

NETHERLANDS AND POLAND ARE CHAMPIONS



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SCHEDULE

PAIRS

10.00 - 13.20	1 st session
15.00 - 18.00	2 nd session

The Netherlands won the right to call themselves 2019 IMSA World Masters Open champions when they led throughout in defeating France by 94-56 in Thursday's final. The Dutch team comprised Bart Nab and Bob Drijver, Sjoert Brink and Bas Drijver, and Simon de Wijs and Bauke Muller. China defeated Norway by 121-78 in the third-place play-off.

Meanwhile, Poland became the 2019 IMSA World Masters Women's champions by beating Sweden by 106-68, also leading throughout. The Polish team is Cathy Baldysz and Sophia Baldysz, Justyna Zmuda and Katarzyna Dufurat, and Anna Sarniak and Danuta Kazmucha. England defeated China in the third-place match by 91-76.

Friday sees the start of the Pairs Championships. In both the Open and Women's series there will be 12 pairs taking part, playing four 22-board sessions with barometer scoring (for the uninitiated, that means everyone plays the same boards at the same time so that up-to-date rankings can be produced, adding significantly to the excitement of the event. The pairs will play two sessions on Friday and two on Saturday. Good luck to all.





MECKWELLIAN

by **Mark Horton**

As you doubtless know, the Oxford English Dictionary adds new words every three months. (The less well-known Uxbridge English Dictionary also adds new words, but concentrates on improving their definitions in a humorous way, for example: Champagne - to fake injury.)

Will the OED accept *Meckwellian* (bidding 3NT with inadequate values and usually making it)?

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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



♠ 8 6 4
♥ K 8 7
♦ Q J 6 5
♣ 10 4 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ahlesved</i>	<i>Dufnat</i>	<i>Gronkvist</i>	<i>Zmuda</i>
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	All Pass		

North led the ♣3 and declarer won with the queen and ran the ♠9, an effortless nine tricks, +150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Baldysz</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Baldysz</i>	<i>Gronkvist</i>
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Once East upgraded her hand to a 15-17 1NT game was sure to be reached.

South led the ♦6 and declarer won with dummy's nine. I was expecting her to play a heart next (you have a 64.59% chance of developing two tricks) but she cashed the ♠K and ran the ten, scoring nine tricks, +600 and collecting 10 IMPs, giving Poland the early lead in the Final.



Katarzyna Dufnat

Catharine Ahlesved

Justyna Zmuda

Maria Gronkvist



MOVIE STAR

by **Mark Horton**

In my club players who lead the king from Kx are credited with making a movie star lead - most of the time they end up with egg on their faces, but when it works, they make the headlines.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ahlesved	Dufrat	Gronkvist	Zmuda
—	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led the ♥6 and declarer won with dummy's ace and played a spade for the jack, king and ace. She lost three tricks, +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Baldysz	Rimstedt	Baldysz	Gronkvist
—	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South led the ♦K!

Declarer won with the ace, crossed to dummy with a heart and played a spade for the jack, king and ace. South returned a diamond and North won and played a third diamond, promoting a trump which meant the ♣K was the setting trick.

Declarer could have made the contract by ducking the opening lead, or, after crossing to dummy with a heart by playing a second heart, pitching a diamond - a type of scissors coup. Whatever, South and Sweden would happily accept the 12 IMP swing.



2019 IMSA

World Masters Championship



Ida Gronkvist



NETHERLANDS VS FRANCE

by **Brian Senior**

Open Teams Final, Round 1

The Netherlands had been the dominant force in the second round robin and came into the 48-board final full of confidence and momentum. However, they could take nothing for granted against a French team who also appeared to be coming into form at just the right time.

After a flat 3NT+1 for N/S, Board 2 was a thin game for E/W with plenty in the play and defence.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bernard	de Wijs	Lhuissier	Muller
–	–	1♣	1♠
2♥	2♠	Pass	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Brink	Mauberquez	Drijver	Oursel
–	–	1♣	1♠
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Both Easts opened the nice nine-count and both Souths overcalled. For France, Julien Bernard bid his hearts then jumped to 3NT to offer a choice of games and Nicolas Lhuissier left him to play there. At the other table, Sjoert Brink could use a transfer advance to get to the same position and he too was left to declare the no trump game. Both Norths led the jack of spades and both Souths won the ace.

Christophe Oursel switched to the queen of diamonds, Brink winning the king and taking the

club finesse. The ♣Q lost to the king and back came the queen of hearts to the king and ace. After some thought, Eric Mauberquez returned the nine of hearts to his partner's jack and Oursel played the jack of diamonds to dummy's ace. Brink had no need of dummy's club winners, however, so defensive hopes that he would have to cash them then concede a diamond at trick 13 were not realised. Instead, he could cash the ♦10 then cross to hand with that priceless eight of clubs to cash his major-suit winners; nine tricks for +400. Who would have thought that 3NT would be made with only one club trick being won by declarer?

In the other room, Bauke Muller led the jack of diamonds at trick two. Bernard won the king and cashed the king of spades, pitching a diamond from dummy, before running the ♣Q. That looks to be an improvement on running the club at trick three, as declarer has an extra trick in the bag in case the defence can lock him in dummy. Anyway, Muller won the ♣K and switched to a low heart. That was more challenging than the queen as at our first table – if declarer went up with the king he would be down as the cards lay, while putting in the eight would see him lose to the nine and ace and he would have to get the diamond right when North now switched to that suit. But Bernard passed the test with flying colours, putting in the ten. That lost to the ace and he had the rest for +430 and 1 IMP to France.

The score was only 4-1 to the Netherlands after seven boards, when we finally saw a major swing.



Sjoert Brink, Netherlands

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bernard	de Wijs	Lhuissier	Muller
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Brink	Mauberquez	Drijver	Oursel
1♣	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Brink got to 3NT via an inverted club raise, Bernard via a transfer response denying a major.

Simon de Wijs led the two of hearts to the ten, queen and duck. Muller returned a heart to declarer's king and Bernard played king of clubs followed by the losing club finesse, and Muller cleared the hearts. Bernard led a diamond to the king and ace and de Wijs, rather than cash the defensive heart winner and conceivably rectify the count for a squeeze, returned a low spade to the king and ace. Bernard cashed the clubs but there was no squeeze and the contract was down one for -50. What was amusing was that, after working hard to establish the fourth heart, both defenders discarded their heart winner on the fifth club so the setting trick was actually a diamond, not a heart.

Mauberquez led a spade, Brink ducking the king and ducking again on the spade return. Mauberquez won the queen and, of course, could not read the spade position so played a third round. Brink won and took an immediate club finesse. That lost and back came a diamond to the king and ace, but that established his ninth trick; +400 and 10 IMPs to the Netherlands.

Had Brink won the first spade, the defence might have read the position and, with the club offside, he might have needed to establish both a second spade winner and a diamond trick, putting him a tempo behind if they could find a heart switch. Getting the defence to continue spades avoided any such worries. Also, had North held ♠Q98xx, ducking might have

been necessary in case South was getting in with the ♣Q and the spades would be cleared ready for when North won the ace of diamonds.

On Board 10 the French E/W pair bid a thin but playable 3NT which went three down for -300 while their Dutch counterparts played a safe partscore for +110 and 9 IMPs to the Netherlands.

Board 11. Dealer South. Nine Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Bernard	de Wijs	Lhuissier	Muller
–	–	–	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Brink	Mauberquez	Drijver	Oursel
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
All Pass			

Oursel opened 1♠, caught a simple raise, and made what was at the time just a game try. However, when Mauberquez accepted the game invitation, Oursel tried for slam by asking for key-cards. The answer of zero was a bit of a disappointment and he quickly signed off in 5♠, where there were just the two aces to be lost; +450.

I'm afraid that I am not familiar with the intricacies of the Dutch Tarzan Club, beyond the fact that 1♣ was 16+, 1♦ 0-7, and 1♥ started a series of relays. But then you could probably have worked that out without any help from me – sorry. Eventually, Muller knew all that he needed to know and he could settle

for 4♠, but with the vagaries of the relay responses having made de Wijs declarer. Lhuissier led a cunning nine of hearts so de Wijs had an extra overtrick for +480 and 1 IMP to the Netherlands.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bernard</i>	<i>de Wijs</i>	<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Muller</i>
Pass	1♣	3♥	Dble
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Brink</i>	<i>Mauberquez</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Oursel</i>
Pass	2♦	3♥	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Mauberquez opened a strong and artificial 2♦ and Oursel doubled the pre-emptive overcall to show some values. Despite the solid five-card spade suit, Mauberquez judged to play in 3NT, thinking that nine tricks might be easier than 10. Four Spades is a better contract than 3NT, of course, but the diamonds were blocked so that 3NT would have been successful even had Bas Drijver found an inspired lead. On his actual choice of a heart Mauberquez claimed 11 quick tricks for +660.

At the other table, de Wijs opened a strong club and again there was a pre-emptive 3♥ overcall. Muller too doubled to show some values then raised the forcing 3♠ response to game. De Wijs thought for some time before deciding that he had enough extras to go on then used key-card and bid the small slam on finding that he was facing an ace. Of course, there were two diamonds off the top, but who would find a diamond lead? Sure enough, Lhuissier led the queen of hearts and de Wijs could win and draw trumps then ruff his third heart in the dummy and take a diamond pitch on the fourth club; +1430 and 13 IMPs to the Netherlands.

Board 13. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Both Easts opened 4♠ and played there.

Oursel led the two of hearts, Drijver winning dummy's ace and leading a spade to the jack, king and ace. Oursel found the diamond switch now to hold the contract to 10 tricks, but Drijver could win the diamond and draw trumps before trying the club finesse, so was in no danger; +620.

Muller led the king of diamonds! Lhuissier won the ace and crossed to the ace of hearts to lead a spade up – jack, king, ace. Muller continued with his low diamond so de Wijs won that and returned a low diamond. Lhuissier was powerless. He ruffed with the ten of spades but that promoted a trump trick for Muller. Lhuissier cashed the queen of spades then tried the clubs but the king was not where he needed it to be and the contract was one down for –100 and 12 IMPs to the Netherlands.

Declarer could have succeeded by ducking at trick one, winning the diamond continuation and crossing to dummy to play a spade. When South won and returned a club, he would have to spurn the finesse, rising with the ace, ruffing a heart to hand then drawing trumps before letting North in with ♣K.



Bas Drijver, Netherlands

West	North	East	South
<i>Brink</i>	<i>Mauberquez</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Oursel</i>
1♥	1♠	2♣	3♠
4♦	4♠	5♦	Pass
Pass	5♠	Dble	All Pass

The only variation between the two auctions was that Lhuissier bid a natural $2\heartsuit$ on the East hand while Drijver bid $2\clubsuit$ to show diamonds. Both Norths took a phantom sacrifice when they bid $5\spadesuit$ over $5\heartsuit$, in that there are three clubs to be cashed against



Nicolas Lhuissier, France



Erick Mauberquez, France

an E/W contract, and even on a spade lead the three-zero trump split is just too much for declarer to overcome. However, $5\spadesuit$ was very close so $5\heartsuit$ was a wise investment.

Both Easts led their singleton heart and both defences managed, in different ways, to lose one of the four tricks that were now available to them.

Brink lost a trick immediately, when he put in the seven of hearts so there was no defensive ruff. Mauberquez won the heart and played the queen of spades from hand but Drijver resisted the temptation to put up the ace so Brink made his bare king and the two major-suit aces meant down one for -100.

Bernard overcame the trick one hurdle by winning the ♥A and, after quite some thought, judged to return the ten of hearts to give his partner a ruff – declarer had falsecarded with the five at trick one, but it seemed likely that he would be void in diamonds so there was no urgency about playing anything else. Lhuissier ruffed and – plonked the ace of spades on the table, so we were back to one down again; –100 and no swing.

The Netherlands had had very much the better of the set and led by 49-2. There were two more sets to play, but France would need to up their game if they were to recover against a team playing in both form and luck.




NETHERLANDS VS FRANCE

by **Brian Senior**

Open Teams Final, Round 2

Trailing by 2-49 after the first session, France needed to get some points back in set two, but the first two boards were dull, games and when the first swing came along it went to the Dutch.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ K 8 5 4 2	
	♥ 9 6 5 3	
	♦ A 9 2	
	♣ A	
♠ A 3	<div>WE</div>	♠ Q 10 9 6
♥ J 10 4		♥ K 7
♦ J 10 7 3		♦ 5 4
♣ K 10 9 4		♣ Q J 7 5 2
	♠ J 7	
	♥ A Q 8 2	
	♦ K Q 8 6	
	♣ 8 6 3	

West	North	East	South
<i>Oursel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Mauberquez</i>	<i>Brink</i>
–	–	–	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
<i>Nab</i>	<i>Cabanes</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Bessis</i>
–	–	–	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Facing a weak no trump type, Bernard Cabanes contented himself with offering a choice of trump suits for partscore and was left to play in 2♥. The lead was the queen of clubs to his bare ace and he took the heart finesse, ruffed a club, led the nine of diamonds to the king and ruffed dummy's last club. Next he led a heart to the ace followed by a spade to the king and had 10 tricks for +170.

Bas Drijver invited game and Sjoert Brink accepted. Christophe Oursel led the jack of diamonds and Brink won dummy's ace, cashed the ace of clubs, and led a heart. Eric Mauberequez put up the king but Brink won and led a spade to the king and a spade back to the

jack and ace. Oursel returned a diamond round to the eight so Brink ruffed his last club, led a heart to the queen, and had 11 tricks for +450 and 7 IMPs to the Netherlands.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ 10 4 2	
	♥ Q 6 2	
	♦ J 10 8 4	
	♣ K Q 4	
♠ K Q J 8 6	<div>North</div> <div>WestEast</div> <div>South</div>	♠ A 9
♥ 8 7 5		♥ A K J 9 4
♦ 6 5		♦ A K 7
♣ J 8 7		♣ A 6 3
	♠ 7 5 3	
	♥ 10 3	
	♦ Q 9 3 2	
	♣ 10 9 5 2	

West	North	East	South
<i>Oursel</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Mauberquez</i>	<i>Brink</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Nab</i>	<i>Cabanes</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Bessis</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Both Easts opened a strong and artificial 2♣ and rebid 2NT over the 2♦ negative/waiting response. West transferred to spades and East bid 3NT to deny spade support. I'm not sure what Bart Nab's 4♦ meant now but it collected 4♥ from Bob Drijver and Nab was happy to pass that (perhaps 3NT had shown five hearts as well as only two spades?).

Cabanes led the king of clubs, which Nab ducked. He won the diamond switch and cashed a top heart then played two more rounds of diamonds, ruffing. A trump finesse led to 12 tricks for +680.

Oursel raised 3NT to 4NT and Maubquerque went on with 5♥, presumably showing a five-card suit and willingness to play slam. Oursel jumped to 6NT and that was that. Brink led the two of clubs to the seven, queen and ace. Maubquerque cashed a top heart then all the spades before leading a heart to the jack and claiming all 13 tricks for +1470 and 13 IMPs to France. Was this to be the start of a big fightback?

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Oursel	Drijver	Maubquerque	Brink
1♠	2♦	2♥	3♦
4♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Nab	Cabanes	Drijver	Bessis
1♠	2NT	3♦	5♣
Pass	Pass	5♠	All Pass

Nab opened 1♠ and Cabanes overcalled 2NT, at least five-five in the minors. Three Diamonds was constructive spade raise and Bessis jumped to 5♣ as an advance save. Nab was unwilling to commit to the five level on his shapely 10-count, but his failure to double encouraged Drijver to do so. Five Spades made exactly for +450.

In the other room, Bas Drijver preferred to overcall a simple 2♦ – not my style, but no doubt he had his reasons. That allowed Maubquerque to introduce his heart suit and Oursel was happy to raise that to game. There were 13 tricks in a heart contract for +510 and 2 IMPs to France.

A heart grand slam is excellent yet one pair never bid hearts and the other made no move towards slam.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Oursel	Drijver	Maubquerque	Brink
–	–	1NT	2♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Nab	Cabanes	Drijver	Bessis
–	–	1NT	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	3♣	All Pass

Both Easts opened 1NT and both Souths overcalled to show hearts.

Brink's natural 2♥ overcall ended the auction and he soon had eight tricks for +110.

Bessis had to make a transfer overcall and that left Nab in pass-out seat and he balanced with a double, hitting Drijver with a very suitable hand for his action. Bessis led the king of hearts against 3♣, Drijver winning the ace and leading the jack of clubs. Bessis grabbed his ace and played queen then jack of hearts but Drijver could ruff with the king and draw the outstanding trumps. He rattled off the rest of the trumps now and came to 10 tricks when diamonds did not break; +130 and 6 IMPs to the Netherlands.



2019 IMSA
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Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Oursel	Drijver	Mauberquez	Brink
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Nab	Cabanes	Drijver	Bessis
–	–	–	Pass
1NT	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	3♠
All Pass			

Nab's mini 1NT opening saw Cabanes make a transfer overcall and Drijver balance when Bessis's 2♠ came round to him. That pushed Bessis up a level but he had no problem in making his contract. Nab led jack of hearts and, when that held the trick, a second heart. Bessis simply crossruffed hearts and clubs and had 10 tricks for +170.

Oursel did not have an opening bid in his methods so passed and Bas Drijver opened 1♠ in third seat. Brink responded 2♣, Drury, a constructive spade raise, and Drijver jumped to game. Mauberquez led a low club, Drijver winning the ace and leading a heart to his king. That lost and Mauberquez found the necessary trump switch. Drijver could play the crossruff but was a trump short in dummy and could come to only nine tricks; down one for –50 and 6 IMPs to France.



Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Oursel	Drijver	Mauberquez	Brink
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Nab	Cabanes	Drijver	Bessis
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Oursel opened 1NT and was soon in the no trump game after a Stayman sequence. Bas Drijver led the king of clubs and prospects didn't look great, requiring four tricks from each red suit as Oursel could not afford to lose the lead with all those clubs out. He won the club immediately and cashed a top diamond then attempted to split the hearts. Good news, hearts were three-three, so he cashed the thirteenth heart and led the jack of diamonds, played low from hand and, when he opened his eyes again found that he had four diamond tricks and his contract – no problem after all; +400.

Nab opened 1♦ as 1NT would have been much weaker and then raised heart on three cards rather than rebid 1NT with a small doubleton in an unbid suit. The partnership discovered that they had fits in three suits but no eight-card fit in a major. Eventually, Bob Drijver judged to play in 4♥, against which he got the inevitable club lead. Drijver ducked the club but had to win the continuation. He played the jack of spades and that held the trick, so continued with the king of spades. This time Bessis won the ace and gave his partner a ruff. Cabanes returned a trump so Drijver could win and draw those and take the diamond finesse for his contract; +420 and 1 IMP to the Netherlands.

Slightly more testing would have been for Cabanes to give declarer a ruff and discard after collecting his ruff. If declarer ruffs in dummy he will then cash the ace and queen of hearts and ruff the winning spade to get to hand to draw the last trump and take the diamond finesse.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nab</i>	<i>Cabanes</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Bessis</i>
–	–	1♥	Dble
Rdbl	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	Rdbl	Pass	1NT
Dble	All Pass		

When Brink doubled the 1♥ opening, Oursel just started to bid his hand and, when his partner confirmed the big misfit with his third-round jump

to 3♥, Oursel had nowhere to go but 3NT. Drijver led a low club and, seeing that to duck and get a heart shift would be bad news, Oursel won the ace of clubs and cashed the king of diamonds then played a spade up. Brink ducked so he won the king, rattled off the diamonds, and had the ace of hearts for his ninth trick and +400.

Oursel may have been relieved to get out of that deal with a game bonus and no problems and thought nothing more about the hand, but at the other table the French South also made the take-out double and Nab went in search of a penalty with a redouble.

Cabanes passed the problem round to his partner who had, after all, got them into this mess, and Bessis ran to 1♠. Nab passed that as double would have been for take-out, and was very happy to pass when the take-out double came from his partner. Cabanes suggested that his partner try again, and this time Bessis tried 1NT (why not 2♣?). Nab doubled that and no-one had anything more to say.

Nab cashed the ace of diamonds and must have been charmed to see the king appear from his partner and only four very small cards in the dummy. He rattled off five more rounds of diamonds, after which declarer was down to a 4-1-0-2 shape, and East 2-2-0-3. Nab led his club and Drijver let declarer win his king. Bessis played the ♥K so Drijver won that and played a spade, ducked. Nab won and had to play back a spade so Bessis won that and played a club and Drijver won the jack and ace but had to give the last trick to dummy with a heart; down four for -800 and 9 IMPs to the Netherlands.



Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Oursel	Drijver	Mauberquez	Brink
–	–	–	2♣
3♥	Pass	5♣	5♠
Pass	6♣	6♥	6♠
7♣	Dble	7♥	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Nab	Cabanes	Drijver	Bessis
–	–	–	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♣	5♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

Brink opened a strong artificial 2♣ and found the bidding at the five level before he had even begun to describe his hand. Well, I guess that an eight-four hand with a solid suit doesn't need that much description,

and Brink now bid 5♠, collecting a club cuebid from his partner, who had to be very interested with his ace, king, ace. Brink signed off in 6♠ over Mauberquez's 6♥ and Oursel, knowing of the double fit, took the save in 7♣, converted to 7♥ by Mauberquez, who probably thought his partner would have more than a five-card suit for his 3♥ overcall. Drijver cashed the king of diamonds then switched to a spade. Brink won that and switched back to diamonds and, after winning the jack, Drijver played ace and another club for his partner to ruff; down five for –1100 but a good save against the cold slam.

At the other table, Bessis opened 4♠ in classic French style – I always expect a Frenchman to have one or two tricks more than an Englishman for a four-level opening, though this hand is pretty heavy even then. Cabanes passed so the slam was about to be missed when Drijver overcalled 5♣ in pass-out seat. Bessis bid a fifth spade in front of his partner, at adverse vulnerability. Would Cabanes bid a sixth now? No, he passed, and now the slam was missed for good. However, Drijver wasn't done yet. Possibly Brink's pass was forcing at this level and if so you can understand why Drijver didn't want to bid any more. Anyway, Drijver doubled and Cabanes resisted the temptation to redouble which would have given his opponents an opportunity to run to 6♣. When Brink led his partner's suit, declarer's heart loser went away and Bessis had all 13 tricks for +1250 and 4 IMPs to France.

After 32 boards it was the Netherlands 83 France 28. There was one more 16-board set to play.



Eric Mauberquez

Sjoert Brink

Bas Drijver

Christophe Oursel



MISSING THE BOAT

by **Mark Horton**

There are many ways to lose points at the bridge table. One of the most annoying is failing to reach the optimum contract. Consider these five deals from the second session of the Women's Final:

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Kazamucha</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Sarniak</i>
Pass	1♣*	Dble	1♥*
2♦	Dble*	Rdbl	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

1♣ Balanced, 2+♣ 11-14; 4+♣ 15+ or 18+any
 1♥ Spades
 Dble Support double

It would not be a crime to reach 6♣ - it will make when you can bring in the clubs, which will happen 46.34% of the time.

Declarer took 12 tricks, playing East for four spades after ruffing a heart in dummy.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Zmuda</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Durfrat</i>	<i>Gronkvist</i>
Pass	1♣*	1NT	2♣*
2♦	Dble*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

1♣ 2+♣, (11)12-14/18-19 bal w/o 5M or natural unbalanced with (4)5+♣
 2♣ Majors
 Dble Values

Worried about the possibility of being forced in diamonds South decided not to go on to game. Eleven tricks meant the loss of 10 IMPs.



Board 22. South. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Kazamucha	Larsson	Sarniak
—	Pass	2♠*	All Pass

2♠ 6♠, 8-11

The perfect fit delivered ten tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmuda	Rimstedt	Durfrat	Gronkvist
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

2♣ Game forcing, semi-natural

That gave Poland 10 IMPs.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Kazamucha	Larsson	Sarniak
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♥*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2♦ 5+M 0-7 or 22-24 NT or GF with ♦

2♥ Pass or correct

3♥ Transfer

Unless 3NT promised two spades and five hearts, hearts were never in the picture and on a diamond lead declarer took all the tricks, +720.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmuda	Rimstedt	Durfrat	Gronkvist
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

1♣ 0+♣, 11-14 balanced or
4441♦ (4315/3415), 15+ 5+♣ or
4414, 18+ any

1♠ 4+♠, 7+

South led the ♥10 and declarer played to ruff a diamond in dummy, taking all the tricks and 12 IMPs.



Katarzyna Dufrat, Poland

Board 23. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Kazamucha	Larsson	Sarniak
1♠	2♦	2♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♣	Dble	Pass	Pass
Rdbl*	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♥	All Pass

4♠ Cue bid
5♣ Cue bid
Rdbl First round control
5♦ Cue bid
6♣ Cue bid

West was doing a lot of bidding missing the ♠AK. It was not enough to persuade East to go past 6♥.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmuda	Rimstedt	Durfrat	Gronkvist
1♠	2NT*	3♣*	5♣
5♥	Pass	6♦*	Pass
7♥	All Pass		

2NT Minors
3♣ Hearts
6♦ Cue bid

Fantastic bidding which gave Poland another 11 IMPs.

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Kazamucha	Larsson	Sarniak
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♠*
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

2♣ Game forcing, any
4♣ Cue bid
4♥ Cue bid
4NT RKCB
5♠ 2 keys + ♠Q

West led the ♥Q giving the defenders a trick, +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Zmuda	Rimstedt	Durfrat	Gronkvist
—	—	—	3NT*
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

3NT Sold 7/8 card major
4♥ Pass or correct

I'm sure North would have liked to bid 4♣ to ask for a possible shortage, but she could not tell which major suit her partner held. Bidding on over 4♠ risked finding partner with three small hearts.

Another 13 IMPs to Poland, who had picked up 56 IMPs on these five deals.



NETHERLANDS VS FRANCE

by **Brian Senior**

Open Teams Final, Round 3

Down by 55 with a set to play, France were in desperate need of a good start to the final session. They got it when Lhuissier/Bernard bid and made a thin 4♠, missed at the other table, for 7 IMPs. However, when Cabanes/Bessis tried their hand at another thin game on the next deal they found that partscore was the limit of the hands so the Netherlands won back 4 IMPs to lead by 52. Board 3 was a flat game and Board 4 saw an overtrick IMP to France. However, on the next deal the French E/W pair had a bidding misunderstanding – it looks as though one of them was playing 1♥ – 2♠ as a three-card limit raise and the other took it to be a weak jump shift. Anyway, 2♠ made 10 tricks but 4♥ made in the other room for 6 IMPs to the Netherlands.

On Board 6, E/W bid and made a cold 4♥ at both tables for +620. N/S had a cheap save if they could have found a sensible way into the auction but there wasn't one. On Board 7 France picked up an overtrick IMP in a dull 3NT, then along came yet another flat board, though with a little more interest to it.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ J 9 7
♥ J 6 5
♦ K 10 6 5 3
♣ 10 4

♠ A Q 6 3
♥ K Q
♦ 9 8
♣ Q 8 7 3 2



♠ K 10 8 5 2
♥ 10
♦ Q J 4
♣ J 9 6 5

♠ 4
 ♥ A 9 8 7 4 3 2
 ♦ A 7 2
 ♣ A K

West	North	East	South
<i>Nab</i>	<i>Lhuissier</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Bernard</i>
Cabanes	de Wijs	Bessis	Muller
1♣	Pass	1♠	4♥
All Pass			

Is it automatic to overcall 4♥ with such an empty suit or did Julien Bernard and Bauke Muller do very well to find the bid? Four Hearts proved to be quite cold, so it was flat at +420, but E/W had a paying save in 4♠ and would probably have found it on a slower auction.



Michel Bessis

Bauke Muller

Simon de Wijs

Bernard Cabanes

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nab	Lhuissier	Drijver	Bernard
–	Pass	1♣	1♥
Pass	Dble	Rdbl	1♠
2♦	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Cabanes	de Wijs	Bessis	Muller
–	1♦	1♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Rdbl	2♠
2NT	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Simon de Wijs opened a Precision 1♦ and Michel Bessis overcalled. After two passes, de Wijs reopened with a double and Bessis redoubled to show his strong hand. Bauke Muller jumped to 2♠ and now Bernard Cabanes found a nice 2NT bid to get across his minor two-suiter. that enabled the French pair to get into diamonds despite the opposing 1♦ opening and 3♦ made a very comfortable 10 tricks after the lead of the jack of clubs, just losing three aces; +130.

Nicolas Lhuissier opened 1♣ and again we saw the overcall, reopening double and redouble. Bernard bid only 1♠ on the South cards, leaving room for Bart Nab to introduce diamonds. When Bob Drijver showed diamond support, Nab made a 4♣ game try. Drijver accepted the try but suggested that 4♥ might be the place to play. Nab, of course, didn't fancy that and corrected to 5♦, which was doubled by Bernard. Lhuissier led the jack of hearts, Nab winning and playing a diamond to his king. Lhuissier won the ace and cashed the ♣A then switched to a spade to cash his partner's ace for a quick one down and –200; 8 IMPs to France.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nab	Lhuissier	Drijver	Bernard
1♣	1♠	2♦	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Cabanes	de Wijs	Bessis	Muller
1♦	1♠	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

When Lhuissier overcalled 1♠, Bas Drijver could bid 2♦ to show hearts and, when Brink merely completed the transfer, Drijver settled for the partscore. Rather stuck for a lead, Lhuissier tried the five of diamonds away from his king. Brink played dummy's six and it held the trick so he led a heart to his queen, losing to the ace, and back came the king of diamonds. Brink won the ♦A and played king then ten of hearts to Bernard's jack. He rose with the ace on the spade return, led a club to the ace, crossed to dummy with a diamond and ruffed out the ♣K to establish his tenth trick; +170.

Bessis had to bid a natural and forcing 2♥ at the other table and raised his partner's 2NT rebid to game. De Wijs would also have preferred his partner to be on lead but that wasn't an option so he tried the queen of spades, just in case there might be a bare queen somewhere. That held the trick so he switched to a low club in hope of finding Muller with something useful in the suit. Cabanes won the club and led a heart to the queen and ace and now de Wijs went back to spades, leading the jack. Cabanes won and led a heart to the ten and jack. Back came a club. He put in the queen, losing to the king, and de Wijs cleared the spades. The queen of diamonds went o the king and ace and Cabanes had three hearts and two in each of the other suits so nine tricks in all for +400 and 6 IMPs to France.

The match was over for all practical purposes. I liked the last two deals, purely from a teaching point of view. The French N/S pair, Lhuissier and Bernard showed

good discipline holding two hands with which many a club player would be over-optimistic and bid too much.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nab	Lhuissier	Drijver	Bernard
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♠	Dble	2♠
2NT	Dble	Rdbl	3♠
All Pass			

Bernard rased quietly to 2♠ over the double where some would hav eignored the vulnerability and raised pre-emptively to the three level – that really would hav emade it tough for partner stay out of game. But it is North's auction which should be educational for the average player. many would look at 18 HCP and bid game as soon as they fins trump support with partner. Lhuissier had an opportunity to show a good hand by doubling 2NT and his partner's 3♠ was the weakest call he could make over the redouble – weaker than pass – so Lhuissier trusted his partner and stopped at a making level. North has to listen to the whole

auction and appreciate that, for all those 18 HCP, there are a lot of potential losers in the hand, and most of the missing high cards are sitting over him.

I should add that the Dutch N/S pair also stopped short of game.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Nab	Lhuissier	Drijver	Bernard
1♣	2♠	All Pass	





This time it was Bernard's turn to show discipline. Despite holding 17 HCP, he did not try for game facing a favourable vulnerability weak jump overcall. Right he was, as even 2♠ proved to be too high.

Again, the Dutch N/S pair also stopped in 2♠.

France pulled back a few IMPs in the third set but never threatened to turn the match around on what was not the set of boards they needed to give them a chance. The final score was 94-56 in favour of the Netherlands. Congratulations to them, and commiserations to the losers. In the third-place play-off, China defeated Norway by 121-78 IMPs.







OPEN TEAMS, FINALS

		ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOTAL
	NETHERLANDS	49	34	11	94
	FRANCE	2	26	28	56
		ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOTAL
	CHINA	36	51	34	121
	NORWAY	15	45	18	78

RANKING:

1. NETHERLANDS 2. FRANCE 3. CHINA 4. NORWAY

WOMEN TEAMS, FINALS

		ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOTAL
	POLAND	31	58	17	106
	SWEDEN	21	10	37	68
		ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOTAL
	CHINA	24	23	29	76
	ENGLAND	36	25	30	91

RANKING:

1. POLAND 2. SWEDEN 3. ENGLAND 4. CHINA