



# 43<sup>rd</sup> WORLD BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

LYON, FRANCE • 12<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2017



43<sup>rd</sup> BERMUDA BOWL  
21<sup>st</sup> VENICE CUP  
9<sup>th</sup> D'ORSI SENIOR TROPHY

11<sup>th</sup> FUNBRIDGE.COM WORLD  
TRANSNATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

**DAILY  
BULLETIN**

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## RUNNING OUT OF TIME



*The hard working dealing team, responsible for thousands of deals a day.*

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### Today's Programme

**BB,VC, OT**

**Round 13**  
**11:00 - 13:20**

**Round 14**  
**14:30 - 16:50**

**Round 15**  
**17:20 - 19:40**

With more than half the Round-Robin completed, some of the teams expected to be contesting the quarter finals may be mindful of the words of the poet Andrew Marvell, 'At my back I always hear Time's wingèd chariot hurrying near'. In the Bermuda Bowl the teams at risk include **Monaco, Germany** and **China. France, Israel**, and both teams from the **USA** have work to do in the Venice Cup while **Turkey** and **Poland** are looking upwards in the d'Orsi Trophy. If you ask any of these teams (or indeed any of the squads in contention) what is likely to count over the next three days and what their most valuable asset might be I am willing to bet that the most common answer is likely to be experience. Those who have played at the highest level before are less likely to crack under pressure and they generally seem to be able to find an extra gear when it is needed. Mind you, as we saw in the recent World Athletics Championships, greatness in itself is not always enough, so perhaps we are about to witness a changing of the guard. We'll have the answer in three days' time.



## Schedule

11:00 - 13:20

14:30 - 16:50

17:20 - 19:40

## Bermuda Bowl

1 EGYPT	CHINA	1 USA1	NETHERLANDS	1 BULGARIA	MEXICO
2 ITALY	USA2	2 USA2	MEXICO	2 INDONESIA	MONACO
3 AUSTRALIA	INDIA	3 INDONESIA	SOUTH AFRICA	3 CHINA	ITALY
4 SWEDEN	NEW ZEALAND	4 BULGARIA	ARGENTINA	4 USA1	SOUTH AFRICA
5 NETHERLANDS	BRAZIL	5 GUADELOUPE	ITALY	5 BANGLADESH	ARGENTINA
6 ARGENTINA	CHINESE TAIPEI	6 BANGLADESH	SWEDEN	6 CHINESE TAIPEI	NETHERLANDS
7 SOUTH AFRICA	BANGLADESH	7 CHINESE TAIPEI	AUSTRALIA	7 BRAZIL	SWEDEN
8 MEXICO	USA1	8 BRAZIL	GERMANY	8 NEW ZEALAND	AUSTRALIA
9 MONACO	BULGARIA	9 NEW ZEALAND	EGYPT	9 INDIA	GERMANY
10 GERMANY	GUADELOUPE	10 INDIA	CHINA	10 GUADELOUPE	EGYPT
11 FRANCE	INDONESIA	11 FRANCE	MONACO	11 USA2	FRANCE

## Venice Cup

21 JORDAN	EGYPT	21 MOROCCO	SWEDEN	21 ENGLAND	MOROCCO
22 CHINA	ENGLAND	22 ENGLAND	BRAZIL	22 NETHERLANDS	BRAZIL
23 POLAND	AUSTRALIA	23 NEW ZEALAND	INDONESIA	23 EGYPT	CHINA
24 ITALY	ISRAEL	24 NETHERLANDS	USA1	24 NEW ZEALAND	USA2
25 INDONESIA	ARGENTINA	25 INDIA	CHINA	25 CANADA	USA1
26 USA1	RUSSIA	26 CANADA	ITALY	26 RUSSIA	INDONESIA
27 USA2	CANADA	27 RUSSIA	POLAND	27 ARGENTINA	ITALY
28 BRAZIL	NEW ZEALAND	28 ARGENTINA	CHINESE TAIPEI	28 ISRAEL	POLAND
29 SWEDEN	NETHERLANDS	29 ISRAEL	JORDAN	29 AUSTRALIA	CHINESE TAIPEI
30 CHINESE TAIPEI	INDIA	30 AUSTRALIA	EGYPT	30 INDIA	JORDAN
31 MOROCCO	FRANCE	31 FRANCE	USA2	31 FRANCE	SWEDEN

## d'Orsi Trophy

41 JAPAN	BRAZIL	41 TURKEY	POLAND	41 INDIA	TURKEY
42 ITALY	INDIA	42 INDIA	PAKISTAN	42 CHINA HKG	POLAND
43 ISRAEL	CANADA	43 CHINA HKG	SWEDEN	43 BRAZIL	ITALY
44 GUADELOUPE	AUSTRALIA	44 USA1	USA2	44 EGYPT	SWEDEN
45 CHINA	SOUTH AFRICA	45 FRANCE	ITALY	45 NEW ZEALAND	USA2
46 USA2	ARGENTINA	46 NEW ZEALAND	GUADELOUPE	46 ARGENTINA	CHINA
47 SWEDEN	NEW ZEALAND	47 ARGENTINA	ISRAEL	47 SOUTH AFRICA	GUADELOUPE
48 PAKISTAN	EGYPT	48 SOUTH AFRICA	AUSTRIA	48 AUSTRALIA	ISRAEL
49 POLAND	USA1	49 AUSTRALIA	JAPAN	49 CANADA	AUSTRIA
50 TURKEY	CHINA HKG	50 CANADA	BRAZIL	50 FRANCE	JAPAN
51 AUSTRIA	FRANCE	51 EGYPT	CHINA	51 USA1	PAKISTAN

## VuGraph SCHEDULE

The VuGraph Theatre is located in the Auditorium Pasteur

11:00		14:30		17:20	
ITALY-USA2 (BB)	VG/BBO1	FRANCE-MONACO (BB)	VG/BBO1	BRAZIL-SWEDEN (BB)	VG/BBO1
NETH.- BRAZIL (BB)	BBO 2	NEW ZELAND-EGYPT (BB)	BBO 2	NZL-AUSTRALIA (BB)	BBO 2
MONACO-BULGARIA (BB)	BBO 3	BRAZIL-GERMANY (BB)	BBO 3	INDONESIA-MONACO (BB)	BBO 3
SWEDEN-NETH. (VC)	BBO 4	USA1-USA2 (SD)	BBO 4	ISRAEL-POLAND (VC)	BBO 4
FRANCE-INDONESIA (BB)	BBO 5/ FB	NETHERLANDS-USA1 (VC)	BBO 5/ FB	AUSTRALIA-ISRAEL (SD)	BBO 5/ FB
MOROCCO-FRANCE (VC)	BBO 6/ FB	FRANCE-USA2 (VC)	BBO 6/ FB	USA2-FRANCE (BB)	BBO 6/ FB
POLAND-USA1 (SD)	BBO 7/ FB	FRANCE-ITALY (SD)	BBO 7/ FB	FRANCE-SWEDEN (VC)	BBO 7/ FB
CHINA-ENGLAND (VC)	BBO 8/ OG	USA1-NETHERLANDS (BB)	BBO 8/ OG	CHINA- ITALY (BB)	BBO 8/ OG
courtesy of					



## Bermuda Bowl After Round 12

TEAM	VP
1 SWEDEN	161.65
2 FRANCE	159.51
3 USA2	149.90
4 NETHERLANDS	142.34
5 ITALY	140.42
6 BULGARIA	138.87
7 USA1	137.75
8 BRAZIL	133.80
9 MONACO	128.04
10 EGYPT	125.20
11 NEW ZEALAND	122.47
12 AUSTRALIA	117.19
13 CHINESE TAIPEI	115.26
14 GERMANY	114.43
15 INDIA	112.63
16 CHINA	111.84
17 INDONESIA	107.50
18 ARGENTINA	106.24
19 SOUTH AFRICA	91.20
20 BANGLADESH	81.14
21 MEXICO	71.14
22 GUADELOUPE	65.23

## Venice Cup After Round 12

TEAM	VP
1 SWEDEN	159.10
2 NETHERLANDS	154.56
3 CHINA	154.25
4 INDONESIA	152.90
5 POLAND	150.58
6 ENGLAND	148.22
7 RUSSIA	142.11
8 AUSTRALIA	137.36
9 FRANCE	134.37
10 ISRAEL	133.11
11 ARGENTINA	123.01
12 USA1	121.93
13 EGYPT	118.12
14 BRAZIL	116.70
15 ITALY	114.35
16 USA2	110.06
17 NEW ZEALAND	97.26
18 MOROCCO	88.54
19 CHINESE TAIPEI	86.43
20 CANADA	80.19
21 INDIA	61.85
22 JORDAN	53.00

## d'Orsi Trophy After Round 12

TEAM	VP
1 USA2	180.63
2 FRANCE	159.08
3 AUSTRALIA	158.99
4 USA1	146.68
5 AUSTRIA	146.46
6 ISRAEL	144.34
7 SWEDEN	138.27
8 ITALY	133.79
9 POLAND	127.94
10 ARGENTINA	123.39
11 JAPAN	121.05
12 CANADA	120.28
13 TURKEY	119.69
14 CHINA HONG KONG	117.93
15 INDIA	116.30
16 PAKISTAN	113.73
17 CHINA	104.26
18 BRAZIL	96.32
19 SOUTH AFRICA	88.66
20 NEW ZEALAND	79.01
21 EGYPT	67.72
22 GUADELOUPE	33.48

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**BRIDGE**  
Federação Brasileira de Bridge



68th  
SOUTH AMERICAN  
BRIDGE FESTIVAL  
COMANDATUBA  
BAHIA - BRAZIL

**Bahia  
2018**  
MAY 10-23

## Le (bon) coin francophone

Jean-Paul Meyer



### Le Grand Prix de la ville de Lyon 24-25 Août

Le Grand Prix de la ville de Lyon est une épreuve par équipe ouverte à tous, organisée en formule BAM (Board-a-match, littéralement « une donne, un match »).

Cette épreuve est un prolongement du Transnational puisque toutes les équipes non-qualifiées pour les quarts de finale peuvent s'y inscrire sans droits supplémentaires si elles restent dans la même formation.

La WBF offre à la FFB la possibilité d'inscrire des équipes françaises à cette compétition de très haut niveau.

Les droits d'inscription seront de 280€/équipe (4 à 6 joueurs).

Les inscriptions sont possibles à partir d'aujourd'hui 10 h auprès d'Antonio Salgueiro à la Boutique de la FFB qui se situe juste après le contrôle des badges.

### L'équipe de France Open

présentée par **Lionel Sebbane** et **Philippe Cronier**

Il s'agit de l'équipe qui a gagné les championnats d'Europe en 2016 à Budapest.

La paire de « jeunes » est composée de :

**Thomas Bessis** : ses parents bridgeurs ont tenté de lui faire faire des études d'ingénieur mais le virus familial a été plus fort et il consacre sa vie au bridge quand il n'est pas au parc des Princes pour soutenir le PSG.

Et

**Frédéric Volcker** : ses parents bridgeurs ont tenté de lui faire faire des études de mathématiques mais le virus familial a été plus fort et il consacre sa vie au bridge (mais aussi à sa compagne Sophie et à sa fille Garance) quand il n'est pas au Parc des Princes pour soutenir le PSG.

La paire de « vieux » est composée de :

**François Combescure** : le régional de l'étape, il fait la Une de tous les médias rhônalpins avec ses enfants Baptiste et Sarah, eux aussi en équipe de France (respectivement Juniors et Girls).

Et

**Jérôme Rombaut** : l'hyperactif de l'équipe. Entre deux parties de bridge, sa femme Céline, ses trois enfants et son poste de direction à Funbridge, il trouve le temps de faire du triathlon et a récemment réussi à participer (et à terminer) l'Ironman (3,8 km à la nage, 180 km en vélo et un marathon pour finir...) de Nice.

La paire « transgénération » est composée de :

**Cédric Lorenzini** : Après une thèse en chimie sur l'élaboration de matériaux polymères issus de ressources renouvelables (!!), il a choisi de devenir bridgeur professionnel et vient de se marier avec sa compagne Aurélie qui, quand elle abandonne ses activités d'actuaire, codirige le fan-club de l'équipe avec Emma, la femme de François.

Et

**Jean-Christophe Quantin** : Le «doyen» de l'équipe. Il était déjà en équipe de France quand son partenaire Cédric n'était pas encore né ! Il est pourtant loin d'avoir l'âge de jouer en senior. Signe de la complémentarité de l'équipe, il partage la même passion que les deux jeunes : il est fan de Neymar et du PSG.

Le capitaine **Lionel Sebbane** est malheureusement plus connu dans les médias pour ses participations à différents jeux télévisés que pour le titre de Budapest mais espérons que ces championnats à Lyon apporteront plus de visibilité à notre loisir préféré.

### Une visite au Vu-Graph ?

Vous pouvez, bien sûr, suivre des rencontres sur votre ordinateur, vous pouvez préférer vous installer en salle ouverte et vivre le match de votre choix, en vrai. Il existe une troisième option que je vous recommande, la salle du Rama, ou si vous préférez du Vu-Graph.

Elle est située au niveau +1 dans l'auditorium **Pasteur**.

C'est une salle de spectacle en gradin aux sièges confortables et à la climatisation impeccable.

Un match se déroule sur l'écran, donne par donne, carte par carte, avec les commentaires éclairés de trois experts, en Anglais par **Barry Rigal**, l'Américain, **David Stern**, l'Australien ou **Marek Wojciki**, le Polonais, et en Français, par **Michel Sahal**.

Vous bénéficierez, naturellement, des enchères et, en outre connaîtrez, par le détail, ce qui s'est passé dans l'autre salle.

Mais les renseignements à votre disposition ne s'arrêteront pas là, loin s'en faut. Sur l'écran s'affichera également chacun des scores enregistrés à chacune des 66 tables. Tout cela grâce à la technologie du Professeur **Gianni Baldi**. Vous vivrez, ainsi, un thriller, interprété par 244 acteurs simultanément.

### Sabine Auken a écrit sur Facebook.

«Lyon offre les meilleures conditions de jeu que j'ai jamais eu l'opportunité d'expérimenter»

Un compliment à prendre en compte quand on saura que Sabine a représenté l'Allemagne mais aussi le Danemark et les Etats-Unis et qu'elle même ne saurait compter le nombre de pays où elle est allée jouer.



Sabine Auken

## PROFILS

### Jean-Claude Thuillier

Il a fait carrière comme ingénieur dans les travaux publics. En parallèle, joueur de bridge de première série, il fut Président du comité de Picardie avant d'occuper les fonctions de Directeur de la FFB. Aujourd'hui, à la retraite, il a été élu Secrétaire Général de la Fédération Française. A ce titre, il est chargé de mission auprès Jean-Louis Counil. Ce choix paraît d'autant plus judicieux qu'il avait acquis une solide expérience dans le sillage de Jean-Claude Beineix lors des championnats d'Europe 2008 à Pau.



Jean-Claude Thuillier

Nous l'avons rencontré pour qu'il nous explique son rôle qui éclaire une partie des tâches nécessaires au bon fonctionnement d'un championnat comme Lyon 2017.

Nous l'avons vu arriver avec un volumineux et impressionnant dossier contenant des centaines de plans grand format. Explication : il avait à charge de définir jour par jour l'utilisation des quelques 8000 m2 mis à disposition en fonction des diverses épreuves organisées par la WBF ou la FFB. A charge pour lui de gérer les flux d'affluence en accord avec les services de sécurité, de prévoir les emplacements des fontaines d'eau (19 au total pour une consommation prévisible de 8000 litres d'eau). La reproduction des bulletins papier était également dans son domaine d'activité avec de gros soucis imprévus à quelques jours du début du championnat lorsque le fournisseur fut défaillant.

Jean-Claude dresse la conclusion: «Ce Palais est une superbe machine mais avec de multiples contraintes horaires, sécurité, limitation des coûts supplémentaires, besoins en personnel, pour l'instant le navire vogue sans remous.»

## L'AUTRE BULLETIN

Depuis hier, nous ne sommes plus seuls, **le championnat mondial des jeunes** a débuté et avec lui son bulletin avec **Brent Manley** comme rédacteur en chef. Il est disponible aux mêmes emplacements que le nôtre ...et au même prix : il est gratuit.

A propos du championnat des jeunes, notons que les organisateurs craignaient une cérémonie d'ouverture trop confidentielle. Elle s'est déroulée dans l'amphithéâtre Pasteur à guichets fermés, les 350 places se sont révélées insuffisantes.

### La donne du jour

Le Bangladesh fut à deux doigts d'obtenir une retentissante victoire contre la France, championne d'Europe en titre. Les favoris durent se contenter d'un court succès par 3 IMPs. A la vérité, celui-ci aurait été bien plus large (28 IMPs) sans une défaillance inhabituelle de **Thomas Bessis** au jeu de la carte après que sa paire ait pris l'avantage à l'enchère. Cachez les jeux d'E/O.

Donne 13. Donneur Nord. Tous Vul.

♠ A R 10 8		
♥ V		
♦ R V 9 8 6 5 3		
♣ 7		
♠ D V 7 4		♠ 9 6 5 3 2
♥ D 8 5 4		♥ R 6
♦ —		♦ 10 7 2
♣ A V 8 5 3		♣ D 10 9
	<div> <div>N</div> <div>O</div> <div>E</div> <div>S</div> </div>	
♠ —		
♥ A 10 9 7 3 2		
♦ A D 4		
♣ R 6 4 2		

Tandis que le Bangladesh se contentait en salle fermée du contrat de 3 Sans-Atout, Bessis et Volcker enchérissaient ce bon chelem à 6 Carreaux par Nord sur entame atout, Ouest défause un Trèfle.

Votre ligne de jeu ? A la table, le déclarant prit en main et joua Cœur avec pour ambition d'affranchir la couleur, le partage des atouts (connu dès la première levée) et celui des Cœurs eurent raison du contrat. Nous avons vu un autre déclarant échouer en jouant Pique coupé à la deuxième levée, puis As de Cœur et Cœur coupé : une de chute en raison d'un uppercut au troisième tour de Cœur.

La bonne ligne de jeu consiste à jouer TREFLE à la seconde levée.

Si l'As de Trèfle est placé en Est, vous aurez une défause sur le Roi et il suffira de couper un seul Pique au mort. Si l'As de Trèfle est en Ouest, celui-ci ne pourra rejouer atout et vos risques d'uppercut, quand vous chercherez à rejoindre votre main pour couper deux Piques au mort, seront bien plus réduites.



## Misplay this Hand with Me: The Kingdom of the Blind

Having been persuaded to come out of retirement to play in the World Championships in Lyon, the early rounds have passed without incident when I pick up a shapely hand:

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

I am the dealer with both sides vulnerable. I open 1♦ and my partner responds 1♥. East doubles and I introduce my other suit by bidding 1♠. When my partner continues with 2♣ (which we play as forcing to game) I consider bidding 3♦, but mindful that East's double suggests that suits will not be breaking I content myself with 2♦ which partner raises to 3♦. Our agreements are that we will only cue-bid first-round controls, but rather than bid 3♠ I bide my time by bidding 4♦. When partner cue bids 4♥ I ask for key cards with 4NT and partner responds 5NT, which we play as showing two key cards and a void. As that must be in spades, I bring proceedings to a close with 6♦. This has been our lengthy sequence:

West	North	East	South
—	—	—	1♦
Pass	1♥	Dble	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5NT*	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

West leads the two of diamonds and partner gives me some good cards:

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

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

When I follow with dummy's four East discards the five of clubs. I win in hand with the five, ruff a spade, cash the ace of hearts, ruff a heart, West following with the king, ruff a spade and ruff a heart. When West overruffs with the ten and plays a club I am one down.

This was the full deal:

♠ 9 6 5 3 2 ♥ K 6 ♦ 10 7 2 ♣ Q 10 9	♠ — ♥ A 10 9 7 3 2 ♦ A Q 4 ♣ K 6 4 2	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="background-color: #4a7c59; color: white; padding: 10px; margin: 0 10px;">             N W      E S           </div> </div>	♠ Q J 7 4 ♥ Q 8 5 4 ♦ — ♣ A J 8 5 3
♠ A K 10 8 ♥ J ♦ K J 9 8 6 5 3 ♣ 7			

Post mortem

It was very careless to allow West's ten of diamonds to be promoted, but it is all too easy to have this type of blind spot.

As soon as East shows out on the first round of diamonds declarer can make this contract in several ways - perhaps the prettiest is to win the opening lead with dummy's four of diamonds and then exit with the king of clubs, since East's initial double marks him with ♣A.

Having taken the first trick in hand, declarer can instead play a club at trick two, not caring who has the ace, as even were West able to win and play a second trump declarer would have an easy route to twelve tricks.

At the other table N/S did not get past 3NT and East led the five of clubs. After some dubious discards he took all the tricks, so we lost 13 IMPs.

In the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup & d'Orsi Trophy three declarers had to contend with a diamond lead against 6♦. None were successful.



**Misplay These Hands With Me by Mark Horton,  
2007, Masterpoint Press**



David Bird

Venice Cup RR - R7

## England v USA I



At the start of this match England was in 3rd place, with both the USA teams well below the half-way point, much to my surprise. I am a fervent supporter of all England teams, whatever the game or sport, and would somehow have to disguise this bias in my BBO voice commentary.

England began with two distressing boards:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shi	Brown	Palmer	Brock
—	1♣*	Pass	1♦*
1♠	Dble*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

North's 1♣ was the opening bid on all weak INT types and the response was a transfer. This is a great method in general, but not so good here, when it put East on lead against the heart game. West won the first trick with the ♠K and switched to her singleton club. Brown won with the ♣A and now needed to play the ace and queen of trumps, as the cards lay. When she preferred to finesse the ♥Q, it was the defenders who proceeded to draw trumps – one at a time. Spade ruff, club ruff, spade ruff and the game was two down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zur-Campanile	Smith	Meyers
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Meyers won the club in hand, continuing with the ace and jack of trumps. West won and switched to a spade, dummy's queen winning. The ♦A was followed by the ♦Q, discarding a club. West won and delivered a spade ruff but declarer had the remaining tricks. 11 IMPs to USA I.

The unfailingly impartial BBO commentator was hoping

for better things on the next board:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shi	Brown	Palmer	Brock
—	—	Pass	1♣*
Pass	1♦*	Pass	1♥
Dble	Rdbl	1♠	Pass
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Dble	3NT
All Pass			

North's redouble is fine, with 11 points, but 2♠ looks like an overbid to me. Would a double not be better?

4♥ would have been hopeless on the lie of the cards but Brock arrived in 3NT. I was hoping that Shi would see the merits of 'fourth best from the longest and strongest', after which Brock would surely be writing +600 in her card. No, Shi liked the look of her ♣Q and laid this card on the table. Brock's inscription was then -200.



Migry Zur-Campanile, USA I

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zur-Campanile	Smith	Meyers
—	—	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

A disciplined check-back auction and that was +140 for another 8 IMPs. Nothing much happened for a few boards and then we had this competitive deal:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 6 4		♠ A K J 9 7 5	
♥ K J		♥ 4 3	
♦ K 10 7 5		♦ 9	
♣ J 9 5 3		♣ A Q 8 6	
♠ 10 8 3	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             N W     E S           </div>	♠ 2	
♥ Q 10 9 8 7 6 2		♥ A 5	
♦ A		♦ Q J 8 6 4 3 2	
♣ K 2		♣ 10 7 4	

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shi	Brown	Palmer	Brock
—	Pass	1♠	3♦
4♠	5♦	5♠	All Pass

Palmer was probably expecting only 300 from 5♦ doubled and took the push to 5♠. She won the ♦Q lead in dummy and led a trump to the ace. After a club to the king, she played the ♠8 and North's ♠6 appeared. After South's weak jump overcall it seemed clear to finesse the ♠J. Palmer gave the defenders some hope for quite a while, considering the



Nicola Smith, England

matter. Then... learned commentator slumps in his chair... she finessed the ♠J. After that, it was a simple matter to ruff the third round of clubs and lead hearts to reach her hand and draw the last trump. 5♠ was a brave bid and the contract had been well-played.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zur-Campanile	Smith	Meyers
—	Pass	1♠	3♦
3♥	5♦	Dble	All Pass

Draper introduced her hearts, as I would have done, and there was then no option of bidding 5♠ over 5♦. 4 more IMPs to USAI.

Brock produced some pleasing card-play on this deal:

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ K 10 9 5 3		♠ 7 4	
♥ A 5		♥ 10 9 3	
♦ 7 4 3		♦ J 9 8 5	
♣ 7 4 3		♣ K 10 6 5	
♠ 8 6	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">             N W     E S           </div>	♠ A Q J 2	
♥ Q 8 7 6 4		♥ K J 2	
♦ A Q		♦ K 10 6 2	
♣ Q J 9 2		♣ A 8	

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shi	Brown	Palmer	Brock
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♥	Dble	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

North's double showed spades and 4♥ was a re-transfer to 4♠. Brock ducked the ♣Q lead, East opting not to overtake. She won the next club and drew trumps with the ace and king. After eliminating the club suit, she played the ace, king and jack of hearts. When the ♥Q appeared from West, she discarded a diamond from dummy to leave West endplayed. Shi laid down the ♦A and declarer claimed the remainder.

It was not really possible after this bidding, but suppose West had held ♦A-Q-10 over declarer's ♦K-6-2. It might then have been necessary for East to overtake the ♣Q opening lead to prevent the elimination in the ending.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zur-Campanile	Smith	Meyers
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			



On the next board, the multi caused big problems... for the side that opened it.

♠ A  
♥ A 9 8 6 5 4  
♦ A Q J 7 6 4  
♣ —

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

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
<i>Shi</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Palmer</i>	<i>Brock</i>
—	—	—	2♦ *
Dble	Pass*	2NT*	Pass
3♣	3♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Draper</i>	<i>Zur-Campanile</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Meyers</i>
—	—	—	2♦*
Dble	Pass*	2NT*	Pass
3♣	3♥	All Pass	

I would like to end my report at this point but, sadly, England had two more big losses to come.

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

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

W N E S

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

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Shi</i>	<i>Brown</i>	<i>Palmer</i>	<i>Brock</i>
	1♣*	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

A nett swing of 17 IMPs was at stake. As you see, a club lead followed by a ♦K switch will give the defenders the first four tricks. Even though North had not taken the chance to advertise her genuine clubs, I was a bit surprised when the ♠6 hit the table. That was +650 to USA I.

West	North	East	South
<i>Draper</i>	<i>Zur-Campanile</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Meyers</i>
—	1♣	1♥	Pass
2NT	3♣	4♥	5♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

In a rare stroke of good fortune, I have run out of space to describe England's missed slam on Board 16. The match ended in a 50-19 win for the Americans (16.88-3.12). Ah well, England are still 5th and USA1 are 11th. It's not the end of the world.



**Sylvia Shi, USA 1**



Jos Jacobs

Bermuda Bowl RR - R8

## Germany v USA I



At the start of Round 8, Germany had reached top of the standings after their big win in the morning match. On the other hand, their scheduled opponents, USA I, had just suffered a serious setback against Australia, which saw them leave the top eight. So the question was: Would Germany keep their fine position or would USA I climb back into the qualifying spots?

Both teams were off to a bad start as they missed a fine, albeit not too easy chance on the first board of the match:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

	♠ Q	
	♥ K Q 8 7 5 3	
	♦ K Q 10 2	
	♣ K 8	

	N	
W		E
	S	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Auken	Weinstein	Welland
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
4♠	All Pass		

After Levin's practical approach, Weinstein could not make any sensible move. USA I +480.



Steve Weinstein, USA I

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rehder	Rodwell	Häusler	Meckstroth
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
Dble	2♥	3♣	3♦
4♠	All Pass		

In many textbooks 4♠ would show an even stronger hand than 3♠ would already have shown, so I think there is something to be said for a polite raise by East, who is looking at two nice aces. When East eventually passed, the chance for a big swing had gone. Twelve tricks, of course, so no swing. It should be noted that even a trump lead does not help the defence as South cannot play a second trump when he gets the lead in diamonds.

In both the BB and the VC slam was bid only twice. Three more pairs enjoyed playing in 4♠ doubled...

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

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

	N	
W		E
	S	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Auken	Weinstein	Welland
—	—	—	1♣*
1♠	Dble*	Pass	INT
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

South's 1♣ showed a balanced hand with possibly any five-card suit, North's double was a transfer to INT. North made an invitational raise, which cost an extra 50 points when West was able to lead his own suit. Down two, USA I +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rehder	Rodwell	Häusler	Meckstroth
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	INT	All Pass	

We all have sympathy for East, even more so in view of the entire auction. He preferred a safe diamond lead over an adventurous lead of partner's opened suit. As this lead cost a tempo, Rodwell suddenly was in a good position to exert some pressure. He won the  $\diamond K$  and cashed his four heart tricks on which West threw a spade. Next, he led a spade from dummy and ducked West's jack. When West continued the  $\spadesuit K$ , Rodwell won and ducked a diamond to West's now bare ace. West could win his remaining spade tricks but had to give dummy the last trick in clubs. Had West blanked his  $\clubsuit Q$ , this endplay would not have been possible. Just made, USAI +90 and 5 IMPs to them to open their account.

Two boards later, robbery was the issue.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

$\spadesuit$ J 5 3 $\heartsuit$ A 10 9 8 7 $\diamond$ J 4 $\clubsuit$ Q 8 5		$\spadesuit$ K Q 8 $\heartsuit$ K J 6 $\diamond$ A K 9 $\clubsuit$ 10 9 3 2	
$\spadesuit$ A 7 4 2 $\heartsuit$ Q 5 3 $\diamond$ Q 10 8 7 5 $\clubsuit$ 4	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> <div>N</div> <div>W      E</div> <div>S</div> </div>		
$\spadesuit$ 10 9 6 $\heartsuit$ 4 2 $\diamond$ 6 3 2 $\clubsuit$ A K J 7 6			

As you can see,  $5\diamond$  has good chances and on the actual layout, E/W will also make  $4\spadesuit$ . The popular contracts, however, were a diamond partscore in the VC and 3NT in the BB. The big majority of the 3NT bidders duly went down but there were a few exceptions. As it happened, the two tables in this match were examples of how to cope and not to cope with robbery attempts.



Helmut Häusler, Germany

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Auken	Weinstein	Welland
—	Pass	1NT	Pass
$3\clubsuit^*$	Pass	$3\diamond^*$	Pass
$3\heartsuit^*$	Dble	3NT	All Pass

$3\clubsuit$  was sort of Puppet Stayman, asking for a five-card major. As East did not hold four spades, 3NT was the logical final contract. In view of partner's double of  $3\heartsuit$ , South led the  $\heartsuit 4$  which ran to declarer's jack. After this, Weinstein ran for home with an overtrick. USAI +430.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rehder	Rodwell	Häusler	Meckstroth
—	Pass	$1\clubsuit$	Pass
$1\diamond$	$1\heartsuit$	1NT	Pass
$2\spadesuit$	Pass	3NT	All Pass

In the replay, Meckstroth showed how to tackle this type of problem. He led a top club, in spite of partner's overcall and then switched to a heart. Down two, USA +100 and 11 IMPs.

Speaking about robbery: at another table, where there had been no N/S bidding, South also led a top club but North followed with the queen. So much about unblocking agreements...

Maybe the most interesting board of the set was Board 27:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

$\spadesuit$ Q 4 $\heartsuit$ 8 7 6 5 $\diamond$ J 7 6 5 $\clubsuit$ A 10 7		$\spadesuit$ A 9 7 3 $\heartsuit$ 2 $\diamond$ A Q 8 3 2 $\clubsuit$ K 5 3	
$\spadesuit$ K J 6 $\heartsuit$ A 10 9 4 $\diamond$ K 4 $\clubsuit$ Q 9 6 4	<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center;"> <div>N</div> <div>W      E</div> <div>S</div> </div>		
$\spadesuit$ 10 8 5 2 $\heartsuit$ K Q J 3 $\diamond$ 10 9 $\clubsuit$ J 8 2			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Auken	Weinstein	Welland
—	—	—	Pass
$1\clubsuit$	Pass	$1\diamond$	$1\heartsuit$
Pass	$2\heartsuit$	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	$3\heartsuit$	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

After the lead-directing overcall, North led the  $\heartsuit 6$  to South's jack which won the trick. When South continued his low heart, Levin put in the nine. Once this held, the rest was easy enough. He emerged with ten tricks: USAI +430.



## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rehder	Rodwell	Häusler	Meckstroth
—	—	—	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

At the other table, Rehder had much more work to do. There had been no intervention and North led a diamond to the nine and declarer's king. What is the best line?

Declarer's problem at this point is first of all that he has no good discards from hand if he plays on diamonds. So, at the table, Rehder led a club to dummy's king and, when this won the trick, led a spade to his jack and North's doubleton queen – about the worst layout for declarer as the ♠10 might also appear on time later on. North exited with a heart to South's jack, which won the trick. The ♥K came next, declarer winning the ace and throwing a diamond from dummy. At this point, declarer cannot continue hearts as South will win and push a club through, so Rehder had to cash out, conceding down two. USAI +100 and another 11 IMPs.

The last board of the match put the final nail into the German coffin.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Rehder	Rodwell	Häusler	Meckstroth
INT	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

In the Closed Room, USAI had reached a good partscore contract, which made easily enough on a diamond lead by East. Even on a club shift, declarer could have played another diamond himself for a club discard on the ♦K. USAI +140.

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
R. Levin	Auken	Weinstein	Welland
1♦	1♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

The Germans did well to avoid the hopeless 4♥ but it would have needed some real clairvoyance to bring home even nine tricks. Welland got a chance, however, but he could not possibly know he actually had been given a chance when Levin led the ♣9. By agreement, this could be from both 109xx and Q109x so what should he do, in view of the opening bid?

When he called for dummy's jack at trick one, he was down very quickly as Levin could no longer be endplayed. When Welland took his last chance by taking the spade finesse near the end, he was in fact down two. USAI +100 and 6 more IMPs to them to make the final score a quite convincing 41-1 to USAI or 18.09-1.91 V.P. USAI had made it back into the top eight.

Had Welland played East for the doubleton ♣Q, he might well have made the contract, as was shown in a VC match (Poland v Netherlands).

Cathy Baldysz as West had opened 1♣ (Polish), which, not at all unreasonably, induced her daughter Zofia to try the lead of the ♣Q against North's 3NT. This was all Merel Bruijnstee, the Dutch declarer in the North seat, needed for her endplay. ♣A, low heart to West, club back to the jack, ♥A and a heart to West, ♠10 won by dummy's ♣K, East throwing a spade. Over to the ♠A in hand, two more hearts throwing dummy's two low diamonds, back to ♠K and exit from dummy with a club to West's nine. West now had to give dummy the last trick with the ♦K. Well spotted!

It turned out later that she was the only declarer in either BB or VC to receive this fortunate lead and also make the contract. All other declarers in 3NT went down, except one (thanks to a defensive error).

## Championship Diary

### Part 1

Some actors and actresses, both past and present, have attained notoriety by being difficult to work with. For example: Jennifer Lopez is said to have a long list of demands that must be met if she is going to appear in a film. She is known to throw fits if she doesn't get her way. Julia Roberts may be America's sweetheart, but she is rumoured to be a diva on set.

She was nicknamed "Tinkerhell" by the crew on the film *Hook*. Marlon Brando was known to be extremely difficult to work with, especially later in his career. He showed up drunk on the set of *Apocalypse Now*, refused to read the script, and demanded to be shot in a way that hid his weight.

Having been asked to make a couple of videos yesterday morning, the Editor, having sat around waiting for half-an-hour, stormed off the set, saying that was 30 minutes of his life that he would like back - not unlike attending an IBPA Executive meeting according to Tacchi.



Venice Cup RR - R9

## Sweden v Russia



Brian Senior

Third met fourth when Russia and Sweden faced off against each other in Round 9 of the Venice Cup. Sweden struck on the first board:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
S. Rimstedt	Gromova	Ovelius	Ponomareva
—	Pass	2♠	Dble
4♠	4NT	Pass	5♣
Dble	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Khonicheva	C. Rimstedt	Gulevich	Grönkvist
—	Pass	2♦	Dble
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	4♣
All Pass			

For Russia, Anna Gulevich opened the East hand with a multi and Ida Grönkvist doubled, showing a weak to intermediate no trump or some strong hands. Elena Khonicheva jumped to 3♥, pass or correct, and after a pass from Cecilia Rimstedt, Gulevich duly converted to spades. When that came round to Rimstedt she doubled for take-out and, as E/W had both done all their bidding by now, Grönkvist's 4♣ response ended the auction. Khonicheva led the eight of spades to dummy's bare ace and Grönkvist led a club to her king, getting the bad news. She switched her attention to diamonds, Khonicheva winning the jack with the ace and switching to king then queen of hearts to establish two winners in that suit. The contract was down two for -100.

For Sweden Emma Ovelius opened a natural weak two bid and this permitted Sandra Rimstedt to jump to 4♠ over the take-out double, putting the pressure onto Victoria Gromova, North. Gromova bid 4NT, two or more places to play, and Tatiana Ponomareva bid 5♣, promptly doubled by Rimstedt. The lead was again a spade to the bare ace. Ponomareva played a club to the king followed by the king of diamonds to Rimstedt's ace. Rimstedt played back the

♣Q to the ace and Ponomareva ruffed and played on diamonds. Rimstedt ruffed the third round and playing the king of hearts. As at the other table, there were two of those to be lost so the contract was down three for -500 and 9 IMPs to Sweden.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
S. Rimstedt	Gromova	Ovelius	Ponomareva
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	INT	Pass	2♣
Pass	Pass	2♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Khonicheva	C. Rimstedt	Gulevich	Grönkvist
—	—	Pass	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Khonicheva opened INT in third seat and declared 2♠ after a Stayman response from Gulevich. Cecilia Rimstedt cashed the ace of clubs then switched to her spade, Grönkvist ducking dummy's jack. Khonicheva led a diamond to the king and ace and the heart return was covered all around. Khonicheva returned the seven of hearts, to Grönkvist's king and back came a club to the jack followed by the ♣K, ruffed and over-ruffed. Grönkvist played back the jack of diamonds to declarer's queen and Khonicheva cashed the ♠A, so was down one for -50.

Sandra Rimstedt opened 1♣ in third seat and Gromova overcalled a somewhat distorted INT. Ponomareva used Stayman and Gromova judged to pass 2♣. That put Ovelius in an interesting position and, despite holding only the two jacks, she chose to compete with 2♥, where she played. You might think that the five-two fit might fare less well than the four-four spade fit, but it actually turned out better. Ponomareva led a club so Gromova won and played two more rounds, the third being ruffed with the eight and over-ruffed with the queen (might South have done better to discard on this trick?). Ponomareva returned a low

diamond to the king, ducked, and declarer now played the seven of hearts to the king. Ponomareva got out with a heart to the ace and now Ovelius led a low diamond away from the queen. Gromova went up with the ace and returned a club but Overlius could ruff, draw the last trump and take the spade finesse for eight tricks; +110 and 4 IMPs to Sweden.

The score had moved on to 17-0 when the next major swing came along.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

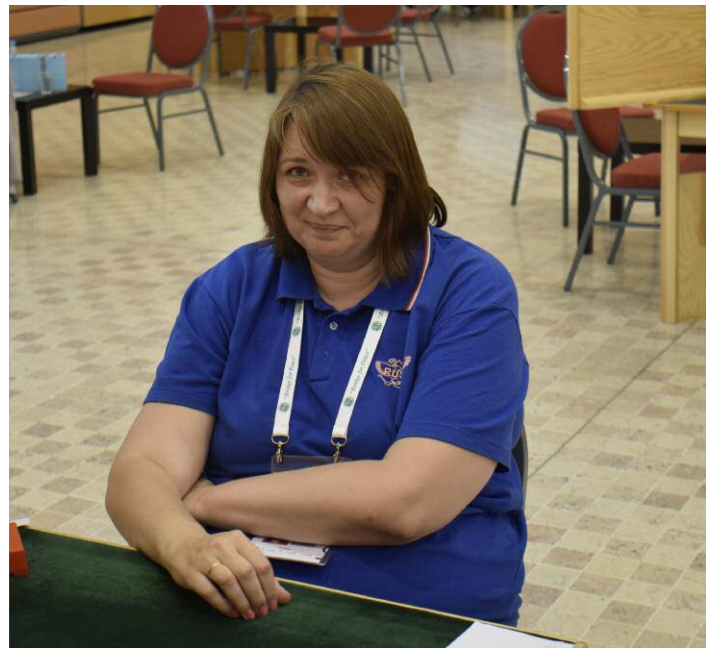
West	North	East	South
S. Rimstedt	Gromova	Ovelius	Ponomareva
—	1♠	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Khonicheva	C. Rimstedt	Gulevich	Grönkvist
—	2♠	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Cecilia opened the North hand with a weak two bid while Gromova opened at the one level, but it made no difference to the final contract, 4♥ by East. The choice of opening may, however, have affected South's choice of



**Sandra Rimstedt, Sweden**



**Tatiana Ponomareva, Russia**

opening lead – who knows? Facing the 1♠ opening, Ponomareva led the queen of clubs. Ovelius won the ace, drew trumps then played the jack of clubs to set up her tenth trick; +420. Grönkvist, facing the weak two opener, led the six of diamonds. Cecilia won the ♦K and switched to the jack of spades. Grönkvist ruffed, put her back in with a second diamond, and received a second ruff. There was still a club to be lost at the end so the contract was down two for –100 and 11 IMPs to Sweden; 28-0.

Russia scored their first IMP, then a couple more on this next deal:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
S. Rimstedt	Gromova	Ovelius	Ponomareva
—	3♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Khonicheva	C. Rimstedt	Gulevich	Grönkvist
—	3♣	Pass	5♣
Dble	All Pass		

Long gone are the days when a three-level pre-empt was

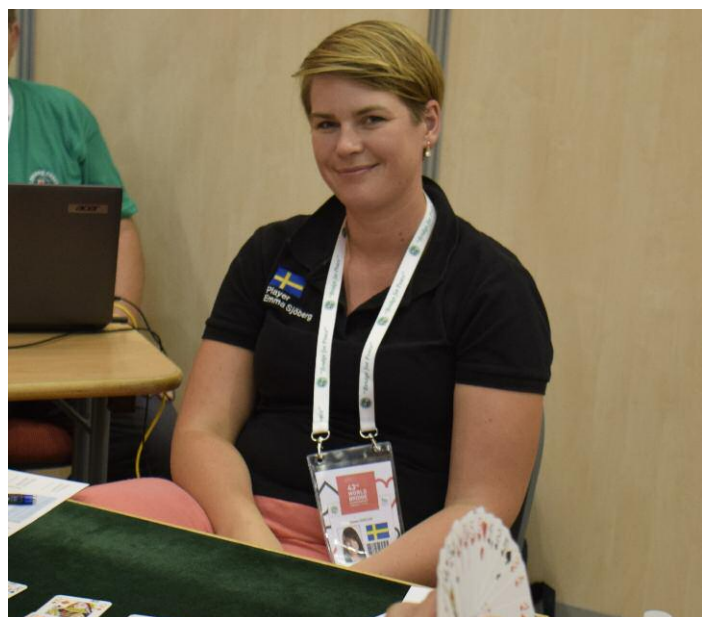


based on a seven-card suit. Nowadays very many players are happy to make the bid on only six cards and, as we can see, that includes both our Norths in this match. In theory, the deal belongs to N/S in 4♣, but it was impossible for South to know that and both players jumped to 5♣ and left their opponents to guess what, if anything, to do. Sandra passed so Gromova was one down for just -50, while Khonicheva doubled and, looking at a balanced hand containing a lot of likely losers, Gulevich left it in. With no five-level contract even close to making for E/W, that was the right thing to do and Russia scored +100 and +2 IMPs; 3-28.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
S. Rimstedt	Gromova	Ovelius	Ponomareva
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	5NT
Pass	7♥	All Pass	



Emma Ovelius, Sweden

West	North	East	South
Khonicheva	C. Rimstedt	Gulevich	Grönkvist
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♣
Pass	7NT	All Pass	

Both N/Ss bid to one of the available cold grand slams. In the Swedish auction we know that 2♣ was a GF relay but what the subsequent bidding meant is, not surprisingly, not covered on their convention card. Ponomareva's 1♣ opening was the strong variety of Polish Club and 2♦ a natural game-force. All that we can say is that the two pairs knew what they were doing and both reached a good spot; no swing at +1510 and +1520.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
S. Rimstedt	Gromova	Ovelius	Ponomareva
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Dble	1♠	Dble	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Khonicheva	C. Rimstedt	Gulevich	Grönkvist
—	1♦	Pass	1NT
Dble	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

Cecilia's 1♦ opening would normally be unbalanced and the 1NT response a GF relay. After another artificial sequence, Grönkvist jumped to 6♦. Gulevich led the nine of clubs, which could have been either from shortage, 109x(x) or H109x(x). Khonicheva went up with the ace and

returned the suit, hoping that the club lead was a singleton or that partner would have a trump trick by force. It was not to be. Cecilia discarded a spade, won the ♠K and cashed the ace of diamonds, ruffed a club and ruffed a spade. She could draw trumps now and had 12 tricks for a painless +1370.

At the other table the Russian N/S stopped in game without really getting to grips with the possibility of their being a slam available to them. Sometimes, when dummy goes down and you see that you might have bid more, you take your eye off the ball in your actual contract, and that was the case for Gromova on this deal. She received a diamond lead and, for no particular reason, rose with dummy's ace. She continued by playing ace of hearts and ruffing a heart low, ruffed a spade then ruffed another heart low. Ovelius over-ruffed and returned her remaining trump and suddenly Gromova had only ten tricks, having to concede a club and a spade in the ending for down one; -100 and 16 IMPs to Sweden, who led by 47-3.

Of course, declarer could have made 11 tricks simply by winning the first diamond in hand and taking one spade ruff before drawing trumps.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>S. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Ovelius</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
—	—	INT	Dble
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Khonicheva</i>	<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Gulevich</i>	<i>Grönkvist</i>
—	—	Pass	INT
Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

Grönkvist opened a strong no trump as South and when that came round to Gulevich she balanced with 2♥, both majors. Khonicheva gave preference to 2♠ and that rather inelegant contract drifted three down for -150. No double, no trouble, as they say.

In the other room, Ovelius opened a mini no trump on the East cards, in principle 9-12 but occasionally either 8 or 13 HCP. Ponomareva doubled, then bid her spades when Sandra's 2♣ run-out came back to her. Gromova didn't

fancy spades, otherwise Russia might have played the same contract at both tables, which is rarely a recipe for success unless that contract is INT. She converted to 3♦ and played there. Ovelius led a club so Sandra took three of those then switched to a heart to her partner's ace. The trump loser was the setting trick; down one for -50 and 5 IMPs to Sweden, who led by 52-3.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>S. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Gromova</i>	<i>Ovelius</i>	<i>Ponomareva</i>
Pass	INT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
<i>Khonicheva</i>	<i>C. Rimstedt</i>	<i>Gulevich</i>	<i>Grönkvist</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

It was Gromova's turn to open a mini no trump and that scooped the pool. Ovelius started with the ♠K for unblock, cashed all the spades, then switched to the jack of diamonds. That established declarer's seventh trick for +90.

Cecilia could not open the North hand so Gulevich got to open as East and became declarer in 2♠. Grönkvist cashed a top club then switched to a heart, Cecilia winning the ace and switching back to clubs, ruffed in dummy. Gulevich cashed the ♥K, ruffed a club and set up the hearts, coming to ten tricks for +170 and 6 IMPs to Russia.

That made the final score 52-9 in favour of Sweden, converting to 18.44-1.56 VPs.

### Dealing machines and cards

The Duplimates used for the duplication during the championship are sold for EUR 1999. You are advised to order early as the number of machines is limited. Contact Jannerstens at Forum 4 (just outside the playing room), or drop a line to [per@jannersten.com](mailto:per@jannersten.com).

The (new) cards that you play with (if you participate) will be sold after usage for EUR 180 per 240 decks.

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Other quantities on request in the bookstall.





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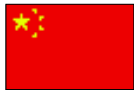
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Bermuda Bowl RR - R9

## China v Sweden



Ron Tacchi

Coming into this ninth round match Sweden were lying comfortably in third position. Meanwhile China had not performed to the level they have achieved in previous competitions and badly needed a good win to move them up the table and into contention for one of those qualification spots.

I have not been blessed with a raft of interesting hands in previous reports, let us hope this set will bring us some deals with swing possibilities.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Jia Li	Upmark	Zhang
—	1♦*	2♠	Dble
3♥*	Pass	3♠	Dble
Pass	4♣	All Pass	
1♦	11-15, 2+♦		
3♥	Non-pre-emptive spade raise		

As I advance in years opening bids get lighter and lighter, I suspect if I continue reporting, soon twelve cards will be sufficient to enter the auction. The One Diamond opener did not promise a diamond suit. South, with his opening hand must have had hopes of a game on the opening deal but eventually got the message that his partner was absolutely minimum and allowed him to play in Four Clubs. Fortunately West did not compete further nor did he double. The contract drifted two off for the loss of 100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dai	O. Rimstedt	Yang	M. Rimstedt
—	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♠	All Pass

At this table a junior could not find an opening bid with the North hand and so a simple Multi sequence allowed the Chinese to come to rest in Two Spades and make the ten tricks available. So after Board 1 I have a larger swing than in previous reports of 2 IMPs.



Jianwei Li, China

Three dull boards followed where Sweden managed to score an overtrick IMP.

Spoiler alert – I might be using the above sentence more than once.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Jia Li	Upmark	Zhang
—	1♠	2♥	Pass
2♠*	3♠	4♥	All Pass

A simple enough contract to bid, but not necessarily simple enough to defend. The result depends solely on the lead. With all four hands on view it is easy enough to lead a diamond but at this table South started with a trump and thus the contract rolled home. In my opinion a trump lead is not going to be a winner; you would like to ruff spades and by a process of Cartesian logic you realise that partner will need to lead the suit. Further using the irresistible force of logic you deduce that you need to find partner's

entry and it seems unlikely that is in trumps. If it is he will still be able to give you a ruff no matter what suit you lead. You pays your money and takes your choice as to which minor to lead, I have a preference for a diamond as it more likely to give you two entries to partner's hand.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dai	O. Rimstedt	Yang	M. Rimstedt
—	1♠	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

At this table South found a diamond lead and took the contract two down. A diamond was more likely to be partner's entry after the club bid from West. There was a two trick defeat and 11 IMPs to Sweden.

## Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Jia Li	Upmark	Zhang
1♦*	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

Nyström and Upmark play a strong club system so the One Diamond opening does not promise a suit and can be bid with as little as an eleven count or even ten. They had a controlled auction to Three Hearts, and when dummy appeared declarer was probably relieved not to be in game. The bridge gods can be unkind at times and when the nine of clubs was led ensuring only one loser in the club suit declarer's facial expression surely turned sourer as firstly the trump finesse was successful followed by the really bad news that the ace of diamonds was well-placed. Thus the contract was made with an overtrick.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dai	O. Rimstedt	Yang	M. Rimstedt
1♦*	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
1♦	Precision		

The Chinese West valued his hand worthy of accepting the game try from his partner. He also received the lead of the ♣9 and consequently made the same ten tricks but for 420 and a 6 IMPs swing.

## Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

## Open Room

Unfortunately the BBO record of the bidding for this hand disappeared into the ether though the contract was Five Diamonds doubled by West. There was no getting away from the three losers so the contract failed by one trick for +200.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dai	O. Rimstedt	Yang	M. Rimstedt
—	3♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

As you can see the Swedes played in five of a minor in both rooms and this contract had the same defect as the one in the other room, viz. three top losers. All this added up to another 6 IMPs to the Chinese team.



Fredrik Nyström, Sweden

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Jia Li	Upmark	Zhang
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	7♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dai	O. Rimstedt	Yang	M. Rimstedt
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2♠*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	7♥	All Pass	

Neither team found any difficulty in reaching a lay-down grand slam. The Chinese using a Precision sequence and the Swedes a two-over-one auction. Unfortunately neither convention card was very forthcoming after the second bid, but well done to both teams.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Jia Li	Upmark	Zhang
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Dble	1♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

South's Three Hearts bid took up a lot of space and left North with a difficult choice and he opted for the heart game. When West led a spade declarer was able to discard two clubs from hand and then lead a trump allowing the contract to be brought home. Have you noticed that there are three opening leads which take the contract down? They are the ace of clubs and either of the two small trumps. The basic effect is to deny declarer access to dummy to cash the two top spades and discard losing clubs.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dai	O. Rimstedt	Yang	M. Rimstedt
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Dble	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

After the Three Diamonds bid East went into the tank for a long while before settling on raising to game. Five Diamonds was made with ease. Had he raised to slam how should declarer play after the lead of a trump and West discards? Why, claim of course. Surely you don't want me to dot the i's and cross the t's? If you do then you will find elsewhere in this worthy publication a dissertation by the TSE (The Supreme Editor – as per yesterday's bulletin) that will give you all the details. The upshot was 1 IMP to China which was the winning margin of yet another relatively dull set of boards. The final score being 19-18 to China or 10.31-9.69 in VPs.



Jianming Dai, China



## RESULTS

## Bermuda Bowl

## Round 10

Match		IMPs		VPs	
1	GERMANY EGYPT	29	51	4.62	15.38
2	AUSTRALIA CHINA	21	24	9.09	10.91
3	SWEDEN GUADELOUPE	72	34	17.85	2.15
4	NETHERLANDS INDIA	23	41	5.40	14.60
5	ARGENTINA NEW ZEALAND	51	25	16.09	3.91
6	SOUTH AFRICA BRAZIL	45	65	5.00	15.00
7	MEXICO CHINESE TAIPEI	6	104	0.00	20.00
8	MONACO BANGLADESH	59	37	15.38	4.62
9	USA2 BULGARIA	27	57	3.27	16.73
10	INDONESIA ITALY	20	39	5.20	14.80
11	FRANCE USA1	38	27	13.04	6.96

## Round 11

Match		IMPs		VPs	
1	SOUTH AFRICA ARGENTINA	22	11	13.04	6.96
2	MEXICO NETHERLANDS	20	39	5.20	14.80
3	MONACO SWEDEN	29	54	4.08	15.92
4	BRAZIL ITALY	37	20	14.39	5.61
5	USA2 GERMANY	24	16	12.29	7.71
6	INDONESIA EGYPT	26	27	9.69	10.31
7	BULGARIA CHINA	19	29	7.20	12.80
8	USA1 GUADELOUPE	28	20	12.29	7.71
9	BANGLADESH INDIA	19	51	2.97	17.03
10	CHINESE TAIPEI NEW ZEALAND	33	31	10.61	9.39
11	FRANCE AUSTRALIA	43	21	15.38	4.62

## Round 12

Match		IMPs		VPs	
1	ITALY ARGENTINA	39	26	13.52	6.48
2	NEW ZEALAND BANGLADESH	52	11	18.21	1.79
3	INDIA USA1	16	50	2.69	17.31
4	GUADELOUPE BULGARIA	17	60	1.56	18.44
5	CHINA INDONESIA	47	33	13.75	6.25
6	EGYPT USA2	14	47	2.83	17.17
7	BRAZIL CHINESE TAIPEI	18	40	4.62	15.38
8	AUSTRALIA MONACO	23	35	6.72	13.28
9	SWEDEN MEXICO	49	22	16.26	3.74
10	NETHERLANDS SOUTH AFRICA	67	27	18.09	1.91
11	GERMANY FRANCE	17	35	5.40	14.60

## Venice Cup

## Round 10

Match		IMPs		VPs	
21	CHINESE TAIPEI JORDAN	61	16	18.66	1.34
22	POLAND EGYPT	36	11	15.92	4.08
23	ITALY INDIA	89	25	20.00	0.00
24	INDONESIA AUSTRALIA	51	33	14.60	5.40
25	USA1 ISRAEL	22	39	5.61	14.39
26	USA2 ARGENTINA	15	54	2.03	17.97
27	BRAZIL RUSSIA	35	50	6.03	13.97
28	SWEDEN CANADA	69	4	20.00	0.00
29	MOROCCO NEW ZEALAND	38	31	12.03	7.97
30	FRANCE CHINA	23	36	6.48	13.52
31	ENGLAND NETHERLANDS	38	37	10.31	9.69

## Round 11

Match		IMPs		VPs	
21	USA2 USA1	31	34	9.09	10.91
22	BRAZIL INDONESIA	23	25	9.39	10.61
23	SWEDEN ITALY	33	13	15.00	5.00
24	MOROCCO POLAND	19	38	5.20	14.80
25	ENGLAND CHINESE TAIPEI	40	22	14.60	5.40
26	ARGENTINA CHINA	25	35	7.20	12.80
27	NETHERLANDS EGYPT	24	26	9.39	10.61
28	NEW ZEALAND INDIA	29	11	14.60	5.40
29	CANADA AUSTRALIA	26	45	5.20	14.80
30	RUSSIA ISRAEL	26	28	9.39	10.61
31	FRANCE JORDAN	34	12	15.38	4.62

## Round 12

Match		IMPs		VPs	
21	CHINA USA1	26	27	9.69	10.31
22	ISRAEL CANADA	44	23	15.19	4.81
23	AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND	53	3	19.16	0.84
24	INDIA NETHERLANDS	41	54	6.48	13.52
25	ARGENTINA RUSSIA	17	40	4.44	15.56
26	JORDAN ENGLAND	32	79	1.13	18.87
27	CHINESE TAIPEI MOROCCO	36	35	10.31	9.69
28	POLAND SWEDEN	30	27	10.91	9.09
29	ITALY BRAZIL	18	38	5.00	15.00
30	INDONESIA USA2	45	28	14.39	5.61
31	EGYPT FRANCE	23	42	5.20	14.80

## World Championship Book 2017 – Lyon

The official book of these championships should be ready around the end of February next year. It will consist of approximately 350 large full colour pages and will include coverage of all the championship events, with particular emphasis on the latter stages of the Open and Women's Teams. There will be a full results service and many colour photographs.

The principle analysts, as in recent years, will be John Carruthers, Barry Rigal, Brian Senior and GeO Tislevoll.

On publication, the official retail price will be US\$35 plus whatever your local bookseller charges for postage. For the duration of the championships, you can pre-order via Jan Swaan in the Press Room at the reduced price of 25 Euros, or 30 US\$, including postage (surface mail).

Alternatively, you can pay the same prices via Paypal to Brian Senior at bsenior@hotmail.com, which is also an option for a limited period after the end of the championships.

## d'Orsi Trophy

## Round 10

Match		IMPs		VPs	
41	AUSTRIA JAPAN	50	34	14.18	5.82
42	ISRAEL BRAZIL	41	47	8.24	11.76
43	GUADELOUPE FRANCE	30	73	1.56	18.44
44	CHINA CANADA	45	26	14.05	4.45
45	USA2 AUSTRALIA	64	24	18.09	1.91
46	SWEDEN SOUTH AFRICA	64	32	17.03	2.97
47	PAKISTAN ARGENTINA	43	43	10.00	10.00
48	POLAND NEW ZEALAND	53	9	18.55	1.45
49	TURKEY EGYPT	97	14	20.00	0.00
50	CHINA HKG ITALY	15	73	0.15	19.85
51	INDIA USAI	24	88	0.00	20.00

## Round 11

Match		IMPs		VPs	
41	SWEDEN USA2	25	40	6.03	13.97
42	PAKISTAN CHINA	41	30	13.04	6.96
43	POLAND GUADELOUPE	69	17	19.34	0.66
44	TURKEY ISRAEL	27	12	13.97	6.03
45	INDIA AUSTRIA	48	45	10.91	9.09
46	CHINA HKG JAPAN	34	44	7.20	12.80
47	USAI BRAZIL	43	20	15.56	4.44
48	EGYPT FRANCE	24	29	8.52	11.48
49	NEW ZEALAND CANADA	8	44	2.41	17.59
50	ARGENTINA AUSTRALIA	21	37	5.82	14.18
51	SOUTH AFRICA ITALY	12	81	0.00	20.00

## Round 12

Match		IMPs		VPs	
41	ITALY USA2	17	53	2.41	17.59
42	AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND	38	32	11.76	8.24
43	CANADA EGYPT	58	6	19.34	0.66
44	FRANCE USAI	18	26	7.71	12.29
45	BRAZIL CHINA HKG	37	34	10.91	9.09
46	JAPAN INDIA	33	29	11.20	8.80
47	AUSTRIA TURKEY	53	22	16.88	2.87
48	ISRAEL POLAND	16	28	6.72	13.28
49	GUADELOUPE PAKISTAN	20	44	4.26	15.74
50	CHINA SWEDEN	24	33	7.45	12.55
51	SOUTH AFRICA ARGENTINA	42	52	7.20	12.80

Championship Diary  
Part 2

A *Bridge Magazine* subscriber has spotted a photograph showing four Polish Jewish Gentlemen playing cards (he thinks it was bridge) at a bridge-style card table within a deserted casino within a ghetto. There is a glamorous young lady watching one of the players. He is wondering if any of them could have been notable Polish bridge players prior to

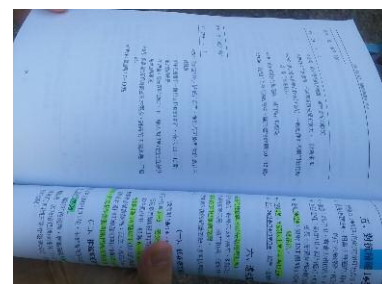


VVWII. This is the link: <http://tinyurl.com/y6wrzofi>

If you have the time to take a look at it (especially if you are Polish!) and recognise anyone let us know!

Marek Wójcicki took this photo of the system book of one of the players in the Youth Championships:

With such a well defined system who can possibly beat them!



Can you identify these two famous bridge players? For a bonus point do you know when and where the picture was taken?

Max Bavin posted this comment on Facebook:

For the first time in 141 years a Test Match (that's cricket - see: <http://tinyurl.com/y7saxz5b> if you want to learn the rules) will be played at night under lights in England when they face the West Indies at the Oval.

I appreciate that there are many critics of this experiment, but actually I applaud the England & Wales Cricket Board for the foresight of seeking to avoid too much of a clash with England's Venice Cup campaign.