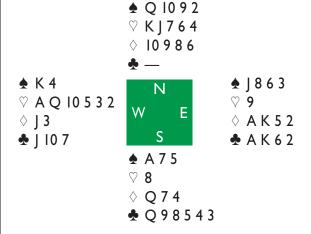
# **End Played by Partner**

by Jan van Cleeff

In the Swiss A match, Sweden I versus the Bamberger Reiter Josef Piekarek had to find a way to make 3NT:

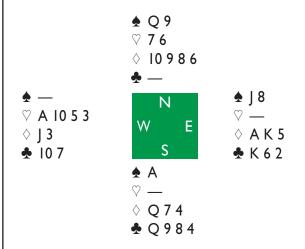
Sunday, June 21, Swiss A

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



West	North	East	South
Smirnov		Piekarek	
ΙΫ́	Pass	♠	Pass
2♡	Pass	3NT	All Pass

South kicked off with a club and Piekarek overtook dummy's jack while North pitched a heart. On the run of the  $\heartsuit 9$ , North won the jack and returned his lowest spade: 6, 7 and king. Piekarek now advanced the  $\heartsuit Q$ , duly taken by North who continued with the  $\spadesuit 10$ , which held the trick. This position had been reached:



At this point North should have continued in diamonds. When he continued with a spade, all of a sudden his partner was endplayed. So Josef Piekarek ended up with nine tricks, while at the other table declarer failed in the same contract.

# 1<sup>st</sup> World Youth Bridge Championships

Yeditepe University Istanbul – Turkey / 15-23 August 2009

Swiss-KO teams 15-19 August

Board-a-match teams 18-19 August

Entry fee: 500€/team

MP Pairs 20-23 August

IMP Pairs 22-23 August

> Entry fee: 200€/pair

NBO's are not restricted with any quotas.

Transnational teams and /or pairs are also allowed.

National anthems will be played, and national flags will be raised for only teams or pairs with all players of the same nationality.

Eligibility: born on or after January 01, 1984

In case of sufficient participation in U20 teams and/or pairs, the Championship will be palyed in both U25 and U20 categories.

Full board accommodation in double rooms: 45€ per person per day Registrations will be made through WBF site:

www.worldbridge.org



# Open Teams Swiss A, final round

by Jos Jacobs

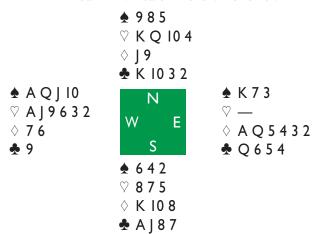
In the final round of Sunday's Swiss A, in quite a number of matches a good win could make your team a qualifier for the KO stage. One of these matches certainly was Lara v. Texan Aces: a narrow margin might see both teams miss out but a big win would certainly be enough for either team.

The Texan Aces team still has its distinct Indian flavour. The Lara team for this match consisted of a well-known Portuguese pair (Capucho-Lara) playing together with the new combination of Diego Brenner from Brazil and the young local heroine, Irene Baroni.

Both teams had qualified for the Swiss in group Z of the Round Robin so they had already played each other before, group winners Texan Aces winning this direct encounter by 20-10 V.P. In the Swiss, both teams had had mixed fortunes so far, having reached 96 and 95 when the final round started. In the end, it turned out that 112 were needed to qualify for the KO.

On the first few boards of this replay, the Texans very much looked like doing it again. Let's have a look:

Board II. Dealer North. None Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sunderram	Capucho	Sridharan	Lara
			Pass
I 🛇	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♡	Pass	3♠	Pass
<b>4</b> ♦	Pass	5♦	All pass

Especially on a trump lead, 50 looks far from a safe spot even with the king onside. On the actual layout, declarer had to lose two trump tricks anyway so he could never come anywhere near. Lara +50, a good start for them.

Or was it? In the Closed Room, Brenner eventually bid 3NT with neither black suit looking at all solid.

#### Closed Room

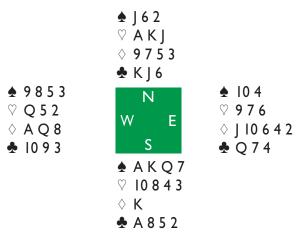
West	North	East	South
Baroni I.	Tewari	Brenner	Balakrishn
			Pass
IŸ	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♡	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♡	Pass	3NT	All pass

On a spade lead, dummy won and a diamond was ducked. The next spade was taken by dummy's ace, declarer unblocking his king so when the  $\Diamond K$  proved offside after all, the roof fell in.

Down five, Texan Aces +250 and 5 IMPs to open their account.

#### Next:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South	
Sunderram	Capucho	Sridharan	Lara	
Pass	I♦	Pass	ΙŸ	
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT	
All pass				

When East, in spite of the opening bid to his right, led a simple diamond from his longest and strongest, the defence quickly had five tricks. Texan Aces +100. Well done East!

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South	
Baroni I.	Tewari	Brenner	Balakrishn	
Pass	I♦	Pass	ΙŸ	_
Pass	INT	Pass	3NT	
All pass				

Looking at his not too promising hand, Diego Brenner tried to find his partner's suit by leading the ♣7. Declarer won in hand, and when the clubs broke 3-3 he had 10 tricks and +630. That was 12 more IMPs to Texan Aces.

An unusual contract was reached by the Aces on this one:

Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
Sunderram	Capucho	Sridharan	Lara	
		Pass	Pass	
♣	2♦	3♣	3♠	
3NT	4♠	Pass	Pass	
4NT	All pass			

2♦ showed majors but Lara's 3♠ gave West at least some room. When Capucho bid game, we had reached a situation in which neither side knows exactly who's going to make anything. So Sunderram made the fine three-way bid of 4NT (unusual, to play, to save) which became the final contract when East, holding a good heart stopper, passed it, like all others did. The ♥JIO were worth an extra trick so the contract was made easily enough: Texan Aces a wonderful +430 when North did well to lead a heart but was endplayed after all to concede a spade trick.

In the other room, Irene Baroni did not get the room she needed:

Closed Ro	om
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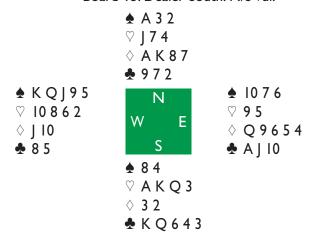
West	North	East	South	
Baroni I.	Tewari	Brenner	Balakrishn	
		Pass	Pass	
♣	3♠	Pass	4♠	
All pass				

Tewari concealed his two-suiter and jumped boldly to 3\(\Delta\) after which his partner had an obvious raise. The contract had to go one down as there was no way for declarer to get to dummy and finesse trumps in time, so he suffered a

heart overruff. Lara +50 but 9 IMPs to Texan Aces who led 27-0 now.

On the next board, it was slam time, or so they thought:

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
Sunderram	Capucho	Sridharan	Lara	
			♣	
I ♠	2♠	Dble	3♡	
Pass	3♠	Dble	Pass	
Pass	Redble	Pass	4♣	
Pass	4♡	Pass	5♣	
All pass				

Well, not here. Lara reached a good contract which was just made when the trumps behaved. Lara +600.

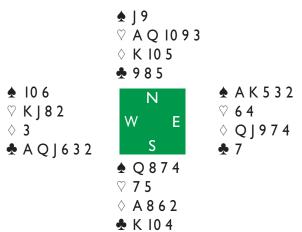


Padmanabhan Sridharan, India

Closed Roon	n		
West	North	East	South
Baroni I.	Tewari	Brenner	Balakrishn
			♣
I♠	Dble	2♡	3♡
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♡
Pass	6♣	All pass	

 $2^{\circ}$  showed not only a spade fit but also took away some precious bidding space. Being forced to start investigations one level higher, the Aces also ended up in their best fit one level higher. Lara +100 and 12 IMPs back.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sunderram	Capucho	Sridharan	Lara
	Pass	Pass	Pass
♣	I 🛇	I♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	All pass		

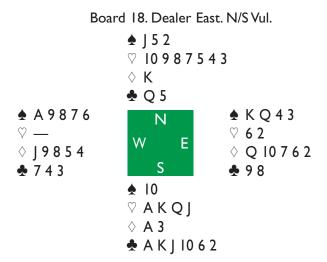
When East did not open, E/W could hardly go wrong. They cautiously reached a good spot where they made just 8 tricks. Texan Aces +110.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South	
Baroni I.	Tewari	Brenner	Balakrishn	
	Pass	I♠	Pass	_
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass	
2♡	Pass	3♣	Pass	
3NT	All pass			

Once Brenner opened, the E/W machine could no longer stop before game after West's game-forcing 2\$\mathbb{e}\$ response. Nobody doubled but down three was just about the result the Lara team were not looking for. Aces +150 and 6 more IMPs. They led by 21 with 3 boards to go.

Then came probably the most interesting hand of the set:



As you can see, 6% is on ice but  $6\clubsuit$  might just go down on a heart (!) ruff.

Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
Sunderram	Capucho	Sridharan	Lara	
		Pass	2♣	
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣	
Pass	3♡	Pass	6♡	
All pass				

The Portuguese experience led to them quickly finding the best place to be. Lara may have been a little surprised when partner suddenly introduced hearts...As  $2 \circ$  had denied any aces, the raise to slam was automatic. Lara +1430.



S. Sunderram, India

Closed Roor	n			
West	North	East	South	
Baroni I.	Tewari	Brenner	Balakrishn	
		Pass	2♣	
2♠	Pass	4♠	5♣	

When the opponents interfered heavily, the hearts got lost somewhere. The final contract was fair enough but Irene Baroni underled her ♠A, choosing the ♠8 to suggest a return in the higher suit. The message was not lost on Brenner who duly found the heart shift for his partner to ruff. Well defended, +100 to Lara and a much needed but also completely deserved 17 IMPs back. The margin was down to a mere 4 IMPs now.

Lara did not continue their good work on the next board, however:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul. **★** K O 9 8 3 2 ♡ 5 ♦ 64 ♣ | 10 6 2 **♠** | 6 5 ♥ KQ 109832 ♥ A J 4 ♦ A Q 9 3 ♦ K 7 ♣ K O 5 ♣ A 7 3 ♠ A 10 7 ♡ 76 ♦ | 10852 984

West	North	East	South
Sunderram	Capucho	Sridharan	Lara
			Pass
INT	2♦	<b>4</b> ♦	Pass
4♡	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♡	Pass	6♡	All pass

20 was Multi but East simply transferred to hearts and checked aces. Texan Aces +1430.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Baroni I.	Tewari	Brenner	Balakrishn
			Pass
INT	3♠	5♡	All pass

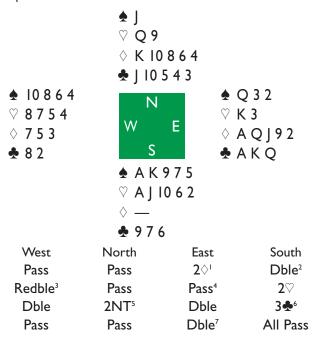
With no such gadget at his disposal, Brenner had to improvise something. 5% was as good a shot as anything but it remained unclear as to whether it would show or rather deny a spade control. Baroni went for the safe view but lost I3 IMPs in the process. The match was over and Texan Aces had gone through, winning by 48-31 or 20-10 V.P. At an average of nearly 8 IMPs per board, it certainly had been an entertaining match.

# LOOKING FOR MORE TROUBLE

by David Stern

David Beauchamp reports this deal from round One of the Swiss where he and his partner tried exceptionally hard to find a worse spot with each bid they took.

Open Teams Swiss Round I - Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.



Another auction which requires some explanation.

- Weak two opening with strong options
- <sup>2</sup> I need to take an action
- <sup>3</sup> Assuming partner has a weak two bid, asking partner to bid a major
- $^4\,$  I have the strong hand and quite fancy playing  $2\Diamond$  Redoubled
- <sup>5</sup> Enough of this partner please bid a minor
- ° Easy
- <sup>7</sup> Hey I have the strong hand and don't think you will make

OK, so N/S have run from  $2\lozenge XX$ , which would likely score +200. They have then run from  $2\heartsuit X$  which would score +470 and finally they rest in  $3\clubsuit X$  which can be beaten only on the play of three rounds of clubs followed by the  $\Phi Q$ .

I can, however, report that this precise defence was not found at the table and 3 $\pm$ X made for 470 and I I IMPs when 3 $\heartsuit$ X failed by one trick at the other table.

So the question, how many times have you run from two good spots to rest in a questionable one?

## **EBL PRESIDENT'S DINNER**

Gianarrigo Rona made a number of presentations on behalf of the EBL



To the President Emeritus of the WBF, Jaime Ortiz-Patiño



To David Liggatt, Secretary of the SBU & Liz McGowan to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Scottish Bridge Union





To the President of the WBF, José Damiani



To the Honour President of the EBL, Bill Pencharz



To members of the local Organising Committee, Mrs. Eralda Biancheri & Igor Varnero, the former Minister of Sports



To Josef Harsanyi the Vice President of the German Bridge Federation to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the DBV

# Quiet set

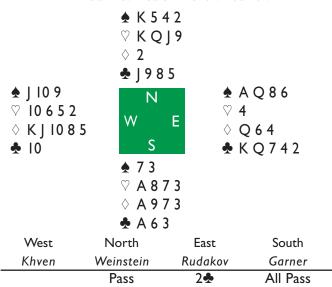
by Brent Manley

The match between the Roy Welland and Pavel Gomerov teams was not a barn-burner, but that's the way it is with bridge. Sometimes the computer produces a dull set. Even so there, were a couple of interesting deals in the Open Teams Swiss, round three, match.

Gomerov earned a 6-IMP swing early on by bidding a notrump game that was not reached at the other table.

Welland got 4 IMPs back on this one.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



This was not a happy contract for Evgeni Rudakov.

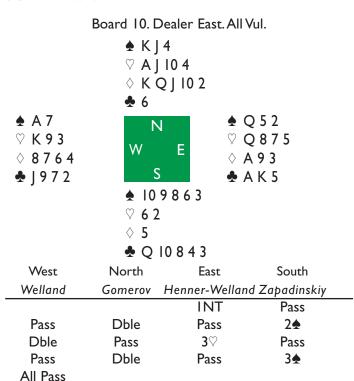
Steve Garner led the \$7: jack, king, ace. The \$K\$ was ducked, and declarer played a diamond to dummy's jack. He cashed the \$10 and followed with the jack, ruffed by South, who then cashed the \$A\$. North discarded the \$\times K\$ on that trick, so South played a heart to North's 9. The spade return was ruffed by South with the trump ace, and a second round of hearts was ruffed by East. Declarer cashed the \$\mathbb{Q}\$ then set about making North ruff with one of his high trumps. That was one down for minus 50.

West	North	East	South
Welland	Gomerov	Henner-Wellan	d Zapadinskiy
	Pass	♣	Pass
1♦	Dble	2♦	2♡
3♦	All Pass		

Gomerov led the  $\heartsuit$ K, switching to a trump at trick two. Eugeny Zapadinskiy won the trump ace and played another diamond, taken in hand by Welland with the jack. He played a club to the king and South's ace and won the diamond return in hand with the king. On the  $\diamondsuit$ 10, North made the fatal error of discarding a club. Now Welland played the  $\clubsuit$ 1, covered by North and East. Welland then used his last trump to ruff a low club. He cashed the  $\clubsuit$ 10 and overtook the 9 with the queen in dummy, which was good. Plus 110 for East/West.

The last two deals produced 14 IMPs for Welland, most of

them on a vulnerable game swing. The final deal could been a big gainer for Welland, but they had to settle for 4 IMPs in their 24-11 win.



Welland started with the  $\lozenge 8$ . Henner-Welland ducked when Zapadinskiy played the king from dummy. A low club was taken by East with the king. One round too late, she tried the  $\lozenge A$ , which was ruffed. He then played a heart to dummy's ace, cashed a high diamond, pitching a club, then played a heart to Welland's king. He played a low spade from the ace, ducked to East's queen. Declarer ruffed the  $^{\circlearrowright}Q$ , ruffed a club with the  $^{\blacktriangle}J$ . He played the  $^{\circlearrowright}J$  from dummy and could not be prevented from taking three more tricks. If East ruffed, he could overruff, ruff a club with the  $^{\bigstar}K$  and play the  $^{\circlearrowright}J$ , on which East would have to follow. If West ruffed, it would leave the  $^{\bigstar}I$ 0 high. Plus I40 to Gomerov.

Garner and Weinstein made sure it was not a gain, however, when Kudakov and Max Khven bid too much with the East/West cards.

West	North	East	South	
Khven	Weinstein	Rudakov	Garner	
		INT	Pass	
3NT	All Pass			

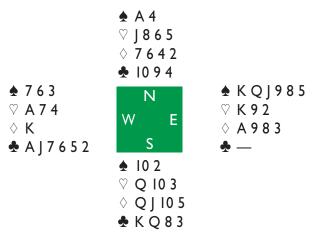
Garner started with the  $\P9$ , ducked. Weinstein won the  $\P6$  and played the  $\COMM$ K. Rudakov didn't bother ducking, winning the  $\COMM$ A at trick two. He tried a heart to the king and ace, then had the dubious pleasure of watching Weinstein cash four diamond tricks. Declarer won the heart exit with his queen and could do no better than to play a spade to the ace, a club to the ace to cash the  $\P0$  and high club. Declarer took six tricks for three down and was lucky the 4-IMP loss wasn't worse.

# One that Got Away

by Mark Horton

Brian Senior brought this deal from Round 7 of the Open Swiss to my attention. It features a play problem that no declarer managed to solve at the table:

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.



# **Championship Diary**

As is traditional on the day of the EBL President's Dinner Herman was left in charge of the front page. Almost inevitably it resulted in his summary court martial.

Herman's court martial is less than fair, since The Editor is the judge and Tacchi the prosecution. Barry appears for the defence but he is fined 10 Euro for turning up. The judge opens by saying, "The case before us is that of the EBL versus Private Herman De Wael, alias the Flanders Front Page Murderer. Oh, and hand me that black cap, will you - I'll be needing that."

Herman redeemed himself to a certain extent by supplying the following contribution:

He was checking the running scores in the Open Teams but by the time the session (of 14 boards) was virtually over only the results up to board 3 had been posted. 'They're not running scores' he said 'They're walking scores'.

Bridge can be a dangerous sport – having already reported a broken arm now comes news of a broken leg for Austria's Doris Fischer. Herman pointed out the name of her team – Crash Test Dummies.

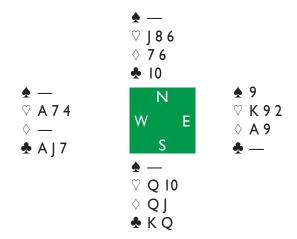
A BBO commentator mentioned that a spectator had pointed out that Meckstroth and Rodwell need 26 cards to be in game.

When the draw for the Open Teams was complete one member of the Zimmerman team was heard to complain that it was unfair that once they had beaten their opponents (Monaco) they would have to face O'Rourke (whom they assumed would win their match) and they felt so strongly they planned to write a letter of protest. However, both O'Rourke and Zimmerman lost, so at least Zimmerman saved the cost of a stamp.

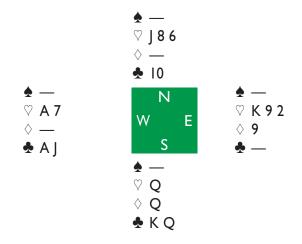
Six Spades was a popular contract, and was made on a variety of leads, including the queen of diamonds and the ten of spades.

On the lead of the ten of spades, declarer has a simple task as if North plays ace and another spade, he can win in dummy and then has enough entries to set up and enjoy the club suit.

If South follows the sounder strategy of leading the two of spades, declarer will be forced to win the second round in hand. Now he can cross to the king of diamonds, ruff a club, ruff a diamond, ruff a club and cash the jack of spades to reach this ending:



When declarer cashes the nine of spades South cannot afford to part with a diamond or a club, so has to throw the ten of hearts. Declarer discards a low heart, then cashes the ace of diamonds, discarding a club. These cards remain:



Now declarer crosses to the ace of hearts, cashes the ace of clubs and then finesses the nine of hearts.

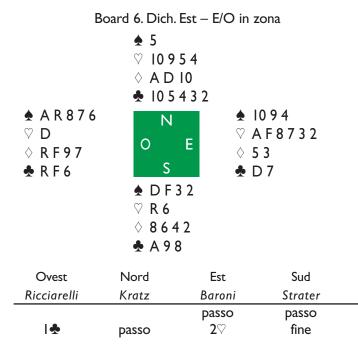
On checking the results, no declarer succeeded in making Six Spades on the lead of the two of spades by executing this guard squeeze, but 12 tricks were made by declarer in the match between Welland and Gilboa where the contract was a more modest Four Spades.

## **COSE DI CASA NOSTRA**

by Franco Broccoli

In questo tipo di campionati è in vigore la vecchia e simpatica usanza dei nomi di fantasia. E allora troviamo il "Dracula team" composto, come è facile immaginare, da transilvani doc, formazione che, peraltro, ha invertito la naturale inclinazione vampiresca, lasciando più sangue sul tavolo rispetto a quello succhiato agli avversari. Poi ci sono "The 4 Tops", che probabilmente sono rimasti troppo fedeli al nome, non riuscendo a conquistare molto di più dei top previsti dalla denominazione. E che dire di "Maradona", composta da argentini (ma va?) e dei "Texan Aces", tutti indiani. Per non tacere dei "Crashtest Dummies", squadra austriaca che ha scelto di chiamarsi come i disperati manichini utilizzati dalle case automobilistiche per verificare la resistenza delle macchine in caso d'incidente e le possibili conseguenze sui passeggeri. Ci sono anche le trappole, in quanto leggendo "Il Fante di fiori" vi aspettereste una compagine nostrana e invece trovate cinque francesi il cui capitano si chiama Fantun. Le "Nere per caso", invece, sono proprio quattro simpatiche agoniste locali che si ispirano al famoso complesso vocale napoletano con il presupposto gradevole e disimpegnato per cui: "Se ci fanno nere, non può essere che per caso. Se invece dovesse diventare una costante ci chiameremo 'Nere d'autorità'". Che dire, gli applausi ed i sorrisi sono tutti per loro.

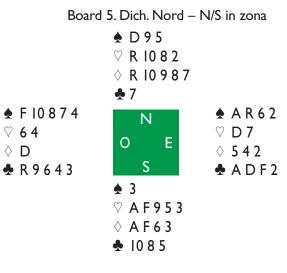
Tornando per forza di cose al bridge giocato, volevo avvisarvi che Franco Baroni e Marco Ricciarelli giocano il fiori forte, la quarta nobile e il quadri "agli irti colli" (nebbia). Perché queste informazioni? Perché stiamo accendendo il riflettore sul loro tavolo.



Ecco, dicevamo che il ♣ è forte. Il 2♥ di Baroni mostra sei carte, pochi punti assai, come direbbero i "Neri per caso", e, possibilmente, concentrati nel colore. In poche parole è

un forte segnale di disinteresse per le carte fiorifortiche. Ricciarelli ha raccolto prontamente questo disinteresse fermando l'asta. Sud ha attaccato con un insidioso 3♠ per l'Asso del morto che ha fatto girare la Dama di cuori. Dopo aver preso di Re Sud ha ribadito l'inganno intavolando il 2♠ e Baroni ha avuto la sgradita sorpresa di vedersi tagliato il Re. Non sapeva ancora che il taglio era stato effettuato da vincente. Nord, a questo punto, è tornato 24 per l'Asso del compagno che, dopo aver incassato la Dama di picche, confuso o distratto (più probabilmente tutt'e due) circa la carta di ritorno, è tornato fiori. Ora una quadri è partita sulla trefola e le 8 prese dichiarate sono state realizzate. Il parziale migliore è a picche ma il sistema è il sistema e per una volta che si sopprimono le picche a torto ci sono molte situazioni in cui palesare subito il limite della mano è più redditizio.

Ed ecco a voi la mano (pressoché) impossibile:

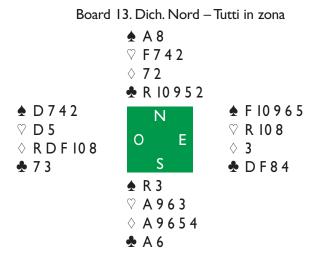


Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud	
Ricciarelli	Kratz	Baroni	Strater	
	passo	ISA	passo	
2♡	passo	2♠	fine	

Vi prego di non soffermarvi freddamente sull'esame nudo e crudo delle carte (scusate, ma ho pensato che trattandosi di bridge si poteva dire "nodo e CRODO"). Pensate che Est apre di ISA e che la licita prosegue abbastanza normalmente fino ad arrivare al tranquillo parziale a picche. Sud ha attaccato fiori e, alla vista del morto, Baroni ha virato la sua caratteristica abbronzatura al bianco. "Perbacco − avrà pensato − qui è più facile fare 10 prese che perderle". Dopo aver preso con l'Asso di fiori della mano, poi, ha tirato con una certa apprensione le due teste d'atout, riservandosi il sospiro di sollievo alla vista della 3/1. 3♠ mi, dopo aver ceduto due cuori, una quadri e la Dama di picche. Ricciarelli, prendendo le carte del board successivo, rimuginava nel suo intimo su quante cuori facevano gli avversari. La rispos-

ta era 5, esattamente come 5♦, e il tutto con 18 punti in linea, di cui 4 inutili, e senza mai essere entrati in licita! Ah però, verrebbe da dire. Come valutate questa mano? Un netto guadagno. Sì, bravi, ci avete azzeccato, ma purtroppo per la linea sbagliata in quanto nell'altra sala i nostri, in N/S, sono riusciti ad entrare in licita al rallentatore (vuol dire al secondo giro) sull'apertura di ISA di Est, e si sono pure appoggiati a cuori, competendo per quanto possibile ma fermando tutti i giochi sulle 4♠ avversarie. Ecco, il punto è questo: ora, vista l'interferenza, il dichiarante è riuscito a pizzicare la Dama di picche realizzando le sue 10 prese. Non si può dire che la giustizia non ci sia proprio, diciamo che si è bloccata troppo presto.

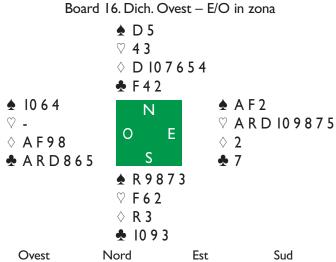
Cambia il turno, cambiano le posizioni, cambiano gli avversari, e ho il piacere di presentarvi zia Celestina. E' la zia di Baroni e la vedremo in azione presto.



Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
Tedd	Ricciarelli	Jourdain	Baroni
	passo	passo	ISA
passo	2♣	passo	2♡
passo	3♡	passo	4♡
fine			

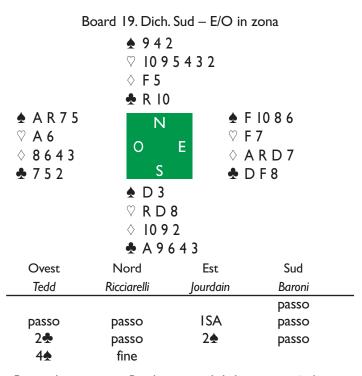
Dovete sapere che la parola "limite" fa venire l'orticaria a Baroni, per cui il 37 di Ricciarelli prendetelo per un transfer per 4\nabla. Ovest ha stupito tutti attaccando Re di quadri dai suoi cento d'onori rinforzati e Baroni è entrato con l'Asso per giocare piccola cuori. Tedd ha preso con la Dama e ha proseguito con due onori di quadri. Il secondo è stato tagliato con il Fante del morto e surtagliato da Est con il Re. Sud ha poi catturato in mano il ritorno picche, ha incassato l'Asso di cuori raccogliendo le residue atout e ha chiuso la manodopera tagliando due fiori in mano e reclamando 10 prese. "Questa la faceva anche mia zia Celestina", ha detto Baroni. Sì, è probabile, ma spostando con la cortesia dovuta alle anziane signore zia Celestina da Sud a Est, avremmo visto che la parente di Baroni gioca pure bene in quanto avrebbe rifiutato il surtaglio con il Re di cuori sul Fante battendo irrimediabilmente la mano. Sbrigatevi a prenotare zia Celestina per il prossimo misto.

Est, Patrick Jourdain, si è rifatto in licita poco dopo.

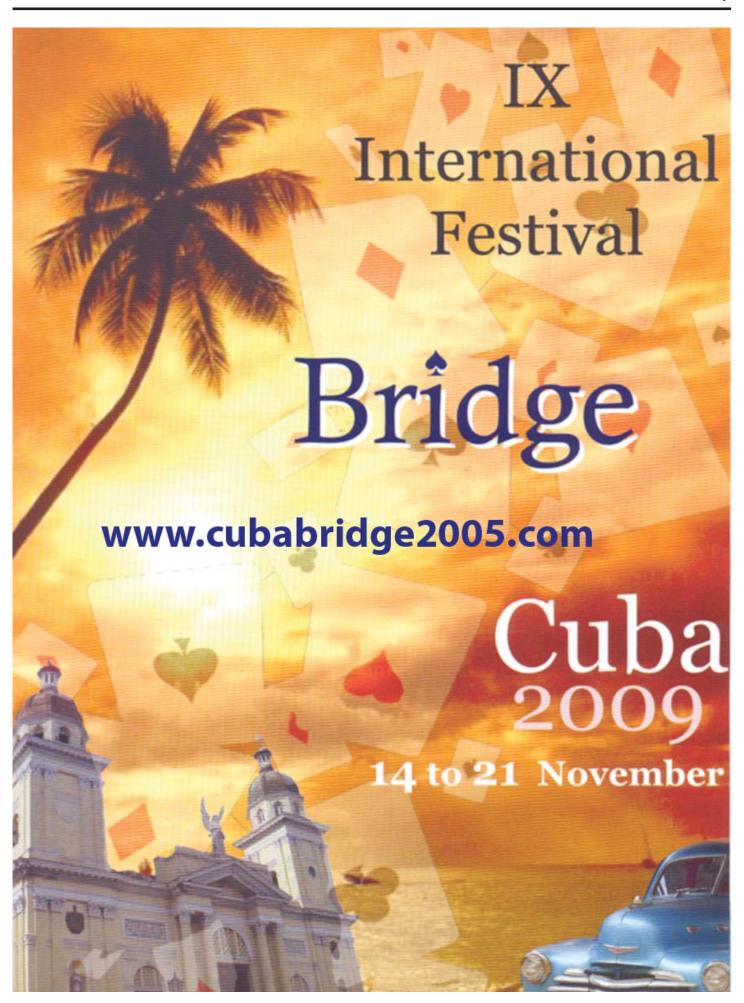


Ovest	Nord	Est	Sud
Tedd	Ricciarelli	Jourdain	Baroni
♣	passo	2♡	passo
3♣	passo	4SA	passo
5♦	passo	5♡	passo
7♣	passo	7SA	fine

Prima di dire che Est è andato completamente a peso, aspettate un attimo. Quando ha chiesto gli Assi, infatti, era stabilito per sistema che il fit fosse a fiori e 5♦ sono 3 carte chiave (i due Assi ed il Re di fiori). 5♥ è richiesta di Dama d'atout e 7♣ accenna al fatto che la Dama di fiori c'è ed è in gran salute. Ora, atteso che le cuori filino, le prese sono 13. Clapclap.



Baroni ha attaccato Re di cuori e il dichiarante si è districato entrando con l'Asso, tirando l'Asso di picche, trasferendosi in mano a quadri, catturando la Dama di picche, battendo il terzo giro d'atout, tirando tutte le quadri e mettendo in presa Sud a cuori per la successiva uscita a fiori. "Zia Celestina avrebbe battuto la mano – ha detto Baroni-. Lei, infatti, avrebbe attaccato piccola fiori con le mie perché, com'è noto, se l'attacco vuoi che punga, devi farlo dalla lunga...."



# OPEN PAIRS - QUALIFYING (standings after 2 sessions - provisional)

	, , ,				
- 1	CHMURSKI - PUCZYNSKI	62,51	60	THORESEN - OVESEN DESMOULINS - COUNIL BRUNET - ANCESSY LHUISSIER - FRANCESCHETTI DOXIADIS - KONTOMITROS	53,46
2	VOLHEJN - KOPECKY ZUCCO - TRAPANI PALAU - GUILLAUMIN MCINTOSH - SANDQVIST TESLA - STANICIC MAAT - MEER MUZZIO - ANGELERI LAKATOS - SZALAY GROMOV - DUBININ TISLEVOLL - LINDQVIST KRAVCHENKO - SHOKHAN	62,12	61	DESMOULINS - COUNIL	53,34
3	ZUCCÓ - TRAPANI	60,68	62	BRUNET - ANCESSY	53,13
4	PALAU - GUILLAUMIN	60,17	63	LHUISSIER - FRANCESCHETTI	53,13
5	MCINTOSH - SANDOVIST	60,02	64	DOXIADIS - KONTOMITROS	53,11
6	TESLA - STANICIC	59,88	65	DOXIADIS - KONTOMITROS KRZEMINSKI - WALINSKI	53,06
7	MAAT - MFFR	59, <del>4</del> 9	66	KRZEMINSKI - WALINSKI FILIPOWICZ - CIESLAK	52,97
8	MI 17710 - ANGELERI	58,89	17	COLDEA TEODORESCIA	F2 04
9	I AK ATOS - SZALAY	58,77	68	COLDEA - TEODORESCU ENGEL - WEBER SADEK - HUSSEIN BREWIAK - STASIAK BLAZENCIC - RASE SUWIK - RADZIAK HOMONNAY - WINKLER	52,93
10	GROMOV - DURININI	58,23	69	SADEK - HI ISSEINI	52,89
H	TISLEVOLL LINDOVIST	58,18	70	BDE/VIAK STASIAK	52,86
12	KRAVCHENKO - SHOKHAN	50,10	71	DI AZENICIO DACE	52,81
13	PRINNED LIGHTAND	57,71	72	CLIVATIV DADZIAV	52,01
13	CIPOLLET ELELIBY	57,36 E7 30	73	SOVVIN - KADZIAN	52,61
	CLEEFE KENDDICK	57,37	73	TEMPOLIDET VILANII	52,53
15	CLEEFF - KEINDRICK	5/,01	74 75	MARTYNEK CLEMB	52,50
16	BRUNNER - HOLLAND GIROLLET - FLEURY CLEEFF - KENDRICK AASAN - JOHANSEN VOLDOIRE - SAPORTA URBANSKI - WOLINSKI LOUCHART - CRESTEY	56,78	75 74	HOMONNAY - WINKLER TEMBOURET - KILANI MARTYNEK - SLEMR ZAREMBA - ZAK	52,46
17	VOLDOIRE - SAPORTA	56,/6	76	ZAREMBA - ZAK	52,46
18	URBANSKI - WOLINSKI	56,63	77	MISZEWSKA - ZAKRZEWSKI	52,45
19	LOUCHART - CRESTEY	56,42	78	TRENDAFILOV - RADKOV	52,43
20	BAUSBACK - LOLI GILLIN	36,20	79	KHAZANOV - LEBEDEVA	52,32
21	GUARINO - CARPENTIERI		80	KHAZANOV - LEBEDEVA FISCHER - SAURER GROMOELLER - KIRMSE	52,26
22	KRYSZTOFCZYK - KRYSZTOFIAK		81	GROMOELLER - KIRMSE	52,26
23	AGGELOPOULOS - OIKONOMOPOULOS	55,83	82	BURAS - LASZCZAK	52,20
24	ROTARU - STIRBU	55,82	83	ASH - McPHEE	52,10
25	HANLON - CARROLL	55,76	84	PONT - FRUTOS	52,05
26	CARCASSONNE-LABAERE - LABAERE	55,76	85	SOLNTSEV - VOROBEI	51,77
27	KLIMACKI - KOPRON	55,70	86	ERBIL - PEYRET	51,76
28	KLIMACKI - KOPRON ROBSON - ALLFREY RINGSETH - STOKKVIK CAITI - PATTACINI LOHAY - HENC GIERULSKI - SKRZYPCZAK NEDKOV - TENEV	55,51	87	GROMOELLER - KIRMSE BURAS - LASZCZAK ASH - McPHEE PONT - FRUTOS SOLNTSEV - VOROBEI ERBIL - PEYRET RATYNSKI - OHRYSKO VERBEEK - BRANTSMA LUNGU - MICESCU MUSSO - MINERO SIMONSEN - SKJETNE MAKARUK - NIEDZIELSKI ROMBAUT - TIGNEL KOPSTAD - HOMME SAELENSMINDE - AUSTBERG	51,73
29	RINGSETH - STOKKVIK	55,50	88	VERBEEK - BRANTSMA	51,68
30	CAITI - PATTACINI	55.45	89	LUNGU - MICESCU	51,66
31	LOHAY - HENC	55.44	90	MUSSO - MINERO	51,61
32	GIFRUI SKI - SKRZYPCZAK	55.44	91	SIMONSEN - SKIETNE	51,54
33	NEDKOV - TENEV	55,34	92	MAKARUK - NIFDZIFI SKI	51,53
34			93	ROMBALIT - TIGNEL	51,43
35	DEBUS - VAN MECHELEN MARTENS - JASSEM CHAMBERS - GOBERT GIGLI - GIOVE SVENDSEN - BERG	55,18	94	KOPSTAD - HOMME	51,40
36	CHAMBERS - GOBERT	55,17	95	SAELENSMINDE - AUSTBERG	51,35
37	GIGHT GIOVE	54,96		SAUVAGE - BOGACKI	51,35
38	SVENIDSENI DEDC	5 <del>4</del> ,92	97		51,33
	LEWACIAK - BELING	5 <del>1</del> ,72		JELENIEWSKI - WACHNOWSKI	51,32
40	RUBINS - BETHERS	5 <del>4</del> ,72	99		
				YADLIN - FRIEDLANDER	51,28
41	UGGERI - ASTORE	54,66	100	MIRAGLIA - NATTA	51,28
42	HOILAND - BREKKA	54,47	101	PIETRASZEK - UKRAINSKI	51,28
43	GWINNER - MARGOT	54,40	102	IONITA - FLORIN	51,24
44	SZTYRAK - JANISZEWSKI	54,32	103	WITTEVEEN - WARENDORF	51,21
45	ZARA - ELIAN	54,27	104	DUMBOVICH - GOTTHARD	51,20
46	KHVEN - RUDAKOV	54,24	105	CIMA - MIOZZI	51,08
47	KIRCHHOFF - DRENKELFORD	54,21	106	GOLFARELLI - NATALE	51,03
48	FITZGIBBON - MESBUR	53,91	107	WALSH - GOODMAN	50,91
49	FRANZEL - KRIFTNER	53,87	108	PATELLI - PAROLARO	50,90
50	TACIUC - MARINA	53,85	109	MAUBERQUEZ - HERTZ	50,78
51	SCHILHART - BUCHLEV	53,76	110	NARKIEWICZ - INGIELEWICZ	50,76
52	MORATH - EFRAIMSSON	53,69	111	GOTARD - LESNICZAK	50,76
53	BEAUMIER - PELISSON	53,62	112	MARINI - CATA	50,75
54	SENIOR - MIZEL	53,61	113	REETH - FREJACQUES	50,71
55	MAURINS - BALASOVS	53,58	114	FURUNES - HALLBERG	50,65
56	KROEJGAARD - KROEJGAARD	53,56	115	NOWOSADZKI - WIANKOWSKI	50,64
57	ANDREEV - ERSHOV	53,53		HONTI - HARANGOZO	50,49
58	EIDI - VROUSTIS	53,49		FERANCHUK - GODUN	50,45
59	ZOZIS - KOUKOUSELIS	53,48	118	SEBBANE - VOLCKER	50,41
		-			•

119	FILIP - VELECKY	50,39	182	MAZALU - VIDAMI	47,37
120	HACKETT - ALEXANDER	50,37	183	FRONTAURA - MULLER	47,24
121	KEAVENEY - THOMAS	50,33	184	PETRUNIN - STERKIN	47,18
122	CSATLOS - HITTMANN	50,32		VANDEREET - DEVIGNE	47,11
123	CLAIR - TOTARO	50,30	186	AKSUYEK - MATTHIJS	47,00
124	RADULESCU - STEGAROIU	50,29	187	GILBOA - WAX	46,95
125	LIN - CHIEN	50,20	188	DEWASME - BOCKEN	46,91
126	GAROZZO - MARTINI	50,02	189	MATISONS - ALFEJEVA	46,87
127 128	TOP - PETERS	50,00	190	MARMONTI - MASSA	46,71
120	SMIRNOV - PIEKAREK ZHURAVEL - KARBANOVICH	49,97 49,93	191 192	TOMASZEK - MODRZEJEWSKI TATARKIN - SHANURIN	46,66 46,59
130	CHARLSEN - HOFTANISKA	49,93 49,92	192	VAINIKONIS - OLANSKI	46,32
131	VOINESCU - MANDRUTA	49,83	194	RYAN - BEIJDORFF	46,16
132	GOMEROV - ZAPADINSKIY	49,77	195	SALTELLI - MASOERO	45,91
133	ZANONI - MORELLI	49,68	196	GODED - VINCENT	45,88
134	GAGLIETTO - ROSTI	49,59	197	CORSICO PICCOLINO - GOBBI	45,78
135	MURGIA - BATTAGLIA	49,47	198	LEVI - STAVRINOS	45,69
136	DUDZIK - NOWOWIEJSKI	49,43	199	MAGRI - BARTOLOTTI	45,66
137	DUBINI - LANG	49,38	200	FERRAMOSCA - SALVADORI	45,57
138	HEGEDUS - SZEGEDI	49,37	201	ALLIX - LIBBRECHT	45,55
139	PENCHARZ - DHONDY	49,32	202	VANDERVORST - FRENCKEN	45,50
140	MASCARUCCI - BORLA	49,30	203	STAHL - FAEHR	45,49
141	LEBATTEUX - COUDERT	49,27	204	COLINET - MEYER	45,47
142	BUDKIN - MAYANTZ	49,26	205	CIECHOMSKI - CZUBAK	45, <del>4</del> 7
143	POTIER - BO	49,26	206	BEAUCHAMP - ADAMS	45,45
144	ZADEL - MIKIC	49,23	207	FRANCESCONI - IOMMI	45,28
145	GLOYER - LAUSS	49,20	208	KUPELIAN - DUPONT	45,21
146	POSKA - JANKAUSKAS	49,18	209	VALIMARESCU - OJOGA	44,85
147	LORENZINI - GROSSET	49,12	210	KOVALCHUK - KOLYADENKO	44,78
148	RINALDI - DE MICHELIS	48,99	211	DOBRZYNSKI - DZIKOWSKI	44,69
149	AVCIOGLU - OZTURK	48,89	212	NEGOESCU - IGNATESCU	44,59
150 151	PAUNCZ - FOSSI	48,88 48,87	213 214	TUNSANU - TEODORECI	44,36 44,35
152	SMILGAJS - SHUDNEV BOS - BERKERS	48,81	215	ALZATI - GERARDI DE VINCENZO - MORINO	44,28
152	BENATAR - GLAZER	48,69	216	ULUG - ULUG	44,19
154	MALINOWSKI - DE BOTTON	48,62	217	SIRAKOPOULOU - LIOSSIS	43,77
155	NOVAK - AMBROZ	48,58	218	MCLEISH - MCLEISH	43,73
156	FORGE - VENTOS	48,54	219	STAVRACHE - KOVACS (2)	43,66
157	BOSS - JOHNSON	48,53	220	BROGELAND - GILLIS	43,50
158	CAPPELLER - SCHINZE	48,42	221	ASSUERO - BONAVERA	43,49
159	LAUER - SPALOVSKY	48,28	222	MORARU - BALINT	43,37
160	DELIMPALTADAKIS - DIONYSOPOULOS	48,23	223	KITA - GLASEK	43,16
161	FEBER - CERNAT	48,23	224	MICHELIN - FEIGENBAUM	43,12
162	PULKRAB - KRASA	48,20	225	PATTENIER - KAMERBEEK	43,09
163	CIVGINER - SEN	48,16	226	VAINIKONIS - ARLOVICH	43,01
164	HARDING - HOYLAND	48,03	227	KALIDA - KWIATKOWSKI	42,99
165	NICOLODI - PARRELLA	47,95	228	KASIMIR - JOKISCH	42,85
166	UYSAL - SIRIKLIOGLU	47,93	229	PAPADOPOULOS - THEOTOKIS	42,67
167	ZHUKOV - TIMAKHOVICH	47,92	230	MONTIERI - LATTUNEDDU	42,50
168	KANE - SHIELDS	47,91	231	PANTELI - CHASKOPOLOU	41,90
169	PIEDRA - CAPONI	47,83	232	CALDARELLI - CAPORALETTI	41,77
	JASKIEWICZ - TOKARZ	47,77	233	MARRO - SANT	41,75
171	LACROIX - PIGNOL CIRILLO - BUSSOTTI	47,72	234	McGUIRE - RAILING	41,56
172 173	GRZELCZAK - STASIOLEK	47,67 47,64	235 236	ZARKESCH - BOEDDEKER CEROCCHI - MECCARIELLO	41,55 41,20
173	CEREDA - MEARINI	47,63	237	BOGEN - HOLAND	41,08
174	ANFINSEN - SOLHEIM	47,63 47,61	238	DAWSON - ADAMS	40,53
175	STIENEN - BOSKLOPPER	47,61 47,61	239	ZAMPERETTI - PIGARELLI	40,48
177	DOBRIN - CHERNYAK	47,57	240	VAN MIDDELEM - COOREMAN	
178	HUGONY - CERRETO	47,54	241	CHANDRA - WOJCIECHOWSKI	
179	MAI - CHIARO	47,53	242	LIPNITSKI - RAMANOVICH	39,40
180	EIJCK - HERMANS	47,48	243	SEBE - SEBE	38,58
181	MUNTEANU - MUNTEANU	47,46	244	ZLOBICH - HAPONAVA	37,13
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