

45TH WORLD 2021 BRIDGE



TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



DAILY BULLETIN

Editor: Mark Horton • Journalists: David Bird, Jos Jacobs, Barry Rigal, Marc Smith, David Stern, Ron Tacchi • Lay-out Editor: Francesca Canali • Photos: Claudio Fossati

Sunday, 3 April 2022. Issue No 7.

THE MOMENT OF TRUTH



Antonio Riccardi, head Director of the WBF, on patrol

Today is the last chance for our matadors of the green baize to remain in the hunt for one of the four World Championship titles that are on offer. In all four competitions, a significant element of uncertainty surrounds the tantalizing question of which eight teams will advance in each event. In the Bermuda Bowl the battle appears to be between Norway, Israel and Denmark, while in the Venice Cup it is Turkey, France and Norway. The d'Orsi Trophy sees five teams in the mix, India, England, Iceland, Bulgaria & Turkey while Latvia, Germany, Australia and Denmark and the ones biting their fingernails in the Wuhan Cup.

SALON MAGGIORE TERME 2022
MARCH 27TH APRIL 9TH





SCHEDULE, DRAW, BBO MATCHES - Sunday 3 April

BERMUDA BOWL

Round 21 – 10.00

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

Round 22 – 14.00

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

Round 23 – 16.45

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

VENICE CUP

Round 21 – 10.00

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

Round 22 – 14.00

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

Round 23 – 16.45

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

D'ORSI TROPHY

Round 21 – 10.00

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

Round 22 – 14.00

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

Round 23 – 16.45

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

WUHAN CUP

Round 21 – 10.00

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

Round 22 – 14.00

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

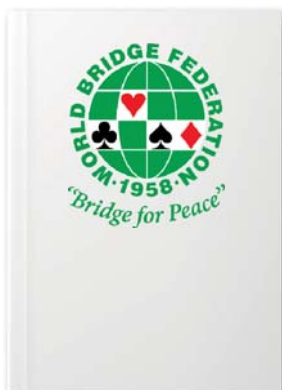
Round 23 – 16.45

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



CHAMPIONSHIP DIARY

Mark Horton



The English newspaper The Daily Telegraph includes a quick crossword in which the first two or three clues each day form a homophonic pun. To give you an example with an Italian theme, if the answers to the first three clues are Mask, Carp & Pony the hidden word is Mascarpone. I know you are asking why this is the least bit relevant but bear with me.

On Friday, the WBF organised an outing to the Bertinelli Farm, the home of Parmigiano Reggiano since 1895 and the Foundation Magnani Rocca, a magnificent Museum housing ancient and modern art. It took us past the magnificent Castello di Torrechiara, built between 1448 and 1460. When our tour guide pointed it out, she said, (so I thought) that it had been built by Pier Cavaradossi for his emorata Bianca Pellegrini. You will doubtless be aware that Cavaradossi is a character in the Opera Tosca and assuming I had discovered a link worth pursuing I embarked on some research. Alas, it transpired that I had misheard, it was Pier Maria Rossi!

By the way, the favourite example of our team of journalists is Wry, Tusk and Ramp, which translates to Writer's Cramp.



When Manolo came to install a printer on Barry's computer there was a problem with the drivers. 'Most unusual to find bad drivers in Italy' said Barry.

We try to keep an eye on proceedings in case an interesting deal appears For sure Boards 22 & 26 from Round 18 will be discussed at length. I was going to write something myself, but then Barry reminded me of a quotation by Sir Max Beerbohm:

To give an accurate and exhaustive account of that would need a far less brilliant pen than mine.



In front of every great man there is a



*Pink is the new red
Kari-Anne Opsal from Norway and Helen Kruger from South Africa found out they use exactly the same nail polish*

**Mark Horton**

The Highest Level

Look at this cracking deal from the Round 12 match between Canada and Australia in the Bermuda Bowl:

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

In the Closed Room Canada had stopped in 4♠, so Australia's supporters must have been hoping for a swing.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>L'Écuyer</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Marcinski</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	2♥	4♦*	4♥
6♠	7♥	Dble	All Pass

The combination of the jumps to 4♦ and 6♠ suggested to Nicolas L'Écuyer that his side would have a double fit in hearts and clubs and with South's 4♥ being indicative of a spade void he decided to bid 7♥ on the basis that if the opponents went on to 7♠ he could hope that his ♣A was a trick. Failing that it was possible that 7♥ might, despite the vulnerability, be a paying sacrifice.

East's double made it clear that he did not hold the ♥A so having ruffed the lead of the ♠A declarer played a heart to the king, securing 12 tricks. There had indeed been a swing, but the IMPs, seven of them, went to Canada after a brilliantly judged auction.

A HELPING HAND

A terrific team of writers has been assembled to report on these Championships. If you are involved in a deal that you think should grace the pages of the World Championship Book don't hesitate to send the details to the following:

The Wuhan Cup & The World National Teams Trophy

Daniel Gulyas
gulyas.daniel@hotmail.com

The BB and VC Round Robins

Ron Tacchi
BermudaBowl@vaupillon.com

The d'Orsi Trophy

Marek Wójcicki
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Give us the tools, and we will finish the job
Winston Churchill

**Herman De wael**

IT WAS THIRTY YEARS AGO TODAY

ALMOST A PUSH

Thirty years ago, bidding systems were in general not as completely developed as they are today. Gambling bids were more common and Random pre-empts were still allowed. This led to some remarkable contracts.

The Belgian Open team reported the following swing:

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

<p>♠ AK93 ♥ 853 ♦ AJ762 ♣ J</p>	<table style="margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ 1054 ♥ J2 ♦ K9 ♣ Q98642</p>	<p>♠ 2 ♥ 10974 ♦ Q1083 ♣ K1075</p> <p>♠ QJ876 ♥ AKQ6 ♦ 54 ♣ A3</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bolle</i>		<i>Van Middeltem</i>	
1♦	Pass	1NT	Dble
2♦	Pass	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
	<i>Coenraets</i>		<i>Engel</i>
2♣*	Pass	2♠	All Pass

2♣ Three suiter

Declarer made only five tricks in both rooms, but that was twice 300 to Belgium!

The Dutch decided they needed to do better two days later:

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ 954 ♥ A ♦ A86 ♣ AK10542</p>	<table style="margin: auto;"> <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		<p>♠ 32 ♥ J96543 ♦ 9732 ♣ 7</p> <p>♠ AQJ10876 ♥ K2 ♦ QJ5 ♣ J</p>	<p>♠ K ♥ Q1087 ♦ K104 ♣ Q9863</p>
	N											
W		E										
	S											

Open Room

West	North	East	South
	<i>Van der Neut</i>		<i>Nooijen</i>
—	Pass	Pass	4♠
5♣	Dble	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Leufkens</i>		<i>Westra</i>	
—	Pass	2♠*	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
Dble	6♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

2♠ random pre-empt

Playing in the same denomination at both tables is not usually satisfactory. Five down at both tables for a total swing of 2500.

**Ana Roth**

FACE TO FACE - DAVID BAKHSHI

Hello everybody. Today is March 31st, 2022. We are in Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy, at the World Bridge Teams Championships. Today we are with David Bakhshi, member of the England team in the Open Category.

Hi David, can you introduce yourself to our audience.

Of course. I'm David Bakhshi. I am 47. I live in London with my wife, Heather and my 17-year-old daughter, Jasmine. I was born in London and I've lived in London all my life.

Are you a Bridge Professional?

Yes. I'm very lucky to have bridge as a part of my life. Pretty much every day.

At what age did you start to play? Did your parents play?

It was really kind of a matter of luck as I started to learn to play. My parents never played. They knew nothing about the game at all. But I had a master teacher. His name is Ian Jones. He introduced me to the game when I was 14/15. And from the moment that he showed me how it worked, I was completely hooked, it's just the most amazing game ever. And, I just love to play. When I started to play, I used to go to the Chelsea, which was the biggest bridge club in London.

I used to go there two, three nights a week. And I played there. I met a lot of people who were very helpful, very supportive. I hadn't seen someone my age for a while. And from there I got involved in the English junior scene. I haven't really looked back since.

Do you live from bridge?

A hundred percent and everything about my life revolves around bridge. My whole working life, I mean, basically since leaving university, I've been a professional player and teacher, and everyone in my family now plays. So, my wife plays, my daughter plays and my stepson as well.



Interview with David Bakhshi - the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Myq1b0VPZPQ>

I want to know if it's getting more and more difficult to be a bridge professional in England

It's interesting. I would say compared to when I started, I would say it's probably easier to become a professional. There are probably more people now making a living from bridge. But I think it's much harder to become a successful professional. It's just so much more competitive than it was. So many more people playing in such a high level and also teaching at a high level. So, I think it's harder to be very successful, but it's easier to get into.

Most of the teaching I've done for like 20 years, I started at a social level, with beginners completely from scratch. And a lot of them go on to play in tournaments, but a lot of them just carry on just playing with friends. I'm not sure if the tournament scene is growing as much as we would like, but certainly I think the number of people being exposed to bridge and playing bridge, I think is increasing.

As a young player did you have heroes, do you have heroes now, different from the heroes of your past?

I would say that, growing up in England, the best player in my lifetime is Tony Forrester. And I was fortunate. I played on teams with him. I've played with him as a partner and learned a lot from him.

So, he was a hero. I would say internationally, it's impossible not to have, Meckstroth-Rodwell as heroes. Later as I played, I was fortunate, I played with Michael Seamon. He was a hero in many ways. And he had such an amazing personality and, you know, he was a bridge genius.

And I think nowadays I would say that the most



similar person to that is, Joe Grue. I think he's another genius who has such a great personality and just makes the game enjoyable for everyone. So, you know, his partner, his opponents. It's impossible not to have a good time when you play against him.

And do you express your creativity in another way? Sports, music.

I've always really loved music. I played as a child, and now I love to listen to music and that's something I share with my daughter Jasmine as well. But in recent years, my main interest has been running. So, I really like to run. I run most days, I have a great friend in London, we run about 50 kilometers a week. And now, recently in tournaments, I've been running with John Kranyak. He's a very keen runner too. He's great. So, I really enjoy that.

How many countries did you visit and when you go to a country to play a championship, do you take some days for sightseeing?

I've visited many countries, mostly Europe, North America. In the Far East, I visited a few countries.

Do you go to the NABCs?

Yeah. I try to go to all the nationals if I can. So, I've traveled a lot, but certainly when I was younger, I didn't really see anything other than the hotel and the playing area. Now as I get older, I try to appreciate places more and especially with the running. Like this week I've already tried running various different roads just to get a different idea of where we are.

And the last question, the main advice you would give to our bridge youth.

I'd say two things really, one just from a kind of behavioral point of view is just to always try and treat everyone the way you'd want to be treated yourself. So, you know, try and treat opponents or partner in that way.

And the other thing. If you have opportunities, you have good players around you never be afraid to ask them for advice. Because my experience is that top players are very keen to help young players. So, just make sure that you try and get as much help, as much advice, as you can and just play, play as much as you can.

Well, this is all from David Bakhshi for today. Thank you, David. It was a lovely conversation, the best for you and your family.



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 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.


Barry Rigal

MARTEL MARVELS

Chip Martel sent me this might-have-been from USAI-Netherlands

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

♠ A 8 7 ♥ A 5 2 ♦ 8 ♣ J 8 7 6 3 2		♠ Q 10 4 3 ♥ J 9 8 6 ♦ A K Q 6 ♣ 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>Greco</i>	<i>De Wijs</i>	<i>Hampson</i>	<i>Muller</i>
—	—	1♦	Pass
1♠	2♣	3♠	Dble
Pass	4♣	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		



Simon de Wijs

Board 18 of round 10 match Netherlands USAI had a rare position. Declarer was in 4♣*x* on the deal above. At the table on a diamond lead and a club shift declarer won the ♣A and used the ♠K and a spade ruff to ruff three diamonds in hand; however this let West pitch a heart on the fourth diamond, after which he was ensured of three trump tricks for down one.

But this deal has the rather unique position (if this is not an oxymoron?) where with ♠KJ facing ♠Axx you need to lead low to the ♠J even though you may later play the ♠AK on the same trick and ruff the 3rd round!

On the bidding opener clearly had a 4-4-4-1 or 4-3-5-1 pattern with the lead indicating the former. So it is correct to play ♣A, ruff a diamond, finesse the spade jack, ruff a diamond, then ♥A ♥K, and plan to ruff a diamond in this position with the lead in dummy:

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

If West ruffs high you discard your heart loser and win the spade return in dummy to ruff a heart, ruff the ♠A and have the trump coup. If he discards a spade you play ♠A, ruff a spade and lead your last diamond to score your trump en passant.

The need for playing to the spade jack earlier on is to prevent RHO in the diagrammed position from ruffing high and drawing dummy's trump (which he could do if you had led a spade to the king) then collecting a spade at the end.



Herman De wael

WOMEN CAN DO IT!

In Bulletin 4 (page 8), the following deal is mentioned:

Marc Smith tells us that getting to the making 5♣ on these cards is almost impossible, and not a single pair in the 24-table Bermuda Bowl managed it.

This is how the Belgian ladies managed the impossible:

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

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



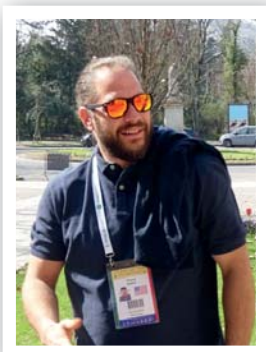
♠ K Q 10 7 2
♥ K J
♦ Q J 7 4
♣ K 2

West	North	East	South
<i>Fernandez</i>	<i>Topiol</i>	<i>De Lorenzo</i>	<i>Couteaux</i>
—	—	1♠	1NT
2♠	Dble	Pass	3♣
3♠	5♣	All Pass	

In fact, two other Women pairs (for Turkey and Denmark) managed to reach 5♣. So did the Australian and Dutch seniors, and the mixed pairs from Croatia and the Netherlands.

But Marc was right that it proved impossible for Open players.

PHOTO GALLERY



The photo gallery is available at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/worldbridgefed/>


Marc Smith, Bermuda Bowl, ROUND 12

USA1 vs SWEDEN


Sweden began Day 4 in seventh place and USA1 were just below them in 11th. Both had tough matches to open the day, and the Swedes went down 55-26 to the high-flying Swiss, which dropped them to tenth place. USA1 enjoyed a winning start, seeing off the always-dangerous Italians 31-7 to climb up to ninth. Now the two teams meet head on, with both sitting right on the cusp of the qualifying places as we head for the midway point of the round robin stage of the tournament. Now is about the time when things start to get more serious: win and you will probably edge your way into the top eight; lose and you start to slide down the table, away from the promised land.

After three days where we have been spoiled with half a dozen big swings in every match, today was clearly The Great Dealer's day off. However, the majority of the 3500+ watching this match live on BBO VuGraph stayed until the end and were suitably rewarded for their patience.

We begin with a swing generated by a judgement call. Second in hand at unfavourable vulnerability, what would you open (if anything) with this South hand?

Board 18. Dealer East. NS Vul.

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

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Wrang</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
—	—	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Geoff Hampson took the bull well and truly by the horns and opened with a three-level pre-empt, which duly encouraged Eric Greco to take a shot at game. Frederic Wrang led a heart to queen and ace, and

Greco started on diamonds. With the queen appearing from East, there was no guess and declarer quickly claimed his nine tricks. N/S +600.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Katz</i>	<i>O.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>M.Rimstedt</i>
—	—	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♦*
All Pass			

Not unreasonably, Mikael Rimstedt decided that his hand was worth only a two bid at this vulnerability, so he opened a two-way 2♣, showing either a very strong hand or a weak two in diamonds. Ola inquired with 2NT and Mikael rebid 3♦ to show the weak variant. Ola did not think he was worth game opposite this, so there the matter ended. West conceded a second overtrick by leading a spade, but that made no difference: N/S +150 and 10 IMPs to USA-1.

Parity was restored a couple of deals later, this time with the more aggressive American action working against them:

Board 20. Dealer West. Both Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Wrang</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♠*	Dble	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

Part of the transfer method used in response to the Swedish 1♣ opening, Fredrik Nyström's 1♠ bid simply denied a four-card major. Greco doubled



(showing spades) and Wrang rebid 1NT to suggest a balanced minimum opening. When that was passed back to Greco, he backed in with 2♥, showing his second suit, but Geoff Hampson decided that he had no reason to bid again. Hampson was right theoretically but, with hearts breaking 2-2, the defense could never score more than their three top tricks in the black suits. N/S +170.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	O.Rimstedt	Nickell	M.Rimstedt
—	—	1♣	1♦
3♣	Dble*	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Ralph Katz's jump to 3♣ put just enough momentum into the auction to push the Swedes into game. Ola started with a responsive double, showing both majors and, when his partner bid a major rather than rebidding his diamonds, he was persuaded that he had enough to try for ten tricks. N/S +620 and 10 IMPs to Sweden.

Halfway through the match, it was honors about even at 13-12 in favor of the Americans, with both sides having benefited from a 2-2 break. Then along came a bidding challenge for the E/W pairs.

Board 27. Dealer South. Nil Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Katz	O.Rimstedt	Nickell	M.Rimstedt
—	—	—	1♦
1♥	Pass	2♦*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Looking at just the West hand, perhaps one may think that Katz has bid out his shape accurately, overcalling in hearts, showing a club suit, and then bidding spades. Is this really what this auction means,

though? After the 1♥ overcall, 2♦ is presumably some sort of constructive heart raise. When West then bids clubs, it seems reasonable for East to show a diamond control with 3♦. What, though, is East to make of West's 3♠ bid, with hearts agreed? Looking at the ♠AK, might you not deduce that partner held a singleton spade?

You are now worried that partner is 1-5-2-5 or 1-6-2-4 shape and that, even if everything else is solid, the defense will often be able to beat slam with a singleton diamond lead to the ace and a ruff. Perhaps this is just a different style of bidding from the one I understand, and 3♠ is the right bid on that West hand, in which case perhaps East should do more. From where I sit, though, I quite understand Nick Nickell's reluctance to do so. Declarer duly made twelve tricks: E/W +480.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nyström	Greco	Wrang	Hampson
—	—	—	1♦
2NT*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT*	Pass
6♦*	Pass	6♥	All Pass

Fredrik Nyström preferred to start the West hand with an Unusual 2NT, showing hearts and clubs. Frederic Wrang's jump to 4♦ was alerted as 'support for hearts and something more'. Despite the encouraging noise from his partner, Nyström declined to show any extra values, but Wrang decided he was worth one more try. When he moved on with RKCB, Nyström jumped to 6♦, showing the void and ensuring that slam was now reached. As the cards lie, with the ♦A onside and the ♠J and the ♣K-J all coming down, declarer can make 13 tricks and 12 are comfortable.

North led a spade and dummy's nine was allowed to win. Nyström immediately advanced the ♦K, covered and ruffed. Declarer now had eleven tricks, and the ♣A and one club ruff brought his tally to 12. Declarer could now guard against a 4-1 trump split, so he simply drew trumps and claimed: E/W +980 and 11 IMPs to Sweden.

The boards drifted away, the biggest swing coming on a deal that was played in the least-favorite contract of my good friend David Bird: the Swedes scored 2♦+1 at one table and it was passed out at the other for a 3-IMP gain. Then, finally, with the Scandinavians still clinging to a 16-IMP advantage, came the big firecracker for which we had all been waiting.

Adverse vulnerability often persuades players that discretion is the better part of valor. However, it did

not silence either of the players with the worst hand at the table in our match. We will also check to see if anyone managed to achieve absolute par on a deal where doing so is incredibly difficult.

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Katz</i>	<i>O.Rimstedt</i>	<i>Nickell</i>	<i>M.Rimstedt</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	2♠*	3♣*	5♣
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Ralph Katz opened 1♠ and Ola Rimstedt came in with a 2♠ overcall that showed specifically hearts and clubs. Nick Nickell now advanced with 3♣, showing a forcing hand with diamonds. What would you now bid on that lovely South hand?

Did anyone come up with the 5♣ bid chosen by Mikael Rimstedt. You may wonder why he would bid clubs rather than hearts when he had four-card support for both. An important point to remember in competitive auctions when the opponents have spades is that all of the other suits are effectively the same, so there is no real difference between the junior major and the minors. The most important point, though, was to take away West's 4♠ and 4NT bids. Unfortunately, with East having shown game-going values, West had enough spades to be able to rebid the suit on his own at the five-level. Nickell duly raised to slam and, of course, South was not up to finding the cheap save at the seven-level. (Declarer loses just the ace of trumps in a heart contract, but the defenders can get the ♥A and a heart ruff against 7♣ – either, though, is cheaper than conceding 6♠.)

Ola made a valiant effort to beat the slam, leading the ♣5 in an attempt to get his partner in with the ♣Q to give him a diamond ruff. Of course, declarer won trick one with his singleton queen and claimed all 13 tricks: E/W +1010.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nyström</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Wrang</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♠	2♠*	2NT*	4♥
Pass	Pass	4♠	4NT*
5♣	5♥	Pass	Pass
5♠	All Pass		

Here, Eric Greco's 2♠ overcall was standard Michaels, showing hearts and a minor, and Frederic Wrang's 2NT bid was alerted just as 'support'. (By the way, have you noticed how top players always get the best partners – I mean, my partner never freely raises me when I have an eight-card suit.) Geoff Hampson now adopted a two-step strategy, starting with a jump to 4♥.

Nyström self-alerted his pass of 4♥ as forcing, which suggest that perhaps East's 2NT was game-forcing rather than just an 'invitational-or-better' raise. When Wrang just bid 4♠, Hampson now unleashed his second arrow, bidding 4NT to suggest suitability for playing in at least one and probably both minors. Nyström moved forward with a 5♣ cue-bid and now Greco had one more go, competing to 5♥. This was passed back to Nyström who, perhaps persuaded by so much opposition bidding at this vulnerability that they had something, felt he could do no more than bid 5♠. The Americans were content to defend at that level: E/W +480 and 11 IMPs to USA-1.

For the record, three N/S pairs in the 24-table Bermuda Bowl field, Switzerland against Uruguay, Israel against New Zealand, and Italy against Bulgaria scored +1660 in 6♥X for gains of between 19 and 21 IMPs on the deal. Only one pair, though, managed absolute par, Canada's Nicholas L'Ecuyer and Zygmunt Marcinski took the save in 7♥ against Australia, gaining 7 IMPs and rescuing their teammates, who had played the hand in 4♠.

With the big gain on the penultimate deal, the Americans turned the match into something close to a draw, the Swedes just edging things 29-25. Both teams remain just outside the qualification places, but close enough that a couple of consecutive wins would put them up where they want to be. With 13 matches to play in the round robin, there is still plenty of troubled bridge to go over water.





Jos Jacobs, Bermuda Bowl, ROUND 14



SWITZERLAND vs DENMARK



At the start of the first Friday, Switzerland were in 2nd position, just about 4 VP behind The Netherlands. Denmark were in 7th spot, slightly ahead of Australia but 10 VP clear of the 9th-placed team: USA 1 – who still should be considered a dangerous contender nevertheless.

On the opening board of the day, both teams did well to reach 5♣ for no swing but on the next board, I raised an eyebrow (or two). You hold as East, green v. red:

♠ 10 7 6 5 4 ♥ J 10 8 5 ♦ 8 3 ♣ 10 4

and hear partner open 2NT, 20-22 or so. Do you really want to stretch for game? Half the Bermuda Bowl room did, only to find out that making game was far beyond the combined E/W hands...In our match, Switzerland scored 2 IMPs for an extra undertrick.

On board 19, the Swiss went down in a 3NT game let through at a number of tables to lose 6 IMPs.

Board 22. Dealer East. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Graversen	Drijver	Caspersen	Brink
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1NT*	All Pass	

1NT 12-14

When East led the ♣6, West decided to put in the nine, the correct card if partner were holding the ♣10. As it happened, he presented Bas Drijver with an unexpected gift: a trick and his contract all at once. Switzerland +90.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	D. Bilde	Gawrys	Jepsen
—	—	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

Not that it mattered too much, because at the other table South had become the declarer in the same contract and West led a spade with the same effect on declarer's chances. No swing but the defence missed the surrounding play in diamonds at both tables..

On the next board, Sjoert Brink returned the compliment when he offered declarer a chance to find the right line for his contract.

Board 23. Dealer South. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Graversen	Drijver	Caspersen	Brink
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Dble
All Pass			

Brink led a low diamond to partner's ace, thus solving declarer's first problem. North exited with the ♠8 to the 10, jack and ace and declarer continued with a diamond to his king and a diamond ruffed in dummy. The ♣J was covered by the king and ace and a club ruffed in hand. Next came declarer's last diamond. South followed suit with the queen, but dummy ruffed with the ace, rather than the ♥7 which would have given him his contract because the trumps really were 5-0. Even a low trump singleton with North would



have made the ♡7 the right card...So this meant one down in a makeable contract, +200 to Switzerland.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>D. Bilde</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♡	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2◇	Pass	2♡	Pass
4♡	All Pass		

After an invitational auction, the Swiss reached the same contract in the other room. South did not double, however, so after the diamond lead from South, Gawrys followed essentially the same line and went one off when he ruffed the last diamond with dummy's ace. Switzerland thus gained 3 IMPs instead of losing 13...

On the next board, it was up to both N/S pairs to show their ambitions:

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Graversen</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Caspersen</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	1♡	1♠	Dble
4♠	4NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	5♣	Dble	All Pass

My grandmother might well have led her singleton against this contract but we, experts, know better, of course. Usually, it makes little sense to go for ruffs when looking at a long trump holding, so East duly led a spade, the combined E/W suit. Bas Drijver accepted this gift (a free finesse) by discarding three diamonds on the top spades and continuing with a diamond from dummy. West then joined in by playing low, so Drijver got another trick with his ◇J. From here, even the 5-0 trump break could no longer break the contract. Switzerland +550.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>D. Bilde</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>
Pass	1♡	1♠	Dble*
4♠	4NT*	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

In the other room, the auction was duplicated except for the final double. Gawrys, for once, avoided any unnecessary complications and simply led his singleton for a quick one down. Later on, he collected a second trump trick so the Swiss added another +100 to their +550 and registered 12 IMPs.

The exchange of gifts continued on the next deal:

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Graversen</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Caspersen</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	1♡	Pass	1NT
Dble	2♡	Dble	3◇
3NT	Pass	Pass	4◇
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
4NT	All Pass		

When 3NT came round to Brink, he offered his opponents a repêchage to get to the slam after all. East doubled and had West passed this, it would have netted 800, by far not enough compensation for the cold vulnerable slam. 4NT looks like a Blackwood variety to me but East, rightly or wrongly, had other ideas. Ten tricks when North simply cashed his top hearts. Denmark +630.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>D. Bilde</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>
—	1♡	Pass	1NT
Dble	2♡	3NT	4◇
5♣	All Pass		



In the replay, Jepsen also did his best to steer his opponents into the slam but he, too, failed when Gawrys found a disciplined pass over 5♣. One overtrick, Switzerland +620 and no swing.

Board 26 brought the Swiss one peanut but on the next one it was Bingo again for the scorers.

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ Q 4 ♥ 10 3 2 ♦ J 9 3 2 ♣ A Q 10 9	♠ 8 6 ♥ K 9 7 5 4 ♦ 8 7 4 ♣ J 6 2 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J 9 5 3 2 ♥ 8 6 ♦ K Q 10 6 5 ♣ 7 ♠ A K 10 7 ♥ A Q J ♦ A ♣ K 8 5 4 3	
--	--	--	--

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Graversen	Drijver	Caspersen	Brink
—	—	—	1♣*
Pass	1♦*	2♦	Dble
Rdbl	2♥	Pass	Pass
3♦	3♥	Pass	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

- 1♣ 2+♣, balanced 12-14 or 18-20 or 4+♣,
 12+ unbalanced
 1♦ 0-6 or 8/11

The sacrifice would have been just too expensive anyway, but the Swiss produced an innocent enough looking defence. ♠AK and a club. Declarer won the ace, played a trump to the king and ace and threw a heart on South's spade return rather than ruffing with the nine. The ♥AK then made it down four, Switzerland +800.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	D. Bilde	Gawrys	Jepsen
—	—	—	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

The Swiss in the other room found their own variation of an innocent-looking defence against 4♥. East led his singleton club to West's queen but Michał Klukowski, rather than cashing the ♣A and giving partner a ruff, continued a diamond to dummy's blank ace. Declarer's next move was an unlucky ♣K from dummy. But now Klukowski won the ace and continued another diamond, forcing dummy to ruff with an honour. Next came the ♠A and a club upon which Klukowski rose with the ace to continue with his last club, giving declarer a nasty guess. When declarer decided to ruff high in hand, he had to lose a trump trick and a diamond trick (or two trump tricks instead) so he was one down in a contract made at more than half the BB tables. Switzerland another +50 and 13 IMPs to them rather than only 9.

Hans Christian Graversen

Bas Drijver

Sjoert Brink

Henrik Caspersen



Board 28. Dealer West. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Graversen</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Caspersen</i>	<i>Brink</i>
Pass	2♦	2♠	3♣
4♠	Pass	Pass	Dble
All Pass			

When Brink heard his partner open a natural weak two, he knew enough to double the advance E/W sacrifice. For N/S, game in hearts happens to be on but at all BB tables, the spades won the auction (what's new??). Switzerland +300.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>D. Bilde</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Jepsen</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

When North did not open, South could not double. Somewhere in the process, the defence lost a trick so Denmark scored only +50 and Switzerland had gained another 6 IMPs.

On the next deal, the system struck.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Graversen</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Caspersen</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

After North's opening bid of 1♣, the E/W choice of overcalls had become severely restricted. The Danes in fact sold out to 2♥ which was just made. Switzerland +110.


Piotr Gawrys
Emil Jepsen
Dennis Bilde
Michal Klukowski



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	D. Bilde	Gawrys	Jepsen
—	1♦	Dble	1♥
1♠	2♥	4♠	All Pass

When the Danish North opened a more natural 1♦, he thus offered E/W every chance to get as high as they wanted in spades. He could hardly double the contract they eventually reached, because he could not foresee the 3-3 fit in hearts with E/W. Down two anyway, Denmark +200 and 3 IMPs to them.

Board 31. Dealer South. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Graversen	Drijver	Caspersen	Brink
—	—	—	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Looking at all his aces, Graversen gave it one more try when partner rebid his hearts. Well judged, as partner happened to hold sort of a maximum with an extra heart and the all-important ♦K doubleton Denmark +420.

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



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	D. Bilde	Gawrys	Jepsen
—	—	—	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	All Pass

There were no such developments in the Closed Room where declarer played it safe for just nine tricks. Switzerland +140 but 7 IMPs back to Denmark,

Board 32. Dealer West. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Graversen	Drijver	Caspersen	Brink
2♠	All Pass		

Over West's 11-13 showing opening 2♠ bid, nobody had anything to say, except maybe later on that the call was a little shaded, though with a nice enough distribution to justify it... On a club lead, declarer quickly came to his eight tricks. Denmark +110.

Speaking about shaded: in the other room, Klukowski went further and found an opening bid at the one-level.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	D. Bilde	Gawrys	Jepsen
1♠	Pass	1NT	Dble
2♥	Dble	2♠	Pass
Pass	3NT	Dble	All Pass

When you look at this auction, your first idea might be that N/S had better believe their opponents' vulnerable bidding. Both North and South are close to the standards for their bids but when East led a passive heart, declarer was left to his own devices which were rather insufficient. The defence came to five spades and two minor-suit aces: Switzerland +500 and 9 more IMPs. The final score: 46-17 or 16.58 - 4.42 to Switzerland. Despite this result, both teams maintained their respective positions (2nd and 7th) in the table, strangely enough.


Ron Tacchi, SENIORS, ROUND 15
+ ENGLAND vs USA2

After 14 rounds England were lying fifth with USA2 knocking on the qualification door in ninth place. Senior and Hackett play four-card majors, Hallberg and Mossop five-card majors with 2/1, Woolsey and Bramley five-card majors, weak 1NT in first and second non-vulnerable, 2/1 and strong club while Hamman and Weichsel play five-card majors with 2/1 NOT game-forcing and transfer responses to One Club.

Some of you may recall that Brian Senior is normally in the Bulletin Room coruscating the efforts of others. The pen is on the other foot today as I take on the mantle of 'Mr Grumpy' as he is insouciantly known. Why am I Mr Grumpy today, well my brand-new fibre internet connection has been down since Monday and SFR tell me it will not return until at least next Monday, the heating has broken in my office and it is snowing outside – I am sitting here with an electric blanket wrapped around me to keep me from freezing.

Board 1. Dealer North, None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Woolsey</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Bramley</i>	<i>Hackett</i>
—	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Three Clubs was Puppet Stayman and Three Diamonds showed a four-card major. South showed four cards in the heart suit and North closed the auction with 3NT and received the lead of the ♣4 to the ♣10, king and ace. Declarer cashed the two top diamonds and cleared the suit. East persisted with the jack of clubs. Now declarer was home as the ♣9 had come

into its own and an overtrick materialised when the spades broke 3-3.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Mossop</i>	<i>Hamman</i>
—	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

I was surprised at South's Pass as from the convention card it looks as though the 2NT rebid shows 22-23 and whilst the hand is not over endowed with points the intermediaries are excellent and in my view up the value of the hand by a point or so. The play was not overtaxing for declarer, and he minded his work to take eight tricks after a heart lead. Seven IMPs to England.

Board 3. Dealer South. EW Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Woolsey</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Bramley</i>	<i>Hackett</i>
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♥	Pass
Pass	Dble	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Two Clubs was game-forcing. The lead was West's singleton heart covered by the queen and king but South ducked and now the heart return meant declarer's ace of hearts was ruffed and that extinguished any hope of the contract. Declarer was obviously trying to sever communications between the defenders but if the hearts are 6-2 he can still make his contract. The simplest



method after taking the ace of hearts is to duck a round of diamonds. If East takes it and leads two rounds of hearts, then if West ruffs declarer can overruff and draw trumps and still have a trump to deal with whatever the defence try when he sets up the diamonds. A pretty variant is when West declines to ruff as declarer can ruff small in dummy cash the ♠K and make the rest of the tricks as West was squeezed when he discarded on the heart. I will leave the reader to follow the various pretty plays that work whether West has one or two hearts. The secret of the deal is to duck a round of diamonds as early as possible.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Weichsel	Mossop	Hamman
—	—	—	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♥	Pass
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

I wonder if there was some confusion as to whether 2/1 was game forcing but it seems impossible not to arrive in game when you have a 16 count and partner has opened the beginning, but all's well that ends well and five IMPs to USA2

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Woolsey	Senior	Bramley	Hackett
Pass	1♦	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

South led his partner's suit which declarer ducked but took the second round. Three rounds of clubs ensued, and a small heart was played from dummy, North rising with his ace to clear the diamonds. Declarer crossed back to dummy with a club and ran the ♥9 to the ♥10. South now pushed a spade through dummy and declarer played dummy's ace to play a heart to the king. When the heart suit failed to break, he was one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Weichsel	Mossop	Hamman
Pass	1♦	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

An identical auction. At this table South elected to lead a spade to partner's king, the spade return was taken in hand with the queen. A club taken in dummy and a heart was followed by a heart to the king. When it held declarer cashed the three remaining rounds of clubs finishing in dummy, took the ace of spades and the marked diamond finesse to bring home his contract. Twelve IMPs to England

Board 5. Dealer North. NS Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Woolsey	Senior	Bramley	Hackett
—	Pass	1♣*	Pass
1♥*	2♥	2♠	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4NT*	Pass
5♣*	Pass	6♠	Pass
Pass	Dble	All Pass	

One Club was strong, and the One Heart response showed spades. After West's club cue-bid East checked on keycards and bid the slam. South saved the doubled overtrick by leading a diamond for North to ruff. Declarer made twelve tricks on a high cross ruff, +1210.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Weichsel	Mossop	Hamman
—	4♥	Dble	All Pass

Someone even more famous than me said 'takeout doubles should be taken out' but I can understand West's reluctance. However to me the vulnerability screams bid Four Spades. All would have been well had the defence not dropped three tricks. Spades were led

and continued, declarer ruffing the second round. The king of hearts lost to the ace and another spade came through forcing declarer to ruff. Declarer tried a club but West ruffed and inexplicably played back a trump allowing declarer to now take eight tricks, any non-trump holds declarer to five tricks and now the penalty is worth 1400. Twelve IMPs to USA2

Board 9. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Woolsey</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Bramley</i>	<i>Hackett</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

On a club lead declarer was not put to the test and collected eleven tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hallberg</i>	<i>Weichsel</i>	<i>Mossop</i>	<i>Hamman</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣*
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

It was an excellent auction to find the minor-suit slam. The defence started well by leading a trump won in hand. A heart taken by East who continued trumps. Taken in hand, a heart was ruffed, and dummy re-entered with ace of clubs. Another heart was ruffed, the king of clubs cashed, and a club ruffed in dummy. The ace of trumps drew the last trump and the slam would make if the ♣Q had been trebleton, or the ♠J10 were trebleton, or West had four spades and the ♣Q, or West had the ♣Q and East the last heart, or someone guarded all three suits. As we can see one of those options came to pass and so the slam succeeded. I am guesstimating

the chance of success are in the region of 70%. Ten IMPs to USA2

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Woolsey</i>	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Bramley</i>	<i>Hackett</i>
2♦*	Dble	2♥*	3♦
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

A fine scientific auction. After a trump lead declarer took twelve tricks with ease, +1370.



USA1 Seniors



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Weichsel	Mossop	Hamman
2♥	3NT	Pass	4NT
All Pass			

A quantitative 4NT invitation which North refused. South quickly showed him the error of his ways by amassing twelve tricks. 12 IMPs to England.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

	♠ A J 7 5 4		♠ Q 3								
	♥ K J 9 6		♥ 3 2								
	♦ J 5 3		♦ A K 8 6								
	♣ 3		♣ Q J 9 8 5								
♠ K 10 9 8	<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center; width: 50px; height: 50px;"> <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										
♥ Q 10 8 7 5 4											
♦ 10 9 7											
♣ —											
	♠ 6 2										
	♥ A										
	♦ Q 4 2										
	♣ A K 10 7 6 4 2										



Bob Hamman

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Woolsey	Senior	Bramley	Hackett
—	Pass	1♦	2♣
2♥	2♠	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

The defence started with three rounds of diamonds declaring taking the third in hand. He cashed the ace of clubs discovering the adverse break. He now cashed the ace of hearts, crossed to the ace of spades and discarded his losing spade on the king of hearts. East eventually came to three trump tricks and so the contract failed by one trick.



Bart Bramley

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hallberg	Weichsel	Mossop	Hamman
—	Pass	1♣	2♣
Dble	All Pass		

I sincerely hope that the East West agreements allow for such a negative double, otherwise I find the reasoning behind the bid challenging. One could even countenance a Pass – it is highly unlikely that the bidding will end in Two Clubs. Worse was to come as now declarer had a fair idea as to where the trumps were and so after the same first six tricks when declarer led a trump off the table, he could insert the ♣10 and make an overtrick. Ten IMPs to USA2.

At the end of a match where there were swings and roundabouts in abundance USA2 took the laurels 51-40.


David Stern, BERMUDA BOWL, ROUND 16

AUSTRALIA vs USA1


It's always fun to report on your home country, or is it? This round starts the home run for teams to make the top eight to meet in the quarter finals. It sees Australia (Hans-Gill, Hung-Edgton) 9th after fifteen rounds playing USA (Greco-Hampson, Levin-Weinstein) running 8th.

The first three boards saw USA1 take a three IMPs to one lead followed by this fiery number.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K 8 5 2			♠ 4
♥ A 10 8			♥ Q J 6 5 4 3 2
♦ A K Q 10 9 2			♦ 3
♣ —			♣ J 10 3 2
♠ A Q J 10 8 7 6	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 3	
♥ —		♥ K 9 7	
♦ 8 6 4		♦ J 7 5	
♣ K Q 6		♣ A 9 8 7 5 4	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Hans</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Gill</i>
1♠	2♦	Pass	2♠
3♠	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
1♠	Dble	2♦*	3♣
3♠	3NT	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

2♦ Transfer to ♥

Hans, North for Australia in the open room, knowing his partner held 'some' values and also a singleton or void in spades, chose to play in diamonds but this was two levels higher than the alternative of 3NT. Levin started with the ♥5 - who could blame Hans for rising with the king no doubt intending to play a spade off dummy and pitch the losing heart on the ♣A. The defence combined with the lay of the cards thereafter was deadly. West ruffed the heart and returned a trump. On winning the ♠A West played the third

trump. Unfortunately for declarer West holding that trump left him with another loser for one down. For the purists out there, South can make 6♦ by ruffing two clubs, and squeezing East in hearts and clubs – not even a trump lead can prevent this from being the outcome.

In the closed room, It seems East may have read more into his partner's freely rebid 3♠ and this led him to double the final contract, which had ten tricks after the spade lead, in fact on any lead. That +950 and +200 in the open room gave USA1 15 IMPS.

Australia 1 — USA1 18

When Hans showed some optimism, he was punished by the cards.

Board 21. Dealer North. N-S Vul.

♠ K 6			♠ 3
♥ J 10 8 7 6			♥ Q 5 4 3 2
♦ 6 4			♦ A Q 8 7 5
♣ A J 3 2			♣ 10 6
♠ 10 9 8 7 4 2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A Q J 5	
♥ —		♥ A K 9	
♦ A 10 9		♦ K 3 2	
♣ Q 9 7 4		♣ K 8 5	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Hans</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Gill</i>
—	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♥
Pass	5♥	All Pass	

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
Pass	2♥	Dble	
Pass	Pass	3♦	3NT
All Pass			

In the closed room, Hung's 2♥ (0-10 six hearts – possibly 5) alerted Greco-Hampson that hearts was clearly NOT their spot. They did have the choice of



collecting 800 against 3♦ doubled on trump leads but reasonably opted for the easy 3NT and +630.

In the closed room, without any forewarning, North transferred to hearts over partner's 2NT opening, then made a slam try and after partner signed off made one more effort but even that was too high. USA1 +100 and 12 IMPs to USA.

Australia 1 — USA1 30

Some respite for Australia with a flat board and an IMP to USA1 then:

Board 24. Dealer West. Nil Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Hans</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Gill</i>
—	1NT	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	Pass	2♦
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

This hand proved unfortunate for Hans-Gill in the open room. Their Precision system allowed for a 16+ 1♣ opening while 1NT showed 14-16, allowing opener to evaluate a sixteen-point hand. Hans elected to treat this as a 1NT opening and Gill, understandably, was not aspirational with his seven points. Weinstein balanced with 2♣ to show his clubs+major followed by Gill balancing with 2♦ which ended the auction. Gill ended up with 11 tricks after successfully guessing the trump suit. Australia +150.

This hand proved fortunate for Greco-Hampson in the closed room for the opposite reason. Their system

called for a 13-15 1NT opening. Here 1♣ showed 16+, allowing them to reach a pushy but reasonable 3NT which 'more or less' depended on picking the diamond suit. There ended up being nothing to pick when Hung covered the ♦J on the first round USA1 +400 and 6 IMPs.

Australia 1 — USA1 37

Conservatism paid a dividend on the next deal:

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Weinstein</i>	<i>Hans</i>	<i>Levin</i>	<i>Gill</i>
—	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
All Pass			

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Edgton</i>	<i>Greco</i>	<i>Hung</i>	<i>Hampson</i>
1♦	3♣	Dble	
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

2NT in the open room was problematic, needing to avoid losing a spade, four hearts and a diamond. Levin relieved any tensions on the hand when he led the ♠J allowing declarer to score three spades, three diamonds and two clubs. Australia +120.

In the closed room East's 3♣ pre-empt 'slid' the opponents into 3NT. A good sacrifice some may say as E/W can make ten tricks in clubs. USA -50 and 5 much needed IMPs to Australia.

Australia 6 — USA1 37

Christmas came early for USA1 on this deal:

Board 27. Dealer South. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Hans	Levin	Gill
—	—	—	2♦
Dble	2NT*	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2NT Enquiry

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Edgtton	Greco	Hung	Hampson
—	—	—	2♦*
Dble	4♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	Pass	5♣	Dble
5♦	Dble	All Pass	

The 2♦ opening in both rooms showed 10/11-15 with short diamonds.

Weinstein, West for USA in the open room felt he had stated his case with his double of 2♦ and opted to defend in the hope that his two red aces would become tricks and that his ♠A J 9 and/or his partner would produce the setting trick. Both possibilities vanished when Weinstein saw Levin's opening lead of the ♠2 and dummy's diamond suit, or lack of one. With the two voids it's quite hard to analyse whether you need to pick spades to make the hand but given that 17 of 20 declarers in spades made 10+ tricks, one might surmise that the spade guess is not critical to making the hand. Anyway, that was +420 for USA1.

In the closed room Edgtton was not prepared to let go when the opponents reached 4♠ and walked into a truckload of trouble. He could decide which minor suit breaking 5-0 he would enjoy more, a kind of 'name your poison'. That was four down and -800. Having been in this situation more times than I care to remember, now would be a suitable time to end commentary on this result. 9 IMPs to USA1.

Australia 6 — USA1 46

The last swing of the match came on this deal:

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Weinstein	Hans	Levin	Gill
—	—	1♠	Pass
1NT	Dble	Rdble	2♦
2♠	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Edgtton	Greco	Hung	Hampson
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♠	Dble	4♠	All Pass

Levin, East for USA in the open room, had an opportunity to show a good hand and keep the bidding at a lower level if partner didn't have a particularly suitable hand, ending up in 2♠ making eight tricks for +110.

Hung in the closed room got an immediate spade raise which made bidding 4♠ with his goodish 5 5 a reasonable proposition. Unfortunately, his partner's minimal values were all in the worst possible suit - hearts. Those five points in any of the other three suits would have made 4♠ a really good contract. That was two down, -100 and 5 IMPs to USA to close out the match 51-6 in favour of USA1 and leaving USA1 unchanged in 8th position, while Australia slipped to 12th.





David Bird, BERMUDA BOWL, ROUND 17

SWITZERLAND vs USA2

It was a privilege to commentate on this encounter between the two teams at the top of the leader board. The standard was the best I have seen so far. No absurd misunderstandings for you to enjoy, no huge penalties, no 3♦ redoubled contracts. Just eight of the world's top players strutting their stuff. Let's see the best of the action.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

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



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Bathurst	Drijver	Hurd	Brink
—	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♣	Pass	4♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

The misfit was diagnosed, and they stopped safely in 4♠. Sjoert Brink won the heart lead in hand, continuing with the ace and 10 of trumps. When the ♣K was not covered, he very wisely ruffed the trick. Discarding instead would have resulted in two adverse heart ruffs. After drawing East's remaining trumps, he played the king and ace of hearts. Now the ♣Q was run for a diamond discard. With ♥J ♦A ♣104 remaining, Kevin Bathurst cashed the ♦A to prevent an overtrick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Klukowski	Kranyak	Gawrys	Demuy
—	1♣	Pass	1♠
2♥	Pass	Pass	Dble
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

Vincent Demuy won the heart lead, drew trumps and played the ♦3. West, who had discarded two diamonds, won with the bare ace. Declarer won the ♥4 return with the queen and led the ♦10 to East's jack. A diamond return from the Q74 through South's K8 would allow a finesse. When a club was played, Demuy ruffed and cashed three winners to squeeze West in hearts and clubs. That was 650 and a gain of 1 IMP.



John Hurd

Sjoert Brink

Bas Drijver

Kevin Bathurst



Board 7. Dealer South. Both Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	1♣
3♥	Dble	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Why Bas Drijver did not bid 3♠, I cannot tell you. If that bid would have been non-forcing, that would surprise me. Anyway, he won the ♥2 lead with dummy's ace, crossed to the ♣A and led the ♣Q. This was the one suit he could not afford to lead, as the cards lay, and Hurd could have beaten the contract by covering. When he found some reason not to cover, declarer was reprieved. He played low from dummy and West ruffed. Drijver won the diamond switch with the ace, ruffed his remaining heart in dummy, and drew the last trumps with the queen. Only two tricks had to be lost in diamonds and that was a see-saw +620.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
—	—	—	1♣
4♥	Dble	All Pass	

Michal Klukowski bid one level higher, despite the vulnerability, and was doubled there. John Kranyak led the ♠A and switched adventurously to the ♦4, South's 9 forcing the queen. A second spade was won by North's king, and he continued his imaginative defence with the ♦2. 'Ten, please,' said declarer and South won with the jack. The ♥A and a second diamond trick put the game two down, restricting the loss to 3 IMPs.

You are not impressed by the IMP flow on my first two boards? Well, we must all make the best of whatever fare is presented to us. Perhaps the next board will cheer you up.

Board 11. Dealer South. Neither Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Brink</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Dble	3♥	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

I explained the Gazzilli convention to the kibitzers. (2♣ = clubs or 16+, 2♦ = enough for game facing the strong type.) When North/South ended in 3NT, I was sent a few messages along the lines of "Nice convention, shame about the contract".

Bathurst's double had suggested a diamond lead. At some stage he must have had second thoughts, because his ♠3 hit the table. Declarer could then make four spade tricks and was perhaps looking less glum than he might have been.

After winning East's ♠10 with the queen, Brink led the ♠J (not covered) and scored the ♠A. Leaving the last spade uncashed, he played ace and another heart, East's jack winning. The ♦3 switch went to dummy's bare ace. It seemed that the contract was down, but the defence was not easy and the remaining tricks took a long time to play.

What should East throw from ♥K ♦J8 ♣10983 when dummy's ♠9 was led? Declarer had six tricks and was home if he had three more in clubs. So, maybe a club was indicated. After some three minutes, Hurd found the winning club discard. Brink also threw a club, continuing with the ♣K and a losing finesse of the ♣J. Bathurst did not like to risk underleading his ♦KQ7 (which would have been two down). He exited with a club to declarer's ace and then allowed the ♦10 to run to partner's jack. That was one down.

I have absolutely no preference between the USA and Switzerland teams, but I was pleased to see the contract fail. I like to see justice done at the table.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
—	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

No fancy conventions, but a quick arrival at the best contract. Piotr Gawrys led the ♣9, covered by the jack, queen and king. A club to the ace was followed by a trump to the queen and king. Kranyak ruffed the ♣10 return and played the ♥A. A spade to the queen lost to the king, but he played for the drop on the third round and picked up +420 for a gain of 10 IMPs.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

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

West	North	East	South
<i>Bathurst</i>	<i>Drijver</i>	<i>Hurd</i>	<i>Brink</i>
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Brink led the ♥5 to partner's 9 and, after some thought, Hurd allowed this to hold. He ducked the next round and won the third round, throwing the ♣5 from dummy. A spade was played to the queen and North decided to take his king immediately. A diamond was returned to the dummy and two top spades revealed the 3-3 break.

Declarer could not claim at this stage, of course, because the diamond suit was blocked. He cashed the two spade winners, throwing a club and the ♦6. When the ♣A and ♣10 were played, North played low and Hurd rose with the queen. On close inspection, South's club honour on this trick proved to be the jack rather than the king. The game had been made.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Klukowski</i>	<i>Kranyak</i>	<i>Gawrys</i>	<i>Demuy</i>
1♣*	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

With hearts bid, Demuy preferred a diamond lead. Piotr Gawrys won in the dummy and cashed the second diamond honour. He then continued with the ace and queen of spades. Kranyak won and switched to the ♥J, ducked. Gawrys won the second heart, cashed the ♦Q and led a club to the ace. When the spades proved to be good, he had nine tricks with no need to find the ♣K well placed.

USA 2 won an exceedingly low-scoring match by just 13-4 IMPs. This was enough to overtake Switzerland in the table. Several of the 3200 kibitzers told me it was the best-played match they had seen so far.



Piotr Gawrys

Vincent Demuy

John Kranyak

Michal Klukowski



RESULTS

BERMUDA BOWL

Round	Rank	Team 1	Team 2	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4
Round 17	1	ARGENTINA	ENGLAND	7	63	0.31	19.69
	2	EGYPT	NEW ZEALAND	17	27	7.20	12.80
	3	UAE	BULGARIA	2	26	4.26	15.74
	4	URUGUAY	AUSTRALIA	17	53	2.41	17.59
	5	GUADELOUPE	NETHERLANDS	21	50	3.42	16.58
	6	SINGAPORE	INDIA	28	43	6.03	13.97
	7	SOUTH AFRICA	DENMARK	21	35	6.25	13.75
	8	ISRAEL	USA 1	29	11	14.60	5.40
	9	SWITZERLAND	USA 2	4	13	7.45	12.55
	10	CHINA HONG KONG	ITALY	13	30	5.11	14.39
	11	NORWAY	CANADA	25	34	7.45	12.05
	12	SWEDEN	HUNGARY	13	44	3.12	16.88
Round 18	1	SOUTH AFRICA	ARGENTINA	84	18	20.00	0.00
	2	ISRAEL	EGYPT	70	34	17.59	2.41
	3	CHINA HONG KONG	UAE	55	40	13.97	6.03
	4	NORWAY	URUGUAY	62	45	14.39	5.61
	5	HUNGARY	GUADELOUPE	40	39	10.31	9.69
	6	USA 1	SINGAPORE	125	12	20.00	0.00
	7	SWITZERLAND	CANADA	73	53	15.00	5.00
	8	NEW ZEALAND	BULGARIA	46	55	7.45	12.55
	9	DENMARK	INDIA	20	35	6.03	13.97
	10	ITALY	AUSTRALIA	39	13	16.09	3.91
	11	SWEDEN	ENGLAND	33	44	6.96	13.04
	12	NETHERLANDS	USA 2	76	22	19.52	0.48
Round 19	1	SINGAPORE	ARGENTINA	36	25	13.04	6.96
	2	EGYPT	GUADELOUPE	17	24	7.97	12.03
	3	UAE	URUGUAY	42	32	12.80	7.20
	4	ENGLAND	BULGARIA	13	31	5.40	14.60
	5	ISRAEL	INDIA	20	26	8.24	11.76
	6	SOUTH AFRICA	CHINA HONG KONG	19	43	4.26	15.74
	7	CANADA	DENMARK	25	42	5.61	14.39
	8	USA 2	NEW ZEALAND	53	11	18.33	1.67
	9	USA 1	SWITZERLAND	19	14	11.48	8.52
	10	ITALY	SWEDEN	23	13	12.80	7.20
	11	NETHERLANDS	AUSTRALIA	11	46	2.55	17.45
	12	NORWAY	HUNGARY	25	41	5.82	14.18
Round 20	1	EGYPT	SINGAPORE	27	35	7.71	12.29
	2	UAE	ARGENTINA	69	2	20.00	0.00
	3	URUGUAY	GUADELOUPE	19	32	6.48	13.52
	4	NEW ZEALAND	CANADA	32	39	7.97	12.03
	5	NETHERLANDS	INDIA	28	33	8.52	11.48
	6	SWITZERLAND	SOUTH AFRICA	34	25	12.55	7.45
	7	BULGARIA	AUSTRALIA	51	42	12.55	7.45
	8	DENMARK	ITALY	33	24	12.55	7.45
	9	CHINA HONG KONG	NORWAY	18	35	5.61	14.39
	10	SWEDEN	USA 2	40	28	13.28	6.72
	11	ENGLAND	ISRAEL	34	34	10.00	10.00
	12	HUNGARY	USA 1	11	47	2.41	17.59

Ranking after Round 20

1		SWITZERLAND	277.60
2		NETHERLANDS	269.99
3		USA 2	268.27
4		ENGLAND	254.17
5		USA 1	254.11
6		ITALY	251.28
7		HUNGARY	247.30
8		NORWAY	244.46
9		DENMARK	240.19
10		ISRAEL	239.01
11		AUSTRALIA	225.60
12		INDIA	218.25
13		SWEDEN	214.72
14		NEW ZEALAND	204.52
15		BULGARIA	195.05
16		CHINA HONG KONG	187.08
17		EGYPT	172.09
18		SOUTH AFRICA	171.40
19		CANADA	161.58
20		GUADELOUPE	120.86
21		UAE	113.91
22		SINGAPORE	105.20
23		ARGENTINA	77.65
24		URUGUAY	75.41

VENICE CUP

Round	Rank	Team 1	Team 2	Score 1	Score 2	Score 3	Score 4
Round 17	21	PORTUGAL	DENMARK	22	22	10.00	10.00
	22	MOROCCO	GERMANY	29	36	6.97	12.03
	23	UAE	USA 2	13	59	0.23	18.77
	24	EGYPT	BRAZIL	29	45	5.82	13.68
	25	POLAND	AUSTRALIA	72	12	20.00	0.00
	26	INDIA	SCOTLAND	5	51	0.23	18.77
	27	HUNGARY	SWEDEN	30	32	9.39	10.61
	28	SPAIN	CANADA	31	26	11.48	8.52
	29	ARGENTINA	FRANCE	30	14	14.18	5.82
	30	ITALY	NORWAY	34	16	14.60	5.40
	31	ENGLAND	BELGIUM	15	30	6.03	13.97
	32	TURKEY	USA 1	18	26	7.71	12.29
Round 18	21	POLAND	PORTUGAL	47	29	14.60	5.40
	22	AUSTRALIA	MOROCCO	66	26	18.09	1.91
	23	ENGLAND	UAE	43	26	14.39	5.61
	24	SCOTLAND	EGYPT	38	23	13.97	6.03
	25	TURKEY	SPAIN	64	0	20.00	0.00
	26	USA 1	HUNGARY	70	37	17.17	2.83
	27	GERMANY	NORWAY	18	69	0.75	19.25
	28	ARGENTINA	INDIA	5	48	1.56	18.44
	29	ITALY	CANADA	35	51	5.82	14.18
	30	USA 2	BELGIUM	52	35	14.39	5.61
	31	BRAZIL	SWEDEN	34	57	4.44	15.56
	32	FRANCE	DENMARK	64	27	17.72	2.28
Round 19	21	PORTUGAL	TURKEY	48	12	17.59	2.41
	22	MOROCCO	SPAIN	24	28	8.80	11.20
	23	UAE	FRANCE	15	29	6.25	13.75
	24	EGYPT	SWEDEN	27	32	8.52	11.48
	25	USA 1	ARGENTINA	31	43	6.72	13.28
	26	HUNGARY	GERMANY	26	31	8.52	11.48
	27	AUSTRALIA	BELGIUM	27	54	3.74	16.26
	28	ITALY	BRAZIL	49	5	18.55	1.45
	29	USA 2	INDIA	65	14	19.25	0.75
	30	SCOTLAND	NORWAY	31	20	13.04	6.96
	31	CANADA	POLAND	9	18	7.45	12.55
	32	ENGLAND	DENMARK	35	16	14.80	5.20
Round 20	21	USA 1	PORTUGAL	25	27	9.39	10.61
	22	ARGENTINA	MOROCCO	42	18	15.74	4.26
	23	CANADA	UAE	75	22	19.43	0.57
	24	NORWAY	EGYPT	24	29	8.52	11.48
	25	HUNGARY	ITALY	22	15	12.03	7.97
	26	GERMANY	AUSTRALIA	21	36	6.03	13.97
	27	SPAIN	DENMARK	24	25	9.69	10.31
	28	USA 2	SCOTLAND	44	28	14.18	5.82
	29	ENGLAND	BRAZIL	23	15	12.29	7.71
	30	SWEDEN	BELGIUM	44	25	14.80	5.20
	31	INDIA	TURKEY	16	26	7.20	12.80
	32	FRANCE	POLAND	40	35	11.48	8.52

Ranking after Round 20

1		POLAND	305.47
2		ENGLAND	272.45
3		USA 2	246.97
4		DENMARK	246.87
5		SWEDEN	246.61
6		ITALY	239.81
7		TURKEY	238.39
8		NORWAY	227.39
9		FRANCE	221.03
10		CANADA	215.98
11		SCOTLAND	213.63
12		USA 1	207.77
13		BELGIUM	192.45
14		SPAIN	187.47
15		HUNGARY	182.91
16		PORTUGAL	180.77
17		AUSTRALIA	178.09
18		GERMANY	171.05
19		EGYPT	161.97
20		ARGENTINA	157.72
21		BRAZIL	151.72
22		MOROCCO	132.77
23		UAE	103.77
24		INDIA	101.74



RESULTS

D'ORSI TROPHY

Round	Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score	
Round 17	41	GUADELOUPE	ENGLAND	32	40	7.71	12.29
	42	EGYPT	NORWAY	6	52	1.23	18.77
	43	PAKISTAN	USA 1	22	38	5.42	13.78
	44	MOROCCO	INDIA	31	37	8.24	11.76
	45	USA 2	GERMANY	57	34	13.56	4.44
	46	ITALY	CANADA	17	51	2.19	15.31
	47	BRAZIL	FRANCE	0	75	-1.00	20.00
	48	ICELAND	NETHERLANDS	53	7	18.77	1.23
	49	AUSTRALIA	POLAND	22	21	10.31	9.69
	50	ARGENTINA	BULGARIA	19	27	7.71	12.29
Round 18	51	DENMARK	SWEDEN	28	29	9.69	10.31
	52	BELGIUM	TURKEY	41	24	14.39	5.61
	41	USA 2	GUADELOUPE	62	27	17.45	2.55
	42	GERMANY	EGYPT	40	54	6.25	13.75
	43	DENMARK	PAKISTAN	62	57	11.48	8.52
	44	TURKEY	MOROCCO	34	59	4.08	15.92
	45	ITALY	ICELAND	37	39	9.39	10.61
	46	CANADA	BRAZIL	55	38	14.39	5.61
	47	NORWAY	BULGARIA	58	55	10.91	9.09
	48	AUSTRALIA	BELGIUM	50	42	12.29	7.71
Round 19	49	ARGENTINA	NETHERLANDS	45	53	6.71	12.29
	50	USA 1	SWEDEN	18	43	4.08	15.92
	51	POLAND	ENGLAND	27	61	2.69	17.31
	52	INDIA	FRANCE	58	26	17.03	2.97
	41	GUADELOUPE	ITALY	34	45	6.96	13.04
	42	EGYPT	ICELAND	5	20	6.03	13.97
	43	PAKISTAN	POLAND	47	20	16.26	3.74
	44	MOROCCO	FRANCE	20	40	5.00	15.00
	45	CANADA	AUSTRALIA	9	32	4.44	15.56
	46	BRAZIL	NORWAY	36	35	10.31	9.69
Round 20	47	GERMANY	SWEDEN	20	35	6.03	13.97
	48	ARGENTINA	INDIA	6	29	4.44	15.56
	49	USA 1	BELGIUM	15	28	6.48	13.52
	50	DENMARK	ENGLAND	30	16	13.75	6.25
	51	NETHERLANDS	USA 2	46	30	14.18	5.82
	52	TURKEY	BULGARIA	33	32	10.31	9.69
	41	CANADA	GUADELOUPE	82	29	19.43	0.57
	42	AUSTRALIA	EGYPT	40	40	10.00	10.00
	43	NETHERLANDS	PAKISTAN	56	32	15.74	4.26
	44	BULGARIA	MOROCCO	72	10	20.00	0.00
45	BRAZIL	ARGENTINA	25	37	6.72	13.28	
46	NORWAY	GERMANY	42	14	16.42	3.58	
47	ICELAND	ENGLAND	16	28	6.72	13.28	
48	USA 1	TURKEY	46	21	15.92	4.08	
49	DENMARK	INDIA	18	37	5.20	14.80	
50	POLAND	USA 2	33	19	13.75	6.25	
51	BELGIUM	ITALY	26	41	6.03	13.97	
52	FRANCE	SWEDEN	23	20	10.91	9.09	

Ranking after Round 20

1		USA 1	278.28
2		DENMARK	259.79
3		POLAND	255.39
4		FRANCE	241.56
5		INDIA	234.12
6		SWEDEN	231.94
7		ENGLAND	229.04
8		USA 2	222.76
9		BULGARIA	217.98
10		ICELAND	215.77
11		CANADA	210.04
12		TURKEY	209.31
13		ITALY	207.10
14		ARGENTINA	206.36
15		NETHERLANDS	205.75
16		NORWAY	203.17
17		BELGIUM	201.80
18		AUSTRALIA	195.53
19		GERMANY	188.81
20		PAKISTAN	168.54
21		MOROCCO	125.93
22		BRAZIL	105.79
23		EGYPT	97.19
24		GUADELOUPE	62.75

WUHAN CUP

Round	Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score	
Round 17	61	GUATEMALA	ROMANIA	27	69	1.67	18.33
	62	TUNISIA	TURKEY	35	29	11.76	8.24
	63	JORDAN	USA 2	8	61	0.57	19.43
	64	EGYPT	POLAND	14	47	2.83	17.17
	65	CHILE	ISRAEL	18	32	6.25	13.75
	66	ARGENTINA	AUSTRALIA	2	56	0.48	19.52
	67	PORTUGAL	SINGAPORE	48	10	17.85	2.15
	68	INDIA	BELGIUM	10	83	0.00	20.00
	69	GERMANY	DENMARK	17	20	9.09	10.91
	70	ITALY	NETHERLANDS	52	24	15.92	3.58
Round 18	71	FRANCE	CROATIA	34	22	13.28	6.72
	72	USA 1	LATVIA	61	23	17.85	2.15
	61	USA 1	GUATEMALA	47	43	11.20	8.80
	62	LATVIA	TUNISIA	80	4	20.00	0.00
	63	FRANCE	JORDAN	46	54	7.71	12.29
	64	ISRAEL	EGYPT	63	26	17.72	2.28
	65	ARGENTINA	INDIA	53	32	15.19	4.81
	66	AUSTRALIA	PORTUGAL	29	40	6.96	13.04
	67	TURKEY	NETHERLANDS	50	80	2.67	16.73
	68	GERMANY	CHILE	54	27	16.26	3.74
Round 19	69	ITALY	BELGIUM	40	46	8.24	11.76
	70	POLAND	SINGAPORE	99	16	20.00	0.00
	71	DENMARK	ROMANIA	36	47	6.96	13.04
	72	USA 2	CROATIA	61	24	17.72	2.28
	61	GUATEMALA	ARGENTINA	1	31	3.27	16.73
	62	TUNISIA	INDIA	13	68	0.39	17.61
	63	JORDAN	DENMARK	20	41	4.81	15.19
	64	EGYPT	SINGAPORE	23	48	4.08	15.92
	65	AUSTRALIA	GERMANY	25	15	12.80	7.20
	66	PORTUGAL	TURKEY	38	25	13.52	6.48
Round 20	67	LATVIA	CROATIA	55	17	17.85	2.15
	68	ITALY	POLAND	44	11	17.17	2.83
	69	USA 2	CHILE	22	27	8.52	11.48
	70	ISRAEL	NETHERLANDS	6	32	3.91	16.09
	71	BELGIUM	USA 1	10	44	2.69	17.31
	72	FRANCE	ROMANIA	35	36	9.69	10.31
	61	AUSTRALIA	GUATEMALA	37	28	12.55	7.45
	62	GERMANY	TUNISIA	51	5	18.77	1.23
	63	BELGIUM	JORDAN	28	12	14.18	5.82
	64	NETHERLANDS	EGYPT	52	16	17.59	2.41
65	PORTUGAL	ITALY	37	21	14.18	5.82	
66	TURKEY	LATVIA	33	41	7.71	12.29	
67	INDIA	ROMANIA	44	37	12.03	7.97	
68	SINGAPORE	CROATIA	43	24	14.80	5.20	
69	FRANCE	POLAND	35	11	15.74	4.26	
70	DENMARK	USA 1	42	9	17.17	2.83	
71	CHILE	ARGENTINA	15	41	3.91	16.09	
72	USA 2	ISRAEL	20	53	2.83	17.17	

Ranking after Round 20

1		FRANCE	275.91
2		USA 1	258.81
3		ROMANIA	258.06
4		ITALY	257.87
5		POLAND	249.09
6		BELGIUM	244.12
7		GERMANY	243.68
8		LATVIA	239.80
9		AUSTRALIA	232.30
10		DENMARK	228.02
11		NETHERLANDS	227.06
12		ISRAEL	219.80
13		PORTUGAL	207.40
14		USA 2	207.06
15		CROATIA	198.03
16		TURKEY	197.60
17		ARGENTINA	195.44
18		INDIA	180.12
19		SINGAPORE	159.85
20		JORDAN	154.39
21		EGYPT	113.12
22		CHILE	110.90
23		GUATEMALA	65.96
24		TUNISIA	61.91

SOUTH AMERICAN OPEN TEAM'S CHAMPIONSHIP, INTERNATIONAL OPEN PAIRS 'COPA COLOMBIA' & JUNIORS ZONAL TRIAL

May 21 - 28, 2022



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