

DAILY BULLETIN

Editor: Mark Horton
 Journalists: David Bird, Martin Cantor, Jos Jacobs, Christina Lund Madsen, Marc Smith, Ron Tacchi
 Lay-out Editor: Monika Kümmel
 Photos: Moughit Chhabni, Ron Tacchi

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TO THE VICTORS THE SPOILS



The Bowl is their's! Gold: SWITZERLAND: Bas Drijver, Fernando Piedra npc, Jacek Kalita, Michał Klukowski, Michał Nowosadzki, Pierre Zimmermann, Luis Lantarón coach, Sjoert Brink

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Switzerland delivered a superb defence of their title to retain the most coveted trophy in bridge, the Bermuda Bowl, scoring a decisive win over **Norway**. **Italy** got the better of **USA2** to secure the bronze medals.

In the Venice Cup Final **Israel** cruised to victory, adding a new name to the list of winning countries, **Türkiye** taking the silver medals while **China** secured a place on the podium by defeating **Norway**.

The d'Orsi Trophy was fiercely contested, **Denmark** winning all three sessions today to defeat **USA1**. **USA2** defeated **Poland** in the playoff.

By winning the fourth session 60-0(!) **USA1** wiped out **France's** overnight lead and set up a terrific battle for the Wuhan Cup, which finally went in favour of the North Americans. **Romania** took the bronze by defeating **Belgium**.

The final of the Transnational Open Teams saw **Amistad** outstay **Slow Horses** while. **Knottenbelt** proved to be too strong for **Barr**.

Bermuda Bowl podium



Gold: SWITZERLAND: Bas Drijver, Fernando Piedra npc, Jacek Kalita, Michał Klukowski, Michał Nowosadzki, Pierre Zimmermann, Luis Lantarón coach, Sjoert Brink

Silver: NORWAY:
Boye Brogeland, Tor Eivind Grude, Geir Helgemo, Terje Aa, Allan Livgård, Christian Bakke, Tolle Stabell npc, Sten Bjertnes coach

Bronze: ITALY: Antonio Sementa, Alfredo Versace, Giacomo Percario, Massimiliano Di Franco, Alessandro Piana npc, Andrea Manno, Giovanni Donati,

Venice Cup podium



Gold: ISRAEL: Dana Tal, Noga Tal, Adi Asulin, Hila Levi, Adel Petelko, Ziv Tottman, Israel Yadlin npc

Silver: TÜRKİYE: Asli Acar, Tuna Elmas, Berrak Erkan, Özlem Kandolu, İrem Özbay, Hatice Özgür, M. Gokhan Yilmaaz npc

Bronze: CHINA: Huang Yan, Liu Yan, Ran Jing Rong, Yu Xiuting, Zhou Meiling, Zuo Xiaoxue, Wang Yannan npc, Li Xin coach



d'Orsi Trophy podium

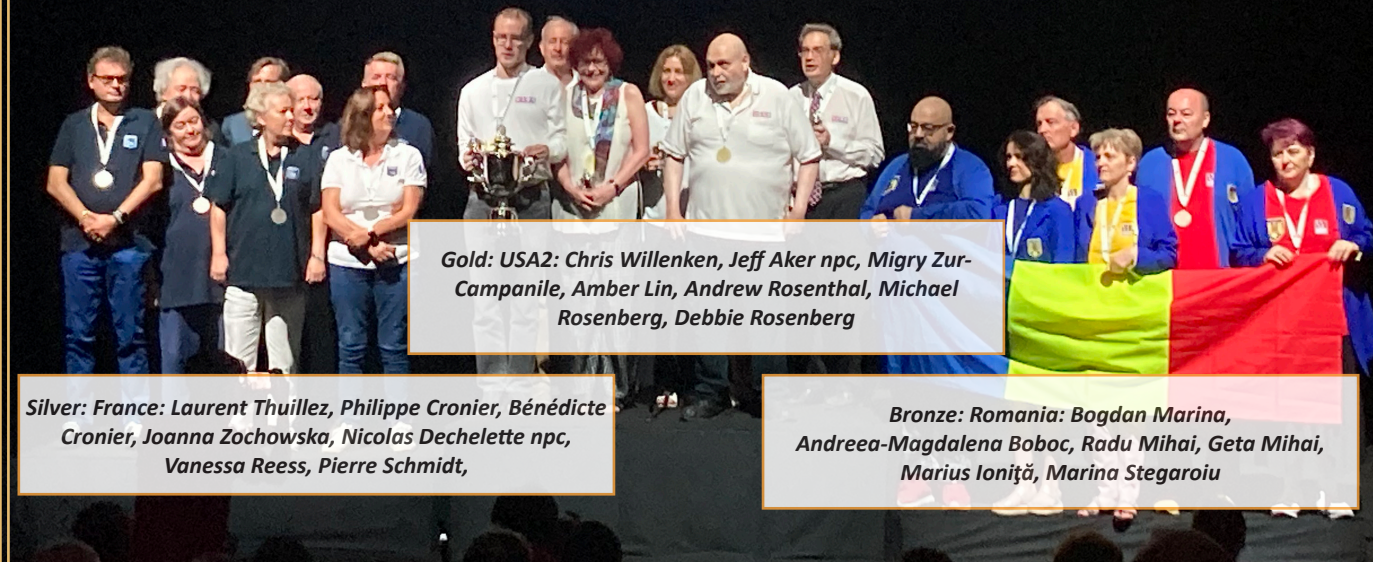


Gold: DENMARK: Steen Schou, Dorthe Schaltz, Peter Schaltz, Klaus Adamsen, Jørgen Cilleborg Hansen, Dennis Koch-Palmund, Peter Magnussen npc, Morten Bilde coach

Silver: USA1: Drew Casen, Andy Goodman, Venkatrao Koneru, Jim Krekorian, Mike Passell, Pratap Ra-jadhyaksha, Alex Kolesnik npc

Bronze: USA2: Peter Weichsel, Petra Hamman npc, Neil Chambers, Mitch Duntz, Ross Gabel, John Schermer, Bob Hamman,

Wuhan Cup podium



Gold: USA2: Chris Willenken, Jeff Aker npc, Migry Zur-Campanile, Amber Lin, Andrew Rosenthal, Michael Rosenberg, Debbie Rosenberg

Silver: France: Laurent Thuillez, Philippe Cronier, Bénédicte Cronier, Joanna Zochowska, Nicolas Dechelette npc, Vanessa Reess, Pierre Schmidt,

Bronze: Romania: Bogdan Marina, Andreea-Magdalena Boboc, Radu Mihai, Geta Mihai, Marius Ioniță, Marina Stegaroiu

Transnational Open Teams podium



Gold: AMISTAD: Rafael Dias, Esteban Juchimowicz Pugliese, Pierre Pejacevich, Carlos Pellegrini, Silvina Rocca, Marcos Toma

Silver: SLOW HORSES: Michał Wróbel, Tomasz Sielicki, Jeremi Stępiński, Dariusz Kowalski, Maciej Hutyra

Bronze: KNOTTENBELT: Ben Handley-Pritchard, Maggie Knottenbelt, Michael Byrne, Stefano Tommasini, Tom Townsend, Ben Norton

WTOT Brackets Knock-out

PACO 106
RABONO CALAMIS 20

AUPALETI 78
TPE SENIORS 68

PACO 63
DINKIN 61

AUPALETI 63
PAYEN 64

FRANCE SENIORS 51
DINKIN 64

IRELAND OPEN 50.5
PAYEN 53

KNOTTENBELT 89
LAWRENZO 73

PACO 118
KNOTTENBELT 157

PAYEN 85
BARR 121

FINLAND 31
INDIA OPEN 67

PORTUCOLE 49
KNOTTENBELT 91

Team	1	2	3	4	tot
SLOW HORSES	11	37	34	16	98
AMISTAD	20	56	17	45	138

BARR 81
INDIA OPEN 56

REASON 56
PORTUCOLE 60

BARR 80
AUSTRIA 58

TEAM BLACK 66
SLOW HORSES 74

KNOTTENBELT 93
SLOW HORSES 101

AMISTAD 76
BARR 67

AMISTAD 79
BUUS AND BOTT 71

SLOW HORSES 96
INDIA MIXED 41

Team	P	1	2	3	4	tot
BARR	1	19	25	6	0	51
KNOTTENBELT		35	25	53	0	113

AMISTAD 109
NO COKE 27

INDIA MIXED 87
PARTYPACK 75

NO COKE 89
BRENO 31

POWERSHARK 21
ROSENTHAL 95

ROSENTHAL 96
SLOW HORSES 106

ORCA 124
AMISTAD 127

AUSTRALIA OPEN 77
GILLIS 80

CHINA SENIOR 37
ROSENTHAL 100



ORCA 83
GILLIS 41



CHINA SENIOR 89
CAMELS 47

ORCA 104
SANTOSHA 37

Bermuda Bowl

Team	P	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-----

 NORWAY	3	38	39	27	31	21	35	194
 SWITZERLAND		68	17	33	48	31	67	264

 USA2	183
 USA1	171

 NORWAY	208
 CHINA	202

 NORWAY	195
 ITALY	175

 SWITZERLAND	250
 USA2	171

Team	P	1	2	3	4	tot
------	---	---	---	---	---	-----

 USA2	35	14	43	34	126
 ITALY	40	40	37	44	161

 SWITZERLAND	220
 ISRAEL	182

 POLAND	180
 ITALY	223



Venice Cup

Team	P	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-----

 ISRAEL	6	46	52	47	46	63	47	307
 TURKIYE	22	34	17	53	21	6	153	

 TÜRKIYE	230
 USA2	215

 POLAND	185
 ISRAEL	215

 ISRAEL	221
 CHINA	208

 NORWAY	161
 TURKIYE	190

Team	P	1	2	3	4	tot
------	---	---	---	---	---	-----

 NORWAY	1	14	40	27	52	134
 CHINA		67	24	52	46	189

 SWEDEN	189
 NORWAY	231


 FRANCE	178
 CHINA	236





d'Orsi Trophy

	POLAND	186
	NETHERLANDS	154



Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
 DENMARK	27	22	49	50	37	50	235
 USA I	35	46	38	39	32	27	217

	DENMARK	216
	ITALY	156

	POLAND	166
	DENMARK	191

	USA I	146
	USA 2	131


	USA 2	232
	NORWAY	181

Team	P	1	2	3	4	tot
 USA 2	12	41	30	37	53	173
 POLAND		38	29	40	50	157

	USA I	214
	SWEDEN	164



Wuhan Cup



	GERMANY	176
	BELGIUM	231



Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	tot
 USA 2	36	24	5	60	32	32	189
 FRANCE	25	42	50	0	33	31	181



	FRANCE	288
	CHINA	190

	BELGIUM	145
	USA 2	203

	ROMANIA	120
	FRANCE	186

	USA 2	216
	USA I	164

Team	1	2	3	4	tot
 ROMANIA	47	20	41	38	146
 BELGIUM	18	33	5	50	106

	ROMANIA	191
	ITALY	189

Roll of Honor

Bermuda Bowl

GOLD:

SWITZERLAND: Sjoert Brink, Bas Drijver, Jacek Kalita, Michał Klukowski, Michał Nowosadzki, Pierre Zimmermann, Fernando Piedra npc, Luis Lantarón coach

SILVER:

NORWAY: Terje Aa, Christian Bakke, Boye Brogeland, Tor Eivind Grude, Geir Helgemo, Allan Livgård, Tolle Stabell npc, Sten Bjertnes coach

BRONZE:

ITALY: Massimiliano Di Franco, Giovanni Donati, Andrea Manno, Giacomo Percario, Antonio Sementa, Alfredo Versace, Alessandro Piana npc

These 18 players have now won a total of 22 Bermuda Bowls all together.

Michał Nowosadzki, Jacek Kalita, Michał Klukowski, Bas Drijver and Sjoert Brink have now won their third Bermuda Bowls, Pierre Zimmermann won his second one. Alfredo Versace has previously won two Bermuda Bowls, Antonio Sementa and Boye Brogeland won once. Geir Helgemo also has just one, but he additionally won two bronzes and three silvers. Terje Aa also has three silvers and three bronzes in Bermuda Bowls.

To list all these players' other achievements would require an additional Bulletin.

Venice Cup

GOLD:

ISRAEL: Adi Asulin, Hila Levi, Adel Petelko, Ziv Tottman, Dana Tal, Noga Tal, Israel Yadlin npc

SILVER:

TÜRKİYE: Asli Acar, Tuna Elmas, Berrak Erkan, Özlem Kandolu, irem Özbay, Hatice Özgür

BRONZE:

CHINA: Huang Yan, Liu Yan, Ran Jing Rong, Yu Xiuting, Zhou Meiling, Zuo Xiaoxue, Wang Yannan npc, Li Xin coach

This is the second World Title for Adi Asulin and Hila Levi, after the National Women Pairs in 2016. Dana Tal also has a previous World Title, Under-21 teams in 2006.

Özlem Kandolu and Hatice Özgür win their second consecutive silver medal at a Venice Cup

This is the eighth medal for Huang Yan, she was on the Venice Cup-winning team in 2017.

Liu Yan (on her fourth world medal) was also on that team.

Roll of Honor

d'Orsi Trophy

GOLD:

DENMARK: Klaus Adamsen, Jørgen Cilleborg Hansen, Dennis Koch-Palmund, Dorthe Schaltz, Peter Schaltz, Steen Schou, Peter Magnussen npc, Morten Bilde coach

SILVER:

USA1: Drew Casen, Andy Goodman, Venkatrao Koneru, Jim Krekorian, Mike Passell, Pratap Rajadhyaksha, Alex Kolesnik npc

BRONZE:

USA2: Neil Chambers, Mitch Duntz, Ross Grabel, Bob Hamman, John Schermer, Peter Weichsel, Petra Hamman npc

Not unsurprisingly, many of these players have medalled before, but none as much as Bob Hamman, who collects his 34th medal today.

Two players from the Danish team have won a world title before, Dorthe Schalts won the Women's Olympiad in 1988. and Jørgen Cilleborg Hansen the d'Orsi Bowl of 2017.

Wuhan Cup

GOLD:

USA2: Amber Lin, Debbie Rosenberg, Michael Rosenberg, Andrew Rosenthal, Chris Willenken, Migry Zur-Campanile, Jeff Aker npc

SILVER:

FRANCE: Bénédicte Cronier, Philippe Cronier, Vanessa Reess, Pierre Schmidt, Laurent Thuillez, Joanna Zochowska, Nicolas Dechelette npc

BRONZE:

ROMANIA: Andreea-Magdalena Boboc, Marius Ioniță, Bogdan Marina, Geta Mihai, Radu Mihai, Mari-na Stegaroiu, Bogdan Marina captain

Debbie and Michael Rosenberg won their fifth world titles. Their son Kevin already has five world titles.

Bénédicte Cronier collected her 17th medal at these championships. Four of the Romanians won a second bronze medal in the Whuhan Cup

Roll of Honor

Transnational Open Teams

GOLD:

AMISTAD: Rafael Dias, Esteban Juchimowicz Pugliese, Pierre Pejacevich, Carlos Pellegrini, Silvina Rocca, Marcos Toma

SILVER:

SLOW HORSES: Maciej Hutyra, Dariusz Kowalski, Tomasz Sielicki, Jeremi Stępiński, Michał Wróbel

BRONZE:

KNOTTENBELT: Michael Byrne, Ben Handley-Pritchard, Maggie Knottenbelt, Ben Norton, Stefano Tommasini, Tom Townsend

Only two players have won a world medal before: Ben Norton in the Junior teams in 2019 and Tom Townsend in the Juniors in 1995 and the World Games in 2008.



Total Medal Table after Marrakech

(1937-present)

Five sets of medals were awarded at the World Team Championships in Marrakech.

That brings the all-time medal count to:

	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	United States	104,72	87,47	66,58	258,77
2	France	27,17	35,67	41,92	104,75
3	Poland	32,67	32,17	24,25	89,08
4	China	18,50	26,67	39,33	84,50
5	Italy	39,27	21,33	17,83	78,43
6	Netherlands	16,67	18,25	26,25	61,17
7	England	16,77	20,75	22,25	59,77
8	Sweden	15,77	9,17	17,90	42,83
9	Norway	10,58	9,58	13,75	33,92
10	Canada	2,82	11,62	11,75	26,18
11	Germany	5,75	7,50	12,32	25,57
12	Israel	11,57	6,17	6,00	23,73
13	Denmark	7,33	2,67	13,67	23,67
14	Austria	8,73	7,17	2,00	17,90
15	Russia	3,33	4,50	7,00	14,83
16	Brazil	4,67	3,00	6,00	13,67
17	Australia	0,00	6,50	5,00	11,50
18	Indonesia	1,00	5,00	5,00	11,00
19	India	2,75	2,00	6,00	10,75
20	Bulgaria	1,20	2,00	5,00	8,20
21	Monaco	2,47	3,50	2,17	8,13
22	Argentina	0,83	2,00	4,00	6,83
23	Switzerland	4,17	1,17	0,17	5,50
24	Türkiye	0,17	3,00	1,17	4,33
25	Greece	3,00	0,00	1,25	4,25
26	Croatia	1,00	0,00	3,00	4,00
27	Japan	1,50	2,00	0,00	3,50
28	Hungary	1,20	1,00	1,00	3,20
29	Chinese Taipei	1,00	1,67	0,33	3,00
30	Singapore	0,00	2,00	1,00	3,00
31	Iceland	2,67	0,00	0,33	3,00
32	Hong Kong China	0,00	0,00	3,00	3,00
33	Romania	0,00	0,00	2,75	2,75
34	New Zealand	1,00	1,50	0,00	2,50
35	Serbia	1,00	1,00	0,00	2,00
36	Latvia	0,00	2,00	0,00	2,00
37	Pakistan	0,00	2,00	0,00	2,00
38	South Africa	0,00	2,00	0,00	2,00
39	Belgium	0,00	1,00	1,00	2,00
40	Venezuela	0,00	1,00	1,00	2,00
41	Scotland	1,00	0,50	0,33	1,83
42	Czechia	0,75	1,00	0,00	1,75
43	Egypt	1,50	0,00	0,00	1,50
44	Thailand	0,00	1,33	0,00	1,33
45	Lithuania	0,33	0,00	1,00	1,33
46	Finland	0,00	1,00	0,00	1,00
47	Uruguay	0,00	0,50	0,50	1,00
48	Estonia	0,50	0,00	0,00	0,50
49	Ireland	0,50	0,00	0,00	0,50
50	Spain	0,00	0,17	0,20	0,37
51	Belarus	0,00	0,17	0,00	0,17
52	Chile	0,00	0,17	0,00	0,17
53	Portugal	0,00	0,17	0,00	0,17
		355,83	351,00	374,00	1080,83

This table includes all world championships in nine different categories (Open, Women, Seniors, Mixed, U26, U21, U26W, U16 and U31). Medals won by transnational teams or pairs are divided among the countries of the various players.



Bermuda Bowl F2

Norway v Switzerland



by Marc Smith

The two teams who led the field at the end of the Bermuda Bowl round robin stage of the tournament a week ago, have made it through to the final. Two members of the Norway team that won in 2007 are in the team here at this championship. Two members of the Swiss team here collected bronze medals behind the Norwegians 16 years ago in Shanghai. The Swiss are here with four members of the team that won the trophy in an epic final a year ago. The two members of the Swiss team that were not on that winning team in Salsomaggiore, have both won the trophy twice before, in 2015 and 2019. With so many former champions in action, we can surely look forward to an epic battle for the title.

The Swiss jumped out to a 68-41 lead in the first set. With Klukowski and Helgemo holding the same West hands, the thousands watching live on BBO VuGraph anticipated fireworks. Let's take a look at the action in the second of the six stanzas in this final.

Only one problem today. With only your side vulnerable, you are North holding:

♠ 10 7
♥ K Q 9 2
♦ A K 7
♣ Q 7 5 2

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1♥
3♠	4♣*	4♠	5♣
Pass	?		

Your 4♣ bid showed at least a sound raise to 4♥. What do you bid now?



Sjoert Brink, Switzerland

If you advance with 5♦, what do you then do when partner bids 5♥?

We begin our coverage on the opening deal of the set.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Grude	Brink
—	2♦	Dble	3♦
Dble	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Tor Eivind Grude came in with an aggressive double of North's natural weak 2♦ opening on his shapeless minimum, and Helgemo made a responsive double of South's diamond raise. When Grude denied holding four hearts, Helgemo had only one place to go.

Most of the time these days, the defenders' diamonds would be breaking 5-3 on this auction, but Helgemo really had no choice. He ducked the first diamond, won the second and played for South to have only two diamonds and both missing aces. When South won the ♣A, he tried underleading the ♥A in the vague hope of finding his partner's entry, so Helgemo ended with ten tricks. E/W +430 – lucky, but it will be the same in the other room, of course.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Here Christian Bakke did not open the North hand. Michal Klukowski started with an inverted raise of clubs, and Jacek Kalita's 2♦ showed a balanced 11-14. Klukowski ended in the inevitable 3NT and Bakke led a diamond.

It seems clear that there is no chance other than finding diamonds 6-2 and both aces with the doubleton, but

Klukowski took the $\diamond A$ at trick one, presumably hoping for some sort of blockage or just a defensive error, or maybe he is just getting tired after so many days of concentration. Obviously, South won trick two with the $\clubsuit A$ and the defenders cashed five diamonds and the $\heartsuit A$ for two down. E/W -100 and 11 IMPs to Norway to open the set.

Then came a major-suit battle, although one side was serious outgunned.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

<p>\spadesuit K Q J 9 4 3 \heartsuit 10 7 3 \diamond J 10 9 \clubsuit 4</p>	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> NE</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> WS</div> </div>	<p>\spadesuit A 8 6 2 \heartsuit 5 \diamond Q 6 5 4 2 \clubsuit J 10 9</p>	<p>\spadesuit 10 7 \heartsuit K Q 9 2 \diamond A K 7 \clubsuit Q 7 5 2</p>
	<p>\spadesuit 5 \heartsuit A J 8 6 4 \diamond 8 3 \clubsuit A K 8 6 3</p>		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Grude</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	Pass	1 \heartsuit
3 \spadesuit	4 \clubsuit *	4 \spadesuit	5 \clubsuit
Pass	5 \diamond	Pass	5 \heartsuit
All Pass			

Helgemo's 3 \spadesuit overcall would cause North a major headache in many partnerships. Not for Bas Drijver, who was equipped with 'The Brink Convention', whereby 4 \clubsuit shows at least a good raise to 4 \heartsuit . Grude competed to 4 \spadesuit and now Brink moved with 5 \clubsuit , leaving North with the problem posed earlier.

Drijver cue-bid his diamond control, passing the problem across the table, but Brink did not think he had enough to commit to slam. Perhaps unsure that there were not two top spades to lose, Drijver gave up and passed 5 \heartsuit . There were 12 easy tricks: N/S +680.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	—	Pass	1 \heartsuit
3 \spadesuit	4 \clubsuit *	4 \spadesuit	5 \clubsuit
Pass	6 \heartsuit	6 \spadesuit	Dble
All Pass			

The auction began in identical fashion, including the Brink Convention (perhaps Sjoert should request payment of the license fee in IMPs). However, once Brogeland had essayed 5 \clubsuit , Bakke decided that his hand was good enough to bid slam, so there was no messing around at the five-level by the Viking hoard. Indeed, so confident was the Norwegian bidding that Kalita was prepared to believe them, and he correctly took the save in 6 \spadesuit .

The Norwegians scored two aces, two top diamonds and a diamond ruff against 6 \spadesuit x. Four down: N/S +800 and 3 IMPs to Norway. One wonders whether East would have been quite so willing to sacrifice if the Swiss had stumbled into slam at the other table.

A couple of boards later a sloppy-looking defensive play helped the Norwegians to another game swing.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

<p>\spadesuit A 5 4 3 2 \heartsuit 3 \diamond A J 7 6 3 2 \clubsuit 10</p>	<div style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; padding: 10px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> NE</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> WS</div> </div>	<p>\spadesuit J 8 \heartsuit J 10 9 7 2 \diamond 8 \clubsuit K Q 8 7 2</p>	<p>\spadesuit K Q 10 6 \heartsuit K 6 4 \diamond 10 4 \clubsuit J 9 6 5</p>
	<p>\spadesuit 9 7 \heartsuit A Q 8 5 \diamond K Q 9 5 \clubsuit A 4 3</p>		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Grude</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	Pass	Pass	INT
2 \spadesuit *	3NT	All Pass	

Helgemo's 2 \spadesuit overcall showed spades and a minor, and he opened the $\diamond 3$ against Sjoert Brink's 3NT.

Dummy's $\diamond 10$ won the first trick and, looking at all four hands, you can see that declarer is able to make three spade tricks because the J-8 come down doubleton, but playing for that is hardly realistic. Brink crossed to his hand with a heart and, not unreasonably, ran the $\spadesuit 9$ at trick three. Grude won with the $\spadesuit J$ and returned the $\heartsuit J$ and Brink could not now make more than eight tricks. N/S -100.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	Pass	2 \heartsuit	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Kalita opened 2 \heartsuit (hearts and a minor) on the East hand at this table, but South was installed in 3NT equally quickly. Here, too, West led a diamond, dummy's ten winning at trick one. Brogeland continued with a second diamond to the king, East throwing the $\heartsuit 2$, and Klukowski ducking his ace. Having reached his hand, Brogeland also started spades by running the $\spadesuit 9$ to East's jack. After this start, with entries in the heart suit still intact, declarer can make his contract by squeezing East in heart and clubs.

Perhaps Brogeland would have read the ending accurately and brought home his contract, but the thousands of kibitzers watching were denied that spectacle when, after winning with the $\spadesuit J$, Kalita returned the $\heartsuit 7$! Brogeland put in the eight and now had a fourth heart winner and, with it, his contract. N/S +600 and another 12 IMPs to Norway, who now trailed in the match by just 4 IMPs.

The Swiss had picked up a number of small swings, restoring their advantage to 16 IMPs as the set drew to a close. Aggression was the name of the game on our final exhibit...

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	—	Pass	INT
2♥*	Pass	3♣	All Pass

Kalita did not open the East hand, so Brogeland started with INT. Klukowski came in with 2♥, showing five hearts and 4+ in a minor. What should Kalita do? To go up a level, you need to make two more tricks for it to be worthwhile. Would you rather play a 5-1 fit at the two-level or a 4-3 fit

at the three-level. Kalita opted for the latter.

I recall a hand something like this from a championship last year, where 3♣x went seven down, but partner would at least have made his four trump tricks in hearts. As the cards lie here, it looks like 2♥ and 3♣ are both one down. Certainly, Kalita made eight tricks in clubs. E/W -50.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Grude	Brink
—	—	2♦	2NT
Dble	All Pass		

Tor Eivind Grude was not willing to go quietly non-vulnerable in first seat, so he started with a natural weak two in diamonds. Sjoert Brink liked his hand enough for 2NT, and Geir Helgemo liked his hand enough to make it 4NT.

Helgemo led the ♥A, felling his partner's king, and continued with the ♥Q and the ♥10 to dummy's jack. A diamond to the ace dropped West's king, and Brink cashed his top spades, but he was fast running out of winners. Helgemo won the third round of spades, took his heart winners, then played the ♣A and a second club. Declarer could make the ♣K and the ♠10 but then had to give East a trick with the ♦Q at the end. E/W +300 and 8 IMPs to Norway.

Norway won the stanza 39-17, so they trailed by 5 IMPs (80-85) with a third of the boards played. Still a long way to go.

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2nd Session Friday 15/12/2023 5:00 PM	2nd Session Sunday 17/12/2023 6:30 PM	2nd Session Tuesday 19/12/2023 4:00 PM
3rd Session Saturday 16/12/2023 5:00 PM		Final Session Wednesday 20/12/2023 12:30 PM
	Cocktail Reception Thursday 14/12/2023	at 7:00 PM
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OPEN PAIRS			MIXED PAIRS			OPEN TEAMS		
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1st	120,000	5,000	1st	80,000	3,000	1st	120,000	6,000
2nd	80,000	3,000	2nd	60,000	2,000	2nd	80,000	4,000
3rd	60,000	2,000	3rd	40,000	1,000	3rd	60,000	3,000
4th	50,000	1,500	4th	30,000	800	4th	50,000	2,000
5th	40,000	1,200	5th	20,000	700	5th	40,000	1,800
6th	30,000	1,000	6th	15,000	700	6th	30,000	1,200
7th	25,000	1,000	7th	15,000	600	7th	30,000	1,200
8th	20,000	1,000	8th	10,000	600	8th	30,000	1,200
9th	20,000	1,000	9th	10,000	600	9th	30,000	1,200
10th	20,000	1,000	10th	10,000	600	10th	30,000	1,200
11th	10,000	800						
12th	10,000	800						
13th	10,000	800						
14th	10,000	800						
15th	10,000	800						
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Bermuda Bowl F3

Norway v Switzerland



by Jos Jacobs

With the score at 85-80 to Switzerland, the players came out again at 16.00 hrs. on Friday to play the final 16 boards of the first day of their final. The first two boards did not see any plus score for making a contract but because the Norwegians bid even higher than the Swiss, the latter had increased their lead to 7 when they reached Board 3.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ A Q 8 6 3		♠ J 4 2									
♥ 7 6 2		♥ A K 5									
♦ K 8 6		♦ A Q 4 3									
♣ A 3		♣ Q 8 6									
♠ K 7											
♥ J 8 4 3											
♦ 10 5											
♣ K 10 7 5 4											
	<table border="1" style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ 10 9 5											
♥ Q 10 9											
♦ J 9 7 2											
♣ J 9 2											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>T Grude</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♠	Dble	2♠
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

After South's weak raise, West thought he had enough to bid freely and East found some extra values. The combined E/W hands did not fit together very well so the play of yet

another contract did not end with the required number of tricks being made. One down, Norway +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♠	Dble	2♥
Dble*	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

At the other table, South produced a weak spade raise, which meant that West got an extra turn of bidding. Over West's 3♣, East drew the right conclusion so for the first time in the segment, a contract was reached and made. Norway +110 and 5 IMPs to them.

Two boards later, we were in the slam area for the first time in the segment.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ J 10 9 6 4 2		♠ A Q 3									
♥ 7		♥ K 10 6									
♦ J		♦ A 6 5 4									
♣ K 8 6 5 4		♣ A J 9									
♠ 5											
♥ A J 5 4 3											
♦ K Q 9 8 3											
♣ Q 2											
	<table border="1" style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♠ K 8 7											
♥ Q 9 8 2											
♦ 10 7 2											
♣ 10 7 3											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>T Grude</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
—	2♠	2NT	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Because West used the diamonds only as a transfer, their value on this hand as a natural trump suit never came to light. South led a spade into declarer's tenace and in the end, he got squeezed in the rounded suits, so declarer made all the tricks. Switzerland +520.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
—	2♠	2NT	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♣*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
6♦	All Pass		



Michal Klukowski, Switzerland

Once Brogeland introduced his second suit, E/W were bound to get to the slam. North led his heart so with that problem solved, declarer only had to guess which black suit finesse he should take for his overtrick. Twelve tricks when he guessed wrong, Norway +920 and 9 IMPs to them. They had taken the lead by 7 now.

Another two boards later, there was a defensive issue for North.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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



At both tables, E/W reached 3NT, the normal contract. Both North led an equally normal spade to dummy's queen. Both declarers next ran the ♦J to North's queen, the correct way to handle the suit, of course, ♦Qxxx a priori being more likely than the bare queen. So it was up to North to find a return.

For Norway, Grude tried a low heart which immediately gave declarer his 9th trick. Switzerland +600. For Switzerland, Nowosadzki, on the other hand, tried the effect of a low club. Declarer played low from dummy (what else could he do) but now, Zimmermann won the queen and returned the ♥Q to set the contract by two tricks. Switzerland another +200 and a juicy 13 IMPs to them, to almost immediately regain the lead by 7.



Tor Eivind Grude, Norway



Pierre Zimmermann, Switzerland

A few boards later, Kalita had a sound opening bid.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	T Grude	Kalita	Helgemo
—	—	1♠	INT
2♣	Dble*	Pass	3♦

All Pass

The advantage of opening 1♠ was that West also could join in the party. This made it even more difficult for N/S to believe that a game might be on for them. Had the ♦K been with East, making game might have been a different story with the ♥A still out. Three Diamonds even went one down when declarer played for the drop of the ♦K, having suffered a club ruff earlier. Switzerland +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Brogeland	Nowosadzki	Bakke	Zimmermann
—	—	2♠*	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT

All Pass

In the Closed Room, East showed 8-11 with his constructive weak two and 3NT was reached easily enough by the Swiss. On a spade lead, declarer soon made an overtrick when the $\diamond K$ proved right. Switzerland +630 and another 12 IMPs to them. Their lead had suddenly gone up to 19.

On the next board, the Norwegian N/S missed the possible sacrifice when their minor suit fits were not too convincing. Also, sacrificing against a green game usually is not vital.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>T Grude</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
—	—	—	1♣
1♥	Dble*	3♣	3♦
4♥	All Pass		

Therefore, N/S subsided when E/W reached 4♥ easily enough. On a trump lead, declarer even made an overtrick by finessing against the $\clubsuit 10$ first and later ruffing out South's other top club. Switzerland +450.



Boye Brogeland, Norway

In the Closed Room, Zimmermann found the sacrifice on his own.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
—	—	—	1♣
1♥	Dble*	2NT	Dble
4♣	Pass	4♥	4NT
Pass	5♣	Dble	All Pass

Well done, down only two, Norway +300 but 4 more IMPs to Switzerland.

A few boards later, we could see how Norwegian players would react on high pre-empts.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>T Grude</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Helgemo</i>
—	—	2♠	Pass
4♠	5♥	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

Very well judged by Helgemo, very much in the spirit of the old Vikings, I feel. Norway +980.

In the other room, East did not pre-empt for lack of suit quality etc. This led to a different type of auction.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brogeland</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Zimmermann</i>
—	—	Pass	2♥
3♣	4♥	All Pass	

South opened a Muiderberg style 2♥ (implying a minor as well) but when West showed his clubs only, a really competitive spade-hearts auction did not materialise. Two overtricks, Switzerland +480 but 11 IMPs back to Norway.

On the penultimate board the Norwegians, for reasons only known to themselves, preferred a squeeze-guessing game in 7NT over an ice-cold 7♠ for no swing so the score at the halfway point, with one full day's play left, became 118-107 to Switzerland. Another interesting day looked in prospect.

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Bermuda Bowl F4

Norway v Switzerland



by David Bird

My most lasting memory of this great tournament will be the success of Poland, a nation of some 38 million. The round-robins finished with Poland 4th in the Bermuda Bowl (despite three of their very best players now representing Switzerland). They were 1st in the Venice Cup, 1st in the D'Orsi Seniors and 13th in the Wuhan Mixed team. It is an amazing achievement. What are they doing right that many other countries, including my own, are not?

At the half-way stage of the Bermuda Bowl final, Switzerland lead Norway by 118-107. It will be my privilege and pleasure to commentate on the fourth session and present the key boards for you in this report. Ah, I see that the curtain is rising...

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	1♦	2♥	Dble*
3♥	Dble	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Klukowski led the ♥7 to the ace, won the heart return and cleared the suit. Brogeland then had eight top tricks. When he cashed four rounds of spades, Kalita, in the East seat, kept two hearts (as he had to) and bared the ♣K. The ♦A drew low cards.

If declarer could place the ♦Q and ♣K with East, he could cash the top cards in both minors, knowing that one or other honour would drop. The bidding did not allow him to make any such assumption. He finessed the ♣Q and went one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Nowosadzki	Grude	Zimmermann
—	1♦	1♥	Dble*
2♥	Dble	3♥	3NT
All Pass			

With all players at the pinnacle of world bridge, the play to the first eight tricks was the same:

Grude bared his ♣K. Zimmermann played the king and ace of diamonds, drawing spot cards, and then had to guess the club suit. He finessed, as Brogeland had done, that was two down and a loss of two IMPs.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♥	Dble*
2♦*	4♠	All Pass	

Kalita led the ♥6 to West's ace, and declarer was staring at three red-suit losers, plus one in trumps. When Klukowski switched to the ♣4, Bakke looked the gift horse in the mouth for a full minute, eventually playing the jack. Away went dummy's ♥9 on the third round of clubs.

Bakke continued with the ♥Q, covered and ruffed. He then played a trump to the queen and king, discarding a diamond from dummy when a heart was played back. His



Jacek Kalita, Switzerland

♦J was ducked, Kalita winning the next diamond and playing a third round. That was a +620 that had not seemed likely, looking at all four hands.

(A club switch is essential if you exchange North and East's black kings. Editor)

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Nowosadzki	Grude	Zimmermann
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♥	Dble
2♥	4♠	All Pass	

A heart was led to the ace, and again a club switch was made. Nowosadzki rose with the ace and played on diamonds. When the trump finesse failed, he was one down for a loss of 12 IMPs.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
4♥	All Pass		

Klukowski found a practical 4♥ opening bid, and Bakke led the ♠6 to the queen and king. A diamond was played to North's jack and dummy's ace, Brogeland following with the ♦4. This was not likely to be suit-preference, since he had no reason to place partner with a singleton spade.

When declarer finessed the ♥J, Bakke won with the queen and underled his ♣A, the ♣7 finding South's king. A spade ruff, plus the trump ace meant one down. It was an excellent defence, but would it yield any IMPs at this exalted level of play?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Nowosadzki	Grude	Zimmermann
1♥	INT	2♥	3♥*
4♥	Dble	All Pass	

Nowosadzki led the ♠6 to the queen and ace, declarer continuing with a diamond to the jack and ace. A second diamond to South's king was ruffed, and the ♥K was then led. North ducked for the moment, seeing the ♦4 from partner. No underleads would be required, however, since Helgemo now played a second spade himself. North ruffed, and one down doubled brought in 3 IMPs.

You don't expect the next six boards to be of any interest? Great minds think alike. Let's leave any inspection of them for another day. I must warn you that the next board will read like a horror story. If you have a nervous disposition, or are Norwegian, you are welcome to skip it.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	—	—	1♣
2♦*	Dble	2♠	Dble
All Pass			

Klukowski's 2♦ showed the majors. Bakke started with a double, East bid 2♠ and Brogeland doubled. What should North do now?

Although he is ten miles above me in the world rankings, I regard North's pass as poorly judged. He has every expectation of making at least a game his way. Also, he has more or less invited partner to double the opponents' next bid. It's not as if he is passing a normal penalty double. Suppose he does collect 300. Will that not be taken out of at least a game score your way?


Brogeland began with king and another diamond, Kalita discarding the club singleton from dummy. Bakke overtook with the ace. A minor-suit return would at least have taken the contract one down, but North switched to a trump. Kalita won South's jack with dummy's queen and played another trump to the king and ace. He won the trump exit and started on the hearts. It was +470 to Switzerland.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Nowosadzki	Grude	Zimmermann
—	—	—	1♣
2♣*	Dble	2♠	3♣
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5NT*	Pass	6♣
All Pass			
2♣ Majors			

Zimmermann rebid his clubs and the slam was soon reached. Well bid! Helgemo led the ♥A and played another heart, declarer ruffing and claiming the slam. It was a damaging and fully-deserved 16 IMPs to Switzerland.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		


Bakke led an inspired ♣6, declarer playing low from dummy. As sometimes happens after ace underleads, Brogeland did not play his queen. Klukowski won with the jack, gave up a diamond and won the trump return from North with dummy's ace. He then cross-ruffed in the minors, eventually conceding a trick to the ♠K for +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Nowosadzki	Grude	Zimmermann
—	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

After the ♦A lead and a trump switch, declarer set up the hearts and made the game for a push board.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♥	All Pass	

Bakke's 4♣ showed a void. Brogeland cue-bid his


singleton diamond, and the Norwegian pair soared into 6♥ with no spade control. Klukowski led the suit that had not been cue-bid and continued with a second spade. That was +100 for Switzerland.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Nowosadzki	Grude	Zimmermann
—	—	—	2♥*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

This gentle auction collected 13 IMPs for the Swiss coffers.

Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♣
Dble	4NT*	Pass	5♦*
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

It was a great auction to the safe contract. The club suit was not needed in its entirety and +990 was made. Would a club ruff sink 6♥ at the other table? That's what the Norwegians must be hoping.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Nowosadzki	Grude	Zimmermann
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠*	Pass	4NT*
Pass	5♣*	Pass	6♥
Dble	6NT	All Pass	

South had not shown his club length, so Helgemo could not expect a club lead without asking for one. He made a Lightner double. We expected South to remove this to 6NT, but Nowosadzki was there before him. It was a push board of high quality.

Once again, Pierre Zimmermann had enjoyed a fine session. Switzerland took it by 48-31. With two sessions to play, they lead by 166-138.

Many congratulations to everyone who has made this such an enjoyable tournament!



Bermuda Bowl F5

Norway v Switzerland



by Marc Smith

Switzerland, the reigning champions from Salsomaggiore, led Norway 118-107 overnight here in Marrakech. In the first stanza of this final day, they added another 17 IMPs to that advantage and thus, with 32 boards remaining, they led by 166-138. Let's take a look at the action from the penultimate stanza of this World Championship.

As usual, we start with a couple of problems. Firstly, with both sides vulnerable, you are West holding:

♠ 9
♥ A K
♦ A 10 6 5 2
♣ A K Q 6 3

West	North	East	South
1♣*	Pass	1♦*	1♠
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
?			

You open a multi-way Polish Club. Partner's 1♦ shows any 0-6 HCP hand, plus a few positives. Your 2♦ is artificial showing any 18+. What action do you take over partner's natural, non-forcing 2♥?

Next, with only your opponents vulnerable, you hold in the North seat:

♠ A Q 10 5 2
♥ A Q 7 6
♦ K 5
♣ A Q

West	North	East	South
—	?		

What do you open?



Bas Drijver, Switzerland

We begin our coverage on a deal where the thousands watching live on BBO VuGraph witnessed some superb bidding judgement, spectacular play and excellent defence. All truly Bermuda Bowl quality!

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 9	♠ 6 5 3		♠ A J 7 4									
♥ A K	♥ Q J		♥ 10 9 6 5 3									
♦ A 10 6 5 2	♦ Q 9 7 4		♦ J 3									
♣ A K Q 6 3	♣ J 9 8 2		♣ 7 5									
		<table border="1" style="background-color: #004d00; color: white; text-align: center; width: 60px; height: 60px;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ K Q 10 8 2											
	♥ 8 7 4 2											
	♦ K 8											
	♣ 10 4											

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Grude</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Sjoert Brink led the ♠K and although the contract could always be made in theory, when declarer took the ♠A at trick one, he was down. The defenders still needed to be very careful. At trick two, Grude played a diamond to the ten and queen, and Drijver returned a spade. Winning cheaply with the ♠8, Brink now exited with the ♣10. Declarer took three high clubs (East and South both throwing hearts) and cashed the ♥AK. He then exited with a low diamond to his jack and Brink's king. The defenders have three tricks, so Brink exited with his heart. Declarer won and could cash one more heart winner, but he then had to lead away from ♠Jx into Brink's ♠Q10 at the end. One down: E/W -100.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
1♣*	Pass	1♦*	1♠
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Michal Klukowski opened with a multi-way Polish Club, and Jacek Kalita's 1♦ response included all 0-6 HCP hand and a few positives too. Klukowski's 2♦ was then artificial, showing the 'any 18+' version of the 1♣ opening. When Kalita advanced with a natural 2♥, leaving West with the first of the problems posed above, Klukowski thought for some considerable time before raising to game on his doubleton ♥AK.

Brogeland also led the ♠K. Playing in hearts, it is not essential for declarer to duck at trick one, but Kalita did anyway. After some thought, Brink continued spades, declarer winning with the ♠7. Two rounds of trumps revealed the position in that suit, and now it was Kalita's turn to take time to consider his next move.

There are a number of routes to 10 tricks from here. (Three high clubs throwing a diamond, or two high clubs, the ♦A, and then a third high club throwing a diamond, all work.) Befitting the occasion, Kalita chose the most elegant of the successful lines of play. He took two high clubs and then ruffed a low club with the ♥10. He then cashed the ♥9 and exited with his remaining heart to South's ♥8. Dummy had three winners left for the final four tricks. E/W +620, 12 IMPs to Switzerland, and cue much applause from the peanut gallery.

On the very next deal, both N/S pairs had the chance to pick up a significant number on a deal where lack of a fit means they cannot make much despite plenty of high cards.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

	♠ 7										
	♥ A Q 9 7 4										
	♦ 6 4										
	♣ 8 6 5 4 3										
♠ 9 6 4 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <table style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		N		W		E		S		♠ K J 10
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ 6 5 3 2		♥ J 10									
♦ Q 9 8 3 2		♦ 10									
♣ —		♣ A Q J 10 9 7 2									
	♠ A Q 8 5 3										
	♥ K 8										
	♦ A K J 7 5										
	♣ K										

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Grude	Brink
—	Pass	1♣	Dble
1♦	2♥	3♣	Dble
All Pass			

Grude opened a natural 1♣ and Helgemo contributed a lead-directing (well, maybe not) 1♦ after Brink's double. Drijver jumped to 2♥ and Grude rebid his strong seven-card suit at the three-level. Brink doubled to show his extra values and Drijver correctly judged that defence was the best form of attack.

Brink kicked off with the ♦A and saw the ♦6 from his partner. One of the winning defences now is to play the ♥K and a second heart to North. A spade switch then enables South to take two winners in that suit before giving his partner a spade ruff. A third round of hearts then promotes the ♣K into the seventh defensive trick for +500. (The same effect can be achieved via ♠A at trick two, followed by spade ruff, heart to the king, spade ruff, and two rounds of hearts.)

When Brink instead tried to cash the ♦K at trick two, declarer ruffed and laid down the ♣A, felling South's king.

After drawing trumps, Grude had time to set up a spade trick by force, so he ended with eight tricks. Only one down: N/S +100.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	Pass	2♣	Dble
Pass	3♥	4♣	Dble
All Pass			

The Polish system meant that Kalita opened with a natural but limited 2♣ on the East hand. When Kalita then competed to 4♣ over Bakke's jump to 3♥, South's double again ended the auction.

Brogeland also led the ♦A. Following the same defence outlined above would have resulted in a bounty of +800 for the Norwegians. When Brogeland also tried to cash the ♦K at trick two it was like a remake of "The Great Escape". Again, two defensive tricks had disappeared down the pipe. N/S +300 and 5 IMPs to Norway, but it still must go down as a chance missed.

There was more excellent declarer play for the large crowd to enjoy. Both North players had to decide what to open on the second of today's problem hands.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

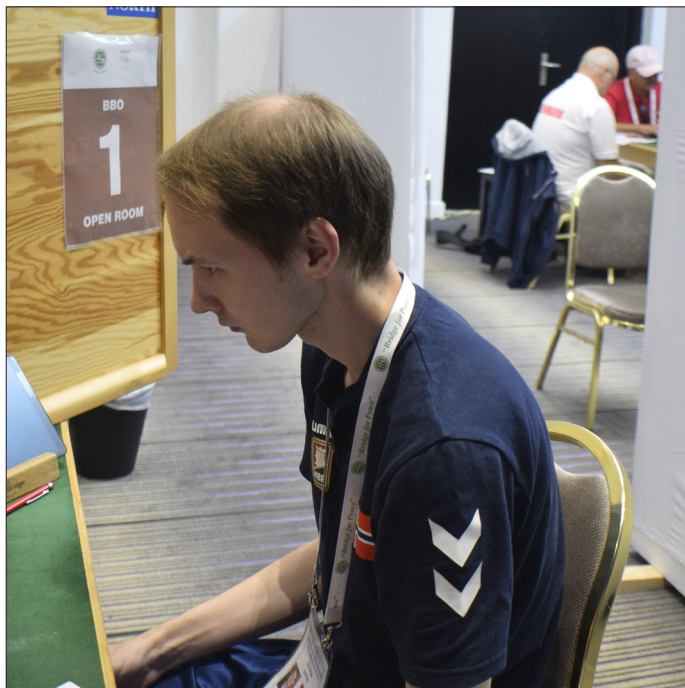
	♠ A Q 10 5 2										
	♥ A Q 7 6										
	♦ K 5										
	♣ A Q										
♠ 4 3	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <table style="border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		N		W		E		S		♠ K 8 6
	N										
W		E									
	S										
♥ K J 4 2		♥ 10 9 8 3									
♦ A 9 7 4		♦ Q 3									
♣ 5 3 2		♣ K 10 7 4									
	♠ J 9 7										
	♥ 5										
	♦ J 10 8 6 2										
	♣ J 9 8 6										

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Drijver	Grude	Brink
—	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♦*	All Pass	

Bas Drijver started with a 20-22 HCP 2NT. Brink's 3♣ is not exactly a version of Stayman: their convention card says simply that it 'asks for distribution' and Drijver's 3♦ was alerted as showing '1 or 2 Majors'. Brink clearly expected his partner to hold at least one major of at least four cards when he held only a total of four cards in the majors, so he was almost certain he would hear a 3♦ response. His judgement was that 3♦ would be a better contract than 2NT.

East led the ♥10 to king and ace, and Drijver tabled the ♦K. West won with the ♦A and continued hearts, declarer winning with the ♥Q and playing a second trump. East won with the ♦Q and played a third heart, but Drijver ruffed, drew West's remaining trumps, and then ran the ♠J.



Christian Bakke, Norway

East won with the ♠K and then cashed a heart trick, but declarer's hand was now high. N/S +110.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Bakke	Kalita	Brogeland
—	1♠	Pass	INT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

What do you think of Boye Brogeland's judgement? Only a trio of jacks, but it turned out to be a great hand in the circumstances. Bakke's 2♣ rebid was Gazzilli, strong and artificial, but Brogeland's 2♠ denied enough for game facing 17+. Undeterred, Bakke continued with a 3♥ game try, and now Brogeland decided that his hand was good enough for a jump to game.

Kalita had an unattractive hand from which to lead, and he eventually settled on the ♦Q. That was allowed to run to declarer's king, and Bakke immediately returned a diamond to the jack and ace. The trump switch was ducked to East's king, and Bakke won the trump continuation in dummy with the ♠9. He then ruffed a diamond high and crossed back to dummy with the ♠J, drawing the defenders' last trump. Declarer's two low hearts were now discarded on dummy's diamond winners.

Bakke correctly realized that there was a better alternative to guessing which finesse to take. He played a club to the ace and exited with the ♣Q. East won and had no winning option. In fact, he only had hearts left, so had to lead into declarer's tenace, but had he had a club that would not have helped him anyway, as dummy's jack would have been a winner. A spectacular N/S +420 and 7 IMPs to Norway.

Switzerland won this low-scoring stanza 31-21, padding their lead. They now have a cushion of 38 IMPs, 197-159, with 16 boards remaining.

Editor's Log 020923



The 2024 World Bridge Games are provisionally (subject only to certain governmental formalities) due to take place in Buenos Aires 19th October-3rd November.

As another wonderful World Championship comes to an end it is time to acknowledge the efforts of everyone connected with the production of the Daily Bulletin and the Live News. Mought Chhabni and the irrepressible Christina Lund Madsen (who received a lot of praise for her insightful interviews) were responsible for many of the photographs that adorned our pages, as was the onsite reporter Ron Tacchi who also took care of many important technical matters. Our team of offsite reporters was led by the legendary David 'the Abbot' Bird, who was in excellent form (hardly a part score in sight) ably supported by Marc Smith, the tireless Jos Jacobs and Martin Cantor. Herman De wael (currently recovering from a couple of days in hospital and hoping to be back in time to complete the Roll of Honour) is our resident statistician and together with the amazing Peter Eidt, proofread every single page of the Daily Bulletins.

Monika Kümmel was responsible for the dazzling layout of the Daily Bulletin and Francesca Canali produced the spectacular web pages for the Live News – *tomorrow's news today*.

We also had a helping hand from David Stern, Anna Gudge, Barry Rigal, the incomparable Zia and too many more to mention!

We look forward to renewing acquaintances old and new next time.

Bon voyage!

Video Corner

Pete Hollands tells us he is doing daily recap videos of the Championships.

Here is the link to the day 13 video recap:
https://youtu.be/LrDSifp_9Gs