



MONDAY A GOOD DAY FOR MOST TOP TEAMS.

Working people often complain about Mondays. For most of the top teams at the 15th World Bridge Series in Orlando, Monday was just fine.

With one surprise exception, the favored teams did well on the first day of knockout play in the Open Teams. The exception was the team captained by Martin Fleisher, winners of the Bermuda Bowl last year in Lyon, France.

Fleisher and company – Chip Martel, Brad Moss, Joe Grue, Eric Greco and Geoff Hampson – fell behind China Open 2 in the first of four 14-board sets and never caught up. Down 37 with 14 boards to go, Fleisher could not muster a comeback and fell 132-89.

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WBF Meetings

The **WBF Laws Committee** will be meeting on **Tuesday, 25th September** in Salon 13 at 15:00

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**.



There were some anxious moments for the Zimmermann squad as they battled the Zhao team from China. With one set to play, Zimmermann and his superstar squad were behind 118-91. The team rallied, winning 53-17 to take a 144-135 victory. Other top teams took care of business with ease. The Nick Nickell team led from start to finish against Franco Bassegio, winning 128-63. The strong Lavazza squad won 138-56 against Team Gillis (mostly Norwegian). American Jimmy Cayne and company knocked off Never Claim (Ukraine) 142-44, while the team captained by John Diamond defeated a squad led by Rose Meltzer 119-26. Polish partisans no doubt were pleased with the showing of the Polish Juniors team, winners over Team Vicky (Norway) 125-46.



Team Canada, winners of the Inaugural Post Rosenblum (Jeff Smith, Paul Thurston, John Zaluski, Martin Caley)

Programme Tuesday 25th

Rosenblum McConnell, Rand

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

O/W/S Pairs Qualification Youth Pairs

10:00 - 12:30
13:30 - 16:00
16:30 - 19:00



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.



World Bridge Federation



WBF Official



Worldbridgefederation



www.worldbridge.org

#WBF #Bridgeforpeace #WorldBridgeSeries #Bridge

Also visit the Championship Page:

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

for Infos, News, Results and Rankings

BBO SCHEDULE

First Segment:

1. Nickell - Mahaffey
 2. Cayne - Allfrey
 3. Connector - De Botton
 4. Moss - Lavazza
 5. Poland Jrs. - China Open 2
 6. Feixiang - Frogs
- Other Segments to be announced



Rosenblum Seating Rights

Round of 32	1	1	vs	32	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	16	2	vs	31	H	V	H	V
Round of 32	9	3	vs	30	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	8	4	vs	29	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	5	5	vs	28	H	V	H	V
Round of 32	12	6	vs	27	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	13	7	vs	26	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	4	8	vs	25	H	V	H	V
Round of 32	3	9	vs	24	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	14	10	vs	23	H	V	H	V
Round of 32	11	11	vs	22	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	6	12	vs	21	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	7	13	vs	20	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	10	14	vs	19	V	H	V	H
Round of 32	15	15	vs	18	H	V	H	V
Round of 32	2	16	vs	17	V	H	V	H



Mar del Plata 2019
IX South American Bridge Festival
May 24th - June 1st, 2019



Rosenblum

The diagram illustrates a tournament structure for the 2013-2014 season. It begins with 64 participants on the left, organized into four main groups of 16. These groups progress through a series of rounds, indicated by the numbers in the boxes (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15, 16, 23, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64). The final outcome is shown on the right, with the champion being 3 PSZCZOLA (149 points) and the runner-up being 62 HAFFER (149 points). The diagram uses a color-coding system: purple boxes represent the initial rounds and the final, while yellow boxes represent the intermediate rounds. The numbers in the boxes indicate the stage of the tournament and the number of participants remaining.

Participant	Score
1 CONNECTOR	92
64 JJ MAXROD	85
32 DE BOTTON	138
33 VENTIN	97
16 JUSTER	118
49 CHINA XHJT	39
17 ZIMMERMANN	144
48 ZHAO	135
9 MCALLISTER	56
56 MAYBE	96
24 DIAMOND	119
41 ROSE	26
8 TEXAN ACES	131
57 HATTIE	46
25 BERTHEAU	101
40 MITTELMAN	112
5 TULIN	121
60 ODDY	59
28 PDC	78
37 PD TIMES	81
21 SPECTOR	127
44 PAVLICEK	45
12 LEVINE	81
53 BLACK	128
20 GUPTA	112
45 MAHAFFEY	129
13 NICKELL	128
52 BASEGGIO	63
29 FORMIDABLES	82
36 STRUL	88
4 DHAMPUR SUGAR MILI	90
61 PAYEN	77
2 CAYNE	142
63 NEVER CLAIM	44
31 CHINA OPEN	74
34 ALLFREY	117
15 VICKY	46
50 POLAND JUNIORS	125
18 FLEISHER	89
47 CHINA OPEN 2	132
10 MOSSOP	118
55 FEIXIANG	143
23 FROGS	138
42 EMERALD	65
26 SCHWARTZ	185
39 SPUDS	82
7 MIXED UP	59
58 ZHAOHENG	137
6 ROBINSON	119
59 PREDDY	82
27 ERA	96
38 LILIENSTEIN	111
22 MUNICH SPURS	116
43 DALLEY	113
11 CHAGAS	123
54 COLDEA	71
14 MOSS	95
51 DE MICHELIS	86
19 LAVAZZA	138
46 GILLIS	56
30 ZAWADA	105
35 MORAN	73
3 PSZCZOLA	149
62 HAFFER	149

Rand Cup

WOLFSON	1
TORNAY	16
LEWIS	8
MARKOWICZ	9
VYTAS	5
CAPPELLI	12
USARUSSELL	4
CHINA EVERTRUST	13
MILNER	3
Premo	14
MARILL	6
GRIZZLY KOALAS	11
SILVERMAN	7
CHILE SENIORS	10
YBS	2
SIMSON	15

McConnell

POLAND	1	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>
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World Championship Book 2018 – Pre-ordering

The official book of these World Championships in Orlando will be out around April or May next year. It will comprise in excess of 350 full colour large pages as in previous years.

Principal contributors will be John Carruthers, Barry Rigal, Brian Senior and GeO Tislevoll.

The book will include many photographs, a full results service, and comprehensive coverage of the major championship events.

The official retail price will be US\$35 plus postage but you can pre-order while in Orlando at the special price of US\$30-00 post free (surface mail). This can be done in either of two ways:

1. Through Jan Swaan, in the Press Room in Salon 12 of the Grand Ballroom, next door to the WBF main office. Come down the escalator from the hotel and turn left by all the national flags and you should find it.
2. By email from Brian Senior, the editor, and pay by PayPal. The address is bsenior@hotmail.com

McConnell**After Round 10**

1	POLAND	143.70
2	WESTHEIMER	121.78
3	KODA	120.56
4	QUINN	114.61
5	SMITH	112.27
6	APEROL	111.56
7	BARONI	110.30
8	BAKER	109.56
9	ALLINA AND MAK	105.20
10	NETHERLANDS WOMEN	103.73
11	JOEL	99.10
12	CHINA LADIES	98.21
13	BLOOM	97.04
14	ROSSLEE	79.35
15	AUSTRALIA WOMEN	77.09
16	CHINA XHJT	68.17
17	STRUL	47.77

Youth Pairs

1	DAI Hanyang- LIU Yizhou	CHN - CHN 58.21
2	CHEN Yunpeng- RUAN Xinyao	CHN - CHN 57.78
3	DENG Cheng- LIU Haochen	CHN - CHN 56.82
4	HARPER Brandon- SCHWARTZ Jeffrey	USA - USA 55.05
5	WANG Penghao- YAN Tianyao	CHN - CHN 54.87
6	LU Mingyu- XU Hao	CHN - CHN 54.71
7	WANG Jiarui- YU Zhaolun	CHN - CHN 54.69
8	GE Chenyun- LU Yijia	CHN - CHN 54.17
9	SUN Jiateng- XU Jiaming	CHN - CHN 53.81
10	OCYLOK Dominika- KOKOT Joanna	POL - POL 53.33
11	YANG Jiahao- YAO Tianle	CHN - CHN 51.93
12	YANG Fan- YU Wenfei	CHN - CHN 51.58
13	DHIR Arjun- WEINGARTEN Matthew	USA - USA 51.52
14	WANG Yingqi- YUAN Zhijie	CHN - CHN 50.73
15	ZALEWSKA Joanna- CIUNCZYK Hanna	POL - POL 50.09
16	TONG Jiaxin- ZHOU Chuanyao	CHN - CHN 49.09
17	LIU Yihong- ZHANG Xuyang	CHN - CHN 49.05
18	ZAREBA Anna- SUCHODOLSKA Monika	POL - POL 48.04
19	LU Yajie- ZHAO Yuchen	CHN - CHN 46.54
20	FAN Lingwen- WANG Yuming	CHN - CHN 46.49
21	CHEN Yufan- TANG Tengbo	CHN - CHN 43.9
22	JIANG Yixuan- TANG Qing	CHN - CHN 43.33
23	GAO Yi Ran- XU Tong	CHN - CHN 42.26
24	LANG Ningyu- ZHANG Tiancheng	CHN - CHN 41.67
25	FU Yanzhuo- WANG Ruizhe	CHN - CHN 41.43
26	MA Shuoming- YU Fanfei	CHN - CHN 39.71

Rand Cup**After Round 10**

1	WOLFSON	122.66
2	YBS	120.25
3	MILNER	119.19
4	USARUSSELL	117.50
5	LEWIS	115.78
6	MARILL	115.66
7	MARKOWICZ	115.24
8	CHILE SENIORS	114.74
9	VYTAS	113.06
10	GRIZZLY KOALAS	107.52
11	SIMSON	106.27
12	TORNAY	105.66
13	CHINA EVERTRUST	105.39
14	PREMO	104.49
15	CAPPELLI	103.32
16	SILVERMAN	102.63
17	CANADA SENIORS	101.44
18	KRANYAK	99.48
19	PROTO	99.26
20	MCCONNELL	95.58
21	KASLE	94.37
22	MASTERMIND	90.87
23	NEW YORK	90.54
24	JAPAN SENIORS	90.52
25	HALMAN	85.98
26	NO ONE	85.41
27	GERMAN SENIORS	85.15
28	NORTHWEST PLUS	82.48
30	KAMINSKI	72.43
31	REYNOLDS	65.05

Open Pairs after Q3

1	RON Jacob- BRONDUM Freddi	DEN - DEN	61.46	55	MATHIEU Philippe- SOUDAN Luc	GLP - GLP	50.29
2	MULLER Bauke- DE WIJS Simon	NED - NED	61.07	56	SIELICKI Tomasz- NOWAK Kamil	POL - POL	50.05
3	KORBEL Daniel- SHI Sylvia	USA - USA	60.63	57	FEIGENBAUM Ellis- FELDMAN Ron	USA - USA	49.94
4	PARASIAN Robert- ASBI Taufik Gautama	INA - INA	59.09	58	KRANTZ Corey- LANG Bruce	USA - USA	49.79
5	TIJSSSEN Luc- KILJAN Veri	NED - NED	58.14	59	GERIN Dominique- SAPORTA-TWORZ. R.	GLP - FRA	49.61
6	HU Linlin- LIU Yinghao	CHN - CHN	57.79	60	GOTARD Barbara- GOTARD Tomasz	GER - GER	49.56
7	MANDALA Cheryl- INN Yul	USA - USA	57.68	61	FOSTER Jim- HOWARD Bryan	USA - USA	49.42
8	KOISTINEN Kauko- OZDIL Melih	FIN - USA	57.36	62	HANUS Pawel- SIPPOLA Ari	USA - USA	49.37
9	HETZ Clara- ROLL Josef	ISR - ISR	57.15	63	CAMMARATA Michele- PORCIANI Roberto	ITA - ITA	48.78
10	GROETHEIM Glenn- TONDEL Petter	NOR - NOR	57.04	64	PODDAR Dipak- SOLANI Jitendra	IND - IND	48.66
11	SZABO Csaba- HODOSI Peter	HUN - HUN	56.90	65	ZAHR Hanif- HASHIMOTO George	SUI - SUI	48.65
12	MENDES DE LEON Guy- SPRINKH. Gerard	NED - NED	56.49	66	SANBORN Steve- STAUBER Allan	USA - USA	48.55
13	BERTENS Huub- GUPTA Naren	USA - USA	56.16	67	SHI Miao- WANG Dade	CHN - CHN	48.48
14	GRAVERSEN Hans Ch.- CASPERSEN Henrik	DEN - DEN	56.02	68	CAMBOURNAC Guy- DAHAN Stephane	MAR - MAR	48.48
15	HOYLAND Sven Olai- HOYLAND Sam Inge	NOR - NOR	55.72	69	BI Shuang- HE Wenjiang	CHN - CHN	47.85
16	ZHANG Xiaofeng- JIANG Tong	CHN - CHN	55.64	70	HAN Yanong- MOU Wanfeng	USA - USA	47.79
17	SAMANT Keshav S.- AGRAWAL Ramawatar	IND - IND	55.63	71	LEVINGER Asa- HETZ Nathan	ISR - ISR	47.76
18	STOKKA Adam- WRANG David	SWE - SWE	55.37	72	SHAN Sheng- GAN Ling	CHN - CHN	47.71
19	MACGREGOR John- CHAPLET Isabelle	CRC - CRC	55.37	73	VROUSTIS Vassilis- SAKR May	GRE - USA	47.60
20	GOWER Craig- APTEKER Alon	RSA - RSA	55.00	74	VAN DEN BOS Tim- BOUMAN Hans	NED - NED	47.57
21	BERNAL Francisco- HOYOS Carlos	COL - COL	54.82	75	ADLER Brett- GOLDMAN Jeffrey	USA - USA	47.54
22	RAN Jing Rong- SHAO Zi Jian	CHN - CHN	54.61	76	GIARD Olivier- BENOIT Alain	FRA - FRA	47.44
23	HU Junjie- CHEN Yichao	CHN - CHN	54.58	77	VOLDOIRE Jean-Michel- SAPORTA Pierre	FRA - FRA	47.24
24	PIASECKI Janoslaw- BREWIAK Grazyna	POL - POL	54.34	78	TUFFNELL Graeme- CHIBA Mehboob	NZL - NZL	46.73
25	KUANG Yuegang- WANG Yewu	CHN - CHN	54.13	79	SCHIRESON Max- SHANNON Lynn	USA - USA	46.59
26	KRIZEL George- SHEKHTER Albert	USA - USA	54.09	80	ABEDI Nishat- FORTNEY Charles	PAK - USA	46.46
27	CORNELL Michael- BACH Ashley	NZL - NZL	53.94	81	TREIBER Frank- KATZ Robert	USA - USA	46.44
28	KRASNICKI Mariusz- KOZIKOWSKI Andrzej	POL - POL	53.94	82	CARMICHAEL Jenni- HUMPHREYS Greg	USA - USA	46.41
29	TOFFIER Philippe- SERVAIS Laurent	FRA - FRA	53.77	83	SHAH Anal- DHAKRAS Subhash	IND - IND	46.22
30	SILVERSTEIN Aaron- ROSENTHAL Andrew	USA - USA	53.65	84	GANZER Craig- BART Les	USA - USA	46.14
31	CAMBEROS Hector- LUCENA Carlos	ARG - ARG	53.54	85	REYGADAS Miguel- COHEN Alberto	MEX - MEX	46.02
32	RABIE Ahmed- RAMADAN Baher	EGY - EGY	53.50	86	GLASTHAL Louis- MASSIMILLA Michael	USA - USA	45.99
33	GOKHALE Rajendra- RAMI Satya	IND - USA	53.34	87	ZOCHOWSKA Joanna- SCHMIDT Pierre	FRA - FRA	45.95
34	BLANCHARD Robert- BLANCHARD Shane	USA - USA	53.26	88	HAMMOND Nicolas- AGARWAL Suman	USA - USA	45.70
35	WEISSELBERGER Yves- KHANFIR Samir	FRA - FRA	53.17	89	KLEMIC George- LUSKY Donald	USA - USA	45.55
36	CAMPOS Joao-Paulo- TOMMASINI Stefano	BRA - BRA	53.01	90	CAPPELLETTI JR Mike- CARMICHAEL Tom	USA - USA	45.51
37	LI Jianwei- ZHANG Bangxiang	CHN - CHN	52.81	91	FAGERLUND Vesa- CUSHING Justine	FIN - USA	45.34
38	PELLEGRINI Carlos- VON BRUD.. Federico	ARG - COL	52.74	92	RERHAYE Abdelkamal- BERRADA M. S.	MAR - MAR	44.49
39	ANDERSSON Gunnar- SAFSTEN Johan	SWE - SWE	52.67	93	FIGUEIREDO Mauricio- PAIVA Marcos	BRA - BRA	44.02
40	FRUSCOLONI Leonardo- BIANCHI Ettore	ITA - USA	52.45	94	GAVIARD Daniele- DENEVE Eric	FRA - FRA	43.90
41	HU Jiaping- CHU Junjie	CHN - CHN	52.14	95	KONKOLY Csaba- SZIRMAY-KALOS B.	HUN - HUN	43.62
42	CHEN Li-Chung- LEE Walter	USA - USA	52.01	96	KUANG Samuel- RATHI Anant	USA - USA	43.61
43	SIGURJONSSON Julius- TUNCOK Cenk	ISL - USA	51.85	97	PRYOR Malcolm- PRYOR Karen	ENG - ENG	42.89
44	FICK Hennie- APTEKER Noah Thomas	RSA - RSA	51.66	98	REVALE Adolfo- ZIGART Martin	ARG - ARG	42.72
45	HUNG Eugene- WATSON William	USA - USA	51.52	99	TEMBOURET Romain- NATAF Paula	FRA - USA	42.70
46	WEINSTOCK Paul- MIHAI Radu	ISR - ROM	51.46	100	MOLINA Philippe- MAROTTA Luca	FRA - FRA	42.53
47	WINKLER Gabor- DUMBOVICH Miklos	HUN - HUN	51.41	101	KOVACHEV Valentin- KRAL Ronald Peter	BUL - USA	42.42
48	PRODAN Andrei- BARNA Adrian	CAN - CAN	51.40	102	ALLENSPACH Frederick- LEE Janet H	USA - USA	41.32
49	KLEINPLATZ Morrie- FLEISCHMANN J.	CAN - USA	51.38	103	RABICEW Elisabeth- DARYANANI Padma	VEN - VEN	38.92
50	THAKRAL Sandeep- BHAND Vivek	IND - IND	51.30	104	LUPSAN Octavian- LUPSAN Corina	ROM - ROM	38.46
51	BELL Leo- HESSEL Ira	USA - USA	51.13	105	WILSON Kevin- STANFILL Sharon	USA - USA	38.20
52	COHEN Seth- ST CLAIR Bill	USA - USA	50.85	106	DREW Daryl- MCKINNEY Lynn	USA - USA	37.73
53	HEGEDUS Gal- BODIS Gyula	HUN - HUN	50.44	107	BONDAR Serge- BAUM Marshall	USA - USA	36.80
54	PUCHELLE Jean-Francois- MARRO Ch.	FRA - FRA	50.35	108	SELECHNIK Ana- GEORGIPOULOS N.	GUA - USA	36.36



Rosenblum Swiss - R8

ERA v MIXED UP

Jos Jacobs

At the start of this round, these two teams were in 7th and 8th place so qualification was not so much the issue, one would think. Finishing among the top 16 might well be worthwhile though, as this would offer the chance to choose an opponent for the Round of 64.

The first board offered both teams the chance to do well.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
N. Gartaganis	Arlovich	J. Gartaganis	E. Vainikonis
1♠	Pass	1♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass	INT	Pass

E/W easily reached game without intervention so South led a club rather than a more normal spade. Declarer won North's jack with her ♣K and immediately led a low spade, inserting dummy's ten when South played low. From this point, she could even afford to misguess the diamonds and still make her contract. MIXED UP +400.



Alexander Dubinin



Andrey Gromov

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	J. Sprung	Gromov	D. Sprung
INT	Pass	1♣	1♠
	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Once South overcalled 1♠, E/W were no longer aiming at a no-play 4♠ contract, as happened at quite a number of tables. On the actual auction, it would need an undisciplined (or inspired?) North to lead a heart and set the contract. Not at this table: North led her spade and declarer made an overtrick when he guessed the diamonds correctly. ERA +430 and 1 IMP to them.

On the next board, both N/S pairs got their chance but they both rejected it.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

At both tables in this match, West opened INT in 3rd position and played there. The board was thus a push. In only a few other matches, N/S were less impressed by the vulnerability. Six pairs reached a spade partial and we even saw one +790 in 4♠ doubled...

On the next board, Vainikonis found a very useful double.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 9 7		
♥ A J 6 2		
♦ J 10 9 5		
♣ Q 8 6		
♠ 5 3		♠ K Q 8 6 4
♥ Q 10 3		♥ K 7
♦ A K Q 8		♦ 4 3
♣ 10 7 4 3		♣ A K 9 5
	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #4f7942; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
	♠ A J 10 2	
	♥ 9 8 5 4	
	♦ 7 6 2	
	♣ J 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
N. Gartaganis	Arlovich	J. Gartaganis	E. Vainikonis
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Dble
All Pass			

Arlovich led the ♠9, as requested by partner's double, and dummy's ♠K won the trick. A diamond went to declarer's king and a club was ducked to South's jack. Back came the ♥8 which ran to dummy's king.

Against this accurate and deadly defence, declarer was powerless. He could cash his minor-suit winners but he would have to concede the rest to the defenders who, by ducking some tricks, had kept their communications fully intact for a well-deserved +200 to ERA.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dubin	J. Sprung	Gromov	D. Sprung
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
INT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass



JoAnn Sprung

With nothing to guide her, North led the ♦J. Declarer won his ♦K and led a spade up, South taking dummy's king with his ace and returning a diamond. Declarer won and ducked a club to South who persisted with diamonds, thus establishing a winner for partner. A heart went to dummy's king and declarer cashed dummy's ♣AK before playing a heart to his ten and North's jack for one down. ERA -100 but still 3 IMPs to them.

Had declarer cashed dummy's ♠Q and then crossed to his hand with the last club, he might then have exited in diamonds, forcing North to give him a heart trick and his contract. This endplay was quickly made impossible at the other table by virtue of South's well-timed double, making the defence clear from the very first trick.

Two boards later, both teams seemed to have stayed on firm enough ground, but this was not quite true:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ K 9		
♥ Q 10 8 7		
♦ J 9 7 4		
♣ A K 2		
♠ 10 7 5		♠ 6 3 2
♥ 5 4 3		♥ A K J 9 2
♦ A Q 10 8 3		♦ 6 5 2
♣ 7 3		♣ 9 5
	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #4f7942; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
♠ A Q J 8 4		
♥ 6		
♦ K		
♣ Q J 10 8 6 4		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
N. Gartaganis	Arlovich	J. Gartaganis	E. Vainikonis
	1♣	1♥	Dble
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

North's pass over 2♥ denied 3+ spades. With little to guide her, East led a top heart and shifted to...a spade. Curtains. ERA +660.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dubin	J. Sprung	Gromov	D. Sprung
	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
Dble	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

South's 1♥ showed spades. When West could double South's 2♦, the defenders were no longer completely in the dark. East led a diamond to the king and ace. West shifted to a heart after which East took three tricks in the suit before returning a diamond to give partner just one setting trick. ERA another +100 and only 13 IMPs rather than a possible 14. At only three tables, 3NT was defeated by three tricks. Both 5♣ and 3NT (made with overtricks)

were popular scores.

Another defensive problem arose on Board 8:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
N. Gartaganis	Arlovich	J. Gartaganis	E. Vainikonis
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Against this quite normal contract, West led a heart. East won the ace and returned the suit, so declarer had to ruff in hand. Two rounds of trumps came next, ending in dummy, and declarer continued by taking the losing club finesse. Rather than giving partner the ruff (which would be helpful to declarer), West persisted with the ♥K, which declarer had to ruff with his last trump. Looking at one more heart loser as well as a diamond loser, declarer had little option but to continue a top club. But now East could ruff and cash two tricks in the red suits. MIXED UP +100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	J. Sprung	Gromov	D. Sprung
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

At the other table, they also reached 4♠ after North showed her hearts in transfer mode but here, West led a trump, which gave away an important tempo. Dummy's jack won and declarer immediately ran the ♦J to West's ace. West duly returned a heart to East's ace but when East shifted to his singleton club rather than playing on hearts, declarer could win the ace. He could draw two more rounds of trumps and concede a trick to the ♣K, as he still had a trump in hand. MIXED UP +420 and 11 IMPs back to them to eventually lose the match 18-21 or 8.86 – 11.14 VPs.

Hungarian bridge-loving IT experts offer a new technology for tournaments

Can you imagine a real (not online) tournament without plays out of turn, revokes, insufficient bids or mishaps with playing the wrong boards or at the wrong table? Can you imagine that every single call and card is broadcast and archived faultlessly from every table? Can you imagine that there is no unauthorised information between the partners during the entire play?

Lovebridge is the name of the project. Click here or here for the first impressions.

You can try the play with this novel method in the **grand ballroom salon, No.5 and No.6** (right beside the venue of the Rosenblum finals). We will be grateful for any feedback; your opinion will influence the development of the game.

Be aware, the future is almost here.

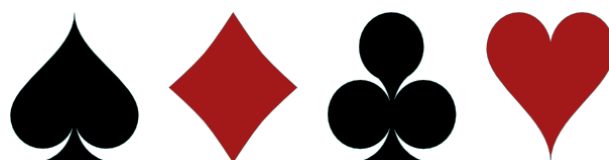
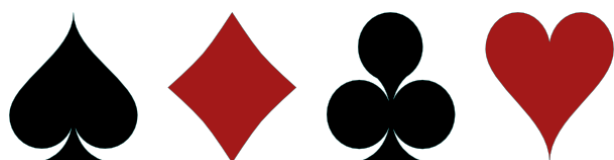


ATTENTION: Bridge Teachers and Players!

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



Rosenblum Round of 64 - S1

LAVAZZA v GILLIS

David Bird

In yesterday's match, I had to watch a barrage of 10 part-scores, not that I am one to complain. Today Marc Smith and I, commentating on BBO, enjoyed a splendid set of boards. Any bulletin writer, however moderate, should be able to compile a worthwhile report with such great material available. We will see.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

OPEN ROOM

West	North	East	South
Bakke	Bocchi	Grude	Sementa
4♥	All Pass	2♠	Pass

Bocchi cashed his three black-suit tricks with indecent speed. He soon added a trump trick and that was one down.

CLOSED ROOM

West	North	East	South
Madala	Brekka	Bianchedi	Saur
1♥	2♣	Pass	Pass
4♥	5♣	Dble	4♣
		Dble	All Pass

What would happen? Two rounds of diamonds and a diamond ruff, moving swiftly to the next board? Very strangely, it didn't go quite like that. East's opening salvo was the ♦A. Why? Surely it is standard to lead 'king for count' at the five-level or higher, even if you don't play it at lower levels? West produced the ♦7, and Brekka false-carded the ♦10. From East's point of view, the missing cards were the 8 and 4. Could his partner possibly have played the 7 from 874, whatever message he had been asked to give?

Be that as it may, Bianchedi switched to a spade at trick two. The contract can now be made by drawing trumps. Brekka played the ♣A, but then surprised us by playing a diamond. Bianchedi won, seeing his partner show out. He gave West a diamond ruff and that was one down. GILLIS lost 6 IMP instead of winning 12 for being allowed to make the doubled game.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

OPEN ROOM

West	North	East	South
Bakke	Bocchi	Grude	Sementa
Pass	INT	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	2NT
All Pass			3NT

Sementa did not need to open INT because he was playing the Gazzilli convention. His 2♣ showed either clubs or 16+ points. Bocchi's 2♦ indicated 8+ and the auction was then game-forcing opposite the 16+ type. Should Bocchi have bid 3NT next, rather than 3♣? A diamond lead makes 3NT quite tricky to play and 3♣ might have guided East towards leading a diamond.

Grude led a club anyway, declarer winning with the ♣J. He continued with a club to the 9, the ♣K and the ♥Q. When West won with the ♥A and switched to the ♦3, Bocchi rose with the ♦K and had nine tricks. It was a potentially useful +600.

CLOSED ROOM

West	North	East	South
Madala	Brekka	Bianchedi	Saur
Pass	2♣	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2♠

Here South did open INT and the contract was played the other way round. Madala led the ♥4 to the 8 and queen. The favourable heart position gives declarer a chance at double-dummy. Saur led the ♣7 to the 10, jack and queen. The ♥J return was covered by the ♥K, which was allowed to win. Saur cashed the ♣9 and ♣K, continuing with a diamond to the jack and queen. When the ♠10 was returned, the jack lost to the queen and the contract went two down. Lavazza gained 13 IMP.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

OPEN ROOM

West	North	East	South
Bakke	Bocchi	Grude	Sementa
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	4NT	All Pass

Grude's 4NT was surely intended as Blackwood, with diamonds agreed. It was a strange bidding misunderstanding to have. (Editor: maybe if the pair play Redwood, 4♠ might have been keycard, 4NT quantitative?) East might instead have bid 4♣, intending to continue with 4♠. Maybe it was the lack of a club control-bid that induced West to pass 4NT? Worse was to come, because declarer still had to make 4NT.

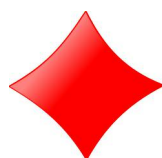
Sementa found the best lead of the ♠10, won with the ace. Diamonds offered the better chance of dropping a missing queen, so declarer played two top diamonds. When the queen did not fall, he fell back on the club finesse. He was three down, losing 150.

I imagined what Victor Mollo's Oscar the Owl might have said. 'Strange deal. 6NT makes when South chooses a safe diamond lead. 4NT goes three down!'

CLOSED ROOM

West	North	East	South
Madala	Brekka	Bianchedi	Saur
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♦	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♦	All Pass

Bianchedi drew trumps with a finesse of the jack and gave up a club trick for +920. It was 14 IMP to LAVAZZA.



This was the last big swing:

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

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

OPEN ROOM

West	North	East	South
Bakke	Bocchi	Grude	Sementa
	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	1♥	Pass	2♦
Dble	Pass	2♠	All Pass

Grude did not have quite enough to bid 1♠ over 1♥. Bakke doubled again to show his strength and quite rightly said no more over 2♠. Ten tricks were made, but we will discuss the play in the context of the auction at the other table, where the stakes were higher.

CLOSED ROOM

West	North	East	South
Madala	Brekka	Bianchedi	Saur
	Pass	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Dble	Pass	2♠	3♦
Pass	3♥	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Madala could not double on the first round, since this would have been conventional. He doubled on the next round and judged to pass over South's 3♦. Brekka competed to 3♥ on his six-card suit and Bianchedi was encouraged to make one more bid. Now, it was perfectly obvious that Madala would restrain himself no more. He raised to 4♠.

Saur led the ♦K, Brekka overtaking and returning the ♦2. South won and led a third round, declarer overruffing the ♠4 with the ♠5. The ♥K and ♣Q were both onside, as indicated by the 1NT opening, but would declarer be able to pick up both the missing honors?

Yes, he could. The ♥J was covered by the king and ace. Declarer drew trumps in two rounds and played queen and another heart, ruffed in the dummy. 'Nine of clubs, please, partner.' The nine was run and declarer remained in dummy to lead towards the ♣K. If instead, South had won the first club with the ♣A, he would have been endplayed, forced to lead from the ♣Q or give a ruff-and-discard.

It was a splendid +620 and 10 more IMP added to the Lavazza total. They had won this first set by 67 IMP to 7.

McConnell Swiss - R6

WESTHEIMER v ALLINA AND MAK

Barry Rigal

We were halfway through the women's event, with eight teams to qualify for the KO stages, and I watched two of the squads on the bubble, in seventh and eighth places. WESTHEIMER and 'ALLINA AND MAK' were in need of VPs to solidify their position, but on a very quiet match (which we seem to be saying a lot!) very few IMPs were exchanged.

WESTHEIMER picked up two undertrick IMPs on the first deal, playing a level higher but in an eight-card fit that broke rather than one that did not.

Then what looked like a straightforward deal in their match caused problems elsewhere.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ovelius	Howard	S.Rimstedt	Shimamura
2♣	Pass	INT	Pass
4♥	All Pass	2♥	Pass

West	North	East	South
Sato	Zmuda	Nishida	Dufurat
1♥	Pass	1♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass	2♥	Pass

Both tables played 4♥, Sandra Rimstedt on a club lead into her tenace. She drew trump and stripped off diamonds then repeated the club finesse. When South discarded, she cashed the rest of the clubs via the second finesse and played a third trump to ensure she could hold her spade losers to two. In the other room Sato received a diamond lead and eliminated diamonds then played the top trumps and ran the club eight. That worked just fine — but at least one of the top women's matches saw declarer lead a club to the queen after drawing trump. And in the Seniors Philippe Marill as West (on Sato's auction) was greeted by the opening lead of the ♣2 from Piotr Bizon of the Markowicz team! Can you blame him for misguessing which finesse to take at this trick?

Both our pairs flattened the next deal in slam with these cards:

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

North had bid or doubled diamonds, so it was safe to assume the ace was onside (though a 7-1 break was a possibility and disposing of the fourth club might have proved awkward on another day). North was 3-1-6-3 today so you could ruff out spades or ruff a club with impunity.

In the Seniors match I was looking at, Philippe Cronier brought home the slightly dicier contract of 6NT! Yes, a spade lead would have put paid to that; even a diamond to the ace and a spade shift...after two rounds of diamonds South gets caught in a criss-cross squeeze and MARRILL emerged with a well-deserved 13 IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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



Sandra Rimstedt

West	North	East	South
Ovelius	Howard	S.Rimstedt	Shimamura
2♦*	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass	2NT	Pass

2♦ balanced inv., or both minors GF
2♠ balanced

West	North	East	South
Sato	Zmuda	Nishida	Dufrat
INT	All Pass	1♦	Pass



Emma Ovelius

Sato took a sensible if pessimistic route facing a likely weak no-trump, Ovelius a sensible if optimistic route facing a hand that hadn't opened a 10-13 no-trump.

Against Sato the low spade lead meant declarer had ten tricks, against Rimstedt the heart lead saw declarer forced to play for the club break by setting up a heart winner and hoping clubs were 3-2. She too ended up with ten tricks after a slight defensive error and that made the lead 8-0.

What would you lead against the unopposed auction 1♠-INT-2♥-2♠-Pass with:

♠ Q 7 5 4
♥ 9 5 3
♦ A 6 2
♣ A 10 2

Shimamura hit on the low trump lead, Dufrat the ♦A, (perhaps leading from the worse suit so that she could shift to a low club if dummy suggested that was necessary). The low trump lead was a killer this time (dummy being 2-1-5-5 with ♠Ax) killing one of the ruffs on the board at once. The ♦A meanwhile saw declarer's king brought back to life, but the net result was only a vulnerable overtrick to Allina and Mak.

Undoubtedly the swing hand of the set was this one:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Ovelius	Howard	S.Rimstedt	Shimamura
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dble
2♦*	Pass	2♥	2♠
3♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Sato	Zmuda	Nishida	Dufrat
Pass	Pass	1♥	Dble
2♠*	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♣	Pass	5♣
All Pass			
2♠	fit		

3♥ doubled played like a dream for the defenders. They cashed the first seven plain tricks via the two defensive ruffs, leaving declarer the last six tricks for -500. In the other room Dufrat was never seriously thinking about slam facing a known weak hand who might have no more than four clubs? Still, +420 meant only 2 IMPs away, and an eventual 11-5 win for Westheimer.

Elsewhere, Rich Oshlag (playing with Paul Munafo) had the weak hand and heard a weak 2♥ to his left, doubled by his partner, 4♥ to his right, and another double from partner. He tried 4NT and when partner bid 5♥ he played 6♣. He ruffed the heart, ruffed a spade and advanced the ♣Q covered all round. He now led ♠Q covered and ruffed, drew a second trump and played diamonds from the top for a stellar +940. At another table Bizon did well again when with the weak hand after hearing his partner show a strong hand with spades: 1♥-Dble-2♦(♥)-Pass-2♥-2♠, he removed to 3♣. Szymanowski rewarded him by jumping to 6♣, and there they were. In the other room, cui culpa? Alain Levy heard a multi 2♦ to his right. With the strong hand he doubled; now 3♥ to his left, passed back to him, and he bid 4♥. When his partner bid 5♣ as opposed to 4NT did this guarantee real clubs? And if so should you raise to six? Abecassis, who held the North cards says yes; we can be sure he wasn't biased by results. But those 11 IMPs represented the margin of victory for MARKOWICZ.

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North American Bridge Championships

Rosenblum Round of 64 - S1

PDC v PD TIMES

Ron Tacchi

PDC, a team of two Dutch pairs and a third pairing of USA/Italy finished in 28th position in the opening Swiss phase. Their opponents PD TIMES are all Chinese and were two places ahead of them.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Li	Verbeek	Fu	Molenaar
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♥	2♠	All Pass

With a 13-15 no-trump available to him East elected to make use of it. After two passes North with his powerhouse protected with Two Hearts and now East felt constrained to mention his spades, which is where the auction finished.

South led the queen of diamonds and, when that held, continued with a small one to North's ace. North changed tack with a small heart, declarer essaying the king, which lost to South's ace. The jack of hearts continued the defence, which North overtook with the queen to lead yet another top heart. Declarer ruffed with the queen and cashed the king and then the ace. He exited with a small trump hoping for a 3-3 break but it was not to be and South was continually thrown in to lead clubs but the contract was one down

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nab	Chen	Drijver	Dong
INT	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
	All Pass		

Two Clubs was no doubt some form of checkback but the contract was the same and the opening lead was the same. However, South did not continue diamonds but slightly surprising switched to a small trump. Declarer let that run to his eight and now had a simple eight tricks and four IMPs.

Board 2 saw both rooms try Four Hearts which was one off when the trump suit was 4-0 on the wrong side.

Boards 3 through 6 saw each side gain two IMPs. I had now reported on 16 deals without a successful game bid; surely things must change for the better.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

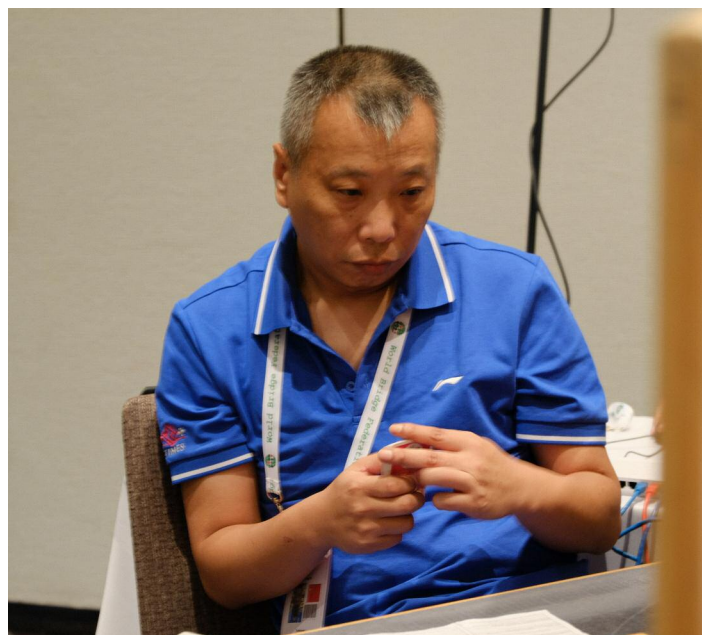
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Li	Verbeek	Fu	Molenaar
Pass	2♣	Pass	INT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2♠

Another case of preferring to open a strong no-trump rather than a five-card major, but it had no effect upon the final contract. Warned by the Stayman sequence that North almost certainly had a four-card heart suit West tried a fourth-best diamond. Dummy's nine eliciting the queen from East, who continued the suit to West's ten and



Jerry Li



dummy's jack. Declarer now set about the club suit and made the natural play of a small one to his king, West dropping the ten. He continued with the nine of clubs, West discarding a heart, which East ducked, had he taken this trick the contract would have failed by at least one trick as West has two diamonds and the ace of hearts to cash. Declarer now made the excellent play of getting off lead with a diamond, whereupon West cashed his two diamond winners. West is now in deep trouble, if he exits with a spade, declarer will have four spade tricks and has plenty of time to set up a heart for the ninth trick, if he plays ace and another heart then when declarer cashes the ace of clubs he will be squeezed in the majors and finally if he exits with a small heart declarer will play back a heart and he is again thrown in. Nice play by declarer.

West	North	East	South
<i>Nab</i>	<i>Chen</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Dong</i>
			1♣
1♥	2♣	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

So at long last I had had a game swing to record. Now we had a hand where slam was makeable. Would our combatants be up to successfully bidding it?

♠ —
♥ K 7 6 3 2
♦ K Q J 4
♣ 9 5 4 2

♠ A K J 10 8 7 6 2
♥ 9
♦ 10 7
♣ 7 3

N
W E
S

♠ Q 5 3
♥ A 10 5 4
♦ A 8 5
♣ A K 8

♠ 9 4
♥ Q J 8
♦ 9 6 3 2
♣ Q J 10 6

West	North	East	South
<i>Li</i>	<i>Verbeek</i>	<i>Fu</i>	<i>Molenaar</i>
Pass	3♠*	Pass	INT
4♠	5♥	Pass	4♣
		All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nab</i>	<i>Chen</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Dong</i>
		Pass	1♣
4♠	Pass*	Pass	Dble
Pass	5♥	All Pass	
Pass forcing			

The last four boards recorded a net gain of one IMP to PD TIMES but PDC had taken the first session by 25-8 IMPs.

Sunday Evening's Reviews – what happened?

Herman De wael – assistant reviewer

After the end of the Swiss phase of the Rosenblum Open teams championship, a Captains' Meeting was scheduled to inform the qualified teams of the regulations for the next phases and to conduct the draw for the rest of the Championships. This meeting had to be postponed for a serious amount of time. The Reviewer wishes to shed some light into the happenings that caused the delay, without of course going into the details of the cases.

When play finished, team Spector found themselves in a qualifying position, but with not much room to spare. And they still had to wait for a ruling. That ruling was quite complicated and the Directors spent some time making it. When they had reached their decision, Spector lost some points but it turned out they were still in the last qualifying position, just 0.04 VP ahead of 65th place. They then noticed that another team, Viking Natural, was hovering around the Director's table. This Norwegian team had finished in 68th position, but had received a ruling from some previous round that they were unhappy with. They had gotten the result of that ruling only just prior to the last round and were therefore still in time to ask for a review.

Since the result of that review, if successful, would make team Spector drop out of qualifying, they too were granted the chance to ask for a review of their case. So two Directors started filling out review forms. By now, the time for the Captains' Meeting had come and word was sent out to the meeting to say that since the final ranking was not yet established, the meeting would have to start later.

It turned out that the Director from the Spector case had finished writing his report first, and so that review was dealt with first. As indicated, the case was complicated and two Directors had spent quite some time in conducting three separate polls, consulting a total of 12 players, in order to arrive at a decision. The reviewer deemed the process to be conducted correctly and the ruling was confirmed.

That left the Viking Natural case to be settled (see also the picture on the front page of yesterday's bulletin). This case hinged around the meaning of a convention. During the bidding, one bid had been explained with just a name (never a good thing to do). The opponent knew that convention and did not ask further. But after the play, it turned out that the Norwegians were playing a different version of the convention than what their opponent had thought it meant.

The Director had polled two sets of players, asking one group how they would play on defence, given the explanation that the player thought he had received, and

that poll confirmed that the defence had been accurate given that explanation. Another group of players had been asked how they would play if they had received a more accurate description of what the convention had shown according to the Norwegian system, and it turned out some players would indeed have defended differently. So the Director had awarded a weighted score.

The Norwegians posted as a defence that all players should know that there are multiple versions of this convention, and that the defender had done too little to protect himself. That argument is a valid one: for example, a player at this level, when receiving an explanation by just the word Blackwood cannot claim that he does not know there is more than one version of that convention. If he then decides to assume that his opponents use the same version that he does, he has not done his duties – he should have asked further. But to what extent did this apply to the convention in this case? It turned out the Director – who did not play the convention himself – had relied on the description given by his colleagues. They too had been unaware of the Norwegian variant and so the ruling was given in favour of the defender. The reviewer agreed with the Norwegians that more players needed to be polled on just that issue, and so the review was granted.

That did not mean that the case was now settled. The Director now needed to conduct an additional poll, asking players if they knew the convention and whether they knew there were multiple versions of it. Luckily there was an eager audience of 64 captains available to conduct that poll. It turned out that many players were unaware of the existence of a possible variance, and so the Directors ruled that the original ruling should stand. After all, the Norwegians should themselves have been aware that they played a variant, and they should not have used a one-word answer.

Meanwhile though, the 16 Captains who were due to choose an opponent for the first round of the knock-out had decided not to wait for the final decision, and chose one of the definitely qualified teams. That meant that the Captains' Meeting, although it started with serious delay, had actually finished by the time the final qualifying list was established. But since the matches other than the first 16 ones would be decided on seeding, not on choice, those present were happy to learn their opponents off the Internet later in the evening.

Rosenblum Round of 64 - S2

ERA v LILIENSTEIN

Brian Senior

The Anglo-American team LILIENSTEIN led team ERA (Russia, Lithuania, Spain) by 21-14 after the first of four 14-board segments of their Round of 64 Rosenblum match.

After both N/S pairs had gone down in the same partscore, LILIENSTEIN added to their lead on the second board of the set.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilienstein	Arlovich	Polowan	Vainikonis
Pass	1♦	1♠	Dble
2♠	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Dubin	Wildavsky	Gromov	Weinstein
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

For LILIENSTEIN, Adam Wildavsky opened with a 3♦ preempt and Howard Weinstein asked for key cards then bid the small slam. None of my partners would do that because, even in second seat, my favourable vulnerability pre-empts can be a bit loose, but the important thing is to know partner's style, and the final contract was a good one. Andrey Gromov led the king of spades, so Wildavsky won the ace, cashed the top diamonds, then took the ace and king of hearts for a spade discard. Gromov ruffed and returned...the eight of clubs!

That of course solved Wildavsky's problem and the contract rolled home for +920. If the switch looks ridiculous, that is because we are all looking at the actual deal. Now suppose that declarer has ♣K10x or ♣K9x. On a spade return he can rattle off the trumps and West is squeezed between clubs and hearts at the end to concede the contract, while the club switch attacks declarer's entries so breaks up the squeeze. And, of course, if declarer

has only ♣KJx, he has only a simple finesse for the contract so no guess.

At the other table, Andrei Arlovich opened at the one level then competed freely with 2NT, showing a weaker hand than had he bid three of a suit directly. Vytautas Vainikonis showed his hearts and Arlovich confirmed the long diamonds. Despite facing a stronger opening bid than at the other table, Vainikonis tried for slam then settled for game. The play started as in the other room, but Michael Polowan returned a spade after winning the ♦Q. Arlovich did not know the spade layout but did know that West had five red cards and East only four, so led the jack of clubs and ran it, losing to the queen and making only 11 tricks for +400 and 11 IMPs to LILIENSTEIN.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilienstein	Arlovich	Polowan	Vainikonis
4♠	Pass	1♦	2♣
	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Dubin	Wildavsky	Gromov	Weinstein
2♥	Pass	1♦	2♣
5♦	3♣	3♦	5♣
	All Pass		

When Vainikonis overcalled 2♣, Jared Lilienstein jumped to 4♠, shutting everyone else out of the auction. The lead was a club, which he ruffed. A spade to the queen was followed by a club ruff back to hand then the ace and king of spades. With trumps drawn it was time to set about the diamonds and Lilienstein started with the ten. Alas, it didn't matter how he attacked the suit, as there was an inescapable loser in the suit and the contract was down one for -50.

At the other table, Alexander Dubinin started the West hand with a 2♥ transfer bid and that left room for Wildavsky to show his club support. Gromov in turn had room to rebid his long diamonds before Weinstein jumped

to 5♣. Dubinin now bid 5♦ and that ended the auction. Weinstein led the king of clubs. Gromov ruffed, came to the queen of spades and took a second club ruff. The ace then king of spades followed, a heart going away and Wildavsky ruffing in with the jack and Gromov over-ruffing. A third club ruff was followed by a fourth spade and Wildavsky this time ruffed with the queen. Gromov pitched a heart loser but still had to lose one heart plus a second trump trick so was down one for a far from dull flat board; -50.

Three rounds of spades allows East to over-ruff the dummy to defeat 5♣.

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilienstein	Arlovich	Polowan	Vainikonis
1♠	1♣	1♦	Dble
All Pass	INT	Pass	3NT

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	Wildavsky	Gromov	Weinstein
1♠	Pass	Pass	1♥
3♥	2♠	Dble	3♣
Pass	Pass	4♠	Pass
	Dble	All Pass	

Vainikonis transferred to hearts over the overcall and, when Arlovich rebid INT freely, raised him to game. Polowan led his singleton heart, Lilienstein winning the ace and switching to the ten of diamonds. That went to the queen, king and ace, and all Arlovich needed to do was to knock out the ace of clubs to have nine tricks; +600.

Wildavsky did not open the North hand so Weinstein got to open in third seat. When Dubinin overcalled 1♠, Wildavsky cuebid to show a constructive heart raise and Gromov doubled to suggest values and something in spades. That left room for Weinstein to make a convenient game try and Dubinin did likewise. While Wildavsky did not accept his partner's game try, Gromov did, but 4♠ got doubled on the way out by Wildavsky to end the auction. Wildavsky led the eight of hearts to the ten and ace and Dubinin took a heart ruff, crossed to the ace of clubs and took a second ruff. Next he gave up a club, Weinstein winning the king and cashing the ♥J then playing the fifth

heart. Dubinin discarded his diamond on this trick but it didn't matter. He had to lose three trump tricks so was down three for -500 but 3 IMPs to ERA.

Declarer could have saved a trick by playing a diamond at trick two. The defence can draw dummy's trumps to prevent ruffs, but only at the expense of their second trump trick. Meanwhile, declarer gets a diamond in return, as long as he guesses right by running the ten, and is down only two.

Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilienstein	Arlovich	Polowan	Vainikonis
1♦	Pass	1♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	1♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
		4♠	All Pass

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	Wildavsky	Gromov	Weinstein
3NT	All Pass	INT	Pass

The Russians had the simplest of auctions to everyone's favourite game contract, against which Weinstein led a low club. That ran to Gromov's ten and he took a losing diamond finesse. Back came a club to the ace followed by the ♣Q, suit preference to show interest in spades. A second diamond finesse provided the ninth trick and the contract was just made for +600.

Something went wrong in the other room. After 1♣ - 1♦ - 1♥ - ?, some pairs play 1♠ as FSF and 2♠ as natural, some play 1♠ as natural and 2♠ as FSF. It looks as though Polowan

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plays 2♠ as natural and Lilienstein plays it as FSF. Arlovich led a club, Vainikonis winning the ace and continuing with a low club to declarer's jack. Lilienstein was doomed now. He ran the queen of spades at trick three, losing to the king, and Vainikonis gave his partner a club ruff. The spade return went to the ten and jack, and there was still a diamond to be lost; down two for -200 and 13 IMPs to ERA.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilienstein	Arlovich	Polowan	Vainikonis
			Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♥	Pass	4♠
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Dubin	Wildavsky	Gromov	Weinstein
			Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

Both N/S pairs reached the fair diamond slam. Wildavsky made a natural and forcing 3♣ rebid and once diamonds were agreed they exchanged cuebids before Weinstein jumped to slam. Arlovich rebid 2NT, but that could not be natural in context of his Polish Club methods so presumably showed something similar to what he actually held, I'm afraid I am not sufficiently familiar with the system to know if it was a good 3♦ bid or showed six-four in the minors. Anyway, the end result was once again that North became declarer 6♦.

Whatever the meaning of the Lithuanian auction, it convinced Polowan to lead the ace of clubs and that was fatal to the defence's chances. After this start Arlovich could win the next trick, draw trumps and take a club ruff in dummy for the twelfth trick; +1370.

In the other room, Gromov made a passive spade lead

and, while Wildavsky fiddled around for a while, he could not escape the necessity of playing for the ♣A to be onside. When it proved not to be, he was down one for -100 and 16 big IMPs to ERA.

That made 32 IMPs to ERA over a run of three deals, but now the momentum shifted back in favour of LILIENSTEIN.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilienstein	Arlovich	Polowan	Vainikonis
1♣	1♥	1♠	Dble
INT	2♥	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

West	North	East	South
Dubin	Wildavsky	Gromov	Weinstein
INT	Pass	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	2NT	All Pass

Dubin opened a weak no trump and Gromov passed. Weinstein's 2♦ showed one major and Wildavsky's response was pass or correct. Now Gromov competed with 2NT and that was that. Wildavsky led the eight of spades to the jack and king. Dubin played the queen of diamonds, which held the trick, and continued with the jack, which Weinstein won. He returned his heart to the eight and a falsecard jack from Wildavsky, who switched back to spades, the queen losing to the ace. Not wishing to release his last spade guard without knowing how the other suits divided, Dubin led his last diamond to the king then cashed the thirteenth diamond, collecting a spade from Weinstein. Dubin threw a heart and Wildavsky the ♥Q. Thinking that Wildavsky must have the clubs, Dubin cashed the ace in case there was a bare honour, then played a heart. He must have felt ill when Weinstein showed out. Wildavsky took his three heart winners then played a club to dummy's king and Weinstein had the ♣Q for trick 13; down one for -50.

Lilienstein opened 1♣ and rebid INT. When Polowan competed with 3♣ over 2♥, he took a stab at 3NT. Arlovich led the queen of hearts round to Lilienstein's king. Declarer played the queen of diamonds and, when that held, continued with the jack to Vainikonis's ace. He went up with the king on the spade return and tried a club to the

ten. That lost to the queen and back came the queen of spades. Lilienstein won the ace and tested each minor in turn and was charmed to find them both splitting evenly so that he had nine tricks for +400 and 10 IMPs to LILIENSTEIN, who needed them at that point in the set.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilienstein	Arlovich	Polowan	Vainikonis
1♠	Pass	1♣	Pass
4♠	All Pass	INT	Pass

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	Wildavsky	Gromov	Weinstein
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Both E/Ws reached 4♠ but from different sides of the table.

Arlovich found the inspired lead of a low diamond to his partner's king and Vainikonis returned the ♦J. Polowan covered with the queen so Arlovich won the ace and cashed the ten. Seeing no hope elsewhere, he continued with a fourth diamond in hope of finding Vainikonis with good enough spades for a trump promotion. In practice, Vainikonis ruffed with the six so Lilienstein over-ruffed and had no difficulty in picking up the spades without loss. A finesse of the ♣Q and a discard on the ♥K meant 10 tricks for +620.

Weinstein too made an attacking lead, the king of diamonds. He continued with the jack and Gromov covered in case he was doing something cunning from AKJ10. Wildavsky won the ♦A and cashed the ten then switched to the nine of clubs. Gromov put in the queen and led a heart to the ace, a spade to his king, and a second spade to the jack and queen – down one for –100 and 12 IMPs to LILIENSTEIN.

OK, declarer knew that diamonds were five-two, but had Weinstein really made this aggressive opening lead, apparently looking for a ruff, when holding queen to three trumps?

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Lilienstein	Arlovich	Polowan	Vainikonis
1♠	3♣	3♠	3NT
All Pass			

West	North	East	South
Dubinin	Wildavsky	Gromov	Weinstein
Pass	2♣	Pass	1♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	2NT

Both Souths became declarer in 3NT but at one table they had seen an uncontested auction while at the other the opposition had bid and supported spades to the three level. Both Wests led a low spade to the ten and king.

At the table where the auction had been uncontested, Weinstein led a club to dummy, a diamond to the nine and jack, and a second club to dummy. Had he now led a low diamond, he would have had nine tricks, but he reasonably enough continued with the queen to the king and ace. Weinstein continued with the nine of clubs to the dummy then the fourth club to his jack. That squeezed Dubinin out of both his low hearts then a spade. The contract can be made now by leading the ♦7 and running it, despite the blockage. Next declarer has to exit with a low heart, and the defence has only three spades to cash so must give the last trick to either dummy's ♦10 or declarer's ♥K. But Weinstein led his diamond to the ten and was one down; –50.

Vainikonis too crossed to dummy with a club at trick two but he led the queen on the first round of diamonds. That was covered by king and ace, after which Vainikonis cashed the clubs and had the same possibility as had Weinstein in the endgame. Would he find the winning play? No, he too played a diamond to the ten and had to concede the rest for –50 and a flat board.

I know it is easy when seeing all four hands, but it felt as though declarer might have read the position correctly and brought home his game. Indeed, of the 15 players who declared 3NT on a low spade lead, 11 managed to find their way home.

LILIENSTEIN won the set by 46-32 IMPs and led by 67-46 at the midpoint in the match.

Rosenblum Round of 64 - S1

The road gets rougher

Brent Manley

At the end of the Swiss qualifying for the knockout phase of the Open Teams, Team CONNECTOR, with players from Poland and Lithuania, were on top, about 5 victory points ahead of second. For the opening match in the KO, CONNECTOR chose the team that had qualified 56th out of 64 teams that made it to the knockouts.

The foursome, calling themselves JJMaxRod, features Americans Jim and Judy Fox plus two players from Argentina: Maximo Crusizio and Rodrigo Garcia Da Rosa.

Connector is composed of Oleg Bestrzynski, Piotr Nawrocki, Piotr Wiankowski and captain Cezary Serek, all of Poland. The rest of the team is Boguslaw Gierulski and Jerzy Skrzypczak, of Lithuania.

Halfway through the 14-board first session, CONNECTOR was leading 15-6, but over the next three boards, JJMaxRod outscored the top qualifiers 31-0 to take the lead. The set ended with JJMaxRod ahead 39-17.

Two boards contributed to the charge by the underdogs. This was the first:

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

		♠ K 7 6 3 2	
		♥ Q 3	
		♦ Q 5 2	
		♣ 8 3 2	
♠ J 8 5	♠ A	<div style="display: inline-block; background-color: #4f81bd; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	
♥ A K 8 7 4	♥ 10 5		
♦ A 6 3	♦ K J 10 8 4		
♣ 9 4	♣ A K J 10 5		
		♠ Q 10 9 4	
		♥ J 9 6 2	
		♦ 9 7	
		♣ Q 7 6	
West	North	East	South
Jim Fox	Gierulski	Judy Fox	Skrzypczak
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Skrzypczak started with the ♠10, taken by Judy perforce with the ace. She cashed the ♣A and ♣K, ruffing the third round as the queen appeared. From there she played the ♦A and a diamond to the 10 and was soon claiming all the tricks for plus 440. At the other table:

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Da Rosa	Wiankowski	Crusizio
1♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Da Rosa started with the ♠2, taken by Wiankowski with

the ace, South unblocking the 10. Apparently attempting to combine his chances in the minor suits, Wiankowski cashed the ♦K, then played a diamond to the ace. When the queen did not fall, he ran the ♣9 to South's queen. The defenders then had four spade tricks to go with the two minor-suit queens for two down and minus 100. That was 11 IMPs to JJMaxRod. Two boards later, there was more bad news for CONNECTOR.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
Jim Fox	Gierulski	Judy Fox	Skrzypczak
DbI*	3♦*	Pass	1NT
All Pass		Pass	3NT

DbI Alerted but not explained, according to the Vugraph operator.
3♦ Invitational transfer to hearts

The deal would have worked out much better had Skrzypczak accepted the transfer (11 tricks are relatively easy). It appears 3NT was meant as a kind of super-accept in hearts that was misunderstood by North.

Jim Fox started with the ♠A, switching at trick two to a low diamond. Skrzypczak won in hand, played a heart to West's 9 and dummy's king, hoping to establish hearts without letting East in. That was not possible, so one down was inevitable for Skrzypczak. It was bad enough that N/S went minus 100 on a deal that should have produced plus 1430. The result at the other table made it worse.

West	North	East	South
Nawrocki	Da Rosa	Wiankowski	Crusizio
4♠	4NT	Pass	1♣
Pass	6♣	Pass	5NT
		All Pass	

Nawrocki led the ♠K, ruffed in dummy, and Crusizio called for a low club at trick two, inserting the 8 when Wiankowski followed with the 6. Crusizio continued with a spade ruff, a diamond to his ace and a third spade ruff, East mistakenly pitching a diamond rather than over-ruffing. A low heart from dummy went to the jack and declarer's Ace. The ♣A and ♣K followed and Crusizio then played diamonds until Wiankowski ruffed with the master trump and exited with a heart to declarer's 10. That was plus 1370 for JJMaxRod and a 16-IMP swing. The CONNECTOR story does have a happy ending for them. They won the match 92-85.