



# 2017 IMSA Elite Mind Games

## 国际智力运动联盟智力运动精英赛

HUAI'AN, JIANGSU PROVINCE, CHINA • 9TH TO 15TH DECEMBER



"Bridge for Peace"

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## AND THE WINNERS ARE...



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### SCHEDULE

#### PAIRS

10.30	Session 1
16.30	Session 2

### ...France 🇫🇷 in the Open, Sweden 🇸🇪 in the Women.

France trailed China at the midpoint of the final session but swings of 13, 14 and 15 IMPs in quick succession clinched the title as they closed out the match by 109-88 IMPs. Congratulations to Jerome Rombaut, Cedric Lorenzini, Herve Vinciguerra, Vanessa Reess, Marc Bompis and Thomas Bessis (in photo order from left to right). Bulgaria defeated USA by 160-85 IMPs in the third-place play-off.

The lead changed hands several times as Sweden and England battled for supremacy in the Women's final, with Sweden finally coming out on top by 115-95 IMPs. Congratulations to Sandra Rimstedt, Jessica Larsson, Kathrine Bertheau, Cecilia Rimstedt, Sanna Clemensson and Ida Gronkvist (in photo order). USA defeated China by 118-88 in the third-place play-off.



## BIDDING QUIZ!

You are sitting West.  
IMPs, E/W Vul.

W	N	E	S
?	Pass	Pass	2♠

Your cards:

♠ –  
♥ A K Q J 10 6  
♦ A 10  
♣ A J 9 8 5

What's your bid?! The answers of our champions will be published tomorrow!

## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS FROM HUAI'AN

**Which are in your opinion the strongest open pair and women pair in the world?**



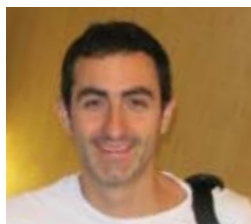
### **Zhao Jie, China**

Nowadays the gap among the pro pairs is very tiny. So it is hard to tell...  
In the open, my favourite pair is Sjoert Brink - Bas Drijver.  
In the women, Kerri Sanborn and whoever she plays with!



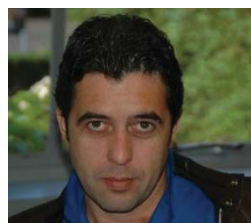
### **Sandra Rimstedt, Sweden**

I am biased because I have so many family members among the bridge pros!  
I would say Bobby Levin - Steve Weinstein in the open and  
Cecilia Rimstedt - Ida Gronkvist in the women.



### **Jerome Rombaut, France**

Too difficult... My favourite pair is probably Brad Moss-Justin Lall in the open  
and Sylvie Willard-Catherine d'Ovidio in the women.



### **Ivan Nanev**

Joe Grue-Brad Moss in the open. In the women I have no idea...

## ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S PROBLEM

IMPs. E/W Vul.

You are sitting West. Your cards:

♠ A K J

♥ K 9

♦ Q 5

♣ K Q J 10 6 2

West	North	East	South
	Pass	Pass	1♥
Dble	2NT*	Pass	3♥
?			

2NT = Good four-card heart raise

## The answers of the players in Huai'an:



**Cédric Lorenzini, France**

4♣. Strong with clubs.



**Kathrine Bertheau, Sweden**

Double. I think this is the best option.



**Jacek Pszczola, USA**

4♣.



**Fiona Brown, England**

4♣.



**Vanessa Reess, France**

Double. I can't pass and I prefer double to 4♣.





Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

♠ 5 4  
♥ A 7 6 5 4 2  
♦ K 10 3 2  
♣ 3

♠ Q 8 6  
♥ 9  
♦ Q 7 6  
♣ A Q J 7 6 4

♠ A 10  
♥ J 10 8 3  
♦ A 8 5 4  
♣ K 9 8

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shen</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Gronqvist</i>
—	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

East led the nine of hearts and West won with the ace as declarer followed with the king. Back went the seven of hearts and East ruffed and exited with the seven of diamonds. Declarer won with dummy's ace, took two rounds of trumps ending in dummy, pitched a diamond and a club on the hearts, ruffed a diamond and played a club, claiming ten tricks when the king held, +620.

I'll leave you to apportion the blame – personally I would have switched to a club at trick two.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Liu</i>
—	2♦ (i)	3♣	3♥ (ii)
Dble	3♠	Pass	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

- (i) Multi
- (ii) Pass or correct

I confess I would have been tempted to double 4♥.

North led the three of spades and South won with the ace and switched to the ten of hearts. Declarer ducked that to North's queen and the return of the diamond jack was covered by the queen and ace. South returned a diamond and declarer won with the king, cashed the ace of hearts and exited with a spade. North won and played a club and declarer took dummy's ace and pitched a diamond on the queen of spades, finishing three down, but collecting 10 IMPs.

## Open Room

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Sokolow</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>S.-Molson</i>
—	2♦ (i)	3♣	4♥*
All Pass			

- (i) Random weak two in a major

If East had passed the convention card makes it clear that 2♥/3♥ and 4♥ along with 2♠ and 3♠ are all pass or correct, so South thought the intervention made no difference. West led the two of hearts and declarer won with dummy's queen and continued with the king, East pitching the four of clubs and West ducking. Declarer played dummy's two of clubs and when East played the jack she followed with the nine?! The ace of clubs and a club saw West ruff declarer's king and she switched to the king of diamonds. Declarer won with the ace and played two rounds of spades, but West had already got rid of a spade and she ruffed the second one and played the two of diamonds, East winning with the queen and playing the queen of clubs. Declarer ruffed, but West discarded a diamond and claimed the rest, five down, -500.

Closed Room

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Sanborn</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Eythorsdottier</i>	<i>Draper</i>
—	2♠	3♣	All Pass

South started with two rounds of spades and North won and returned the jack of spades, South ruffing with the eight of clubs and switching to the jack of hearts. Declarer took dummy's ace and played a club for the queen and king, South exiting with a heart. Declarer ruffed, drew trumps and played the queen of diamonds, subsequently dropping North's jack to secure an eighth trick, -50 and a loss of 12 IMPs that put England ahead 16-6.





Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ J 9 4	
	♥ K Q 10 9	
	♦ Q 9 3	
	♣ Q 8 2	
♠ Q 6 2	<div style="background-color: #e06699; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W  E S </div>	♠ A K 10 8 5
♥ A 7 6		♥ 5
♦ J		♦ A K 8 4 2
♣ A J 10 6 5 4		♣ K 3
	♠ 7 3	
	♥ J 8 4 3 2	
	♦ 10 7 6 5	
	♣ 9 7	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shen	Rimstedt	Wang	Gronqvist
—	—	—	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦ (i)	Pass
3♣ (ii)	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT*	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT (iii)	Pass
5♥ (iv)	Pass	6♣	All Pass

- (i) Relay  
(ii) Minimum, 6+♣  
(iii) RKCB  
(iv) 2 key cards

I'm not sure about the meaning of 3♦, it may have been asking about stoppers, 3NT showing both majors held.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Lu	Larsson	Liu
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT (i)	Pass
5♠ (ii)	Pass	6♠	All Pass

- (i) RKCB  
(ii) 2 key cards + ♠Q

I was expecting East to bid 7♠ over 5♠, but she was probably worried about a heart lead that might remove a vital entry to dummy. On the other hand West might have held stronger clubs. On a diamond lead declarer took all the tricks to collect a couple of IMPs.

I had just started inputting this deal when the result from the Open Room flashed up – 4♠ by East. Before

I could check the auction the connection was lost – just as well from the English pair's point of view.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	Senior	Eythorsdottir	Draper
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4NT (i)	Pass
5♠ (ii)	Pass	6♦ (iii)	Pass
7♠	All Pass		

- (i) RKCB  
(ii) 2 key cards + ♠Q  
(iii) Grand slam try

That gave the USA 17 IMPs. It was a major blow to England's hopes leaving them behind 16-24.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ 3 2	
	♥ A J 7	
	♦ Q 6 2	
	♣ A K Q 9 3	
♠ 10 9	<div style="background-color: #e06699; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W  E S </div>	♠ 8 7 6 4
♥ 9 8 5		♥ K Q 6 3
♦ 7 3		♦ A K J 9 8
♣ J 10 7 5 4 2		♣ —
	♠ A K Q J 5	
	♥ 10 4 2	
	♦ 10 5 4	
	♣ 8 6	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shen	Rimstedt	Wang	Gronqvist
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

East led the king of diamonds, cashed the ace and switched to the king of hearts, declarer winning and returning a heart for plus 430.

A nice bid by South, but I wonder why East did not bid 2♥ over 1NT – it would have promised hearts and a minor – or 2♣, promising both majors.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Lu	Larsson	Liu
Pass	1♣ (i)	Dble*	1♠
Pass	1NT	2♦	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

- (i) 16+ balanced or 17+ unbalanced





It looks as if East's double showed the red suits.

South led a trump and declarer scored five diamonds and two hearts to finish one down, -100, worth 8 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.

	♠ 3		
	♥ 8 5		
	♦ Q 9 8 6 5 3 2		
	♣ 8 7 2		
♠ A J 7 2	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #e06666; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             N W (5) E S           </div>	♠ K 10 9 6	
♥ J 9 7 4		♥ Q 6	
♦ A 7		♦ K J 4	
♣ A 10 6		♣ K 9 5 4	
	♠ Q 8 5 4		
	♥ A K 10 3 2		
	♦ 10		
	♣ Q J 3		

In the Open Room Fiona Brown had taken eleven tricks in 4♠ for +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	Senior	Eythorsdottier	Draper
—	3♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led the king of hearts, cashed the ace and then played the ten of diamonds. Declarer took North's queen with the jack and, perhaps worried about losing a trick to a hypothetical doubleton queen with North, made the surprising play of a spade to the ace, followed by a spade to the ten and queen, North pitching a diamond. South exited with a spade and declarer won with the king and played a diamond. South's ruff was the setting trick.

If declarer draws the outstanding trump, cashes the jack of hearts, unblocks the diamond ace, comes to hand with a club and plays the king of diamonds South will be squeezed.

England had a lifeline in the shape of the 13 IMPs they gained.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

	♠ 7		
	♥ Q 9 7		
	♦ 6 4 2		
	♣ A Q J 8 3 2		
♠ K 8	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #e06666; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             N W (5) E S           </div>	♠ A J 10 5 4 3	
♥ A K 10 5		♥ 8 4 2	
♦ J 9 7 5 3		♦ Q	
♣ 7 6		♣ K 5 4	
	♠ Q 9 6 2		
	♥ J 6 3		
	♦ A K 10 8		
	♣ 10 9		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brock	Sokolow	Brown	S.-Molson
—	—	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the king of spades and continued the suit, East putting in the ten, declarer winning with the queen and running the ten of clubs. When it lost the defenders could cash out for four down, +400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sanborn	Senior	Eythorsdottier	Draper
—	—	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

DAN STEVENS

CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER

JONATHAN PRYCE

# THE MAN WHO INVENTED CHRISTMAS

Based on the inspiring true story

How Charles Dickens wrote *A Christmas Carol* and created a tradition.




**KATHRINE BERTHEAU**

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shen	Rimstedt	Wang	Gronkvist
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

You can understand why North bid 3NT, but looking for a heart fit would have been a good idea – it takes a diamond lead to beat 6♥.

If East had led her partner's suit 3NT would have been at least two down, but she opted for the seven of hearts and declarer had no trouble establishing dummy's spades for +660.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bertheau	Lu	Larsson	Liu
1♣*	Pass	1♦	2♠
All Pass			

Bidding 2♠ with a decent suit and terrific support for the other major looks dubious -and it resulted in a loss of 10 IMPs when declarer settled for ten tricks.

It was a fantastic result for Sweden, who had outscored the World Champions 73-4 for a maximum 20-0 which moved them on to 74.12, well clear of England, who also advanced to the final by defeating the USA 44-24, 15.00-5.00 to move on to 61.46.

West led the king of hearts and switched to the three of diamonds. Declarer took East's queen with the ace and ran the ten of clubs. When it held she repeated the finesse and East won and switched to the ten of spades. When it held she cashed the ace of spades and then played the four of hearts. West took the ace but that was the last trick for the defence, -100 but 7 IMPs for England, ahead 36-24.

They were now in control of their own destiny, as Sweden were demolishing China, and they added a further 8 IMPs over the closing deals.

At the point where East cashed the ace of spades try the effect of exiting with a club! If declarer cashes dummy's club winners her own hand will be squeezed and she must go two down.

Board 28 Dealer West. NS Vul.

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


**LIU YAN**





## MIRACLE ON 34<sup>TH</sup> STREET

by **Mark Horton**

*Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* an American Christmas comedy-drama film revolving around the possibility that Santa Claus (in the guise of Kris Kringle) really does exist. The story takes place between Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day in New York City, and focuses on the impact of a department store Santa Claus who claims to be the real Santa. The film has become a perennial Christmas favourite. The film won four Academy Awards but was beaten for best picture by *Gentleman's Agreement*.

When you contest a major final you certainly don't mind receiving a few presents from your opponents – and you hope that no miracles will be required in order for you to win the match.

Let's see how events unfolded as Sweden and England faced off in the first session of the final of the women's teams.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
Pass	1♣	Dble	Pass
1♥	1♠	Pass	Pass
Dble (i)	2♣	Dble (ii)	2♠
3♦	All Pass		

- (i) Takeout
- (ii) Takeout

North led the ace of clubs and continued with the two. Declarer pitched a heart from dummy and South ruffed, cashed the king of hearts and played a second heart to North's ace. Declarer ruffed the club return high and could claim nine tricks, +110.

Here's a thought.

Suppose West prefers 3NT to 3♦ (after all, there is a bonus for making a vulnerable game).

If North leads a low club nine tricks are readily available via a spade finesse. If North starts with a spade then declarer can put in dummy's jack and play the jack of hearts (a manoeuvre I recall being suggested by Terence Reese in *Play These Hands with Me*) to build a heart trick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gronkvist</i>	<i>Godfrey</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Smith</i>
Pass	1♣	1♦	Pass
3♣ (i)	4♣	4♦	All Pass

- (i) Good raise in diamonds

South led her club and North won with the king and returned the two. Declarer ruffed high and cashed the king of diamonds. When the 4-0 split was revealed she had to go one down, -100 and 5 IMPs to England.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ K3		
♥ 8 7 3		
♦ A 4 3		
♣ K J 8 6 3		
♠ A 10 7 2		♠ 6 4
♥ 6		♥ Q J 9 2
♦ K 6		♦ Q J 10 9 5 2
♣ A 10 9 5 4 2		♣ Q
♠ Q J 9 8 5		
♥ A K 10 5 4		
♦ 8 7		
♣ 7		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
—	—	—	1♠
2♣	Pass	2♦	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	Dble	All Pass

West led the king of diamonds and declarer ducked, took the next diamond with dummy's ace, played a heart to the ace, a spade to the king and a spade to

Double-dummy merchants will have spotted that 3NT can be made – declarer wins the second diamond and runs the eight of hearts. Then a heart to the ten can be followed by a club to the king and West will be helpless in the endgame (you can even make an overtrick if you postpone the club play and run the nine of spades!)

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gronkvist</i>	<i>Godfrey</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	—	1♠
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	


West led the king of diamonds and declarer ducked, won the next diamond with dummy's ace, played a heart to the king and a spade to the king. When that held she continued with a spade to the eight and West won with the ten and returned the seven, East ruffing with the nine of hearts as declarer pitched dummy's remaining diamond. The defenders still had a club and a heart to come, two down, -200, but 7 IMPs to England, leading 18-3.



Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 6 3  
♥ A 8  
♦ A 10 8 7 2  
♣ Q 10 7 4

♠ K J 9 2  
♥ K Q 5 3  
♦ K  
♣ A J 9 3



♠ A 8 5 4  
 ♥ 10 7 2  
 ♦ 6 4  
 ♣ K 8 5 2

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♦	1♠	3♦
4♠	All Pass		

South led the queen of diamonds and North won with the ace and exited with a spade. Declarer took three rounds of trumps ending in hand and played a heart for the king and ace. North exited with a diamond, declarer ruffing in dummy, cashing the queen of hearts and exiting with a heart. South won with the jack and continued with the nine, removing declarer's remaining trump. That meant she was two down, -200.

## Closed Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Gronkvist</i>	<i>Godfrey</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1NT	All Pass		

North led the seven of diamonds and declarer was happy to win with the king. Her next move was to advance the jack of clubs! North covered with the queen and declarer won with dummy's king and played a second club, putting up the ace when South discarded the four of hearts. When a spade to the ace and one back to the jack passed off peacefully declarer cashed two more tricks in the suit, North pitching a diamond and a club, while South threw a second heart. Having made her contract declarer exited with the three of clubs and North won with the ten as South pitched the nine of hearts. North cashed the ace of hearts and, despite having a complete count, continued with the eight of hearts declarer had eleven tricks, +210 and Sweden had 9 IMPs.

I suppose you could call that a small present.



Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
—	Pass	1♠	3♦
4♠	All Pass		

East, with every suit under control, had a little think before passing, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Gronqvist</i>	<i>Godfrey</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT (i)	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

(i) Invitational with 4+♠

I don't know the precise meaning of 3NT, but it did not prompt West into doing anything other than signing off. No swing.

Let's take a brief look at what happened in the play-off for third place:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Huang</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Wang</i>	<i>Sanborn</i>
—	Pass	1♣ (i)	1♦
1♠	2♦	4♦ (ii)	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT (iii)	Pass
5♣ (iv)	Pass	6♠	All Pass

- (i) Strong
- (ii) Splinter
- (iii) RKCB
- (iv) 1 key card


It looks as if 4♥ was 'LastTrain' suggesting a hand that had some interest in slam – well done, +1430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Weingold</i>	<i>Lu</i>	<i>Cappelletti</i>	<i>Liu</i>
—	Pass	1♣*	2♦
2♠	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Declarer took all the tricks, but lost 12 IMPs.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦ (i)	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4NT (ii)	Pass	5♥ (iii)
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

- (i) Transfer
- (ii) RKCB
- (iii) 2 key cards

I can't be certain about the middle of the auction – probably 2♦ showed at least five hearts and was game forcing.

West led the king of clubs and declarer won with the ace and cashed dummy's top hearts. When her majesty declined to put in an appearance she went after the spades, cashing the queen and then, surprisingly, playing the ten (imagine West had been dealt the doubleton jack). When the spades didn't break she had to concede one down, -50.







### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gronkvist	Godfrey	Rimstedt	Smith
—	—	Pass	1♣
3♣	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♦
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Did North intend 3♦ to be a transfer to hearts? South's subsequent jump to 6♦ suggests that there may have been a misunderstanding.

West led the king of clubs and declarer won, played a heart to the ace, a diamond to the king and a heart to the jack. When East produced the queen and still had a club left that was five down, -250 and a loss of 5 IMPs.

It would have cost declarer nothing to duck the opening lead – then she will save four undertricks, not to mention the 5 IMPs.

### Board 16. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Brock	Clementsson	Brown	Rimstedt
1♣ (i)	Pass	1♠	Dble
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

- (i) 2+♣, unbalanced with clubs or 11-14/18-19 balanced without a five-card major

The Brock/Brown convention card from Lyon says that 1♠ is 'no major 1NT' but maybe they have made a change. West led the queen of spades and declarer won, ruffed a club, came to hand with a spade, ruffed a club and played a heart to the king. West took the ace and exited with a club and declarer won with the ace, drew trumps and exited with a club. She ruffed the spade return and played the seven of diamonds, going up with dummy's king, so only +140.

Do you see how the defenders could have prevented ten tricks (apart from West starting with two rounds of hearts)?

After taking the ace of hearts West must switch to the queen of diamonds!

Taking dummy's king with the ace East plays a spade and West ruffs and can exit with any of her remaining cards – declarer must lose a club at the end.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Gronkvist	Godfrey	Rimstedt	Smith
1♣ (i)	Pass	1♥ (ii)	Dble
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

- (i) 2+♣, (11)12-14/18-19 bal w/o 5M or Natural unbalanced with (4)5+♣  
(ii) Transfer

If South's double promised hearts then there is a case for North to bid 3♥.

West led the two of clubs and declarer could not avoid the loss of four clubs and two aces which meant -50 and 5 IMPs to Sweden, who thereby took the lead for the first time, albeit by a single IMP.



CECILIA RIMSTEDT, SWEDEN



## OPEN TEAMS FINAL, ROUND 1 - CHINA VS FRANCE

by **Brian Senior**

The Open final featured our hosts, China, and the team who had topped the round robin, Bermuda Bowl runners-up, France. The match would be played over 48 boards, split into 3 x 16-board segments.

I should apologise for the poor coverage of this match as we have only results with no bidding and play details on some boards from one of the tables.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Vinciguerra	Chen	Bompis	Zhao
–	–	–	1♥
Dble	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

This deal illustrated one of the benefits of transfer responses over an opposing take-out double. At the other table Jerome Rombaut, for France, became declarer in 3♣ from the North seat and was down one after a spade lead through the ace-queen; –50.

Here, however, Chen could respond with a transfer of 1NT so Zhao Jie became declarer in the same contract. Herve Vinciguerra led his low trump, Zhao putting up dummy's queen and returning a low club to Vinciguerra's jack while throwing a diamond from hand. Vinciguerra tried a low spade but Zhao put up dummy's ten and played a third club, discarding another diamond from hand. This time Vinciguerra got out with ace and then jack of diamonds. Zhao won and played on hearts to establish his ninth trick for +110 and 4 IMPs to China.



Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Vinciguerra	Chen	Bompis	Zhao
–	–	–	1♠
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Dai	Rombaut	Yang	Reess
–	–	–	1♥
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

After identical starts to the two auctions, Chen assumed Zhao to have five hearts for his rebid so simply jumped to the heart game, while Rombaut thought that Reess could have only four hearts so contented himself with an invitational 2NT, where he was left to play.

Vinciguerra led the ace of clubs against 4♥, switching to the two of spades round to Zhao's nine. Zhao cashed the ace of hearts then led a spade, Vinciguerra winning the ace and giving his partner a spade ruff. There was just a trump trick to be lost from here but that was down one for –100.

Lixin Yang led the queen of diamonds against 2NT. Jianming Dai overtook with the king so Rombaut ducked and ducked again when Dai continued with his remaining diamond. Yang won that and returned the two of diamonds to show a club card. Rombaut won the ace of diamonds, led a spade to the queen and, when Dai ducked, led a club to his king. The fall of the queen was a pleasant sight and now Rombaut played the king of spades, which was ducked. Now he switched his attention to hearts, leading the seven.



It didn't matter what Yang did as Rombaut intended to run the seven if it was not covered so was always going to come to three heart tricks without loss. When the heart was covered, he won in dummy and played a spade, and all Dai could come to were two spades and the ace of clubs; eight tricks for +120 and 6 IMPs to France.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Vinciguerra	Chen	Bompis	Zhao
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Dai	Rombaut	Yang	Reess
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♦	Dble	4♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Dai opened a strong club and Yang doubled Rombaut's overcall to show a semi-positive, usually around 5-7 HCP. Vanessa Reess made a big pre-emptive diamond raise and when that came round to Yang he doubled for take-out. Dai bid 4♥ and that was that. The contract was hopeless and drifted two off for -200.

Vinciguerra also opened 1♣ but this promised some clubs in the context of a five-card major system and Marc Bompis responded with a 1♥ transfer to spades. Vinciguerra jumped to 3♠ and Bompis went on to game. Where 4♠ played by East attracts an easy diamond lead from South, North has no particularly attractive lead against 4♠ played by West. Chen chose ace and another heart, which cost the second defensive heart trick. Vinciguerra won the second heart and played spades in normal fashion then, as he could afford one club losers but not two, made the standard safety play of ace then low towards dummy's

eight, and had 10 tricks for +620 and 13 IMPs to France.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Vinciguerra	Chen	Bompis	Zhao
Pass	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Dai	Rombaut	Yang	Reess
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dble
Rdbl	Pass	1NT	All Pass

Zhao opened 1NT in fourth seat and Chen used Stayman then passed the response. That worked beautifully for Chen as 2♠ proved to be unbeatable. Vinciguerra led a heart, ducked, so Zhao won and cashed three rounds of spades before going back to hearts. He made four spades, three hearts and a club ruff for a quick and easy +110.

Yang opened the East hand with a Precision 1♦ in the other room and Reess doubled. Dai redoubled to show the balance of the points and Yang rebid 1NT and played there. Reess cashed the queen then king of spades then switched to the king of hearts. Yang won the ace and led the jack of clubs and the fall of the ten allowed him to pick up four tricks in the suit. He played safely now, cashing the top diamonds, so had seven tricks for +90 and 5 IMPs to China.







Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Vinciguerra	Chen	Bompis	Zhao
–	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Dai	Rombaut	Yang	Reess
–	Pass	1♣	2♦
2♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Slam is cold on the E/W hands but clearly tough to get to. Yang opened a strong club and Dai showed a spade positive over Reess's weak jump overcall. Yang splintered in support of spades but Dai wasn't interested so signed off in game.

The French E/W pair play a lot of gadgets and I don't know the meaning of their bidding.



MARC BOMPIS, FRANCE

What we can say is that they obviously knew what they were doing but that they too stopped short of the top spot.

The board was flat at +680.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Vinciguerra	Chen	Bompis	Zhao
–	–	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Dai	Rombaut	Yang	Reess
–	–	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

Both pairs were playing essentially natural methods. Both Norths went through fourth-suit-forcing to set up a force then set hearts as trumps and eventually asked for key cards before bidding a small slam.

Bompis led a diamond against 6♥. Chen won, cashed a top heart and crossed to dummy with a spade to take the heart finesse. When that lost and spades provided only three tricks he was down one for –50.

Dai led the king of clubs against 6NT. Reess could have saved a few tricks by ducking but that would only gain when clubs were six-two and there was a heart loser so she won immediately. Of course, when she took the heart finesse that lost and the defence took five club tricks for down five and –250; 5 IMPs to China.



Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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



West	North	East	South
Vinciguerra	Chen	Bompis	Zhao
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Dai	Rombaut	Yang	Reess
1♦	Pass	1♠	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Both N/Ss bid aggressively to the thin heart game. Ace and another heart would leave declarer with only one ruff in the dummy so defeat the contract for sure, but that was a far from obvious choice and both Wests led the queen of spades.

Zhao won the ace of spades and immediately played the ten of diamonds. The diamond guess might have been critical on a different layout so Vinciguerra did not cover and the ♦10 held the trick. Zhao played a second diamond to the jack and ace and back came a spade. He won the king, ruffed a club and cashed the king of diamonds for a club discard. Next he ruffed a spade with the jack and Vinciguerra allowed him to hold the trick. Ace of clubs and a club ruff was followed by the nine of hearts, run to West's ten. There was the ♥A to come but that was all; 10 tricks for +420.

Reess too won the spade lead with the ace but she ruffed a club at trick two, came back to the king of spades and took a second club ruff. She ruffed a spade with the king and, to prevent a third club ruff, Dai over-ruffed with the ace and returned the ten of hearts. Reess won, cashed a couple more trumps, then led a diamond. Remembering Dai's opening bid, Reess called for the ♦K and was one down for -50 and 10 IMPs to China.

That gave China the lead and the first set ended with them ahead by 28-22.

11<sup>th</sup> WORLD BRIDGE SERIESOrlando, Florida • 21<sup>st</sup> September - 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018

The venue is the **Marriott Orlando World**.

Opening Ceremony - Friday 21st September.

**Open, Women's and Senior Teams** Championships: the **Rosenblum Open Teams** will start on Saturday 22nd September, the **McConnell Women's Teams** and the **Rand Senior Teams** are expected to start a day later.

**Open, Women's and Senior Pairs** Championships: the **Open Pairs** starts on Tuesday 25th September, the **Women's** and **Seniors** on Wednesday 26th September.

**Mixed Teams** starting on Tuesday 2nd October and the **Mixed Pairs** on Thursday 4th October.

**Youth Triathlon** starting on Monday 1st October.

**Joan Gerard Cup** – a pairs event – on Sunday 30th September

**Seniors Triathlon** starting on Tuesday 2nd October

**Pairs Short Track** starting on Friday 5th October and an **IMP Pairs** starting in the afternoon of Friday 5th October.

Alongside all these tournaments there will be a number of other **WBF events** of one or two days (pairs or swiss) available for those wishing to participate in shorter tournaments.

Registration must be made through the WBF Website, and the pages for this will be available from April 2018.

**THERE WILL BE BLOOD**by **Mark Horton**

*There Will Be Blood* is a 2007 American drama film starring Daniel Day-Lewis (who won the Oscar for best actor) and Paul Dano. It tells the story of Daniel Plainview, a silver miner-turned-oilman (Day-Lewis) on a ruthless quest for wealth during Southern California's oil boom of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and, as the title implies, there is no shortage of violence.

*There Will Be Blood* was named Best Film of the 21st Century So Far in 2017 by The New York Times.

The first session of the Women's final had been a quiet affair, lacking any double digit swings but the second proved to be somewhat different.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

	♠ K10 7	
	♥ 10 3 2	
	♦ K 6 5 4	
	♣ A Q 5	
♠ Q 9 8 5 3 2	<div>♠ N ♥ W ♦ S ♣ E</div>	♠ A J 4
♥ 9 8 4		♥ A Q J 8 7 5
♦ 9		♦ Q 10
♣ K 8 4		♣ 9 3
	♠ 6	
	♥ K	
	♦ A J 8 7 3 2	
	♣ J 10 7 6 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
2♠	Pass	4♠	4NT*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	6♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

West led the nine of hearts and East won with the ace and continued with the queen. Declarer ruffed and appeared to play a spade. Unfortunately, the operator lost track of the play, but the scoreboard shows two down, -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Draper</i>
2♦ (i)	Pass	2♠ (ii)	All Pass

- (i) Multi  
(ii) Pass or correct

South led the jack of clubs and then switched to the six of spades for the eight, ten and jack

Suppose the defenders start with three rounds of clubs, forcing dummy to ruff? If declarer decided to play the ace of spades and a spade North could win and play a diamond, allowing South to win and play a club for a trump promotion. Declarer would then need to be familiar with the Rabbi's Rule in order to get home.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East led the jack of spades and declarer ducked, won the next spade, unblocked the king of clubs and played five rounds of hearts. There was no squeeze, so she was held to eight tricks, -100.

Could the English pair reach 5♦ in the replay?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Draper</i>
—	2♦ (i)	Pass	2NT (ii)
Pass	3♠ (iii)	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠ (iv)	Pass	4NT (v)
Pass	5♦ (vi)	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

- (i) Weak  
(ii) Forcing enquiry  
(iii) Feature, not minimum  
(iv) Cue bid  
(v) RKCB  
(vi) 1 key card



As soon as North had opened it was clear that the diamond game would be reached – and South was even more ambitious.

East led the two of clubs and after winning with the king and knocking out the ace of diamonds declarer could claim, +1370 and 16 IMPs to England.

Not easy for East to find a spade lead, I'm sure you will agree.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

♠ A 9 5 3 2  
♥ A J 7 5  
♦ 2  
♣ K J 8

♠ 6  
♥ 2  
♦ A Q J 9 7 3  
♣ Q 10 9 7 6

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

♠ K Q J 10 8  
♥ K 10 8  
♦ K 5  
♣ A 5 4

N  
W E  
S

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
—	—	1NT	Pass
3♣ (i)	Pass	3NT	All Pass

- (i) Game forcing with both minors

South led the three of hearts and North won with the ace and returned the five for the ten and queen. South returned a heart and declarer won, pitching a second club from dummy, and cashed six diamonds. However, there was no squeeze and when declarer took the decent shot of playing dummy's queen of clubs North covered and the contract was one down when the jack did not appear, -100.

## Closed Room

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Draper</i>
—	—	1♠	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	All Pass

I can't be sure about the meaning of  $3\Diamond$ , but it got the job done.

North led her trump and declarer took four rounds pitching two hearts from dummy and then played a spade, +600 and 12 IMPs back for Sweden.

There is a way to defeat  $5\Diamond$  – can you see it?

North must cash her aces and then switch to the king of clubs – a brilliant example of the Merrimac Coup.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

♠ K Q 10 9  
♥ 9 6 3 2  
♦ Q J 9 6  
♣ 10

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

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦ (i)
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

(i) Transfer

With North as declarer there is no way to defeat 5♣. East tried leading the two of diamonds, but it was declarer who produced the king. She drew trumps and ran the queen of hearts, claiming after East had won and cashed the ace of diamonds.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Draper</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass


As you can see, 4♠ was unbeatable, +420 giving Sweden 13 IMPs.

A great bid by East, but I wonder why South did not bid 5♣?





## Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦ (i)	Pass
2♠*	All Pass		

(i) Transfer

Two Spades was clearly designed to show a maximum with a heart fit. Given North's silence on the first round one can only speculate about what she would have done if the auction had proceeded 3♦ (a re-transfer) – 3♥.

North led the ace of diamonds and declarer was allowed to take five tricks, –150.


## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Draper</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♥	2♦	3♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Having overcalled on a long (but weak) suit North did well to reopen with a double, enabling her partner to take a shot at the vulnerable game.

West led the three of hearts and declarer won perforce with dummy's ace and played a spade for the queen and ace. West switched to the four of clubs and declarer won with dummy's ace and played the jack of spades, West winning and returning the king of hearts. Declarer ruffed in dummy, drew the outstanding trump and played the three of diamonds from dummy, +620 and 10 IMPs for England.

## Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brock</i>	<i>Clementsson</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Rimstedt</i>
Pass	1♣	1♦	1♥ (i)
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

(i) Transfer

West led the four of diamonds and East took the ace and switched to the queen of clubs. Declarer won with dummy's ace, cashed the king of hearts and played a heart to the ace. When her next move was the six of spades West's seven forced the jack and when declarer cashed the ace of spades she had to lose three more tricks, a spade, a heart and a diamond.

Declarer had the option of returning to hand with a club and advancing the queen of spades, hoping to pin doubleton ten but, disregarding that, was it possible for her to work out the distribution?

East's overcall and West jump raise suggest the diamond suit is divided 4-5. East's play in the heart suit points to the suit being 3-2. West followed to the queen of clubs with the three, suggesting an odd number. If West has three clubs then she is counted for 3-3-4-3. Declarer has the option of trying to pin a doubleton ten, but might also play West for her actual ♠K10x.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bertheau</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Larsson</i>	<i>Draper</i>
Pass	1♣	1♦	1♠
2♦	Dble*	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

West led the king of diamonds and continued with the jack, When that held she switched to the jack of hearts and declarer won with the ace and played the three of spades for the ten and jack. Naturally she cashed the ace next, so she took nine tricks, +140 and 5 IMPs to England who had come back strongly after a mid-session crisis. It was their turn to hold a 1 IMP advantage as they led 62-61.



## OPEN TEAMS FINAL, ROUND 2 - CHINA VS FRANCE

by **Brian Senior**

China brought a slender 6 IMP lead into the second of the three sessions of the Open final. The lead grew immediately at the start of set two.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	Li	Bessis	Zhang
–	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Chen	Bompis	Zhao	Vinciguerra
–	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Both Easts opened a mildly off-shape 1NT and both Wests transferred to spades. If you are ever going to break a transfer then surely this East hand is an example and Thomas Bessis duly jumped to 3♠. When Cedric Lorenzini co-operated with a cuebid in Bessis's weak suit, he took control by asking for key cards then bid the small slam. On a non-club lead there would have been time to set up the diamonds, while it was a little unfortunate that both hands had only a doubleton heart. Alas, Zhang had an automatic club lead and the contract had to go one down for –50.

Zhao did not break the transfer so Chen simply raised to game and, after the same club lead, there were the same two losers; +450 and 11 IMPs to China.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

		♠ 9 6 3			♠ Q 4
		♥ A			♥ K 10 9 5
		♦ K Q 5 2			♦ 9 8 7 3
		♣ A Q 9 4 3			♣ K 10 8
♠ A J 7 5	<div style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ K 10 8 2			
♥ Q J 8		♥ 7 6 4 3 2			
♦ A 6 4		♦ J 10			
♣ J 6 2		♣ 7 5			

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	Li	Bessis	Zhang
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♦	Dble	Pass
1♥	Dble	Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	1NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Chen	Bompis	Zhao	Vinciguerra
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	1♠
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Li overcalled with the North hand and Bessis doubled to show hearts. When Lorenzini completed the transfer, suggesting three cards, Li doubled for take-out and Zhang responded 1♠. Bessis competed with 1NT and played there. Zhang led the jack of diamonds, ducked, and continued with the ten, also ducked. Zhang switched to a club, which Li ducked to declarer's eight. Bessis led a heart to the queen and ace, won the diamond return and led a club up. Li won the ♣A, cashed the king of diamonds and exited with a club. Bessis won and cashed the hearts then led the queen of spades to the king and ace so had an overtrick for +120.

Bompis did not overcall but doubled for take-out when Zhao's 1♥ was passed round to him and doubled again to show a good hand including clubs when Zhao competed with 1NT. Vinciguerra led a club. Bompis won the ace and continued with a second club to Zhao's ten. Zhao led a heart to the queen and ace





and Bompis cleared the clubs. Zhao crossed to a heart to lead a spade to the queen. That lost to the king but there were eight tricks now for +280 and 4 more IMPs to China, who led by 43-22.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	Li	Bessis	Zhang
–	–	1♠	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Chen	Bompis	Zhao	Vinciguerra
–	–	1NT	Pass
2♠	Dble	Rdbl	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Zhao opened 1NT and Chen's artificial 2♠ response was doubled by Bompis to show spades and redoubled by Zhao, also showing spades. Chen bid his diamonds now but Zhao was not interested and signed off in 3NT and played there. Vinciguerra led a heart, Bompis winning the ace and returning the jack and, when that was ducked, playing a third heart. Zhao won and cashed the diamonds but the defence was in control and he was down one for –100.

Bessis opened 1♠ then rebid a Gazzilli 2♣. Two Diamonds showed game values facing the strong artificial variety and 2♥ and 2♠ were relays. When Lorenzini went on over 3NT to show his diamonds, Bessis cuebid but Lorenzini signed off in game. Li led ace and another heart against 5♦, Lorenzini winning the ace and pitching his spade loser. He played a diamond to the ace then back to the king before taking the ruffing spade finesse. Li won the spade and returned the eight of clubs. With little prospect of being able to cash enough spades to get rid of all

his club losers, Lorenzini played low and could win cheaply, draw trumps and cross to the ace of clubs to cash the spades; 11 tricks for +600 and 12 IMPs to France.

Li could, and should, have beaten the contract when in with the ace of spades by switching not to the eight of clubs but to the king, knocking out the late entry to the spades. Declarer could have made his contract had he pitched a club on the ♥K rather than his spade. Now he can draw trumps before playing the spade and has the ace of clubs as an entry to the winners. So is the contract unbeatable? Far from it, but it takes a certain degree of imagination to find the winning defence. North must cash the two major-suit aces then play the king of clubs. Declarer has no late entry to his winners and can take one discard too few before drawing trumps so is down one.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	Li	Bessis	Zhang
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Chen	Bompis	Zhao	Vinciguerra
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

Bompis opened 1♣ then showed his weak no trump type and Vinciguerra made an invitational jump rebid but settled for partscore when Bompis could not bid game himself. With the diamond position protected from the opening lead, Bompis could set up the hearts for two diamond discards and just lose one trick in each red suit; +150.

Li opened a 13-15 no trump and Zhang transferred



then showed his second suit and, when Li raised, transferred again to hearts then passed the response. Here, the diamond position would have been exposed to the opening lead in a club contract, so 4♥ was the better game. However, Bessis knew his opponents had a club fit and did very well indeed to lead a club. Li won and played ace and another heart but Bessis won the king and gave his partner a club ruff and there were two diamonds to come for down one; -50 and 5 IMPs to France.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	Li	Bessis	Zhang
–	Pass	1♣	1♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	Rdbl
2♣	2♦	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Chen	Bompis	Zhao	Vinciguerra
–	Pass	1♣	1♥
Pass	Pass	Dble	1♠
All Pass			

When Zhao opened 1♣ in third seat Vinciguerra overcalled 1♥ then, when Zhao reopened with a double, introduced his second suit and was left to play there. Chen led a spade, dummy's eight holding the trick. Vinciguerra led a heart to the queen, losing to the king, and now Chen returned the jack of clubs. The defence cashed three club tricks then Zhao led a low diamond to declarer's king. Vinciguerra played ace of hearts then ruffed a heart with the nine. Zhao over-ruffed but Vinciguerra had the rest for an overtrick and +110.

After the same start, Zhang redoubled at his second turn and that encouraged Li to compete with 2♦ over 2♣, expecting his partner to have at least tolerance for the suit. Two Diamonds was not a lot of fun. Bessis led the jack of hearts to the queen and king and Lorenzini switched to the jack of clubs. After three rounds of clubs, Bessis switched back to hearts. Unable to get to

dummy, the play went badly for Li and he was down three for -300 and 9 IMPs to France.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lorenzini	Li	Bessis	Zhang
Pass	Pass	1♦	1♠
1NT	2♦	Pass	2♠
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Chen	Bompis	Zhao	Vinciguerra
Pass	1♣	1♦	1♥
3♦	Pass	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Bompis opened the North hand with 1♣ and Vinciguerra's 1♥ after the overcall was a transfer to spades. When Chen's pre-emptive diamond raise came back to him, Vinciguerra bid his second suit and was raised to game. Chen led the king of diamonds then switched to a club. Vinciguerra won the king, played a second club to the ace, then a heart to his ace. He had no clue as to the spade position so next led a spade to the jack and was one down, losing a spade, a heart and a second diamond; -50.



Li did not open the North hand but Zhang overcalled so Li showed a good raise. Zhang showed a near-minimum overcall but, when Lorenzini competed to 3♦, showed his second suit on the way to 3♠. Li could resist everything but temptation and now jumped to 4♠. Here the auction had been much more revealing, in particular, West's 1NT over the 1♠ overcall. Zhang used his two entries to hand to first lead the queen of spades to the king and ace then to run the ♠9. He lost only two diamonds and one heart so was home for +420 and 10 IMPs to China.

As in the first set, China had snatched the lead right at the end and now led by 55-53 with 16 boards to play.





## RESULTS OPEN TEAMS

## FINAL

		ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOT
	CHINA	28	27	33	<b>88</b>
	FRANCE	22	31	56	<b>109</b>

## PLAYOFF

		ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOT
	USA	18	49	18	<b>85</b>
	BULGARIA	54	60	46	<b>160</b>

## FINAL RANKING

## 1. FRANCE

Thomas Bessis  
Marc Bompis  
Cedric Lorenzini  
Vanessa Réess  
Jérôme Rombaut  
Hervé Vinciguerra

## 2. CHINA

Chen Yunlong  
Dai Jianming  
Li Jianwei  
Yang Lixin  
Zhang Bangxiang  
Zhao Jie  
Wang Jianxin (npc)  
Chen Gang (coach)

## 3. BULGARIA



Victor Aronov  
Dania Damianova  
Georgi Karakolev  
Vladimir Mihov  
Ivan Nanev  
Julian Stefanov  
Marta Nikolova (coach)

## 4. USA



Kevin Dwyer  
Shan Huang  
Justin Lall  
Brad Moss  
Jacek Pszczola  
May Sakr

## RESULTS WOMEN TEAMS

## FINAL

		ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOT
	SWEDEN	23	38	54	<b>115</b>
	ENGLAND	22	40	33	<b>95</b>

## PLAYOFF

		ROUND 1	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	TOT
	USA	44	27	47	<b>118</b>
	CHINA	34	33	21	<b>88</b>

## RANKING

## 1. SWEDEN

Kathrine Bertheau  
Sanna Clementsson  
Ida Gronkvist  
Jessica Larsson  
Cecilia Rimstedt  
Sandra Rimstedt

## 2. ENGLAND

Sally Brock  
Fiona Brown  
Catherina Draper  
Lizzie Godfrey  
Nevena Senior  
Nicola Smith

## 3. USA

Shannon Cappelletti  
Disa Eythorsdottir  
Kerri Sanborn  
Janice S.-Molson  
Tobi Sokolow  
Joanne Weingold

## 4. CHINA

Huang Yan  
Liu Yan  
Lu Yan  
Shen Qi  
Wang Nan  
Wang Wenfei  
Wang Jianxin (npc)  
Wang Xiaojing (coach)