



Daily Bulletin Editor: Brent Manley • Co-Editors: Barry Rigal, Brian Senior
 Journalists: David Bird, Jos Jacobs, Ron Tacchi • Lay-out Editor: Monica Kümmel
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GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS

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Tournament Director Ken Horwedel talks to the reviewer and members of VIKING NATURAL, who asked for a review of a ruling. The captains' meeting began when the issue was settled.

WBF Meetings

The **WBF Seniors Committee** will be meeting on **Tuesday, 25th September** in the President's office Salon 2 at 15:00. All players who are interested are welcome to attend.

The **WBF congress** will be at 09:00 in Salon 4 on **Thursday, 27th September**.



Qualifying play in the Open Teams is complete and 64 squads are ready for the head-to-head matches knowing that the losers go to the sidelines or to other events. Leading the qualifiers in the Open Teams was the Polish squad called **CONNECTOR** (Cezary Serek captain). The team finished with a victory point total of 140.03. In second was the team captained by Jimmy Cayne (Italy-USA). In third was the Polish-Dutch squad led by Jacek Pszczola.

The knockout play in the Open Teams for the Rosenblum Cup is just the proverbial tip of the iceberg, however. Women and Seniors have their own qualifying rounds, already in progress, and qualifying in the Open, Women's and Senior Pairs begins today. Finally, the Youth Triathlon continues today with pairs qualifying. The Youth World Triathlon prize giving is scheduled for Thursday.

Programme Monday 24th

Rosenblum

10:00 - 12:00
 12:20 - 14:20
 15:20 - 17:20
 17:40 - 19:40

McConnell, Rand

10:00 - 11:30
 11:50 - 13:20
 14:00 - 15:30
 15:50 - 17:20
 17:40 - 19:10

Youth Pairs

Open Pairs

10:00 - 12:30
 13:30 - 16:00
 16:20 - 18:50



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BBO SCHEDULE

All five rounds:
Rosenblum KO matches

**The WBF in social media**

We will broadcast a **live show** during the last match of the day, starting at 17.40 (Orlando time). Check your time-zone and don't miss the action! Follow us on the WBF Official Youtube Page.



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www.worldbridge.org

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Also visit the Championship Page:

<http://championships.worldbridge.org/orlandows18>

for Infos, News, Results and Rankings

Rosenblum Round of 64

1	CONNECTOR JJ MAXROD
2	PDC PD TIMES
3	SPECTOR PAVLICEK
4	LEVINE BLACK
5	NICKELL BASEGGIO
6	GUPTA MAHAFFEY
7	FORMIDABLES STRUL
8	DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS PAYEN
9	PSZCZOLA HAFFER
10	ZAWADA MORAN
11	LAVAZZA GILLIS
12	DE BOTTON VENTIN
13	MOSS DE MICHELIS
14	CHAGAS COLDEA
15	MUNICH SPURS DALLEY
16	ERA LILIENSTEIN
17	ROBINSON PREDDY
18	MIXED UP ZHAOHENG
19	SCHWARTZ SPUDS
20	FROGS EMERALD
21	MOSSOP FEIXIANG
22	VICKY POLAND JUNIORS
23	ZIMMERMANN ZHAO
24	FLEISHER CHINA OPEN 2
25	CHINA OPEN ALLFREY
26	CAYNE NEVER CLAIM
27	JUSTER CHINA XHJT
28	MCALLISTER MAYBE
29	DIAMOND ROSE
30	BERTHEAU MITTELMAN
31	TEXAN ACES HATTIE
32	TULIN ODDY

The new Duplimates used for the Duplication during the championships are sold for \$2650 incl. a full five years warranty.

Contact Jannerstens at the bridge stall, or drop a line to: per@jannersten.com

The decks that you play in the championship are sold for \$204 per 240 decks. Pick up at the end (can alternatively be shipped afterwards).

ATTENTION: Bridge Teachers and Players!

There is a new board game – HOOL – specially developed for kids (and adults) to learn Bridge. It is both a face-to-face game as well as an online mobile app (test version).

To experience HOOL, please come to the area near the **PLAYER REGISTRATION DESK** for a demonstration.

amaresh.deshpande@gmail.com

Bridge Development, WBF

McConnell Swiss - R1

BAKER v BARONI

Barry Rigal

The match started well for Baker when both Wests had a 2-3-3-5 19-count and heard one spade to their left, one no-trump to their right. Both doubled, but Sally Brock let the opponents play 3♦, down one, while Bessis/Huberschwiller competed to 3♥, mercifully undoubled but down three.

Baker picked up a further 8 IMPs on the next deal when a 14-17 strong no-trump by Brock allowed Fiona Brown to buy the hand in 4♠x down 300 while Lynn Baker competed to 5♥ over 4♠ and collected 650. That made it 13-0 to Baker; but after that start there was precious little good news to come for the Baker team.

A system forget to the defence to a 2♦ opener saw Brock play 4♥x down 500 against a partscore (where the field might have gotten to 4♠ down one if they weren't careful) then both Norths had to select an opening lead against an unopposed 1♥-1♠-2♥.

Holding

♠ A 6 5
♥ 10
♦ 10 9 7 2
♣ K J 5 3 2

Irene Baroni put the diamond 10 on the table, McCallum the club two, which I must admit would have been my choice. Declarer had the doubleton club ace in hand facing the queen in dummy, and so the club lead cost a trick and an entry. On a diamond lead declarer had no practical chances to succeed when trumps did not break. That made it 14-13 for Baroni.

Brown was in the hot seat on defence on the next deal: put yourself in her position as West

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

	♠ 6 5	
	♥ J 6 5 4 3	
	♦ 8 5	
	♣ A Q 4 2	

West	North	East	South
Brown	Baroni	Brock	Paoluzi
Huberschwiller	McCallum	Bessis	Baker
	INT	Pass	2♦
2♥	Pass	2♠	Dble
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

Both Easts judged well not to compete to 3♠ and both

led a spade. Each declarer ducked the lead, and Anne-Laure Huberschwiller shifted to a diamond. McCallum finessed the queen and the defense reverted to spades, which let McCallum win and ruff a spade to dummy. When Huberschwiller won the heart ace she played a second diamond and now to succeed declarer must arrange to endplay East with the third trump after stripping off diamonds, which McCallum did.



Irene Baroni and Sally Brock

In the other room Brown tried to take her partner off the endplay by shifting to the club eight at trick two and again when in with the heart ace; nice try, but the pesky club six could be established for the ninth winner.

Baroni's lead went up to three on an extra undertrick against a non-vulnerable game, and then came something more substantial.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

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

Both Norths reached hearts when South had a gadget to show long clubs and three hearts plus a really good hand (well, two out of three ain't bad). McCallum received a low spade lead and two rounds of diamonds. She ruffed in

dummy and now needed to play for 3-3 trumps to come home. Maybe a heart to the queen and king for a third diamond would still be awkward. I suppose she can cash all of dummy's winners then lead a third club and survive. When declarer did not play for trumps to break she ended two down.

In the other room Brock led a diamond against 4♥, knowing it to be a 4-3 fit. The winning defense is to continue diamonds; after much thought Brown played to give her partner a spade ruff. She shifted to a low spade and when declarer spurned the gift by playing a second spade herself instead of going after trumps, Brown won and shifted to a low heart. Had Brock ducked the queen she would still maybe have beaten the game; but she couldn't work out who had the heart jack. She won the first trump and now the hand was over. Declarer could draw trump and claim 620. (I wonder if Brock might have argued that looking at a trump honor it would have been easier for Brown to continue diamonds to weaken declarer's combined trump holding?)

Baroni added on a further 5 IMPs when Simonetta Paoluzi balanced after hearing (1♥)-(1♠)-(2♣)-Pass back to her, with:

♠ A 10 7 5

♥ A J 5

♦ Q J 6 5

♣ Q 9

That got her side to a making 2♦ while 2♣ was duly making the other way. An extra vulnerable undertrick on the final deal meant a final score of 37-13 for Baroni.

McConnell

After Round 5

1	POLAND	69.03
2	BARONI	63.20
3	QUINN	62.38
4	BAKER	60.82
5	KODA	59.47
6	APEROL	59.09
7	ALLINA AND MAK	52.24
8	WESTHEIMER	51.61
9	CHINA LADIES	50.48
10	NETHERLANDS WOMEN	50.09
11	BLOOM	48.77
12	JOEL	45.63
13	SMITH	45.43
14	ROSSLEE	44.21
15	AUSTRALIA WOMEN	43.81
16	CHINA XHJT	27.74
17	STRUL	26.00



Bridge kibitzing and reporting the old style

Rosenblum

After Round 10

1	CONNECTOR	140.03	52	VENTIN	99.65
2	CAYNE	135.20	53	DE MICHELIS	98.82
3	PSZCZOLA	134.33	54	FEIXIANG	97.90
4	DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS	131.43	55	ZIMMERMANN	97.50
5	TULIN	127.65	56	JJ MAXROD	95.81
6	ROBINSON	124.07	57	DALLEY	95.44
7	MIXED UP	122.25	58	PAYEN	94.68
8	TEXAN ACES	122.10	59	NEVER CLAIM	94.58
9	MCALLISTER	121.25	60	HATTIE	93.41
10	MOSSOP	120.38	61	CHINA XHJT	93.21
11	CHAGAS	120.15	62	HAFFER	92.47
12	LEVINE	119.45	63	PAVLICEK	92.44
13	NICKELL	119.05	64	SPECTOR	92.37
14	MOSS	117.93	65	NETHERLANDS JUNIORS	92.33
15	VICKY	117.71	66	ORG	92.24
16	JUSTER	117.55	67	GENSCRIPT	91.85
17	ERA	115.72	68	VIKING NATURAL	91.78
18	MAHAFFEY	114.29	69	COACH K	91.34
19	SPUDS	112.49	70	MAROC	91.29
20	SCHWARTZ	112.43	70	PAIVA	91.29
21	LILIENSTEIN	111.42	72	MANDALA	89.34
21	STRUL	111.42	73	COBRA KHAN	89.28
23	GUPTA	111.18	74	JINSHUO	88.98
24	GILLIS	110.61	75	GUADELOUPE	88.49
25	ZHAO	110.21	76	ANNA	87.50
26	PD TIMES	110.13	77	ARGENTINA	86.97
27	FLEISHER	109.27	78	LOVEBRIDGE	86.78
28	PDC	109.26	79	ROSENTHAL	86.54
29	MORAN	108.75	80	DENMARK	85.70
30	MUNICH SPURS	108.56	81	JOHN VEGA	83.86
31	CHINA OPEN 2	108.52	82	GOWER	82.66
32	BERTHEAU	108.39	83	CRE8TIVE	81.76
33	COLDEA	108.05	84	HETZ	80.79
34	LAVAZZA	107.72	85	TEAM CANADA	80.29
35	PREDDY	107.23	86	IW3M	80.27
36	EMERALD	106.80	87	BRIDGE24PL B	76.49
37	ALLFREY	106.32	88	JUAN VALDEZ	75.76
38	FROGS	106.17	89	PODDAR HOUSING	75.31
39	BASEGGIO	106.12	90	MOAZZEM HUSSAIN	73.83
40	ROSE	105.64	91	JAIL	71.30
41	POLAND JUNIORS	105.44	92	SOUTH SWEDEN	69.07
42	MITTELMAN	105.02	93	SKY BRIDGE CLUB	63.11
43	ZAWADA	104.23	94	BULLYS	61.66
44	BLACK	103.34	95	TTCBA	56.35
45	ZHAOHENG	102.47			
46	DIAMOND	101.88			
47	ODDY	101.60			
48	MAYBE	100.93			
49	FORMIDABLES	100.69			
50	CHINA OPEN	100.17			
51	DE BOTTON	100.08			

Rosenblum Swiss - R4

CONNECTOR v MORAN

Jos Jacobs

For Saturday's mid-afternoon round I chose the match at table 2 between a Polish team and a transnational team consisting of players from Ireland and Romania. Both teams had scored more than 15 VPs on average over their first three matches, so I was expecting some good bridge from both sides. The first board thus was a bit disappointing, I felt.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garvey	Gierulski	Carroll	Skrzypczak
Pass	2♣	Dble	Rdbl
2♥	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

In the Open Room, the Polish N/S pair quickly reached a good game contract after North could open 2♣ in Polish Club Precision style. On the lead of the ♦K and another, declarer suddenly had something to worry about: a possible 4-1 trump break. He ruffed in dummy, crossed to the ♣A and ran the ♠8, losing to West's bare ♠Q. When West returned yet another diamond, declarer lost control.



Jerzy Skrzypczak

He ruffed in hand and played a spade to dummy's ♠10 but when West showed out, he had to go two down. MORAN +100.

Gierulski was in good company, however. Eight declarers went down in 4♠ but many more, 27 in all, made 4♠. If you play for trumps to be 3-2, for example, by cashing ♠A and continuing a trump, you will also make the contract as the ♠Q comes down, enabling you to stay in control.

In the other room, spades never entered the scene and even the alternative, better, club game was missed.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Rotaru	Wiankowski	Nistor
Pass	1♣	1♦	Pass
3♣*	Dble	3♦	Dble
Pass	4♣	All Pass	3♥

3♣ good trump fit in a weakish hand.

One overtrick, MORAN +150 and an unlikely 6 IMPs to them.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garvey	Gierulski	Carroll	Skrzypczak
1♠	Pass	1♦	Dble
2♦	All Pass	2♣	Pass

A natural enough auction led to a solid contract for E/W. One overtrick, MORAN +110.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Rotaru	Wiankowski	Nistor
2♣	Pass	INT	Pass
2NT	All Pass	2♦	Pass



John Carroll

The unbalanced INT opening bid by East was not very well timed. West's hand was worth an invitational action but even INT was already too high. Two down when the defenders simply cashed their seven major suit top tricks. MORAN another +200 and 7 more IMPs.

The most interesting board of the set was no doubt #15. The hand already appeared in Sunday morning's Bulletin but it certainly is worth repeating.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ 10 7 2		
	♥ Q 8 7 6 3 2		
	♦ 9		
	♣ K Q 10		
♠ 9 8	<div>N W E S</div>	♠ 4	
♥ J 10 4		♥ A K 9 5	
♦ K Q 10 6 5 4 3		♦ A 8 2	
♣ 5		♣ A 9 8 7 4	
	♠ A K Q J 6 5 3		
	♥ —		
	♦ J 7		
	♣ 1 6 3 2		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garvey	Gierulski	Carroll	Skrzypczak
			4♣
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	5♠	Dble	All Pass

After South's 4♣ opening bid, his double of 5♦ certainly showed a void but the subsequent spade underlead, needed to defeat 5♦, apparently was beyond N/S's imagination. North ran and was doubled himself but the defenders dropped a trick in the play: ♣5 to the ace, ♦A first (not the ♥A to hand declarer his contract, as happened at about 17 tables) and a club ruff just led to one down for only +200 to MORAN.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Rotaru	Wiankowski	Nistor
			3NT
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

A gambling 3NT for all suits made it difficult for N/S to find the correct defence against 5♦. On a spade lead, declarer easily made 12 tricks for +420 and 6 IMPs to CONNECTOR.

MORAN were leading 14-11 when the last two boards of the set arrived. This was the first of them.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Garvey	Gierulski	Carroll	Skrzypczak
			1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

The Polish Club quickly saw the Poles reach 4♥. East led a top spade, West contributed the eight and East's next move was the obvious club shift. When he selected the ♣J at trick 2, West, rather than declarer, was taken in ...he won the king and soon found out that the contract could no longer be defeated. CONNECTOR +420.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Rotaru	Wiankowski	Nistor
			1♣
Pass	1♦	Dble	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

N/S soon found the heart fit (1♦ being a transfer) but when West led a club away from his king, 3NT had no chance whatsoever – this same lead would have made it very easy to beat 4♥ as well. CONNECTOR another +50 and 10 IMPs.

Less enterprising bidding on the last board caused another swing.



Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K J 9 4
♥ 10 8 6 3 2
♦ J 10 8
♣ J

♠ 6 3
♥ J 9
♦ A K 7 3 2
♣ 8 5 4 2

N
W E
S

♠ A 10 2
♥ K 7
♦ 9 5 4
♣ A K 10 6 3

♠ Q 8 7 5
♥ A Q 5 4
♦ Q 6
♣ Q 9 7

West	North	East	South
<i>Garvey</i>	<i>Gierulski</i>	<i>Carroll</i>	<i>Skrzypczak</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	INT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nawrocki</i>	<i>Rotaru</i>	<i>Wiankowski</i>	<i>Nistor</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
INT	All Pass		

When South did not bid INT, West did and played there. North led a heart to South's king and when South returned a low club, establishing his suit, declarer had nine tricks when the diamonds proved 3-3, for another +150 and 7 IMPs to CONNECTOR. The Poles had won 28-14 or 14.54 – 5.46 VPs.

Barry Rigal

What a difference a lead makes. In our third round match both tables bid to 3NT in almost exactly the same fashion. The difference was that in one table North doubled in the pass-out seat “I have six points and my partner opened the bidding; they can’t make game!”. Whether or not Walter the Walrus would approve, South was in the hot seat in both rooms, and had to find the best lead.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ Q 7 3
♥ 10 6 4
♦ A 10 8
♣ 10 4 3 2

♠ 8
♥ K 7 2
♦ J 7 6
♣ A K 8 7 6 5

N
W E
S

♠ K J 4
♥ A Q 9 5
♦ Q 9 5 3 2
♣ 9

♠ A 10 9 6 5 2
♥ J 8 3
♦ K 4
♣ Q J

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♦
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Of course a low diamond beats the game outright – but who would lead a suit partner never raised? When our teammates Craig Gower and Alon Apteker sat E/W the opening lead was a low heart from South. Declarer ran this to his jack and unblocked clubs, then led a heart up and ended with ten tricks.

In the other room Glenn Milgrim started with the heart ace, to have a look at dummy, then he continued with the queen – a Merrimac Coup to dislodge the heart king from dummy. Declarer could have cashed out seven tricks by overtaking her clubs when the suit did not behave. But when she didn't, she ended up -800; a cool 16 IMPs to the good guys.



Glenn Milgrim

Rosenblum Swiss - R5

STRUL v ERA

Brian Senior

The final match of day one, Round 5, featured a match between the USA/Egypt team STRUL, and the Spanish/Russian/Lithuanian squad ERA. There were only two major swings, both in the same direction, the first being:

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

		♠ 9 8 5 4			♠ A K 10 6
		♥ Q 4 3			♥ 2
		♦ Q 4 2			♦ K 10 9 5
		♣ 10 9 3			♣ K J 8 4
♠ Q 7 3	<div style="background-color: #4f81bd; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>			♠ J 2	
♥ K 7				♥ A J 10 9 8 6 5	
♦ A J 3				♦ 8 7 6	
♣ A Q 6 5 2				♣ 7	

West	North	East	South
Wasik	Kamil	Knap	Coren
	Pass	1♦	3♥
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Sadek	Gromov	El Ahmady	Dubinina
	Pass	1♦	2♥
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

For STRUL, Richard Coren overcalled 3♥ with the South cards, not being put off at all by the adverse vulnerability, and that put Arturo Wasik under serious pressure. Wasik took the mildly cautious decision to bid 3NT rather than choose a more flexible but less secure option, and 3NT ended the auction. Mike Kamil led a heart, of course, and Coren put in the eight. Wasik won the king and cashed the clubs, then the spades, and finally the diamonds, claiming all 13 tricks for +520.

At the other table, Alexander Dubinin, for ERA, overcalled a level lower and found that it didn't do the job. Two Hearts left room for Tarek Sadek to introduce his clubs at a comfortable level and Walid El Ahmady bid 3♥ then showed his club support with a jump to game and Sadek knew his partner's style well enough to expect his actual hand-type (some would have bid only 4♣ over 3NT to leave more room to exchange cuebids) so raised himself to slam. The lead was a heart but declarer had the rest for an easy +920 and 9 IMPs to STRUL.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

		♠ K 6 5 4			♠ 10 7 3
		♥ A K 8			♥ 10 9 5
		♦ J 10 8 6 5			♦ —
		♣ 5			♣ A K Q 9 8 3 2
♠ A Q 9 8 2	<div style="background-color: #4f81bd; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>			♠ J	
♥ Q				♥ J 7 6 4 3 2	
♦ Q 7 4 3				♦ A K 9 2	
♣ J 7 4				♣ 10 6	

West	North	East	South
Wasik	Kamil	Knap	Coren
Pass	1♦	3♣	3♥
3♠	4♥	4♠	5♥
Pass	Pass	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Sadek	Gromov	El Ahmady	Dubinina
Pass	1♦	2♣	2♥
2♠	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Well, is that East hand a simple overcall or a weak jump when vulnerable?

Andrzej Knap, for ERA, chose the bigger bid, but Coren was not prepared to be shut out when holding primary diamond support and a six-card suit of his own. He bid 3♥ over 3♣ and now Wasik introduced the spades, buoyed by his club fit. Kamil and Knap each raised their partner's major then Coren and Knap in turn were both willing to take the push to the five level, before the music finally stopped with Kamil doubling 5♠.


Kamil led the ace then king of hearts, Wasik ruffed the second heart and crossed to a top club to take the spade finesse. The play record shows Kamil winning and returning a spade, after which declarer would have made +850. We think Kamil ducked the trump and Wasik then cashed ♠A, perhaps? Wasik then took a diamond ruff with dummy's last trump then played clubs from the top. Kamil waited to ruff the third club, leaving dummy dead, and eventually Wasik was forced to lead away from the ♦Q to concede three tricks in that suit so was down four for -1100.

El Ahmady contented himself with a simple overcall of 2♣ and Dubinin too introduced his heart suit. When Sadek bid the spades and Andrei Gromov supported hearts,

El Ahmady went quietly with the East hand. El Ahmady passed again when Dubinin's 4♥ came round to him so the Egyptian E/W were defending 4♥ when they could have made 5♣ their way.

Sadek led a club and El Ahmady won and continued with a second round, ruffed. Dubinin cashed the ace and king of hearts then led a diamond up. Had El Ahmady discarded, the contract would have been made in comfort, so he did the right thing when he ruffed. He returned the three of spades to Sadek's ace and now it simply required that Sadek get out with his remaining club to leave declarer to lose a diamond at the end for one down. In practice, Sadek returned the queen of spades so the diamond loser went away on the ♠K and Dubinin had 10 tricks for +620. Despite having made a game, which should have been defeated, Dubinin found that his side had lost 10 IMPs. One down in 4♥ would have meant an extra 5 IMPs.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wasik	Kamil	Knap	Coren
Pass	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Sadek	Gromov	El Ahmady	Dubinin
Pass	1♠	Dble	Pass
3♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass

Gromov opened the North hand so El Ahmady doubled and, seeing a jump response of 3♦ from his partner, simply made the practical bid of a jump to the small slam. He ruffed the club lead, drew trumps and knocked out the ace of hearts; 12 tricks for +920.

Kamil did not open the North hand so Knap got to open 1♥ as East and Wasik responded with a 2♣ Drury bid, showing a good heart raise. Knap showed the club void and that discouraged Wasik, who had the wasted ♣A so signed off in 4♥. Knap, however, had a huge hand and jumped to 6♥, which made in comfort after a trump lead, the ♥A once again being the only loser; +980 and 2 IMPs to ERA.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Wasik	Kamil	Knap	Coren
All Pass		Pass	2♠

West	North	East	South
Sadek	Gromov	El Ahmady	Dubinin
Pass	2NT	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

I don't know why Gromov bid over the weak two bid but it got his side a level higher than looks comfortable. Sadek led the jack of diamonds and Dubinin played low from dummy, normally enough. El Ahmady won the king and continued with his remaining diamond, Dubinin winning in dummy to lead a spade to the queen and ace. Sadek gave his partner a diamond ruff and El Ahmady wasted no time in cashing the ace of hearts to ensure the defeat of the contract. He continued with a second heart but Dubinin won that with the king and took a heart pitch on the king of clubs. There was the ♠K to come for the defence so the contract was down one for -100.

Kamil did not bid over his partner's weak two so Coren was left to play a level lower on the same lead of the jack of diamonds. Knap too won the king when declarer played low from dummy but he did not make the immediate diamond return, instead switching to a low heart. Unaware of the possible diamond ruff, Coren played low on the heart to guard against losing three quick tricks in the suit. Wasik won the ♥9 and returned the queen to Knap's ace. Only now did Knap switch back to diamonds. Coren could still have made his contract by taking a diamond discard on the clubs but he didn't realise the danger and playing two rounds of clubs unnecessarily could have set up a trump promotion on a different layout, so he just won the diamond on table and played a spade up. When Wasik won the ace of spades he gave Knap a diamond ruff, the ♠K was the setting trick. The key, of course, was getting the second heart trick early, as declarer would have known to play for the ace onside had he already conceded the diamond ruff.

So an interesting flat board in what had mostly been a quiet match. STRUL ran out winners by 19-4 IMPs, converting to a nice 14.80-5.20 VP win.

Rosenblum Swiss - R6

CONNECTOR v CAYNE

David Bird

Spoiler alert: this match contained the worst set of boards ever assembled for a ten-board match. At the table where Marc Smith and I were commentating, there were nine part-scores and one game contract that went two down. Duty calls and I will have to (somehow) pick out four boards for this report. I will not be in the least offended if you decline to read the outcome.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Gierulski	Lauria	Skrzypczak
	1♠	Pass	INT
Dble	Pass	2♥	All Pass

Versace thought for a while about bidding again. The situation was not the same as when partner pulls a double of an opening INT, and is therefore known to be weak. I liked his eventual pass, though. He had two opponents bidding against him and partner could easily be very weak.

Lauria won the spade lead and cashed dummy's other top spade. He then crossed to the ♦A, ruffed a spade and cashed the ♣A. When the ♦K was played North ruffed. He could have taken the contract two down by playing the ♣K and delivering a club ruff. When he preferred to lead the ♥10, the defenders took three trump tricks and the ♣K for one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Barron	Wiankowski	Sontag
	1♠	Pass	INT
Dble	Pass	2♥	3♦
Dble	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The ♦10 went to North's ♦J and Wiankowski allowed this to win. A spade return to dummy's king was followed by a diamond to the ace. A club finesse lost to the king, and North cleared the spades. Declarer had to take four clubs and a diamond, leaving him as he had started – one down, for a push board.

Board 2. Dealer East. N-S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Gierulski	Lauria	Skrzypczak
		INT	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Versace's 3♥ was a re-transfer to 3♠ and that ended the bidding. No, wait a moment, West has bid 4♠. Well, it looks ambitious to me. There was every chance that the ♠Q might not pull much weight. Ten tricks would require perfect cards opposite, perhaps the ♦A and the ♣AK. As it



Alan Sontag

was, declarer had four top losers and another one to come in clubs. He was two down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Barron	Wiankowski	Sontag
2♥	2♠	INT	2♦
		3♠	All Pass

Nawrocki's 2♥ was a transfer and Barron's 2♠ showed strong support for partner's indicated hearts. Wiankowski took the push the 3♠ and that went one down for 2 IMP to CONNECTOR.

Board 5. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Gierulski	Lauria	Skrzypczak
1♠	1♣	Pass	1♥
3♠	2♥	2♠	3♥
	Pass	Pass	Pass

It was one of the less exciting battles between the major suits. Versace ended in 3♠ and won the ♥10 lead with the ace. The ♠10 was allowed to win and declarer played a diamond to the king. A second diamond went to North's queen and he helped himself to the ♦A too. The ♣J switch went to the king and ace, South continuing with queen and another club. Versace ditched a diamond, North having to follow suit. Dummy's ♣10 won and declarer then drew trumps for one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Barron	Wiankowski	Sontag
1♠	1♣	Pass	1♥
3♠	2♥	2♠	3♥
	4♥	All Pass	

It may seem that North bid too much, but ten tricks might have been there on a favourable lie. The ♠10 won the first trick and a finesse of the ♦Q lost the next one. East's ♣3 switch ran to declarer's 9, but that was still one down when there were two trump losers.

It was a big swing in the context of this match. A full 4 IMP to CONNECTOR.

Board 6. Dealer East. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Versace	Gierulski	Lauria	Skrzypczak
1♣	1♦	Pass	Pass
Pass	3♦	Pass	1♠
		All Pass	

I have seen players bid 1♠ on a 4-card suit opposite an overcall. Usually such a response would be backed by a 5-card suit, and it seemed that Gierulski had a tricky rebid. He chose to jump in diamonds (fair enough) and this ended the auction.

Remarkably, the contract can be beaten by a spade lead. Say that declarer wins with the ace and plays the ace, king and jack of trumps. West wins with the ♦Q. He can cash one club but must then switch back to spades, won in the dummy. Declarer has no entry to his hand to draw the last trump. He can try a heart but West wins with the ace and underleads to partner's ♣Q, receiving a well-earned spade ruff.

Back in the real world, East led a club, West scoring two tricks there and continuing with the ♥2. Declarer won with the singleton ♥K and that was +130.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Barron	Wiankowski	Sontag
1♣	1♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	Rdbl	Dble	1♠
Pass	3♦	2♥	Pass
		All Pass	

East led a heart and declarer could then score +110 for a 1-IMP loss. CONNECTOR beat CAYNE by 20 IMP to 0 (15.97 VPs to 4.03).

If you found this report less than an enthralling read, you will get no sympathy from the 1600+ BBO kibitzers. Remember that I have shown you the most er... interesting four of the ten that were provided. We had to watch them all!

MIXED UP v TULIN

As the remnants of hurricane Florence saturate the previously parched garden outside my office I await the battle between tenth placed MIXED UP and TULIN, resting in position twelve. The MIXED UP line-up is three partnerships from USA, Canada and Scotland, whilst the TULIN ensemble hails from four different countries: USA, England, Israel and The Netherlands.

MIXED UP start the second day having won their first four matches, including one against the number one seed. They narrowly lost the final match of yesterday by two IMPS against PSZCZOLA. TULIN started their campaign with two one IMP losses and then rose up the leader board with three victories averaging over 15 VPs each.

We were hoping for some exciting boards. MIXED UP gained three IMPS for undertricks on Board 1.

♠ A 9
♥ K 5 3
♦ A 7 3 2
♣ | 9 4 3

♠ Q 8 7 6 3 2
♥ 6 4
♦ 10
♣ O 8 5 2



♠ K J 10 5
♥ J 9 8
♦ K Q
♣ A 10 7 6

♠ 4
♥ A Q 10 7 2
♦ J 9 8 6 5 4
♣ K



Judith Gartaganis

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tulin</i>	<i>N. Gartaganis</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>J. Gartaganis</i>
		1♣	2NT*
3♣	4♥	Pass	Pass
4♠	5♦	Pass	5♥
Pass	Pass	5♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

2NT 2 lowest suits

When East commenced hostilities with One Club, South had the opportunity to show the two red suits. When West supported clubs and showed a spade suit North was sure of a club shortage in partner's hand and all of his high card points were prime and fully pulling their weight so he was not afraid of the five-level. He was correct, a five-level contract in either red suit is not going to tax the little grey cells too much. East did well to take the sacrifice but he was fated to fail by three tricks and -500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Punch</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Peterkin</i>	<i>Padon</i>
4♠	Dble	INT All Pass	2♥

At this table East had the chance to bid a weak no-trump. What weaponry South had in his arsenal I do not know but as the Two Hearts was not alerted I suspect it was natural. Now North was not aware of the double fit so could only double when West took the advance sacrifice. Being a level lower the contract failed by a trick fewer and so five IMPs to MIXED UP

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tulin</i>	<i>N. Gartaganis</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>J. Gartaganis</i>
Pass	1♦*	1♥	1♣*
All Pass			INT*
1♣ 16+ or 17+ if balanced			
1♦ 0-7			
INT 17-19			

What are your feelings on the One Heart overcall vulnerable when you know the hand on your left is strong? My description is brave. However no sensibilities were harmed in this auction, and South simply showed his strong balanced hand and was allowed to play and cash his seven top tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Punch</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Peterkin</i>	<i>Padon</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♣
All Pass			INT

The same auction as the Open Room but in a different order. This time West felt compelled to enter the auction with a four-card suit – at least this one had the merit of indicating a lead. The same contract was reached for the same score and no swing.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tulin</i>	<i>N. Gartaganis</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>J. Gartaganis</i>
1♠	1♦*	Pass	1♥*
Pass	2♥*	2♠	3♣*
	3♥	All Pass	
1♦	14-16 balanced or singleton/void ♦ or long minor or 55 minors		
2♥	4♥		

South knew that his side had the balance of points and a nine-card fit and trusting the law went to the three-level. Declarer ducked the opening spade lead and she took the continuation with the ace and ruffed dummy's third spade in hand. A losing diamond finesse went to East's king. East simplified declarer's task by switching to a small club and now the contract was relatively peaceful.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Punch</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Peterkin</i>	<i>Padon</i>
1♠	1♣	Pass	1♦
3♠	All Pass	2♠	3♥

The One Diamond response was obviously a heart suit but this time West was not prepared to go quietly and with favourable vulnerability pushed on to the three-level. With five top losers declarer failed by one trick but gained another three IMPs to give MIXED UP a 11-0 lead.

After eight boards we had had three attempts at game, none of which succeeded, hopefully the great shuffler would reward our wading through thirteen part-scores with a resounding finale.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Well it was not to be Board 9.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Tulin</i>	<i>N. Gartaganis</i>	<i>Bakhshi</i>	<i>J. Gartaganis</i>
2♣	Pass	Pass	1♦
All Pass	Dble	Pass	2♥



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Punch</i>	<i>Birman</i>	<i>Peterkin</i>	<i>Padon</i>
	Pass	Pass	1♣
INT	Dble	2♦*	Pass
Pass	Dble*	All Pass	

We watched ten deals each played twice and never a successful game contract – not the world's most riveting set of boards but hopefully in rounds to come there will be more excitement.

Brian Senior

♠ A K Q J 6 5 3
 ♥ —
 ♦ J 7
 ♣ J 6 3 2

Five Diamonds was played at 28 tables and defeated just once. As also pointed out by Jos, take a bow Cadir Lee and Randal Burns of team BULLYS. Lee was one of only five Norths to select a heart lead, the six, against 5♦, and the contract was indeed defeated. Very well done. Alas, their reward for this was to concede 13 IMPs as their teammates let through 5♠ doubled for -850 at the other table.

2. By email from Brian Senior, the editor, and pay by PayPal. The address is bsenior@hotmail.com

Rosenblum Swiss - R7

PD TIMES v SCHWARTZ

Brian Senior

Round 7 in the 10-round Swiss qualifying for the Rosenblum KOs featured a match between a strong Chinese team, PD TIMES, and the multi-national SCHWARTZ, captained by Richie Schwartz (USA).

PD TIMES picked up a small swing on the first deal:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Chen</i>	<i>Danailov</i>	<i>Dong</i>

1♥	2NT	All Pass	1♦
----	-----	----------	----

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Ekenberg</i>

1♥	3NT	All Pass	
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Lidang Dong's 1♦ opening was Precision, while Simon Ekenberg's was natural, and both attracted a 1♥ overcall from West. Ji Chen, for PD TIMES, contented himself with a natural and invitational jump to 2NT with the North cards, while SCHWARTZ's David Gold took a shot at game. Both Easts led the seven of hearts.

Yongge Zhang put in the ten, losing to the jack, and Gold ran the ten of diamonds at trick two, losing to the jack. Zhang returned the king of spades, Gold winning immediately and taking a second diamond finesse, losing to the king. This time Zhang reverted to hearts, so Gold won the ace and led a club to the jack. That was good news but he knew he was in trouble. Gold cashed the diamonds then the ace of clubs and Gang Sun dropped the queen. A spade exit now would have led to down one, but Gold tried a club in the hope of a three-three split and that the defensive spades might be blocked. No, not this time. Sun had two club winners and could then switch to spades to cash two of those and the contract was down two for -100.

The size of the swing would depend on whether Chen could find a way home in 2NT at the other table. He too received a heart lead, Jerry Stamatov putting up the queen.

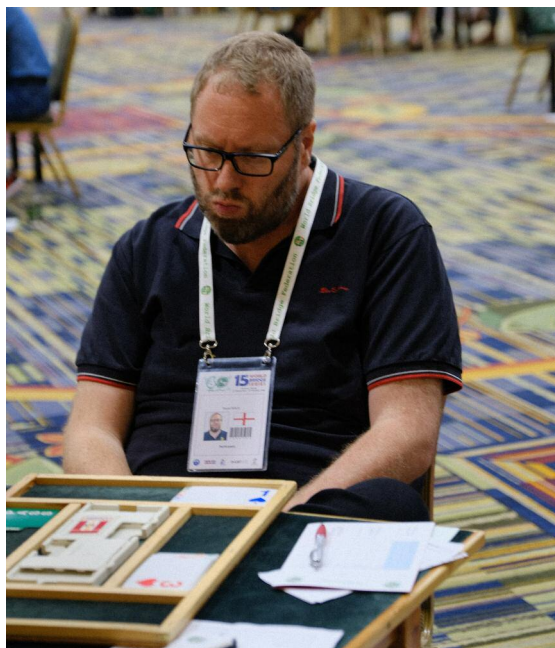
Chen won the ace and ran the ten of diamonds to the jack. Back came a heart so he won and took the second diamond finesse. Now Stamatov switched to spades, Chen ducking the king. Diyan Danailov's four suggested that he held three cards so Stamatov went back to hearts now, clearing the suit. Chen cashed the diamonds then led dummy's ♠10 and, when Stamatov played low, thought a moment then put up the ace and exited with a third spade. Stamatov won that and had two hearts to cash, so the contract was down one for -50 but 2 IMPs to PD TIMES.

The favourable club position meant that 2NT could have been made, but no doubt declarer saw that as very unlikely given the 1♥ overcall.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Chen</i>	<i>Danailov</i>	<i>Dong</i>
Pass	1♠	2♠	4♠
	6♠	All Pass	



David Gold

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Gold	Sun	Ekenberg
	1♠	3♥	4♥
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Neither N/S pair had the slightest difficulty in bidding their cold slam.

Chen opened 1♠ and Danailov overcalled 2♠, hearts and a minor. When Dong raised to 4♠, Chen simply bid Six. The heart lead meant that Chen could get rid of his club loser and claim all 13 tricks for +1010.

In the other room, Gold also opened 1♠ but Sun preferred a weak jump overcall of 3♥ with the East cards. Ekenberg cuebid 4♥ to show a hand too good for a raise to 4♠ and Gold cuebid 5♥. Ekenberg had useful cards everywhere but no minor-suit ace to cuebid so settled for a jump to the small slam. Here the lead was a club so Gold made only 12 tricks for +980 but 1 IMP to PD TIMES.

Three deals later there was another slam for the N/S pairs to bid.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Stamatov	Chen	Danailov	Dong
Pass	1♣	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Gold	Sun	Ekenberg
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Chen opened a strong club, 16+, and 1NT showed 8+ balanced. Spades were quickly agreed and, after an exchange of cuebids, Dong asked for key cards then, on finding that all were present, invited the grand slam by telling his partner this was the case. Chen, however, had too little to spare to be interested and quickly signed off in

the small slam. Danailov led a trump so Chen won, drew trumps and led the jack of diamonds to the queen and ace. The even diamond split meant that the heart loser went away without even needing to test the clubs, and Chen had 13 tricks for +1460.



Ji Chen and Simon Ekenberg in deep thought

Gold opened 1♠ and rebid 2NT over the GF 2♣ response. Ekenberg suggested a minimum game-force with three-card spade support by jumping to game, but Gold had enough to go on with a cuebid and jumped to slam when Ekenberg could respond with a cuebid of his own in the suit about which Gold was worried. Here the lead was the more threatening queen of hearts. Gold won and drew trumps then exited with his heart loser to tighten up the position in case a squeeze might be called for. He ruffed the heart return and led a diamond to the king followed by king of clubs and a club to the queen then cashed the ♣A. The three-three club split meant that he had his twelfth trick for +1430 but 1 IMP to PD TIMES.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Stamatov	Chen	Danailov	Dong
Zhang	Gold	Sun	Ekenberg
	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

There is absolutely nothing interesting about this board except the opening bid. When I started playing weak two

bids there used to be the sequence 2M – 2NT – 3NT to show a solid suit. That is pretty much completely redundant nowadays, certainly when non-vulnerable. Most of us open such filth at the two level these days that we cannot afford to also open a potential six-trick hand 2♥ or 2♠, and sure enough this North hand – 9 HCP and no shortage – was opened at the one level at both tables. Both Souths bid only once with their 11-point hands – just as well, as 2♥ is the limit on the deal. The board was flat at +110.

Board 18 . Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

This deal too is not very exciting for the many experts playing in these championships, but it perhaps offers a small piece of education for some of our less experienced readers around the world.



Diyan Danailov

Both Easts declared 3NT after South had shown the long hearts in the auction, and both Souths also led a heart, dummy's queen winning. An inexperienced player might play a club to the ace without thinking and, with the fall of the queen, would never know that they had misplayed the hand. Both Danailov and Sun took a first-round club finesse into the bare queen, costing themselves an overtrick but by doing so ensuring the contract as the trick was lost to the hand which could not effectively continue the attack in hearts. Imagine just for a moment that North has the guarded queen of clubs. Now declarer's careful play pays a huge dividend as it brings home the contract, while a club to the ace then lose a club to North sees him gain the lead

to push a heart through and down goes the contract. Finessing clubs into the safe hand is a classic example of a safety play.

On winning the ♣Q, Dong cashed a hopeful ♥A while Ekenberg returned a spade, so Sun made 10 tricks, Danailov 11, for a 1 IMP swing to SCHWARTZ.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Stamatov	Chen	Danailov	Dong
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♣
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Zhang	Gold	Sun	Ekenberg
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
All Pass			3♥

Ekenberg/Gold had a simple natural auction to 3♥, against which Sun led the ace of diamonds then switched to a club. Gold won the ♣A, ruffed a club and led a heart to the king, ruffed the remaining small club and led his last heart towards dummy. Sun went up with the ace and that removed any guess in the suit. There was the fourth spade to be lost at the end but Gold had 10 tricks for +170.

Dong opened a strong club – this is an overbid on an unexciting 4-4-1-4 shape, but the alternative of opening 1♦ is hardly ideal either. One Diamond was a negative and 2NT showed a good heart raise. Facing a strong club and with a known heart fit, Chen was always going to drive to game. Here the lead was from the other hand, of course, and Stamatov chose a club to the ten, queen and ace. Play followed the same basic lines as at our first table – club ruff, heart to the queen, club ruff, heart up. Again, East went in with the ace so the only chance of beating the contract was gone (probably Danailov expected declarer to have a five-card suit when there could be no guess). Danailov cashed the ace of diamonds then continued the suit but Dong was ruffing and could draw the outstanding trump then cash three spade tricks to bring his total to 10; +420 and 6 IMPs to PD TIMES, the biggest swing of the match.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Stamatov</i>	<i>Chen</i>	<i>Danailov</i>	<i>Dong</i>
1♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
<i>Zhang</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Ekenberg</i>
1♦	Pass	1♠	INT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
All Pass			

Both Wests opened 1♦. Sun responded with 1♠ and Ekenberg overcalled INT. Gold transferred to hearts and that was that. Zhang led a low diamond, Ekenberg putting up dummy's nine and, when that held the trick, led a heart to his king. Zhang won the ♥A and returned the five of spades, Sun winning the ace and returning the jack to the queen and king. Zhang now switched to diamonds, leading the queen to clarify the honour position, and Sun ruffed then played the ten of spades. That put Ekenberg in a quandary as ruffing would promote an extra trump trick for the defence. He eventually chose to discard a club, and that left Sun on lead. He switched to a club and that went to the ten, king and ace. There was still a trump to be lost so the contract was down one for -100.

In the other room, Danailov had a system bid for the East hand, a 2♥ response to show five spades, four or five hearts, and less than invitational values. Stamatov had an easy 2♠ preference, and the E/W bidding shut the South hand out of the auction completely. Chen led ace and another club, Stamatov winning the king and playing the queen of diamonds from hand. Dong won that and cashed the queen of clubs then played a top diamond, ruffed in dummy. A heart to the queen and ace was followed by a second diamond ruff, then a heart exit to South's king. Dong returned a diamond so Stamatov again ruffed in dummy and led the jack of hearts, ruffed low and over-ruffed. He was left with a spade guess for the overtrick and got it wrong, ruffing his fifth diamond with dummy's jack and being over-ruffed. That left him with eight tricks for +110 and a flat board.

It had been a quiet match with no major swings. At the end of 10 boards, PD TIMES had come out on top by 10-6 IMPs, 11.5-8.5 VPs, leaving both teams well placed in the top 16 of the rankings.

Rand Cup

After Round 5

1	WOLFSON	68.38
2	USARUSSELL	65.39
3	LEWIS	64.57
4	CHILE SENIORS	64.49
5	GRIZZLY KOALAS	61.80
6	VYTAS	61.13
7	MARILL	59.11
8	MARKOWICZ	58.20
9	SIMSON	57.60
10	YBS	56.34
11	MILNER	55.69
12	SILVERMAN	55.28
13	KASLE	55.03
14	TORNAY	52.98
15	CHINA EVERTRUST	51.96
16	HALMAN	49.79
17	CAPPELLI	48.86
18	CANADA SENIORS	48.31
19	GERMAN SENIORS	48.26
20	JAPAN SENIORS	45.30
21	MCCONNELL	44.48
22	NORTHWEST PLUS	44.44
23	PROTO	43.17
24	MASTERMIND	41.03
25	PREMO	38.60
26	EISENSTEIN	38.49
27	REYNOLDS	38.42
28	NO ONE	37.82
29	KAMINSKI	36.86
30	NEW YORK	33.77
31	KRANYAK	32.45

Youth World Triathlon

Final Rankings

1	USA	119.13
2	SX STARLORD	112.12
3	SX JUPITER	105.67
4	SX VENUS	101.07
5	SX SATURN	99.24
6	POLAND	88.81
7	SX MARS	80.94
8	SX MERCURY	69.39
9	SX NEBULA	51.63

Rosenblum Swiss - R6

Don't look back**Brent Manley**

Any true fan of American baseball has heard of the legendary Satchel Paige, known for his skills as a player, his longevity in high-level play and his famous quotes. The best known of them is "Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you."

It's likely the Indian team DHAMPUR SUGAR MILLS had nervous thoughts of being chased after ending play on Saturday ahead by only about a victory point and a half over the Polish squad CONNECTOR, with more challenging competition to come.

On Sunday, in round six of the Open Teams Swiss qualifying, DSM faced the TEXAN ACES, a team of Indian players and two Irishmen – Nicholas Fitzgibbon and Adam Mesbur. When the smoke cleared on the match, DSM was still in first, but they didn't have to look hard at the leader board to find their closest pursuers. The Polish team Connector – 20-0 winners over Team CAYNE – was just .05 VPs behind in second.

In the first match of the day, DSM sent Debabrata Majumder, Sumit Mukherjee, Padamanabhan Sridharan and Sundarram Srinivasan against Fitzgibbon, Mesbur, Gopal Venkatesh and Anil Padhye.

The match started off quietly with a push on the first board. This was the second deal:

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Fitzgibbon	Majumder	Mesbur	Mukherjee
2♠	2NT	INT	2♦*
2♦		3♠	All Pass

2♦ Diamonds and a major

South led a diamond. North took the ♦A and played a heart to South's ace, won the heart with the king and played one more round of the suit. Mesbur ruffed in dummy and played a spade to North's ace. Mesbur eventually dropped the singleton ♣K but he was still one down, losing a club, a diamond, two hearts and the ace of trumps. That was minus 50, a 6-IMP loss because of what happened at the other table.

West	North	East	South
Sridharan	Venkatesh	Srinivasan	Padhye
1♠	2♦	1♣	1♥
5♠	5NT	2♠	5♦
Pass	Pass	Dble	6♦
		Dble	All Pass

Each side had a 10-card trump fit, but E/W were way overboard at the five level. The 5♠ contract was booked for three down, but the South hand does not look like it has a lot of defensive strength. It could have been worse, of course. Venkataraman could not avoid losing a trump trick and another trick to the ♣A. One down meant minus 200.

DSM gave up an IMP on the third board when Majumder in the open room made a 3♠ contract while North-South at the other table made an overtrick in 1NT. The score was 7-0 for DSM. The team added another swing on the next deal.

**Debabrata Majumder**

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Fitzgibbon	Majumder	Mesbur	Mukherjee
1♥	Pass	INT	2♦
2♥	4♣*	Dble	4♦
All Pass			

**Nicholas Fitzgibbon**

Fitzgibbon led the ♥K, switching to the ♣A and another club. Mukherjee played the ♣K, pitching a heart from hand, then pulled trumps in two rounds. He ruffed a heart next, then played a low spade from dummy, inserting the 9 when Mesbur played low. Fitzgibbon won the ♠10 and continued with the queen. All declarer had to do from there was play a spade from dummy. East's ♠K was the final trick for the defense. Declarer lost a heart, two spades and a club for plus 130. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Sridharan	Venkatesh	Srinivasan	Padhye
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

North led a low club. Dummy's ♣9 held the trick and Sridharan took the opportunity to lead a trump to his king. When that held, he played the ♠10. Venkataraman won the ace and played a second club. Padhye ruffed with the ♥J and followed with the top two diamonds. South still had the trump ace to come, but declarer had eight tricks for plus 110 and a 6-IMP swing to his team.

On the following board, TEXAN ACES lost another 4 IMPs after going minus at both tables.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Fitzgibbon	Majumder	Mesbur	Mukherjee
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♥
3♠	All Pass		

Fitzgibbon could not manage nine tricks on this layout

(losing a spade, two diamonds and two clubs). That was minus 50. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Sridharan	Venkatesh	Srinivasan	Padhye
	1♣	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♥	2♠	3♥
3♠	4♥	All Pass	

If North-South were hoping that 4♥ was a profitable save of sorts, they were disappointed to learn that their teammate at the other table had gone down in 3♠. Not a big deal, but the way things were going for the team a push, which North could have achieved by passing 3♠, would have been welcome. Minus 100 meant 4 IMPs to DSM.

After a push on the next board, TEXAN ACES achieved their only swing of the match on this deal:

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Fitzgibbon	Majumder	Mesbur	Mukherjee
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	3♣

Mesbur started with a low diamond to the jack, ace and 2. The ♦3 was next: 10, king, ♥2. Mesbur continued with the ♦9 and Majumder discarded a club from dummy. He threw another club from dummy when Mesbur played the ♦5. Fitzgibbon won the ♦Q, cashed the ♠A and exited with a heart. Declarer declined the chance to finesse, playing the ♥A to concede minus 200. At the other table, South (Srinivasan) opened INT as dealer and played there. A diamond lead likely would have resulted in a push, or close to it, but West started with the ♥7. Declarer eyed dummy briefly before calling for the ace. He was looking good for seven tricks if clubs came in and he was wide open in diamonds. He could not afford to lose the lead. When the clubs split favourably, he was home with seven tricks for plus 90 and a 7-IMP gain.

The only scoring after that was by DSM, who earned a 4-IMP swing on the penultimate board. The final score was 21-7 (14.54 – 5.46 in VPs) for DSM.

That was a good result, but a look at the score board left DSM wishing for more when they saw that CONNECTOR had moved to second, about as close as they could get to the lead.

Cumulative Medal Table for all World Championships

updated after Wujiang, this is the current situation:

Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
USA	91.84	74.97	51.8	218.61
France	20.5	31.67	37.2	89.37
Italy	38.27	18	12.33	68.6
China	14.5	20.67	24.33	59.5
Poland	18.98	23.16	16.25	58.39
Netherlands	15	12.67	24	51.67
England	15.83	17.13	12.94	45.9
Sweden	11.67	6.83	16.57	35.07
Norway	5.67	7	10.25	22.92
Germany	5.58	6	10.15	21.73
Israel	9.19	5.17	5	19.35
Canada	1.25	8.87	8.73	18.85
Denmark	4	2.5	12	18.5
Austria	6.73	6.17	2	14.9
Brazil	4.33	3	6	13.33
Russia	2.33	3.5	6.33	12.17
Indonesia		6	3	9
Bulgaria	1.2	2	5	8.2
Australia		4	4	8
Argentina	0.17	2	4.2	6.37
Monaco	1.3	3	2	6.3
Japan	1.5	2		3.5
Chinese Taipei	1	1.83	0.33	3.17
Iceland	2.67		0.33	3
India			3	3
Turkey	0.17	1	1.17	2.33
New Zealand	1	1		2
Pakistan		2		2
South Africa		2		2
Singapore		1	1	2
Venezuela		1	1	2
Hong Kong			2	2
Scotland	1	0.37	0.58	1.95
Egypt	1.5			1.5
Switzerland	0.83	0.67		1.5
Greece	1		0.25	1.25
Croatia	1			1
Hungary	1			1
Serbia	1			1
Latvia		1		1
Uruguay		0.5	0.5	1
Belgium			1	1
Romania			0.75	0.75
Czech Republic	0.5			0.5
Ireland	0.5			0.5
Belarus		0.17		0.17
Thailand		0.17		0.17
total	283	278	287	848

(47 different countries)

Explanation: Every medal is counted equally (teams, pairs and individual), and medals gained by multi-national participants are divided. Competitions are counted from eight categories: Open, Women, Mixed, Seniors, Juniors, Girls, Youngsters and Kids.

All World Championships since 1950 are counted.