

DAILY BULLETIN • Issue No 1 • Wednesday, August 21, 2019

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## WELCOME TO THE HOUSE OF BRIDGE



A Full House for the Opening Ceremony

A joyful opening ceremony, expertly orchestrated by Silvia Valentini, included speeches of welcome from Croatian Bridge Federation President Jurica Carić, the Deputy Mayor of Opatija, Vera Anicic, the Prime Minister of Croatia, Andrej Plenković and WBF President Gianarrigo Rona. It also featured

the wonderful voice of Medea Market Sindik and a breathless dance routine by members of the Sheng Xing Bridge Club of Shanghai.

Medals were awarded to the successful teams in the recently concluded 2nd World Youth Online Bridge Championships; we were introduced to the teams participating here in Opatija and a there was a presentation to the Prime Minister of the WBF Honour Plaque.

Then, to thunderous applause, the WBF President officially opened the Championships.

Let the games begin!



The Big Game, featuring Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic, President Gianarrigo Rona, President Zlatko Mateša and President Jurica Carić



# WELCOME SPEECH FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD BRIDGE FEDERATION



Mr. Andrey Plenković, Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Gari Cappelli, Minister of Tourism, Zlatko Matesa, President of the Croatian Olympic Committee, Mrs. Vera Aničić, Deputy Mayor, City of Opatija, Mr. Fernando Kirigin, Representative of the

Primorje-Gorski Kotar County, Mr. Jurica Carić, President of the Croatian Bridge Federation, Mr. Vedran Gržetić, CEO of Amadria Park, Mr. Marc De Pauw, WBF Executive, Mr. Ata Aydin, Chairman of the WBF Youth Committee, Mrs. Sevinç Atay, Chairman of the WBF Kids Committee Federation, Authorities, dear friends, dear young players good evening and welcome to the Opening Ceremony of the 6th Youth Open World Bridge Championship.

First of all, I want to thank my dear friends Ivo Dujmić, Mayor of Opatija and Jurica Carić, President of the Croatian Federation for having again given us the opportunity to hold our championship in this marvellous land.

For the 7th time, starting from 2009, with the University World Bridge Championship, bridge is coming back to Opatija and for the 3rd time with this Youth Open Championship, after 2011 and 2015. This year with some 190 pairs and 66 teams from 36 Countries we have achieved a great record in participation.

So we can really say that Opatija is the House of Bridge and, as I have already sais in my Welcome Message, I would like to share with you my grateful memory of a dear friend who has sadly left us, Goran Grguric, the man who showed the way to bridge in Opatija from everywhere in the world. His wife Branka is still an authoritative part of our group and we want to express to her our gratitude.

I am sure that this will be a great event thanks to the Local Organising Committee not forgetting all our sponsor-friends and the Amadria Park Group led by Vedran Gržétić, for their generous support.

Finally I am pleased to remark on the excellent job done by both the WBF Youth and Kids Committees, respectively chaired by my dear friends and colleagues Ata Aydin and Sevinç Atay, who deserve the success that this event will no doubt achieve.

I am sure that, once again, this marvellous city of Opatija will live up to its reputation, tradition, history and culture by offering a great welcome to all of you dear friends, young players, officers, journalists and quests.

We are proud that here today join us and welcome us, the highest Authorities of the Country, the Region, the Town and the President of the Croatian Olympic Committee, to whom we are very grateful.

I am pleased to call to the podium His Excellence the Prime Minister, Mr. Andrey Plenković, to present to him the WBF Honour Plaque.

Together with my colleagues from the World Bridge Federation, I am confident in being able to count on the dedication and professionalism of our staff, and on the cooperation of all of you.

I always repeat that bridge is more than fair-play - it is a way of thinking and not just a way of being, and I am sure that this event will increase my conviction.

I will never be tired of repeating that, without the youth there is no future for our beloved discipline and today, looking at you, the participants in this championship, we are particularly proud and pleased.

This championship will renew once again our great tradition of friendship, solidarity, aggregation, without discrimination and barriers, exalting the true values of Sport in general, and Bridge in particular. Our motto 'Bridge for Peace', which is our flag, has to continue to fly stronger and still higher, despite the dramatic situation that we are living in many areas around the world. In order to defeat hatred we play the Card of Peace: this is the strong message that, all together, we have from here to forward everywhere.

Now dear young friends we hand over the stage to you to enjoy the Championship and, of course, your stay in Opatija.

I declare officially open the 6th World Youth Open Bridge Teams Championship.

Un abbraccio to you all.

Gianarrigo Rona WBF President



### **FULL SCHEDULE**

10.00 - 12.30	U26/U26W/U21/U16	Pairs Qualification 1st Session
13.30 - 16.00	U26/U26W/U21/U16	Pairs Qualification 2nd Session
16.20 - 19.05	U26/U16	Pairs Qualification 3rd Session
16.20 - 19.40	U21/U26W	Pairs Qualification 3rd Session

#### August 22, Thursday

10.00 - 12.30	U26/U26W/U21/U16	Pairs Qualification 4th Session
13.30 - 16.00	U26/U26W/U21/U16	Pairs Qualification 5th Session
16.20 - 18.50	U26/U16	Pairs Qualification 6th Session
16.20 - 19.25	U21	Pairs Qualification 6th Session
16.20 - 19.40	U26W	Pairs Qualification 6th Session

#### August 23, Friday

10.00 - 12.45	Pairs Final A & B 1st Session
13.30 - 16.00	Pairs Final A & B 2nd Session
16.20 - 18.50	Pairs Final A & B 3rd Session
19.30	Pairs Prize Giving

#### August 24, Saturday

10.00 -	11.10	Teams: 1st 8 boards round Swiss
11.40 -	12.50	Teams: 2nd 8 boards round Swiss
14.00 -	15.10	Teams: 3rd 8 boards round Swiss
15.40 -	16.50	Teams: 4th 8 boards round Swiss
17.20 -	18.30	Teams: 5th 8 boards round Swiss
19.00 -	20.10	Teams: 6th 8 boards round Swiss

August 25, Sunday	
10.00 - 11.10	Teams: 7th 8 boards round Swiss
11.40 - 12.50	Teams: 8th 8 boards round Swiss
15.00 - 17.20	Teams: Quarterfinal 1st 16 boards
	Teams BAM Tablets
17.40 - 20.00	Teams: Quarterfinal 2nd 16 boards
	Teams BAM Tablets

#### August 26, Monday

10.30 - 12.50	Teams: Semifinal 1st 16 16 boards	Teams BAM Tablets
14.00 - 16.20	Teams: Semifinal 2nd 16 16 boards	Teams BAM Tablets
16.50 - 19.10	Teams: Semifinal 3rd 16 16 boards	Teams BAM Tablets

#### August 27, Tuesday

10.30 - 12.50	Teams: Final & Playoff 1st 16 16 boards	Teams BAM Tablets
14.00 - 16.20	Teams: Final & Plyoff 2nd 16 16 boards	Teams BAM Tablets
16.50 - 19.10	Teams: Final & Playoff 3rd 16 16 boards	Teams BAM Tablets
10.40	Tooms & RAM Tableta Prize Civing	

#### August 28, Wednesday

10.30 - 12.50	Individual 1st session
14.00 - 16.20	Individual 2nd session
16.50 - 19.10	Individual 3rd session

#### August 29, Thursday

August 27, Illuisuay	
10.30 - 12.50	Individual 1st session
14.00 - 16.20	Individual 2nd Session
16.50 - 19.10	Individual 3rd Session
19.40	Individual & Triathlon Prizegiving, Joan Gerard Awards & Closing Ceremony





## **OPATUA DIARY**

#### **Mark Horton**

Welcome to the first edition of the Diary, a daily account of events in Opatija. Our great team of writers will keep you entertained over the coming days, but if they happen to miss a brilliant, tragic or comical story, don't be afraid to come and tell us about it. (A brilliant play, defence or bidding sequence might earn you a trip to China for the 2020 IBPA Awards, not to mention a fistful of dollars.)

If like me you were born in Nottingham, then you cannot help but be familiar with the legend that is Brian Clough (asked if he was the best football manager in the world he replied, 'I wouldn't say I was the best manager in the business. But I was in the top one'). On the plane, I started reading Jonathan Wilson's brilliant biography of the great man (written in 2011). He introduced the period 1935-1962 with a quotation that is singularly appropriate for a Youth Championship:

The young have aspirations that never come to pass; the old have reminiscences of what never happened. H.H Munro (Saki), *Reginald at the Carlton* 

To all of you competing here in Opatija, I wish the best of fortune; do not be downhearted if this proves not to be your time - it is still on your side.

Talking of Nottingham, I must mention the City's second most famous son, Robin Hood. He and his band of merry men are the stars of David Bird's latest masterpiece, Robin Hood's Hold Up.



## YOUTH BRIDGE MAGAZINE

World Bridge Youth News is your bridge on-line newspaper:
Videos, photos, articles and news from
Youth events around the world.

www.youth.worldbridge.org



#### Welcome to the Show

How are your declarer play skills?

Travelling to Opatija on Monday, this deal from the 2019 European Youth Bridge Team Championships was reported by Andrew Robson in The Times:

Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 9 3 2♡ 10 7 2◇ K J 7 3 2♣ Q 2

♦ A 6♣ A 7

 West
 North
 East
 South

 —
 —
 1♠

 Pass
 2♠
 Pass
 4♠

 All Pass
 All Pass
 All Pass
 All Pass
 All Pass
 All Pass

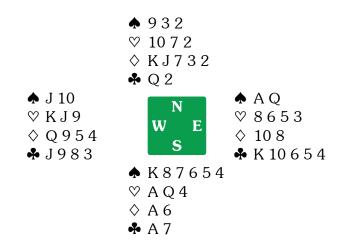
West leads the  $\clubsuit8$  (3rd and fifth) and when you try dummy's queen East covers with the king and you decide to win with the ace and return a club, East overtaking West's nine with the ten and switching to the  $\heartsuit5$ . You decide to play low and West wins with the jack and exits with the  $\spadesuit J$ , East taking the ace and returning the  $\heartsuit6$ . How do you continue?

The declarer, England's Dido Coley, went up with the  $\heartsuit A$ , and cashed the  $\spadesuit K$ , pleased to see the suit divide. She continued with her remaining trumps to reach this position:



When she cashed the last trump West discarded the  $\lozenge$  4 and East the  $\heartsuit$ 3. What do you do in diamonds? Declarer cashed the ace and played a second diamond, intending to put up the king. She assumed that West held the  $\heartsuit$ K and if that was the case the last spade had executed a show up squeeze.

This was the layout:



As it happens the  $\Diamond Q$  appeared on her left, but if East had started with a doubleton queen declarer would also have been certain to succeed.

If you can play up to that standard, you may do well in these Championships!





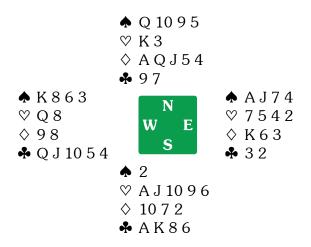
## The Rabbit's Sticky Wicket Mark Horton & Ron Tacchi

Victor Mollo's Menagerie series of books remains paramount in the field of bridge humour. As a new generation prepares to sweep away what is left of the old guard it seems appropriate to remind you of some of Mollo's characters. Who would not wish to be able to match the genius of the Hideous Hog? Failing that, who would not settle for being as lucky as the Rueful Rabbit, whose guardian angel is always on hand.

The members of the Griffin's Club were enjoying the latest meeting of the Fine Bottle Club, where a light lunch of Crab & Linguine Risotto, Chateaubriand, Summer Pudding and Monsiuer Merle's delightful selection of cheeses, was followed by a few gentle rubbers.

The Hog had graciously agreed to sit opposite R.R. while Papa partnered Karapet.

The Hog, still savouring the delights of the 1950 Chateau Coutet that accompanied the desert, and the Sandeman's 1927 that drew out the best of the cheese, enjoyed this deal:



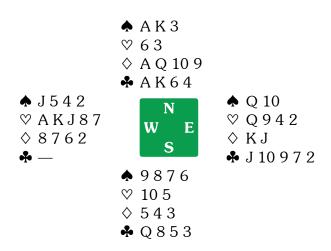
Rather than jump to 3NT, Papa marked time with 2. When Karapet supported his hearts, the Greek jumped to game.

West	North	East	South
Н.Н.	Karapet	R.R	Papa
	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1 %
Pass	1 <b>^</b>	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2 %	Pass	4♡
All Pass			

The Hog led the ♣Q and Papa won with the ace and

played a diamond to the queen, the Hog following with the nine and R.R. the three. When it held he ducked a spade and the Hog won with the six and returned the  $\lozenge 8$ . When Papa played dummy's four R.R. was about to contribute the six when he discovered that another card, with a small coating from a chocolate almond biscuit that the Rabbit had been enjoying with his coffee, was sticking to it. Upon inspection it proved to be the  $\lozenge K$  and R.R. won and without knowing why returned his remaining diamond. H.H. ruffed and exited with a spade. Papa ruffed, cashed the  $\P K$  and ruffed a club with the  $\heartsuit 3$ . R.R overruffed that and exited with a trump ensuring two down.

Shortly after Karapet had conceded -2000 in an attempt to prolong the rubber, along came:



West	North	East	South
Н.Н.	Karapet	R.R	Papa
$1 \heartsuit$	Dble	2 %	Pass
Pass	Dble	3♡	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	3♠
All Pass			

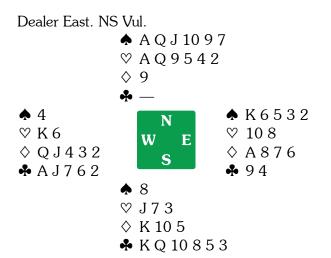
H.H. cashed the  $\heartsuit$ AK, and switched to the  $\diamondsuit$ 2. Papa played dummy's 9, and R.R, won with the singleton king and recalling a piece of advice he had read in *Better Signalling Now* he returned the  $\clubsuit$ 2, making it clear that he wanted a diamond back. H.H. ruffed and played the  $\diamondsuit$ 6. Papa played dummy's ten and R.R. was on the point of ruffing, when he discovered that the  $\diamondsuit$ J was sitting next to the  $\heartsuit$ Q. After collecting the trick the Rabbit returned the  $\clubsuit$ 7 and the Hog ruffed and played a third diamond. R.R., having double checked that he



was out of diamonds, ruffed and played a third club, the Hog ruffing and playing a fourth diamond. R.R, ruffed with his last trump and played a fourth club, which allowed H.H.to score his  $\clubsuit J$  and inscribe +600 above the line.

When he recounted the tale at the club's bar that evening Colin the Corgi suggested that Papa had been unlucky, but H.H. would have none of it; he pointed out that if Papa had won the second diamond with dummy's queen and played the top trumps then he would have been only one down.

The Rabbit's guardian angel put in an appearance on this deal:



West	North	East	South
Н.Н	Karapet	R.R.	Papa
		Pass	Pass
2NT*	3◊*	Dble	3♡
Pass	4♣*	Pass	4 %
5♦	5♡	Pass	6♡
All Pass			



Pausing only to pick up a glass of the Sandeman 1927 that the Walrus had left en prise the Hog explained what had happened: 'R.R. had persuaded me to use 2NT to show a weak hand with the minors. Karapet's  $3\diamondsuit$  was for takeout with emphasis on spades and the Rabbit doubled to show diamond support. Karapet's  $4\clubsuit$  was a cue bid and when they reached game I decided to try and prolong the rubber by sacrificing. When Karapet went on to  $5\heartsuit$  Papa, no doubt placing him with a better hand, went for the slam bonus.

I led the  $\Diamond Q$  and R.R. won with the ace and pondered. As you can see, a club lead will keep declarer out of dummy and ensure we get another trick, but the Rabbit decided it would be a good idea to cut down dummy's ruffs and switch to a trump, which would have been fatal, as it would have collected my  $\heartsuit K$  and allowed declarer to get home via the ruffing spade finesse. However, the  $\heartsuit 8$  that R.R. intended to play was adjacent to the  $\clubsuit K$  and that is the card that settled on the table. Karapet won with the ace and ruffed a spade, but I overruffed and congratulated R.R. on his brilliant defence'.

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### **Championship offer**

The new dealing machines that are [only] used during the championships will be sold at the end for **EUR 2299** incl. a full five years warranty. Cards and boards are also sold at special prices in conjunction with a purchase of a machine. Please contact anna@jannersten.com regarding payment and pick up at Opatija/shipping from Sweden.





I am working on a book about humour in bridge with Norwegian legend Tommy Sandsmark. From time to time, we might publish the odd extract, starting with this one, a team profile from David Burn taken from the 11th European Youth Championship Bulletins in Plovdiv, 1988:

## The British Team David Burn

Despite the drawback of possessing fewer drinkers of international standard than the Irish, this year's British team has made a reasonable start to the Championships. The team contains:

**Andrew Robson**, citizen of the world and the team's leading bidding theorist. He is particularly fond of a convention called "the good-bad two notrumps", so named because it is a good idea which always leads to bad results. This is because it is never correctly interpreted by:

**John Pottage**, Andrew's partner and a trainee accountant, living in London. Includéd in the team primarily to give the Captain something to worry about, he has made the confident prediction that we will lose more IMP's on slam hands than we will gain, and is doing his best to see that this prophecy is fulfilled.

**Gerald** and **Stuart Tredinnick** are twin brothers who live in Kent. Gerald is a trainee actuary, Stuart is a computer programmer. They are keen sportsmen, whose talent for finding the net would be the envy of Diego Maradona, and would make them automatic choices for any international side if they played football rather than tennis.

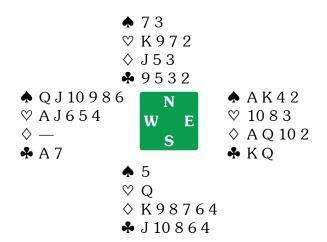
Neil "sorry partner I thought it would be solid" Rosen works for British Telecom, and is our expert in telephone numbers. His eternal optimism manifests itself nowhere better than on the tennis court, where he tries to hit lobs over Robson. You cannot do this without the ball leaving the atmosphere, but he keeps trying.

Derek "don't be silly it would only be solid if I had my bid" Patterson works in computers and lives in Kent (or it may be the other way round). His approach to tennis is: "Smash it and see where it lands," which is also the name of his bidding system.

The team captain is **Raymond Brock**, who is here on a bridge holiday. (Any bridge event where Raymond does not have to play with Forrester is a holiday). He won a silver medal in the last Bermuda Bowl, and has done more for junior bridge in Britain

than any other three people put together. We owe him a great deal, and it is pleasant to be able to acknowledge this debt in print.

The team coach is David Burn, whose job it is to make sure the players have defensive methods against strange systems by the opponents. The value of this may be shown by this hand, which arose in the match against Finland:



The Finnish EW bid confidently to 6♠, which made when Jouni Juuri-Oja did nothing stupid in hearts. They may have hoped for a gain, but:

West	North	East	South
Gerald		Stuart	
			2NT*
Dble*	3♡*	Dble*	Pass
Pass*	Pass*		

2NT Majors or minors, 6-11 HP.

Dble Gerald's double means: "I am sure that idiot Burn mentioned some defence to this, but I cannot remember what it was. Anyway, double shows a good hand, so I will do that."

 $3\heartsuit$  This is a relay (I think).

Dble I will double this for take-out. If it turns out to be for penalties, I will blame Burn for confusing us.

Pass I do not think 3% is a relay - I think partner wants to play there.

Pass I do not know what is happening, but is does not seem to be going too badly.



The contract went seven off for a score of 2000 to Britain and a sad loss of 11 IMP for Finland. There is an old saying in England which almost goes:

It's the same the whole world over, It's the coach who gets the blame, It's the players who get the pleasure, Ain't it a bleedin' shame?

What really happened at the table was that the 3% bid was meant to begin looking for a fit and a cheap save, so it should have been alerted. South forgot this, so North immediately knew that his bid was understood as a % suit. Thereafter, South's pass showed the majors, but North also knew that South in fact held the minors, as he would have had to raise 3% to 4% holding majors. Under the current laws, North was obliged to pass the double, which he duly did for 2000 out.

This was explained by the Finnish in a later edition of the bulletin, and David Burn, when made aware of the Finnish reply to his extremely

funny team presentation remarked that he was not aware of North's ethical dilemma, nor of the very sportsmanlike way in which he resolved it. He therefore congratulated Jussi Kantele on his extremely high standard of ethics, and he went on to say: "The Finnish are true sportsmen (and -women) indeed, nobody can deny that. If you are going to play methods like these, so as to give the opposition's coach a hard time, the very least you can do in my view is to go for 2000 when they actually come up!"

The British team finished a modest seventh in the Championships that were won by France -but a year later they won the World Junior teams Championships played in Nottingham.

To prove we are not always looking back in time, here is the winner of the best joke award (for Sweden's Olaf Falafel) at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival:

I keep randomly shouting out 'broccoli' and 'cauliflower'. I think I might have florets.

Writing in the Bulletins of the 2019 edition of the White House Junior Internationals 2019, Fernando Lema passed on this message to the contestants:

## The future of Bridge depends on you fernando lema

You have already discovered a passion for Bridge.

Now we have to organize ourselves to transmit that passion to more young people. Leaders can do a lot - and they have an obligation to do it - but you are more skilled and are better able to convince your friends, and the friends of your friends.

We need your help: we have to work together because, in the end, our goal is the same. That's why I'm going to ask everyone for a favour:

### FLOOD THE NETWORKS!

Upload Instagram & Facebook Stories and photographs; Tweet on your Twitter feed about the event every day, every moment, tell the universe

how well you are doing and show them the people you are meeting from all over the world. Tell them about the fun you are having, the challenges you are facing. Let the world know what is happening here. Let them know that Bridge also stands for peace and unity between people from all walks of life.







### MISPLAY THIS HAND WITH ME IN OPATIJA

#### Mark Horton

#### **WRONG EXIT**

In a long knock out match where everyone knows the moves, we have the lead when I pick up this hand at the end of the penultimate session:

Dealer South. NS Vul.

**♦** J85

♥ A K 10 6 2

♦ K J

**♣** Q 5 2

 $1 \heartsuit$  is a possibility, but I reject it in favour of 1NT. When West overcalls  $3 \clubsuit$  my partner bids  $4 \clubsuit$ , which shows interest in the majors. When East comes in with  $4 \diamondsuit$  I bid  $4 \heartsuit$ . My partner bids  $5 \clubsuit$  which I take to be a cue-bid. With such good trumps I return the compliment by bidding  $5 \diamondsuit$ , but when partner can only reply  $5 \heartsuit$  I let matters rest, leaving us with this auction:

West	North	East	South
_	_		1NT
3♣	4♣*	4♦	4♡
Pass	5♣*	Pass	5◊*
Pass	5♡	All Pass	

West leads the  $\clubsuit 10$  and I get this dummy:

♠ AK 10 4 2

♥ 98754

♦ 72

**♣** A



**♠** J85

 $\heartsuit$  A K 10 6 2

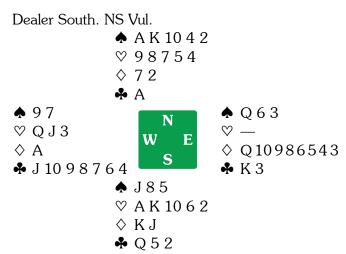
♦ K J

♣ Q 5 2

I don't consider partner's bidding to be over-optimistic - even with these combined holdings we would have a play for 12 tricks.

Having won the opening lead with dummy's ace I play a heart on which East discards the  $\lozenge 3$ . That's a blow, but I win and ruff a club, East's contribution being the king. That gives me a strong clue as to the distribution, as West is marked with three hearts and seven clubs. East can hardly hold all nine missing

diamonds so West must have at least one of them, making him 2-1 or 1-2 in the pointed suits. If West's diamonds are Qx he might have led a diamond, but given my cue bid he would be reluctant to do so with Ax. The appearance of the K strongly suggests that West has the A so I continue with a diamond to the jack and West wins with the ace and exits with the A in I win and must consider how to continue. If West started with one spade and two diamonds I can organise an endplay, so I cash the A or at least attempt to, as West ruffs with the A and exits with a spade, leaving me with no way to avoid a spade loser when this proves to be the layout:



Post mortem

Having ruffed a club at trick three, suppose declarer cashes a top spade before playing a diamond. West wins and exits with a heart. Declarer wins, cashes the \$\Pi Q\$ and plays a second spade. If West follows, declarer wins in dummy and can then throw West in to offer up a ruff and discard.

If West started with a singleton spade and ruffs the second round in front of dummy, that will be the last trick for the defence.

To defeat 5% West must lead the  $\diamondsuit A$ . It will then be clear to switch to the  $\heartsuit Q$  after which declarer has no route to eleven tricks.

In the other room, they stopped in 4%, making ten tricks for a 12 IMP pick up.

My thanks to Maurizio Di Sacco for bringing this deal to my attention. His website:

disacco.yolasite.com is well worth a visit.