

DAILY BULLETIN • Issue No 7 • Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Editor: Mark Horton • Journalists: Marc Smith, Jos Jacobs, Micke Melander • Layout Editor & Photos: Francesca Canali

TESTING THE TABLETS



While we wait to get the reaction of the players to playing the BAM with tablets we can look forward to a terrific day on which no less than five finals will be decided and world champions crowned.

LOVE BRIDGE

If you would like to follow play in the BAM Teams all you have to do is go to: https://vugraph.lovebridge.com/

Every table is available so you can cheer on your personal favourites.

SCHEDULE TODAY

10.00 - 12.00	Teams: Final&Play-Off
	1st stanza 14 boards
	Teams BAM Tablets
12.20 - 14.20	Teams: Final&Play-Off
	2nd stanza 14 boards
	Teams BAM Tablets
15.20 - 17.20	Teams: Final&Play-Off
	3rd stanza 14 boards
	Teams BAM Tablets
17.40 - 19.40	Teams: Final&Play-Off
	4th stanza 14 boards
20.00	Teams & BAM Tablets Prize Giving

TODAY'S PRIZE GIVING

Today's Prize Giving will be held in front of the Hotel Royal at 19.45.













OPATUA DIARY

Mark Horton (RICKET EDITION

Sunday, August 25th

There are moments in sport that are almost impossible to comprehend. On Sunday, England won what is already being described by many commentators, as the greatest Test Match in the history of cricket. I won't bore you with the details, but one of the comments by England's hero Ben Stokes, speaking on Sky Sports is worth remembering: "Never give up, it's not over till it's over".

That was certainly the case in the U26 QF between Australia and Japan. Having defeated their opponents 20-0 in the last round of the Swiss, Australia, who topped the table, naturally selected Japan, but then found they might have caught a tiger by the tail as Japan led 59-44 at half-time. The excitement of the cricket was so intense that it almost interfered with the task in hand, but it was matched, to a certain extent, by this deal from the second half.

In order to defeat hatred, we play the Card of Peace



Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

A K Q 9

10 7 6

8 5 3

9 5 3

J8 7 6 5 4

N
W
E
N
W
E
S

K Q J 9 6 4 2

A 10 3 2

A Q J 8 2

♦ A 10 7

♣ A 7

The definitive textbook on 6-0-0-7 is on my list of things to do, but it may require a second coming before I get around to it. The last time (indeed the only time) I held such a hand back in the early 80's partnering Tony Forrester during the final of a team contest, I elected to pass, hoping to get involved later. After a frenetic auction he doubled 5% and I elected to bid $6\clubsuit$ (one of my suits) which was doubled. The great man was not best pleased at this development, but he duly wrapped up all the tricks for a huge swing - and then asked if I had given any thought to bidding $7\clubsuit$!

Yamamoto and Imakiire lost 1100 in 6 and with Tanabe and Yuge dropping -500 in 4 x that was 17 IMPs away.





Let's see how some of the other teams coped:

Italy v Netherlands

Open Room	1		
West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuiz	Percario	M. de Leon	Sau
3♣	Pass	5♦	Dble
All Pass			

The rationale behind bidding $5\diamondsuit$ is unclear.

South led a spade and declarer ruffed and played a club, South winning and playing a second spade. Declarer ruffed and played the $\Diamond K$. South won and now does best to exit with a trump, which, with moderately careful defence thereafter will produce -1400. When South went with a spade declarer 'escaped' for -1100.

Sivy B did collect 1400 against $5 \diamondsuit x$, and losing only 200 in $4 \clubsuit x$ meant a 15 IMP swing.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Bijsterveldt	Scatà	Coppens
Pass	Pass	$4\Diamond$	4♡
All Pass			

West led the \P K and declarer took it with the ace. At double dummy you can make $4\heartsuit$ - at this point you must play a low heart to dummy's ten. If East wins and plays a diamond you can win but must then play a diamond back. East can cash two diamonds, but is endplayed. Maybe not impossible come to think of it. Anyhow, $4\heartsuit$ went one down for -100 and a 15 IMP swing.





Natt v Croatia

Open	Room

West	North	East	South
Bilusic	Kennedy	Evacic	Ye
1 ♠	Pass	2\$	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

I can't say I'm a fan of the 1 opening - are you? Should South have doubled 3NT? It went three down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Natt	Ferenca	Norton	Stefanec
Pass	Pass	1 \diamondsuit	$1 \heartsuit$
1 ^	2 %	Pass	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	All Pass

 $4\diamondsuit$ went four down, -400, so it was a 3 IMP swing.

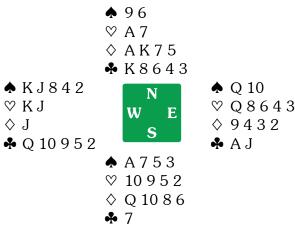
France Funbridge amassed 2000 defending $6 \spadesuit$ doubled and lost only 800 in $4 \diamondsuit x$ to pocket 15 IMPs, but The Canadians did even better against Italia, achieving 2000 from $4 \spadesuit x$ and losing only 500 in $5 \spadesuit x$ - a 17 IMP swing.

Returning to our main match, Australia went ahead and survived a late counter-attack to win by a single IMP. At least that was what everyone thought. However, the Australians realised that on the penultimate deal of the match an error had been made in respect of the number of tricks taken meaning the match was tied!



That meant a two-board play-off - but the Japanese had already gone to dinner! Luckily they were still in the hotel and in due course play got under way.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Roon	n
-----------	---

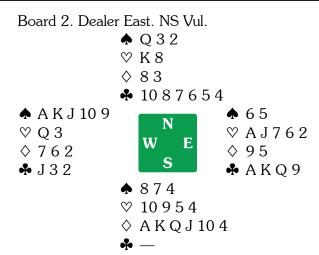
- I	-		
West	North	East	South
Yamamoto	Thompson	Imakiire	Smith
	$1 \clubsuit^*$	1 %	Dble*
1NT	Pass	Pass	$2 \diamondsuit$
All Pass			

West led the \heartsuit K and declarer won with dummy's ace and after some thought played the \clubsuit 3, East winning with the jack and returning the \diamondsuit 2. Declarer won with dummy's ace and played a heart, West putting up the queen and playing a second trump. Declarer won with the six, cashed the \heartsuit 10 and \heartsuit 9 pitching spades, took the \spadesuit A, and cross-ruffed for ten tricks, +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
McMahon	Tanabe	Ranson	Yuge
	1NT	Pass	Pass
2 ^	All Pass		

North led the $\heartsuit A$ (Starting with two rounds of diamonds should ensure declarer's demise) and continued with the $\diamondsuit A$ followed by the $\diamondsuit 5$. Declarer ruffed and played a club to the jack followed by the $\clubsuit A$. South ruffed and should now cash the $\spadesuit A$ before going back to diamonds. In practice he played a third diamond and declarer ruffed, cashed the $\heartsuit K$ and ruffed a club. South overruffed with the $\spadesuit A$ and played his last diamond and declarer ruffed with the $\spadesuit K$. Now it looked obvious to ruff a club and play the $\heartsuit Q$ pitching a club to endplay North, but declarer played a spade and now had only seven tricks, -50 but 2 IMPs to Australia.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Yamamoto	Thompson	Imakiire	Smith
		1 %	$2 \diamondsuit$
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Inferring from the bidding that South must be short in clubs North led the \$8 and South ruffed, cashed the $\lozenge K$ and $\lozenge 10$ followed by the $\lozenge J$. North ruffed with the $\clubsuit Q$ and a second club meant two down, -100.

Note that to defeat 3♠ North has to find the club lead.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
McMahon	Tanabe	Ranson	Yuge
_		1 %	$2\Diamond$
2 ♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♡	All Pass		

South started with three rounds of diamonds and declarer ruffed and played a low heart. North took the queen with the king and played a club, South ruffing and playing a diamond. North's ruff with the $\heartsuit 8$ promoted a trump for South, -50. One winning line is to cross to dummy with a spade and play the $\heartsuit Q$ for the king and ace. Declarer then cashes the $\heartsuit J$ and simply plays black suit winners. For the second time although a makeable contract had gone down Australia had scored 2 IMPs and they advanced to the last four.





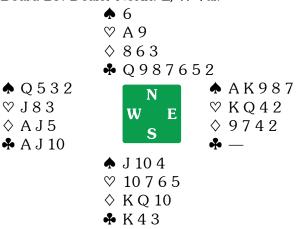


U26 SWISS TEAMS - ROUND 8

Marc Smith

Our featured match from the final round of the Swiss qualifier is NATT, one of the two England teams in the field, against POLAND. With the English team lying second, just behind AUSTRALIA, and the Poles in fifth place, both teams are just about assured of a place in the knockout stage. The action began on the very first deal of the match...

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.



Open	Room

West	North	East	South
Marcinowski	Natt	Sobczak	Norton
	3♣	Dble	4♣
4 ♠	All Pass		



Shahzaad Natt opened a perfectly normal pre-empt in first seat non-vulnerable, and the first question was whether East should double or overcall in his good five-card major. Mateusz Sobczak opted for a double and Ben Norton upped the ante to Four Clubs (more on that later). Although his suit was nothing to write home about, Piotr Marcinowski had to do something on the West hand and his Four Spade bid closed the brief auction. Trump quality wasn't an issue opposite this East hand and declarer was quickly claiming eleven tricks: N/S -650 and what looked like a routine flat board. However, this is a junior event, and everyone loves to bid!

West	North	East	South
Kennedy	P Patreuha	Ye	J Patreuha
	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2NT	3♣	4♣	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	5♣
Dble	All Pass		

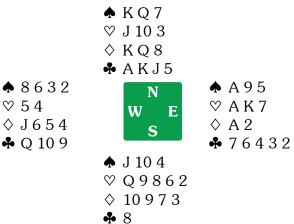
Whether you choose to open this North hand with a pre-empt is a matter of style, I suppose. Having decided to pass initially, though, one has to question what you hope to achieve by entering the fray on the second round, once the opponents have already established a fit and a game-forcing auction. Whilst an opening pre-empt might do so, Three Clubs over Two Notrump is hardly going to inconvenience the opponents, after all.

It was only in this column yesterday that I discussed the wisdom of sacrificing on balanced hands, and here we are again. Whilst North's actions are questionable, South's decision to sacrifice in Five Clubs on a 4333 shape is just giving IMPs away. Such saves almost always turn out to be too expensive: indeed, had the Polish South not been forewarned that this was even more likely by his partner's failure to open with a preempt? Declarer duly lost one heart, one spade and two tricks in each minor: N/S -800 and 4 IMPs to NATT.

Many moons ago, you would have expected to find a number of North players toiling away in a One Club contract on our next deal. Those days have long gone, though...



Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kennedy	P Patreuha	Ye	J Patreuha
_			Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	$1 \diamondsuit^*$
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2 %	All Pass	

South's One Diamond response showed hearts and North's One Notrump rebid was 18-19 balanced. The Two Club inquiry uncovered the eight-card fit and North/South had duly reached their optimum spot on the deal. Declarer lost the obvious four tricks: N/S +140 and another dull flat board? You'll recall, perhaps, what I said earlier about everyone loving to bid in this event.

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Marcinowski	Natt	Sobczak	Norton
	_		$2 \diamondsuit^*$
Pass	4♣*	Pass	40*
Pass	4 %	Dble	Pass
4 ♠	Dble	All Pass	

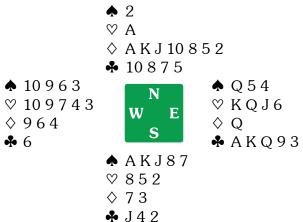
Whilst American players may be horrified at the thought of calling this South hand a 'weak two opening', such a definition is becoming more widespread in the UK, where the weak two is viewed as a destructive, rather than a constructive, bid. Opening via the Multi, Ben Norton showed a bad weak two. (A more traditional weak two opens a natural Two Hearts.) Even so, Shahzaad Natt still decided that he wanted to play game in his partner's major. Four Clubs instructed South to announce his major via a transfer, which Norton duly did with Four Diamonds. North's Four Hearts now closed the auction. Or did it?

Critics may say that East's double is pointless, since it is simply trying to turn +50 into +100. Must North be quite this strong, though? Is it not possible that

your side is being pre-empted out of something? The fault for this debacle surely lies solely with the West player. The general rule for removing high-level doubles is that you do so when you expect to make your contract. Making four tricks in defence is likely to be much easier than making ten or eleven as declarer so, with a dreadful hand, you should pass the double and hope to go plus. Indeed, even -590 may be your cheapest spot.

Needless to say, North did not have a bidding problem over Four Spades. The defence started with three rounds of clubs, South ruffing and then switching accurately to the $\lozenge 10$ (which won) and a second diamond to dummy's ace. Whatever declarer did now, he was booked for four down. In practise he led a fourth round of clubs, allowing South to score a second trump trick. N/S +800 and 12 IMPs to NATT, whilst it would have been 6 IMPs to Poland if West had passed his partner's double of Four Hearts.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Kennedy	P Patreuha	Ye	J Patreuha
Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$	Dble	1 ^
Pass	2NT	Dble	4 ^
All Pass			

Perhaps I am insufficiently au fait with the Polish system, so maybe Two Notrump is the correct rebid on this North hand. In traditional methods, you would have to choose between Two Diamonds, Three Diamonds or, if for some reason you thought you were too strong for that, Three Notrump, which is specifically based on a long, strong suit rather than a balanced hand. South's decision to bid Four Spades, though, suggests to me that he was not expecting this type of hand for Two Notrump.

As is often the case when a partnership breaks the Burn Law of Total Trumps (ie choose a trump suit in which you hold more cards than the opponents),



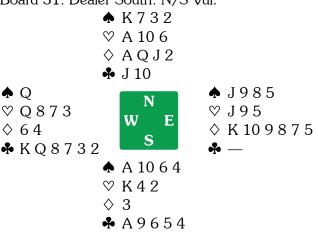
things did not end well for the Poles. West led his singleton club and the defenders quickly cashed three rounds of the suit. There was still an unavoidable trump loser: N/S-100.

O	pen	Roo	om

West	North	East	South
Marcinowski	Natt	Sobczak	Norton
Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$	Dble	1 ♠
Pass	3♦	Dble	Redbl
3♡	Pass	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
4♡	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Here the auction started more normally, with Natt rebidding Three Diamonds at his second turn. East doubled for a second time and South showed extra values with a redouble. When Three Hearts was passed back to him, Norton advanced with Three Spades, and now Natt suggested that perhaps notrumps might be a viable spot. North/South had duly reached the only making game, so they were booked for a doublefigure gain on the deal, so Piotr Marcinowski did the best he could for his side by saving in Four Hearts. The defense have three spade tricks and the two redsuit aces against a heart contract: N/S +300, but still 9 IMPs to NATT, already 28-0 ahead halfway through the match. Although lying fifth with a reasonable cushion, it was just about possible that the Poles would drop out of the qualifying spots with a massive loss in this last match. Could they at least limit the damage?

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.



Closed Room

Closed Hoom			
West	North	East	South
Kennedy	P Patreuha	Ye	J Patreuha
			1♣
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♡
Pass	4 ♠	All Pass	

After a natural start to the auction, North ostensibly made a game try with Two Notrump, although he was surely never stopping out of game with that hand facing an opening bid. South showed that he would accept if partner's help-wanted suit was hearts, so now North had now heard enough and duly installed himself in the major-suit game. The East hand does not offer any particularly attractive lead, but a heart looks like the best of the poor options. Ye's diamond lead gave declarer an easy ride and Patryk Patreuha was soon claiming eleven tricks: N/S +650.

Of course, we couldn't have two uncontested auctions on the same deal:

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Marcinowski	Natt	Sobczak	Norton
			1♣
Pass	1♡*	3♦	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

System dictated that North respond One Heart to show spades, and now East intervened with a preemptive jump in diamonds. With South freely supporting spades at the three-level, there was now no question of not bidding game. All that was left was to decide which game: North suggested notrumps and South chose to go back to the known eight-card major-suit fit.

So, the contract was the same as at the other table, but with South the declarer the diamond lead was much more testing. Declarer rose with the ♦A and played the ♣J, on which East pitched a diamond, Norton elected to win with the ♣A, which does look like the natural thing to do, but having dome so he could then no long make the contract. Declarer huffed and puffed for a few tricks but eventually ran out of steam and the defenders were left with four winners at the end. N/S -100 and a much-needed 13 IMPs to POLAND.

NATT won the match 28-16 (14.39 to 5.61 in VPs) to secure second place behind the rampant AUSTRALIA, who finished the Swiss with a 20-0 drubbing of JAPAN (who still qualified in seventh place). ITALIA beat SIVY B (the USA team) 17-3 to secure fourth place behind the Americans. After their big loss in the day's first match, NETHERLANDS won well against ISRAEL to earn their place in the knockout stages. The biggest cheer of the day, though, was reserved for yesterday's early leaders, the home-town CROATIA team, who climbed into the last qualifying spot with a 20-0 hammering of CHILE in the final round of the Swiss. Just missing out on a qualifying place were the multi-national SERBILICIOUS (Serbia, Ireland and Scotland), CHINA, GERMANY and AUSTRIA.





MISPLAY THIS HAND WITH ME IN OPATIJA

Mark Horton

Paying a brief visit to one of the bigger events in England I have dropped into one of the local clubs in the hope of paying for my trip. Things are proceeding according to plan when I pick up this powerful hand:

Dealer South. NS Vul.

♠ K982

♥ K 10 4

♦ A82

AKO

We play four-card majors, but I prefer to open $1\clubsuit$ and partner responds $1\heartsuit$. East now enters from the wings with $2\clubsuit$. From my perspective, double should now show a strong balanced hand, but time is pressing and I am anxious to bring the rubber to a close, and I bid an undisciplined 3NT. My partner is not yet finished, and bids $4\diamondsuit$. He should have a decent hand to do that, and as it happens we have a sophisticated convention available at this point. I bid $4\spadesuit$, which in principle agrees diamonds and asks for key cards - a version of 'Kickback'. Partner's reply of $5\heartsuit$ promises 2 key cards and the $\diamondsuit Q$ and now wanting to risk a possible spade ruff, I close proceedings by jumping to 6NT. This has been our unusually scientific auction:

West	North	East	South
			1
Pass	1 %	2♠	3NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠*
Pass	5♡*	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

West leads the $\clubsuit 5$ and dummy is about what I expected:

↑ 74♡ AQ853◇ KQ1054↑ 5



♠ K982

♥ K 10 4

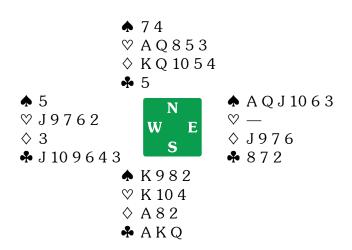
♦ A82

\Lambda AKQ

East wins with the ace of spades and returns the \mathbf{AQ} , West discarding the \mathbf{AG} as I win with the king, justifying my decision to play in notrumps.

I have ten top tricks, and needing only one of the red suits to behave I play a diamond to the king and a diamond to the ace. I am ready to claim, but when West discards the $\clubsuit 3$ I have to re-consider. I know East started with six spades and four diamonds, leaving him with three unknown cards. Catering for the possibility that he has a singleton $\heartsuit J$ or $\heartsuit 9$, I cash the heart king and await East's card. It proves to be the $\spadesuit 3$ and I have to admit defeat; I can score three clubs and collect four hearts, but must surrender the last trick to East's $\diamondsuit J$ or West's $\heartsuit 9$.

This was the full deal:



Post mortem

If declarer plays hearts before diamonds he can collect four tricks in the suit (entering hand by cashing the $\Diamond K$ and then playing a diamond to the ace). Having cashed dummy's $\Diamond Q$ he plays three rounds of clubs and East, down to $\clubsuit J \Diamond J9$ is squeezed.

If declarer elects to test diamonds before hearts, playing a diamond to the king and diamond to the ace, the only winning line is to continue with the $\heartsuit 10$, running it if West does not cover!

If East puts in the $\clubsuit Q$ at trick one declarer wins and plays hearts and diamonds as before. In the four card ending declarer cashes his last club and East, down to $\spadesuit AJ \diamondsuit Q10$ must release a spade. He is then thrown in with a spade to lead into dummy's diamonds. The spades were like a tin can, attached to the villain's ankle (*Play These Hand with Me*).

We would have murdered them in $2 \spadesuit$ doubled.





DENTIST'S COUP

Simon Stocken

Session 5. U26 Swiss Teams Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

Doura 2. Dealer L	aot. 1 1/ C Vai.	
^	10 6 3	
\Diamond	Q 9 4	
\Diamond	Q 6 2	
•	A 7 4 2	
♦ 52	N	♠ KQJ7
♥ J3	W E	♥ AK8752
♦ J93		♦ 105
♣ QJ10983	S	♣ K
^	A 9 8 4	
\Diamond	10 6	
\Diamond	AK874	
.	6 5	

West	North	East	South
Duffie	Patreuha P	Youngquist	Patreuha J
		1 %	Dble
1NT*	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣	All Pass

1NT Clubs 2NT Clubs

The Polish twins, Patrick and Jakub just twenty years old, have been playing bridge half of their life and we can expect to see them for many years to come. This deal demonstrates their skill in defence as they manage an ambitious trump promotion. The defence started with three rounds of diamonds, dislodging East's \P K. Declarer continued with \P Q, ducked by South and then \P K taken by South. South continued

the diamond attack with West forced to trump high with $\clubsuit 8$, while North was able to discard $\spadesuit 10$. Now dummy leads $\clubsuit Q$, taken by $\clubsuit A$ and North now played a heart to dummy's King. Declarer was now locked in dummy and cashed $\heartsuit A$ and played a third heart. Jakub trumped this in an instant with $\clubsuit 6$, overtrumped by dummy and now Patrick in the North seat had his trump promotion. After forcing declarer to trump three times with high trumps North's lowly $\clubsuit 7$ was a master.

Have you spotted it? Duffie had two chances to make the contract while the defence made one significant error. Of course there are five easy defensive tricks if the defenders know to play clubs early, thereby removing $\P K$ and ensuring a third defensive diamond trick. Declarer can also prevail by running North's heart switch to dummy's $\heartsuit J$, thereby avoiding being locked in dummy.

Only those declarers skilled in dentistry would prevail here – once South ducks the first spade, declarer must cash the top hearts and play a third heart – whether South trumps or discards, declarer can extract the offending 'tooth' by discarding dummy's remaining spade. A fine example of the Dentists Coup. South's small but significant error was not taking the first spade. Nonetheless a fine defence by the Polish brothers. Youngquist's chosen line (not to play two rounds of hearts) is based upon South's probable distribution – she reasoned (correctly) that the double was more likely to be 4153 than 4252, in which case cashing two hearts would have been disastrous with clubs possibly 3-3 all along.







POLISH POSITIONAL PLAY

Simon Stocken

Here we see the Polish twins demonstrating their judgment and proficiency in the auction, aided by an excellent system.

Session 7. U26 Swiss Teams.

Board 22. E/W Vul. Dealer East.

♠ AKQ10742 ♥ J 5

♦ KJ6

♣ 3

♠ 9 5 ♥ Q 10 8 ♦ Q832

♠ J83 ♥ A 7 4 3 ♦ 10 9 ♣ J876

♣ Q 9 4 2

♥ K982

♦ A 7 5 4 ♣ A K 10 5

West	North	East	South
Donati	Patreuha P	Scatà	Patreuha J
		Pass	1 \diamondsuit
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	$2 \diamondsuit^*$	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4 ♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	6♣*	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

 $2 \diamondsuit$ Game forcing

6♣ showed two key-cards, the trump gueen and either $\Diamond K$ or both $\heartsuit K$ and $\P K$. North had already denied a heart control and South recognized the necessity of protecting his $\heartsuit K$. His first comment when I asked about the auction was that he fully expected East to lead a low heart away from $\heartsuit A$. Donati found a safe spade lead and Jakob played 6 rounds of the suit before running the ♥J from dummy to West's queen. Donati did not return the suit and at trick 12 declarer went with the diamond finesse rather than the red suit squeeze against East.

Those who bid 6♠ would have 12 easy tricks on a diamond lead and a straightforward route to 12 tricks on a black suit lead - discard a heart on the second top club and draw trumps and play hearts. If the $\heartsuit A$ is offside the diamond finesse and various squeeze chances take the percentage of success close to 80%. A hearty congratulations to Markus Bertheau still under 16 who found the diabolical small heart lead against 6 h by North.

(What do you think of declarer's line of play? It would not have been a triumph if West had started with the ♥AQ, but might (as here) see West, holding only the gueen, fail to return a heart. Given West's passive spade lead don't you think that if declarer held the ♥AJ10 he would be tempted to place West with the ∇Q ?

Might you not be tempted to rattle off seven rounds of spades and then cash the top clubs and the $\Diamond A$ to reach a three card ending dummy holding $\heartsuit J \diamondsuit KJ$ and declarer $\heartsuit K \diamondsuit 7 \clubsuit 10$. At worst you are on the diamond finesse and you might also have a possible throw in if you decide East started with the $\heartsuit A$ and $\diamondsuit Q$. Editor)



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





UNDER 26 QUARTER FINALS

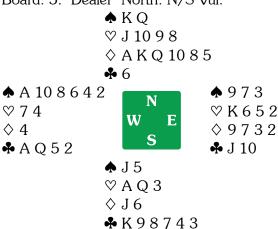
Jos Jacobs

Italia vs Netherlands... and others.

In this report, I will concentrate on the Italia v. Netherlands match but I will also take a short look or two at the other quarterfinals. The eight teams involved would play 32 boards, spread out over two sessions of 16 boards each, to decide which four would go forward to Monday's semifinals.

The first four boards of the first set did not raise many eyebrows but on board 5, some declarers apparently were on the hunt for blank kings as there is hardly any other explanation for going down in 3NT.

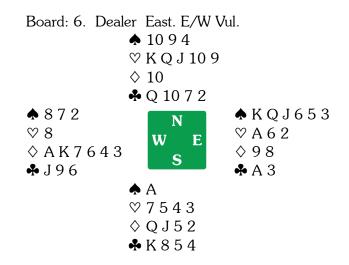
Board: 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.



Both an Italian and a Japanese declarer refrained from taking the heart finesse and thus had to chalk up -100 for a loss of 12 IMPs to their teams.



The Italians recovered well as this was the next board in their match:



Open Room				
West	North	East	South	
Sprinkhuizen	Scata	M. de León	Donati	
		1 ♠	Dble	
2♡*	4♡	4 ♠	All Pass	

On the heart lead, declarer was never in trouble. He won the ace, ruffed a heart, crossed to the A and ruffed his last heart before playing a trump. South won the ace and exited in diamonds to lock declarer in dummy. This way, the defenders got their diamond ruff but this was not enough to defeat the contract. Declarer just lost a club, a spade and a ruff. The Netherlands +620 and no sign of an Italian sacrifice.

Closed Room				
West	North	East	South	
Gaiotti	Van Bijsteri	veldt Chiarandini	Coppens	
_		1 ♠	Pass	
2 ^	3♡	3♠	4%	
Pass	Pass	4 ♠	Dble	
All Pass				

Even if South's double conveyed a suggestion to consider a sacrifice, this idea was lost on North. The play went the same so Italia quickly wrote +790 and 5 IMPs. Had South led the •A followed



by a low club, this might have been a different story. Declarer needs an entry to his hand for the ruff of his last heart. If the A is removed early, North might get the lead in time to play another trump. Much will depend, however, on the club spots as South might get squeezed in the minors.

Australia scored another double-figure swing here by finding the sacrifice in 5% for one down with their team-mates making $4\spadesuit$ for +620.

Two boards later, the Dutch missed what looked like an easy game but there were tactical issues.

Board: 8. Dealer West. None ♠ A 10 8 7 3 2 ♥ 9 7 3 ♦ 973 **4** 7 **♠** J 5 N ♥ K Q J 8 4 W ♦ AK86542 ♦ Q 10 S ♣ A K Q 4 ♣ J 10 5 2 **♠** K Q 9 6 ♥ A 10 6 5 ♦ J **4**9863

Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Scata	M. de León	Donati
$1 \heartsuit$	1 ♠	2♣*	2NT
Dble	Pass	3♦	3♡
Dble	3♠	4♣	All Pass

East's 2 showed diamonds.

Well, $4 \spadesuit$ in N/S is only one off so the maximum you can get is +300. Contenting yourself with just +170 thus is not too serious a loss. I happily leave it to the reader to judge the validity of this reasoning...

The contract was made with two overtricks, +170 to The Netherlands.

Closed Room

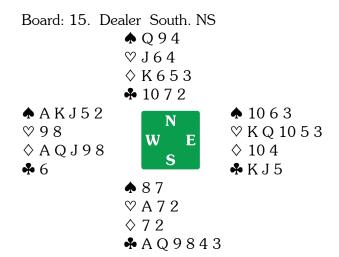
West	North	East	South
Gaiotti	Van Bijsteri	veldt Chiarandini	Coppens
1♡	2 ^	Dble	4♠
Dble	Pass	5♦	All Pass

When the Dutch in the other room did not go on, Italia enjoyed the full value of their +400 and picked up another 6 IMPs.

Japan were allowed to play in $4 \spadesuit$ doubled for one off and thus gained 7 IMPs when their team-mates also brought in +400.

The next three boards included a cold grand slam but they did not trouble the scorers very much in the Italia v. Netherlands match. Japan registered three consecutive double-figure swings, one of them resulting from this cold grand being missed against them. A few boards later, Australia would miss another grand slam, though, this time, it was not so cold. All this explains the half-time score of 59-44 to Japan in their match.

On the penultimate board of the set, the Dutch were lucky to stay out of a quite reasonable game.



Open Room	า		
West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Scata	M. de León	Donati
			1♣
3♣	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Closed Room			
West	North	East	South
Gaiotti	Van Bijsteri	veldt Chiarandini	Coppens
_	_	_	1♣
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4 ^	All Pass		

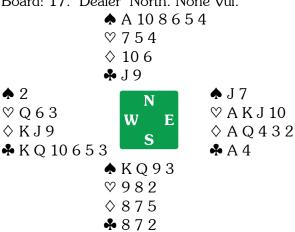
Both Wests showed their two-suiters but only Gaiotti went on and by doing so, lost 5 IMPs to make the half-time score 27-13 to The Netherlands.

As a curiosity, I can tell you that this board was a push at $4 \spadesuit$ (!) in the Australia-Japan match. Maybe, it's better not to inform you about the gruesome details...



Over now to the second segment. The first board was a slam straight away.

Board: 17. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open R	oom
--------	-----

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Percario	M. de León	Sau
_	2 ♠	Dble	3♠
5 ♣	Pass	6 ♣	All Pass

Guy Mendes de León judged very well by bidding one more for the road. A doubleton spade would certainly have discouraged his partner, he must have thought. The Netherlands a fine +920 to start proceedings.

Closed Room

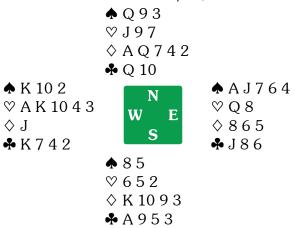
West	North	East	South
Donati	Van Bijsteri	veldt Scata	Coppens
	2 ♠	Dble	3♠
Dble	Pass	4♡	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

To Scata, it was less clear what partner was trying to show. Italia +420 but 11 more IMPs to the Dutch who thus were looking like running away immediately.



Another swing on the next board.

Board: 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Percario	M. de León	Sau
_	_	2 4	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass
4	All Pass		

Once East found a weak two somewhere, the Dutch were in game. A forcing defence in diamonds might have given declarer (West!) a hard time (though an Australian declarer managed to go down in $3\spadesuit$ already even without a diamond lead for another big swing to Japan who made game) but Sprinkhuizen stayed firmly on his feet. He won dummy's $\heartsuit Q$ when North led the $\heartsuit 9$ and immediately played a spade to his ten and North's queen. North cashed the $\diamondsuit A$ but continued a surprise $\clubsuit 10$ to South's ace. When the club continuation brought down the $\clubsuit Q$ under declarer's $\clubsuit K$, declarer had his ten tricks when the hearts behaved. This time, aggression paid off for the Dutch who thus scored +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Van Bijsterveldt	Scata	Coppens
	_	Pass	Pass
1 %	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	$2\Diamond$	Pass
2♡	All Pass		

In the Closed Room, Gazzilli led the Italians to the second-best partscore. Eleven tricks, Italia +200 but 6 more IMPs to the Dutch who suddenly led by 31.

Board 19 was a push but board 20 was so sensational that it appears in a separate extensive story elsewhere in these Bulletins. Italia recouped 15 IMPs on it to revive this match, by the way. In another match, Australia even got 17 IMPs to



revive their chances against Japan as well.

After another flat board, we saw a few typically costly partscore hands.

Board: 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

Dodia. LL. Do	calci Last. L/ VV	vai.
	♠ J 9	
	♥9864	
	♦ A 8 5 4	
	♣ 8 6 4	
♠ K Q 5 3 ♡ A K 10 2 ◇ 7 6 ♣ 9 7 3	W E S	↑ 7 4♡ 7 5◇ K Q J 3♣ K J 10 5 2
	♠ A 10 8 6 2	
	♡ Q J 3	
	♦ 10 9 2	
	♣ A Q	

Open Koom			
West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Percario	M. de León	Sau
_		Pass	1 ♠
Dacc	1NT	ΔII Dacc	

After this entirely normal auction, East led a routine club which immediately put the defence on the right track. Declarer had nowhere to go and finished up down three for +150 to The Netherlands.

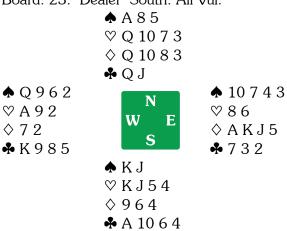
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Van Bijsterve	eldt Scata	Coppens
	_	Pass	1NT
All Pass			



When Coppens launched a weak 1NT with his bad five-card major, the Italians suddenly were in trouble. West led a top heart which cost a trick and then fa tally switched to the \(\blacktriangle \Q., \) giving declarer ample time to establish his hidden suit and get to his required 7 tricks. Another +90 and 6 IMPs to The Netherlands from almost nowhere. The other side of these Dutch aggressive coins was shown on the next board.

Board: 23. Dealer South. All Vul.



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Percario	M. de León	Sau
	_		1♣
Pass	$1 \diamondsuit$	Pass	1 %
Pass	2♣	Pass	$2 \diamondsuit$
Pass	2♡	All Pass	

N/S had the tools to produce a clearly invitational auction at a very safe level. Well done, just made and Italia a fully deserved +110.

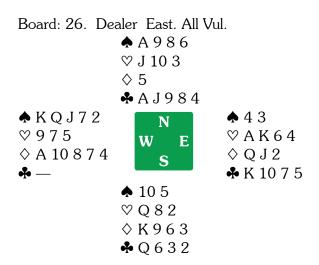
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Van Bijsterveldt	Scata	Coppens
			1♣
Pass	$1 \heartsuit$	Pass	2 %
Pass	3♣	Pass	3◊*
Pass	3♡	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4 %
All Pass			

Opening bid + opening bid = game with almost no way to put the brakes on at any time during the auction. Down two, +200 to Italia and 7 IMPs back to them.



Two more flat boards and then:



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Percario	M. de León	Sau
		1♣	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

With no attractive lead available, Sau hit gold by leading a low club. With partner holding five useful cards in the suit plus a sure entry, one down was inevitable. Italia another +100.

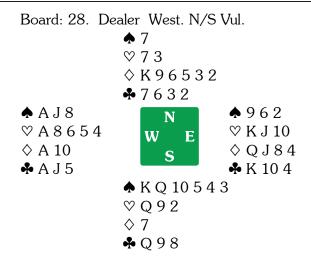
For Australia, Matt Smith found the same lead and thus won 12 IMPs back for his team in their uphill struggle v. Japan.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Van Bijsterveldt	Scata	Coppens
_		1♣	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
$2\diamondsuit$	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Pim Coppens had no attractive lead available either but on his low heart, declarer had an easy road to his contract and a 12-IMP gain. The Italian deficit was a mere 3 IMPs, all of a sudden, so a tense finish looked in sight.

On board 27, Italia were in the better game and won 2 more IMPs to narrow the gap to just the odd IMP but on #28, there were ambushes and boobytraps around...



Open Room			
West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Percario	M. de León	Sau
1♡	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

North led the ♠7 but Sprinkhuizen was not impressed. He won the queen with the ace and continued a heart to the king followed by the ♡J. When this held, he was home even though his next move was a losing diamond finesse. North might have given partner a ruff after winning his king but it would no longer matter. When North, looking for a way to defeat the contract after all, tried a club instead of a diamond for partner to ruff, declarer had two overtricks. The Netherlands +480.

Closed Room	l		
West	North	East	South
Donati	Van Bijsterveldt	Scata	Coppens
1 %	Pass	2NT	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

The proper contract was reached even easier in the other room and here too, North led an innocent enough $\clubsuit 7$. Declarer ducked, only to see South continue spades. The jack was inserted alright but North ruffed and exited in clubs. Declarer won the jack and cashed the \heartsuit AK before taking a diamond finesse. When this lost to the king, the \heartsuit Q was the setting trick. The Netherlands another +50 and 11 IMPs to lead by 12 with four to go.

Board 29 was an overtrick IMP to the Dutch but the next board was yet another example of the effective Dutch aggressive style. You lose a few (as we have seen) but you might gain a lot more.



Board: 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ A 8 3 ♥ 8 2 ♦ J 10 9 5 2 ♣ A Q 7

♠ Q J 9 4 2 ♡ A 10 5 ◊ Q 4

4 10 9 2

 $egin{bmatrix} \mathbf{N} & \mathbf{K} &$

♠ K 10 5♡ 7 6 4◇ K 6 3♣ K J 8 5

↑ 76 ♡ K Q J 9 3 ◇ A 8 7 ↑ 6 4 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sprinkhuizen	Percario	M. de León	Sau
_		Pass	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2♣	2 %
2 ♠	All Pass		

This very much looks like a non-descript routine partscore. Netherlands +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Donati	Van Bijsteri	veldt Scata	Coppens
		Pass	1NT!
All Pass			

...but not when South is confronting you (as West) with a 10-13 1NT opening. Now it's up to you to find a way to $2\spadesuit$ with your nice nine-loser hand.



To make things worse: partner's got a nine-loser hand as well so please, E/W, go ahead...

With the hearts 3-3, declarer had no trouble in scoring four hearts and three aces on the obvious spade lead by West. So The Netherlands got another +90, good for 5 more IMPs to make the final score 73-49 in their favour, more than enough to earn the right to face Australia in the semis.

VIDEO CORNER



Testing Technology https://youtu.be/MQRoc4ZCuc0



Over the first two hurdles https://youtu.be/HjwxSfF8i0s



UNDER 26 TEAMS - SEMI FINALS

	R. 1	R. 2	R. 3	R. 4	TOTAL	
AUSTRALIA NETHERLANDS	23 39	22 53	51 58	23 43	119 193	
NATT SIVV P	10 52	6	23	0	39 132	
SIVY B	52	37	43	0	132	

UNDER 21 TEAMS - SEMI FINALS

	R. 1	R. 2	R. 3	R. 4	TOTAL	
BADOELL MEISTERS DISCIPLE	28 40	50 14	42 36	30 28	150 118	
POLAND	40	49	44	45	178	
THE CANADIANS	37	21	21	38	117	

UNDER 26 WOMEN TEAMS - SEMI FINALS

	R. 1	R. 2	R. 3	R. 4	TOTAL	
SCREWDRIVER SXPEONY	32 18	12 26	11 43	19 27	74 114	
SOFIES WORLD POLAND GIRLS	50 18	26 28	39 27	65 56	180 129	

UNDER 16 TEAMS - SEMI FINALS

	R. 1	R. 2	R. 3	R. 4	TOTAL	
SXSATURN POLAND	33 31	10 40	15 44	46 19	104 134	
r OLAND	51	40	77	17	104	
SXVENUS	18	6	29	33	86	
SXMARS	50	35	44	54	183	

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.





BAM QUALIFICATIONS

	DAIVI QUALITICATIO	143
1	ITALIA U26	102.60
1	GREISNOR	102.60
3	ITALIA U21	102.20
4	ISRAEL	100.60
5	SXNEBULA	98.20
6	CHINA RDFZ HU	96.80
7	AUSTRIA	95.00
8	JAPAN U26	94.00
9	INDIA-A U26	92.80
10	SERBALICIOUS	92.40
11	CHINA RDFZ	90.20
12	SXSTARLORD	89.00
13	SXDAISY	88.40
14	GERMANY	88.20
15	CROATIA	87.00
16	SERBIA U21	86.20
17	JAPAN U21	84.40
18	FRANCE FUNBRIDGE	83.20
19	INDIA-B U26	82.80
	AZS WRATISLAVIA	82.80
21	RDFZ BRIDGE STRAIT	82.00
22	ITALIA U26W	81.60
23	CHILE	81.20
24	EYE OF THE TIGER	80.60
25	DABROWKA PO	80.20
26	SHSLLS1	79.60
27	DABROWKA	78.80
28	CHILE U26W	78.40
29	SXTULIP	78.20
30	MAN EATING COBRAS	77.20
	POLAND KIDS	77.20
32	HONG KONG	73.60
33	ITALIA 2	73.40
34	INDIA U21	73.00
35	RDFZ ZHIHAOLE	72.40
36	SXSPARK	72.20
37	PRISM FALCONS	66.80
38	SERBIA U26W	64.00
39	ZHIHAOLE	61.00
40	INDIA U16	58.60
41	HAPPY BRIDGE	57.00
42	URUGUAY	54.80
43	50 50	50.80
44	CROATIA U16	49.60
45	CS21MSCHOOL	45.40
46	CAPRISUN	43.40
47	CHINA RDFZ HOPE	40.60
48	TIANJIN BRIDGESCHOOL	39.40
49	BELGIUM	0.00
1)	DELOION	0.00