

45TH WORLD 2021 BRIDGE



TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



DAILY BULLETIN

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A GAME OF TWO HALVES



Having passed the midway point of the Championships it is time to reflect on the current standings. In all four competitions some of the fancied teams are struggling to make an impression. In the Bermuda Bowl USA1, Italy and Sweden are making their supporters nervous as they are still outside the top eight. In the Venice Cup both USA1 and USA2 have work to do if they are to make the cut. The d'Orsi Trophy is proving to be just as competitive with teams such as Turkey, Iceland, Italy and USA2 all looking for the form that will secure them a place in the quarterfinals. In the Wuhan Cup USA2 and Israel will be among those hoping for better things over the next three days.

WBF Master Points at the WBTC in Salsomaggiore

New WBF masterpoint ranking scheme to take effect from today

Following the catastrophic loss of power in the Orkney Islands last week, the masterpoint records of the WBF appear to have been permanently lost. Fortunately, this allows the WBF to introduce the new ranking scheme originally proposed by Pietro Bernasconi and now perfected by Pesceda Prile with effect from today.

In brief the system is based on your age, your years of play in world championships and takes into account strength of schedule, your final finishing position, and your ranking within your own country. A new rank of Premier World Grand Master has now been introduced. There are 4 men and 1 woman who qualify. The list is set out on page 28 of the bulletin.

The WBF Masterpoint Committee

SALSONAGGIORE TERME 2022
MARCH 27TH APRIL 9TH





SCHEDULE, DRAW, BBO MATCHES - Friday 1 April

BERMUDA BOWL

Round 14 – 10.00

INDIA	-	ARGENTINA
CANADA	-	EGYPT
ISRAEL	-	UAE
BULGARIA	-	URUGUAY
AUSTRALIA	-	GUADELOUPE
NETHERLANDS	-	SINGAPORE
ENGLAND	-	HUNGARY
BBO USA 1	-	NEW ZEALAND
SOUTH AFRICA	-	SWEDEN
BBO SWITZERLAND	-	DENMARK
CHINA HONG KONG	-	USA 2
BBO ITALY	-	NORWAY

Round 15 – 14.00

NEW ZEALAND	-	NETHERLANDS
EGYPT	-	ENGLAND
UAE	-	SWITZERLAND
URUGUAY	-	CHINA HONG KONG
GUADELOUPE	-	NORWAY
SINGAPORE	-	HUNGARY
DENMARK	-	BULGARIA
BBO SOUTH AFRICA	-	USA 2
BBO ARGENTINA	-	USA 1
BBO CANADA	-	ISRAEL
ITALY	-	INDIA
AUSTRALIA	-	SWEDEN

Round 16 – 16.45

CANADA	-	ARGENTINA
SOUTH AFRICA	-	EGYPT
DENMARK	-	UAE
ITALY	-	URUGUAY
SWEDEN	-	GUADELOUPE
USA 2	-	SINGAPORE
NEW ZEALAND	-	INDIA
BBO ENGLAND	-	SWITZERLAND
ISRAEL	-	HUNGARY
BULGARIA	-	CHINA HONG KONG
BBO AUSTRALIA	-	USA 1
BBO NORWAY	-	NETHERLANDS

VENICE CUP

Round 14 – 10.00

SWEDEN	-	PORTUGAL
TURKEY	-	MOROCCO
SPAIN	-	UAE
FRANCE	-	EGYPT
ENGLAND	-	CANADA
BELGIUM	-	DENMARK
POLAND	-	INDIA
HUNGARY	-	USA 2
GERMANY	-	ITALY
AUSTRALIA	-	BRAZIL
ARGENTINA	-	SCOTLAND
BBO NORWAY	-	USA 1

Round 15 – 14.00

PORTUGAL	-	NORWAY
MOROCCO	-	USA 1
UAE	-	ARGENTINA
EGYPT	-	CANADA
BELGIUM	-	HUNGARY
DENMARK	-	POLAND
TURKEY	-	BRAZIL
GERMANY	-	ENGLAND
AUSTRALIA	-	USA 2
SPAIN	-	SCOTLAND
FRANCE	-	INDIA
BBO ITALY	-	SWEDEN

Round 16 – 16.45

BELGIUM	-	PORTUGAL
HUNGARY	-	MOROCCO
ITALY	-	UAE
INDIA	-	EGYPT
DENMARK	-	GERMANY
CANADA	-	BRAZIL
USA 1	-	SCOTLAND
AUSTRALIA	-	FRANCE
SPAIN	-	ENGLAND
ARGENTINA	-	SWEDEN
USA 2	-	NORWAY
BBO POLAND	-	TURKEY

D'ORSI TROPHY

Round 14 – 10.00

FRANCE	-	GUADELOUPE
ITALY	-	EGYPT
ICELAND	-	PAKISTAN
POLAND	-	MOROCCO
BULGARIA	-	CANADA
BBO SWEDEN	-	ENGLAND
USA 2	-	BELGIUM
BRAZIL	-	USA 1
NORWAY	-	ARGENTINA
GERMANY	-	INDIA
AUSTRALIA	-	TURKEY
DENMARK	-	NETHERLANDS

Round 15 – 14.00

GUADELOUPE	-	BULGARIA
EGYPT	-	CANADA
PAKISTAN	-	AUSTRALIA
MOROCCO	-	NETHERLANDS
SWEDEN	-	BRAZIL
BBO ENGLAND	-	USA 2
ITALY	-	INDIA
NORWAY	-	DENMARK
GERMANY	-	USA 1
ICELAND	-	TURKEY
ARGENTINA	-	FRANCE
POLAND	-	BELGIUM

Round 16 – 16.45

SWEDEN	-	GUADELOUPE
BRAZIL	-	EGYPT
ARGENTINA	-	PAKISTAN
BELGIUM	-	MOROCCO
ENGLAND	-	NORWAY
BBO USA 2	-	ITALY
CANADA	-	TURKEY
GERMANY	-	POLAND
ICELAND	-	DENMARK
AUSTRALIA	-	FRANCE
USA 1	-	BULGARIA
NETHERLANDS	-	INDIA

WUHAN CUP

Round 14 – 10.00

SINGAPORE	-	GUATEMALA
ARGENTINA	-	TUNISIA
INDIA	-	JORDAN
DENMARK	-	EGYPT
NETHERLANDS	-	AUSTRALIA
CROATIA	-	ROMANIA
USA 1	-	CHILE
PORTUGAL	-	USA 2
TURKEY	-	ITALY
LATVIA	-	POLAND
FRANCE	-	BELGIUM
BBO GERMANY	-	ISRAEL

Round 15 – 14.00

GUATEMALA	-	NETHERLANDS
TUNISIA	-	AUSTRALIA
JORDAN	-	GERMANY
EGYPT	-	BELGIUM
CROATIA	-	PORTUGAL
ROMANIA	-	USA 1
ARGENTINA	-	POLAND
TURKEY	-	FRANCE
DENMARK	-	CHILE
INDIA	-	ISRAEL
ITALY	-	SINGAPORE
BBO LATVIA	-	USA 2

Round 16 – 16.45

CROATIA	-	GUATEMALA
PORTUGAL	-	TUNISIA
ITALY	-	JORDAN
CHILE	-	EGYPT
ROMANIA	-	TURKEY
BELGIUM	-	POLAND
AUSTRALIA	-	ISRAEL
LATVIA	-	DENMARK
INDIA	-	FRANCE
GERMANY	-	SINGAPORE
USA 2	-	NETHERLANDS
BBO USA 1	-	ARGENTINA



Ron Tacchi, WUHAN CUP, ROUND 8



ARGENTINA vs USA2



Overnight both Argentina and USA2 were some way off the qualification slots for the quarter-finals. But USA2 had had a good result in today's first round, putting them just four VPs behind the coveted eighth spot. Argentina are 10 VPs adrift, so they will need a good result in this match to move them up the ladder.

The Americans play five-card majors and 2/1, while the Argentinians also play five-card majors, Rocca-Pellegrini use a 12-14 no-trump in first or second position when non-vulnerable and their opening 1♣ can be two cards, while 1♦ promises four. Elkin-Angeleri favour a weak no-trump in all positions and employ transfer responses over an opening 1♣.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Itabashi</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Rocca</i>
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♠	2♦	Dble
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

Playing a weak no-trump, South opened One Club and eventually subsided in Two Spades. The king of diamonds was followed by the ace, and then the ace of hearts. Dummy took the heart continuation to play the ace of trumps, felling East's queen. A small trump saw West follow with the ♠7 and dummy's eight was sufficient to win the trick. Now declarer cashed his winning tricks without giving West a chance to ruff, firstly the ♥K and then two rounds of clubs finishing in hand to play the winning diamond and then led a club to make the jack of trumps en passant. Contract made.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Elkin</i>	<i>Kamenova</i>	<i>Angeleri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	All Pass

South opened a standard strong NT and North transferred to her long suit. When East reopened with a double, West elected to pass and hope for a penalty. On the lead of a small heart East inserted the ♥10 and declarer won with the jack. After cashing the ace of trumps declarer tried to cash three rounds of clubs, but West ruffed the third round. A heart to partner's ace saw East then cash two top diamonds and continue with a fourth round of clubs on which West discarded his last heart. He was now going to make all three of his trumps for a two-trick set. East now continued with a heart which West ruffed, and he now could exit with his diamond. North has no choice but to ruff and lead into West's trump tenace, very picturesque. Two down, and nine IMPs to Argentina

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Itabashi</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Rocca</i>
1♠	Dble	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

It seems to me that if partnership style allows a takeout double on an eleven count, then a raise to 3NT should require cognisance of that fact. The old saw of 'Where there's eight there's nine' may not

hold to be true on this deal. For reasons unexplained after the lead of the ♡J BBO flashed up 'seven tricks claimed, down two'. I pose this as a problem for you, dear reader, to find a sensible line that fails by two tricks. I can find winning lines after the heart lead, declarer starting by ducking the opening lead.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Elkin</i>	<i>Kamenova</i>	<i>Angeleri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♡
1♠	Dble	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

BBO was obviously having a 'mauvaise quart d'heure' as again after the initial lead it flashed up 'nine tricks claimed'. Who am I to disagree as the official scores bear witness to these results. Eight IMPs to USA2.

Board 22. Dealer East, E/W Vul.

♠ J 10 6 2		♠ A 9 3
♡ Q 5 3 2		♡ K 7
◇ J 3		◇ A K Q 9 6
♣ K 9 4		♣ J 10 5
	♠ 8 7 5	
	♡ A J 10 8	
	◇ 10 5 4	
	♣ A 8 3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Itabashi</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Rocca</i>
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♡	Pass	2NT	Pass
3◇	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The lead was the ♣3, the only lead to give the defence a chance. North won with the queen and he returned the two for South to take with the ace and then clear the suit. East needs to find an additional two tricks without the opposition scoring three. Her main weapon is that the defence cannot be aware of the fact that she has five solid diamond tricks just waiting to add to any other four she can muster. The first step was to lead the ♠J from dummy, covered by North and taken with the ace. Declarer immediately played back the spade nine which North ducked. Declarer was now up to three of the four ticks she needed to find and now when she placed a small heart on the table South played low and the ♡Q won the trick.

An avalanche of diamonds saw declarer bring home a contract which could well have failed. The reader may care to remind themselves of Tony Forrester's Bols Tip: 'The power of the closed hand'.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Elkin</i>	<i>Kamenova</i>	<i>Angeleri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♡	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South tried the ♠8 as his lead and North somewhat surprisingly played low allowing declarer to win with the ♠9. Declarer now set about the clubs leading the ♣5 for the ♣9 and North's queen. A diamond return went round to dummy's jack and a small heart was played to the king and ace. South continued with hearts, and declarer ducked and then took the third round with dummy's queen. When declarer tried a small club from table South could take the ace and the setting trick with the ♡8 and garner 12 IMPs for USA2.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ K Q 10		♠ 7 6		♠ A J 9 8 5 3 2
♡ K 8		♡ A Q 5 3		♡ 10 9
◇ 9 7 4 3		◇ A 10 8 5		◇ J 6 2
♣ Q 7 5 3		♣ K 10 2		♣ 6
	♠ 4			
	♡ J 7 6 4 2			
	◇ K Q			
	♣ A J 9 8 4			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Itabashi</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Rocca</i>
—	—	—	1♡
Pass	2NT	3♠	Pass
4♠	Dble	All Pass	

An auction duplicated at many tables. The small heart lead saw the king played from dummy so North won with the ace and cashed the queen. A small diamond was returned to South's king, the ace of clubs was cashed and then the ◇Q upon which North woodenly played small thus ensuring only a two-trick defeat. Did North not see that South won the first diamond with the king? What can this mean? In my book it strongly suggests a doubleton so North needs



to overtake the queen and give partner a ruff for 800 rather than 500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Elkin</i>	<i>Kamenova</i>	<i>Angeleri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	1♠	2♥
2♠	3♥	3♠	4♥
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

A different auction but the same result. At this table South started by cashing two diamonds before switching to a heart, dummy's king being taken by North's ace. North continued with the ace and another diamond and now declarer could not avoid the loss of two more tricks, so three down and seven IMPs to USA2.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Itabashi</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Rocca</i>
—	2♦	2♠	5♦
6♠	All Pass		

The Two Diamonds bid was a genuine suit; how refreshing to see a natural Two Diamonds. It could be that the opponents had not discussed a defence to that □. South made a phantom pre-sacrifice and poor old West had to figure out who was doing what to whom and I believe he thought he was being talked out of a slam and so he bid it. Declarer had thirteen tricks but unfortunately the defence had up to four tricks to cash and the rules of the game dictate that the defence kicks off proceedings. South cashed her diamond ace and rather than risk a terrible accident cashed the ace of clubs and continued the suit for two down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Elkin</i>	<i>Kamenova</i>	<i>Angeleri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	Pass	3♥*	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Obviously Three Hearts was a pre-empt in spades. After a diamond lead South won the first trick with the ♦A and returned a small club. He struck gold when partner turned up with a doubleton king and got her ruff to beat the contract. That held the loss to three IMPs to Argentina.

Board 30. Dealer East. Non Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Itabashi</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Rocca</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
1NT	2♥	3♦*	3♥
3NT	All Pass		

*3♦ spades, invite+

The heart three went to South's king and declarer's ace. The jack of clubs to dummy's king saw the ♦J led from dummy – declarer already had eight tricks and so needed just one more and any diamond honour in the South hand would provide that trick – which lost to the queen. Declarer took the heart continuation and cashed his clubs before taking a winning diamond finesse to secure his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Elkin</i>	<i>Kamenova</i>	<i>Angeleri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♠	1NT*	2♦
All Pass			

1NT the black suits



Did West take a temporary vow of silence? She remained mute with the best hand at the table. The contract drifted one off, but a gift of eight IMPs to USA2.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Itabashi</i>	<i>Pellegrini</i>	<i>Eythorsdottir</i>	<i>Rocca</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	4NT	All Pass

Evidently East's 4NT was a quantitative raise and West chose to be timid. East also might possibly have valued her hand an extra point as the ♠QJ must be gold and the fillers in the other suits could well be useful. It is not a great slam but has merit in that it can be made.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Elkin</i>	<i>Kamenova</i>	<i>Angeleri</i>	<i>Smith</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	6NT	All Pass

The bidding does not conform to the convention card which states that a balanced 22-23 is opened with a multi 2♦ and it appears that a Kokish sequence ensued; whatever the meanings of the bids the slam was reached and was justified when North led a heart enabling declarer to claim immediately. 11 IMPs to Argentina.

At the end of the match USA2 had won by 62-31, enough to move them up in the standings to less than a VP behind eighth spot.



Mark Itabashi

Carlos Pellegrini

Silvina Rocca

Disa Eythorsdottir



Marc Smith, Bermuda Bowl, ROUND 8



USA2 vs NORWAY



USA2 and Norway began Day 3 in first and fourth place respectively, but both teams suffered an indifferent result in the early morning match. The Americans managed only a 42-32 win against bottom-placed UAE, with the result that they were overtaken at the top of the table by Denmark. Things started even worse for the Scandinavians, with a 39-40 loss to Egypt that dropped them all the way down to tenth place, out of the qualification places. Of course, we are only just a third of the way through the 23-match round robin, but this meeting of two of the tournament's heavyweights may provide a good indication of the form of each team.

First, though, a bidding problem for you to consider. With just your side vulnerable, you are West holding:

♠ K 7 2
 ♥ A K Q J 5 3
 ♦ 3
 ♣ Q J 9

West	North	East	South
—	2♦	2♠	5♦
?			

Two diamonds is natural and weak. What do you bid?

While you consider that, we check out the first chance for a swing, which came on the third deal:

Board 19. Dealer South. EW Vul.

	♠ J 8 4 3 2		♠ Q									
	♥ K 7 3		♥ A 10 3									
	♦ 9 7		♦ A K J 6 5									
	♣ Q 7 4		♣ 10 9 8 5									
♠ K 10 9 7 5		<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		
	N											
W		E										
	S											
♥ 9 6 4												
♦ 10 4 2												
♣ J 2												
	♠ A 6											
	♥ Q J 8 5											
	♦ Q 8 3											
	♣ A K 6 3											

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
Pass	2NT	Dble	All Pass

Tor Helness balanced with a takeout double when John Hurd's 2♠ was passed around to him. Geir



Helgemo's decision to convert for penalties was well judged, as it seems declarer in a spade contract would have to lose one heart, two diamonds and three trumps. However, Kevin Bathurst was having none of that, and removed to 2NT. Helness produced a second red card, and everyone passed.

Helgemo led the $\diamond 2$, Helness winning with the $\diamond K$ and returning the $\diamond 6$. Hurd rose with the $\diamond Q$ and, when that won, advanced the $\heartsuit Q$. Helness won and could cash three diamond winners, but declarer then just needed a 3-3 break in one of the rounded suits or some squeeze position to make the rest. When hearts broke, he was home: N/S +490 the hard way. This looked like a good board for the Americans, but the swing might easily have gone in either direction:

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Demuy	Bakke	Kranyak	Brogeland
—	—	—	1NT
Pass	2 \heartsuit	Pass	2 \spadesuit
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3 \diamond	All Pass

After the same start to the auction, John Kranyak also backed in with a double. Here, though, it was Vincent Demuy who essayed 2NT, ostensibly showing two places to play. Kranyak duly removed to 3 \diamond , which meant that the direction of the swing on the


deal would be determined by whether one of the Norwegians could find a double. Neither could, so declarer was playing only for undertricks at 100 each.

The defense started with a top club and a heart switch. Declarer won and played a second round of clubs, taken by Brogeland, who cashed his two heart winners and then played a third round of clubs. Declarer could have taken seven winners by ruffing this trick but, when he chose instead to discard a spade, he was three down. N/S +300 but 5 IMPs to USA2.

The Norwegians gained 12 IMPs when they left John Hurd with a blind lead against 3NT. A more informative auction at the other table pinpointed declarer's weakness and Boye Brogeland duly took advantage of the information.

Playing four matches a day, it is very easy to get careless, and a lapse of concentration halfway through the match cost the Norwegians 11 IMPs:

Board 24. Dealer West. Nil Vul.

	\spadesuit A J 5		\spadesuit Q 7 3
	\heartsuit K 9 7 5 4 3		\heartsuit 6 2
	\diamond 3 2		\diamond A 10 4
	\clubsuit A 7		\clubsuit K 9 6 4 3
\spadesuit K 9 8 6 4 2			
\heartsuit Q J 10			
\diamond J 9 8			
\clubsuit 2			
	\spadesuit 10		
	\heartsuit A 8		
	\diamond K Q 7 6 5		
	\clubsuit Q J 10 8 5		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Helgemo	Bathurst	Helness	Hurd
2 \spadesuit	3 \heartsuit	3 \spadesuit	Dble
All Pass			

John Hurd's double was responsive, showing both minors and also suggesting heart tolerance. Kevin Bathurst might have pulled to what was likely to be a 6-2 heart fit but, wary of poor breaks after West's pre-empt, he chose instead to defend.

A diamond lead might have beaten the contract by three, but Bathurst opened a heart, Hurd winning with the $\heartsuit A$ and switching to the $\diamond Q$. Declarer won with the $\diamond A$ and played a trump to the king. Bathurst won with the $\spadesuit A$, cashed the $\heartsuit K$ and the $\clubsuit A$, then played a diamond to his partner's king and received a diamond ruff to put the contract two down. N/S +300.



Boye Brogeland



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Demuy did not open the West hand, so the Norwegians had the auction to themselves. Bakke might have bid 3♦ at his third turn, allowing Brogeland to show delayed heart support: certainly looking at just the N/S cards you would surely rather be in 4♥ than 3NT. However, the defenders' cards lie well for declarer.

Kranyak led the ♠3 to the ten, king and ace. Bakke played a diamond to dummy's king and then ran the ♣Q. Winning with the ♣K, Kranyak now played queen and another spade, declarer winning with the ♠J. With three tricks in the bag, declarer now claimed six more tricks via two hearts and four clubs but, with the remaining clubs splitting 4-0, he does not have four club tricks. Of course, declarer should have made sure by cashing the ♣A before making his claim. When the bad split came to light, he would then have been able to lead a diamond towards dummy's queen for his ninth trick. With the ♦A onside and East having started with only three spades, the defenders cannot stop him making nine tricks. Having made the bad claim, though, declarer had to settle for one down. N/S -50 and 8 IMPs to USA2 rather than a 3-IMP swing to the Scandinavians. And things were about to get worse for the Norwegians as their West player had to deal with the bidding problem posed earlier.

Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	2♦	2♠	5♦
6♥	All Pass		

Procuring the only available plus score by doubling 5♦ would, perhaps, be fairly low on many people's list of options. Indeed, even 4♥/4♠ goes down if the defenders find their club ruff. That was made more difficult here when Bathurst led the ♣5 against 6♥. Hurd won with the ♣A and understandably cashed his ♦A before leading a second round of clubs, so no ruff, but still two down: N/S +200.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	3♦	3♠	4♣
4♦	Pass	4♠	5♣
5♥	Pass	5♠	6♦
Dble	All Pass		

Christian Bakke potentially got the Norwegians off to an even better start. However, Boye Brogeland failed to exert maximum pressure on West and, in the end, wound up making the last and fatal guess himself. Declarer had four obvious losers in the majors: N/S -500 and 12 IMPs to USA2.

Gaining a small swing on the next deal put the Americans ahead by 30-19 with five deals remaining. Then, though, the worm turned. A couple of small swings reduced the deficit to 30-26 and next came:

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		

The optimum contract is 6♦ played from the West side, but after 2♣-2♦ that was not possible. Even



played by West, though, the 4-1 trump break would have left declarer having to guess the hearts in the endgame. With the strong hand on his left, could John Hurd find the very-likely killing low heart lead? Failing that, could he find a neutral lead to leave declarer with a guess? No, he laid down the ♡A at trick one and moments later Tor Helness was claiming twelve tricks. E/W +920

With the imaginative Boye Brogeland in the South seat at the other table, there were still hopes for a swing amongst the Norwegian supporters amongst the more than 3500 watching the match live on BBO VuGraph. As it turned out, they didn't need any Boye magic.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♡	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♣	Pass	7♣	Dble
7♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

Vincent Demuy alerted his 3♣ bid as showing diamonds, and it appeared to all those watching that the auction was progressing swimmingly as the American pair cue-bid their way towards slam. It was only when John Kranyak jumped to 7♣ that it became immediately obvious that something had gone wrong. Exactly what, I cannot tell you. Perhaps Kranyak had forgotten that 3♣ was a transfer, perhaps it wasn't, or maybe someone thought one of these cue-bids was actually RKCB. Suffice it to say that E/W -100 and 14 IMPs to Norway was something of an own goal. And there was more to come too...

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Helgemo</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Helness</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
1♦	Pass	1♡	Dble
2♡	2♠	4♡	Pass
Pass	4♠	Dble	All Pass

This deal was a classic major-suit battle. The Norwegians did well to get to game with only a combined 18 HCP. Having competed to the two-level in response to his partner's takeout double, Kevin Bathurst then reassessed when Tor Helness jumped to game. His decision to sacrifice was right in that the penalty was only N/S -300 against a vulnerable game. The most important question, though, was whether it was a phantom sacrifice?

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Bakke</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Brogeland</i>
1♦	Pass	1♡	Dble
2♡	2♠	4♡	All Pass

The auction was identical up until North's final decision. With three top losers, many of those watching on VuGraph might have thought it was just a question of whether declarer could get the trumps right in 4♡. Boye Brogeland quickly demonstrated that it was not necessary to rely on a mis-guess from the opponents.

Brogeland led the ♦A and got the ten (upside down) from Bakke. Knowing that declarer must have at least one more diamond, he then cashed the ♦K in case his partner had started with a singleton. When everyone followed, Brogeland switched to the ♠K. The bidding had told him that declarer would not hold a second spade, so there was only one more chance remaining: Brogeland now played a third round of diamonds, enabling his partner to score the ♡Q via a ruff to put the contract one down. N/S +100 and 9 more IMPs to Norway.

The Norwegians won the match 49-30 to climb back into the top eight, whilst the Americans slipped down another couple of places to fourth. It is still early days, though, with two-thirds of the round robin still to be played. But as Yogi Berra would say "It gets late early around here."

**David Stern, Bermuda Bowl, ROUND 10****USA2 vs AUSTRALIA**

On the first 64 board day, the final match sees USA2 (Bathurst-Hurd, Demuy-Kranyak) who are leading the event, playing Australia (Edgtton-Hung, Milne-Coutts) running 14th, some 31 VPs adrift.

Board 1 was a lead problem. You hold:

♠ A 9 2
♥ K J 9 3
♦ 10 2
♣ J 10 9 4

You hear the bidding go:

<i>Edgtton</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	Pass	1♣	1♦
Dble	1NT	Dble	2♦
Dble	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Your lead. Because it is a lead problem you may look elsewhere but partner bidding diamonds twice certainly suggests a diamond lead which is what Bathurst led. Here is the full layout:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

In the closed room Coutts, South for Australia led a high diamond, both leads allowing declarer to pitch a spade and lose two trumps and a spade. On a spade lead, only an inspired guess in the trump suit would allow declarer to make. However a little less inspiration may be needed after North's 1NT bid.

On board two, the more conservative approach allowed the opponents to find their own trouble...

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgtton</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	3♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Milne</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Coutts</i>
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
Pass	3♣	All Pass	

In the open room the defence was ruthless. North led his singleton diamond and upon winning the ♠J, South was able to give his partner two diamond ruffs, one with a low trump and one with the ace, while he still scored the ♠K. Three down and -300 to USA2. In the Closed Room declarer could have scraped home in 3♣ had he divined the bad break, but not unreasonably played for a 3-2 club break and lost three trumps, a diamond and a club. My admiration to Kranyak for not bidding 3♠ which might not be an unpopular choice in a bidding poll.

USA2 6 — Australia 1

After a flat board which might have yielded one less overtrick IMP in both rooms; and then another flat board...



Board 21. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgtton</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Milne</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Coutts</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Three notrumps is certainly playable.

In the open room, Hurd, South, won the club lead and played ♦A followed by the ♦Q, ducked. West won the ♣J continuation and switched to a spade. Declarer played a heart to the ace and a low diamond leaving the defence with just five tricks when the ♥9 proved to be a stopper in that suit.

In the closed room, Coutts, South for Australia, won the club lead and continued with clubs, won by West who now switched to the ♥K, ducked, ♥Q from partner. The heart continuation was won in dummy with the ace. Declarer cashed the ♣A and now, to make the contract, all declarer had to do was hope East held ♦Kx, ♦Kxx or West held the singleton ten. A diamond to the nine would of course have succeeded but there was nothing in the bidding or the play to that point to suggest that this was a reasonable line. -100 and +120 saw six more IMPs to the USA2 team.

USA2 12 — Australia 1

The next board saw USA2 collect four more IMPs when, with a 21 count opposite zero, they elected to stay one level lower than Australia.

USA2 16 — Australia 1

Two flat boards until the first significant swing to Australia.

Board 25. Dealer North. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgtton</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	2♠	Pass	4♠
Double All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Milne</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Coutts</i>
—	3♠	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

In the open room, Edgtton no doubt was worried that he was being swindled by his favourably vulnerable opponents. We would be sure that he had no conviction that 4♠ would fail and just maybe partner had the values and shape to make a five-level contract. The defence started with a diamond to the ace, ♣A, a diamond to the king and a club ruff. Declarer then misguessed spades by winning the first round with the ace playing West for an original holding of ♠K5. That resulted in -300.

In the closed room, the defence started with a club, which made the club ruff less obvious. Also, without the benefit of the low diamond lead, West had no clue as to where partner's possible entry lay and unsuccessfully tried a heart. After that reprieve declarer finessed spades, later finessing the ♣J to make 10 tricks for +420 and 12 IMPs to Australia.

USA2 16 — Australia 13

More IMPs flowed down under on the next board.



Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgtton</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	2NT	Pass	4♥
Dble	Pass	5♦	Dble
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Milne</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Coutts</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

If I had to define bridge ecstasy, holding five card support for partner's five card suit and a void in his second five plus suit would certainly be in the mix.

In the open room where Australia chose to sacrifice in 5♦, declarer ruffed the heart lead and followed up

with the ♣A, ruffed by South who continued hearts. Declarer pressed on with clubs, taking the marked finesse, again ruffed by South. Another heart followed, ruffed by declarer who cashed the ♦A, continuing clubs after which he lost only the ♦K and the ♠A for two down and -500. That seemed like the best result his side could achieve.

In the closed room, declarer made ten tricks losing a spade, a diamond and a club for +790 and 7 IMPs to Australia who now took the lead.

USA2 16 — Australia 20

More IMPs for Australia on the next board.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgtton</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	3♠	All Pass



John Kranyak and Vincent Demuy

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Demuy	Milne	Kranyak	Coutts
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	3♠	3NT
All Pass			

Now when you fly all the way from Australia, some 25 hours away, and give up two weeks of your life, nobody is going to pre-empt you out of what MAY rightfully be yours. Coutts certainly shopped well finding partner with a maximum 16 for his 14-16 1NT opening. Kranyak led a spade honour of course, Demuy pitching a heart. Then he erred slightly by playing the ♠A and queen – doubtless trying to signal his diamond card and assuming hearts were not in the picture. But from Demuy's perspective might declarer not have the ♦Q not the ♥Q? if East has ♥Qx he can block the suit by rising with the queen on the first round. Demuy pitched a second heart and thus could no longer hold up the ♥K long enough to prevent declarer running the suit. With the aid of the double club finesse, he had 10 tricks. (Demuy was by no means the only one to discard this way. Editor)



Kevin Bathurst

In the open room, three spades had its own problems. Hurd led his doubleton diamond, won by North's ♦K who then cashed a diamond and gave his partner a ruff. The ♥A, an essential cash, followed by a club continuation and another diamond from North which proved to be a trump promotion. ♠Q from declarer, overruffed by South with the ♠K thereby establishing North's precious ♠9. That was -150 but still 7 IMPs to Australia.

USA2 16 — Australia 27

The next Board saw Demuy-Kranyak push to 3NT on VERY limited values.

Board 28. Dealer West. N-S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Edgton	Bathurst	Hung	Hurd
1♣	Pass	1♦*	1♠
Dble*	2♠	Dble	Pass
3♦	All Pass		

1♦ Transfer to 1♥
Dble Support Double

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Demuy	Milne	Kranyak	Coutts
1♦	Pass	1♥	1♠
Dble*	2♠	Dble	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Dble Support Double

In the open room, despite the ♣10 lead, once declarer held the ♣9, the defence were unable to garner their second club trick before declarer established hearts for a club discard. 3♦ scored +110.

In the closed room, Kranyak pushed to game on what was a minimum hand. This seems somewhat odd, as



a 1NT opening nil Vul in 1/2/3 seat shows 13-16 so presumable Demuy was limited to 12 points. The defence ended up taking three spades, two hearts, a diamond and a club for three down, +150 to Australia and 6 more IMPs.

USA2 16 — Australia 33

All good things must come to an end, but perhaps not quite so dramatically as this.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
—	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Milne</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Coutts</i>
—	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣	Dble	Rdbl	All Pass

With the spade queen, heart king, club ace onside and ♦J10 falling short an easy twelve tricks are available in spades or notrumps. Hung eschewed the spade finesse and made eleven tricks.

Sometimes bad things happen to good people. Presumably West's 3♣ showed shortage in both rooms. Milne thought he would suggest a club lead may be best for the defence wherever the contract landed. He never thought for a moment that this was in fact where the contract would land. Holding 13 points opposite his partner's 14-17 1NT opening, Demuy, West for USA2, decided to take a punt on partner's redouble – presumably a suggestion to play - and so passed.

Declarer lost just three trump tricks and racked up +1240 and 11 IMPs.

USA2 27 — Australia 33

Four down against three down saw two IMPs to the USA on the next hand followed by a flat board.

The last board of the set proved to be the most amusing/interesting one of a lively set of boards.

Board 32. Dealer West. E-W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hurd</i>
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	4NT	Pass
6♠	Pass	6NT	All Pass

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Demuy</i>	<i>Milne</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Coutts</i>
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	6NT	Dble
All Pass			

A combined thirty-three points and all you are missing is the ♦AK and unfortunately they reside in the same hand but fortunately not the hand on lead and even more fortunately you have four tricks in each of the other suits.

Twenty-one of the twenty-four tables played slam with sixteen being declared by West. It was doubled four times and made each of those times while on two undoubled tables North found the diamond lead.

The double cost Australia 6 IMPs, leaving the result USA 2 35 Australia 33. USA 2 were now running 3rd having been overtaken by England and Switzerland, Australia slipping one position to 15th.


Barry Rigal, D'Orsi Trophy, ROUND 10
FRANCE vs USA1

For the fourth and final match of a long and grueling day, we would be watching the seniors, France versus USAI.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Passell</i>	<i>Abecassis</i>	<i>Lair</i>	<i>Levy</i>
—	Pass	1♣	1♦
Dble*	1NT	2♦	3♦
Pass	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	Pass	1♣	1♦
Dble*	1NT	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Marc Bompis' double of 1♦ wasn't alerted that I can see but may simply have shown hearts and not guaranteed spades. Jeff Meckstroth led the disciplined ♦10 – though one can see a case for the ♠A, which would surely have given declarer insuperable problems? After the diamond lead Bompis pitched a spade from dummy and crossed to the ♠Q to ruff a club then play a second trump for 10 tricks. In the other room Michel Abecassis had more reason to lead diamonds from his partner's bidding, expecting perhaps to set up a force.

No swing; but on the second deal Alain Levy found a much more successful defense than Zia to a 3♠ partscore (bid over a 3♣ balance that rated to be down one in top tricks). France led 2-0. Two quiet games where only overtricks were at stake followed.

However those with weak stomachs should turn aside now; it is worth noting that both Norths elected to open 2NT in third seat with

♠KQ532 ♥AQ85 ♦A6 ♣AJ.
 After four deals France led 3-0.

Board 21. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Passell</i>	<i>Abecassis</i>	<i>Lair</i>	<i>Levy</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
Dble	1♥	1♠	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

You could argue that it was poetic justice for Passell's double of 1♦ that he put himself on lead to attack clubs rather than his partner to lead hearts. I couldn't possibly comment. When Soulet led ♥Q against 3NT Meckstroth ducked one heart and won the second to finesse a diamond to dummy then play the ♣Q. Bompis won and exited a club. Meckstroth put up the king to take the diamond finesse. When the bad break came to light he could set up diamonds, but not before the defenders cashed out for 200.

After Passell's club lead against 3NT Levy won in hand and returned the suit. Passell played a third club setting up the suit. Levy won and saw East discourage in spades. After much thought Levy cashed ♦A,



protecting himself against the singleton king (the $\diamond 10$ is a break even, the three singletons are the losing case) and played $\diamond Q$. Lair ducked of course, and now declarer could not do any better than lead $\spadesuit 10$ from his hand, since he could not afford to cross to $\heartsuit A$ to play diamonds. He emerged with three spades, two clubs, one heart and two diamonds. Down one and 3 IMPs to France to lead 6-0 – but a huge opportunity missed.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

\spadesuit A K \heartsuit A 3 \diamond K J 4 \clubsuit A Q 9 5 3 2	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	\spadesuit Q 7 2 \heartsuit 9 5 \diamond A 10 9 6 3 \clubsuit J 10 6	\spadesuit 10 9 8 4 \heartsuit 10 7 6 4 2 \diamond 7 5 2 \clubsuit 4
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Passell</i>	<i>Abecassis</i>	<i>Lair</i>	<i>Levy</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 \clubsuit	Dble	1 \diamond	Pass
1 \heartsuit	1NT	All Pass	

1 \clubsuit 2 \clubsuit +

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 \clubsuit	Dble	1 \spadesuit *	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	2 \heartsuit
All Pass			

I had expected *Passell* to open 1 \heartsuit in third seat but both Wests opted for 1 \clubsuit . North doubled (with close to the expected shape for that call) and *Meckstroth* then found himself frozen out of the auction thereafter. *Zia* won the heart lead against 2 \heartsuit , ruffed clubs in hand and a spade in dummy, and guessed diamonds for a solid +110.

Abecassis was faced with a rather different problem. He was able to come back in with 1NT; no one had anything else to say and declarer's heart was gladdened with the sight of the $\clubsuit J$ as the opening lead. He emerged with nine tricks and a hard-earned IMP. 7-0 to France.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

\spadesuit A K 7 2 \heartsuit K 10 4 3 \diamond K 5 4 \clubsuit 7 4	<table style="margin: auto; border: 1px solid black; background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px;">S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	\spadesuit Q 3 \heartsuit Q J 9 \diamond A Q J 9 \clubsuit 10 6 5 2	\spadesuit 8 4 \heartsuit A 8 5 2 \diamond 10 8 6 \clubsuit A Q 8 3
N						
W E						
S						

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Passell</i>	<i>Abecassis</i>	<i>Lair</i>	<i>Levy</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1 \clubsuit	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1 \diamond	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Both tables reached 3NT with five apparent top losers if the defence were awake. *Zia* led $\spadesuit J$ and declarer won in dummy and led a heart to the jack, then passed the heart nine. *Meckstroth* ducked, and declarer ran for home with nine tricks.

Abecassis as North ducked the first heart, won the second and shifted to clubs. Bob's your uncle and 12 IMPs to France, leading 19-0. (Would it be unreasonable to win the first heart – in case declarer has five diamonds? Maybe.)

Championship offer


NEW dealing machines of the type used to duplicate the boards at these championships are sold for the occasional price **EUR 2700** during the championships. Contact the book stall or email anna@jannersten.com





A push at +110 in an undemanding partscore followed.

Board 25. Dealer North. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Passell</i>	<i>Abecassis</i>	<i>Lair</i>	<i>Levy</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♥	2♥*	Dble	3♠
4♥	All Pass		

2♥ Spades


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	2♦*	Pass	2♥
4♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	All Pass

2♦ multi

After opening 1♦ -- no doubt for its lead directing value - Levy's final decision swung a lot of IMPs. 4♠ can be beaten but the defenders would have needed to be quite careful with South declarer. 4♥ was painless when diamonds broke, though the diamond lead doubtless put the fear of god into declarer. Since 5♥ lost the obvious three tricks after a spade lead, that was 12 IMPs to USAI to make it 19-12; and there was more good news for the USA on the next deal.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Passell</i>	<i>Abecassis</i>	<i>Lair</i>	<i>Levy</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	2NT	Pass	3♦
3♥	Pass	3NT	4♥
All Pass			





Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♦	1♥	Pass	2NT(♥)
Dble	4♥	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Both Wests thought they were looking at a powerhouse. Passell was able to get his hand off his chest and subside against 4♥. Bompis felt he had more to say, but when he doubled Soulet had nowhere to go. Meckstroth was helped to establish his long club when Bompis was forced to shift to one at trick two, and thus emerged with +990 and 8 IMPs. USAI led 20-19 now.

But France came roaring right back:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open and Closed Rooms

West	North	East	South
<i>Passell</i>	<i>Abecassis</i>	<i>Lair</i>	<i>Levy</i>
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Zia</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	3♠	3NT
All Pass			

Soulet led the ♠Q ducked and thoughtfully continued with ♠J, Bompis pitched first a club then a heart. Declarer led a club to the ten, ran the ♥Q, ducked, led ♥J to the ♥A and repeated the club finesse but had just eight tricks.

In the other room Lair put his partner under more pressure by cashing the ♠A at trick two then playing a third spade; the seven. Passell had to find a third discard and chose a second heart (perhaps playing his partner for ♥Q not ♦Q, when East can rise with ♥Q on the first round of the suit?). Now declarer could set up hearts for ten tricks and the same number of IMPs. They led 29-20.

Both Easts handled a delicate partscore very nicely to come home with nine tricks and avoided playing slam off an ace and two finesses (though France climbed to 5♠, but found that the cards forgave).

A more aggressive preempt from Bompis pushed Meckstroth a level higher, for 2 undertrick IMPs to France, leading 31-20 with two deals to go. Both E/W pairs did well to buy the next deal low and steal a couple of overtricks; on to the grand finale!

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Passell</i>	<i>Abecassis</i>	<i>Lair</i>	<i>Levy</i>
2♦*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠*	Pass
3NT	Pass	5NT	Pass
6NT	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

- 2♦ 18-19
- 3♣ Puppet Stayman
- 3♠ Hearts

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bompis</i>	<i>Meckstroth</i>	<i>Soulet</i>	<i>Zia</i>
2NT	Pass	3♦*	Dble
3♠	Pass	6NT	All Pass

- 3♦ 4-card transfer

A very unlucky hand for Soulet, for whom 3♦ was a four-card transfer. Whether 3♦xx makes depends on whether declarer goes after trumps early enough to avoid ruffs and trump promotions. But while Meckstroth had no trouble on lead, it certainly wasn't clear to Abecassis which ace-king his partner had. After the ♠10 lead USAI had once again snatched victory from the jaws of defeat with an 18 IMP pickup to win 38-32.


David Bird, BERMUDA BOWL, ROUND 11
USA 1 vs ITALY

Half a century ago, when I started to play bridge, USA and Italy (the fabled Blue Team) ruled the world and contested many hard-fought finals. Sadly, in those distant days, there was no Bridge Base Online to entertain bridge enthusiasts.

At the start of Day 4, I see that Italy are 9th and USA1 are 11th. Only 10 of the 23 rounds have been played, so there is plenty of time for them to climb high into the top eight. I'm sure they will fight hard in this particular match. Ah, I must stop waffling; here come the players.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♥	Dble	3♦*	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

Giorgio Duboin's 3♦ was a fit-jump, showing diamonds and hearts. Agustin Madala did not like his singleton in the fit suit and signed off. Bobby Levin cashed the ♣K, seeing partner's ♣9, and switched to a spade. Madala won, crossed to the ♦A and ran the ♣8 to North's ace. Spades were continued, declarer ruffing the third round and reaching dummy with a club ruff to finesse in trumps. That was +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Greco</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Versace</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣*
1♥	Dble	2NT*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Alfredo Versace's 1♣ was 11-14 balanced, and Geoff Hampson's 2NT showed a heart raise with at least four trumps. He would cue-bid with a three-card raise. Eric Greco then bid the heart game.

After the ♣A, again drawing the ♣9, and a spade switch to the ace, Greco crossed to the ♦A and led the ♣8 to the jack, queen and ace. He ruffed the third round of spades and entered dummy with a club ruff. A trump finesse then gave him ten tricks and a reward of 6 IMPs.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	4♠	All Pass	

Madala thought for a while about a protective double, but he did not quite have the values. After king and another heart, Levin ruffed and ran all his trumps. East discarded four diamonds and ten tricks were made. Not much interest there.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Greco</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Versace</i>
—	—	1♦	1♥
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♣*
Pass	5♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Geoff Hampson usually makes the best of any 10s in his hand, so he opened 1♦, showing 11-15 points.



Alfredo Versace recognises a sound overcall when he sees one, and was there with 1♥.

You are hoping that I can explain what happened next? Hmm, give me a moment. If the initial meaning of 2♦ was to show a sound heart raise, Versace would have rebid 2♥. Since he held a weak hand, it is possible (I put it no more strongly) that South read the 2♦ bid as natural and that 3♦ was a raise. It doesn't seem very likely, I agree, but the 1♦ opening might have been made on a short suit. Lauria showed his spades and must have read Versace's mysterious 4♣ as a control bid. RKCB revealed two missing aces and they stopped in 5♠.

The defence started with king and another heart. Lauria ruffed and drew trumps in three rounds, West throwing the ♥9 and the ♦3. Lauria continued with five more rounds of trumps, West ditching the ♣K to keep the ♥A and ♦KJ. Hampson had the ♦8 and ♣AJ remaining.

To make his doubled contract, Lauria now needed the diamond finesse to succeed. Remarkably, he played a diamond to the ace. Even if he was confident from his card reading that East did not have ♦K8 remaining, was it attractive to spurn the finesse? If they played in just 4♠ at the other table, one down would be a big adverse swing anyway. The potential IMP gain by finessing was massively more than any potential loss.

Well, Lauria's card-reading was accurate. West did hold the ♦K, but after a losing finesse he would have had to give the dummy a diamond trick anyway. It was 13 IMPs to USA1. (My apologies to Lauria if the hand record is wrong and he did finesse the ♦Q.)

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Madala</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Duboin</i>	<i>Weinstein</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
All Pass			

East decided against a protective 1♠ and the ♣K was led. Weinstein won, cashed the ♠AK and led a third spade. Madala uppercut with the ♥8, forcing dummy's king, and declarer returned to the ♦A to lead his last spade. West had nothing further to offer and a ruff was taken with the ♥2. Declarer played on trumps and ten tricks resulted, for +170.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Greco</i>	<i>Lauria</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Versace</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥*	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Geoff Hampson

Alfredo Versace

Lorenzo Lauria

Eric Greco



2♣ was Gazzilli (clubs or 16+) and North's 2♥ then showed 0-7 HCP. Would Eric Greco make the same opening lead as on the other table? No, he reached for a deadly trump. Hampson won and played a second trump. Versace was left with a spade loser for one down, and it was 7 IMPs to USA-1.

Board 13. Dealer North. Both Vul.

♠ 4 ♥ A Q J 2 ♦ K Q 6 ♣ K 9 8 4 3	♠ A J 9 7 6 5 ♥ 10 8 6 4 ♦ J 5 2 ♣ —		♠ Q 8 2 ♥ 9 7 5 ♦ 9 8 7 4 3 ♣ J 2	
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%; vertical-align: top;"> ♠ K 10 3 ♥ K 3 ♦ A 10 ♣ A Q 10 7 6 5 </td> </tr> </table>				♠ K 10 3 ♥ K 3 ♦ A 10 ♣ A Q 10 7 6 5
♠ K 10 3 ♥ K 3 ♦ A 10 ♣ A Q 10 7 6 5				

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Madala	Levin	Duboin	Weinstein
—	2♠	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

Madala doubled, hoping for the best but not getting it. With a weak hand, Duboin opted for the traditional mantra: 'Four tricks are easier than eleven'. The ♥5 was led, West scoring two tricks in the suit and switching to the ♦K. Levin won in the dummy and played a second diamond.

On lead with the ♦Q, West played a third diamond to declarer's jack. Declarer had to be careful now. If he took a premature heart ruff, he would go down. Levin has probably not taken a premature heart ruff for several decades. He led the ♠9 and ran it successfully. Only then did he ruff a heart, continuing with the ♠K. He was soon entering +790 on his card.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Greco	Lauria	Hampson	Versace
—	2♠	Pass	4♠
Dble	All Pass		

The auction was the same, but this time the ♣J was led, covered by the queen and king and ruffed by declarer. Lauria ran the ♠J, finessed the ♠10 and ruffed a club with the ♠A. The play record ends as he draws the last trump with dummy's king. A push board in +790.

Let's see what happened at the other Bermuda Bowl tables on this board. The top score was +990 for a doubled overtrick, followed by four pairs collecting +790. Nine pairs made the spade game undoubled, two with an overtrick. Ah, nine pairs went one down in 4♠, two of them doubled.

USA-1 won the match by 31 IMPs to 7. As a result, the two teams swapped 9th and 11th places.

I'm sure you are mightily impressed by the attractive layout, not only of this modest piece, but of the whole bulletin. We must all put our hands together for the wonderful Francesca. Many thanks!

😊 Thank you David! 7.



**Herman De wael**

IT WAS THIRTY YEARS AGO TODAY

(When the birth of Herman's grandfather was registered in 1903 it should have shown the surname as Dewael. However, it was inadvertently recorded as De wael, which is why wael does not have a capital letter! Editor)

In 1992, the World Bridge Games (then still called the Olympiad) was played at this same venue. Since those were the first World Championships I attended, I will take a walk down memory lane and present you with a few facts across the decades. Let's start with:

Who is still here?

Back in 1992, there were only two series: Open and Women (still addressed as Ladies at the time) but every country was allowed to send teams, so every player here (of sufficient age) had a chance of also being on a team then. A surprisingly large number of players (15) in open teams are still among their nations' best:

Bauke Muller (who won a bronze medal), Waleed El-Ahmady, Ilan Herbst, Ofir Herbst, Piotr Gawrys (for Poland), Giorgio Duboin, Lorenzo Lauria, Alfredo Versace, Michael Cornell, Geir Helgemo, Geoff Hampson (for Canada), Rajeshwar Tewari, Gabor Winkler, Dominique Gerin and Jean-Claude Pelletier.

Eight players appeared in their national women's teams both in 1992 and 2022: Liz McGowan (who won a silver for Great Britain – the Editor was Captain!), Danielle Avon, Sylvie Gombert (Willard) (both winning bronze), Dorte Cilleborg Bilde, Charlotte Koch-Palmund, Trine Bilde and Nevena Senior (for Bulgaria)

A further eight players are now in the mixed teams: Ricardo Poleschi, Juliano Barbosa, Nikica Šver (who competed for the Croatian Open team), Daniela Von Arnim, Elly Schippers-Bosklopper, Migry Zur-Campanile (for Israel), Kiran Nadar and Sofia Pessoa.

Unsurprisingly there are a further 13 players who are now on the senior teams, including Alain Levy, who won the gold medal and Bob Hamman and Jeff Meckstroth who won the silver; and of course, Zia Mahmood, who was still representing Pakistan in 1992.



World Championship Book Salsomaggiore 2022

The official book of these World Championships in Salsomaggiore will be released on or before the start of the World Bridge Series in Wroclaw later this year. It will comprise approximately 300 full colour pages. The principal contributors will be **Brian Senior, Barry Rigal, Mark Horton, Marek Wojcicki, Daniel Gulyas & Ron Tacchi**. The book will include many photographs from the championships, a full list of results and extensive coverage of the major championship events. The official retail price will be £25, US\$35 and €30. The book will be distributed by **Master Point Press** and available from bridge suppliers around the world. Please order from your local bridge supplier, and not from MPP, which will not be handling individual orders.


Mark Horton

Misdefend (and Misplay) this Hand with me

There is nothing quite like the thrill of playing in a World Championship. Approaching the half-way mark of the qualifying rounds in Salsomaggiore I pick up this modest collection:

Dealer East. EW Vul.

♠ A J 7
 ♥ K J
 ♦ 8 6 3
 ♣ Q J 8 7 4

When the player on my right has nothing to say I reach for 1♣ when I remember that we are playing an attenuated notrump and I start with 1NT. West comes in with 2♣, which upon enquiry shows a hand with both majors. My partner jumps to 3♦, suggesting a weak hand and East's 4♠ concludes this simple auction:

West	North	East	South
—	—	Pass	1NT
2♣*	3♦	4♠	All Pass

If I didn't have the ♠J I would consider leading a trump, hoping to quickly regain the lead and play two more rounds. The ♥K (in my circle referred to as a 'movie-star lead') is far too risky, so the choice lies with one of the minors. A diamond is unlikely to cost a trick, but it may lose a tempo. Looking at the club suit I invariably find that leading an honour finds dummy with something along the lines of ♣K10x and declarer with ♣Ax (Easley Blackwood condemned the idea of leading from such a holding in his Complete Book of Opening Leads).

All things considered, I start with the ♦3 and this is what I can see:

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

When declarer plays dummy's seven, partner plays the nine and declarer wins with the ace and immediately plays a spade to dummy's ten, followed by a spade to the queen and my ace, partner following with the five and six. It must be right to exit with the ♠J and having won in dummy declarer cashes the ♣A and continues with the three on which partner discards a diamond. That gives declarer pause for thought and after winning with

the king she plays the ♥2 and allows my jack to win as partner follows with the five. It is clear that partner must have the ♥Q so if we have a diamond trick coming the contract will fail, but when I exit with a diamond declarer ruffs and plays two rounds of hearts, claiming ten tricks when partner wins the second of these with the ♥Q.

This was the full deal:

Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Postmortem

This was the position when South won the first round of hearts:

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

All South must do is play a top club. Declarer must ruff in dummy and duck a heart, but South wins and cashes a club.

Declarer could have avoided this possibility by ignoring the club suit and concentrating on hearts, the suit with eight cards as opposed to seven. After ducking a heart declarer ruffs the diamond return and then plays on hearts.

In the other room my hand opened 1♣ and West overcalled 1♥ which North doubled. When East bid 2♣ my hand saw fit to rebid 3♣ and West's 3♥ ended the auction. Declarer managed nine tricks, so we lost 10 IMPs.



Jos Jacobs, Bermuda Bowl, ROUND 11



SOUTH AFRICA vs NEW ZEALAND



After the first three days of the Round Robin we have not yet reached the halfway point of it. So whoever is within the top eight of the rankings cannot yet feel safe and whoever is knocking at the top eight's doors is still in with a chance to open it. Two of the latter type of teams were to meet on Thursday morning: South Africa and New Zealand. After a particularly bad Wednesday, South Africa had gone down to 17th in the table, at a respectable distance (35 VP) of 8th-ranked Hungary. New Zealand could not look back on a very successful Wednesday either. After one match, they were leading the field but after beating England all ends up on Tuesday evening, they slumped from 7th to 13th on Wednesday. So for either team, getting a lot of Victory Points. was important to keep their chances alive, even at this stage of the competition.

This was the first board.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Gower</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♥	Dble	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	All Pass

Over South's 1♣ opening bid, Ashley Bach could not conveniently show his two-suiter. Michael Cornell showed a constructive raise but settled for 3♥ when partner showed shortness in his main side values. North led a top club and switched to a trump so 11 tricks were easy enough. New Zealand +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Tislevoll</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
2NT*	3♣	4♥	All Pass

When Nick Jacob opened 1♦ rather than 1♣ because his diamonds were slightly better than his clubs, West could show his two-suiter alright so after North's diamond raise by bidding 3♣, the E/W game was quickly reached, but played from the other side of the table. South led the ♠K which was won by dummy's ace and declarer immediately took a diamond finesse, apparently not wanting to put all his money on the heart finesse only. When South could win his ♦K and cash the ♠Q, one down was inevitable, so the first swing of the match was born: a surprise 6 IMPs to New Zealand rather than the other way round.

On the next board, we saw a solid enough nine-bagger.

Board 2. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Gower</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	4♠	All Pass	

Cornell judged well to leave the vulnerable 4♠ alone. South Africa a quiet +620. A popular score was +790 to N/S when East doubled and the odd E/W even registered a diamond game their way.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Tislevoll</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♥	4♠	Dble	All Pass

Hennie Fick became one of the many to concede -790 when he doubled 4♠. This brought New Zealand another 5 IMPs.

Next came:

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Gower</i>
—	—	—	1♦
1NT	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

This was routine for the Kiwis who scored an overtrick in their 4♠, +650.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Tislevoll</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
—	—	—	1♦
Dble	3♦	4♠	Pass
5♦*	Pass	5♥*	Pass
6♠	All Pass		

On the expected diamond lead, slam would need some miracles to make so West's optimism proved expensive. New Zealand another +100 and 13 more IMPs to them.

Three more IMPs to the Kiwis on board 4 but then:

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Gower</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	1♠	1NT
2♦	2♥	Pass	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♦	All Pass

In a teams event, selling out to 3♦ is as good as anything. Who cares much about 1 IMP? Down two, undoubled (this might have been an issue, however), South Africa +100.





Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Tislevoll</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Standard overbidding here by N/S but why argue with success when the defence did not find the trump lead? When West led the ♣K, dummy's trumps were just good enough to enable two spade ruffs at no costs. New Zealand +620 and another 11 IMPs to them to lead 38-0 after just 5 boards. It was beginning to look like a rather one-sided story...

A flat board next and then a board that should have been flat, maybe.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Gower</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	3NT*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♦*	Dble	4♠
All Pass			

When Craig Gower elected to open only 1♠, N/S were never in danger of getting too high, even less so when East sent a warning double over 4♦. Just made when the ♠Q misbehaved, South Africa +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Tislevoll</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
—	—	—	2NT
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥*	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT*	Pass	5♥*
Pass	5♠	All Pass	

When Nick Jacob judged to open 2NT with his good

five-card suit, the spade fit was easily established here as well. The duplication in diamonds was just too much this time for N/S. One down, South Africa another +100 and 12 much needed IMPs back to them.

The next five boards brought only an overtrick or two to South Africa but on #13, we were back into the bigger numbers.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Gower</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1NT
Dble	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

The main advantage of the slightly off-shape 1NT opening bid was that the spade game would be played by South, so West was already sort of endplayed at trick 1. He chose the ♦K as his opening lead but declarer won, ruffed a club in dummy and got off play with a diamond to his ten and West's ♦Q to endplay him again. This time, West exited in diamonds, so a heart disappeared on the ♦J. From here, declarer could afford to lose a heart and a trump trick, so getting to 10 tricks was no longer a problem. South Africa +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Tislevoll</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♣
1♥	Dble	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

With East on lead, 4♠ was a different story. Heart lead to the ♥J and shift to the ♦K. Dummy took the ace and returned the suit but West won his ♦Q, cashed the ♥A and exited in diamonds. From here, a heart can be ruffed and the last heart thrown on the ♣A but in either case, declarer has to overcome the

trump guess problem. He therefore went on to ruff a heart, cash the ♣A for a heart discard and ruff himself back to hand with a club but when he led a spade to the ♠10 only now, he suddenly found himself stranded in dummy. This way, East's ♠Q got promoted into the setting trick. A different timing would have saved the day for him, as they showed in other matches. The solution is easy once you think of it, maybe guided by the auction: run the ♠9 from hand first. Then heart ruff, heart discard, ♠K and a club ruff back to hand to draw the last trump. Anyway, one down, +100 to South Africa and 12 more IMPs back to them.

The penultimate board was a matter of judgement.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Gower</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

Opposite a 15-17 opening 1NT bid, I do not think there is much future in the South hand. Craig Gower obviously belongs to the same school. Just made, South Africa +90.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Tislevoll</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Same opening bid and range but Nick Jacob belongs to a different school, as you can see. Down two and another +200 to South Africa who thus closed the gap to 3 IMPs only.

On the last board, however, New Zealand restored order, as they sometimes say...

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bach</i>	<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Cornell</i>	<i>Gower</i>
Pass	1♣	1♥	3♦
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

With the trumps 3-2, declarer's only remaining task was to locate the ♠J. No problem for Cornell, so New Zealand +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Tislevoll</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Jacob</i>
Pass	1♣	Dble	3♦
3♠	All Pass		

The old controversy: what action to take with 5-4 in the majors? Over West's free bid of 3♠, East could not make any sensible move. One overtrick, South Africa +170 but the last 10 IMPs of the match going to New Zealand who thus won 48-35 or 13.52 - 6.48 VP to consolidate their position but not much more than that.

WBFC Master Points at the WBTC in Salsomaggiore (cont).

The 4/1 awards are of course directly linked to April 1st. Congratulations if you worked out that Pesce d'Aprile is Italian for April Fool!



RESULTS

BERMUDA BOWL

Round	Match	Score	Points	Goals	Goals	Goals
Round 11	1 ARGENTINA NETHERLANDS	3	86	0.00	20.00	
	2 EGYPT USA 2	10	47	2.28	17.72	
	3 UAE ENGLAND	26	45	5.20	14.80	
	4 URUGUAY ISRAEL	7	17	6.20	12.80	
	5 GUADELOUPE BULGARIA	19	72	0.57	19.43	
	6 SINGAPORE AUSTRALIA	27	70	1.56	18.44	
	7 HUNGARY CANADA	58	32	16.09	3.91	
	8 INDIA NORWAY	23	49	3.91	16.09	
	9 USA 1 ITALY	31	7	15.74	4.26	
	10 SOUTH AFRICA NEW ZEALAND	35	48	6.48	13.52	
	11 SWITZERLAND SWEDEN	55	26	16.58	3.42	
	12 DENMARK CHINA HONG KONG	35	30	11.48	8.52	
Round 12	1 HUNGARY ARGENTINA	32	22	12.80	7.20	
	2 INDIA EGYPT	23	58	2.55	17.45	
	3 SOUTH AFRICA UAE	16	27	6.96	13.04	
	4 SWITZERLAND URUGUAY	90	20	20.00	0.00	
	5 CHINA HONG KONG GUADELOUPE	45	10	17.45	2.55	
	6 NORWAY SINGAPORE	45	32	13.52	6.48	
	7 CANADA AUSTRALIA	13	57	1.45	18.55	
	8 USA 1 SWEDEN	25	29	8.80	11.20	
	9 USA 2 ENGLAND	47	24	15.56	4.44	
	10 NEW ZEALAND ISRAEL	58	64	8.24	11.76	
	11 DENMARK NETHERLANDS	23	58	2.55	17.45	
	12 BULGARIA ITALY	26	47	4.81	15.19	
Round 13	1 ARGENTINA USA 2	5	37	2.97	17.03	
	2 EGYPT USA 1	15	28	6.48	13.52	
	3 UAE NEW ZEALAND	40	37	10.91	9.09	
	4 URUGUAY DENMARK	8	39	3.12	16.88	
	5 GUADELOUPE ITALY	42	5	17.72	2.28	
	6 SINGAPORE SWEDEN	46	22	15.74	4.26	
	7 INDIA SOUTH AFRICA	48	28	15.00	5.00	
	8 CANADA NETHERLANDS	14	64	0.84	19.16	
	9 ENGLAND NORWAY	36	39	9.09	10.91	
	10 ISRAEL SWITZERLAND	23	46	4.44	15.56	
	11 BULGARIA HUNGARY	21	45	4.26	15.74	
	12 CHINA HONG KONG AUSTRALIA	21	35	6.25	13.75	

Ranking after Round 13

1		NETHERLANDS	194.35
2		SWITZERLAND	190.44
3		USA 2	186.74
4		NORWAY	173.22
5		HUNGARY	170.13
6		ENGLAND	167.15
7		DENMARK	162.33
8		AUSTRALIA	156.61
9		USA 1	152.85
10		ISRAEL	151.39
11		ITALY	145.64
12		SWEDEN	144.60
13		NEW ZEALAND	142.25
14		INDIA	132.90
15		EGYPT	118.70
16		CANADA	118.47
17		CHINA HONG KONG	115.07
18		SOUTH AFRICA	108.88
19		BULGARIA	102.61
20		GUADELOUPE	67.60
21		SINGAPORE	63.72
22		UAE	50.24
23		ARGENTINA	49.03
24		URUGUAY	45.78

VENICE CUP

Round	Match	Score	Points	Goals	Goals	Goals
Round 11	21 PORTUGAL INDIA	41	13	16.42	3.08	
	22 MOROCCO BELGIUM	62	45	13.39	5.61	
	23 UAE HUNGARY	23	25	8.89	10.61	
	24 EGYPT ITALY	12	53	1.79	18.21	
	25 BRAZIL DENMARK	11	60	0.93	19.07	
	26 SCOTLAND SWEDEN	24	47	4.44	15.56	
	27 ARGENTINA USA 2	32	40	7.71	12.29	
	28 POLAND SPAIN	62	18	18.55	1.45	
	29 TURKEY AUSTRALIA	63	31	17.03	2.97	
	30 USA 1 FRANCE	46	14	17.03	2.47	
	31 GERMANY CANADA	40	37	10.91	9.09	
	32 NORWAY ENGLAND	32	45	6.48	13.52	
Round 12	21 BRAZIL PORTUGAL	46	17	16.58	3.42	
	22 DENMARK MOROCCO	49	12	17.72	2.28	
	23 GERMANY UAE	21	28	7.97	12.03	
	24 USA 2 EGYPT	51	10	18.21	1.79	
	25 SCOTLAND POLAND	17	49	2.97	17.03	
	26 SWEDEN NORWAY	48	30	14.60	5.40	
	27 BELGIUM FRANCE	11	32	4.81	15.19	
	28 TURKEY ARGENTINA	48	21	16.26	3.74	
	29 USA 1 SPAIN	20	16	11.20	8.80	
	30 HUNGARY CANADA	28	25	10.91	9.09	
	31 AUSTRALIA INDIA	46	16	16.73	3.27	
	32 ITALY ENGLAND	9	26	5.61	14.39	
Round 13	21 PORTUGAL SCOTLAND	31	11	15.00	5.00	
	22 MOROCCO POLAND	21	26	8.52	11.48	
	23 UAE AUSTRALIA	21	79	0.15	19.85	
	24 EGYPT ENGLAND	19	41	4.62	15.38	
	25 SWEDEN TURKEY	33	31	10.61	9.39	
	26 NORWAY BELGIUM	32	17	13.97	6.03	
	27 DENMARK CANADA	23	29	8.24	11.76	
	28 USA 1 ITALY	1	42	1.79	18.21	
	29 HUNGARY ARGENTINA	48	23	15.92	4.08	
	30 GERMANY INDIA	62	3	19.93	0.07	
	31 SPAIN BRAZIL	15	14	10.31	9.69	
	32 USA 2 FRANCE	45	30	13.97	6.03	

Ranking after Round 13

1		POLAND	202.23
2		DENMARK	191.02
3		ENGLAND	188.19
4		SWEDEN	164.23
5		TURKEY	164.00
6		ITALY	158.81
7		CANADA	144.06
8		NORWAY	141.95
9		FRANCE	139.25
10		HUNGARY	139.17
11		USA 2	138.64
12		USA 1	132.77
13		SPAIN	129.28
14		SCOTLAND	124.40
15		AUSTRALIA	123.42
16		GERMANY	113.82
17		BELGIUM	113.56
18		PORTUGAL	112.84
19		BRAZIL	98.63
20		MOROCCO	88.54
21		EGYPT	83.82
22		UAE	79.97
23		ARGENTINA	71.57
24		INDIA	68.73



RESULTS

D'ORSI TROPHY

Round	Rank	Country 1	Country 2	Score 1	Score 2	Score 1	Score 2
Round 11	41	GUADELOUPE	BELGIUM	8	72	0.00	20.00
	42	EGYPT	SWEDEN	16	66	0.84	19.16
	43	PAKISTAN	BRAZIL	53	22	16.88	2.62
	44	MOROCCO	ARGENTINA	27	37	5.20	12.80
	45	INDIA	ENGLAND	66	17	19.07	0.93
	46	TURKEY	FRANCE	16	37	4.81	15.19
	47	BULGARIA	DENMARK	21	52	3.12	16.88
	48	USA 2	ICELAND	42	32	12.80	7.20
	49	ITALY	GERMANY	42	61	5.20	14.80
	50	CANADA	POLAND	42	41	10.31	9.69
	51	NORWAY	NETHERLANDS	67	9	19.85	0.15
	52	AUSTRALIA	USA 1	37	42	8.52	11.48
Round 12	41	INDIA	GUADELOUPE	21	23	9.39	10.61
	42	ENGLAND	EGYPT	45	34	13.04	6.96
	43	NORWAY	PAKISTAN	31	38	7.97	12.03
	44	USA 1	MOROCCO	67	6	20.00	0.00
	45	TURKEY	USA 2	31	14	14.39	5.61
	46	FRANCE	BULGARIA	60	27	17.17	2.83
	47	SWEDEN	POLAND	1	53	0.66	19.34
	48	ITALY	AUSTRALIA	40	23	14.39	5.61
	49	CANADA	ICELAND	12	32	5.00	15.00
	50	BRAZIL	NETHERLANDS	43	43	10.00	10.00
	51	GERMANY	BELGIUM	18	34	5.82	14.18
	52	ARGENTINA	DENMARK	18	36	5.40	14.60
Round 13	41	GUADELOUPE	TURKEY	11	51	1.91	18.09
	42	EGYPT	USA 2	35	80	1.34	18.66
	43	PAKISTAN	GERMANY	24	9	13.97	6.03
	44	MOROCCO	DENMARK	21	62	1.79	18.21
	45	FRANCE	ITALY	14	17	9.09	10.91
	46	BULGARIA	SWEDEN	34	17	14.39	5.61
	47	ENGLAND	NETHERLANDS	29	17	13.28	6.72
	48	CANADA	ARGENTINA	35	32	10.91	9.09
	49	BRAZIL	AUSTRALIA	10	15	8.52	11.48
	50	NORWAY	BELGIUM	39	21	14.60	5.40
	51	ICELAND	INDIA	7	14	7.97	12.03
	52	USA 1	POLAND	41	26	13.97	6.03

Ranking after Round 13

1		USA 1	193.81
2		DENMARK	188.91
3		POLAND	185.70
4		ENGLAND	158.78
5		INDIA	158.53
6		FRANCE	155.35
7		GERMANY	147.75
8		TURKEY	145.85
9		USA 2	139.37
10		ARGENTINA	138.86
11		ICELAND	136.65
12		ITALY	131.87
13		SWEDEN	131.20
14		BELGIUM	130.84
15		AUSTRALIA	130.78
16		BULGARIA	129.26
17		CANADA	117.70
18		NETHERLANDS	117.44
19		NORWAY	113.28
20		PAKISTAN	109.65
21		BRAZIL	77.88
22		MOROCCO	75.59
23		EGYPT	49.26
24		GUADELOUPE	39.19

WUHAN CUP

Round	Rank	Country 1	Country 2	Score 1	Score 2	Score 1	Score 2
Round 11	61	GUATEMALA	CHILE	48	63	6.03	12.97
	62	TUNISIA	CROATIA	43	36	12.03	7.97
	63	JORDAN	PORTUGAL	47	40	12.03	7.97
	64	EGYPT	ITALY	35	43	7.71	12.29
	65	POLAND	ROMANIA	48	33	13.97	6.03
	66	ISRAEL	SINGAPORE	44	7	17.22	2.28
	67	NETHERLANDS	FRANCE	22	36	6.25	13.75
	68	USA 1	INDIA	67	27	18.09	1.91
	69	ARGENTINA	LATVIA	43	72	3.42	16.58
	70	AUSTRALIA	DENMARK	34	27	12.03	7.97
	71	TURKEY	BELGIUM	41	48	7.97	12.03
	72	GERMANY	USA 2	38	21	14.39	5.61
Round 12	61	POLAND	GUATEMALA	38	7	16.88	3.12
	62	ROMANIA	TUNISIA	75	3	20.00	0.00
	63	TURKEY	JORDAN	37	22	13.97	6.03
	64	USA 2	EGYPT	37	15	15.38	4.62
	65	ITALY	FRANCE	25	46	4.81	15.19
	66	SINGAPORE	NETHERLANDS	33	40	7.97	12.03
	67	CROATIA	DENMARK	41	12	16.58	3.42
	68	ARGENTINA	GERMANY	28	16	13.28	6.72
	69	AUSTRALIA	INDIA	33	27	11.76	8.24
	70	PORTUGAL	BELGIUM	34	27	12.03	7.97
	71	LATVIA	CHILE	23	38	6.03	13.97
	72	ISRAEL	USA 1	36	20	14.18	5.82
Round 13	61	GUATEMALA	ISRAEL	18	60	1.67	18.33
	62	TUNISIA	USA 1	1	74	0.00	20.00
	63	JORDAN	LATVIA	33	45	6.72	13.28
	64	EGYPT	FRANCE	26	50	4.26	15.74
	65	SINGAPORE	ARGENTINA	16	27	6.96	13.04
	66	NETHERLANDS	CROATIA	20	34	6.25	13.75
	67	ROMANIA	BELGIUM	21	27	8.24	11.76
	68	AUSTRALIA	ITALY	43	18	15.92	4.08
	69	PORTUGAL	GERMANY	16	32	5.82	14.18
	70	TURKEY	CHILE	41	22	14.80	5.20
	71	INDIA	POLAND	24	13	13.04	6.96
	72	USA 2	DENMARK	34	24	12.80	7.20

Ranking after Round 6

1		FRANCE	182.26
2		USA 1	177.15
3		ITALY	173.55
4		BELGIUM	166.33
5		ROMANIA	164.29
6		POLAND	164.24
7		GERMANY	154.32
8		TURKEY	154.21
9		LATVIA	153.12
10		USA 2	142.87
11		CROATIA	142.04
12		AUSTRALIA	141.31
13		ISRAEL	138.37
14		DENMARK	137.57
15		NETHERLANDS	126.63
16		INDIA	122.01
17		PORTUGAL	111.83
18		ARGENTINA	111.36
19		JORDAN	105.80
20		SINGAPORE	101.94
21		EGYPT	80.34
22		CHILE	73.97
23		TUNISIA	47.87
24		GUATEMALA	38.12



THE ALL AFRICAN *National Congress*

ONLINE EVENT



TEAMS 16-19 JUNE (4 days qualifying and final rounds)

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