



43rd WORLD BRIDGE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

LYON, FRANCE • 12th-26th AUGUST 2017



43rd BERMUDA BOWL
21st VENICE CUP
9th D'ORSI SENIOR TROPHY

11th FUNBRIDGE.COM WORLD
TRANSNATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

**DAILY
BULLETIN**

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CENTURIONS NOT YET CERTAIN TO PREVAIL

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Today's Programme

BB, VC, OT Quarter-finals	Funbridge Transnational Qualification
11:00 - 13:20	10:00 - 11:30
	12:00 - 13:30
14:30 - 16:50	14:30 - 16:00
	16:30 - 18:00
17:20 - 19:40	18:30 - 20:00



Alvise Ferri FIGB (Federazione Italiana Gioco Bridge) board member, Benito Garozzo, Barry Rigal



In the **Bermuda Bowl** all four teams that are leading, **USA I & II**, **Netherlands** and **France** have scored 100 or more IMPs, but apart from **Sweden** who trail by 47, the matches remain close. In the **Venice Cup**, of the leading teams only **China** are yet to reach a century, and **Indonesia & Poland** are tied, a fine effort by the latter who trailed by 44 after 16 deals. **Israel** are only 13 clear of **Sweden**, while **England** lead **Russia** by 35. In the **d'Orsi Trophy** **France**, **USA I** and **Sweden** have decent leads, but **USA 2** trail **Japan** by 20 IMPs.



The **Prize Giving & Closing Ceremony** of the 2017 World Bridge Championships will take place on Saturday 26 August. It is open to all players competing in the **Bermuda Bowl**, **Venice Cup**, **d'Orsi Trophy** and **Funbridge Transnational Teams**. It will be held here at the Cité Centre De Congrès, the exact time and venue to be announced once the number attending is known.

In order to get a ticket you **must register at the Hospitality desk** by the main entrance **no later than 25 August**.
No ticket - no entry!







Bermuda Bowl

	P	I	2	3	4	5	6	T
 FRANCE		39	42	21				102
 CHINA		52	15	20				87



	P	I	2	3	4	5	6	T
 NETHERLANDS		6	35	39	21			101
 NEW ZEALAND		21	46	24				91



- FRANCE** Thomas BESSIS, Francois COMBESCURE, Cedric LORENZINI, Jean-Christophe QUANTIN, Jerome ROMBAUT, Frederic VOLCKER, Lionel SEBBANE captain
- CHINA** Yunlong CHEN, Jianming DAI, Jianwei LI, Lixin YANG, Bangxiang ZHANG, Jie ZHAO, Jihong HU captain, Gang CHEN coach
- NETHERLANDS** Simon DE WIJS, Bob DRIJVER, Bauke MULLER, Bart NAB, Berend VAN DEN BOS, Joris VAN LANKVELD, Wubbo DE BOER captain, Ton BAKKEREN coach
- NEW ZEALAND** Ashley BACH, Matthew BROWN, Michael CORNELL, Geir-Olav TISLEVOLL, Michael WARE, Michael WHIBLEY, Derek EVENNETT captain
- SWEDEN** Fredrik NYSTROM, Mikael RIMSTEDT, Ola RIMSTEDT, Johan SYLVAN, Johan UPMARK, Frederic WRANG, Per Gunnar ELIASSON captain, Jan LAGERMAN coach
- USA2** Martin FLEISHER, Joe GRUE, Chip MARTEL, Brad MOSS, Jacek PSZCZOLA, Michael ROSENBERG, Jan MARTEL captain
- USA1** Ralph KATZ, Robert LEVIN, Jeff MECKSTROTH, Nick NICKELL, Eric RODWELL, Steve WEINSTEIN, Jill LEVIN captain, Eric O. KOKISH coach
- BULGARIA** Victor ARONOV, Diana DAMIANOVA, Georgi KARAKOLEV, Vladimir MIHOV, Ivan NANEV, Julian STEFANOV, Victor ARONOV captain, MARTA NIKOLOVA coach

	P	I	2	3	4	5	6	T
 SWEDEN		43	37	11				91
 USA2		41	51	43				135



	P	I	2	3	4	5	6	T
 USA1		36	34	49				119
 BULGARIA		72	12	11				95



Venice Cup

	P	I	2	3	4	5	6	T
 SWEDEN		26	48	23				97
 ISRAEL		30	34	43				107



	P	I	2	3	4	5	6	T
 RUSSIA		21	24	53				98
 ENGLAND		43	58	32				133



- SWEDEN** Pia ANDERSSON, Kathrine BERTHEAU, Ida GRONKVIST, Emma OVELIUS, Cecilia RIMSTEDT, Sandra RIMSTEDT, Kenneth BORIN captain, Carina WADEMARK coach
- ISRAEL** Adi ASULIN, Hila LEVI, Michal NOSACKI, Nathalie SAADA, Dana TAL, Noga TAL, Joseph ENGEL captain
- RUSSIA** Victoria GROMOVA, Anna GULEVICH, Elena KHONICHEVA, Tatiana PONOMAREVA, Diana RAKHMANI, Maria YAKOVLEVA, Tatiana DIKHNOVA captain
- ENGLAND** Sally BROCK, Fiona BROWN, Catherine DRAPER, Sandra PENFOLD, Nevena SENIOR, Nicola SMITH, Derek PATTERSON captain, David BURN coach
- INDONESIA** Rury ANDHANI, Lusje Olha BOJOH, Suci Amita DEWI, Kristina Wahyu MURNIATI, Conny SUMAMPOUW, Julita Grace TUEJE, Hendra RAILIS captain, Bill MONDIGIR coach
- POLAND** Cathy BALDYSZ, Zofia BALDYSZ, Katarzyna DUFRAT, Natalia GAWEL, Aleksandra JAROSZ, Justyna ZMUDA, Mirosław CICHOCKI captain
- CHINA** Yan HUANG, Yan LIU, Yan LU, Qi SHEN, Nan WANG, Wen Fei WANG, Jianxin WANG captain, Xiaojing WANG coach
- NETHERLANDS** Carla ARNOLDS, Merel BRUIJNSTEEN, Laura DEKKERS, Magdalena TICHA, Wietske VAN ZWOL, Martine VERBEEK, Alex VAN REENEN captain, Hans KELDER coach

	P	I	2	3	4	5	6	T
 INDONESIA		62	12	27				101
 POLAND		18	47	38				103

	P	I	2	3	4	5	6	T
 CHINA		70	5	13				88
 NETHERLANDS		9	22	39				70

d'Orsi Trophy

	P	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
 USA2		34	17	45				96
 JAPAN		25	37	54				116

	P	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
 AUSTRALIA		55	7	33				95
 SWEDEN		32	36	70				138

USA2 Michael BECKER, David BERKOWITZ, Allan GRAVES, Neil SILVERMAN, Alan SONTAG, Jeff WOLFSON, Steve GARNER captain

JAPAN Tadashi IMAKURA, Masayuki INO, Kyoko OHNO, Akito OMASA, Akihiko YAMADA, Kazuhiko YAMADA, Hiroaki MIURA captain

AUSTRALIA Terry BROWN, Peter Walter BUCHEN, Pauline GUMBY, Avi KANETKAR, Warren LAZER, Bruce NEILL, George BILSKI captain, LALITA KANETKAR coach



SWEDEN Mats AXDORPH, Christer BJARING, Sven-Ake BJERREGARD, Bengt-Erik EFRAMSSON, Anders MORATH, Johnny OSTBERG, Tommy GULLBERG captain, Carina WADEMARK coach



ITALY Andrea BURATTI, Amedeo COMELLA, Giuseppe FAILLA, Aldo MINA, Ruggero PULGA, Stefano SABBATINI, Pierfrancesco PAROLARO captain

USA I Dennis CLERKIN, Jerry CLERKIN, Marc JACOBUS, Mike LEVINE, Mike PASSELL, Eddie WOLD, Bob MORRIS captain

FRANCE Nicholas DECHELETTE, Pierre-Yves GUILLAUMIN, Georges IONTZEFF, Jean-Jacques PALAU, Pierre SCHMIDT, Philippe TOFFIER, Eric GAUTRET captain

INDIA Ramawatar AGRAWAL, Subhash DHAKRAS, Dipak PODDAR, Keshav Sakharan SAMANT, Jitendra SOLANI, Ramamurthy SRIDHARAN, Dipak PODDAR captain, Anal SHAH coach

	P	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
 ITALY		42	14	20				76
 USA I		35	25	45				105

	P	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
 FRANCE		81	10	13				104
 INDIA		20	26	34				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.

VuGraph SCHEDULE

The VuGraph Theatre is located in the Auditorium Pasteur

11:00		14:30		17:20	
USA1-BULGARIE (BB)	VG/BBO I	SWEDEN-USA2 (BB)	VG/BBO I		VG/BBO I
USA2-JAPAN (OT)	BBO 2	USA1-BULGARIA (BB)	BBO 2		BBO 2
NETH.-NEW ZEALAND (BB)	BBO 3	NETH.-NEW ZEALAND (BB)	BBO 3		BBO 3
INDONESIA -POLAND (VC)	BBO 4	AUSTRALIA-SWEDEN (OT)	BBO 4		BBO 4
SWEDEN-ISRAEL (VC)	BBO 5/ FB	FRANCE-CHINA (BB)	BBO 5/ FB		Funbridge
SWEDEN-USA2 (BB)	BBO 6/ FB	FRANCE-INDIA (OT)	BBO 6/ FB		Funbridge
ITALY-USA I (OT)	BBO 7/ FB	SWEDEN-ISRAEL (VC)	BBO 7/ FB		Funbridge
FRANCE-CHINA (BB)	BBO 8/ OG	CHINA-NETHERLANDS (VC)	BBO 8/ OG		BBO 8/ OG

TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER

courtesy of



Le (bon) coin francophone

Jean-Paul Meyer



En vertu des pouvoirs qui lui sont conférés....

Et suivant la formule consacrée, **José Damiani** a remis au Président de la Fédération Française **Patrick Grenthe** les insignes de Chevalier dans l'ordre du Mérite National qui lui avaient été décernés sur proposition du Ministre des Sports du gouvernement français.. La cérémonie s'est déroulée à l'abbaye de Collonges où étaient réunis environ 150 amis du récipiendaire. Ce dernier, en remerciement,



L'accolade de José Damiani et Patrick Grenthe

évoqua les diverses étapes depuis ce soir de 2013 où il avait appris que la candidature de Lyon 2017 avait été retenue.

Michael Cornell condamné à dormir à la belle étoile ?

Michael est membre de l'équipe Néo-Zélandaise dans la Bermuda Bowl. On se souvient que le titre mondial lui avait finalement été attribué à Wrocław en 2016 après qu'il ait été découverte une erreur dans le score de la paire affichée à la première place. Il avait demandé au Bulletin, il y a trois jours, d'écrire qu'il souhaitait céder sa chambre, pensant que son équipe n'avait plus aucune chance de qualification...Ainsi fut fait. Parfait ! Pensez-vous. A cela près que la Nouvelle Zélande arrachait sur le fil sa place en quart de finale. ne soyez donc pas étonné de voir un bridgeur, cette nuit, dans un sac de couchage dans le Parc de la Tête d'Or.

De bien jeunes épouses

Depuis quelques mois l'administration française a pour consigne d'éviter le terme «Mademoiselle» dans les papiers officiels. La FFB semble appliquer la consigne à la lettre. Du coup, on constate que toutes les joueuses participant aux épreuves scolaires voient leur nom précédé de «Mme». On peut s'étonner quand on sait que ces tournois sont ouverts au moins de 13 ans.

Malheurs.... aux gagnants.

Une malédiction semble s'être abattue sur les gagnants des 42^{èmes} championnats du Monde – édition 2015 en Inde. Voyez plutôt : les vainqueurs de la Bermuda Bowl, la Pologne ne réussirent pas à se qualifier pour Lyon lors des championnats d'Europe de Budapest. La France remporta la Venice Cup mais, ici, à Lyon ne put franchir le cap de la poule qualificative.

Restait le Trophée d'Orsi, l'épreuve senior, propriété des Etats-Unis, qui voient ses deux équipes en quart de finale. Cependant si on examine la composition des équipes on constate que celle tenante du titre a échoué dès les épreuves de sélection américaines.

L'homme de l'(90^{ème}) année

Lors de l'assemblée générale annuelle de l'IBPA, l'association internationale des journalistes de bridge a nommé **Benito Garozzo**, homme de l'année, après une carrière étincelante de quelques 60 ans. Le génial nonagénaire italien nous a déclaré «Cela me console un peu, car c'est la première Bermuda Bowl que je quitte sans une médaille !»



Benito Garozzo

Bilan des poules éliminatoires.

Par pays

100 % de réussite pour la Suède qui qualifie ses trois équipes

Les USA qualifient 4 équipes mais en avaient présenté 6 initialement.

La Chine et la France tirent leur épingle du jeu avec deux équipes qui poursuivent leur route.

Par continent

Joli score pour l'Europe : 6 pays qualifiés sur 8 engagés en Venice Cup.

4 sur 7 en Bermuda Bowl et un résultat moindre pour le Trophée d'Orsi 3 sur 7.

Au total un résultat de 13 sur 22, mieux que l'Amérique du Nord (4 sur 9).

Le championnat des ordinateurs

Selon la terminologie adoptée à tort en anglais, pour ce qui est une compétition entre programmes pour jouer au bridge.

Cette épreuve, dirigée par **Al Levy**, se déroule au même étage que le Vu-graph.

Elle a réuni 7 logiciels qui disputent une poule qui se terminera ce soir pour déterminer les quatre demi-finalistes. Les spectateurs sont les bienvenus. Wbridge d'**Yves Costel** défend les couleurs de la France

Guy Dupont commente une donne pour vous :

Sécurité onéreuse

Au dix-neuvième tour du Round Robin de la Venice Cup, la France était opposée aux Pays-Bas, deux équipes qui, aux yeux des observateurs patentés, pouvaient légitimement envisager de se retrouver en finale... Mais, comme on le sait, la France, tenante du titre, est restée engluée aux portes de la qualification pour la phase finale.

Un délicat problème de déclarant, pour amateurs de maniements, sur la donne 8. Prenez place en Est (Ouest donneur, personne vulnérable) :

♠ R 4 3		♠ A 8 5
♥ A D 10 8		♥ V 9 6 4
♦ V 6		♦ R 7 5
♣ D 6 4 3		♣ A 10 5



O	N	E	S
Cronier	Arnolds	Willard	Verbeek
1 ♣	Passe	1 ♥	Passe
2 ♥	Passe	2 SA*	Passe
3 ♥	Passe	4 ♥	(Fin)

2SA Pour jouer éventuellement 3SA.

Sud entame du 10 de Carreau, pour le Valet et l'As de Nord, qui insiste à Carreau, pour votre Roi. Vous laissez filer le 9 de Cœur. Il tient. Sur le Valet qui suit, tout le monde fournit petit. Terminez !

La déclarante a éliminé le dernier atout, avant de s'attaquer aux Trèfles, couleur où il lui fallait réaliser deux levées – notant que sur un partage 3-3, les deux levées auraient été au rendez-vous quel que soit le maniement. Faute de communications suffisantes, elle décida de jouer Trèfle pour l'As, puis Trèfle pour la Dame, pour gagner sur la place du Roi, et, à défaut, en trouvant le Valet sec ou second en Sud. Mais ce n'était pas le jour et elle chuta.

♠ R 4 3	♠ V 9 6 2	♠ A 8 5
♥ A D 10 8	♥ 7 3	♥ V 9 6 4
♦ V 6	♦ A 8 3	♦ R 7 5
♣ D 6 4 3	♣ R V 8 2	♣ A 10 5

♠ D 10 7		
♥ R 5 2		
♦ D 10 9 4 2		
♣ 9 7		

Pour débroussailler notre colline, rien de tel que de consulter la Bible, en l'occurrence le Dictionnaire des maniements de couleurs, de Roudinesco. Celui-ci nous enseigne que dans cette position, si l'on dispose de toutes les communications voulues, le maniement optimum consiste à jouer un petit Trèfle sous l'As, vers la Dame, et si elle perd au Roi, à rejouer un petit Trèfle pour le 10. Résultat des courses : 26,5 % de chances de réaliser trois levées, plus 59,4 % d'en assurer deux. Mais oublions-le. D'une part, parce qu'on n'a pas besoin de faire trois levées, et de l'autre, parce que sa mise en place serait ici dangereuse, en raison de la fragilité des communications.

Retrouvons Roudi. Si on doit se contenter de deux levées de Trèfle, il existe ce qu'en bon chef comptable il appelle une «sécurité onéreuse», consistant à tirer d'abord l'As, avant de remonter au mort pour attaquer vers le 10, et enfin, si nécessaire, à terminer par petit vers la Dame. Avec 89 % de chances à la clé !

Est-elle ici envisageable ? Oui, avec une infime restriction: après deux tours de Cœur, alors qu'on est en main au Valet, il convient d'encaisser l'As de Trèfle, pour ménager les communications. Le risque de se faire couper par Sud est mini-minime (presque guère plus de 1 %). Après l'As de Trèfle, on élimine alors le dernier atout, et on poursuit par Trèfle vers le 10. Le tour est joué ! La seule position des honneurs adverses pour vous faire chuter serait de trouver le Valet second en Sud et le Roi quatrième en Nord. Toutes les autres combinaisons sont favorables.

23^{ème} FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU

Bridge

DE LA MER ROUGE

EILAT - ISRAEL

DU 9 AU 19 NOVEMBRE 2017



Programme des tournois :

Paires mixtes	9,10 novembre
Paires M.P.	11 novembre
Simultané national	12 novembre
Paires IMP	13,14 novembre
Paires Open	15,16,17 novembre
Équipes	18 novembre

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www.bridgeredsea.com



David Bird

Bermuda Bowl RR - R19

Monaco v Brazil



With three round-robin matches still to be played, Monaco were just out of the top 8 places that would qualify for the knock-out stage. How would they fare against Brazil, who were 10 VPs or so behind them? We began with a slam deal:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Thoma	Helness	Ravenna	Helgemo
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♥	All Pass

West's 6♣, a grand slam try, was seemingly ambitious facing a diamond void. North led his singleton spade against 6♥ and Thoma won with dummy's ace. It was now his task to set up the diamond suit. He continued with a club ruff,



Pablo Ravenna, Brazil

diamond ruffed with the ♥4, club ruff, diamond ruffed with the ♥6, club ruff and a third round of diamonds. The ♦10 and ♦J had already appeared from South. Should declarer ruff with the ♥A or the ♥10?

When Thoma called for the ♥10, South overruffed and returned a trump. That was one down. The winning line was to ruff with the ♥A, draw trumps in two rounds and give up a diamond trick.

Sadly, at the other table, neither the bidding nor the play were recorded. Martens made 6♥ on the East cards for a 14-IMP swing to Monaco.

Next we had a bidding board:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Thoma	Helness	Ravenna	Helgemo
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♣	2♠	Pass	4♠
Dble	Pass	Pass	Pass

What do you make of West's double? It's unlikely that he is doubling for penalties merely because of a large point-count or an unexpected trump trick. Perhaps it should be read as an Action Double. In other words, he is showing a hand with great playing strength in clubs and asking partner to judge whether to defend or to advance to 5♣.

With no defence at all, East might well have decided to bid 5♣, which would be only 300 down against a making vulnerable game. When he chose to pass, West cashed his three aces and the Monaco pair scored +790.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Multon	Chagas	Martens	Villas-Boas
—	—	Pass	1♠
2♣	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Again West began by cashing his three aces and declarer claimed +620 at the next trick.

West's double at the other table had been very enterprising, as I see it. East's decision not to bid 5♣ meant that Brazil lost 4 IMPs instead of gaining 8.

There was another 'double swing' (going minus instead of plus) on the next deal

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Thoma	Helness	Ravenna	Helgemo
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Helgemo/Helness do not play a INT response as forcing. To avoid missing games on responding hands such as North held here, they play invitational jump responses. Helgemo chose to raise to 4♥ and the ♦K was led. How would you play the hand?

Helness won with dummy's ♦A and finessed the ♥J successfully. He continued with the two top trumps, discovering that he had a trump loser. What now? By playing on clubs, you can almost guarantee the contract. (It seems to me that you would go down only when East had started with a singleton club and could ruff the second



Tor Helness, Monaco

round and lead a spade to set up partner's ♠K before the ♣A had been knocked out.)

Helness chose to finesse the ♠Q instead. When this failed, he had a loser in every suit. and was one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Multon	Chagas	Martens	Villas-Boas
—	—	Pass	1♠
Pass	INT	2♦	3♣
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Villas-Boas faced a similar situation to Helgemo and chose not to raise. Chagas played on clubs instead of spades, disposing of his spade loser, and soon claimed +170. Going one down in 4♥ had lost 6 IMPs instead of gaining 6.

Next we will take a look at a grand slam that proved too difficult to reach:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Thoma	Helness	Ravenna	Helgemo
—	1♥	Dble	2♥
Dble	Pass	6♠	All Pass

I have every sympathy for Ravenna's leap on the second round. Even if you have some auction where Exclusion Blackwood in hearts becomes possible, how would you find out about the diamond situation? At least he avoided any possible disagreement as to whether 3♠ would be forcing after the Responsive Double!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Multon	Chagas	Martens	Villas-Boas
—	1♥	3♣*	3♥
4♠	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

Martens began with an overcall that showed specifically spades and diamonds. He continued with a cue-bid of 5♥ to inform partner that he did not hold the ♣A. Although Multon's hand was not particularly splendid, he might well have bid 6♣ on the way to 6♠. 6♦ by Martens would conceivably have edged them towards the big prize.

Let me see how many Bermuda Bowl pairs managed to reach 7♠. Only four pairs bid 7♠, with the remaining pairs all in 6♠. The one successful auction that I managed to see involved East bidding an Exclusion Blackwood 5♥ over a free 3♠ raise and then guessing that there would be no diamond losers. Not an easy hand to bid.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Thoma	Helness	Ravenna	Helgemo
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♥
3♠	All Pass		

At his second turn, Helness bid just 2♥. This seems enough, particularly when this pair sometimes open 1♥ on a four-card suit. Helgemo bid a non-invitational 3♥ and N/S then sold out to West's 3♠.

Helness led a trump to the jack, king and ace. The ♣Q was run to the king and Helgemo returned the ♦5 to partner's queen, winning the diamond return. A heart switch gave the defenders two tricks in that suit, followed by the ♦K for two down and +200 to N/S.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Multon	Chagas	Martens	Villas-Boas
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♠*	Pass	4♥
All Pass			



Krzysztof Martens, Monaco

Chagas bid the North hand more strongly, despite facing a non-vulnerable opening in third seat. When the ♦J was led, Villas-Boas scored eleven red-suit tricks and added the ♣K for +480 and 7 IMPs.

We will end with a five-level battle of the red suits:

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Thoma	Helness	Ravenna	Helgemo
1♦	1♥	4♦	4♥
5♦	Dble	All Pass	

Helness led the ♥K and the defenders scored a trick in each side suit. That was one down for +100. There were three top tricks to be lost in 5♥, so North seemed to have judged the bidding well.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Multon	Chagas	Martens	Villas-Boas
1♦	1♥	4♦	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

Look now at the East hand. What opening lead should you choose?

A diamond lead is unattractive, since it may well be ruffed. Martens reached for his singleton spade and Chagas claimed 12 tricks. I can see the attraction of leading a spade against a contract of 4♥. Partner might win with the ace, give you a spade ruff and (if dummy has a diamond void, for example) you could then attempt to cross to partner's ♣K for a second ruff. Against 5♥ it may be a better idea to lead the ♣A. When dummy goes down with the ♠A and partner encourages clubs, you can take the first three tricks. So, Monaco lost 11 IMPs when they might have gained 5.

The final score was 28-25 to Monaco, 10.91-9.09 in VPs. This was not as big a win as they would have liked in their eventually unsuccessful quest to reach the eight qualification places.

Gabriel Chagas, famous for his lightning-fast play, will be happy to note that his table completed 16 boards in just one hour and six minutes!



Jos Jacobs

Bermuda Bowl RR - R20

New Zealand v Italy



At the start of the penultimate round, Italy and New Zealand were in 10th and 11th place respectively, at the respectable distance of 16 and 19 VPs behind Egypt, the no. 8 at the time. So to have any chance at all, however remote, of making it into the top eight in the end, either team would definitely need a good win.

On the opening board of the set, Italy made a firm first step towards a possible big win:

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garozzo	Tislevoll	Masoero	Ware
—	Pass	1♣	1♦
2♣*	2♦	3♦*	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

After the nebulous 1♣ opening and the 1♦ overcall, Garozzo could show his majors by bidding 2♣ and 4♠ was then reached in a logical way. After two rounds of diamonds, Masoero found an almost trivial way to make the contract. He ruffed in hand and played three rounds of clubs, ruffing the third with dummy's nine. North overruffed with the jack but had no good defence as the remaining N/S trumps now were 2-2. Discarding instead of overruffing would make declarer's life almost too easy but a diamond return would be ruffed by declarer in hand and two top trumps would then draw the outstanding trumps. Dummy's ♠A would take the game-going trick after the ensuing club procession. Italy +420.

In the replay, the Italians found a more testing defence.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M. Brown	Di Franco	Whibley	Manno
—	Pass	1♣	1♦
Dble*	3♦	Pass	Pass
Dble*	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

West's first double showed hearts but his second double made it clear that his hand had more to offer. North led a diamond, which was won by South with his ace. The heart continuation now gave declarer a nasty guess. When he called for dummy's king, Di Franco won the ace and returned the suit...

Another diamond then settled the issue as there was no way for declarer to draw trumps, establish the clubs and enjoy them too without losing another trick. Italy +50 and 10 IMPs to open their account.

On the next board, New Zealand recouped 6 IMPs when the Italian E/W pair overbid to a thin game that stood no chance on the actual layout and this was board 19:

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garozzo	Tislevoll	Masoero	Ware
—	—	—	1♣
Dble	1♠	Pass	INT
All Pass			

When Garozzo led three rounds of diamonds, Ware winning his queen in the 3rd round, the chance of beating



Michael Ware, New Zealand

the contract had gone, as Ware simply went on to cash his top tricks. New Zealand +120. To beat the contract, West has to find the switch to a low spade at trick two. Would the $\diamond 8$ (or the $\diamond 10$, at the cost of a diamond trick) by East have sent the message?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M. Brown	Di Franco	Whibley	Manno
—	—	—	1♣
Dble	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♦	Dble	3♦	All Pass

When North did not bid over West's double, E/W immediately hit upon their diamond fit. Whibley made his contract easily enough when he finessed the $\diamond Q$ through the opening bidder. Just made, New Zealand +110 and 6 more IMPs to them to take over the lead: 12-10.

A small partscore swing and a useful sacrifice had given Italy a 24-14 lead when this board came up:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garozzo	Tislevoll	Masoero	Ware
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	1♠	2♦*	3♠
4♥	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

Over North's very aggressive overcall, East's 2♦ showed hearts. When Ware could join in the spade fun, the Italians simply did not have enough room to fully explore their combined values. West's club control remained undisclosed so East did not want to venture a slam. Italy +480.

In the other room, the New Zealanders were given more room and they immediately made good use of it:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M. Brown	Di Franco	Whibley	Manno
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT*	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	6♥	All Pass

2NT was a general relay agreeing hearts, 4♣ was a splinter and 4♠ was RKCB. Two key cards then were enough for East to bid the slam with confidence. New Zealand +980 and 11 IMPs to them to regain the lead: 25-24.

With just 2 boards to play, the score stood at 27-24, a close result that would not boost either team's hopes of qualification.

This was the penultimate board:

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garozzo	Tislevoll	Masoero	Ware
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

Perfect defence can put this contract three down: ♥AK and a ruff, followed by a club to North's ace and a spade through. South can then exit in clubs and when North gets his ♦K he can play a heart for partner to ruff with his ♠J. The defence will get five spades, two hearts and a trick in either minor.

When South led the ♣Q to partner's ace and exited with ♠Q after winning his ♠9 on partner's return of his trump, he had avoided the trump endplay at the cost of an undertrick. New Zealand only +300.

Not that this mattered very much as in the replay, the Italians did not realise they were in a good contract at a certain moment:

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M. Brown	Di Franco	Whibley	Manno
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	All Pass	

Both South's heart splinter and his 3NT bid might have been taken as warning signs by North but when he did not, the pair was overboard. With the spades 5-2 and the ♦A wrongly placed for declarer, 5♦ had no reasonable play. Down two, New Zealand another +200 and just 11 IMPs to them rather than 12 – the amount if 1♠ doubled had gone down three.



Michael Wibley, New Zealand

So New Zealand led by 14, still not the big win they might have been hoping for. However, they got one more chance on the last board of the match and took it:

As you can easily see, 4♠ in E/W cannot be made as there are four inescapable losers because the diamonds don't break 3-3. 3NT would be even worse because the defenders have seven tricks from the top and the privilege of being on lead first.

There is one defensive card, however, that would do East as declarer a tremendous favour in 4♠ and even in 3NT: the ♦J. With no information available from the bidding, one cannot even blame South for finding the lead of the ♦J; it happened at more than one table.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garozzo	Tislevoll	Masoero	Ware
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♦	1♥	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	All Pass

North led a top heart and shifted to a diamond, which did not give anything away. Italy +140 for an overtrick in what looked very much like a flat board..

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
M. Brown	Di Franco	Whibley	Manno
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥*	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

The transfer response of 1♥ had made East the declarer so South led the ♦J...

Win the king, draw two rounds of trumps and run the ♦9 for ten tricks, New Zealand +620 and 10 IMPs more to win the match 48-24 or 15.74 – 4.26 VPs Italy thus were out of contention with only one more match to play but the New Zealanders had risen to 9th, still nearly 6 VPs behind Egypt. They would need another good win and some help from outside as well...

When it turned out, after the last match, that they had got both, they were the 8th team to qualify. They would meet the Netherlands in the quarterfinals.



Brian Senior

Venice Cup RR - R21

England v Poland



Going into the final round of qualifying in the Venice Cup, England were safely into the knockouts but a good win might move them into the top three, where they would get some rights as regards the choice of opposition in the quarter-finals. Poland, however, were anything but safe. They lay eighth but were only 7.76 VPs ahead of ninth-placed USA1, who had a relatively easy final match – at least on paper – against 16th-placed Brazil. It was possible that Poland could lose the match and still qualify, but to be certain they needed to score 12.25 VPs.

The match began with a series of flat boards with very little scope for swings – just what the Poles wanted. After four flat boards things got even better for Poland.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zmuda	Smith	Dufrat
–	Pass	Pass	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Jarosz	Brown	Gawel	Brock
–	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♥	Pass	3♥
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

For Poland, Aleksandra Jarosz opened a Polish 1♣ and Fiona Brown overcalled, raised pre-emptively to the three level by Sally Brock. Jarosz judged to show her five-card major now rather than make a take-out double, and Natalia Gawel had an easy raise to game. After a heart lead to the jack and ace, Jarosz lost a spade and a diamond; 11 tricks for +450.

The West hand is a little less easy for standard bidders, not good enough for 2♣, a bit heavy for 1♠. Still, the latter would be my choice as I positively hate 2NT openings containing a singleton – if there is a trump fit, this always hugely undervalues the hand. For England, Catherine Draper saw 2NT as the least of evils and Nicola Smith, with a weak four-card major and no shortage, had a routine

raise to 3NT. Justyna Zmuda's equally routine heart lead meant that Draper was a swift one down for –50 and 11 IMPs to Poland.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zmuda	Smith	Dufrat
–	–	–	1♣
1♠	Dble	2NT	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Jarosz	Brown	Gawel	Brock
–	–	–	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♣	2♠	3♣
All Pass			

Katarzyna Dufrat opened 1♣ as South, three-way, any 18+, natural with five-plus clubs and 15+ HCP, or a weak no trump, 11-14. Draper overcalled and Zmuda made a negative double. Smith's four-card spade raise looked quite normal but took her side a level too high (the Poles were, of course, making at least nine tricks in a diamond contract, so it was unlikely that E/W could have gone plus anyway). Zmuda led a club but Dufrat switched to a heart at trick two so there was no ruff. As against that, the heart trick was established and the defence had five winners for down one and –100.

In the other room, Brock opened 1♣, two-plus cards, and after a pass from Jarosz, Brown made a transfer response of 1♦ to show four or more hearts. Brock's rebid showed two or three hearts, normally in a weak no trump type, and now Jarosz made a delayed overcall. Now it looks as though Brown was trying to puppet to 2♦ but Brock read 2♣ as natural. Whatever the cause of the problem, the bottom line was that, instead of making a diamond partscore, the English pair found themselves in the slightly silly contract of 3♣. Jarosz led the jack of spades to the queen and king. Gawel cashed the ace of spades then

switched to the jack of clubs. Brock ducked that and now Gawel switched to hearts, Jarosz winning the ace and returning a spade, allowing Brock a cheap ruff in hand. She continued with the ace of clubs, followed by king of hearts and a heart to the queen, ruffed. Back came the ten of clubs to the king. Brock played on diamonds now and just lost one more trump for down two and -200; 7 IMPs to Poland, who led by 17-0.

The next deal saw England get on the scoreboard for the first time.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zmuda	Smith	Dufrat
Pass	1♣	1♠	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Jarosz	Brown	Gawel	Brock
Pass	1♣	1♠	Dble
2♠	Dble	3♠	4♣
All Pass			

Zmuda opened a Polish club and Smith overcalled, Draper raising aggressively to 3♠ which bought the contract. With the ♣A onside there were nine easy tricks for +140.



Fiona Brown, England

Brown opened a two-plus card 1♣ and Gawel also overcalled. Brock made a negative double and Jarosz made only a simple spade raise. Brown made a support double and, when Gawel now competed with 3♠, Brock in turn competed with 4♣. Gawel led the jack of spades, Brown winning the ace and ruffing her other spade then taking the club finesse. The ♦Q lost to the king and Gawel returned ace and another heart, collecting her ruff a moment later. However, she was now endplayed and her diamond return picked up that suit for declarer without loss. The contract was down one for -50 but 3 IMPs to England; 3-17.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zmuda	Smith	Dufrat
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Jarosz	Brown	Gawel	Brock
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	3♣	3♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Facing a five-card major opening, is the West hand worth a raise to game or only an invitational raise to three? Invitation, said Draper, and bid a Bergen-style 3♣ then accepted her partner's sign-off. It isn't clear what Jarosz intended, as her 2NT response showed either an invitational hand with three or more hearts or a weak game-force. When Brown put in a rather daring lead-directing bid on a four-card suit, Gawel made a game try and Jarosz accepted – or had she always planned to go on to game, as I suspect many would have made a game raise?

With no lead-directing bid from partner, Dufrat kicked off with a diamond to the nine and ten and Smith gave up a club, the ten losing to the queen. Back came a diamond so Smith won the ace and continued with the ♦K, pitching dummy's ♠J. The diamond was ruffed by Zmuda, who led a spade to dummy's ace. Smith cashed the ♥A, ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond, and ruffed another club when Zmuda did not over-ruff. She continued the crossruff and came to ten tricks for +170.

Brown's lead-directer duly saw Brock lead the ace of clubs. On sight of dummy she switched to a spade and

Gawel rose with the ace and led the jack of diamonds, rising with the ace when there was neither a cover nor a flicker on her right. She continued with king and a third diamond, ruffing in hope of bringing down queen to three. Brown over-ruffed and returned a spade to her partner's king and, with the ♥K still to come, that was down one for -100 and 7 IMPs to England; 10-19.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zmuda	Smith	Dufrat
—	—	2♥	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Jarosz	Brown	Gawel	Brock
—	—	2♦	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

Smith opened a natural constructive weak two bid and Dufrat overcalled. Zmuda had three-card support, 10 HCP and a ruffing value, so raised to game. Draper led the jack of hearts to dummy's ace. Dufrat cashed a second heart for



Katarzyna Dufrat, Poland

a diamond discard then ran the jack of spades, Draper winning the king and returning the nine. Dufrat won the spade and led a diamond to Smith's ace. A heart through now promoted an extra defensive trump trick, and there were also two clubs to be lost so the contract was down two for -200.

Gawel opened a multi 2♦ and Brock overcalled. Brown saw that almost all her high card values were in the opposition suit and might not be as valuable as they would have been elsewhere, so she only invited game via a 3♥ cuebid and respected Brock's sign-off. The opening lead was again the ♥J. Brock won the ace and led a low spade to her queen, Jarosz winning the king and returning a spade to dummy's jack. Brock played a club, Gawel rising with the king and returning a heart. Brock discarded a diamond from hand, won in dummy and played a second club to the queen and ace. Jarosz returned a trump, so Brock could draw those and cash the clubs and ♥K for ten tricks, all her diamonds going away. That was worth +170 and 9 IMPs to England, levelling the match at 19-19.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zmuda	Smith	Dufrat
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	Pass	2♠	3♥
Pass	4♣	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Jarosz	Brown	Gawel	Brock
—	—	—	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	Dble
All Pass			

Brock opened the South hand with 4♥ then doubled the 4♠ overcall to show good defence in context of the opening bid. Brown had a heart void so had to hope that her partner would turn up with two winners to go with her likely two trump tricks. Brock started with the ♣K and switched to a heart. It didn't matter, with only one club standing up and declarer in a position to get rid of the heart loser anyway on the fourth diamond, there was no way to prevent ten tricks; +590.

Dufrat opened at the one level and Zmuda responded 1♠.

Smith could, presumably, have overcalled a natural 2♠, but preferred to see what happened so passed. When Dufrat's 2♣ rebid came back to her, Smith balanced with 2♠ and Dufrat showed her extra heart length, Zmuda giving preference to 4♣. The English pair had a combined 28 HCP, were cold for 4♠ despite the five-zero trump split, and defended 4♣ undoubled. It looks as though someone needed to do more at some point. Four Clubs drifted three off for -150 but +10 IMPs to Poland, who were back in front at 29-19.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ 5 2	♠ A 8 7	♠ K J 10 9 6 3
♥ J 8 7 5 2	♥ Q 6 4	♥ 10
♦ A K 8 5	♦ Q 9 7 2	♦ 10 6 4
♣ 8 6	♣ A Q J	♣ K 10 2
	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #4f81bd; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
	♠ Q 4	
	♥ A K 9 3	
	♦ J 3	
	♣ 9 7 5 4 3	

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zmuda	Smith	Dufrat
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	INT	2♦	Dble
Rdbl	Pass	2♠	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Jarosz	Brown	Gawel	Brock
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	INT	2♦	Dble
2♠	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Both Norths declared 3NT. Gawel led the six of diamonds against Brown, Jarosz winning the king and ace then returning a third diamond. Brown got that wrong, putting in the nine and losing to the ten while pitching a club from the dummy. Gawel returned a heart to dummy's ace and Brown took the club finesse, losing to the king. Back came a club. Brown won that, but had only eight tricks so was down one for -100. That early club discard had proved to be fatal as if declarer had instead pitched a heart she would have had four clubs, three hearts, a spade and a diamond - nine in all.

Smith led the two of clubs round to declarer's jack. Zmuda led a diamond to the jack and king and Draper returned a spade. Zmuda ducked this to Smith's king and back came a second spade to the queen. Zmuda took the losing club finesse, won the spade return and crossed to dummy to cash the clubs. The last club squeezed Draper in the red suits for the overtrick; +630 and 12 IMPs to Poland; 41-22.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Draper	Zmuda	Smith	Dufrat
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♦	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Jarosz	Brown	Gawel	Brock
1♣	3♣	3♠	4♣
4♥	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♣	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

There are 13 tricks available in no trump or either major, though a club lead takes the entry away from the long spade hand so declarer needs some good fortune to come to 13 tricks.

Jarosz opened with a Polish 1♣ and Brown made a preemptive 3♣ overcall and Brock raised to 4♣. Jarosz' free 4♥ bid showed the strong artificial type of 1♣ opening and Gawel twice cuebid before settling for 6♥. Brown led the



Justyna Zmuda, Poland

ten of diamonds, covered all around, so Jarosz could draw trumps, cash the ♠K and cross to dummy to cash the spades; +1460.

Draper opened 1♥ and Smith responded 1♠. Two Clubs was Gazzilli, natural or any 16+, and 2♦ showed game values facing the strong variety. Three Diamonds was natural and strong, and when Smith now showed her diamond support they got locked into the poorest of the possible trump suits. However, Smith used RKCB, discovered a key card was missing, and stopped in the small slam. The lead was a heart. Smith won and cashed the ace of diamonds then the king of spades before leading a second diamond to the queen. Dufrat ducked that so Smith cashed a top spade for a club discard then went back to diamonds, leading low towards dummy's jack. Dufrat won the king and returned a diamond but Smith had a club entry to the spades so could claim the rest for +1370 but 3 IMPs to Poland.

The final score was 44-22 in favour of Poland, converting to 15.38-4.62 VPs. As USAI had only managed a modest win over Brazil, Poland had qualified in some comfort. They finished the round robin in eighth place while England qualified sixth.

When The Lightning Struck

Micke Melander

There are times in bridge when you realize that you could have done far better than you did, but you can't work out why until it is too late. Sometimes it may take hours or a sleepless night when you are trying to work it out. Here comes a board from Sweden v Brazil in the Seniors (R17).

You are declaring 4♠ from North and East kicks off with the jack of diamonds. How to get ten tricks after you ruff the opening lead and play the king of spades that holds, all following:

♠ Q J 9 7 4 3

♥ K 6 4

♦ 8 5

♣ 9 7

N
S

♠ K 10 8

♥ J 9 8 5

♦ —

♣ A K Q 6 4 2

West	North	East	South
Barcellos	Morath	Machado	Bjerregård
—	—	Pass	2♣*
3♦	Pass	4♦	Dble
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
2♣ Precision style			

Anders Morath ruffed the opening lead with the eight of spades and called for the king of spades, which held. At this point he concluded that West probably had AKQ of diamonds and therefore East the two aces in the majors. He also strongly believed trumps to be 3-1 and called for the ace, king and queen of clubs. When West discarded on the third round the main question arrived – how to play then to avoid three losers in hearts and a trump? Morath pitched a diamond then played a trump hoping to be able to play hearts from his hand for only two losers. When that wasn't the case he was one down.

The full deal looked like this:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ Q J 9 7 4 3

♥ K 6 4

♦ 8 5

♣ 9 7

♠ 2

♥ Q 10 2

♦ A K Q 7 6 3 2

♣ 8 5

N
W E
S

♠ A 6 5

♥ A 7 3

♦ J 10 9 4

♣ J 10 3

♠ K 10 8

♥ J 9 8 5

♦ —

♣ A K Q 6 4 2

He later confessed that when the lightning struck he realized that he had all the essential information needed to make the contract. He should have pitched a heart instead of a diamond! Then ruff a club high, if East overruffs he will be in control – since he must return his last trump, and if he discards and the trump holds the trick, you simply ruff your diamond to repeat a high ruff in clubs before pulling East's last trumps.

It was even worse, Morath revealed, since he told me he knew that East had both aces in the majors and the jack of diamonds, so he could also be pretty sure that West held the queen of hearts because East had passed in first seat. So he could even have played the jack of hearts and just run it if West wouldn't cover...

The board delivered 8 IMPs to Brazil when the Swedes sacrificed for -300 at the other table in Five Diamonds doubled.

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.

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Bermuda Bowl RR - R2I

Shoot Out For The Final Berth

Ron Tacchi

At the start of the final round of the Bermuda Bowl there were three teams involved in the fight for the final qualifying spot. Egypt were in the box seat as they occupied the eighth place with 212.89 VPs (excuse the decimal points, but they are necessary) New Zealand were nearly four VPs behind with 207.05 closely followed by Monaco trailing by a further half a VP. Most pundits had expected Monaco to qualify and this was their final hope.

I shall not discuss too many deals but relate the story of the ebb and flow of the scores board by board. Egypt were appearing on BBO, as were Monaco. As New Zealand was in between them and an obvious candidate for a qualifying berth I expected to find them on BBO as well, thus simplifying my task. However they were not, thus my coverage of the New Zealanders play is strictly limited.

On Board 1 Egypt gave up 5 IMPs by over extending into a heart game whilst Bulgaria stopped at the three-level. Netherlands and Monaco similarly overbid, but New Zealand stayed safely in the part-score as did Brazil but inexplicably they failed by two tricks to give 6 IMPs to New Zealand. So now the VP position was:

Board 1: Egypt 222.41, Monaco 216.46, New Zealand 218.81

The second board saw Egypt claim back 2 IMPs, Monaco gain 5 and New Zealand a single IMP:

Board 2: Egypt 221.98, Monaco 217.94, New Zealand 219.08

Egypt now had a cushion of less than 3 IMPs.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Monaco and Netherlands both bid to Four Hearts from the South hand and received the lead of the ♦J. Muller performed well with the king and played the ten of trumps, East hopped up with his king and led a small spade on which declarer immediately played the ace. Later when he played towards the ♠QJ he found the unwelcome news that the king was on his right and now his contract failed by one trick. In the other room after winning with the ♦K again a high heart from dummy was played and taken by the king, here East continued with a diamond which declarer won. He continued with trumps, again taken by East, who

persisted with diamonds on which declarer discarded a second club. The final trump was drawn and the club finesse tried and failed but the spade king was well-placed and thus the contract came in for 10 IMPs to Monaco.

In Egypt vs. Bulgaria, the latter team bid and made Four Hearts whilst in the Open Room there was an entirely different auction:

West	North	East	South
Aronov	El Ahmady	Damyanova	Sadek
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♣	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	Pass	1♦	Dble
All Pass			

North's 1♣ might be only three clubs. After East's shapely Double there was potential for a bad outcome, however on this occasion fortune favoured the brave as the defence dropped an expensive potential trick and only defeated the contract by one trick and that was 6 IMPs to Bulgaria. Now the scores were:

Board 3: Egypt 220.34, Monaco 220.43, New Zealand 219.08

Monaco had now assumed the lead by 0.09 VPs – not quite safe but it looked as though the momentum was with them.

On Board 4 Bulgaria took another IMP from Egypt and likewise Netherlands from Monaco whilst New Zealand had a flat board.

Board 4: Egypt 220.09, Monaco 220.21, New Zealand 219.08

Only 1 IMP separated the three teams and so onto Board 5. Both Monaco and New Zealand had flat boards but Egypt gained 11 IMPs when they correctly stayed in game and made eleven tricks while their opponents bid a hopeless slam when trumps split 3-1 with the queen offside. They made the same eleven tricks and gave 11 IMPs to Egypt.



Waleed El Ahmady, Egypt

Board 5: Egypt 223.20, Monaco 220.21, New Zealand 218.81

This gave Egypt back the lead by 3 IMPs.

The next board was flat for Monaco and Egypt but New Zealand gained 6 IMPs when their opponents bid on to a no hope game – as I mentioned before there is no BBO record of New Zealand so I cannot tell you much about the auction or play.

Board 6: Egypt 223.2, Monaco 220.21, New Zealand 220.33

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	De Wijs	Helness	Muller
–	–	–	INT
2♣*	3♣*	4♠	All Pass

Muller bid a strong no-trump and Helgemo showed the majors and Helness closed the auction with a bid of Four Spades. After the lead of the ace and king of clubs a third round ensured a trump trick and along with two diamonds and a heart at the finish meant a three trick defeat.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nab	Multon	Drijver	Martens
–	–	–	INT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Martens/Multon play a weak no-trump non-vulnerable otherwise strong. I do not know if Martens misremembered or revalued his hand thanks to the fifth club – I suspect the latter. No matter which, once the level of INT had been passed they were heading for a minus score. West was not troubled to find a spade lead and that was a quick two down. This gave Netherlands 11 IMPs. New Zealand lost an overtrick IMP as did Egypt.

Board 7: Egypt 222.89, Monaco 217.37, New Zealand 220.09

In two boards Monaco went from eighth position to tenth but the difference was less than 3 VPs.

The next board was a part-score battle where Monaco won 5 IMPs, New Zealand lost 3 and Egypt gained 5.

Board 8: Egypt 224.37, Monaco 218.75, New Zealand 219.34

New Zealand had now fallen 5 VPs behind the leaders.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	De Wijs	Helness	Muller
–	INT*	All Pass	
INT 9-11			

After Monaco found no way into the auction De Wijs drifted peacefully three off, but only in 50's.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nab	Multon	Drijver	Martens
–	Pass	1♥	Dble
2NT*	Pass	3♣	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Here North did not have an opening bid in his system so the way was open for East to open a modest One Heart and with four-card support and a couple of aces West was not going to stay out of game. Declarer was not unduly troubled after the lead of a small diamond was won by dummy's jack. And so 11 IMPs to Netherlands – a body blow to Monaco's hopes, 17 IMPs out in three boards.

New Zealand had a flat board with both teams bidding and making the heart game. Egypt had a let off when in the closed room the auction consisted of four green cards but in the open room the Bulgarians reached the heart game. South got off to a good start when he led a spade rather than diamond. Declarer tried the jack, which held and ducked a club to South who continued with spades. Declarer now cashed the ace of trumps and embarked on a crossruff but came unstuck when North overruffed the third round of diamonds and cashed the king of trumps leaving declarer with a loser in hand. Can you see how declarer could have overcome this problem? Simply by not cashing the ace of hearts before starting on his crossruff. I will leave you to work out why.

Board 9: Egypt 225.18, Monaco 215.55, New Zealand 219.34

This left Monaco with a mountain to climb, while New Zealand needed some big swings if they were to overcome their 6 VP deficit.

This was followed by 6 IMPs for both New Zealand and Egypt when they rested in a part-score and the opponents failed in game but Monaco had a flat board.

Board 10: Egypt 226.64, Monaco 215.55, New Zealand 220.8

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Aronov	El Ahmady	Damyanova	Sadek
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

With North holding three or more diamonds the contract was not in danger, so +590 to Bulgaria.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Heshmat	Karakolev	Pascal	Mihov
—	—	—	1♥
2♦	Pass	2♠	3♥*
Pass	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♦	Dble
All Pass			

There is a reason why normally one does not overcall on a four-card suit and this deal is a fine example. When the dust settled it was 800 in the out column and 16 IMPs away.

Monaco had another flat board whereas New Zealand gave away 5 IMPs when they also doubled the Four Spades contract and Brazil were streetwise enough not to double.

Board 11: Egypt 222.28, Monaco 215.55, New Zealand 219.6

Egypt had lost nearly half their lead.

On the following board Egypt had a bidding upset when the auction went 1♣ – 1♦ – Pass – 1♠ – All Pass and South, the 1♠ bidder, had a fourteen count. In the other room they bid and made 3NT so another ten IMPs were haemorrhaged (spell checkers are so useful) while New Zealand gained a game swing when they also bid and made 3NT in their room while no game was forthcoming in the other so 11 IMPs. Monaco continued on their series of flat boards.

Board 12: Egypt 219.61, Monaco 215.55, New Zealand 222.05

Suddenly a new leader! Would it continue for the next four boards?

After the excitement of the previous deals Monaco and New Zealand had flat boards but Egypt gave up an overtrick IMP.

Board 13: Egypt 219.37, Monaco 215.55, New Zealand 222.05

Egypt continued their bad run when they conceded one more undertrick in a doubled game contract and lost 5 IMPs. Monaco and New Zealand again had flat boards – but better than losing IMPs.

Board 14: Egypt 218.29, Monaco 215.55, New Zealand 222.05

Monaco suffered a mortal blow when they did not bid and make 3NT as did the other five pairs, which was eleven IMPs out.

Board 15: Egypt 218.29, Monaco 212.71, New Zealand 222.05

This effectively took Monaco out of the equation.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Just when nerves were probably jangling, *The Great Shuffler* throws in a grand slam.

Monaco bid to 7NT and after a club lead needed the spades to break 3-3 or a fortuitous diamond position, whilst in the other room Seven Spades was reached and so a flat board. Egypt only got as far as Six Spades and must have expected to lose IMPs and the final qualifying place. However they had a reprieve as the Bulgarians only bid 3NT. I suspect East was tired after along match and even longer qualifying escapade as after the auction 1♥ – 1♠ – 3NT his bid was Pass. So a possible big loss was 12 IMPs in.

It now all hung on the result from the New Zealanders – yes a real 'last board' thriller. The official scorecard shows both teams bid to Six Diamonds, as I have no play record I can only surmise as to the play but New Zealand brought home the contract whereas their opponents were not successful. This meant 16 IMPs to New Zealand.

Board 16: Egypt 221.13, Monaco 212.71, New Zealand 224.64

So New Zealand took the final qualifying place. On every board the VP scores changed and the lead went back and forth several times. I suspect there were some jangled nerves at the end, some disappointments and some very happy faces.



David Bird

Bermuda Bowl Quarter-final - Segment 1

Sweden v USA2



There was no shortage of interesting action in the opening segment of this quarter-final between two well-fancied teams. Let's see some action.

Board 4. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>O.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>M.Rimstedt</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Mikael Rimstedt led the ♣A, requesting a (reverse) attitude signal. It was a good deal for reverse signals because North's ♣2 was unambiguously encouraging. Rosenberg did what he could to disguise the position by following with the ♣8 but South continued with king and another club, North overruffing the ♥9 with the ♥J. South could not thereafter be deprived of a further trump trick.

Rosenberg won the diamond return in dummy and crossed to the ♠A to take his only chance: the ♥Q, hoping to pin an original ♥J-10 with North. The ♥Q lost to North's ♥K and a subsequent finesse of the ♥8 succeeded. That was one down and 100 to N/S.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Upmark</i>	<i>Grue</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	11 Pass		

The play began in identical fashion, with three rounds of clubs again promoting a trump trick. Upmark opted not to finesse the ♥8 on the third round and lost an extra trump trick for two down and 3 IMPs away.

It was not so automatic to beat 4♥ on this deal. In all three of the other quarter-finals one E/W pair made +620 for a double-figure IMP swing their way.

The next board was a borderline slam, with Lady Luck

attending to pronounce which side should pick up the IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>O.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>M.Rimstedt</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2♦*
2♥	3♦*	3♥	4♠
All Pass			

The 2♦ opening showed 18-19 points and North's 3♦ was a transfer into West's suit, showing 5+ spades. Declarer won the ♥9 lead and played two top trumps, happy to see ♠QJx in a defender's hand. If West's singleton trump had been the ♠Q or ♠J, a declarer in 6♠ would follow Restricted Choice in that suit and make the slam.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Upmark</i>	<i>Grue</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
3♥	3♠	4♥	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Grue and Moss play Precision when non-vulnerable, two-over-one when vulnerable. Whether there was any confusion over the meaning of 4NT, I could not tell you. Moss clearly did not take it as RKC but may have changed his mind over 5♠. (Before they make a long-distance call to their lawyers, may I make it clear that such world-class players will clearly know their system better than some humble bridge writer.)

The unhelpful trump position meant a swing of 13 IMPs to Sweden.

Our next deal features a borderline game. Will Lady Luck take the opportunity to even out the luck between these two teams? Let's see.

Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>O.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>M.Rimstedt</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Dble	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♠	All Pass	

It was suggested that the 2♠ response showed five spades. That seems a strange idea to me. What is South meant to bid with 9-10 points and four spades? Be that as it may, North's raise to 3♠ ended the auction. There were three top losers, so you would need to pick up the trumps for one loser to make game in spades. You might also need the ♦Q onside.

Mikael Rimstedt won the club lead and played a trump to the jack, queen and ace. East switched to the ♦K, the defenders playing three rounds of the suit. Declarer ruffed, finessed the ♥J successfully and picked up the remaining trumps for an unwanted +170. Would they bid game at the other table?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Upmark</i>	<i>Grue</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Dble	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	



Fredrik Nyström, Sweden

No half measures for Moss. Grue won the heart lead with the king and scored the same 10 tricks as at the other table. With 10 IMPs awarded to USA-2, Lady Luck nodded her head contentedly and retired from the scene.

Are you sitting comfortably, ready for what was the board of the match by a good margin?

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Pszczola</i>	<i>O.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Rosenberg</i>	<i>M.Rimstedt</i>
1♠	Pass	INT	2♥
Dble	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Pszczola cashed two top diamonds and switched to the ♠10. Would you have done the same? Mikael Rimstedt covered with dummy's jack, drawing the king and ace. West now held the sole guards in both spades and clubs.

Rimstedt played the king and ace of trumps, ruffed his diamond loser with the ♥A and ran the remaining trumps. To retain his ♣K-J, West must reduce to just one other card. If this is the ♠9, he will be thrown in with a spade to lead from the ♣K. Pszczola discarded the ♠9 in the hope that East held the ♠8. Declarer then scored the ♠8 for his tenth trick and +620.

After two rounds of diamonds, West needed to switch specifically to the queen of spades, so that East would be able to guard the suit with his king.

We were eager to see what would happen at the other table. Perhaps E/W would sacrifice in spades, as happened at both tables of the France-China match.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Moss</i>	<i>Upmark</i>	<i>Grue</i>
1♠	Pass	2♠	3♥
Dble	3♠	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

No, they ended in the heart game once again. What further splendours awaited us?

Nyström led the ♦A, his partner signalling with the ♦6. Realizing that he would have to switch to spades anyway, if he cashed another diamond next, Nyström switched brilliantly to the ♠9 at trick 2! When Grue allowed this to

win, West cashed the ♦Q and played the ♠6, drawing the 4, 7 and ace.

Not overjoyed at this sharp defence, Grue tried the ♣Q from hand. It was covered by the king and ace and he then surrendered a trick to the ♣J. That was one down and Sweden collected what might be described as the most well deserved 12 IMPs in history!

One further big swing awaited us:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Pszczola	O.Rimstedt	Rosenberg	M.Rimstedt
—	—	1♣	1♥
Pass	Pass	1♠	All Pass

It doesn't look like a swing board to you? No, indeed. South led a trump, expecting dummy to be something like 3-1 in the black suits, but declarer emerged with seven tricks for +80.

Perhaps (you never know) something more dramatic would happen at the other table.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Moss	Upmark	Grue
—	—	1♣	1♥
Pass	2♥	Dble	Rdbl
Pass	3♣	Dble	All Pass

Make what you will of the raise to 2♥ on only two trumps. On the next round, Moss was faced with the unattractive prospect of partner being left in 2♥ redoubled (probably two down on this lie). He rescued into 3♣, despite the fact that East had opened in that suit, and was promptly doubled.

Upmark's ♠K won the first trick (♠6 from partner) and he continued with the ♠3. Moss won with dummy's ace and played the ♣9 to the jack, queen and king. A low spade to West's jack allowed a ♥2 switch, ruffed with the ♣7. After the ♦A and the ♠Q, ruffed by declarer, East still had three trump tricks to come. It was four down for an 800 penalty and 12 IMPs to Sweden.

The first segment of this quarter-final ended with Sweden leading USA-2 by 43-41. Plenty more excitement was doubtless still to come!

BUTLER

Bermuda Bowl

Players	Butl	Boards	Country
1 QUANTIN Jean-Christophe - LORENZINI Cedric	0.88	223	France
2 GRUE Joe - MOSS Brad	0.86	256	U.S.A.
3 MULLER Bauke - DEWIJS Simon	0.71	224	Netherlands
4 MECKSTROTH Jeff - RODWELL Eric	0.67	272	U.S.A.
5 YANG Lixin - DAI Jianming	0.65	224	China
6 ROMBAUT Jerome - COMBESURE Francois	0.62	224	France
7 LEVIN Robert (Bobby) - WEINSTEIN Steve	0.50	270	U.S.A.
8 RIMSTEDT Mikael - RIMSTEDT Ola	0.48	223	Sweden
9 MANNO Andrea - DI FRANCO Massimiliano	0.45	287	Italy
10 HESHMAT Mohamed - PASCAL Bernard	0.45	192	Egypt
11 ARONOV Victor - DAMIANOVA Diana	0.44	112	Bulgaria
12 MUKHERJEE Sumit - MAJUMDER Debabrata	0.40	272	India
13 CHAGAS Gabriel - VILLAS-BOAS (Jr) Miguel	0.39	288	Brazil
14 VAN LANKVELD Joris - VAN DEN BOS Berend	0.39	223	Netherlands
15 MIHOV Vladimir - KARAKOLEV Georgi	0.39	288	Bulgaria
16 LUCENA Carlos - PELLEGRINI Carlos	0.38	288	Argentina
17 NAB Bart - DRIJVER Bob	0.33	224	Netherlands
18 NYSTROM Fredrik - UPMARK Johan	0.31	256	Sweden
19 PSZCZOLA Jacek - ROSENBERG Michael	0.30	223	U.S.A.
20 NANEV Ivan - STEFANOV Julian	0.27	271	Bulgaria
21 VENKATARAMAN Kadyam Raman - GOEL Ashok Kumar	0.26	160	India
22 TISLEVOLL Geir-Olav - WARE Michael	0.23	224	New Zealand
23 HELNESS Tor - HELGEMO Geir	0.20	272	Monaco
24 TOBING Robert Parasian - ASBI Taufik Gautama	0.20	223	Indonesia
25 SADEK Tarek - EL AHMADY Waleed	0.16	320	Egypt
26 ALKEN Sabine - WELAND Roy	0.14	256	Germany
27 LINDE Julius - SCHWERDT Christian	0.13	224	Germany
28 WHIBLEY Michael - BROWN Matthew	0.12	224	New Zealand
29 GILL Peter - PEAKE Andrew	0.12	208	Australia
30 GANDOGLIA Alessandro - DONATI Giovanni	0.08	240	Italy
31 CORNELL Michael - BACH Ashley	0.08	224	New Zealand
32 ZHAO Jie - CHEN Yunlong	0.07	224	China
33 SYLVAN Johan - WRANG Frederic	0.06	192	Sweden
34 POLESCHI Ricardo - ANGELERI Ricardo	0.03	144	Argentina
35 MARTENS Krzysztof - ALLAVENA Jean Charles	0.03	112	Monaco
36 BESSIS Thomas - VOLCKER Frederic	0.00	224	France
37 HOLLANDS Peter - MILL Justin	-0.06	240	Australia
38 YEH Edward - CHEN Liu-Mou	-0.07	224	Chinese Taipei
39 MATHIEU Philippe - SOUDAN Luc	-0.09	256	Guadeloupe
40 RAVENNA Pablo - THOMA Marcos	-0.16	272	Brazil
41 YANG David - YANG Sidney	-0.16	224	Chinese Taipei
42 LASUT Henry - MANOPPO Eddy M F	-0.18	224	Indonesia
43 CHUNG Jonky - LIU Herstein	-0.18	224	Chinese Taipei
44 GOWER Craig - APTEKER Alon	-0.18	240	South Africa
45 NICKELL Nick - KATZ Ralph	-0.22	128	U.S.A.
46 THOMSON Matthew - BEAUCHAMP David	-0.22	224	Australia
47 DONDE Bernard - STEPHENS Robert	-0.22	192	South Africa
48 KARWUR Franky Steven - SACUL Denny	-0.28	222	Indonesia
49 GERIN Dominique - PELLETIER Jean-Claude	-0.33	240	Guadeloupe
50 DAGHER Hani - EL GEDDAWI Omar	-0.33	160	Egypt
51 LI Jianwei - ZHANG Bangxiang	-0.36	224	China
52 MARTEL Chip - FLEISHER Martin	-0.45	192	U.S.A.
53 HERRERA Gonzalo - MARSHALL Gerry	-0.58	336	Mexico
54 SRINIVASAN Sundaram - SRIDHARAN Padmanabhan	-0.58	240	India
55 CAMBEROS Hector - MUZZIO Ernesto	-0.60	240	Argentina
56 GAROZZO Benito - MASOERO Franco	-0.60	144	Italy
57 HAEUSLER Helmut - REHDER Martin	-0.65	192	Germany
58 MULTON Franck - ZIMMERMANN Pierre	-0.70	175	Monaco
59 RAHMAN Md. Moshir - AHASAN Md Rashedul	-0.73	192	Bangladesh
60 ISPAHANI Mirza Sajid - KAMRUZZAMAN A H M	-0.81	224	Bangladesh
61 HAQUE Shah Zia-ul - CHOWDHURY Mohammad Asifur Rahman	-0.84	224	Bangladesh
62 REYGADAS Miguel - COHEN Alberto	-0.86	336	Mexico
63 BONNET Philippe - ARAGONES Rene	-0.94	176	Guadeloupe
64 EBER Neville - BOSENBERG Christopher Henry	-0.98	240	South Africa
65 DE CARVALHO Leao Roberto Machado - DIAS Rafael	-1.21	112	Brazil

Venice Cup

Players	Budt	Boards	Country
1 DEKKERS Laura - BRUIJNSTEEN Merel	0.88	224	Netherlands
2 HUANG Yan - WVANG Nan	0.85	208	China
3 PENFOLD Sandra - SENIOR Nevena	0.83	208	England
4 WANG Wen Fei - SHEN (I) Qi	0.79	224	China
5 SUMAMPOUW Conny - ANDHANI Rury	0.76	96	Indonesia
6 OVELIUS Emma - RIMSTEDT Sandra	0.74	240	Sweden
7 ANDERSSON Pia - BERTHEAU Kathrine	0.74	208	Sweden
8 BOJOH Lusje Olha - TUEJE Julita Grace	0.61	304	Indonesia
9 GROMOVA Victoria - PONOMAREVA Tatiana	0.61	224	Russia
10 TAL Dana - TAL Noga	0.56	272	Israel
11 KHONICHEVA Elena - GULEVICH Anna	0.53	224	Russia
12 ZMUDA Justyna - DUFRAT Katarzyna	0.52	272	Poland
13 LEVI Hila - ASULIN Adi	0.52	240	Israel
14 RIMSTEDT Cecilia - GRONKVIKT Ida	0.45	224	Sweden
15 BROCK Sally - BROWN Fiona	0.42	240	England
16 PALMER Beth - SHI Sylvia	0.40	288	U.S.A.
17 YAKOVLEVA Maria - RAKHMANI Diana	0.37	224	Russia
18 TRAVIS Barbara - GINSBERG Candice	0.32	240	Australia
19 LU Yan - LIU Yan	0.31	240	China
20 ARNOLDS Carla - VERBEEK Martine	0.26	224	Netherlands
21 MANARA Gabriella - FERLAZZO Caterina	0.26	224	Italy
22 MOURGUES Jennifer - HUBERSCHWILLER Anne-Laure	0.18	192	France
23 VANUZZI Marilina - ROSETTA Annalisa	0.17	224	Italy
24 MEYERS Jill - ZUR-CAMPANILE Migry	0.17	272	U.S.A.
25 WINESTOCK Sheri - JENKINS Bronia	0.13	224	U.S.A.
26 BALDYSZ Cathy - BALDYSZ Zofia	0.13	208	Poland
27 ZOCHOWSKA Joanna - REESS Vanessa	0.09	240	France
28 HERRERA Florencia - ALEGRE Eleonora	0.07	208	Argentina
29 VAN ZVOLT Wietske - TICHA Magdalena	0.05	224	Netherlands
30 GAWEL Natalia - JAROSZ Aleksandra	0.05	192	Poland
31 VARGAS DE ANDRADE Isabella - PAIN Leda	0.04	224	Brazil
32 NOSACKI Michal - SAADA Nathalie	0.02	160	Israel
33 BARONI Irene - GOLIN Cristina	0.01	224	Italy
34 DEVI Suci Amita - MURNIATI Kristina Wahyu	0.01	272	Indonesia
35 PREVIDE Maria Cecilia - ESPINOSA-PAZ Maria Jose	0.00	224	Argentina
36 WU Yvonne - SO Ho-Yee	0.00	240	Chinese Taipei
37 SMITH Nicola - DRAPER Catherine	-0.02	224	England
38 GARATEGUY Maria Del Rosario - IACAPRARO Maria Elena	-0.03	240	Argentina
39 KHOURI Maud - WATTAR Nada	-0.08	320	Egypt
40 HUMPHRIES Susan - JACOB Stephanie	-0.09	272	New Zealand
41 KABBAL Leila - NABIL Graziella	-0.10	224	Morocco
42 CHEN Yin-Shou - LIN Yin-Yu	-0.12	224	Chinese Taipei
43 GOLDBERG Connie - MOSS Sylvia	-0.15	240	U.S.A.
44 DE MELLO Sylvia Figueira - CORREA Paula	-0.16	224	Brazil
45 CRONIER Benedicte - WILLARD Sylvie	-0.17	240	France
46 HOMSY Marguerite - AUDICHE Christina	-0.21	320	Egypt
47 NISBET Pamela - BRYANT Brenda	-0.29	224	Canada
48 LUSK Sue - BOURKE Margaret	-0.32	192	Australia
49 MANDELOT Agota - NOGUEIRA Heloisa	-0.35	224	Brazil
50 BOOKALLIL Marianne - TUTTY Jodi	-0.38	240	Australia
51 CAPPELLETTI Shannon - WEINGOLD Joanne	-0.41	112	U.S.A.
52 GIBBONS Jenna - GIBBONS Christine	-0.45	240	New Zealand
53 KISLITSYNA Irina - DEYOUNG Bernace	-0.46	207	U.S.A.
54 LU Yi-Zu - LIU Wen-Ling	-0.52	208	Chinese Taipei
55 HACHIMI Hayet - HAMAMSI Rokia	-0.53	224	Morocco
56 QASHU Azza - SAKET Randa	-0.55	240	Jordan
57 VASANTH Sathyavathi - NAIDOO Bindya	-0.59	224	India
58 TEBER Samira - LAHLOU Fatim	-0.63	224	Morocco
59 ABU JABER Aida - ABU JABER Yasmin	-0.70	256	Jordan
60 CORNELL Vivien - NEWTON Shirley	-0.73	160	New Zealand
61 KARMARKAR Marianne - BAKERI Rupa	-0.79	224	India
62 FOSTER Rhonda - MCDONALD Lorna	-0.88	240	Canada
63 WYNSTON Linda - WOLPERT Hazel	-0.92	208	Canada
64 SHAH Vasanti - KSHIRSAGAR Alka	-0.93	223	India
65 SAKET Huda - AL-TAHER Dimah	-1.90	176	Jordan

d'Orsi Trophy

Players	Budt	Boards	Country
1 WOLD Eddie - LEVINE Mike	1.13	112	U.S.A.
2 YEUNG Peter - LING Roger	1.01	128	China HKG
3 GRAVES Allan - BECKER Michael	0.97	224	U.S.A.
4 SONTAG Alan - BERKOWITZ David	0.83	240	U.S.A.
5 EFFRAIMSSON Bengt-Erik - AXDORPH Mats	0.77	256	Sweden
6 BROWN Terry - BUCHEN Peter Walter	0.72	224	Australia
7 PULGA Ruggero - MINA Aldo	0.67	224	Italy
8 PASSELL Mike - JACOBUS Marc	0.59	288	U.S.A.
9 DECHELETTE Nicholas - IONTZEFF Georges	0.54	224	France
10 SRIDHARAN Ramamurthy - DHAKRAS Subhash	0.52	240	India
11 FAILLA Giuseppe - BURATTI Andrea	0.49	224	Italy
12 PALAU Jean-Jacques - GUILLAUMIN Pierre-Yves	0.39	224	France
13 OHNO Kyoko - YAMADA Akihiko	0.38	208	Japan
14 SHEN Mingkun - SHEN Xiaonong	0.38	256	China
15 KIRK Martin - ALTAY Andy	0.36	176	Canada
16 TOFFIER Philippe - SCHMIDT Pierre	0.36	222	France
17 INCE Mehmet Ali - KOKTEN Namik	0.31	288	Turkey
18 SILVERMAN Neil - WOLFSON Jeff	0.27	207	U.S.A.
19 SABBATINI Stefano - COMELLA Amedeo	0.26	224	Italy
20 NEILL Bruce - KANETKAR Avi	0.24	224	Australia
21 SUN Ming - ZHOU Jia Hong	0.23	224	China
22 AKSOY Ibrahim - SIRIKLIOGLU Mehmet	0.23	208	Turkey
23 KALISH Avi - PODGUR Leonid	0.23	320	Israel
24 KOVALSKI Apollinary - ROMANSKI Jacek	0.18	287	Poland
25 BJARING Christer - OSTBERG Johnny	0.18	208	Sweden
26 FRANZEL Robert - TERRANEO Sylvia	0.15	143	Austria
27 BARCELLOS Eduardo - MACHADO Mauricio	0.13	224	Brazil
28 FEICHTINGER Kurt - TERRANEO Franz	0.13	240	Austria
29 INO Masayuki - YAMADA Kazuhiko	0.12	207	Japan
30 LERNER Fred - SCHOENBORN Michael	0.12	240	Canada
31 GOWDY John - TURNER David	0.10	256	Canada
32 VILLEGAS Marcelo - FORNASARI Walter	0.09	239	Argentina
33 IMAKURA Tadashi - OMASA Akito	0.09	192	Japan
34 PODDAR Dipak - SOLANI Jitendra	0.07	192	India
35 SCANAVINO Eduardo - GUEGLIO Jorge	0.05	208	Argentina
36 GUMBY Pauline - LAZER Warren	0.03	224	Australia
37 SAMANT Keshav Saktharam - AGRAWAL Ramawatar	0.01	240	India
38 LING Roger - TSE Edmund	0.01	112	China HKG
39 ZEN Derek - WAN Siu-Kau Samuel	0.01	336	China HKG
40 YEUNG Peter - TSE Edmund	0.00	96	China HKG
41 CLERKIN Jerry - CLERKIN Dennis	-0.06	272	U.S.A.
42 SCHWARTZ Adrian - ZELIGMAN Shalom	-0.07	304	Israel
43 MORATH Anders - BJERREGARD Sven-Ake	-0.09	208	Sweden
44 HORSMAN Eileen - GROVER Bob	-0.12	224	New Zealand
45 OBERMAIR Hubert - FUCIK Jan	-0.15	160	Austria
46 MONSEGUR Martin Sila - MOONEY Guillermo	-0.16	224	Argentina
47 TAO Jian Hua - LIN Rongqiang	-0.18	192	China
48 RUSSIAN Jerzy - ZAREMBA Jerzy	-0.20	224	Poland
49 MAKRAM Sameh - TANBOLI Mohamed	-0.25	224	Egypt
50 KARADENIZ Mesut - YILDIZ Veyssel	-0.29	176	Turkey
51 MAQBOOL Assad - BANDESHA Muhammad Ghalib Ali	-0.31	208	Pakistan
52 KHALIL Izat - KHAN Saifdar Mahmood	-0.33	224	Pakistan
53 MAGALHAES Amilcar - NETO Joao da Silva	-0.34	224	Brazil
54 MARKOWICZ Victor - MOSCZYNSKI Krzysztof	-0.44	160	Poland
55 AMOEDO Rafael - ALOI Milton Luis	-0.55	224	Brazil
56 BALKIN Diana - DRIVER Kathleen	-0.59	224	South Africa
57 DORFAN Jackie - PIETERS Errol	-0.64	224	South Africa
58 MAZHAR Masood - IBRAHIM Kamran	-0.70	240	Pakistan
59 ASKALANI Amr El - WAHDAN Ashraf	-0.81	223	Egypt
60 RUSSELL Douglas - ACKERLEY Chris	-0.84	224	New Zealand
61 PIETERS Desiree - CHILD Christine	-0.85	224	South Africa
62 THIRION Christiane - FABBRICATORE Sophie	-0.85	208	Guadeloupe
63 KAMEL Mohsen Mohamed - AZIZ Atef	-0.91	224	Egypt
64 MONDOR Fred - MONDOR Francoise	-0.96	224	Guadeloupe
65 STUCKEY Neil - PALMER Barry	-1.01	224	New Zealand
66 CASSIN Jacqueline - BISTOQUET Chantal	-1.24	240	Guadeloupe

IBPA Annual General Meeting

IBPA yesterday announced at its Annual General Meeting that it plans to stage its next year's awards presentation for bidding, play, defence and juniors at the Hainan Bridge Festival (HBF) in Sanya, China. The IBPA award winners for 2018 will be invited to HBF to collect their prizes. They will receive free entry to the tournament together with subsidies for flight and hotel. Details will be announced as soon as they are finalized.

IBPA also announced that it plans to provide printed Daily Bulletins during the next European Championships in Ostend. Another reason to join IBPA!