



2nd Online Women's Teams

Online on RealBridge • 3 - 5 January, 2025

Bulletin 2. 4 January, 2025

Editor: Mark Horton ♠

Layout Editor: Francesca Canali

Casting the Runes

In an event with so many teams, it would be invidious to attempt to select a potential winner. However, looking through the lists I picked out a number of teams that might be expected to do well. In no particular order (well alphabetically) they are Alpert, Caledonia, CC United, Gladies Reloaded, Isra Ladies, Istanbul, Miso Cod, Norden, Parker, Polish Ladies, Sunrise, Valkyrie & Viking Girls. That's thirteen, and at least twelve of them are going to be unlucky!

If you are involved in an interesting deal, drop me a line and I'll endeavour to get it into the Bulletin – markhorton007@hotmail.com

Good luck everyone!

Important Links

WBF website

<http://championships.worldbridge.org/2025-wbf-online-womens-teams>

Kibitzers

<https://kibitz.realbridge.online>

it will be deferred by 55 minutes



Team Rosters

ALPERT

Claire ALPERT
Danuta KAZMUCHA
Irene BARONI
Justyna ZMUDA
Katarzyna DUFRAF
Captain: Katarzyna Dufrat

ASJA

Aslihan SEN
Ayse KUTLAY
Ojeni TURUSEL
Zeynep Serap ISIM
Captain: ZEYNEP SERAP ISIM

ATHENS TEAM

Anastasia KOTRONAROU
Angeliki POLITOU
Christina VROCHIDOU
Eirini DINIOZOU
Elena KARATZA
Ifigeneia ZERVA
Marianthi ARSLANOGLOU
Ntina KASIMOPOULOU
Captain: Angeliki Politou

AUSTRALIAN JILLAROOS

Kinga MOSES
Monica GINSBERG
Nazife Margaret BASHAR
Sybil HURWITZ
Captain: Nazife Bashar

AUSTRIA

Astrid KERBL
Hannelore THOMASBERGER
Heike DEIXLER
Judith FERLIC
Julie ZHOU
Louise WEISS SELWAY
Sophie HERMANN
Ursula WANHA
Captain: Ursula Wanha

AVOCADO

Catherine (Runmei) ZHANG
Elisabeth SYLVESTER
Greer TUCKER
Judith TOBIN
Ruth TOBIN
Wei ZHANG
Captain: Liz Sylvester

BELGIAN WOMEN TEAM

Antonella COUTEAUX
Burcu USKUP
Caroline VANDENBOSSCHE
Marie-Francoise STAS
Nicole MARECHAL
Sylvie CAUWELS
Captain: Nicole Marechal

BERMUDA LADIES

Betsy BAILLIE
Elizabeth MCKEE
Gertrude BARKER
Linda POLLETT
Margaret WAY
Rachael Louise GOSLING
Sharon SHANAHAN
Stephanie KYME
Captain: Rachael Gosling

BHARAT

Anuya DEOLE
Madhavi KARMARKAR
Meena LIMAYE
Rekha KHOT
Captain: Rekha Khot

BLACK DIAMONDS

Audrey Jane LENNON
Candice SMITH
Jan ALABASTER
Kinga HAJMASI
Captain: Kinga Hajmasi

BRIDGE BABES

Deana WILSON
Gwyneira BRAHMA
Joann THERIAULT
Lauren TRAVIS
Captain: Lauren Travis

CALEDONIA

Abigail MILNE
Elizabeth (Liz) McGOWAN
Fiona McQUAKER
Jennifer MIDDLETON
Sam PUNCH
Sheila ADAMSON
Captain: Liz McGowan

CASTELLS

Maria Eugenia HERNANDEZ
Maria MANSILLA
Marina CASTELLS
Montserrat MESTRES
Olga PAVLUSHKO
Captain: Olga Pavlushko

CC UNITED

Ivy ZHANG
Lucy Yong Luo HE
Min LI
Wenmin CHEN
Xiaoxue ZUO
Xuefang YUAN
Yarong ZHENG
Yunqing LIU
Captain: Ivy ZHANG

CRO 1

Antonia VLADIMIR
Iva MRKIC
Ivana STILINOVIC
Jasminka KLANJSCEK
Laila GUMHALTER MALIC
Nika HOIC
Sandra PROBST
Zorana CEKOL
Captain: Iva Mrkic



CRO CATS

Aleksandra DUJMOVIC
Irena RUKAVINA
Ksenija NORSIC
Renata PETROVIC
Sanja KUMPAR
Sanja SUMAN
Captain: Sanja Suman

CYMRU

Ceri PIERCE
Diane KURBALIJA
Elizabeth Palmelia COMMINS
Laura WOODRUFF
Mia DESCHEPPER
Sophie CUNNINGHAM
Captain: CERI PIERCE

DOWN SOUTH

Anastasia NESTORIDIS
Carol STANTON
Diana BALKIN
Lotte SORENSEN
Roz BERNSTEIN
Sharon IZEREL
Sharon LANG
Vanessa ARMSTRONG
Captain: ROZ BERNSTEIN

DURU

Cahide OZKAN
Fatma Dicle TOKER
Gul YAVUZ
Sureyya SENER
Tuba AKARCALIOGLU
Zeynep Esra BULKAZ
Captain: Tuba Akarcalioglu

EMERALD ACES

Lizann DOYLE
Niamh HARTY
Nicola O'DOWD
Sue POWER
Captain: Sue Power

ERYRI

Andrea KNOX
Josephine COPPING
Julie MILEWSKI
L. Fu CHEUNG
Loretta MURPHY
Sheila Ann SHEA
Captain: Loretta Murphy

FAROE ISLAND

Anna OLSEN
Birita CLEMENTSEN
Eva Sarita BERG
Maria Vitalis HANSEN
Captain: Anna Olsen

FAROESE

Arnleyg MIKKELSEN
Connie THOMSEN
Johanna LAVA KOTLUM
Majken JOHANSEN
Margretha BORGARDAL
Marjun RESTORFF
Captain: Marjun Restorff

FINLAND

Birgit BARLUND
Carola TENGSTROM
Christina HERTZMAN
Kirsi VIRTANEN
Kirsi-Maija ARANKO
Maria NORDGREN
Merja LAUTALA
Outi FORSMAN
Captain: Maria Nordgren

GAELS

Deirdre LEOPOLD
Elizabeth MEAGHER
Evgenia GLADYSHEVA
Fiona MCGOLDRICK
Helen FRIEL
Liz JENNINGS
Captain: DEIRDRE LEOPOLD

GLADIES RELOADED

Anja ALBERTI
Annaig DELLA MONTA
Barbara HACKETT
Beatrix WODNIANSKY
Ingrid GROMANN
Karin WENNING
Mieke PLATH
Pony Beate NEHMERT
Captain: Annaig Della Monta

GREEK GIRLS

Artemis CHRISTAKI
Chrissy COSSYVAS
Dimitra DOGKA
Evangelia PETRAKI
Ioanna-Aikaterini POLLATOU
Konstantina TZIARA
Marilena BOMPOLAKI
Captain: Artemis Christaki

HEARTBREAKERS 2025

Anke BLUMENBERG
Brigitte VOHLAND
Gabriele HILFIKER
Isabelle ZURSCHMIEDE
Rosemarie KUNTZ
Sylvia HAMPEL
Ute STRUTHOFF
Captain: Gabriele Hilfiker

HIBERNIANS

Brid KEMPLE
Maire O'CONNOR
Mary BRADY
Mary TIMONEY
Paula HEAPHY
Suzanne HILL
Captain: Maire O'Connor



I AM AM

Anna MAKAREWICZ
Anna ZAREBA
Izabella JAWORSKA
Marta SIKORA
Marta WOJCIK
Captain: Anna Makarewicz

ICEQUEENS

Alda GUDNADOTTIR
Arngunnur JONSDOTTIR
Harpa Fold INGOLFSDOTTIR
Maria HARALDSDOTTIR BENDER
Captain: Alda Guðnadóttir

INDIA QUEENS

Asha SHARMA
Bindiya KOHLI
Kalpana BALIRAM GURJAR
Meenal THAKUR
Priya BALASUBRAMANIAN
Puja BATRA
Subhashree BASU
Vidhya PATEL
Captain: Puja Batra

ISRALADIES

Dana TAL
Gai MAMAN
Noga TAL
Nurit GRAIZER
Ronnie BENIN-BARR
Varda ABRAMOV
Captain: Dana Tal

ISTANBUL

Asli ACAR
Berrak ERKAN
Dilek YAVAS
Ebru ATES
Irem OZBAY
Captain: Ebru Ates

JAPAN GIRLS

Iroha HEFFERNAN
Marin HIRONO
Momoka YOSHIDA
Nana YAMAZAKI
Ruri Ote FURUTA
Yuka INAMURA
Captain: Ruri Furuta Ote

KAMANADO

Anna CARR
Antoinette McGEE
Aoife MACHALE
Deirdre O'HALLORAN
Kathleen VAUGHAN
Margaret FARREN
Noreen PENDER
Orla MCENTEE
Captain: Noreen Pender

KIWIS

Andi BOUGHEY
Carol RICHARDSON
Deborah SMITH
Pam LIVINGSTON
Captain: Pam Livingston

KOOKABURRAS

Dagmar NEUMANN
Jessica BRAKE
Jodi TUTTY
Leone FULLER
Marina LEYBOURNE
Pele RANKIN
Susan HUMPHRIES
Captain: Dagmar Neumann

LEADING LADIES

Anastasia DI LORENZO
Elizabeth COVARRUBIAS
Emanuela PRAMOTTON
Jessica UDOMSRIRUNGRUANG
Juanita OCHOA
Morgan JOHNSTONE
Paula GAZZARI
Paula RIEDEL
Captain: David Sabourin

LIETUVA GREEN

Elena SHOKHAN
Lina VRUBLIAUSKIENE
Nele PETRYLIENE
Sonata SIMANAITIENE
Sviatlana BADRANKOVA
Zaneta GUPTA
Captain: Sviatlana Badrankova

MAAK

Ann BURNS
Ann O'ROURKE
Anne HASSAN
Kay MURPHY
Mary KELLY-ROGERS
Sandie MILLERSHIP
Captain: Ann Burns

MEXICO LINDO

Carla HICKEY
Mary Ann WHITE
Nicola BENINGER
Patricia HERRERA
Captain: Patricia Herrera

MINERVA

Alison PRITCHARD
Dina BENNETT
Harriet CORK
Jo JARROLD
Judith SANIS
Lesley HARRISON
Pat EMERY
Valerie CONSTABLE
Captain: Alison Pritchard

MISO COD

Janice SEAMON-MOLSON
Jenny WOLPERT
Jill MEYERS
Kerri SANBORN
Susan ZHANG
Sylvia SHI
Captain: Sylvia Shi



NORDEN

Ann Karin FUGLESTAD
Bodil Nyheim OIGARDEN
Gunn Tove VIST
Helle RASMUSSEN
Liv Marit GRUDE
Lone BILDE
Marianne HARDING
Torild HESKJE
Captain: Lone Bilde

PARIS ET BORDEAUX

Catherine DUMESNIL
Daniele AVON
Donatella HALFON
Geraldine POUSSOU
Margaux KUREK BEAULIEU
Severine PAULISSEN
Captain: Severine PAULISSEN

PARKER

Anam TEBHA
Christina Lund MADSEN
Christina PARKER
Hatice OZGUR
Linda ROBINSON
Olivia SCHIRESON
Selen HOTAMISLIGIL
Captain: Anam Tebha

PIRAIJA

Elna LAUKKANEN
Mirja MANTYLA
Pia ERKKILA
Raija TUOMI
Captain: Pia Erkkilä

POLISH LADIES

Aleksandra JAROSZ
Anna SARNIAK
Cathy BALDYSZ
Dominika LUCKA
Ewa MORAWSKA
Natalia SUSZANOWICZ
Sophia BALDYSZ
Captain: Aleksandra Jarosz

PORTUGAL1

Cristina POUSEIRO
Lena ESPIRITOSANTO
Lourdes CENTENO
Maria Jose CALAMARO
Matilde VALA
Piedade CASTELO BRANCO
Captain: Maria-José Calamaro

RHODES TEAM

Anastasia KALIONTZOGLOU
Angeliki TYRADELLI
Anthoula KARAKIAOURI
Dimitra CHATZISAVVA
Katina LENTZA
Maria SOKOL
Maroylitsa STAVRI
Captain: KATERINA LENTZA

RYKOV DENMARK

Birgitte RONN
Charlotte SCHWARZ-ROSMAN
Karen ENEVOLDSEN
Katherine Carman ORTMANN
Margrethe RYKOV
Susan Just OLESEN
Captain: Margrethe RYKOV

SARLAFIBERS

Aditi JHAVERI
Alka KSHIRSAGAR
Bharati DEY
Himani KHANDELWAL
Marianne KARMARKAR
Vrinda JHUNJHUNWALA
Captain: Vrinda Jhunjunwala

SERBIA 1

Aleksandra DJORDJEVIC
Gorana MITIC
Julija ARSENIJEVIC
Milka SABLJIC
Olga SIMIC
Tatjana ERIC
Captain: Tatjana Eric

SERBIA 2

Ana Zorana BRAJOVIC
Biljana TALIJAN
Marija VELINOV
Mirjana BUKARICA
Olivera STAJIC
Radmila DAVIDOVIC
Sofija ALTMAN
Captain: Ana zorana Brjaovic

SHAMROCKS 2025

Adrienne PURDY
Fiona O'GORMAN
Marie JAMES
Rachel CONNELLAN
Captain: Adrienne Purdy

SILVER DARLINGS

Ann ANDERSON
Anne COLES
Emily GARDEN
Janet RIXON
Janette GLASS
Margaret HODDER
Nuala BOOTH
Teresa DEARDEN
Captain: Anne Coles

SIX DIAMONDS

Belinda LINDSAY
Kim FRAZER
Kitty MUNTZ
Lisa YOFFA
Maggie KLASSEN
Maryanne BIRD
Captain: Kim Frazer

SLAM FEMMES

Ana CEOVIC
Andrijana RABUSIC
Dubravka ZVRKO
Iva STRNAD
Ivana CVJETANOVIC
Srdana JUKAS PRELJEVIC
Captain: Srdana Jukas Preljevic



SMASHING DESIS

Maya IYER
Nalini BALACHANDER
Pooja CHHABRIA
Pooja JALAN
Santhalakshmi KALYANASUNDARAM
Sumitra VISWANATH
Captain: Maya Iyer

SULA

Ann MEYER
Bianca JUBITANA
Jane HARKISOEN
Marion IDU
Rinia LIEUW A SOE
Captain: Ann Meyer

SUNRISE

Adi ASULIN
Hila LEVI
Migry ZUR-CAMPANILE
Nancy KATZ
Captain: Migry Zur Campanile

SUNSHINE SISTERS

Allison FREELAND
Allison HOWARD
Joanne WEINGOLD
May SAKR
Molly ONEILL
Paula COLEMAN
Captain: May Sakr

SWISS LADIES

Cecilia BILLIET
Darina LANGER
Janine BENZ
Marijke JUSTITZ
Nicole OPPENHEIM
Rita MUCHA
Susy FROELICHER
Sybil BRAGADIR
Captain: Janine Benz

TEUTO LADIES

Christiane THIEDE
Dorothee GUHE
Gisa WITTENBECHER
Heidrun GANSER
Inge WISCHNER
Sigrid BOSSELER
Vera WAAGA
Waltraud GRUNING
Captain: Sigrid Bosseler

THE INCREDIBLES

Helen JOHNSTON
Jane MOSS
Janet Margaret TUPPER
Marianne Jaqueline BIGGS
Marie Jose KAIKATY
Mei REES
Silvana ROJKO
Yoko SOBEL
Captain: Jane Moss

THISTLES

Christine WALKER
Fiona GREENWOOD
Helen TAYLOR
Julia PALMER
Marina EVANS
Sarah GUNN
Captain: Fiona Greenwood

TRIERS

Gilda PENDER
Jeannie FITZGERALD
Joan KENNY
Louise MITCHELL
Lucy PHELAN
Rebecca O'KEEFFE-BROWN
Siobhan PART
Teresa RIGNEY
Captain: Joan Kenny

TURKISH GIRLS

Bilge Suheda YILDIRIM
Duru SANKUR
Ece UZ
Tulin Ada SONMEZER
Zeynep TORT
Captain: Tuncay Altun

TURQUOISE

Ayse Nazli METIN
Eren OZAN
Ferda ZORLU
Hatice Akten KURTOGLU ZABCI
Nilgun KOTAN
Olgu SEKER
Captain: Akten ZABCI

VALKYRIE

Diana NETTLETON
Fiona BROWN
Helen ERICHSEN
Nevena SENIOR
Nicola SMITH
Sally BROCK
Captain: Helen Erichsen

VIKING GIRLS

Aase LANGELAND
Gunn HELNESS
Ida WENNEVOLD
Ranja SIVERTSVIK
Tonje Aasand BROGELAND
Virginia CHEDIK
Captain: Virginia Chediak

VITA

Ana Isabel LAMA BARNAL
Herta ISRAEL AGUILLON
Jacqueline SCHNETZER C.
Monica ZALAUQUETT SAID
Samia Ivonne MANASSEH HAWA
Veronica OSSA VADILLO
Captain: FERNANDO PEREZ

WILDCARDS

Beverley COX
Gillian O'KEEFFE
Pamela STACEY
Susan BIGGIN
Captain: Bev Cox



Morning Departure

Mark Horton

By the time I was at my keyboard (around 07.00 GMT) play was well under way. This was the first deal I spotted:

divided she ruffed a heart and played a spade to the jack, +750 and 12 IMPs.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

Japan Girls v IsraLadies

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Graizer	Inamura	Abramov	Yoshida
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	2♣
3♥	4♣	4♥	All Pass

Japan Girls v IsraLadies

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Graizer	Inamura	Abramov	Yoshida
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♦
2♥*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

South led the ♦7 and North took the ♦A and returned the ♦10, South ruffing and cashing her aces for one down, -50.

2♥ Limit or better in spades

South led the ♣K and switched to the ♦K, declarer winning with the ♦A and playing the ♠Q. When the ♠K appeared ten tricks were assured, +420.

If South had cashed a second club and exited with a heart declarer would be able to win, draw trumps, eliminate clubs and hearts and play a diamond from dummy. On this layout playing a diamond to the eight or jack works, but North might have a diamond honour, in which case starting with dummy's ♦10 might be best. If North plays an honour declarer wins, returns to dummy and plays a diamond to the eight.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Heffernan	Benin-Barr	Yamazaki	Tal
—	—	Pass	3♣
Dble	4♣	4♥	Pass
Pass	5♣	Dble	All Pass

West led the ♥A and switched to the ♦2, declarer taking dummy's ♦A and playing a club. When the suit




Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Heffernan	Benin-Barr	Yamazaki	Tal
—	—	—	1♥
Pass	Pass	1♠	2♦
2♥*	Pass	2♠	All Pass
2♥	Spade support		

Which do you prefer – the 2♠ rebid or the 3♠ chosen in the other room? With West unwilling to raise to 3♠, missing the game meant the loss of 6 IMPs.

As that match finished I clicked on Australian Jillaroos v IsraLadies, discovering a message from Barbara Travis who was going to watch her daughter play for Bridge Babes. Waiting for their match to get under way I spotted this:

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

CC United v Finland

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Forsman	Yuan	Lautala	Zuo
—	—	—	1♠
Dble	1NT*	3♥	4♠
5♥	Dble	All Pass	
1NT	Clubs		

I have never been a fan of doubling with a balanced hand, but if West had resisted the temptation to bid 5♥ East would almost certainly have doubled 4♠.

South led the ♠A and continued with the ♠4, North ruffing and returning the ♣10. South ruffed and continued with the ♠5, North ruffing and playing the ♣Q. South ruffed and North's ♥K was poised to take a sixth defensive trick, four down, -1100.

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
Zheng	Nordgren	Liu	Tengstrom
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Dble	3♦
Dble	All Pass		

West led the ♣6 and declarer ruffed, cashed the ♠A, ruffed a spade, came to hand with a heart, ruffed another spade, cashed two hearts, ruffed a club and exited with the ♠10. East ruffed and played the ♦9, West taking the last four tricks for one down, -100 and 14 IMPs.

If West starts by cashing the top diamonds before playing a club, the defenders will get an extra trick.

There was no sign of any action by the Bridge Babes but I noticed that this deal was producing swings in several matches:

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Kiwis v India Queens

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Sharma	Richardson	Batra	Boughey
—	Pass	1NT*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
1NT	14-17, can be unbalanced and have a singleton		

South led the ♥10 and declarer won with dummy's ♥A and played a spade for the three, jack and two. A diamond to the king was followed by a second spade and North took the ♠A and switched to the ♣6, South winning with the ♣Q and returning the ♥2. Declarer won in dummy and ran the ♣10 to South's ♣A, +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Smith	Priya	Livingston	Kohli
—	Pass	1♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
1♣	3+♣		
2♦	Club support, invitational		
2NT	15-19		

South led the ♥10 and having won with dummy's ♥Q declarer played the ♠8, North taking the ♠A and switching to the ♣6 for the three and queen. The heart return was taken by dummy's ♥A and declarer continued with a spade. When she covered North's ♠3 with the ♠9 South won and exited with the ♥2 and there were only eight tricks in sight. When declarer eventually tried a club to the king, South could win and cash two hearts for three down, -300 and a 14 IMP swing.

This deal had potential:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Australian Jillaroos v IsraLadies

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Grazier	Ginsberg	Abramov	Hurwitz
—	—	Pass	2♥*
Dble	4♥	Pass	Pass
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♥
Dble	All Pass		
2♥	Hearts and another suit		

West led the ♦K, switched to the ♠K and then played two rounds of clubs. Declarer won, ruffed a spade and played a heart for the king and ace, West exiting with the ♥8. Declarer won, ruffed a spade, ruffed a diamond and cashed the ♥Q. After this trick East was down to ♠J ♣J7 and had declarer cashed the last heart discarding dummy's ♦Q the squeeze

would have delivered a ninth trick. Perhaps getting ahead of herself, declarer played a club immediately and was three down, -500.

If West plays two rounds of hearts at an early stage then the defenders should always collect five tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Moses	Benin-Barr	Bashar	Tal
—	—	Pass	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦*	2♥
3♦	3♥	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
2♣	Strong		
2♦	Not one ace or two kings		

South led the ♥K and declarer won in dummy, drew trumps and then played on diamonds, easily scoring 12 tricks, +480 losing a single IMP.

I started to look for any pairs that had bid 6♠ - the first one I found had bid 2NT-3♥*-(Dble)-3♠-3NT-6♠ but sadly declarer went three down, failing to draw trumps before playing on diamonds.

In another match South was able to open 2♦ promising the majors. West doubled and North bid 3♥. When West continued with 4♦ East could hardly be blamed for passing. From the comfort of my office 3NT looks a better bet than 4♦, but you are not going to reach 6♠.



Nespresso Bongo

Mark Horton

As my clock ticks on to 10.00 a short break for coffee between rounds three and four is the order of the day. Before resuming operations, it occurs to me that a coffee company might be interested in sponsoring an event.

Deals where one player holds all the aces can be tough to bid:

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Austria v Bridge Babes

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brahma</i>	<i>Weiss Selway</i>	<i>Wilson</i>	<i>Hermann</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♦*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT	Pass	4NT*
Pass	6♣	Pass	6♦
Pass	6NT	All Pass	
2NT	22-24 balanced		
3♦	Hearts		
3♠	Transfer to 3NT		
4NT	Quantitative		

East led the ♥7 and declarer ducked West's ♥10, won the return of the ♥K and played on clubs. East won the fourth round and exited with the ♠8 for the jack, queen and ace. That was enough to hold declarer to nine tricks, -300.

I'll leave you to judge the merits of 4NT.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Deixler</i>	<i>Travis</i>	<i>Zhou</i>	<i>Theriault</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♣	Pass	5NT
All Pass			

2♣ Game forcing or 23+ balanced

It looks like the 3NT rebid suggested a running suit. What the South hand is worth opposite that is hard to say, but if you add the ♣J to North's hand then slam is on a finesse. As an aside South should be allowed to bid 4♦ over 3NT as a transfer and then continue with a natural 4NT.

East led the ♠8 and declarer played low from dummy, taking West's ♠Q with the ace and playing four rounds of clubs, discarding two hearts and diamond from dummy as West pitched the ♠6 and the ♥5. Having won East played the ♠3 (a heart switch is essential so perhaps West should have discarded the ♠9) and declarer won in dummy, came to hand with the ♦A and cashed two clubs. The defenders pitched three hearts between them, so the ♥8 became the eleventh trick, +660 along with 14 IMPs.



Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Hibernians v Six Diamonds

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lindsay</i>	<i>Heaphy</i>	<i>Klassen</i>	<i>Kemple</i>
1♣	1♠	2♥	3♠*
4♥	4♠	4NT*	Pass
5♣*	Pass	6♥	All Pass

3♠	4+♠, weak
4NT	RKCB
5♣	1 keycard

South led the ♠2, so the defenders took a trick, +1430.

Well done if you would have taken the save in 6♠.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Brady</i>	<i>Muntz</i>	<i>Timoney</i>	<i>Frazer</i>
1♣	2♠	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	All Pass

Missing the slam meant the loss of 13 IMPs.

What would have happened if South had bid 4♠ immediately or if East had bid 5♦ over 4♠ is a mystery that might even tax Hercule Poirot's little grey cells.

This auction is worth preserving:

Down South v Kiwis

West	North	East	South
<i>Boughey</i>	<i>Armstrong</i>	<i>Richardson</i>	<i>Stanton</i>
1♣*	3♠	4♥	4♠
5♥	Pass	6♥	6♠
Dble	All Pass		

That was four down, -800, a potentially great result, but in the other room EW stopped in 5♥, so 3 IMPs were lost.

Glancing at the scores at 11.51, the Bridge Babes had completed three matches averaging 16.03 VP for

a total of 48.09. If they could keep that up...

(A few minutes later, looking at the scores of the 38 teams who had completed matches the Bridge Babes total was 84.09 placing them at the head of the table, followed by CC United on 80.46 and Bharat with 78.21.

Board 34. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Bharat v IsraLadies

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Maman</i>	<i>Limaye</i>	<i>D Tal</i>	<i>Khot</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	5NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

In the absence of annotations to the bidding I'm tempted to believe that 4NT was old fashioned Blackwood, North admitting to two aces and then one king.

West led the ♦J (if you would have chosen a club I salute you) and declarer won and cashed dummy's top spades (pew!). After six rounds of the suit, she advanced the ♥10 and ran it, taking all the tricks for +1470.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Deole	Abramov	Karmarkar	Grazier
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

2♦ Fourth suit forcing


West led the ♦J and declarer won, cashed the ♥AK and then played spades, East scoring the ♥Q, +480 but a loss of 13 IMPs.

The sixth round saw more teams making their debuts, and it started with a bang.


♣A and overtook the ♠9, continuing to play on spades when the ♠K held the trick. South took the third round and switched to the ♥7. When North won with the ♥A (not easy to put in the ♥10) declarer appeared to have escaped for one down. North continued with the ♣K and when declarer pitched a heart she switched to the ♦5. Declarer elected to take the ♦A, cashed the ♠10 and exited with a diamond, South winning with the ♦K. When she exited with the ♦J to dummy's ♦Q declarer could come to hand with a ruff and cash two diamonds for +140 along with 15 IMPs.

After a short break for lunch (that's mine, not the players) I was back in time for this deal:

Board 41. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Board 47. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Viking Girls v Smashing Desis

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Kalyanas.	Chhadiak	Balachander	Sivertsvik
—	3♣	Dble	4♣
4♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Thistles v Lietuva Green

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Vrubliauskiene	Walker	Petryliene	Taylor
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

South's raise reminds me of a similar effort by the late, great John Armstrong at the World Championships in Yokohama 1991 (I don't have time to check!). The point of the manoeuvre is that a double by West would be responsive. Here, West might try passing, hoping East can continue with a second double.

North led the ♦5 and South won with the ♦K and returned the ♦8, North ruffing and switching to the ♠3. South won and when North ruffed with the ♥A declarer was booked for four down, -1100.

East led the ♣3 for the queen and king and declarer finished with ten tricks, +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Langeland	Chhabria	Brogeland	Jalan
—	3♣	3♠	All Pass

South led the ♣Q and declarer won with dummy's




Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Evans	Badrankova	Gunn	Shokhan
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦
Pass	6NT	All Pass	

East led the ♣3 for the two, queen and king, and even then it appears that there are only eleven tricks. Declarer cashed five diamonds coming down to ♠A2 ♥AK10 ♣J8 and then played dummy's ♣10. As long as East wins and avoids returning a heart declarer must go down, but when she ducked declarer cashed two spades, overtook the ♥J and exited with the ♣10, forcing East to lead into the ♥K10 for +1440 and 13 IMPs.

Board 52. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Viking Girls v Bharat

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Khot	Brogeland	Limaye	Langeland
1♣*	Pass	1♠*	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass



I don't propose to guess the meaning of the first two bids.

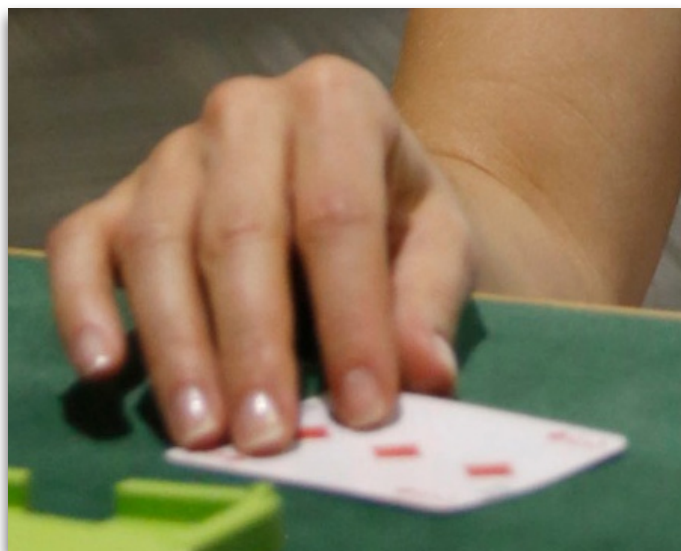
South led the ♥2 and declarer took her best shot in the heart suit by putting up dummy's ♥J. She ducked North's ♥Q and also ducked the ♥10, but south overtook it and returned the ♥9. Declarer won, played a spade to the ten, unblocked the ♣A and tried a low spade to the jack. South won, cashed two hearts and exited with the ♦10, North taking the ♦Q with the ♦K and exiting with a spade, collecting the ♦J at the end, three down, -300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Sivertsvik	Karmarkar	Chediak	Deole
1♦	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Here South led the ♥7 and declarer played dummy's ♥3, ducking North's ♥10. When she also ducked the ♥Q South failed to overtake, and North exited with a club. Having won in dummy declarer played a spade for the jack and king and South exited with the ♥K. That meant 10 tricks, +630 and 14 IMPs.

As the cards lie declarer can win the second heart and play the ♠J for the king and ace. Declarer cashes two more spades and the ♣A and then exits with a spade. North wins and can do no better than exit with a diamond, but declarer wins, cashes the ♦A and exits with a diamond, scoring two clubs at the end.



Tea with the Dames

Mark Horton

As the short two match afternoon session got under way I wanted a title involving the word 'Tea'. Tea and Sympathy didn't really seem to fit the bill, and then I recalled this 2018 documentary where Dames Judi Dench, Eileen Atkins, Joan Plowright, and Maggie Smith got together for tea, reminiscing and discussing their careers.

Board 55. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Cymru v Turquoise

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kotan</i>	<i>Deschepper</i>	<i>Zorlu</i>	<i>Pierce</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2♣ 0+♣, game forcing

North led the ♥4 and declarer ducked in both hands, won the second heart in dummy and played a club for the two, queen and ten. At this point there is something to be said for ducking a diamond, but declarer continued with clubs, winning with the ♣A as North discarded the ♠4. A spade to the jack saw North win and exit with a heart to declarer's ace. Only eight tricks were available, -100.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Cunningham</i>	<i>Ozan</i>	<i>Woodruff</i>	<i>Kurtoglu Z</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The upcoming issue of Bridgerama+ features an article by Larry Cohen discussing the merits of opening 1NT with a five-card major. One advantage came to light here when North led the ♠6, declarer winning with the ♠J and running the ♣Q. South won and switched to the ♥Q but declarer won in dummy, cashed the ♣A, played a spade to king, cashed the ♦K and ducked a diamond, emerging with ten tricks, +630 and 13 IMPs.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Lund Madsen</i>	<i>McKee</i>	<i>Robinson</i>	<i>Gosling</i>
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

2♣ Game forcing

North led the ♥2 and declarer won with the ♥J and



played the ♠J, South winning and returning the ♥5 to dummy's ♥A. A spade to the queen saw North pitch the ♦2 and declarer continued with a club to the king and a diamond for the five, nine and ten. North exited with a diamond and declarer casher her winners for +400.

Bermuda Ladies v Parker

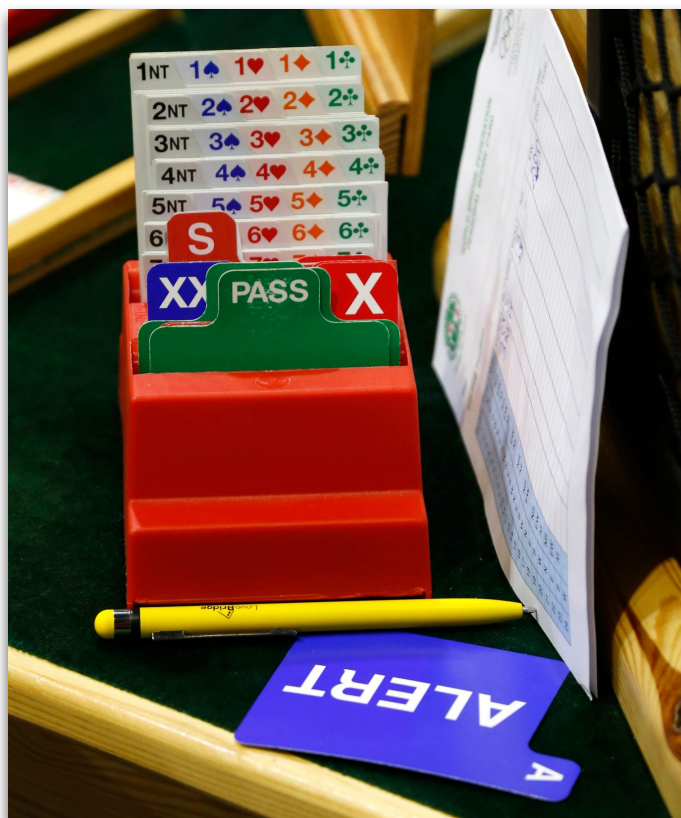
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Way	Hotamisligil	Kyme	Özgür
—	—	1♠	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♦	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble


There's a 'Tigress Double' if ever I saw one.

South led the ♥10 for the queen, king and ace and declarer continued with three rounds of diamonds, North winning as South discarded the ♣4. Declarer ruffed the next diamond in dummy, South disposing of the ♣J. The ♠Q was ducked and when declarer continued with a club to the king South ruffed and played the ♥8. Declarer could win in dummy, but South was looking at three trump tricks which meant two down, -300 and a 12 IMP swing.

If declarer plays a spade at trick two South is likely to duck (winning does not help) and then declarer can cash two clubs, play a diamond to the ace and run the ♥8. A diamond to the king is followed by the ♥J and a heart. Declare ruffs and plays a spade and must score two more trump tricks which adds up to eleven in all.



Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Leading Ladies v Faroe Island

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Clementsen	Di Lorenzo	Hansen	Pramotton
1NT	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♣*	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♦*	Pass	7♥	All Pass
2♦	Transfer		
4♣	Control		
4NT	RKCB		
5♦	3 keycards		

North led the ♣8 and declarer won and drew trumps before claiming.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Johnstone	Berg	Udomsriung.	Olsen
1NT	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♠*	Pass
5♣*	Pass	5♠*	Pass
5NT*	Pass	7♥	All Pass

- 2♦ Transfer
- 3♠ Control
- 4♣ Control
- 4♠ RKCB
- 5♣ 3 keycards
- 5♠ Kings?
- 5NT No king lower than hearts

North led the ♠10 and declarer claimed.

It looks easy enough to reach the grand slam, but three pairs stopped in 6♥.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Wildcards v Bharat

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Limaye</i>	<i>Stacey</i>	<i>Khot</i>	<i>O'Keefe</i>
—	—	1♦	Dble
Rdbl	1♠	2♦	2♠
3♥	All Pass		



There is a ridiculous double dummy line for nine tricks. At trick two declarer plays a club to the ace and then plays a low club!! North wins and the defenders play spades, declarer ruffing the third round, crossing to the ♥A and playing a club. If South discards, declarer wins and ruffs a club and will score three more hearts and a club.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Biggin</i>	<i>Karmarkar</i>	<i>Cox</i>	<i>Deole</i>
—	—	Pass	2NT*
Dble	3♣	3♦	3NT
Dble	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

2NT Singleton or void in a minor

I'll leave you to guess what went wrong here. There are other ways to show this type of hand, one of the best being to use 2♥ to indicate a limited three suiter which always contains 4♥. You can find a detailed explanation in *The Mysterious Multi*.

East led the ♦10 and declarer won with the ♦J and continued with a diamond to the queen, West ruffing and playing the ♥K followed by the ♥6. East won and played the ♦8, West ruffing dummy's ♦A and switching to the ♠8. East won and played the ♦K, declarer ruffing as West pitched the ♠7. West ruffed the spade continuation and cashed the ♣K. At this point cashing the ♣A and playing the ♥Q allows East to pitch a spade for seven down, but when West exited with the ♥7 declarer could pitch a spade. East ruffed and played the ♠10 but West's ♣A was the last defensive trick, six down, -1400 and a 17 IMP swing.

Maybe Tea and Sympathy would have been right after all.



The Twilight's Last Gleaming

Mark Horton

The final session of the first day's play started at 17.00 GMT and truth to tell my title is misleading to the extent that it is already pitch black outside.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Norden v Castells

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mestres</i>	<i>Rasmussen</i>	<i>Hernandez</i>	<i>L Bilde</i>
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3NT	All Pass

3♦ Fouth suit forcing

South led the ♣3 and declarer won with dummy's ♣K, cashed the ♠A and played a spade for the jack and king. She won the club return, came to hand with a heart and played two rounds of spades, claiming eleven tricks, +460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Heskje</i>	<i>Pavlushko</i>	<i>Vist</i>	<i>Castells</i>
—	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	4NT	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

South led the ♦Q and declarer won and played two rounds of spades, South taking the queen with the king

and exiting with the ♦3. There was no way to conjure up a twelfth trick -50 and an 11 IMP loss.

To make 6NT declarer must divine the spade position, which is clearly impossible. Lina Vrubliauskiene and Nele Petryliene of Lietuva Green reached 6♥, bidding 1♠-2♣-3♥-4NT*-5♦*-6♥. South led the ♦Q and declarer won and played the ♠Q for the king and ace and spade to the jack. She continued with a heart to the ace, a heart to hand and a spade. If South had ruffed declarer would have been a trick short, but she pitched a diamond. Having ruffed in dummy, declarer has a way home – she must cash a top club, ruff a club cash her last heart and then play a winning diamond. South can ruff but must then lead into dummy's club tenace.

The play is much easier if declarer plays a third spade before touching trumps. If South discards a diamond declarer ruffs, draws trumps and gives up a spade.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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

Croatia v Hibernians

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Timoney</i>	<i>Probst</i>	<i>Brady</i>	<i>Mrkic</i>
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣*	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

2♣ Forcing with clubs

North led the ♥4 so the defenders scored a trick, +480.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Vladimir	Hill	Stilinic	O'Conner
—	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

North led the ♠10 and declarer won with the ♠J, cashed the ♠Q and then played three rounds of clubs, ruffing when South went up with the ♣Q, went to dummy with the ♦A and pitched her heart on the ♣10, +980 and 11 IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

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

Sunrise v Lietuva Green
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Vrubliauskiene	Levi	Petryliene	Asulin
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

South led the ♣K and declarer won in dummy, ruffed a club, played two rounds of hearts and ran the ♦Q. South won and switched to the ♠9, +680.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	Simanaitiene	Zur-Campanile	Gupta
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♥*	Pass	6♥	All Pass
4NT	RKCB		
5♥	2 keycards		

Did West forget to show the ♥Q?

Declarer won the ♣K lead and played a diamond to the jack. South won and tried to cash the ♣Q but declarer ruffed, took two rounds of hearts ending in dummy, ruffed a club, cashed the ♠A, ruffed a spade drew the outstanding trump and claimed, +1430 and 13 IMPs.

South might have ducked the ♦J. If declarer draws trumps and repeats the finesse South wins and plays a club, leaving declarer a trick short.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Croatia v Hibernians
Open Room

West	North	East	South
Timoney	Probst	Brady	Mrkic
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

3♣ Fourth suit forcing

West led the ♠10 and declarer took eleven tricks, +460.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Vladimir	Hill	Stilinic	O'Conner
2♦*	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♠*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♠*	Pass	6NT
All Pass			

4♣ Minorwood
4♠ 2 keycards
5♣ King asking
5♠ 2 kings

East led the ♣9 and declarer won with the ♣J and needed to find a trick. One way to do it is to duck a spade, eventually squeezing West in spades and diamonds. In practice she cashed four more clubs and played a heart for the eight and queen. Back came the ♦J which look like curtains, but in the ending East suffered a lapse of concentration and pitched a heart, +990 and a lucky 11 IMPs.

7♣ would have been easy enough, but no one found that, only two pairs reaching 6♣.