

DAILY BULLETIN

Editor: Mark Horton Lay-out Editor: Monika Kümmel
 Journalists: David Bird, Jos Jacobs, Marc Smith, Ron Tacchi

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Sunday, 20th August 2023

MARRAKECH, CITY OF BAHJA!



Gordon Rainsford taking the oath on behalf of the tournament directors

Start times

10.00-12.15
 13.15-15.30
 15.50-18.05

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A dazzling opening ceremony presented by **Arianna Testa** saw **Abdellatif Belkouch**, President of the Fédération Royale Marocaine de Bridge describe the Championships as a milestone in the development of bridge.

Bernard Pascal, President of the African Bridge Federation, speaking in Arabic, French and English, pointed out that this is the first time the African Bridge Federation has played host to the Championships. He paid tribute to the role played by the onsite organiser, **Chafika Tak-Tak**, as did the WBF President, who confided that in Swedish the word *tak* means 'thank you'.

The WBF President then revealed that the non-arrival of his luggage meant that his carefully prepared, double-sided, six-page speech would have to be postponed. After the oaths on behalf of the players and the tournament directors, **Jan Kamras** formally opened the 46th World Bridge Championships.

Editor's Log 190823

On Friday I travelled to Marrakech on the same plane as Zia. On Wednesday evening I had stopped by the historic Acol Bridge Club in London for the UK launch of, *Bridge A Love Story*, which as you can see was a huge success.



It is not a book you will read....it is a book you will devour!

In his presentation, Zia explained his concept of the four F's (one of the many pearls of wisdom in the book).

The first F stands for Fun, which is why you should be playing bridge!

The second F stands for Forget, which is what you should do when the inevitable setback (*that's my word for disaster*) occurs.

The third F stands for Focus which you must be able to do to understand what is happening at the table.

The fourth and final F stands for a four-letter word that we are all familiar with! Zia suggests that when things go totally pear-shaped you should leave the building, scream it at the top of your voice – and then return, fully motivated once more.

I wonder how many deals from this tournament might feature in a future offering from the living legend.

I spotted this on the Quora website:

The captain on a Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) flight once said: "*Ladies and gentlemen, it won't be a full flight today. So, could I just ask all passengers who have an aisle or middle seat to move to the window? This way, the other airlines will still think we are successful.*"

The signage at the Championships is the best I can recall – despite the vast size of the venue it is impossible to get lost!

The Entertainers

At considerable expense we have put together an outstanding team of writers. We start with our opening bowler:

David Bird is the world's most prolific bridge author, having penned more than 140 books. His humorous stories featuring the Abbot and monks of St Titus is recognised alongside Victor Mollo's *Bridge in the Menagerie* series as the most outstanding work in the genre. Remarkably, both series started life as articles in *Bridge Magazine*.

Coming on from the other end we have:

Marc Smith lives in the same part of England as David Bird, and they regularly compare notes. A top-class player, he was a member of the British team that won the 1985 European Union Junior Teams Championship. The book he co-authored with Barbara Seagram, *25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know*, won the American Bridge Teachers' Association Shirley Silverman Award for Best Student Book in 1999 and has sold over 250,000 copies!

Our all-rounder is:

Jos Jacobs hails from The Netherlands. He has been working on bridge bulletins since time immemorial! If you ever enter a Bulletin Room and discover Jos and the Editor clapping it denotes some significant occurrence in a cricket Test Match, especially when England and Australia contest the Ashes.

Umpiring (*running is not in his vocabulary*) we have:

Ron Tacchi lives in France. He spends a significant part of his time typesetting bridge books, his latest creation being Zia's dazzling *Bridge A Love Story*.

BBO Specialist

Barry Rigal is perhaps best known for his work as a VuGraph commentator, but is also a top-class player. Before he moved to the United States he represented England in the Camrose Trophy and won many of the most important events. Following the death of Patrick Jourdain in 2016, he was appointed President of the International Bridge Press Association (IBPA).

Our twelfth man is:

Martin Cantor, was due to make his debut at these Championships. Unfortunately, health issues forced him to withdraw but I am delighted to say that yesterday he emailed to say he would be able to contribute after all.

If you would like to make a contribution, observation, or point out something the proof-readers missed please send it to: bridgebulletins@gmail.com or markhorton007@hotmail.com

Explanations of complex auctions are especially welcome as they might feature in the 2023 World Championship Book!

Draw for Today's Matches

Bermuda Bowl

Round 1

1	CANADA	MOROCCO
2	BELGIUM	NORWAY
3	SOUTH AFRICA	HONG KONG CHINA
4	NEW ZEALAND	PANAMA
5	ITALY	USA I
6	CHINA	POLAND
7	NETHERLANDS	CHILE
8	BRAZIL	INDIA
9	SWITZERLAND	SINGAPORE
10	IRELAND	UAE
11	AUSTRALIA	EGYPT
12	USA 2	ISRAEL

Venice Cup

Round 1

21	BRAZIL	BARBADOS
22	SWEDEN	UAE
23	USA I	CANADA
24	TURKIYE	EGYPT
25	ISRAEL	AUSTRALIA
26	MOROCCO	HONG KONG CHINA
27	USA 2	NEW ZEALAND
28	CHINA	GERMANY
29	DENMARK	CHINESE TAIPEI
30	FRANCE	SOUTH AFRICA
31	INDIA	ARGENTINA
32	NORWAY	POLAND

Round 2

1	MOROCCO	USA I
2	CANADA	ISRAEL
3	BELGIUM	NETHERLANDS
4	PANAMA	CHINA
5	SOUTH AFRICA	NORWAY
6	ITALY	HONG KONG CHINA
7	CHILE	SINGAPORE
8	NEW ZEALAND	POLAND
9	BRAZIL	AUSTRALIA
10	UAE	EGYPT
11	SWITZERLAND	INDIA
12	IRELAND	USA 2

Round 2

21	BARBADOS	AUSTRALIA
22	BRAZIL	POLAND
23	SWEDEN	USA 2
24	EGYPT	MOROCCO
25	USA I	UAE
26	ISRAEL	CANADA
27	NEW ZEALAND	CHINESE TAIPEI
28	TURKIYE	HONG KONG CHINA
29	CHINA	INDIA
30	SOUTH AFRICA	ARGENTINA
31	DENMARK	GERMANY
32	FRANCE	NORWAY

Round 3

1	NORWAY	MOROCCO
2	USA I	USA 2
3	CANADA	SINGAPORE
4	ITALY	PANAMA
5	BELGIUM	ISRAEL
6	SOUTH AFRICA	NETHERLANDS
7	AUSTRALIA	CHILE
8	CHINA	HONG KONG CHINA
9	NEW ZEALAND	SWITZERLAND
10	INDIA	UAE
11	BRAZIL	POLAND
12	EGYPT	IRELAND

Round 3

21	UAE	BARBADOS
22	AUSTRALIA	NORWAY
23	BRAZIL	CHINESE TAIPEI
24	ISRAEL	EGYPT
25	SWEDEN	POLAND
26	USA I	USA 2
27	INDIA	NEW ZEALAND
28	MOROCCO	CANADA
29	TURKIYE	DENMARK
30	GERMANY	SOUTH AFRICA
31	CHINA	HONG KONG CHINA
32	ARGENTINA	FRANCE

Draw for Today's Matches

d'Orsi Trophy

Round 1

41		ARGENTINA		COLOMBIA
42		USA I		BELGIUM
43		FRANCE		SWEDEN
44		NETHERLANDS		GUADELOUPE
45		POLAND		NORWAY
46		CHINESE TAIPEI		HONG KONG CHINA
47		PAKISTAN		MOROCCO
48		CHINA		ITALY
49		INDIA		AUSTRALIA
50		SOUTH AFRICA		REUNION
51		ISRAEL		CANADA
52		DENMARK		USA2

Wuhan Cup

Round 1

61		CANADA		COLOMBIA
62		BARBADOS		BELGIUM
63		ISRAEL		USA2
64		AUSTRALIA		MOROCCO
65		ARGENTINA		CHINA
66		USA I		FRANCE
67		POLAND		TUNISIA
68		GERMANY		ITALY
69		SINGAPORE		ROMANIA
70		INDIA		UAE
71		NEW ZEALAND		CHINESE TAIPEI
72		DENMARK		EGYPT

Round 2

41		COLOMBIA		NORWAY
42		ARGENTINA		USA2
43		USA I		PAKISTAN
44		GUADELOUPE		CHINESE TAIPEI
45		FRANCE		BELGIUM
46		POLAND		SWEDEN
47		MOROCCO		AUSTRALIA
48		NETHERLANDS		HONG KONG CHINA
49		CHINA		ISRAEL
50		REUNION		CANADA
51		INDIA		ITALY
52		SOUTH AFRICA		DENMARK

Round 2

61		COLOMBIA		CHINA
62		CANADA		EGYPT
63		BARBADOS		POLAND
64		MOROCCO		USA I
65		ISRAEL		BELGIUM
66		ARGENTINA		USA2
67		TUNISIA		ROMANIA
68		AUSTRALIA		FRANCE
69		GERMANY		NEW ZEALAND
70		UAE		CHINESE TAIPEI
71		SINGAPORE		ITALY
72		INDIA		DENMARK

Round 3

41		BELGIUM		COLOMBIA
42		NORWAY		DENMARK
43		ARGENTINA		AUSTRALIA
44		POLAND		GUADELOUPE
45		USA I		USA2
46		FRANCE		PAKISTAN
47		ISRAEL		MOROCCO
48		CHINESE TAIPEI		SWEDEN
49		NETHERLANDS		INDIA
50		ITALY		REUNION
51		CHINA		HONG KONG CHINA
52		CANADA		SOUTH AFRICA

Round 3

61		BELGIUM		COLOMBIA
62		CHINA		DENMARK
63		CANADA		ROMANIA
64		ARGENTINA		MOROCCO
65		BARBADOS		EGYPT
66		ISRAEL		POLAND
67		NEW ZEALAND		TUNISIA
68		USA I		USA2
69		AUSTRALIA		SINGAPORE
70		ITALY		UAE
71		GERMANY		FRANCE
72		CHINESE TAIPEI		INDIA

Bermuda Bowl Redux

The final session of a World Championship is awkward in so far as reporting deals in the last edition of the Bulletin is concerned. In the modern era, perhaps we should consider the possibility of posting a final edition after the Championships, especially if, as is so often the case, there is an exciting finish.

With various time penalties being applied the score going into the final session of 16 deals of the 2021 Bermuda Bowl final in Salsomaggiore was Netherlands 145 Switzerland 143.

On Board 81 both sides bid a spade game where declarer had to lose three diamonds and a club.

Board 82. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ A 8 7 6 5 4 ♥ A 7 3 ♦ 10 ♣ K 7 4</p>	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ J 10 3 ♥ 6 5 4 ♦ K Q ♣ A 8 6 5 2</p>	<p>♠ K 2 ♥ 10 ♦ A J 7 6 5 2 ♣ J 10 9 3</p>
<p>♠ Q 9 ♥ K Q J 9 8 2 ♦ 9 8 4 3 ♣ Q</p>			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	INT*	2♥
3♦*	Pass	3♠	All Pass
INT 10-13 3♦ 5+♠, invitational			

South led the ♥K and declarer won with dummy's ace and played two rounds of spades, North winning with the king and switching to the ♣10. Declarer won with dummy's king and played the ♦10, North taking the ace and continuing with the ♣9. Declarer won, pitched a club on the ♦K and played the ♣8 discarding a heart, claiming ten tricks, +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	—	Pass	2♥
2♠	Pass	3♥*	Pass
3♠	All Pass		

North led the ♥10 and declarer won and played the ♦10, North taking the ace and switching to the ♣3, declarer winning with the king and playing two rounds of spades. North won with the king and switched to the ♦2 and declarer won in dummy pitching a club, cashed the ♣A and then pitched a heart on the next club, claiming ten

tricks as North had to offer up a ruff and discard or set up a long club in dummy, +170 and a push.

It's worth noting that had EW overbid to 4♠ North would need to unblock the ♠K under the ace.

Board 86. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

<p>♠ J 8 5 4 3 2 ♥ 9 8 5 ♦ 7 ♣ A K 9</p>	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ A K 9 ♥ K 10 3 ♦ K 10 9 8 ♣ Q 10 3</p>	<p>♠ Q 10 ♥ J 2 ♦ Q J 6 5 ♣ 8 6 5 4 2</p>
<p>♠ 7 6 ♥ A Q 7 6 4 ♦ A 4 3 2 ♣ J 7</p>			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	INT	2♦*
3♥*	4♣*	Pass	4♦
All Pass 2♦ 5♥/♠+4+♣/♦ 3♥ Spades, invitational+			

Looking at a minimum for his INT and a pair of red kings that appeared to be badly placed East let 4♦ go.

The defenders cashed their black suit winners and along with East's trump tricks that added up to three down, -150.

With 4♠ making if East is the declarer and 500 available from 4♦ it did not appear to be a promising result, but it was better than West declaring 4♠, when North can lead the ♥J.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	—	INT	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	All Pass
4♥ Transfer			

South led the ♠7 and declarer took North's ten with the ace, crossed to dummy with the ♣A and played the ♠3, collecting North's queen. Two rounds of clubs ending in dummy saw declarer continue with the ♦7 and when North played the jack declarer followed with the eight. North switched to the ♥J for the king and ace and when South cashed the queen declarer claimed, +620 and 10 IMPs taking the score to 159-145.

The alternative line after eliminating clubs is to play the ♥9 intending to run it. You go down if South started with the ♥AQJ and North the ♦A.

Board 87. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	—	Pass
1♦*	Dble	Rdbl*	Pass
Pass	1♥	Dble*	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
1♦ 5+♦ or 441♣			
Rdbl 10+			
Dble Takeout			

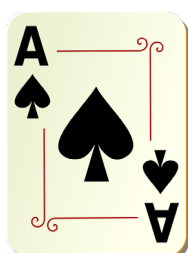
East's double was ostensibly for takeout – he had to do something over 1♥.

North led the ♥Q and declarer won with dummy's ace and ran the ♠9, North winning with the queen and returning the ♥J. Declarer ducked, won the next heart and cashed his winners, +600.

North might have tried the old gambit of winning the first round of spades with the ace. However, five rounds of diamonds will be uncomfortable for North, and declarer might easily end up with several overtricks, which would not be ideal in what rates to be a close encounter.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	—	—	Pass
1♦*	1♥	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
1♦ 5+♦, or any 4♦41 11-17 or 11-15, 4♦+5♣			



North led the ♥Q and declarer won in dummy and ran the ♠9, North winning and returning the ♥10. Declarer won and cashed his diamonds, North coming down to ♠A ♥J ♣QJ7. When declarer played the ♣3 North followed with the seven and declarer put in the ten to secure a couple of overtricks and 2 IMPs, 161-145.

On the next deal both sides took eight tricks in 2♠.

Board 89. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	INT*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

INT 9-12

East led the ♦3 and declarer put in dummy's queen, West taking the king and returning the ♦9. Declarer ducked, won the next diamond in dummy and played a club for the five, king and ace, East cashing his diamonds and then playing a heart, West's honours resulting in two down, -100.

Notice that if declarer wins the second diamond the suit is blocked!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	INT*	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
INT 9-12			

East led the ♦4 and declarer faced a problem. If he played low and West could win the trick there was a risk that the defenders might be able to score three fast heart tricks and the ♣A, or at the very least put declarer to an awkward guess were West to switch to a low heart from his actual holding. When declarer tried to avoid any such risk by playing dummy's queen West won and returned the nine and when declarer ducked East cleared the suit, came in with the ♣A and cashed his diamonds before exiting with the ♥5. West won with the king and returned the ♥2 and when declarer put in the ten he was four down, -200 and the 3 IMPs lost made the score 164-145.

With only seven deals remaining the Netherlands remained scoreless in the set.

Board 90. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
2♣	Gazzilli		
2♦	8+		
2♥	Minimum, ♥+♣		

East led the ♦J covered all round and declarer played a club to the jack and a spade for the king and ace. A club for the queen and king saw declarer cash the ace and two more clubs before trying a spade to the ten. East won with the jack, cashed the ♥A and continued with the two, West winning and returning the ♦2. Unsure about the location of the nine, East won with the seven, cashed the ten and then had to surrender the last trick to the ♠Q, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	INT*	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	All Pass	
INT 4+♠, non forcing			

West led the ♠K and declarer took dummy's ace and played a heart to the queen, continuing with the nine when it held. East won and switched to the ♦J, declarer taking West's king with the ace, playing a club to the ace and the ♥J. West won and returned the ♦2, declarer ruffing, cashing the ♥10, playing a spade to the queen and a club, claiming the rest when the queen appeared, +200 and 7 IMPs that reduced the deficit, 164-152.



4♥ by South can be defeated, but only by the Rueful Rabbit, who would undoubtedly drop the ♦K on the table at trick one.

Board 91. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
—	—	—	1♦
INT	Dble	2♦*	Pass
2♥	All Pass		
2♦ Transfer			

North led the ♣K and to the surprise of the 8300 spectators following the play declarer ducked. They got another surprise when North switched to the ♥3. Declarer took South's king with the ace and returned the jack, North winning with the queen and exiting with a club. South ruffed and switched to the ♦4, but declarer won with the king and played a spade to the jack. When that held, he cashed the ♥10 and exited with the ♠K. South could win, but had no good move, his spade exit giving declarer his eighth trick with the ten, +110.

There is an interesting point if North finds the defence of continuing clubs at trick two. South ruffs and returns a spade for the queen and king. If declarer now plays a heart the strongest defence is for South to put up the king! That way North wins the next heart and can exit with a club. With no route to hand to draw the outstanding trump declarer will suffer a spade ruff and finish two down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
—	—	—	1♦*
INT	Dble	2♥	All Pass
1♦ (10)11-15, 2+♦			

South led the ♣7 and North won with the eight and returned the king, South ruffing and switching to the ♠7 for the queen and king. When declarer played the ♥2 South did not find the difficult play of putting up the king, so he won the second round of trumps with it and played two rounds of spades, North ruffing as declarer claimed seven tricks, -50 and a 4 IMP swing making the match even tighter, 164-156.

Board 92. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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



♠ J
♥ A 10 9 4
♦ K 8 2
♣ K 8 6 5 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Van Lankveld	Drijver	Van den Bos	Brink
INT*	Pass	2♥	All Pass
INT 10-13			

With virtually all his values in his short suits, North decided not to re-open with a double. Had he done so it is possible that South might have decided to pass and lead the ♠J, after which declarer is in serious trouble, -500 being a strong possibility.

South's lead of the ♣2 was also effective, North winning with the ace and continuing with the queen. When that held, he switched to the ♦10 for the queen, king and ace and declarer tried a heart to the jack and ace. South switched to the ♠J and declarer won with the king, cashed the ♥K and played a spade. South ruffed, cashed the ♣K and continued with the eight. Declarer ruffed and exited

with a heart, but South won and played a club and after ruffing declarer had to lead into the split diamond tenace for -150.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	De Wijs	Gawrys	Muller
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	INT	All Pass

South led the ♣2 and North won with the ace, continued with the queen and switched to the ♦3 for the nine, king and ace. Declarer went after the spades, but when South discarded the ♥4 on the second round it was all about scrambling as many tricks as possible. Declarer took dummy's top spades and then played a heart to the king. South took the ace, cashed three clubs and then played a heart allowing North to score the ♥Q and the ♠10 for two down, -100 but 2 IMPs for the leaders, 166-156.

Board 93. Dealer North. All Vul.

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



♠ Q
♥ Q 9 8 6
♦ Q 10 3
♣ 9 7 6 5 2

MADEIRA INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE OPEN

**2-13
NOV.
2023**

DIRECT FLIGHT
NEW YORK - FUNCHAL



www.bridge-madeira.com

Madeira Island - Portugal

good2019events.booking@gmail.com

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣*	2♦	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥*	Pass	4♠	All Pass

2♣ Game forcing relay

South led the ♦3, so the defenders scored a trick, +680.

If you are used to bidding controls up the line you might wonder why West did not bid 4♦? The problem with that is unless you are going to play the hand a diamond lead might be fatal. Bidding 4♥ rated to work well, as partner might imagine that with no diamond control all West's values will be pulling their weight. However, East decided not to show his diamond control and those supporting the Netherlands must have feared the worst.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	1♦	1♠	Pass
2♦*	2♥	3♣	4♥
4♠	All Pass		

2♦ Spade fit

North was stretching when he opened 1♦, but he was protected to a certain extent by the limited nature of the bid, and he might also have felt that the earlier deals had mostly gone the opponents' way. Coming again with 2♥ was inspired and he had chosen his moment well, keeping his team in the hunt. South led the ♥8, so declarer took all the tricks, +710 and an IMP, 167-156.

Was there any way E/W could have overcome the intervention? The key points to consider are that East did not have to bid over North's 2♥, so he was presumably showing a shapely hand, and that East was also marked with at most a singleton heart. Perhaps that meant that West needed to find something other than 4♠.

The only other thing I can think of is that East might have jumped to 4♣ when West showed a fit. If West then bids 4♥ East might go on.

Board 94. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥*	Pass	INT*
All Pass			

1♣ 2+♣, not forcing, but rarely passed, 12-14 balanced or 18-20 balanced or 12+, 4+♣ unbalanced

1♦ 0-6/8-11

1♥ 15-17 balanced or ♣+♦ unbalanced

INT 4♥+4♠

West led the ♦7 and East won with the jack and switched to the ♣3, declarer winning with the queen and playing a spade to the ten. When that held, he cashed the ♠A and played a third one, West winning and playing the ♦4. Declarer went up with dummy's ace, played a club to the ace, cashed the ♠Q and played a heart to the ace for seven tricks, +90.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	INT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

East led the ♠8 and when dummy's queen held declarer continued with a spade to the ten, cashed the ace and played a club to the queen. That was followed by a diamond to the ten and jack and East exited with the ♣6 to dummy's ace. Declarer cashed the ♠J and took the diamond finesse, East winning, cashing his clubs and exiting with a diamond. Declarer won and cashed his remaining red ace for +120 and an IMP, 167-157.

Board 95. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	Pass
3♥	3NT	Pass	4♥*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	All Pass	

4♥ Clubs

- 4♠ Slam interest
- 4NT Optional RKCB
- 5♣ Negative

The range and nature of a 3NT overcall gave South plenty to think about. He transferred to clubs and when partner did not sign off with 4NT or 5♣, he used optional RKCB. Having already shown some interest via 4♠ North opted for what he thought would be the safest contract. (System fans should note that a response of 4♣ would offer a choice of games, with 5♠+5♣/♦.)

East led the ♦Q and declarer won with the ace and ran the ♣J, West won with the queen and cashed the ♥A, but that was the last trick for the defence, +600.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	—	—	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♣*
3♥	3♠	Pass	4♠

All Pass

- 2♣ 11-14/15 6+♣
- 2♦ Relay
- 3♣ Minimum, not 4♥/♠, maybe 4♦

East led the ♥10 and West took the ace and returned the four. Declarer won, drew trumps and ran the ♣J, soon claiming 11 tricks, +650 and 2 IMPs, 167-159.

Board 96. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Van Lankveld</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Van den Bos</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	INT	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3NT

All Pass

- INT 12-14
- 2♠ Balanced, invitational not 4♥/♠ or ♣+♦ or weak with ♦
- 3♣ Accepts balanced invitation

East led the ♠A and when West followed with the three, he cashed the king and then played the six, declarer winning with dummy's queen and running the ♣10. East won, cashed the ♠2 and exited with the ♣7. Declarer went through the motions but had to lose a diamond, -50.

If declarer had unblocked the ♠Q on the second round of the suit he could have won the next one in hand and

played a diamond towards the queen. If East has the king and takes it to cash a spade declarer can pitch a club from each hand and, with diamonds breaking will be able to get up to nine tricks by playing West for the ♣K. If diamonds are not breaking declarer can fall back on playing for the ♣KJ to be onside.

However, this line will fail if West has the ♦K and the ♣KJ (regardless of the location of the remaining spade).

Looking at the EW convention card, it says 'High=enc./even; Low=even'. Does that mean that West was a favourite to hold the missing spade? If you are confident that East has the missing spade, then he surely has an entry. If he has both minor suit kings, you don't have any hope. If his entry is in clubs and West has the ♦K then there will only be eight tricks. If his entry is in diamonds and West has the ♣K then your best chance is to play a diamond towards the queen at an early stage. If the queen wins you can play on clubs, hoping to secure three tricks in that suit.

You also have to keep in mind that if West does have the ♦K you will no longer have the entries to take two club finesses, so you will need West to have started with the doubleton ♣KJ.

Whatever you make of this, if The Netherlands could bid and make 3NT at the other table, the Bermuda Bowl would be coloured orange.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Muller</i>
Pass	1♦	Dble	INT
All Pass			
	1♦ (10)11-15, 2+♦		

West led the ♥8 and declarer won in hand and ran the ♣10, East winning with the jack and returning the ♠2. When his ten held declarer played a club to the queen, cashed the ace and then took the ♥Q before playing a club to his nine. He then cashed the ♥A and exited with a spade. East was down to ♠AK6 ♦KJ and after cashing three tricks in the suit he had to lead into the split diamond tenace, a beautiful +150. Had the contract been 3NT it would have become an immortal 'Last Board' story.

As it was The Netherlands had 5 IMPs, but Switzerland had survived, the final score line of 167-164 making them the 2021 Bermuda Bowl champions.



Twins



by Mark Horton

The final Bulletin of a major championship is an awkward one to produce, as the limitations of time are awkward to handle if the matches are exciting which may mean that interesting deals do not always see the light of day.

The final of the World U21 Open Championships in Veldhoven saw Denmark lead USA2 27-20 but then fall behind 51-87. They put things to right in the third session, taking it 60-11 to move ahead 111-98 and made no mistake to run out winners 150-111.

Here are a couple of deals from the third session that involved the continuing battle that pervades the nine-trick game:

Board 31. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Rolfe-Larsen	Zhou	Zeeberg	Hu
—	—	—	1♠
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led the ♠9 and declarer made the fine play of putting up dummy's queen, South taking the ace and continuing with the jack. Declarer won with the king, played a diamond to the ace and ran the ♣Q. North won with the king and exited with the ♥6, which saw declarer take South's king with the ace, play two rounds of clubs and a heart, claiming 11 tricks, +660.

Ducking the ♣Q is a stronger defence, but even if declarer repeats the finesse the favourable position in the heart suit will ensure the success of the contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Haas	Lahrmann	Pahk	Tylvad
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

There was no opening bid here, but North still found the lead of the ♠9, the trick being completed by the two, three and king. When declarer continued with the ♣A followed by the ♣4 North took the king and a second spade sunk declarer's ship for a 13 IMP swing.

Board 32. Dealer West. All Vul.

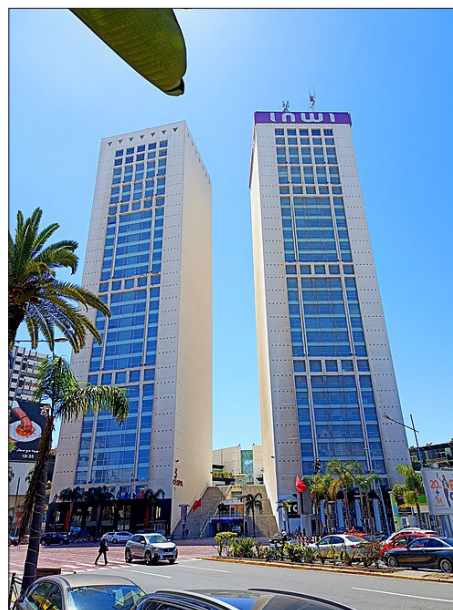
♠ 10 7 6 5 3 2 ♥ J 9 2 ♦ A K ♣ J 4		♠ — ♥ Q 8 7 6 3 ♦ J 10 2 ♣ Q 8 6 5 2	♠ A K 9 ♥ 10 5 ♦ 9 5 4 3 ♣ A K 9 3
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
Rolfe-Larsen	Zhou	Zeeberg	Hu
Pass	1♦	1♥	Dble*
2♥	Pass	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West led the ♥2 and declarer ducked East's queen, took the next heart with the ace, crossed to dummy with a spade and saw East discard the ♣2. When East followed to dummy's ♦3 with the two, declarer elected to put up the queen and West won with the ace and exited with the ♥9. There was no way to come to more than eight tricks, -100.

You might suggest that if East had been looking at say ♦AK2, might he not have won the first diamond and cleared the hearts? However, if you look deeply into the position you realise that then declarer can cash three more tricks in spades, squeezing East in three suits!



The towers of the Casablanca Twin Center designed by Ricardo Bofill Taller de Arquitectura (picture from Wikipedia)

After the 1♥ overcall declarer, expecting the diamond honours to be split, might conclude that the best chance is to hope for three tricks in the club suit, which will happen roughly 32% of the time. I suspect declarer was planning to play a club towards the ten at trick four, but changed his mind when East discarded the ♣2.

There is much more to this deal – for instance one West leads the ♥2 the suit is potentially blocked. However, the ♥9 might still have role to play – imagine declarer were to cash four spades t some point, and the diamond honours were split. Finally, as far as I can see, if the diamond honours are split, there is no obvious way for declarer to prevail after a heart lead.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Haas	Lahrmann	Pahk	Tylvad
Pass	INT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
3♣	Puppet		
3♦	No five-card major		
3♥	4♠		

There was no Alpha Zero style overcall at this table, and when East led the ♣5 declarer took West's jack with the ace and played a diamond for the two, eight and ace. East won the club return with the queen and exited with the ♣8, but declarer won, ducked a diamond and claimed 10 tricks and another 13 IMPs.

Play it Again Slam



by Mark Horton

Consistently voted one of the best films of all time, *Casablanca* features a scene where Humphrey Bogart's character Rick Blaine is seen studying a game of chess. Bogart was a keen player, which may explain why the scene is included in the movie. Imagine he had been a bridge aficionado....

Rick Blaine's plan to deliver Letters of Transit to Ilsa Lund and Victor Laszlo had hit a snag thanks to the arrival of Major Heinrich Strasser and Colonel Heinze who were intent on arresting Victor. To buy some time Rick had suggested a short bridge match. When the last board arrived, it was clear that Rick's team needed a swing:

that the king might be a false card, she continued with the ♦5 only to see Victor follow with the six as declarer discarded a heart on dummy's queen. Having recently read an article in *The British Bridge World* about developing the side suit before drawing trumps, Signor Ugarte cashed dummy's ♥K and noted the appearance of West's ♥10. He continued with a heart to the ace, but Ilsa's ruff meant the contract was one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Strasser	Renault	Heinze	Blaine
—	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Lund	Ferrari	Laszlo	Ugarte
—	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♣
All Pass			

Hoping she might be able to give her partner a ruff Ilsa led the ♦A which collected the four, jack and king. Reflecting

After an identical auction Major Strasser also tried the effect of starting with two rounds of diamonds and here too declarer first move after winning with dummy's ♦Q was to cash the ♥K. When West followed with the ten Rick saw no harm in cashing dummy's ♣A and was pleased to see the queen appear. Only then did he continue with a heart to the ace. When West discarded a diamond Rick ruffed a heart, cashed dummy's top spades discarding a heart and could claim the last five tricks via a high-cross ruff.

That was enough to secure victory and the irate Major Strasser went over to the telephone, clearly intent on summoning troops to arrest Victor. Quick as a flash, a gun appeared in Rick's hand along with a warning to the Major. When he ignored it Rick shot him. As Captain Renault's men rushed into the room he calmly informed them, 'Major Strasser has been shot. Round up the usual suspects.'

As Rick and Captain Renault left the café, Rick said, 'Louis, I think this is the beginning of a beautiful partnership.'